

3 (fols. 30r–31v = P3–Q2) What a Testament or Last Will is, and how many kinde of testamentes ther be. A testament being vnderstood in a generall sence — Theis things may be done without damage. /

An extract from Henry Swinburne, *A Briefe Treatise of Testaments and Last Wills* London 1591 (STC 23547); pr. London 1611 (STC23548), &c.; last pr. London 1803; J. D. M. Derrett, *Henry Swinburne (?1551–1624): Civil Lawyer of York* (1973); J. H. Baker, 'Henry Swinburne, B.C.L. (†1624)', *Ecclesiastical Law Journal* (1993) 5–9. The present text is a reduction into continuous prose of Swinburne's opening tables (C1r–C3v in the first edition), with a short interpolation on 'The end of a will' (30v).

fol. 31v Two lists of legal rates, unconnected to the previous item, the first commencing 'A spetiall Livery', and the second headed 'In the Court of wardes'.

4 (fols. 32r–39r = Q3–[T5]) Cases hors del Curia Wardorum. . . Agnes Chittwoode le vidua et Richard Chirkwood fuit seise in fee — the xxxjth day of January in the xliijth yeare of our Raigne / Tho: Kerrey:

The reports, written in Law French and almost all dating from the reign of Elizabeth, commence with the case of Agnes Chittwoode, widow of Richard Chickwoode [sic]; subsequent cases are those of Sir Jhon Thynne (i.e. Sir John Thynne (1512/13–1580), estate manager and builder of Longleat); Thomas Moore; Richard Jacob and his son Robert; William Woolriche and Thomas Poyner; Madame Woodhouse; Richard Pattenham; Sir William Devereux; Henry, Duke of Lancaster. The extracts are not in chronological order, however; the latest is dated Pasch. 24 Eliz. = Easter Term 1581, probably therefore the *terminus ad quem* of the original compilation. However, the last, separate extract, in English and headed 'A processe out of the Requests' is dated 'the xxxjth day of January in the xliijth yeare of our Raigne' = 31 January 1600/1.

Binding stab-stitched in five stations into a parchment cover with the mark '1602' on the upper front cover; the parchment has had a previous life as a binding, as there are piercings at four points for a previous stitching structure.

Provenance the manuscript was bequeathed by Thomas Philpot, DD, fellow of the college 1609–24, along with many other printed books and four further manuscripts: see Benefactors Book, pp. 121–23, under 1677, including 'Robinsons Court of Records. M.S.' Philpot became rector of Akeley, Bucks., and of Turweston, Bucks. He was imprisoned at the beginning of the civil war, and died in 1671 (see Rickard).