

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY INVENTORY
AT CRAFTON

By A. VERE WOODMAN

The following inventory, which occurs among the deeds of the Mentmore estate and is now published by kind permission of the Right Hon^{ble} the Earl of Rosebery, gives a very full account of the possessions of a country gentleman towards the close of the XVIIth century, and is of much interest on that account.

William Theed, of Crafton in the parish of Wing, was the second son of William Theed of Horton Hall by his wife Elizabeth, the daughter of Christopher Egleton of Ellesborough.

About the end of the XVIth century his great grandfather, John Theed, a yeoman of Ledburn in the parish of Mentmore, began to purchase freehold and copyhold lands in Crafton where he and his son John eventually acquired an estate of about 140 acres. Their mansion-house, which formerly stood in a close called the Wick, was probably built by the younger John early in the XVIIth century. With hall and parlour, buttery, kitchen, etc., and nine bedrooms, it was evidently of importance, but save for slight irregularities in the surface of the soil, no trace remains of the building, which was pulled down a few years before 1838.

William Theed was baptized at Wing 1 Oct 1635 and married Mary, the daughter of Elkanah Gladman, Vicar of Wing, 9 Jan. 1665/6. He was buried in Wing church, 19 June 1680.

The Register records the baptism of the following children:—

William, bapt: 27 Sept 1666
 Mary, bapt: 2 July 1668
 Elizabeth, bapt: 10 June 1670, buried 13 Mar.
 1677/8
 Abigail, bapt: 26 Sept 1672
 John, bapt: 2 July 1674
 Thomas, bapt: 13 July 1676
 Anne, bapt: 20 March 1678/9

His widow, Mary, was buried in Wing Church 9 Aug 1720. None of his children left issue, and the survivor of them—Anne—was buried at Wing 15 Oct: 1735.

By his will, dated 16 June 1680 and proved 13 May 1681, he gave £200 to his eldest son William "for his education and bringing him up a Schollar at the University of Oxford." To his daughter Mary £350 at 22 years of age. To his daughter Abigail £300 at 22 years of age. To his sons John and Thomas £300 each to put them apprentice to a trade and towards setting them up in their trades. To his daughter Anne £300 at 22 years of age. After making provision for the raising of moneys towards the payment of these legacies and for the raising of a further £600 to be paid, £120 each, to his five youngest children, he gave to his wife Mary his silver salt-cellar and twelve silver spoons, one silver plate, his best bed and furniture, and all the furniture in his best room, three pairs of flaxen sheets, three pairs of hempen sheets, one pair of holland sheets, and two pairs of pillow-biers. To her also he gave one silver-gilt spoon, five guineas in gold, three broad-pieces of gold and one ten shilling piece of gold and her silver watch,¹ "which are already hers and in her custody," and such household stuff as she shall choose, to the value of £20. He appoints his wife Mary, his brothers John and Thomas Theed, and his cousin Thomas Theed his executors.

¹All these bequests can be recognized in the Inventory.

A true and perfect Inventory of the goods and Chattells of William Theed 'gent.' Late of Crafton in the County of Buck' deceased Apprised by John Theed of Ledborne in the Parish of Mentmore in the County of Bucks 'gent.' and William Hore² of Ascott in the parish of Wing in the said County of Bucks 'gent.'

	£	s	d
Imprimis, his wearing Apparell and Books	06	00	00
Item, in the Parlour two & Twenty Turkey work Chaires two Spanish Tables with one pair of Brass Andirons one paire of Doggs fire shouell & Tongues & a paire of Bellows with two Carpetts of Stript stuffe and two window Curtaines & rodde	08	00	00
Item, in the Buttery foure hogsheds and two barrells with one Safe & two vessels for brewing with two stands with five smaller vessells with some other Lumber	02	05	00
Item, in the Hall six Leather Chaires two Small green Chaires one paire of Dogg Andirons with two joynd stoolles & two window Curtaines of stript stuffe with a Carpett of the same & two Curtaine rodde	01	00	00
Item, in the Roome over the Parlour the hangings of sad coloured bayes with gilt Cope between one beddsteed matt & cord one Canvas Matteris one feather Bedd And boulster one paire of Blancketts one Large white Rugg foure Curtaines one paire of Vallence of sad			

²The inventory is in his hand.

