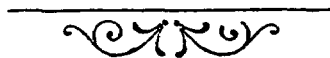




HALLEY AND PYKE FAMILIES.



Reprinted from
Notes and Queries, July 16, 1910.
(11 S. ii. 44.)



HALLEY AND PYKE FAMILIES.

MR. R. J. BEEVOR, of Reymerston, Manor Road, St. Albans, has kindly supplied abstracts of five Halley wills recorded at Lichfield. Brief extracts are given below :—

Will of Henry Halle of Youlgreave, co. Derby ; dated 26 May, 1536.—To be buried in the churchyard of *All Hallows*, Youlgreave ; mentions daughter Mawde and others ; executors Agnes my wife and John my son. Proved by executors 4 Oct., 1536. Inventory dated 29 Sept., 1536 ; amount, 15*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

Will of Richard Halley of Ashborne, co. Derby (upper part of will eaten away).—Bequeaths to cousin Ric. Halley my parte of the treyne which Will'm Dickonson of *Uthorxeter* oweth unto us, that is to witt xxi galons for my pte. Inventory dated 3 February (no year given—lower part missing). Proved 13 Sept., 1552.

Will of Robert Halley of Derwent, p'ch Hathersage, co. Derby ; dated....1557.—To be buried in the churchyerde of St. Peter of Hope ; mentions *Nichs.* Halley, brother ; John Halley, brother, executor. Inventory dated 12 April, 1558 ; amount, 8*l.* 10*s.* Proved 20 April, 1558, by the sole executor.

Will of Robert Halley of Gretton, parish of Youlgreave ; dated 8 Feb., 1557.—To be buried ; in the parish church of All Saints in Youlgreave ; goods to be divided into three parts, one part to wife Agnes Halley, and the two other parts to *Homfrey* Halley and *Wylm* Halley my sons. Inventory dated 2 April, 1559 ; amount, 17*l.* 10*s.* Proved by *Homfrey* and *Wylm.* Halley, executors, 5 April, 1559.

Will of John Halley of Stanton, p'ch Youlgreave, co. Derby ; dated 15 March, 1576.—No place of burial named ; eldest son Henry Halley ; wife Elyn ; six children (no names given) son George Halley. Executors : wife Elyn and son Henry. Inventory dated 11 April....amount

59*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* Proved by both executors, 17 April, 1577.

The italics are mine. There are other entries of Halley wills in the index of the Probate Registry at Lichfield, but some of the (perhaps most relevant) documents, including two William Halley wills, are non-extant. Among such missing documents is the administration of the estate of Humphrey and Margaret Halley of Cheddleton (Ad., 190 b, 1 July, 1597). Perhaps this Humphrey Halley was identical with the Homfrey Halley, son of Robert Halley of Gretton, in the parish of Youlgreave (see above), and also (?) with his namesake mentioned in the following item, recently supplied by a record-searcher in London :—

“Duchy of Lancaster : Hawley. Pleadings in the reign of Queen Elizabeth ; printed calendar, p. 311, has (35th year of Queen Elizabeth) ‘Humfrey Hawley & Wynifride Strethey or Stretye.’ Both are defendants as to tenements and lands at Uttoxeter, Staffordshire. Occupant of the premises was William Walker, and the lessee was Robert Wells. Uttoxeter is on the border of Derbyshire.”

Here, no doubt, we have a clue to the earlier ancestry of the famous astronomer. The latter’s paternal grandfather was Humphrey Halley, vintner, of London, of whose history some new facts have lately been recovered.

Mr. Beever, after consulting the early records of the Stationers’ Company, printed by E. Arber, sends this item :—

“ ‘Received of Edmonde Hallye at his making free of this Company the 26th day Feb., 1560, 3*s.* 4*d.*’ There are also entries relating to licences to print accorded to the same Edmonde Halley 1562–6. Can it be that this was an ancestor of the astronomer ? It seems possible.”

'N. & Q.,' at 3 S. iii. 283-4, gives some entries from the registers of *All Hallows, Barking*, in Essex. I repeat three below :—

"1575. Robt. *Ward*, who dyed in the streat, bur. 28 Jan^y."

"1582. William, sonne of Will^m *Dethick* al's Yorke, One of the Heraultes, bur. March 28."

"1684, April 22. Mr *Edmund Halley* of London, Merchant, murthered, & buried in linen, 2l. 6s. p^d to this parish for y^e use of the poor."

Again the italics are mine. The contributor, MR. EDWARD J. SAGE of Stoke Newington, mentions a "valuable paper" on the Barking registers by Mr. Henry W.. King (*Transactions Essex Arch. Society*, vol. ii. part iii.), but examination thereof reveals nothing new in our quest.

The Rev. J. W. Eisdell, Vicar of Barking, Essex, obligingly supplies Mr. Beevor with the following interesting entries :—

"1684, April 22. Mr. Edmund Halley of London, Merchant, murthered and buried in linen, 2l. 10s. p^d to this Parish for the use of the poor."

"1672, Oct. 24. Ann, wife of Edmond Hawley,"

"....There is a hiatus in the registers (marriage) 1645-1661. I can find no trace of the baptism of Edmond Halley [1656]."

"I think this is a correct transcription :—

"'1617. November, Humphrey Hayly & Katherine Newes, married ye 24th day of November'; but the writing is difficult."

The bride's maiden surname was, undoubtedly, Mewes or Mewce.

A search of the registers of St. Giles, Cripplegate (1606 - 1719), had already revealed this entry :—

"Ann, w. of Ed^m Halley, Gent., buried 24th Oct., 1672, at Barking."

