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Henry Wansey d. 1546 (35 H. VIII).

The Wills of William and Henry Wansey are dated 1545 and 1546 so that if they died then being 60 or 70 years old they would have been born 1475 - 1485.
(Ed.IV. 1461 - 1483, HVII. 1485 - 1509).

William Wansey died in 1545 (36 H.VIII) being possessed of farms at Norridge (Upton Scudamore) and Thurston (or Sheratone) on the west of Warminster so that the Wansey family was well established in Warminster in the early part of Henry VIII. reign and probably earlier in Henry VII. and Edward IV. reign.

Henry Wansey d. 1592 (34 Eliz.)

Henry Wansey lived at Warminster in Queen Elizabeth time. He was a glover which may mean that he owned a glove factory in the town.
His name is on a board in the tower of St. Lawrence's Church as one of the Feoffees of the Church, namely as follows:-
26 Oct. 34 Eliz. (1591) Henry Wansey.

John Wansey's name is down as also being a Feoffee:-

28 May 1651	John Wansye (others as follows)
22 May 1790	William Wansey
10 Dec. 10 Jacobus	John Wasney
21 Dec. 6 Guill & Mary	John Wansey
27 Jan. 1764	John Wansey

John Wansey b. 1585. d. 1626 (2 Charles I)

John Wansey's family all suffered owing to the Civil Wars. His name is written down in the Warminster Church Book as holding a seat there, and as serving in the office of Churchwarden in 1618. In 1611 (or 1616) he married Margaret Yockney.

He owned a good house and piece of land that afterwards was owned by Shirley and after him by Langley. He owned too, the Malthouse in Church Street where afterwards Mrs. Wilton lived. He was a skinner and owned lime pits for his skins down by the river, behind Langley's house the tailor.

In 1625 the Plague was very bad in London. He died in 1626, 41 years old, leaving Margaret his wife a widow with nine children, six sons and three daughters. His youngest son, George, our ancestor, was posthumously born after his father's death, namely, in 1627.

His widow Margaret with her nine sons became so impoverished. after his death on account of the Civil Wars that at one time she could only raise £5 which she employed in making yarn and selling it in the market, where she did quick trade and soon doubled her stock.

Her sons in the Civil War were on the Parliamentary side and several of them were men of note in the army.

1.

Captain John Wansey, (John the elder) was the eldest son and married a Wilton and had 2 sons and 5 daughters.

- i) Catherine who married Vigour of Bristol, of whose family was Edward Buckler's the High Sheriff's wife.
- ii) Sylvester, who married Aldridge the mother of Mr. Charles Aldridge.
- iii) Margaret, who married Sylverthorn.
- iv) Sary, who married Yerburg, the grandmother of John Hawkins.
- v) Mary, who married Harbottle, mother of Mr. Jos. Harbottle who died March 2, 1739.

2.

Jehu was the second son of John Wansey (born about 1612). Jehu was a valiant soldier. On one occasion, during a pause between some of the fierce struggles around Devizes, he saw a Royalist trooper advance into the open space between the two armies. The challenge to single combat was accepted. Jehu Wansey engaged his antagonist, and after a desperate struggle he overpowered and killed him on the spot. Afterwards he went to Ireland and was killed by a bullet in the Civil wars there. Jehu Wansey had three sons.

- i) Jehu, who left one son Jehu.
- ii) Thomas Wansey an old batchelor
- iii) James Wansey, who had many children: namely of these Thomas Wansey was a Sea Captain, father of Thomas who had an estate at Nevis, and (2) Tohn a malter at Tewkesbury.

3.

Major Henry Wansey greatly helped Oliver Cromwell. His was the famous WANSEY STANDARD bearing the motto "FOR LAWFUL LAWS AND LIBERTY".

When the Royalists were fortifying the Cathedral Close at Salisbury, Major Wansey attacked them, drove off the masons burnt the Close Gates and took a Colonel and eighty men prisoners.

He was apparently a Member of Oliver Cromwell's Parliament, and presented a petition from his townsmen to the Commons in Parliament assembled, against the ill conduct of Woodward, Vicar of Warminster.

After the death of Cromwell he set up as a watchmaker in Cheapside, London, and expressing some dislike of the Restoration was imprisoned in the Gatehouse there in 1660 or 1661, where he died of ill treatment. He left two or more daughters in London.

