

I now continue the story of the Bell Broughton Perretts, whose "Tree" appeared in the last Journal, and detail below the information from the Wills purchased by the Society. You will need to refer to the 'tree' to find who some of those mentioned are.

Firstly however I take two quotes from Barnwells "Perret Notes". The various 'trees' that he shows in his book were printed in the "Winter 1984" Journal. Many of these are, I am sure, incorrect.

Referring to the Perretts of Oxfordshire - Northleigh and Drayton - he details the descendants of George Perret who was son of Owen Perret of Pembrokeshire. George's son Robert married Alice Gardiner and had several children, which he details. He also says - "In addition to these ten children, three others are given on other and satisfactory authority. These are: Robert, whose name stands first, and who was incumbent of Breidicete, in Worcestershire from 1562 to 1585; Thomas, who is given as the sixth son; and William as the seventh, who was clerk of Magdalen College from 1564 to 1572. These three names are not mentioned in their fathers will, which contains only the names of his sons Simon, John and Leonard; but as his son Clement who is mentioned in the Register, and all the daughters are also omitted, the omission presents little difficulty "

The other quotation is taken from the chapter on the Perrets of Monmouthshire and Brecknockshire, or Brecknockshire as it was once called. This says- " Theophilus Jones in his history of Brecknockshire tells us that, as far as he could ascertain, this branch of the Perrets came out of Herefordshire in the time of Henry the Eighth. He gives however, no reasons for such a conclusion. If they removed from Herefordshire they may probably be referred to as the Perrets of Morton (Upon Lugg) in that County. They seem, however, to have borne the usual Perret coat of the pears and the demi-lion; whereas, the Morton family bore a very different one " Later there is a short note that " The earliest instance of the name is that of Perret David Evans, which may be an error for Perret ap David Evans or David Evans ap Perret, at any rate, his son is called David Perret. He died in 1576 ——— " "The next mention is that of John, who was incumbent of Llanantffraid in 1597, and would be nearly a generation later than David." — " He appears to have been imposed upon by his successor, who by some means or other got possession of the living, to which he was never presented or instituted, although he held it several years. About the latter end of the 17th century (He died, however, in 1633.) the very old vicar Perret complains that he was deceived in his illness by David Williams, vicar of Cwadu, and prevailed upon to resign his living in favour of his son William Williams, who refused to pay him a paltry sum of twenty nobles, given by way of augmentation to the living by Sir William Lewis, then retained by Sir William in his hands, until David Williams and his son repaired the tythe barn. John Perret was, however, also vicar of Llangorse, a neighbouring parish, so that the story of David Williams and his son may refer to the incumbency of this parish, and not Llanantffraid. In his will he leaves 'his best poignard' to his son John, who is probably the same person that was incumbent of Cathedine in 1622 "

Let us now turn back to the Perretts of Bell Broughton and Worcestershire, where the above two paragraphs will eventually make sense ( I hope!! )

From the sketch map of the parishes in north Worcestershire shown in the Summer/ Winter Journal you will see the names of the parishes around Bell Broughton where the family were ensconced for several generations. The first two names in the tree are William Perrett and Ann Rudyard, who lived at Wollaston in the parish of Old Swinford. The Society has a copy from the entry in the old Will Books kept by the Diocese of Worcester for a Roger Perett of Old Swinford dated 27.2.1558. This is in Latin but states that the administration of his estate was granted to Elinore P, his widow and William his natural son.

The above mentioned William may not be the William married to Ann Rudyard, but as the parish is Old Swinford it is highly likely to be so. Son William in Rogers will would have had to be over 21 to have had joint probate granted and thus would have been born before 1537. We will look at wills for the P.C.C. in the hope that it may be one of those listed in the calendars.

The Society holds a copy of a will made by Elinor Peret, widow, but this is badly



damaged down one side. It is dated 18.7.1587, but no parish is given. The details as far as can be deciphered are as follows:- (Bequests.)

Elenor Bradford,

Probate granted at Worcester, 18.5.1588.

Mary Be.....

Ma/..... (Could be Mas.....)

Witnesses: James Bradford, Henry Hinnelte.

Annis. (I assume Agnes.)

James.

Phillipe.

Wi..... (Could be William?)

Henry .....ton.

C or E ..... Peret. (Looks more like the E..... and matches the E of her own name.)

Jene, the latter's mother.

..... Bradford, son in law, Executor.

The dots represent the missing part of the parchment. Mas... Annis, James, Phillipe, and Wi..... are single names and are assumed to be her children, the Annis being unmarried. Elenor Bradford could be her daughter married to her son in law whose christian name is on the missing part. Mary Be..... could again be a married daughter but may of course be friends. The C or E .... Peret could be a daughter in law or perhaps a grandchild. The space between the Wi and the edge of the parchment, which is not damaged at top or bottom, is sufficient to take the word 'William' so I think it can be safely assumed this is the name, there being no other christian name beginning with a Wi.....

