

**THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE SURTEES  
SOCIETY, ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR  
M.DCCC.XXXIV, VOL.  
CXII, FOR THE YEAR M.CM.VI; WILL AND  
INVENTORIES FROM THE REGISTRY AT  
DURHAM, PART III**

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**MR. J. C. HODGSON**

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PART III.

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1906

At a Meeting of the COUNCIL OF THE SURTEES SOCIETY,  
held in Durham Castle on Tuesday, March 7th, 1899, the  
REV. WILLIAM GREENWELL in the chair,

It was ordered that a third volume of Wills and Inventories  
be edited by Mr. J. C. HODGSON.

WILLIAM BROWN,  
*Secretary.*



## PREFACE.

OF the ever increasing number of volumes issued by the Surtees Society, perhaps none have possessed more general interest and popularity than the two volumes of Wills and Inventories selected from the Registry at Durham, and edited respectively by the Rev. James Raine and the Rev. William Greenwell. Although the choicest of the wills of the spacious Tudor period were taken for the second volume of the series, published forty-seven years ago, there remains a very large number belonging to the smaller gentry, clergy, yeomen and merchants. Some of them were indeed transcribed or abstracted for, but were crowded out of, that volume. These have been handed over to the present editor by Mr. Greenwell and form the nucleus of the following selection.

The union of the two Crowns, in 1603, in the person of James I., ushered in a period of peaceful development and extended to the country parishes of Northumberland and Durham the security which previously had been enjoyed only by the inhabitants of the walled towns, and, to some extent, by the owners of the greater castles. Wills of a later period, therefore, lose a considerable part of their historical interest and for that reason it is considered desirable not to extend the present collection beyond the reign of Elizabeth.

Specimens of nuncupative wills are given on pp. 35, 97, 100, 114, 157, 164 and 165. The will of 'the lady of Kenton' (p. 10) and the will of Gawen Hoppen (p. 66) supply additional details to the pedigrees of Bennet and Hoppen. Bertram Anderson (p. 60) gives to his sister, Marion Chapman, three 'tennes of coals'; Simon Wellbury (p. 87) gives legacies to his 'cosins,' the children of his son; Margaret Middleton (p. 122) bequeathes a 'garnyshe,'—that is, a set of 12 platters, 12 dishes, 12 saucers, and 12 porringers,—of pewter;

and on pp. 99, 123, are preserved some of the names which the farmers and breeders of the day gave to their cattle. An innkeeper's will may be found on p. 52, while the inventory (p. 178) of the goods of Sir William Hilton affords particulars of the disposition of the rooms and of their contents at Hilton Castle in 1600.

The Editor desires to acknowledge with gratitude the help he has received from the Rev. William Greenwell, D.C.L., F.R.S., who, as noticed above, gave his transcripts of a great number of wills; to Mr. J. J. Howe, for collating proofs with the original documents in the Registry; to Mr. Richard Welford, M.A., for reading the proofs; and to Mr. Herbert M. Wood, B.A., for proving the burial of several of the testators by extracts from parish registers.

DURHAM

WILLS AND INVENTORIES.

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WILL OF EDWARD SURTEES.

Dec. 14, 15... Edwarde Surteis of Newcastle, draper.<sup>1</sup> To be buried in the churche of Sainct Ny[nicholas] on the southe syde of the queyr over against . . . . doore. I give for my laierstall, 6s. 8d. To the vicar of the towne for my forgotton tyethes, 3s. 4d. To Andrewe Surteis, my soonne, my howes in the Close upon condicion that he and his heirs shall case yereyle sowlle masse and dirige to be song within the churche of Sainct Nicholas for the sowlles of me, Isabell, my wyffe, and all christian sowlles for ever. To Isabell, my wyffe, my howes in the Syde in which I [dwell], my fyve tenements in the . . . . gate nigh unto the dissolved ho[use] . . . . my daughter Jane: residus to Isabell, my wyffe. Witnesses, Robert Wood, my curatt, Andrew Surteis. [Pr. 1543.]

WILL OF ROBERT BIDDIC.

Feb. 20, 1543/4. Robert Bedyke of Duresme, tanner. To be buried in the chapell of Saynt Margarett ny unto my wyffe laytly buried. To the hy alter for my forgotton tithes, 12d. To 30 preasts the daye of my buryall for masse and dirige to every one of them, 6d. To the clarks and chyldren the said daye, 3s. 4d. In almesse to poure folks in broid aill, 5s. I wolle that my executors the daye of my buryall maike on denar to my nebours. To Mawld, my wyffe, in gowld and sylver, 20l. To Robert Bedyke, my elder soon, in gowld and sylver, 23l. 6s. 8d. To William Bedyke, my

<sup>1</sup> A member of the wide-spreading Derwentside family of Surtees and a draper in the Side, then one of the chief streets of Newcastle. Many members of this family are buried in St. Nicholas's church.

On April 13, 1517, the mayor and community of Newcastle granted to Edward Surtees, bowmaker, a tenement in the Side, extending from the highway on the east to the castle moat on the west, he paying a free rent of 16s. to the use of the Tyne bridge. Welford, *Newcastle and Gateshead*, vol. ii. p. 51.