There is an Order or Demand on the Salisbury City authorities laid up amongst the Records of the Corporation signed by Major Henry Wansey in 1644 after he had defeated the Royalists as follows:-

16 November 1644.

"These are strictly to charge and demand you, upon sight hereof, to provide 20 bushels of wheat, 20 quart of oates, 20 doz. of "Janillels" (sic) 20 bushels of salt, 20 ssickes of bacon, 20 quart of Beare, all which seined me in the City of New Sarum by Monday twelve of the clock, and to be brought to my Lady Griffins at Ivy Church. Heareof we shall exact a punctual account of you as you will "engrowe (sic) the contrary".

HENRY WANSEY.

To the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of New Sarum.

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Major Henry Wansey (continued)

The cruel war between Charles I. and his Parliament had broken out in 1642. At the beginning of 1643, when the prospects of the Parliamentary party in Wilts seemed but gloomy, Edmund Ludlow (Sir Edmund afterwards) of Hill Deverill (a village only 3 miles from Warminster) assumed an attitude of pronounced hostility to the King and was sent to raise a troop of horse etc., with all speed.

Next year Sir Edmund Ludlow is High Sheriff of Wilts, and his friend Henry Wansey received his commission as his Major. A council of war was once being secretly held in an underground chamber of Major Wansey's house in Church Street, and it is recorded that his little daughter was brought down that the officers might see the beauty of the child. This child afterwards constantly averred that the soldiers gave her blood to drink, but it was in reality Major Wansey's port wine, which had only then been just introduced into England.

In June 1644 a Royalist print of the days records of the Parliamentarians "They have put an obstinate fellow with some foot in Master Arundel's house at Hornesham" (Horningsham is 5 miles S. of Warminster).

This "obstinate fellow" was Major Wansey who had occupied Woodhouses, an old mansion, near Longleat House (the present seat of the Marquis of Bath).

Here Major Wansey was blockaded and hard pressed by Sir F. Doddington. After sometime Major Wansey was taken prisoner at Woodhouses, but was speedily released, probably in the exchange of prisoners. And being released and joining with other Parliamentary officers he burst into the town of Warminster and drove out the Royalists who had levied heavy contributions from the townsfolk.

The Cavaliers fled down the Wylde road towards Salisbury (19 miles distant) followed closely by Ludlow, Wansey, Douett and Norton who drove them tumultuously into the City, and they took refuge in the "Prebends' Close, where the Bishop and singing men did live." Thence they were driven out into two inns, The Angel at the Close Gate, and The George at the Sand Gate - but Major Wansey and his fellows fired the houses and compelled them to yield themselves prisoners of war. He took also two hundred horses.

During the next year Major Wansey was engaged in active service for the Parliament and raised some fresh horse and dragoons. He seems to have been for a time attached to the regular Army, as he was in the fight at Donnington Castle, but he was afterwards commanded by the Earl of Essex to continue with Ludlow and protect the interests of the Parliament in his native County.

After this Sir Edmund Ludlow refused to resign the Commission he held from Waller, and would not accept a new one from the Earl of Essex, for which cause some of the Wiltshire and Essex faction "obstructed him". Arms and pay were refused him, so that there was nothing but affection to keep his men faithful to the Parliamentary cause.

He reduced Sturton House (Stourton House, now Sir Henry Hoare's) to ruins and at Witham sieged about one hundred head of cattle etc., wherewith to pay his soldiers. He then returned to his father's house, New Mead Farm, at Maiden Bradley.

But the heart of Major Wansey was turning to his fallen Sovereign, and the change in his feelings was the more to be noted, and admired, as the King's power at this time was hopelessly broken.

In 1655, however, his son, Major Henry Wansey, an energetic young officer made a most important and courageous stand for Oliver Cromwell.

On Monday morning, March 12th, 1655, at early dawn, a body of two hundred Cavaliers, led by Sir John Wagstaffe, Colonel Penruddocke and Col. Grove entered Salisbury, broke open the gaols and released their Royalist friends, who were immediately armed and mounted

They then hurried to the lodgings of the Parliamentary Judges and of the Sheriff, who had just arrived for the Spring Assize. They arrested them in their beds and dragged them out into the Market Place where all three narrowly escaped hanging.

But as the day drew on, the Parliamentary soldiers, who were in the town in considerable numbers began to recover from their alarm.