Thus we learn the Christian name of the astronomer's mother. Who was she ? Among the baptismal entries at St. Giles, Cripplegate, is :—

“Katherine, daugh^r of Ed^m Hally, salter, & of Ann, b. 7th Feb., 1658, baptized 17 Feb.”

Ann was also the name of the wife of William Halley, brother of E. Halley, salter.

Francis Halley, sen., son of the said William Halley, married, 17 Aug., 1696, Elliner Pyke. The printed register of St. Christopher le Stocks has this entry :—

“Frans Hally and Elliner Pike, Boath of Allholows Staeing, married Aug. 17, 1696.”

The groom was a first cousin of the astronomer Halley. There is some indication of an earlier relationship (as well as a later) between the Halley and Pyke families. Did Ann Pyke, daughter of Edward Pyke of Queenhithe Ward, London (fl. 1634), marry ? If so, whom ?

The ‘Register of St. Benet’s, Paul’s Wharf, London: Vol. I. Christenings’ (Harl. Soc., Lond., 1909), gives on pp. 10-14 the baptism of six children of one Dr. Hally or Halley, named Henry, Elizabeth, John, Rachel, Dorothy, and Richard (between 1629 and 1635). The same work (p. 48) mentions the baptism of Margaret (1 May, 1685), daughter of Edmund and Mary Hally. This serves to establish the astronomer’s residence at that period.

Will of Edward Hawley of London, Knight; dated 17 May, 1627.—Mentions brother Gabriell H. ; brother Halton H. ; nephew Robert H., son of deceased brother Sir Henry H. ; children of brother Gabriell H. ; brother Gabriell sole ex^r, but if he is not living, brother Robert H. ex^r. Adm. 24 Oct., 1629, to Francis Hawley, brother of Robert H.

Edward H. nuper in partibus transmarinis def^s. Gabriell died before administering. (P.C.C., Ridley 89).

Will of Richard Hawley of London, doctor of physick. — Eldest son Henry H.; loving wife Dorothe H.; five children, Henry, John, Richard, Rachell, and Dorothe; loving friend Gilbert Dethick and loving brother James H. ex^{rs}. Dated 25 April, 1636; proved 16 May, 1636, by James H., power reserved to Gilbert Dethick. Signature copied Richard Hawly; name throughout will written Hawley. (P.C.C., Pile 65).

In a list of Somerset House wills Richard Hawly is described as of St. Benet's, Paul's Wharf (presumably based on the probate act book), but he is not so described in his will.

“The Dethicks were a Derbyshire family.” A pedigree thereof appears in the ‘Visitation of Norfolk’ (Norfolk and Norwich Arch. Soc., vol. i., pp. 237–42). See also 11 S. i. 308.

Will of James Pyke of *Deptford*, Kent.—Wife Catherine; sons *William*, George, and *James*; wife and eldest son W^m ex^{rs}. Witnesses: Geo. Edge, Thos. Wellings, John Sendall his ser^t. Dated 17 Feb., 1718; proved 11 March, 1718. (P.C.C.)

Will of James Pike, mariner, of H.M.S. Dreadnought.—All to wife Sarah Pike of parish of Aldgate, sole ex^{ix}. Dated 13 April, 1743. Witnesses: Ed. Boscawen, Mich. Tisdell. Proved by executrix 29 July, 1762. (P.C.C.)

Will of James Pyke of Upper Moorfield, in the psh. of *St. Leonard's, Shoreditch*, silk dyer.—Sister Mary Cooper, wife of William Cooper of Newgate Street, weaver, sole ex^{ix} and residuary legatee; sister Elizabeth Norton, wife of Thomas Norton of Refford, Northants, husbandman; nephew Thomas, one of sons of late brother *William* Pyke; nephews and nieces James Pyke, John Pyke, Elizabeth P., and Mary Watson, wife of Watson, Baker; other children of W. P.; nephew W^m P. (son of brother W^m) and

Sarah his wife. Dated 18 July, 1750. Witnesses: *John Parry*, Thos. Upton. Proved 21 June, 1751, by executrix. P.C.C., Busby, 186.)

Once more the italics are mine in the wills of James Pyke of Deptford and of James Pyke of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. A search was made of the baptismal register (1702-8) of St. Nicholas, Deptford, to ascertain whether the older James (will proved 1718) had a daughter Mary or Elizabeth, but in vain. This makes one doubt a little the identity of his son James with the James Pyke of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. It will be noted that the latter mentions a nephew William Pyke and Sarah his wife. What was the maiden surname of the wife Sarah? Was she a daughter of Mrs. Sybilla Halley of East Greenwich (*ob.* 1772) by a marriage before that with the astronomer's only maturing son, Edmund Halley, jun., surgeon R.N. (*ob.* Feb., 1740/41)? He seems to have died without issue (10 S. vii. 446). What was the surname of Mrs. Sybilla Halley's (supposed) first husband? Was it Stewart or Bruce? Did they have two daughters, Sybilla and Sarah? Did one daughter, Sybilla, marry John Parry and have issue (see 10 S. xii. 344; 11 S. i. 286)? Did the other (supposed) daughter, Sarah, marry William Pyke and have issue one son James, born *c.* 1751? See 9 S. xi. 205-6; xii. 468. The answers to these queries may solve the entire problem.

Nearly all the foregoing notes were generously supplied to the present writer by Mr. Beevor.

EUGENE F. McPIKE.

1, Park Row, Chicago.