

## PECHE OF LULLINGSTONE.

BY CANON SCOTT ROBERTSON.

THE manors of Lullingstone Payforer and Lullingstone Roos were distinct at the time of the Domesday Survey, and were subsequently distinguished by the names of the families who then held them. Closely adjacent to them was a third manor, called Cokerherst, south of Lullingstone Park, just outside the park pales. Of these, Lullingstone Payforer was the most valuable. John Pecche or Peche first obtained the grant of its reversion by a Fine levied in 1368. It was then held in dower by Margaret, widow of Stephen de Chelsfield, but she died about 1375; and not until after her death did John Pecche obtain possession of it.\*

This gentleman was a citizen, clothier, and alderman of London, who in the year 1354 obtained from Bartholomew, Lord Burghersh—by purchase probably—the extensive manor of Malorees, which runs into the four parishes of Willesden, Paddington, Chelsea, and Fulham;† and in 1371 purchased the manor of Rede Hall, and the park of Folleslowe, in Burstow, Surrey.‡ When John Peche died, the jurors on the *Inquisitio* found that his park in Burstow called “Le orze,” or “erze,” was held under two manors. One moiety was held of Alice de Warbulton, lady of the manor of Tanrugge; the other moiety was held of the Earl of Stafford, as lord of Bletchingley manor. He was twice married. His first wife, named Elena, brought him as dowry the manor of West Twyford.§ His second wife, Mary, survived him, and was one of the executors of his will. This lady seems to have been the widow of a gentleman named Alburton, or Warbulton. In her right John Peche, at his death, held the manor of Otterham in Upchurch, which at her death was to revert to Thomas de Alburton.||

Respecting his parentage and family we have no certain record. Hasted says he was descended from Gilbert de Peche, who was

\* Mr. James Greenstreet discovered on the *De Banco Roll*, for Hilary Term, 3 Ric. II., memb. 533, the record of a suit during which the history of this manor was thus related. The manor belonged to Stephen de Chelsfield, and was inherited from him by his daughter and heir Lora, who married Ralph Savage of Bobbing. After Ralph Savage's death, Lora, at Bobbing, granted the reversion to Arnald Savage in 1354. His feoffees in November 1368 levied a Fine, and conceded the reversion of the manor to John Pecche.

† Lysons, *Environs of London*, iii., 617.

‡ Manning and Bray, *History of Surrey*, ii., 284.

§ Lysons, *Environs of London*, iii., 606.

|| Hasted, *Hist. of Kent*, 8vo, vi., 29.

summoned to Parliament in 13 Edw. II. (1320), and who had two sons, William and Robert, both of whom were knighted by Edward I. in 1300 for their services at the siege of Caerlaverock.\* Vincent's Manuscript Baronage in the College of Arms contains a pedigree of this Gilbert de Peche, but it does not connect John Peche of Lullingstone with him. It states, however, that one Sir Gilbert Peche (who held Westcliff, near Dover, in 1253) had a son named John.

John Philipott, the celebrated Kentish Herald, drew up in 1640, for Sir Percival Hart, a description† of the quarterings‡ which Sir Percival was entitled to bear in his coat of arms. He therein says, "The third coate in the former quartering is the Pechey's Armes. S<sup>r</sup> John Peche was Constable of Dover Castell and Lord Warden of the 5 Ports 17 Edw. II., and was called to Parliament 4 Edw. III. among the Barons, and died in the 9th Edw. III." Philipott, however, does not attempt to shew any connection between this Lord Warden and the purchaser of Lullingstone. Was Alderman John Peche a son of the Lord Warden?

Philipott simply proceeds at once to state that "Sir John Peche was Lord of Lullingston Rosse in Kent, and lived in the 33rd, 44th, and 51st of Edw. III. In the 33rd Edw. III. the said king granted him Liberty of Free Warren in Lullingstone."

If Philipott is accurate in this date (as he probably is), Alderman Peche must have obtained the manor of Lullingstone Roos several years earlier than 1368, when the *reversion* of Lullingstone Payforer was first conceded to him. This most probably was the case, as John de Rokesle, lord of the manor, died in 1361. But Philipott is not accurate in speaking of the Alderman as a Knight. I have examined his will,§ made in London on the first Sunday after Trinity in 3 Richard II., A.D. 1380, and he therein describes himself as "*John Pecche, citizen of London*;" while he speaks of his son as being a knight: "I leave to William, my son and heir, who is a knight, all my lands and tenements, rents, meadows and woods, with all rights thereunto belonging, and with their appurtenances, which I have in the City of London and elsewhere."

That Sir William Peche was the only son of John his father we gather from a proviso in John Peche's will, which directs that, if Sir William should happen to die without any heirs of his body, the

\* Hasted's *Hist. of Kent*, 8vo, ii., 541.