Major Henry Wansey, son of Ludlow's old friend, took the lead, put himself at the head of thirty men and posted himself in the Sheriff's house. The Cavalier's immediately endeavoured to dislodge them, but all attempts to burn or burst open the door or to get in at the windows before or behind proved in vain, while from every available opening Major Wansey and his men poured out volleys of small shot, and after half an hour's hard fighting, the Cavaliers withdrew discomfited.

If Wansey's little garrison had been overpowered the whole City might have gone with Penruddocke, but now his party was cowed, their spirits sank, while the hopes of the Cromwellians rose. Major Wansey now mustered all his forces for a speedy assault, and the whole troop of Cavaliers had to ride away out of Salisbury, intending to go through Somerset into Devon and Cornwall where they hoped for general sympathy, but on reaching South Molton at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, when they were completely exhausted, they were attacked by Captain Crook, and utterly broken.

Penruddocke and Grove were beheaded and about 60 others were taken prisoner. Thus this ill planned movement came to an end - yet, but for Major Wansey's check at the first moment, the issue might have been serious. It does not appear that the Protector ever thanked Wansey for his bold stand, or that Major Wansey ever received any substantial recognition of his most important services.

We read of Major Henry Wansey Senr. in "Hatcher's History of Salisbury". Towards the close of 1644 Colonel Coke came to Salisbury with the intention of occupying the City for the Royalists, but he was defeated in his plans by Major Wansey, who at the head of a body of Parliamentarians entered Salisbury by burning the City gates, and he sent away Coke and eighty men prisoners to Southampton.

4.

The fourth son of John Wansey (my forebear 1585-1626) was Lieutenant Thomas Wansey Lieut. of Hurst Castle. During the Civil Wars, Thomas Wansey was Deputy Governor of Hurst Castle, when Charles I. was prisoner, there, so that he was apparently entrusted with the safe imprisonment of the King. He was a courteous and very gentlemanly man, who was also a Minister of the Gospel and preached amongst the Baptists. His home was in Hampshire.

He had two daughters who married two Bucklers, namely:-

Frances Wansey who married Mr. W. Buckler, whose son was

(A) Thomas Buckler and lived at Boreham, Warminster, and Thomas Buckler's sons were (1) W. Buckler Esq., a counsellor at law and (2) Benjamin Buckler who was Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford.

(B) Mary married Mr. Hawkins of Bristol, whose children were William, Buckler and Frances.

Thomas Wansey's second daughter was married to Mr. Buckler's brother. Mr. T. Buckler recorded that his grandfather Thomas Wansey was Lieut. of Hurst Castle, when King Charles was there, that he sometimes preached amongst the Dissenters, but afterwards conformed to the Church, and that he bought an estate and lived near Lymington in Hampshire, which afterward Mr. Buckler had. Thomas Wansey died in 1660.

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5.

John Wansey the younger was the fifth son of John Wansey. It was not uncommon in these days for parents to have two sons of the same Christian name; one reason of which was, that in leases or entails, in case of the death of one, the other might still stand good, without having a new deed.

This John was killed at the Siege of Plymouth 1643.

6.

George the youngest son and child, our Ancestor, of whom more afterwards.

7.

A daughter married Humfry Buckler, whose children were

1. Bilrery Buckler who lived at Rowde by Devizes.
2. Thomas, a woolsorter and malter at Warminster, whose children were –
 - i) Mrs. Weeks of Bristol, her son Buckler was Sheriff of Bristol.
 - ii) Wm. Buckler married Frances Wansey; children and family mentioned before.
 - iii) Thomas Buckler married Frances Wansey's sister.
 - iv) John Buckler, son of Thomas Buckler a Minister of whose family lived about Bristol.
3. John Buckler a malter and dissenting Minister, father of cousin Humfry and John. Humfry Buckler's father had seven sons. Six sons carried him to Church and the seventh preached his funeral sermon.

8.

A daughter married Mr. Shergold of Salisbury.

9.

A daughter married at Shaftsbury to one name Clark.

“So much for the 6 sons daughters and 3 daughters of John Wansey.” (G.W.)

George Wansey, the ninth child of John Wansey and born after his father's death was a man of peace, and a man of letters. He kept a valuable, Diary which I much regret that I have been unable to obtain. A good deal of what he wrote has been printed in Daniel's History of Warminster. I feel thankful that I have such an ancestor as George Waneey. The names of John Wansey and George Wansey are amongst those of householders in Warminster who paid Church Tithes in 1665.

