

Charles Meyer and Thomas Welsh that the said sum of £7000 will be insufficient to pay the expences of the said works and he has requested to have further advances of money made to him to enable him to carry on the said works which the said Charles Knyvett Frederick Charles Meyer and Thomas Welsh have agreed to make Now it is agreed between the said parties and the said Alexander Robertson does engage to complete the said works with all the alterations and additions which have or shall be made by the direction of the said John Nash or which have or shall become necessary from any reason whatever in a good and workmanlike manner on or before the first day of January 1820 as aforesaid And that when the said work shall be fully completed the sum of money to be paid to him the said Alexander Robertson in addition to the said sum of £7000 shall be ascertained fixed and settled by the said John Nash but in case the said Charles Knyvett Frederick Charles Meyer and Thomas Welsh shall not be satisfied with the sum to be fixed by the said John Nash then the said sum of money so to be paid to the said Alexander Robertson as aforesaid (in addition to the said sum of £7000) shall be ascertained fixed and settled by William Ayrton of James Street Buckingham Gate Esquire the said Charles Knyvett and Thomas Welsh and the said Alexander Robertson doth agree to be satisfied with such sum of money and to receive the same in full of all demands and to give an absolute Release to the said Charles Knyvett Frederick Charles Meyer and Thomas Welsh and also to all the Members of the Regents Harmonic Institution and to allow in account all advances that have been or may be made over the said sum of £7000. In consideration whereof the said Charles Knyvett Frederick Charles Meyer and Thomas Welsh have this day advanced the said Alexander Robertson the sum of Six hundred pounds in addition to the aforesaid sum of £7200 for the purposes aforesaid and they do hereby agree to make further advances if necessary such advances not to exceed £500.

Witness

M. C. Burney

Chas. Knyvett

F. C. Meyer

Thomas Welsh

Alex. Robertson

Sir Arthur Slingsby

Sir Arthur Slingsby, who purchased the Jacobean house Bifrons, near Canterbury, in 1662, was descended of a younger branch of the Slingsbys of Scriven in Yorkshire and was created a baronet at Brussels in 1657. Born about 1623, he was a son of Sir Guildford Slingsby (1565-1631), by his wife Margaret, daughter of William Watters, Lord Mayor of York in 1620. He married "a Flemish lady" and was buried 12 February 1665/6 at Patix-bourne in his fortysecond year. His widow was living on 28 April 1666.

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Sir Arthur's will confirms Dugdales 'Visitation of Yorkshire' (The Genealogist, NS, vol. 26 p. 178) that they had two sons and two daughters; Charles (the second and last baronet), Peter Francis, Anne Charlotte (born in 1662, baptised 4 Jan. 1664 at Patricxbourne, Kent) and Mary (born posthumously and baptised 26 April 1666 at Patricxbourne). Anne married Edward Nightingale, de jure fifth baronet (1658-1723).

The elder son, then Sir Charles Slingsby Bt, sold Bifrons in 1677 to Thomas Baker, a London merchant, after which nothing is known of him. It is conjectured that he may have been the husband of Dame Mary Slingsby "who was buried 1st March 1693/4 at St. Pancras, Middlesex from St. James' ". The Dictionary of National Biography states that this lady was Mrs. Aldridge, afterwards Mrs. Lee, afterwards Lady Slingsby, and as Mrs. Lee from 1660 to 1680 and as Lady Slingsby from 1681 to 1685 was a well-known actress.

The will of Sir Arthur is given in full as not only does it contain a wealth of detail but illustrates how valuable an estate owners will can be to a local historian.

Sir Arthur Caley (1614/15-?) was the son of Edward Caley of Brompton in Pickering, Yorkshire, by his wife Anne, daughter of William Watters, of Cundall, Yorkshire (Dugdales 'Visitation of Yorkshire' in 'The Genealogist', NS, Vol. 29 p. 154). This William Watters is doubtless identical with the William Watters, of Stubbing House in Gilstead, Yorkshire, who was the maternal grandfather of Sir Arthur Slingsby. However, 'Yorkshire Pedigrees' (Harleian Society, vol. 96 p. 444) states that Mary Watters and not Anne Watters was the mother of Sir Arthur Caley.