† Sir Wm. Hart Dyke courteously lent to me this interesting folio MS., written throughout upon vellum. It is entitled *A Description of the Achievement of S<sup>r</sup> Percivall Harte of Lullingston in Kent, Knight, and each Coate quartered therein. Alsoe shewing there Antiquity, Dignity, and several Descents, whereby it may be understood how they come to be quartered; and the severall alliances that come by them.* Collected by JO: PHILIPOTT, *Somerset Herald of Armes*, 1640.

‡ Philipott emblazons and enumerates only 16 coats, *viz.*, those of Hart (1), Hart (2), Peche, Kemsing, Shelley, Bray (English), Bray (French), Hallawell, Norbury, Butler, Pantulf, Sudley, Montfort, De la Planche, Haversham, Crosier.

§ It is recorded fully in Archbishop Sudbury's Register (at Lambeth), folio 105 a, b.

whole property was to be sold by Sir William's executors, and the proceeds were by them to be expended in such manner as might best benefit the soul of John Peche, the testator, and the souls of his benefactors.

The Alderman also provided, by his will, that he should be buried within the parish church of Lullingstone; and that one priest should be paid in perpetuity to celebrate masses in Lullingstone Church for ever, for the souls of John Peche, and of his parents, and of his two wives.

To Mary his widow he left all the furniture and apparatus belonging to her own chamber, and he appointed her and his son, Sir William Peche, joint executors of his will.

John Peche, the Alderman, died in May 1380, either on the 27th or on the 28th day of that month; Sir William, his son and heir, being then over twenty-two years of age.\*

Sir William married, a few months after his father's death, Joan Hadley, one of the two daughters and coheirs of John Hadley, a London merchant, who possessed the manors of Cobhams in Stepney, and of Mile End (called Askews or Aschewys).

During his first wife's lifetime, twice (at least) were rectors appointed to the parish church of St. Botolph, Lullingstone (in 1391-2 and in 1398), and on both occasions Sir William Peche was named in the Episcopal Registers as the Patron. Richard White, who was instituted in 1398, outlived his patron.

Sir William's first wife, Joan, died on the 21st of March 1409-10, leaving one son, John Peche. She was buried in London, in the church of St. Mary Woolnoth, which stands at the west end of Lombard Street. Perhaps her husband's town house was in that parish. Her father, John Hadley, died a few months later in the same year (1410). His entire property was ultimately inherited by her grandson in 1446. Hasted and Philipott both err in saying that Joan survived her husband. She seems to have left one daughter, Elizabeth Peche, of whom it is recorded that she married Sir William Septvans of Milton by Canterbury, whom she survived by a few weeks only, and she was buried beside him in Canterbury Cathedral at the end of March 1447-8. By his will it appears that he was expecting to have his first child, by Elizabeth his wife, when he died. To that child he devised his estate; but if the child died before Elizabeth Lady Septvans, then the Milton estate was to go to Reginald Wydyhall. The will of Lady Septvans mentions her sons John and Simon Wydyhall, and her brother Thomas Wydyhall; she must therefore have had a previous husband named Wydyhall.

Sir William Peche was rather over fifty-two years of age when his wife Joan died; and he quickly married, as his second wife, Florence Chicheley, daughter of William, youngest brother of Archbishop Chicheley. After this second marriage he did not survive more than a year or two. He was dead when the benefices of Lullingstone and Lullingstane were united, by authority of Richard, Bishop of

\* Chancery Inquisitio post mortem, 3 Ric. II., No. 54, kindly communicated to me by Mr. James Greenstreet.

Rochester, in October 1412. John Peche, his son, was then the patron of Lullingstone St. Botolph.\*

Florence, widow of Sir William Peche, married in 1418 John Darell, Esq., of Calehill in Little Chart. A monumental brass in the north aisle of Little Chart Church commemorates her and her second husband.

Sir John Peche† was born on the 22nd of February 1388-9.‡ We know very little of his life. He consented to the union of the benefices of Lullingstone and Lullingstane in 1412, and he presented Thomas Westborne to the rectory of St. Botolph's in May 1418. He served as Sheriff of Kent in 1430. He made his will in 1439, and died soon after, in 1439 or 1440. Philipott says that Dame Mary his wife was buried in the church of St. Mary Overey in Southwark. Her parentage is not mentioned by him or any other writer, but I am inclined to believe that she was one of the family of Shelley, because the monumental brass of Sir John's son, Sir William Peche, shews in one corner the arms of Peche quartered with the Shelley coat.

Sir John Peche must have had some connection with the town of Ashford, for we are told by Hasted that in one of the windows of its parish church his figure was depicted, kneeling bareheaded in prayer, and wearing a surcoat emblazoned with his arms.

His son, Sir William Peche, was twenty-one years of age (and more) in May 1446.§ Sir William's great-aunt Katherine, wife of Sir William Wolf, died in that year (on the Monday after the feast of the Annunciation of B.V.M.), and Sir William, being the grandson of her only sister Joan (*née* Hadley), was found to be the heir to all her possessions.|| Philipott says that "he deserved very well of Henry VI., and served him faithfully in his wars, with a company of soldiers raised upon his owne charge."