"This George in 1629 lived on the spot where I now inhabit under a lease from Edward Middlecot to Margaret Wansey his mother which lease is still in my possession, under a former lease granted many years before to John Wansey yeoman her late husband, so that first and last this house has been occupied by our family (rebuilt indeed by my Uncle John Wansey In 1775 partly of the old materials) 220 years." (Written by son of George Wansey 1713-1762).,

George Wansey was a "Malter and White Clothier and lived the Malthouse in Church Street."

He married Elisabeth Rawlins and had three children George, Henry and Elisabeth. (An old chronicle says:- "Henry died young and caught his death by a heat rising the great bell." Elisabeth married Jesse of Beckington and had three children, John Jesse who died of the smallpox, William and thirdly Joseph Jesse who died leaving one daughter who was married to Mr. Webb at Beckington, and who had three children. Elizabeth who married Mr. Crine, a clothier at Beckington, and who had several children, Mary who married Mr. Wherritt a clothier of Beckington and had a large family, and Eliza who married Mr. Long of London, a drawer, who is said to have died very rich.)

George Wansey became an overseer in 1671, Churchwarden of the Minster Church in 1677 and again overseer in 1683 and 1694. While in this position he suddenly gave up the Church and joined the Quakers. About 1683 William Penn came to Warminster and preached the Gospel in the Common Close, and George Wansey being at once convinced of the Truth as the Friends preached it, became a Quaker on the spot.

His cousin John Buckler also became a Quaker with him, and together with some of the Whittuck and Butler families they opened a small Meeting House for Worship in the part of Warminster called the Common Close.

George Wansey now together with his cousin John Buckler refused, as other Quakers generally did also, to pay tithes to the Church. He took his stand boldly for peace and true religion so that on account of his principles not to kill - rather than fight in war and pay tithes - he goes to prison.

All honour to this faithful testimony of my ancestor George Wansey. After being sometime confined Bristol prison during the time of the Civil Wars he escaped by being let down by a rope in a basket.

In his Diary he wrote - "We in England are, blessed be God, in peace and all things plenty. Wheat the best, about three shillings a bushel; barley the best fourteen shillings a quarter, and the best beef and mutton twopence (2d.) a pound."

George Wansey died in 1699 and was buried in a graveyard fifteen yards long and seven wide, at Laynes, near Bugley, beside the old packhorse track from Bugley (Warminster) to Clay Hill.

In 1688 George Wansey wrote:-

"October 30th. At about seven in the (evening were seen as it were long streamers or pickles in the sky towards the north and north west, but towards midnight it was seen very terrible, those long streamers, as it were, waving with each other, and seeming as it were two parties. It was seen about Bristol, where they say were even men and guns and drums, and it is said in other places, men were seen viz. two armies. George.

This quotation is from "Records of Seasons and Prices" T. H Baker p.183.

GEORGE WANSEY Junior b. 1651 d.1707 (57)

George Wansey (Junior) son of George Wansey was also a Quaker. He built for himself a nice new house in Church Street, which still has a large capital "W" over the front door but is now used as a Missionary College for women (1928).

He first married Joyce the daughter of Mr. Short a clothier, a near relation of the Greys who were great clothiers at Hornisham and she had one daughter who married W. Ball gent. of Meer. She had one son Wm. Ball who died in 1713 of a fall from his horse. Joyce died In 1886.

Next year George Wansey married his second wife Esther French (May 17, 1687) whose children were George Wansey who died young and Henry Wansey our ancestor.

HENRY WANSEY b.1690 d.1761 (71).

Henry Wansey was apparently a clothier like his father. He married in Oct. 1712 Elizabeth Farmer the youngest and only surviving child of fifteen children of William Farmer, of Abingdon or Chipping Norton in Oxfordshire.

Her grandfather on her mother's side was a great Cloth Factor in London and a Member of Parliament whose name was William Diston. Her mother's name was Susan Diston. William Diston was M.P. for Devizes, Director of the Bank of the India Company and a very wealthy man.

Henry Wansey's children were George, Hester, Henry, William, John, besides which Henry, Susannah, Elizabeth and Josiah died young. Of these children only one, namely, George Wansey left issue.

Elizabeth Wansey the mother died in 1750 or 51.

There is an inscription on a tombstone in Brunswick Square Burial Ground Bristol as follows:- Ann Wansey wife of William Wansey of this City, Merchant, and daughter of William Barnes Alderman some time Father of this City, born 11 Sept., 1715 died 28 March 1787.

Sarah French wife of Martin French of this City, Merchant, and daughter of Barnes, Alderman, some time Father of this City was born. 15 April 1712 and died 22 October 1787.