Sir Arthur Slingsby's "worthy kinsman Robert Walter Esquire" is probably either his uncle or his uncle's son Robert Watters (sic). His uncle was High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1660 and great grandfather of Richard Robinson, created Lord Rokeby in 1722. ('Yorkshire Pedigrees' pages 444 and 445). Sir Arthur's elder brother Francis Slingsby was of St. Martins in the Fields (will proved 1670 PCC 141 Penn).

For further information on this family please see 'Blackmansbury' vol. 1 No. 2 (page 19).

Copy of the will of Sir Arthur Slingsby (PCC 51 Mico)

In the name of God Amen. I Sir Arthur Slingsby of Bifrons in the County of Kent, Knight and Barronett doe make this my last will and testament in manner and forme following, vizt I doe give and bequeath to my worthy Kinsman Sir Arthur Caley knight and to my deare brother Francis Slingsby Esquire And to my worthy kinsman Robert Walter Esquire and to their heires All my mannors houses lands Tenements and hereditaments whatsoever whereof I have any estate eyther in possession or reversion upon trust

that they shall and will settle dispose convey and sell and dispose of the proffitts thereof according to the directions of this my will for the payment of my debts and the maintenance of my wife and Children Alsoe I doe give and bequeath unto the said Sir Arthur Caley Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter all that Lease Terme and interest and estate That I have of and in Five hundred pounds per annum payable out of the post office for the terme of one and thirty years or the life of Sir Samuell Morland or which of them shall have the longest continuance my Lease of the house at Pickadilly And all houses, lands and rents which remayne yet unsold of my wives beyond the seas And all shares and parts of any thing granted mee by his majesty And all other my Leases money Debts, goods and Chattells whatsoever, subject nevertheless to the Trust hereafter in this my will declared touching the same And my will and mynd is and I doe hereby desire and direct That the said Sir Arthur Caley Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter and the survivors and survivour of them and his heirs shall settle and dispose and suffer the rents fines and proffitts of all that my mansion house called Bifrons with all out houses yards gardens orchards and appurtenances in the parrish of Patrixborne in the said County of Kent And of all those two orchards thereunto nere adjoyning conteyning three acres and all my two Cherrye orchards with a part of the Forestall conteyning five acres And of all those two peeces of arrearable land called the Coaches conteyning eighteene acres and of one peece of arrable land called the horse Leaze conteyning Eight acres and of all that peece of meadow land called the Cowleaze conteyning eleaven acres and of all that peece of meadow ground called the lower meadow conteyning six acres all now in my owne occupation And of all that other parte of the forestall conteyning two acres now in the occupation of Valentine Staynes at the yearly rent of forty shillings and of all that Tenement with the appurtenances in Lease to Christopher Sympson at the yearly rent of fiftie shillings And of all those two tenements with the appurtenances and a pasture close above the house conteyning two acres and of one peece of meadowe conteyning fower acres called the Little horse Lease, two peeces of pasture being part of Colland field conteyning eighteene acres and of one peece of arrable land called the Tenne acres and of one peece called the six acres and of one peece called the eight acres And of one peece called Magate conteyning seaven acres all lying in Patrixborne aforesaid and in lease to Thomas Badcock at the yearely rent of Fiftie three Pounds And of one Tenement with the appurtenances and two peeces of meadow called the Upper and the middle meadowes conteyning nyne acres and of one peece of arrable land called the five acres and of one peece called Stone acres conteyning eighteen acres and of one peece being parte of Colland Field conteyning Eight acres in all five peeces conteyning forty