His first wife, Jane, the mother of his heir, came of a family (query was it that of Clifford?) which bore as its armorial coat, on a field chequy a fess. This coat appears upon Sir William's monumental brass, impaled with his own Peche coat; and it appears also upon the magnificently carved tomb of her son Sir John. Yet no writer has mentioned her name. She died before 1480; and afterwards Sir William married, as his second wife, Ann, daughter of John Profete or Proffet, and widow of John Elmbrygge of Merstham in Surrey.¶ She was Elmbrygge's wife

\* Thorpe's *Registrum Roffense*, p. 477.

† He is styled *Johannes Pecche miles* in Inquisitio post mortem, 24 Henry VI., No. 38.

‡ In Chancery Inquisitio post mortem, Anno 11 Henry IV., No. 41, taken at Dartford in May 1410, after the death of Joan Peche, it is said that her son John was aged twenty-one years on the 22nd of February last past.

§ Chancery Inq. post mortem, 24 Henry VI., No. 38.

|| *Ibidem*. Katherine Hadley married first William Wyngefeld, and secondly Sir William Wolf, but left no issue.

¶ John Elmbrygge died on the 8th of February 1473-4, and is commemorated by a monumental brass in Merstham Church. It states that he married first Isabella, daughter of Nicholas Jamys, Alderman of London, by whom he had eleven sons and three daughters. She died on the 7th of September 1472. After which date he married Ann Proffet.

for about one year only. Her ancestors had for a century or more possessed property in Chaldon and Merstham, and she was patroness of the rectory of Chaldon. In October 1476 she was still the widow of John Elmbrygge, when she presented a priest to that benefice. At the next vacancy, however, in 1481, she was the wife of Sir William Peche, and they jointly presented Thomas Rous to the rectory of Chaldon, in October 1481. When the next incumbent, John Merston, obtained the benefice, in May 1490, she was still the patroness, but again a widow. He was presented by Ann Peche, widow.\*

The manor of Cranham or Croham, in Croydon, also belonged to Dame Anne Peche, in the reign of Henry VII.†

In 1462 and 1463 Sir William Peche was Sheriff of Kent. Although he had been a faithful supporter of Henry VI., it seems that Edward IV. shewed him especial favour. The grant of the shrievedom states that the King assigned to him £40 per annum in money, until he shall have secured to him, and his heirs male, land worth £40 per annum.‡

Sir William made his will on the 8th of April in the third year of King Henry VII., and died upon the 9th of April. As Henry VII. came to the throne in August 1485, the month of April which occurred first after his accession was April 1486, and April in his third year must have been April 1488. Yet on the monumental brass in Lullingstone Church it is said that Sir William died on the 9th of April 1487. The Inquisition respecting his death was held at Eynsford on the 24th of July 1490, and it clearly states that Sir William Peche died on the 9th of April 3 Henry VII.

By the kindness of Mr. James Greenstreet I am enabled to print, in a note, copies of Sir William's will and of the record of the Inquisitio post mortem.§

\* Manning and Bray, *History of Surrey*, vol. ii., pp. 441, 446.

† *Ibidem*, p. 543.

‡ Hasted, *History of Kent*, 8vo, vol. i., p. 195; and Philipott's MS. in Sir William Hart Dyke's possession, from Patent Roll, 2 Edward IV., part 2.

#### § PREROGATIVE COURT OF CANTERBURY, 12 MILLES.

##### *Testamentum domini Willelmi Peche.*

"IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN I ser William Pecche, knyght, being in full mynde and lying on my dede bed, the vij<sup>th</sup> day of Aprill the yere of the Reign of King Henry the vij<sup>th</sup> the iij<sup>de</sup> ordeigne and make my testament and my Will in fourme following. ffurst I bequethe my soule to Almyghty god our lady and all saintes my body to be buryed in my parissh Church of saint Botolph. And I woll that all my dettis be truly paide and all iniuries and wrongis doon by me be amended and refo<sup>r</sup>med by thadvice of myn Executours. Item I woll that my daughter Elizabeth have a c marcs to her mariage to be paide by the handes of myn Executours the day of mariage. Item I bequethe to Artour Holbrok my seruant x li. yerely for terme of his life going owt of my Maner of Lullingstun. Also I bequethe to Jane Badcome my seruant xx s. The residue of all my goodes and catallis not bequethen I woll them to be disposid in almes dedes of charite by myn Executours whome I name John Pecche. Also I at this tyme adnulle all other testamentis and Willes made or spokeñ by me at any season afore this time. And now where Richard Page and Thomas Sybile being

Sir John Peche seems to have been born in or about 1473.\* He was attached to the Court of King Henry VII. from his youth. When only twenty-one years of age he took a very prominent part in the Royal Jousts held in the King's Palace at Westminster, on the 9th, 11th, and 13th of November 1494.†