Until more details are available it can only be assumed that Elenor above is the wife of the Roger who died in 1558. I now turn to an administration and inventory of a John Phillip Peret dated 4.1.1573. John Phillip lived at Worcester City and the persons to whom the administration of his estate was given are:-

Roger Phillip Peret of Llangorse, and David Williams of Worcester. Roger is shown as Yeoman, and David as Cintry (?) Cimatatis (or perhaps Cintratis.) Perhaps some of our members can translate this from the Latin. It is definitely Llangorse as the county is shown as Brecknock. Roger Phillip is stated as natural brother of John.

There is an inventory of his goods attached and at the bottom is a note that the following persons owe him money:-

Thomas Pirram & Thomas Grene of West Lady, Aston. Leonard Childe of same place, & Henry Nicolls, place not mentioned. The first two owed £3 - 6s - 8d, the second person £3 - 13 - 8d for 48 bushells of good barley, and the last person 16s - 8d for a sewer. The inventory was made by James picher and Water Sadler alias Heywood.

Aston is in Warwickshire and the parish boundary adjoins Halesowen and Old Swinford. There is no doubt that the Perrots mentioned in Perrot Notes and these two brothers are one and the same family, and they could possibly be sons of the David Perrot who is mentioned. The connection with a parish next to where we know the Bell Broughton Perrotts originated, the names of Roger and Phillip, and one of the debtors - Grene - who will appear elsewhere, is I feel more than a coincidence.

There were also Perrots in the city of Worcester other than John Phillip as will be seen below. Coupled with this is the reference to a Northleigh Perrot being the incumbent at Bredicote, which is a parish about two miles from the city of Worcester, and the various names of witnesses, inventory takers and legatees from wills, one is drawn to the conclusion that most, if not all, are descendants of the Pembroke Perrots. Although the printed pedigree shown in the last Journal lays claim to the Perrot coat of arms, this was not confirmed by the College of Arms. However I feel that a connection is being shown.

The remainder of the Worcester wills in the Society's possession are as follows:-

BEATRICE PARRATT. 16.9.1550. Widow of Worcester.

Wife of Anthony Tolly.

My son Laurnce's Mayd. Whether a child or a maid I am not sure.

Margery Bryton.

Jane Willys.

My children (Un-named.)

Executor. Son in law, Peter Gose - notary.

Witnesses:- Thomas Borsley, Thomas Heywood.



LAURENCE PARAT. 5.5.1551. Barber of Worcester.

Brother Robert.  
Brother Richard.  
Brother Clement.  
Wife Ane. Sole executor.  
Brother in law - Anthony Tolly.  
Anthony Tolly's son Anthony.

My 'gosayp' (sic) Penrys. ) I can only think the 'g' is a 'c' and the 'p' is an 'n'  
My 'gosayp' Thomas Welfare. ) making the word 'cassyn' or cousin. However there are  
"c's" and "n's" in the rest of the narrative shown as  
they are today. The 'g' is shown many times where he  
says 'I gyve....' Can anyone explain?

Witnesses:- Richard Hawlle, Richard Penrys, Thes Welfare. Probate. 6.7.1551.

WILLIAM PERROTT. 1.8.1557. No profession given. Stratford upon Avon.

Richard my son.  
Robert my son.  
Alice my daughter,  
Joan my daughter.  
An unborn child.  
Johan my wife - executor.  
My mother.  
Phillip Williams my kinsman.  
Katherine Lewis my kinswoman.

Robert Morrice - brother in law. ) Overseers, but this word not used, cannot  
Well beloved brother - Robert. ) decipher so probably an old English word.

Witnesses:- Wm Morrice, Moses Lane, John Padge. Probate 29.7.1564

William evidently recovered from his illness as Robert proved his will in 1564 and another child William is mentioned. No mention of Joan so she may have died. The five children were all under age in 1564 as he swears ( i.e. Robert.) to administer the estate for their benefit. (This on a separate deed.)

An inventory of his goods was made on 30.7.1564 - a day after his probate - which means he probably died during the latter end of July as they were normally made very shortly after death. The inventory was taken and priced by Richard Redman, Robert Endysoule (?) and William Lock., in the sum of £172 - 16 - 8d. which was a great deal of money for those days. Of this sum £118 - 16 - 8d was owed in money.

Those shown as owing were :- Robert Greene, John Wether, John Hanner, Richard Hurmiston (?), John Itchener, Asuea (?) no christian name., Thomas Parrecke, Richard Curtes, Richard Hall, and you are never going to believe it - John Saxspeare. This is surely Shakespeare as we know it. The town is correct and the time is also right. Does anyone know anything about the Shakespeare family? He owed 2 - Od by the way.