acres All scituate lyeing and being in the parrishes of Bridge and
Patrixborne in the said Countie of Kent and in Lease to Valentine Rucke at
the yearely rent of Fiftie eight pounds And of those three Tenements with
the appurtenances in Bridge aforesaid in Lease to Mr. Robert Bargrave at
the yearely rent of eight pounds and Tenne shillings And of all that Tenemtn
with the appurtenances in Bridge aforesaid in Lease to John Cooley at the
yearely rent of three pounds And of all that Tenement with the appurtenances
in Bridge aforesaid in the Tenure of widow Butcher And of all that Tenement
with the appurtenances in Bridge aforesaid in Lease to widow Cheston at the
yearely rent of thirty shillings and of one Tenement with the appurtenances
with two peeces of arrable land one behind the house and the other adjoining
to Bridge hill towards Canterbury conteyning sixe acres All in the occupation
of Richard Gilman at the yearely rent of Nyne pounds And of one Tenement
with a Tanne Yard and the appurtenances in Bridge aforesaid and a peece of
Meadowe conteyning three acres by the house And of one peece of arrable
land called Tanners Field conteyning Foure acres in the occupation of one
Thomas May at the yearely rent of Twelve pounds and of all rent Capons
rent Hennes and other such like rents or profitts payable by any of the
tenants to be received and taken as I have herein after appointed That is to
say That they the said Sir Arthur Caley Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter
and the survivors and survivor of them and his heirs shall permitt and
suffer my wife to have the use of my said house called Bifrons dureing her
naturall life for her habitation And my will is That she suffer her children
to live with her in the house whether single or married soe as they marry
not without the consent of my wife or the consent of my executors or of my
brother Francis Slingsby but my will and mynd is That when my eldest
sonne then liveing shall marry or come to the age of one and twenty yeares
That his brothers and sisters shall not but with the consent of him and his
mother by vertue of any Clause in this my will Clayme any right to live and
inhabitt in the said house But my confidence is that They will not deny them
that priviledge without very just cause and my will is that my said kinsman
Sir Arthur Caley my brother Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter doe per-
mitt and suffer all my household goods now in my house at Bifrons to continue
there after my death for the use of my wife and children and that the same
be continued there dureing my wifes life and after for the use of my heir And
my further will and mynd is that my wife dureing her naturall life be per-
mitted to have and receive to her owne use the Moyety or one halfe of the
rents issues and proffits of all the perticularly before mentioned lands tene-
ments and herditaments And that when the said messuages lands Tenements
and hereditaments shalbe settled upon my children as I have in this my will
directed That the said Moyety of the said lands be settled upon or secured

unto my said wife for her life And my further will is that the said Sir Arthur Caley and my brother Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter doe out of the other Moyety of the rents issues and proffits of the said particularly mentioned lands pay (during the minority of my sonne Charles the somme of thirty pounds to my sonne Peter Francis and thirty pounds to my daughter Anne Charlott Slingsby for their maintenance by quarterly payments at the Feastes of our blessed Lady Saint Mary the virgin the nativity of Saint John the Baptist Saint Michaell the Archangell and the nativity of our saviour to commence at the first of those feasts after my decease And that they pay the overplus to my sonne Charles and that at the fullage of my sonne Charles or of such sonne as shalbe my heir they settle the said messuages tenements and lands in manner and forme following vizt. the house with the appurtenances and the one moyety of the messuageslands and tenements upon my wife for her life. And the other moytie and also the said house (and that moyety lymitted to my wife) after her death upon my sonne Charles and the heirs of his body And for default of such issue upon my Sonne Peter Francis Slingsby and the heirs of his body And for defeault of such issue upon all and every other sonne and sonnes that I shall happen to have by my wife And upon the heirs of the bodyes of such sonnes severally and respectively according to their seniority and ages the eldest and the heirs of his body to bee preferred before the younger and the heirs of his and their body and bodyes And for default of such issue to all such daughters as I shall happen to have by my wife and to the heirs of their boydes And for default of such issue to my deare brother Francis Slingsby for an dureing the terme of his naturall life And after his decease to my Nephewe Guilford Slinesby and to his heirs And my further will and mynd is That the said Sir Arthur Caley Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter at the full age of my said sonne Charles or such of my sonnes as at his full age shalbe my heire shall not settle my estate upon him or them as is before by me in this my will directed or suffer my heire to receive any of the rents issues or proffitts thereof until he hath given security to the good likeing of the said Sir Arthur Caley Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter That my sonne Peter Francis Slingsby and my daughter Anne Charlett Slingsby shall at their respective ages of one and twenty years or Dayes of Marriage or which shall first happen have five hundred pounds a peece paid unto them and thirty pounds per annum be in the meane tyme yearly paid unto them by equall quarterly payments at the aforesaid fower most usuall feasts of the yeare The first payment thereof to be made at the first of those feastes which shall next happen after my death. And that my wife shall quietly have and enjoy her habitation dureing her life in the house and the use of all the goods there And the moietie of all the rents and profitts of all the before particularly