On the first of these days the challengers (who wore the King's colours) were the Earls of Suffolk and Essex, Sir Robert Curson, and John Peche. Each of them ran six courses against one adversary; and other six against a second opponent. All did well, but John Peche did best. In the first half-dozen courses he brake upon Matthew Baker,‡ his first adversary, five spears ("well

at this day infeffid in my maner of Lullingstoñ, with thappotenances, and of all other maners londes and tenementis rentes and seruices lying and being in the Countie of Kent to thuse and behofe of John Pecche and of his heires as it was declaryd by me to the said Richard and Thomas vpon the state by me and William Cressell to them delyuerd, I the said ser William require and charge the forsaid Richard and Thomas as they woll answere afore god to make astate to John my sonne according to thentent afore reheroid at suche time as the said John Pecche shall require them so to do. Also I woll that all souche meases howsinges rentes and tenementes as I, or any other to my vse, at this day haue w'in the Cite of London or the suburbes of the same, that all the said meases places howsinges Rentes and tenementes, w' thappotenances, shall holy incontinent after myn discease remaign to John Pecche to haue to him and to his heires for euer. Item I woll that all my feoffes and eueryche of them being feoffid in all my landes and tenementes being and lying in the shire of Surrey stond and be as feoffes to thuse and behofe of the aforesaid John Pecche and his heires. And them and euerych of them I require to make astate of the said londes and tenementis to the said John Pecche and to his heires at suche time as they shalbe by hym required."

Probate granted to John Pecche, the executor, on 20th May same year.

#### CHANCERY INQUISITIONES POST MORTEM, Anno 5 Hen. VII., No. 24.

Taken at Eynesford, in co. Kent, on 24 July, A° 5 Hen. VII. The Jurors say, that William Pecche, in the writ named, the day he died was seized of no lands held in capite of the King, or of any other person; but they say that the aforesaid William Pecche and William Cressell, Gentilman, were seized, to the use of the aforesaid William Pecche and his heirs, of the Manors of Lullingstone rose, fflowkys payferer, and Cokerherst, with appurts, in the said county, and by their Deed (shewn to the Jurors) settled it on feoffees to the use of the said William Pecche for his life, and after his death to the use of John Pecche, esq., his son and heir.

They say, also, that the Manors are held of the King as of his Duchy of Lancaster, by fealty and a rent of 3s. 4d. per annum.

And that the Manor of Lullingston rose is worth per annum, beyond reprises, 10 marks; and the Manor of fflowkyspayferer is worth per annum, beyond reprises, 100s.; and the Manor of Cokerherst is worth per annum, beyond reprises, 33s. 4d.

And that the aforesaid William Pecche died on 9th April A° 3 Hen. VII., and that the aforesaid John Pecche is his son and heir, and aged seventeen years and more.

\* The record of the Inquisitio post mortem, 5 Henry VII., No. 24, states that John Peche was aged seventeen years and more when that inquiry was held 24 July 1490.

† *Letters, etc., of the Time of Richard III. and Henry VII.*, edited by James Gairdner, vol. i., pp. 394-400.

‡ Matthew Baker was one of the "squires for the King's body" in 1502,

broken"). In the second round of six courses he brake upon William Craythorn "6 spears well broken, the 7 better, and over that gave a good atteynt." Consequently to him was awarded the prize, a golden ring set with a ruby. This was delivered to him by Princess Margaret, the King's eldest daughter, to whom John Peche was conducted by the Lady Ann Percy and the Lady Ann Nevill, after supper had ended and the dances were over.

On the second day each challenger appeared beneath his own pavilion upon which his crest was wrought. John Peche's pavilion was made of light tawny sarcenet, embroidered with his word or motto, "*In everything*," and his crest, a lion's head of ermine, crowned with gold, and set in plumes. The Duke of York's colours (blue and tawny) were worn this day. The horses' harness was of black velvet, bordered with goldsmiths' work, and decked with roses red and white, and with silver bells. Swords were the weapons used, and John Peche "did full well" against Rouland de Veilleville, who nevertheless "gave good stripes."

On the third day, November 13, each of the four challengers was conducted by a beautiful lady who rode a white palfrey. Each lady wore a gown of white damask with sleeves of crimson velvet, a golden girdle, and a golden coronet set with precious stones. By a rich false rein the lady conductor led the horse of the valiant challenger. That of John Peche was thus led by Mistress St. Leger, a daughter of the Duchess of Exeter. The other lady conductors were the Duke of Buckingham's sister Elizabeth, the Earl of Northumberland's sister Ann, and the Earl of Westmorland's daughter Ann. The encounters on this day were not single combats, but the combatants fought together in pairs.

John Peche's companion was Sir Robert Curson; together they encountered Thomas Brandon and Matthew Baker. Upon the last-named combatant John Peche brake his spear. It is very evident that John Peche must have been an accomplished and skilful combatant, whose prowess caused him to stand in high favour at the Court of Henry VII., although he was but twenty-one years of age.