GEORGE WANSEY b.1713 d.1762 (49)

George Wansey married Esther Green, who died in 1794 aged 81. She was descended from Sir Thomas White Founder of St. John's College, Oxon. and of Merchant Taylor's School, London. "Through the Greens our family claim Founder's Kin with Sir Thomas Thie." WHITE?

George Wansey had six sons and three daughters by his wife Esther Green who was of the same age as himself, and whom he married at St. Thomas' Church Bristol Dec.14, 1742.

1. Elizabeth Wansey was born in 1743, and was the second wife of William Temple Esq., of Bishopstrow House, Wanninster. She was married in 1773, and died in 1779 without any child. Her body lies deposited in a vault under the Chancel of Bishopstrow Church, of which I (HRW 1925) am now Rector. A large white marble monumental stone in memory of William Temple and his three wives is on the North Wall of the Nave of the Church. Elizabeth Temple died aged 35.
2. Henry Wansay was born 1744 and died in 1751 aged 6.
3. William Wansay was born 1746 and died in 1805 aged 58.
4. John Wansay was born 1748 and died in 1820 aged 71.
5. George Wansay was born 1749 and died in 1751 aged 1.
6. Henry Wansay was born 1751 and died in 1827 aged 75
Became a dissenter
In September 1752 the old stile of the calander ceased and the new stile took place by leaving out 11 days (namely the 3rd – 13th Sept. incl:)
7. Ann Wansay was born 1753 and died in 1822 aged 69.
8. Sarah Wansay was born 1755 and died in 1760 aged 4.
9. George Wansay was born 1757 and died in 1807 aged 50.

George Wansey Senior died 1762 aged 48.

Esther Wansey died 1794 aged 80.

3.

Of these children William Wansey our ancestor married Sarah Jeffries, and had eight children.

4.

John Wansey clothier, went to London, lived at Lothbury and Camberwell and married Sarah Raymond in 1772. His picture is painted by Philips. He and his wife. were well off: He is described as a'Factor of Blackwall Hall London. His daughter Elizabeth married Henry Wansey our ancestor (son of William) who was her cousin. John Wansey died in his 72nd year.

9.

George Wansey married about 1775 and founded the Wansey Charity at Warminster. There is a tablet to his memory in the west transept of the Minster Church.

By his last Will and Testament he bequeathed to the Minster Churchwardens and overseers One Thousand Pounds (£1,000) upon trust, that the interest might be by them given to poor parishioners in sums of One Pound each, at Christmas, for ever: poor aged widows to have the preference whether on the Parish or not. George Wansey's Charity is still disbursed at Christmas time.

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6.

Henry Wansey lived a long and useful life and is famous as a writer, as an historian and as an antiquarian. He wrote much and travelled in many lands.

The following is an extract from "The Gentleman's Magazine" 1827 Part II. pp. 373-4. Henry Wansey Esqre. Died July 19th at Warminster of paralysis aged 75.

"Henry Wansey Esqre. F.S.A., This gentleman was formerly a clothier, but he had for a long period retired from his mercantile affairs. He was Vice-President of the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, in the concerns of which he for many years took an active part.

Under that signature he published in 1780 "Letter to the Marquis of Lansdown on the subject of the late tax on wool etc., pointing out the impolicy of such a tax, as well as the injurious consequences in general of, commercial restrictions.

In 1794 (aet 43) Mr. Wansey made a tour in the U.S.A. a journal of which he afterwards published, containing much useful information concerning a country then unusually interesting from the recent changes in its Government, in illustration of which he gave a portrait of General Washington, and a view of the Senate House. (I regret that at present I (HRW) have not a copy of this book written in the praise of Democracy).

While resident in Castle Street, Salisbury, he published "Thoughts on Poor Houses particularly that of Salisbury, with a view to their Reform" in which will be found some important facts and salutary hints relative to such establishments.

Having interested himself in the Antiquities of Wiltshire, he was forming a collection for One Hundred, in aid of Modern History of that County, now in progress by Sir R. C. Hoare Bart., (I have seen 'Henry Wansey's original MSS. for this History, which are now preserved in the Library of the Museum at Devizes)

He was elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (F.S.A.) and communicated to the "ARCHAEOLOGIA" a "Description of the Poultry Cross at Salisbury." (He says:- "On the Stone Crosses in Salisbury".