mentioned lands And my further will is that dureing the minority of my heire the said Sir Arthur Caley Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter or any of them shall with a servant have free egresie and regresie into my said house and there reside as long as hee or they please for the ordering and settling my affairs according to the direction of this my will And I doe perticularly recommend it to my deare brother to comfort assist and advise my deare wife and children in their affairs aswell in England as beyond the seas and to live with them as much as his affairs will permitt him And if my brothers affairs will permitt him and that he will looke after such estate as doth or shall belong to my wife or children beyond the seas in Flanders Brabant or elsewhere that he shall allowe himselfe the charges of his Journey And I doe heartily recommend it to my deare wife to make him a present according to her ability and the efforts of his negotiaton And my further will is that for lands from all ingagements and the satissfaction of such legacies as I have given by this my will the said Sir Arthur Caley Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter doe with what convenient speed they can sell these perticular messuages and landes following or soe many of them as shalbe necessarie to doe the same vizt. one tenement with the appurtenances and eleaven peices of arrable land pasture and meadow ground in the parish of Bridge aforesaid in Lease to Daniell Ovenden at the yearely rent of Thirty and six pounds The parcell of which lands and the quitrents and proffitts which Daniell Ovenden enjoys and pays by vertue of that Lease appeares in my booke of the perticulers of my estate kept for information of my trustees And also one other Tenement with the appurtenances And tenne fields of arrable pasture and meadow ground conteyning one hundred and forty acres or thereabouts in the Parish of Bridge in Lease to John Castle at the yearly rent of Fiftie pounds and also one other Tenement with the appurtenances and fower parcells of land conteyning fourteene acres or thereabouts in the parish of Bridge aforesaid in Lease to Nicholas Fasman (?) at the yearely rent of eight pounds and tenne shillings And alsoe one peece of Woodland called P hill conteyning Eleaven acres or thereabouts And one other peece of woodland conteyning three acres or thereabouts all in my owne hands in the parrish of Bridge aforesaid which my will is should be alsoe sold unlesse my executors shall thinke fitt to keepe it and annex it to my sonne Charles his estate and to settle it as I have directed the estate that I have by this my will appointed to be settled on him with the like remainders as I have directed to be lymitted upon that estate to my sonne Charles which I doe here give them power to doe if they shall soe thinke fitt And my will is that the said Sir Arthur Caley Francis Slingsby and Robert Walter with the money that shalbe raised by the sale of the aforesaid Lands and tenements appointed to be sold as aforesaid and by the sale of my leases and of such