In the following year, 1495, although so young, he was Sheriff of the County of Kent. In that capacity he, in July, conveyed to London about 170 of Perkin Warbeck's soldiers and their officers, railed in ropes like draught horses. They had sailed from Flanders with that Pretender, and having landed at Sandwich were there made prisoners.\*

He attained knighthood at the battle of Blackheath, June 17, 1497. Probably he began about this time, to build the gateway still existing at Lullingstone Castle. He was present, in the year 1500, when Henry VII. had a ceremonious interview with the Archduke Philip of Austria.

Perhaps he was appointed Lord Deputy of Calais in May 1509.

when to him were granted the rooms called "Paradise, Hell, and Purgatory" within the Hall of Westminster, as well as the custody of the Palace. Rymer's *Fœdera*, sub anno 1502, Nov. 5.

\* Hasted, *History of Kent*, 8vo, i., 198, and Furley's *Hist. of Weald*, ii., 407.

In September 1509 the new King (Henry VIII.) commanded Sir Wm. Scott and James Dygges to muster in Kent 100 men for service at Calais under "Sir John Pecche."\* Earlier in the same year, we find the name of "Sir John Pechie" entered as being paid £40, among those who received their Midsummer quarter's wages from the King.†

On the death of Margaret, Countess of Richmond, in June 1509, her numerous estates were inherited by her grandson Henry VIII., who, in July, confided to Sir John Peche the stewardship of all the lands she had possessed in Kent. A month earlier the King had shewn similar favour to Sir John, by entrusting to his stewardship all the lands in Kent, Surrey, and Sussex which had formerly belonged to Cecilia, Duchess of York, of which Richard Guldeford had previously been the steward.

More valuable grants were made to him in the following May (1510), when the King gave to Sir John Peche and John Sharpe, jointly in tail male, the reversion of Edmonton and other manors in Middlesex (forfeited twenty-five years before by the attainer of Sir Richard Charlton), and of other lands which Sir Richard's wife had formerly held for her life.‡

Further marks of the young King's favour were given four months later, in September 1510, when Sir John and one Henry Skylman were appointed Keepers (in survivorship) of the Royal Park at Eltham, and of the New Park of Horne there also. As he was one whom the King thus delighted to honour, we are not surprised that in the following January Sir John Peche was appointed Knight of the Body to the King, and Lieutenant of Risebank near Calais. An annuity of £17 10s. out of the revenues of Calais was also settled on him, and its payment was to be antedated as from the 1st of May 1509.

All the valuable Kentish manors of the late Margaret, Countess of Richmond,§ were leased to him from the Crown (in June 1511) for a period of sixty years, at the nominal rent of 20 marks per annum; and the manor of East Wickham (forfeited by Francis, Lord Lovell) was included in the lease at an additional rent of £5. Not many months afterwards the stewardship of the manors of Lee, Bankerdis, and Shroffold was added to his other offices (March 20, 1512).

When the King's sister Princess Mary was married to the King of France in October 1514, Sir John Peche was one of the courtiers in attendance; and in the revels held at Court, in the following May, we find him figuring in a "green velvet frock, gored with yellow satin."

It was a period when attire was rich and brilliant. His costume

\* Rymer's *Fœdera* ad annum 1509.

† In the Royal Expense Books Sir John Peche appears, in March 1512, as receiving £36 12s. for wages four months in advance; and in February 1514-5, wages at 6s. per day, £9 6s.

‡ Patent Roll, 2 Henry VIII., part i., memb. 5.

§ The manors of Dartford, Cobham, Combe, and Chislehurst.

of black and blue, in mixed velvet and satin, is recorded in the description of the courtly pastime of "running at the ring" at Greenwich on February 5, 1515-6. In the following May he was a "Knight waiter on horseback" in the Jousts held at Greenwich Palace on the 19th and 20th, when he wore a costume of blue velvet, gored.

His life as a prominent courtier was undoubtedly costly, and must have heavily taxed his resources. We find Sir John Peche needing to borrow from the King's Treasury, in May 1515, the very large sum (at that time) of £600. It is recorded, in the King's Book of Payments, that Sir John deposited as security for this loan "his great collar of esses."

How valuable were the gold chains worn by Sir John Peche we learn from a codicil, made in Ireland on the 26th of May 1521, as an *addendum* to his will. In it he says, "I will that my wif have my chaynes, that I have here, which ar wurth cxx<sup>li</sup> good, to make therewith my chapell as is devised in my will that I made at my comyng into Ireloind."\* One of the witnesses to his will was the well-known John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester.

\* The text of this will and codicil, kindly copied and communicated to me by Mr. James Greenstreet, is here appended.

*Testamentum Johannis Peche, militis.* PREROGATIVE COURT OF CANTERBURY,  
25 MAYNWARING.