Among the friends of Wickliffe was an Earl of Salisbury, who for contempt noted in him towards the Sacrament, in carrying it home to his house, was enjoined by Ralph Engham, Bishop of Salisbury (1375-1388) to make in Salisbury a Cross of stone, in which all the story of the matter should be written, and he, every Friday during his life, to come to the Cross barefooted and bareheaded in his shirt, and then upon his knees do penance for the fact.") (Henry Wansey F.S.A. published. 1795 a book "Practical Observations on wool and woollen manufacture" price 2/-)

Immediately on the Peace, Mr. Wansey visited France, and willing to give it the attention he had given America, published an octavo volume on his "Visit to Paris in June 1814."

Mr. Wansey was a Dissenter, and invariably opposed whatever tended to restrict the rights of conscience. He pointed, animadverted from the Press in 1825 on the Tenets of the Catholic Church as maintained by Bp. Baines, in a pamphlet entitled "A few remarks in defence of the Protestant Religion in answer to etc., etc.," which is well worthy of perusal. In politics Mr. Wansey's principles were those of a Whig.

His powers both of body and mind continued with little abatement through the evening of his days. When nearly arrived at the prescribed age of humanity, he made a tour into Italy and visited Mount Vesuvius, and the staff which supported his steps to the summit of that burning mountain was to the last his constant companion in his early walks on the Wiltshire Downs.

Having thus passed a life of activity and enjoyment till within a few days of his decease, he quitted it full of serenity and good hope, and his memory will long be cherished with respect."

In "Suffolk Surnames" by H. J. Burditch 1861, 3rd Ed: London & Boston Mr. Burditch says:-
"In my Library are copies of Wansey's America 1798. In "Gents Magazine" 1818
Vol. I. p. 39, there are references to and illustrations of Drawing by Mr. Wansey of a Gothic
Structure in the City of New Sarum (Salisbury) Wilts, from his paper on the "Stone Crosses of
Salisbury in the Archaeologia" signed E. W.
In the Dictionary of National Biography Vol. IX. p. 291. "Henry Wansey (1751-1827)
Antiquary, a Clothier of Warminster: F.S.A. 1789: made collections for the History of
Warminster Hundred: published pamphlets 1780-1814."

Henry Wansey died July 25, 1827 aged 75 years 11 months, and was buried in the new
Dissenter ground for Burials in Boreham Road, Warminster, which he had helped to secure.
His daughter's portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence he bequeathed to George Wansey, and his
own portrait by Artaud to John Wansey of London. He bequeathed his interleaved Testament
and book of his father's meditations to Mrs. Gultarney: his silver which was voted him by the
Bath Agricultural Society to Emily Wansey etc etc., Altogether he left over £10,000 with his
properties.

His Will, which is interesting from many points of view, was as follows:-

"I, Henry Wansey, in the County of Wilts of Warminster, do hereby revoking all others declare
this to be my last Will and Testament.. First, I desire that my body be interred in the new
burying Ground at Warminster, and that all my debts and funeral expenses be paid and
satisfied.

I give unto my Friends, George Warren, Thomas Hinton, William Jenkins, Harry Salmon,
Revd. Richd. Warner, Robt. Jones, Revd. Robt. Herbert and Matt. Davies the elder the sum of
nineteen guineas each to be paid in six months after my decease.

To my old servant Willm. Stevens ten guineas and a suit of mourning. To my female servants
Five guineas each and suitable mourning.

I give devise and bequeath to my great nephew Henry, son of my nephew Henry Wanseyall
my Estate and lands and premises with the appurtenances I purchased in North America
consisting of about Twelve Hundred acres at Chest Creek in the province of Pennsylvania
together with the plans poll deeds and other securities to hold the same and every part
thereof unto him my said great Nephew his heirs executors and assigns forever.

I give and bequeath unto my nephew George Wansey of Warminster all my right and title in
that my piece of pasture land at Coldharbour consisting of about two acres held by me under
the Feoffees of Warminster Chapel, to hold the same with the appurtenances to the said
George Wansey his heirs Exrs. and Assigns for ever to come.

I give unto my Exrs. the sum of Fifty Guineas upon trust to distribute the same in such small
sums to the poor of this town, as they may think proper objects within a twelve month after my
decease.

I give to the Feoffees or Trustees of the new burying ground in Warminster one hundred
guineas towards building thereon a dwelling house for the sexton to live in, or for paying off
the debt due thereon or finishing the wall, as they the Feoffees may judge most fit and proper,
which said two last legacies shall be charged on and payable out of my personal estate.