other parte of my estate as I have by this my will given unto them which are all my goods and Chattells (except those household goods which I have directed by this my will to be left in my said house called Bifrons my will is That in the first place they soe discharge all such debts as my lands or any parte thereof are ingaged for And after those ingagements discharged that they satisfie all my just debts And if it shall happen that my wife shalbe with child at my death That then they dispose of Five hundred pounds to be employed as a portion for that child wherewith my wife shalbe with child at my death And then my will is that the remaine and overplus of my estate be equally divided amongst all my children then living share and share (a) like And my will is that such estate as shall fall or come to my wife and children by their Aunt D'hautron (? D'hanton) if she order it not otherwise may after my wives death be equally divided amongst my children And mywill also is that what Legacies I shall give in any Codicill hereafter written with my owne hand to be subscribed by my selfe with my owne name and sealed with my owne seale shalbe paid after my debts and before any division of my estate amongst my children or as I shall appoint them to be paid And whereas I have given a security to Mr. William Tompson of Bruxells merchant by a certain Smithes house and shop and land in the occupation of William Gilman in Bridge at the yearely rent of Nyne pounds which is to be voyd upon condition That my sonne Peter Francis Slingsby shall at his full age make voyd a rent charge of Fiftie Florence Brabant money charged upon a house that my wife and I sold in Bruxells to the said Mr. Tompson I doe hereby devise That when my sonne Peter Francis Slingsby shall avoyd that rent that my sonne Charles shall pay him one hundred pounds over and above the five hundred pounds devised to himas aforesaid And then my will is that the said house shop and lands in Bridge be settled upon my sonne Charles in such manner and for such estate and with like remainder as the rest of my lands hereby appointed to be settled on him as directed to be settled and of this my will I doe constitute and appoint my said kinsman Sir Arthur Caley and my said brother Francis Slingsby and my said kinsman Robert Walter Executors And I doe give to every of them twenty pounds a peece to buy every one of them a horse And I would have mourning apparrell only allowed to my wife and children my executors Collonell Walter Slingsby and my two sisters My body I would have decently buryed without any pompe whatsoever desireing that if I dye within any reasonable distance it may be buried in the Chappell belonging to my house in Patrixborne Parish Church In witness whereof to this my last will written in twelve sheets of paper affixed together at the toppe thereof with a red silke ribbon I have to every sheete thereof subscribed my name and upon the last sheete there of and alsoe on the knott of the said ribbon have sett my seale on hard wax and have published the

same to be my last will this six and twentieth day of January in the sixteenth
yeare of the raigne of our Sovereigne Lord King Charles the second 1664
Arth Slingsby signed sealed declared and published by the said Sir Arthur
Slingsby as his last will the day of the date above written in the presence of
G, Benion William Singleton Bar Carpenter

Probate. The above written will was proved at London before the Venerable
Man Thomas Reade Doctor of Laws Surrogate of the pre-eminent Man
William Mericke, Kt., also Doctor of Laws and lawfully constituted
Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the first day of the
month of March A.D. 1665/6, by oath of Francis Slingsby one of the
Executors in named the will to whom the administration was committed
(being) sworn (to) well (and faithfully administer) reserving a similar grant
to Sir Arthur Caley, Kt., and Robert Walter the other executors named when
they shall come.

Queries

REGINALD TURNER (1869-1938)

Stanley Weintraub, Editor of 'The Shaw Review', wrote, in a letter to "The
Times Literary Supplement" (10 December 1964 page 1127) " . . . in
'Reggie', my forthcoming biography of Reggie Turner, I am demonstrating
the equally plausible cases for Turner's having been fathered by Lionel
Lawson or by his nephew Edward Levy-Lawson (Lord Burnham), as well as
the curious problems involved in tracing Reggie Turner's mother - another
intricate puzzle." The Editor would be pleased to receive any evidence for
inclusion in an article entitled 'Who Was Reggie Turner?' which is due to
appear in the next (June) issue of 'Blackmansbury'.

EMLEY FAMILY

Information would be welcomed regarding this family in England. Please
reply to James O. Emley, 2118, S. Park drive, Santa Ana, California, U.S.A.

PICTURES AT BIFRONS

Bifrons, near Canterbury, the property of the Conyngham family, was
demolished about ten years ago. A valuable and interesting collection of
pictures hung in the house before the last war but no information can be
obtained regarding their fate. Enquiries of the Conyngham family have not
met with any response, but it is known that a painting of Bifrons by Wootton,
which was in the house before the war, recently passed through the hands of
a London dealer. Can any reader help, please?