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN, in the yere of the Incarnacion of our Lorde god m<sup>l</sup>v<sup>e</sup> xxj, the xxvij daie of Aprill, In the xiiij yere of the Reigne of King Henry the viij<sup>th</sup>, I John Peche of Lullingstone in the Countie of Kent, knyght, being of good memorie and parfite mynde, thankid be god, I make ordeyn and declare my present testament and last Will in maner and forme folowing: firste I bequethe my soule to the mercie of allmighti god my maker and sauour and to his blessid mother seynt Marie and to all the holy company of Heuen, And my body to be buried wher as it shall please allmighti god of his grace to dispose for it. Item I bequeth to the high Aulter of Lullingstone x<sup>s</sup>. Item I bequeth to the high Aulter of Eynsforde xx<sup>s</sup>. Item I bequeth to the high Aulter of Shorham xiiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I bequeth to Mastres Margery Otwell, one of the Quenes chamberers w<sup>t</sup> hir grace, x<sup>li</sup>. Item I bequeth to John Hall, marchaunt of the Staple, and Kateryn his wif, or to the lenger liver of them, xx<sup>li</sup> in plate, of the which xx<sup>li</sup> worthe of plate I will that after the decease of them twoo that George ther sone, the which is my godsone, shall haue x<sup>li</sup> worthe of the same plate. Item I bequeth to my Suster to the Releuyng of hir and hir childern xx<sup>li</sup>. Item I bequeth to John Browne, Marohaunt of the Staple, xx<sup>li</sup>. Item I bequeth to Laurance Bonvice xx<sup>li</sup>. Item I bequeth to Antony Baveryn xxx<sup>li</sup>. Item I will that myne Executors shall doo or cause to be doone in dedis of charite for Master Saxbeis soule to the value of xx<sup>li</sup>. Item I bequeth to Parcyvall Harte the cheif of all my wering gere and Rayment, and all my harnes, Except I will that euery of my seruautes that be dwelling w<sup>t</sup> me at the tyme of my decease shall haue one harnes. Also I bequeth to Roger Harlakenden x<sup>li</sup>. Item I bequeth to William Hodsale of chepsted xx<sup>s</sup>. Item to the heires of Edmond Page x<sup>li</sup>. Item I bequeth to Goldesborow the poulter of London xl<sup>s</sup>. Item I will that euery of my seruautes dwelling w<sup>t</sup> me at the tyme of my decease shall haue his hole wagis for the yere nexte after my decease to prairie for my soule which I esteeme will drawe to the Som<sup>a</sup> of lx<sup>li</sup> or theraboughtes. All the Residue of my goodis after my debtes paide and my legacies fulfillid I give frelie and holy to my wif she to dispose them at hir pleasure and the weale of my soule Whom I make and ordeyne to be my Exeoutrice of this my present testament and laste Will And Sir Henry Marney and John Whigtwode my Stuerde to be Executors w<sup>t</sup> my

The wife of Sir John Peche, who survived him, and proved his will in October 1522, was named Elizabeth, and, from her coat of arms impaled upon Sir John's tomb, she seems to have been a member of the noble family of Scrope. Philipott says in a vague,

saide wif And I bequeth to the saide Sir Henry Marney for his labour, payne and diligence in that behalf asmoche plate as shall amount to the somme of x<sup>li</sup> And to the said John Whigtwode asmoche plate as shall amount tho the Som<sup>a</sup> of v<sup>li</sup>. Also I ordeyn and depute my Lorde of Cauntorbury And my Lorde of Rochester to be Superuysors of this my present testament And I bequeth vnto my said Lorde of Cauntorbury a gilt cup w<sup>t</sup> a couer and a scripture in the foote & the cup of assaye to the same Also I bequeth to my Lorde of Rochestre a nother cup of the same facion and making excepte it lackithe scripture and the cup of assaie lackith also. Also I wull that my chapell at Lullingstone aforesaide shalbe made vp and fynysshid of my costes as I haue shewid vnto my frendes And that I haue a priest ther substancially founded and to sing and praie perpetually for the soules of my good father and mother Sir William Peche, knyght, ther being buried and Dame Jane his wif my soule my wifes soule Dame Margret Suffolkes soule our frendes benefactors soules and all cristen soules The which foundation of the saide priest I will shalbe made by myn Executors and by thadvice of their counceill and the priest to haue x markes a yere out of my manor of Eynsforde and xx<sup>s</sup> a yere out of the same manor yerely to be deuised to them that shall countroll the said priest and to se the chapell kept in good Reparacions And the same priest to be named and put in by my wif during hir lif And after hir decease to be named and electe by the bissshop of Rochestre allweys for the tyme being and to sing in the said Chapell for euer as is abouesaid.