I give to Mr. Edmd. L. Lye and to my godson Christopher Wansey Lucas the sum of one
hundred guineas each to be paid in twelve months after my decease. And as for and
concerning all the residue and remainder of my Estate property and effects or expectancy I
give and bequeath every part thereof unto my two nephews George Wansey of Warminster
and George Wansey of London, their Heirs, Exrs. Adms. and Assigns upon trust as soon as
conveniently after my death to sell and dispose of the same by public auction or private sale
as to them may seem meet and for the most money which may be had or gotten for the same
together with all other monies which are

hereby invested in them, upon the trusts and for the intents and purposes following: 1st to retain in their hands the sum of one hundred pounds each, as a compensation for their trouble in taking on them the execution, of the Trusts hereby in them reposed, and having so taken on them such burden to lay out in the West of England Fire and Life Office so much money as will purchase for my niece Ann Lye one clear annuity or yearly sum of Fifty pounds for and during the term of her natural life for her sole and separate use and benefit, and her receipt only to be a discharge for the same.

And as to the sum of Three Thousand guineas part of such residuary Estate to pay, unto and equally divide the same between my three nieces the daughters of my late brother John Wansey, namely, Sarah, Elizabeth and Mary Anne.

And as to Five Thousand other part of such monies thereof to retain in their own hands One Thousand pounds each in and for their own respective shares.

And as to the other £3,000 to pay One Thousand to each of my other nephews John, Henry and William.

I also give and bequeath to my three nieces in law Mary, Emma and Jane the sum of one hundred guineas each, if they shall survive me one year.

And it is further my Will that after payment of all the aforesaid legacies and of the expenses of executing the several Trusts that the surplus or residuary interest shall be paid unto and equally divided between all the great grandchildren of my late much beloved Father George Wansey who shall be living at my death to all of whom I give the same.

And I hear make nominate and appoint my said Nephews George Wansey of Warminster and George Wansey of London joint Exrs. of this my said Will, who are not to be answerable or accountable for each other receipts acts or deeds but each of the use for his own.

Provided and my will is that the purchaser or purchasers of any part of my said property directed to be sold shall not be answerable for the application of the purchase money to be paid by him her or them or for the misapplication or non-application thereof but that the receipt or receipts of my said Exrs. or either shall be to such purchaser a good and sufficient discharge.

In witness whereof I have here unto set my band and seal this sixth day of April 1825.

Signed sealed and published by the Testator as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us.

Jeremiah Morgan, Grocer

Edwd. Wilkes

Richd. Hayward



HENRY WANSEY

This is a true copy as certified this day (5th August 1827) by George and Jane Wansey.

Ob. Notice see "Monthly Repository" 1827; p. 695.

His wife's maiden name was Alice Grogan.

A Sophy Wansey married Hamilton Fletcher a Director of the White Star Line who had one son and many daughters.

A Margeret Wansey married Orton Smith and their son George had a son Wansey Smith who was killed in the Great War.

An Elizabeth Alsop married a William Wansey and secondly a Mr. Shoebridge who has some old Wansey plate.

Rev. William Atkinson Wansey M.A., of Thornton House Thornton, near Skipton Yorkshire married (17th Oct. 1796 see Gent: Mag)

Miss Wilkinson of Fence End both in Craven Yorkshire.

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WILLIAM WANSEY b.1746 d.1805 (58)

W. Wansey is mentioned in Gent: Mag: 1765 p.200 and p.300

"W. Wansey and W. Barnes of Bristol, Merchants."

William Wansey, son of George and Hester Green married Sarah Jeffries of Trowbridge in 1773 who was described in the newspaper as "an amiable young lady with a genteel fortune". They were married in St. Mary Magdalen's Church at Taunton, on 6th November 1773. She died 1833 (83). Of this marriage was born:-

1. Henry Wansey born 1774 died in 1855 aged 80.
2. Elizabeth Wansey born 1776 died in 1805 aged 29.
3. William Wansey born 1777 died in 1779 aged 2.
4. Sarah Anne Wansey born 1779 died in 1817 aged 38.
5. Anne Wansey born 1782 died in 1848 aged 66.
6. William Wansey born 1784 died in 1869 aged 85.
7. George Wansey born 1785 died in 1858 aged 73.
8. Mary Wansey born 1787 died in 1788 aged 7 months

1.