Note the Richard Hall, is he the same as the witness in the previous will. Also note the recurrence of the Greene/Grene family in these wills.

WILLIAM PEROTTE. INVENTORY. 18.4.1568. Stratford upon Avon.

This inventory is incomplete but he also was wealthy. It was taken by Richard Symonds, Richard Byddyll, Richard Redman, Roger Grene, and I think it says 'with others'. Although the names Grene, Redman, occur as in previous will thus making it pretty obvious that William was a relation of previous testator, it cannot be his son as William was an unborn child in 1557 and was a minor in 1564. One can only assume he was either the father of previous William who must have died early or a cousin. Probably his father.

SAMUEL PERROTT. 7.9.1587. Barber of Worcester. Inventory.

Inventory taken by Richard Hibbons, Shoemaker of Worcester, and Thomas Rowlinge or Rawlings, of Hallow (parish adjoining Worcester) Yeoman. This again seems to be incomplete. As he was a barber was he a son of one of 'Laurnce' Parat's brothers? His house was well furnished and he had quite a lot of clothes.

We now move away from Worcester/ Stratford upon Avon to the area around Bell Broughton.



THOMAS PERROTT. 21.7.1600. ROWLEY.

(No profession given.)

William. Son & overseer.  
Agnes. Daughter.  
Margaret. Daughter.  
Marjorie. Daughter.  
Isabell. Wife. Executor.

Witnesses:- Charles Dudson, Clerk. Reynold Bridgewater. Edmund Gledon, William Perrott.

Probate granted. 2.7.1601 at Bromsgrove. Value of all his goods £44 - 6 - 8d.

WILLIAM PERROTT. 20.11.1614. WARLEY.

(NP PROFESSION GIVEN.)

Alice. My wife. Sole executor.  
Sons & daughters. (Un-named.)  
Witnesses:- Hugh Weston. John

Probate:- 17.1.1614/5. Value of goods - £70 - 11 - 8d. Had much freehold lands.

WILLIAM PERROTT. INVENTORY. 17.11.1623. OF BELL BROUGHTON. GENTLEMAN.

Inventory taken by Wm Penne, Mathew Walford, Henry Smith, Oswald Telly. in the sum of £18 - 10 - 0d. The administration of William's estate was given to Bridget Perrott his widow, 16.12.1623. and signed by her and Thomas Morgan, yeoman of Eadem. (Can't find this as a parish anywhere so expect it is a place in a parish.)

MARIE PERROTT. INVENTORY. 2.2.1648. EVENLODE, Spinster.

An inventory of the above date was taken by Thomas Walford and William Greene. It states that Marie died 30.3.1648. (The inventory date should be 2.2.1648/9.) An administration was granted to Humphrey Perrott and Thomas Perrott, both of Evenlode Yeomen. Humphrey is shown as natural brother of Marie. The value of her goods came to £17 - 3 - 4d. The deed was witnessed by Thomas Taylor and Thomas Purson.

Referring to the Summer/Winter issue you will note that I included the baptisms of children to a Thomas Perrott at Evenlode. These included Thomas 1618, Humphrey 1621, Christiana 1623, John 1625. I can find no mention in any of the I.G.I. sheets for Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Gloucestershire or Staffordshire, for any further mention of a Thomas having children baptised about the 1612 - 18 period.

I think it is fairly safe to say that this Thomas is connected with the Perrotts of Bell Broughton. He calls one of his sons Humphrey and the two inventory takers are a Walford and a Greene. The inventory takers for William above was a Mathew Walford and the name Green appears in many of the above wills etc.

The remaining Wills etc for Worcestershire can be left for a while, so let us now have a resume of what we knew so far.

A Roger Perrott was living at Old Swinford prior to William Perrott who married Anne Rudyard. He had an adult son William in 1558 when he died. Assuming this William was 22 in 1558 and married, say 1560, and had Humphrey in 1562. Humphrey married in 1586, so the time scales are about right, for Roger to be Humphreys grandfather.

A member of the Pembrokeshire Perrotts descent was living in Worcester when he died in 1573. (That's double dutch isn't it.)

A member of the Northleigh family, itself descendants of the Pembrokeshire family, was an incumbent near Worcester in the 1560/70's.

The name 'Roger' is amongst those used in the descents of the Herefordshire Perrots, as is Gregory; a name that appears in the Bell Broughton descents.

Relatives, witnesses, inventory takers etc appear in wills and other documents in Bell Broughton, Worcester, and Stratford upon Avon, which although not proof is an indication that the various families were inter-connected.

From baptisms and marriages taken from the I.G.I. it is evident that there are other lines than shown on the pedigree printed in the Summer/Winter Journal. These will now be investigated.

(To be continued.)