THIS IS THE last Will of me the said Sir John Peche, knyght, as towching all my londis maners and tenementes Rentes and seruices w<sup>t</sup> their ap<sup>t</sup>tenaunces sett and being w<sup>i</sup>n the said Countie of Kent or els wher wherof that I or any other man is seased or possessed to my vse. first I will that my wif shall haue all my hole maners landis and tenementes Rentes Reuercions and seruices and all and singuler their ap<sup>t</sup>tenaunces frely to hir own propre vse during hir naturall lif keeping sufficient reparacions excepte I will that John Whigthed shall haue all my landis at grenestede and at Pinden during his naturall lif keeping therof sufficient Reparacions and paying therof to the cheif lordis of the fee the Rentes of assices that ought of right and custome to be paid out of the said landis and tenementes. Also I will that Thomas Gleve shall haue yerelie xl<sup>s</sup> paid vnto hym duryng his naturall lif out of my ferme that Ale<sup>n</sup> dwellith in a boue the hill, and that to be made sure to hym be myn executors and feoffes to be yerelie paide out of the saide ferme vnto the saide Thomas during his naturall lif in maner and form abouesaid. Also I will that after the decease of my wif that all my hole maners landis and tenementes Rentes Reuercions and seruices w<sup>t</sup> all and singuler their ap<sup>t</sup>tenaunces except before exceptid to the forsaid John Whigthed and Thomas Gleve if thei then ouer live my saide wif shall Remayn to the aboue named Percivall Harte And to the heires of his bodie lauffullie begoton. Also I will that after the decease of the aboue named John Whigthed and Thomas Gleve that all my forsaid landis and tenementes aswell at Grenstret and Pynden as all the oder hole maners landis and tenementes Rentes Reuersions and seruicis w<sup>t</sup> all and singuler their appurtenaunces shall hole Remayne vnto the saide Percivall Harte and to the heires of his body lauffullie begoton and for default of heires of the saide Percivall lauffully begoton then I will that all my said maners landis and tenementis w<sup>t</sup> the premissis and all and singuler their appurtenaunces shall remayne to the next heires of my blode for euer. And I will and charge all my feoffers that be enfeoffed in any of all my saide maners landis and tenementes w<sup>t</sup> thappurtenaunces or any parcell of them that they doo make feoffamentes and estates according to this my present testament and last Will as thei shall answeere before god at the daie of Jugement when they therunto shalbe resonable requyred And ouer that I will that if it so fortune that my suster the which is the naturall mother of the aboue named Percivall do fortune to live at such tyme that it shall fortune my

loose fashion, "Sir John Peche marryed the Lord Scroope's daughter." Oddly enough, however, we find no actual record of, or reference to, his marriage with Elizabeth Scrope. Probably it took place soon after the year 1500. On the De Banco Roll for Easter 1506 Mr. Greenstreet found mention of the enrolment of a deed, by which John Hadsole conveyed all his right in certain lands lying in Sevenoke, Kemsyng, and Sele to Sir John Peche, *Ralph Scrope*, clerk, and others; and a similar transfer made by William Hodsole had been enrolled at Michaelmas 1504. Possibly these transactions may have been connected with his marriage to Elizabeth Scrope.

This lady survived her husband for many years, and in 1542, among the Kentish gentry who contributed a loan of large amount to King Henry VIII., we find her name entered as Lady Elizabeth Pechy, widow, contributing 20 marks (£13 13s. 4d.). Probably she outlived her husband's only sister, Elizabeth Peche, who, having married John Hart about 1495, was left a widow with four young children in 1507. Mrs. Hart married again; her second

said wif to deceasse and that my said landis shall remayne vnto the saide Percivall then I will that the saide Percivall shall paie yerely out of my saide landis vnto his saide mother xx marcs by yere during hir naturall lif And that to be made sure to hir by my saide ffeoffes during hir lif as is beforesaid. Item I will that notw<sup>st</sup>onding that is above wreten that my wif haue all my housolde stuf and plate not bequethid during hir lif And if she nede as I trust to god shall not, to helpe hir, that she sell parte of my plate, or to give among hir kyñ the value of xx<sup>li</sup> or more after hir concience and necessitie, but all the Residue I trust to hir verely to leve Percivall Harte And if he die afore hir, then she to dispose the best she can for the weale of bothe our soulis our ffathers and mothers soules and all our fferendes soulis. furthermore I charge my wif and my executors that by the Aduyce and Judgement of my Lorde of Cauntorbury thei do make satisfaction to euery parson that Rightuosly can complayn and that for the clerenesse of my concience and discharge of my soule. furthermore I give to Mastres Walsingham Mastres Hall and Mastres Walter to eche of them a gilte cruse of the value of iij<sup>li</sup> a pece. Also where before I haue bequethid to Percivall Harte many bequestis parte immediatle after my decease parte after the decease of my wif, I will neuertheless that if the saide Percyvall by hymself or by his mother my suster or by any other for them doo trouble my wif for my landis that I haue graunted and given vnto hir for terme of hir lif, that then he shall enjoye none of my landis p<sup>ch</sup>asid or any other moveabils before rehersed, but that my wif shall dispose bothe landis and moveabils after hir dethe as she shall thinke it beste for the wele of hir soule and myñ. And if cace he doo content hym and make no trouble ayenst my wif by him nor by none other for hym but that my wif restfully enjoye all that I haue graunted hir then I will that he in lyke wise enjoye all his bequestes aboue rehersed. In Witnesse wherof to this my present testament and laste Will to the same anexed I haue putto my seall the daie and yere aboue wreten In the presence of John ffysher, Bisshop of Rochester, — Maleverey, commyssary to the saide bisshop, Sir John Dene, chapleyn, Robert Rippon, and Thomas Gleve.