Henry Wansey (our ancestor) married his cousin Elizabeth Wansey.

5.

Anne Wansey married Emund Lye, eldest son of ,George Lye Esq., of Bath on Jan 3rd 1804. (Gent. Mag. 1804)

6.

William Wansey married Mazy Toogood, was a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (F.S.A.) and was twice Prime Warden of the Fishmonger Company of London.

He had two sons William and Francis.

William died at Florence in 1843 aged 32 and was buried in the Protestant Cemetery, "Heu Terra Aliena Jaces". He had married Elizabeth Alsop.

Francis married Catherine Toogood and had three children, Katherine Hannah who died aged 3, and William and Edmund who leave no male issue. [* i) – see notes by Olive next page]

William was at Caius College and Edmund at Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

William Wansey, formerly of Stamford Hill died at Bognor, Sussex 1869 aged 84, while his wife Mary died in 1834 aged 48. Of their grandsons William now (1926) lives at "The Orchards", Winchelsea, Sussex and has two daughters, while Edmund Wansey lives at Worthing. He married Frida Toogood.

William Wansey wrote to me:- "But in any case our Name surely shows that the Norfolk, Northampton and Wiltshire branches all come from the same stock. I have a seal of the grandfather's like this:-



And a signet ring of my own – the same made from it, which I use.
I have had my daughter and little grandson with me for the last year, as her husband Wing Commander Jackson, is at the Air Ministry etc., Yrs. Ever
W. Wansey

7.

George Wansey married Jane Hubbard, and being the nephew of Henry Wansey F.S.A., was appointed one of the Executors of his Will. They had 14 children, of whom one was Jessie Wansey who married Francis Wilson Bayly. Their son was Alfred Bayly who married Elizabeth Ponting. Their son was Hugh Wansey Bayly an eminent Harley Street specialist (143 Harley Street, W.1).

F.W. (Frank) Bayly's daughter Alice married Rev. Robert Ewing, Don of St. John's College, Oxford, University Proctor, who afterwards was Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Trowbridge. It seems that George and Jane Wansey lived in the old house in Church Street Warminster and were buried in Boreham Cemetery.

[* Hand-written notes by Olive W Wansey nee Bramhall]

- i) Chris met these two brothers William & Edmund, they had followed in their father's footsteps and were members of the Fishmongers Company of London. Chris went to Fishmongers Hall with them on one occasion. It made quite an impression on him. The Livery Companies did themselves very well!
- ii) Boreham Cemetary. This was an old ? Burial ground. Non Conformists not being eligible for burial in C of E Churchyards not having died according to the rites and orders of the said C of E. After the ? in the 1950's /60's Paul as the eldest son, was appointed by the Trustees of said Cemetary for a contribution towards the restoration and upkeep as many of his ancestors were buried there.

Whether he gave anything I do not know. After we retired we were going to the West Country and stopped and looked at the Cemetary, as I recall, I was quite small and surrounded by a low wall, so evidently somebody stumped up? The great authority.

Hugh Wansy-Bayley and his second wife Edith lived at Gt. Snoring in Norfolk we stayed with them for a week in June 1942. Hugh gave us an oval mahogany framed mirror as a wedding present (alas! sold at a later date) Edith who was much younger than Hugh, married Major Lethbridge.

The House Cleveny was left to John after the death of Christopher, John's son. This legacy was a source of some dissension between Peter & John. Chris was instrumental in sorting the problem out, and informed Peter that he and his two sons had no claim on the property. It was left to Christopher and in the event of his early demise, to his Father John.

John was most generous when Edith died and the house was sold (Hugh had hoped that a male Wansey would live there, but it was quite impractical Gt. Snoring being out in the wilds of Norfolk.)

John divided the money by five, and we were in receipt of £7000 when we moved to Kenilworth.

Mary received £7000 in yearly payments of £1000, Peter received £7000, and presumably Paul but I am not sure about that.

Cleveny was an old timber flamed house, very charming, and had it been in the southern counties or in a town would have realised much more. St Snorring, not far from Gt Barsham the Norfolk home of the Wanseys long ago in a delightful sleepy! Village.

Correction. Edith, on the death of her husband Major Lethbridge moved out of Cleveny House and agreed with John that it should be sold. Edith had no need of the money. Both her husbands had left her well provided for. She bought another small house in Gt Snoring, where Chris and I went to see her in 1985, when we were in Huntstanton for a week. She was the same delightful person we had known forty three years before and made us very welcome.