

3) Transcript of the Will of Anthonye Fox, 1610

"In the name of god amen, &c, I, Anthonye Fox of Marthwayte in Caywood in the p(ar)ishe of Mellinge & County of Lancaster, yeom(an), sicke in body but of good and p(er)fect remembrance, I prayse god, do make this my last will and testam(en)t, in manner and forme followinge,

First, I comitt my soule into the hand(es) of Almightye god, my saviour and redemer, through whose death and passion I fully assure my selfe [two words] to be saved and elected w(i)th the holy company in heaven, to give praise, thank(es) & glory to god, world w(i)thout end,

And for my body, I comitt [it] to the earthe from whence it came & to be buried in the p(ar)ishe Church of Mellinge in the north side of the litle Queare [= choir] wheare my wife was buried, or as neare thereunto as can be,

And for my worldly good(es), I give, bequeath, dispose & distrubite [sic] in manner & forme followinge,

First, wheareas Rob(er)te Grene of Marthwate [sic] afforesaid, yeoman, doth owe unto me the some of Fortye pound(es), I do give it absolutely in this manner,

first [spelling altered], I give and bequeath unto the Children of the said Rob(er)te Greene [sic], w(hi)ch he now hath, the some of xx tie pound(es) to be used at the said Rob(er)te Grene his discession for theire good & for theire use,

& as for the other xx tie pound(es) residue of the said forty pound(es), I do give and bequeath it unto John Grene and Jane grene, Annes grene and Maude Grene, being brother and sistars [sic] unto the said Rob(er)te Grene, equally to be devided amongst them, namely ["viz" for Latin "videlicet"], ev(er)y one of them five pound(es), and the said Rob(er)te, his executors or administrators, to pay the same unto them w(i)thin two yeares next after it shall please god to call me out of this transitory world,

It(e)m, wheareas Olliver Byrtche & M(ar)cus? Bellowes did owe me six pound(es) for a bedstead, wheareof I have received Fiftye shilling(es), it is my will and pleasure, and now my full mynd, that Olliver Birtch [sic] shall have out of the ["said" struck through] some of iij £ x s remayning [perhaps "remayninge"] to be paid unto me, or my executors, the some of xx s at such tymes as the said iij £ x s is paid,

It(e)m, wheareas Edward Birtch doth ow [sic] me x s, I give and bequeath the one halfe of it to him selfe [two

words] and the other halfe to his ... [words lost in  
fold of document - first word perhaps "sister"],

It(e)m, I give xx d to James Astwicke out of  
iiij s iiiij d he oweth me, if he pay it willingly,

It(e)m, wheareas Adam Stoirs? doth owe unto me the some  
of Forty shilling(es) w(hi)ch should have? bene paid before  
this tyme, I frely give it, w(i)th other of my debt(es)  
unbequeathed, unto Rob(er)te Grene, my executor of this my  
last will and testament, for and toward(es) the honest  
bringinge forth of me after my death according [spelling  
altered] as my ancestors have bene,

It(e)m, wheareas my brother Richard [badly written -  
looks like "Richad"] Fox, late of London, ["is" interlined]  
deceased without wife, heire or yssue of his body lawfully  
begotten, to my knowledge, & I now, full Brother in blood unto  
him, thinkinge that what ["..." struck through] land(es),  
Tenement(es) [altered from "tenement(es)"], good(es) or  
chattells soev(er) the said Richard Fox died seised upon doth  
wholely come unto me by discent, accordinge to the course of  
the king(es) Ma(jes)t(ies) lawes,

I do by this my p(re)sent will and testament, assigne  
["the" struck through] and give the same, whatsoev(er) is due  
unto me by his death unto the said Rob(er)te Grene, his  
heires, executor... and assig...es [hole in document], for

ev(er), and thereupon have maid the said Rob(er)te Grene a  
letter of Attorney w(i)th an assignem(en)t of all my estate,  
right, tytle and intereast, whatsoev(er) is due or heareafter  
should ... [hole in document] due unto me by ["the dea"  
struck through] and after the death of the said Richard Fox,  
my brother, eyther by his last will and testam(en)t or  
otherwayes whatsoev(er),

In witesse heareof, I have sette my hand & seale the  
second day of March in the seventh year of the reign of  
England and in the forty third [year of the reign] of  
Scotland of King James, Defender of the Faith, etc, and in the  
year of our Lord 1609 [Latin: "Anno Regni Regis Jacobi Anglie  
septimo et Scotie ...liij o [hole in document], fidei  
defensous [sic] &c, Anno d(omi)ni 1609"],

[added in second hand: "Anthony [mark "+" here] Fox,  
his m(ar)ke"],

Sealled, signed & deliv(er)ed to the said Rob(er)te  
Grene, my executor & assignee, in the p(re)sence of us,

[signatures:

"Arther Cort [blotted],

henry birch,

Richard astwicke [badly written],

Rob(er)te Blackborne"]

[Latin Grant of Probate: "The present above-written will was and is [sic] proved before us, Edward [perhaps "Edmund"] Manwayringe, Bachelor of Laws, the lawfully-appointed Commissary in and for all the Archdeaconery of Richmond ["Richie."] in the Diocese of Chester, on the 27th day of March 1609,

And it was kept by us, approved and registered by the ecclesiastical court, and the administration of all and singular the goods, debts and credits which were the same Anthony Fox's, deceased, during his lifetime and [which after] his death remain within the aforesaid Archdeaconery, was and is granted to Robert Greene, the executor named in the aforesaid will, [who] was sworn in due legal form, and saving the right of any other,

In witness of which thing we have affixed the seal of our office to the present ..., done the day and year last above-written,

Benjamin [perhaps "Benedict"] Taylo(u)r, Notary Public?, Registrar."

N.B. 1) The clerk has used Old Style dating: the regnal years show that his "2 March 1609" is what we would call 1610.

2) I have used the modern "£" sign to represent an early form, "l" with a horizontal bar standing for Latin "libri", meaning *pounds*.

3) All "etc"s occur in the original document: nothing has been omitted.