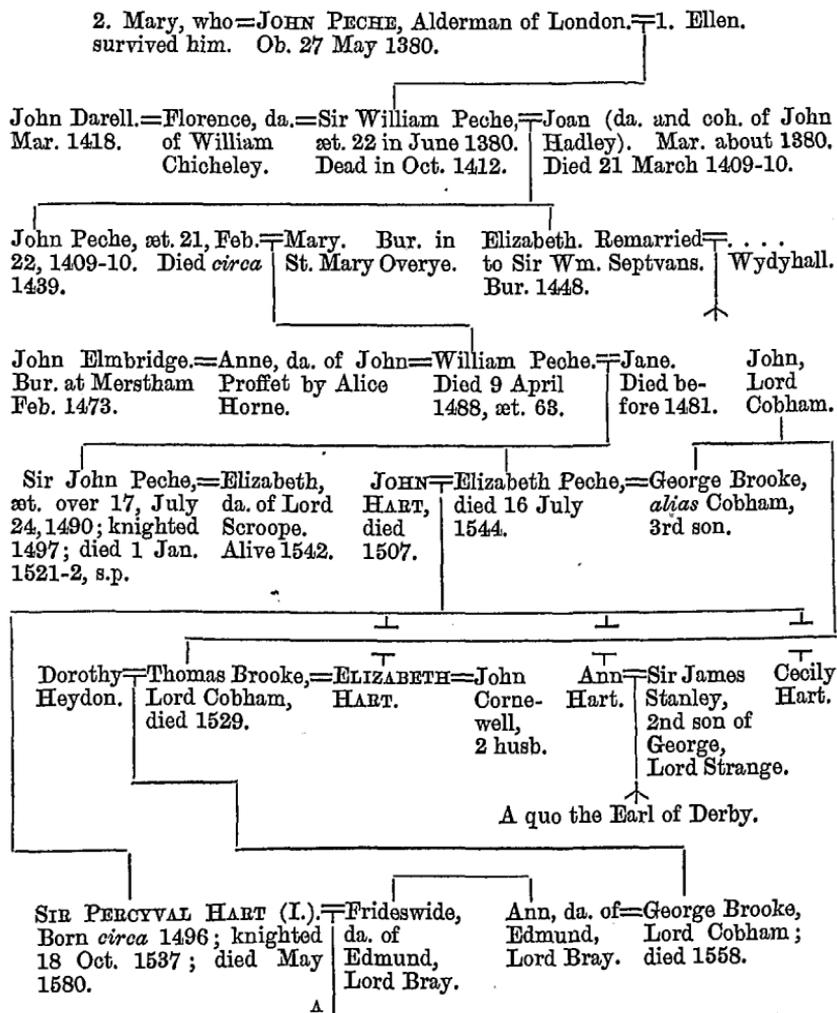
THIS IS the will of me Sir John Peche, knyght, being in Irelande, at the Citie of Develyn, the xxvj daie of Maie in the xij yere of the Reigne of my souereigne lorde King Henry the viij<sup>th</sup>. Item I will that my wif haue my chaynes that I haue here which ar wurth coxx<sup>li</sup> good to make therw<sup>t</sup> my chapell as is devised in my Will that I made at my commyng into Irelande And all the money w<sup>t</sup> all other things that I haue geven hir as apparell horsis harness and plate, that she haue it to performe my Will. In witnesse wherof I haue wreten this bill with myne owne hande, and putto my seall, the yere and daie aboue wreten.

Probate granted at Knowil' on 2nd Oct. 1522 to Dame Elisabeth, the reliot, and John Whightwode, the executors.

husband being George Brooke, son of John, fifth Lord Cobham (ob. 1512), and brother of Thomas, sixth Lord Cobham (ob. 1529). Oddly enough, we find that this elder brother of her second husband, who was thus her brother-in-law, was also her son-in-law, having married her daughter Elizabeth Hart.

After the death of Sir John Peche's widow, all his possessions passed, by his will, to his nephew Percival Hart, the only son of his sister Elizabeth\* (Peche=Hart=Brooke Cobham). The name of Peche then became extinct here.

The pedigree, which, so far as we can ascertain, has never before been written, is as follows:—



\* It is said that Sir John Skeffington, Alderman and Lord Mayor of London, who died July 10, 1525, married Elizabeth, daughter of . . . Peche. Was he an intermediate husband of this lady, the sister of Sir John Peche?