£ s d

coloured serge with silk fringe foure
Chaires & two stooles one Spanish
table one pair of Andirons with
Brasses with fire shovell & Tongues &
five Curtaine Rods

08 18 06

Item, in the Roome over the Butterye
two Bedsteds matt & cord one feather
bedd and boulsters six fustion pillowes
eight blancketts with two wainscott
chests one Old table one red Cloath
bedd with a silk fringe and Counter
paine one great Chaire & foure stooles
inward Curtaines of Callicoe with a
fustion topp with two flock pillowes

08 15 00

Item, in the three Little Roomes over
the Kitching two whole headed Bedd-
steeds with one halfe headed Beddsteed
matts and cords one feather Bedd &
boulster two flock bedds & two boulsters
six blancketts with two Coverletts &
two pillowes Curtaines and Vallence of
Old blew Cloath Tester & head
Cloath with a Counterpaine of the
same fower Chaires & two stooles sut-
able with one Red Chaire one Chest of
Drawers one paire of Andirons with
Brasses fire shouell and Tongues & a
looking glasse with a Close Stoole and
pann

06 03 06

Item, in the two Roomes over ye Milk
house two Beddsteeds with one half-
headed Beedsteed matt & cords one
feather Bedd & boulster two flock bedds
& boulsters three blancketts one green
Rugg with one Coverlett and one Clock

04 15 00

	£	s	d
Item, in the Chamber over the Brewhouse two whole Beddsteeds with one halfeheaded Beddsteed three flock bedds & bouldsters three Old Coverletts & foure blancketts	01	10	00
Item, in the Milkhouse one Cheese press & three Leaden Cisterns for to Sett milk in foure tubbs eight kevers with two Charmes ³ and two bucketts & a parcell of Earthenware	04	00	00
Item, in the Brewhouse & Mealehouse one copper one fatt foure tubbs two boles Seaven Bucketts Sevean Kivers one meale hutch foure Seives one table & sider Trough	06	10	00
Item, in the Roome over the Hall one bedsteed and feather Bedd one boulder a paire of pillowes A white Rugg three blancketts & two flock bedds Curtaines & double vallence foure Chaires five stooles a chest of Drawers one little Table a box and frame two boxes Eight Cushions one looking glasse two window Curtaines Andirons fire Shouell Tongues of Brasse & a paire of bellowes one silver salt a silver plate Twelve silver spoones one silver & gilt spoone a watch with a Silver case five guinnyes three broad peices & a Tenn Shllings peice all in gold a paire of holland Sheets three paire of flaxen sheets Three paire of Hemen Sheets two paire of Holland pillow beers three side board clothes two Carpetts & other furniture in the Same Roome	60	00	00

³Churns.

CRAFTON INVENTORY

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	£	s	d
Item, two Silver Tankards two Silver Cupps three Silver Salts	18	00	00
Item, his Linnen of all sorts	15	00	00
Item, all his pewter	06	00	00
Item, Brass of all Sorts	09	00	00
Item, in the Kitching a table three joynd stooles a jack foure spits two Iron dripping panns Tinn dripping panns with Andirons pott hooks fire shouell & tongues & other things in the same Riome	02	00	00
Item, wheat in the fields 10 acres	27	10	00
Item, Barley n the fields 17 acres	35	00	00
Item, Beanes in the fields 27 acres	54	00	00
Item, three old hay cocks	40	00	00
Item, old beanes	35	00	00
Item, a Wheat cocke	16	00	00
Item, a hovill & two frames to lay graine upon	06	00	00
Item, Timber & firewood lyeing in two stacks	20	00	00
Item, Carts and wheeles harnis for horses ploughs harrowes & all other Implements of Husbandry	20	00	00
Item, Tenn Milch Cowes & a Bull	35	00	00
Item, Seaven hoggs	07	00	00
Item, Seaven horses	40	00	00
Item, in Carington hill eleaven great weathers nineteen ewes & eleaven Cowes	47	16	08
Item, in the Commonfields one hundred forty & foure weathers and ewes	48	00	00
Item, twenty todds of Wooll	14	10	00
Item, in Mortgages Leases bonds and Other debts	700	00	00

Apprised by us
John Theed
William Hore

£ s d
1315 13 8⁴

⁴The sum total has been altered from £1,317 but is still incorrect!

Exhibitum fuit hoc Inventorium 13^o, die Maii, Anno Domini 1681, per Mariam Theed, viduam, relictam et unam executorum Testamenti Willelmi Theed, generosi, nuper de Crofton, parichie⁵ de Wing, Archinatu Bucks, defuncti, pro vero et pleno Inventorio, etc., sub protestacione tamen de addendo, etc., si etc.

[Endorsed] Testamentum et Inventorium bonorum Willelmi Theed, generosi, nuper de Crofton, parochia de Wing, defuncti.

⁵ Mistake for "parochia," ablative.