



Inquisition

Atworth

JOHN YERBURY, gentleman, lunatic.

Inquisition taken at Devizes, co. Wilts, 24th April, 9 Charles I [1633], before William Herbert, esquire, escheator, to enquire into the lunacy of John Yerbury, gent., by the oaths of John Hitchkex, gent., Samuel White, gent., Robert Flower, Thomas Weston, Thomas Sloper, Michael Caswell, John Dike, Walter Rose, William Stevens, William Sherow, Edmund Potter, Thomas Flower, John Thorner, William Grafton, John Cheyney, Simon Noyce, Matthew Head, and Giles Miles, who say that

John Yerbury became a lunatic by the visitation of God on the 1st day of April, 1 Charles I [1625], at Atford in the said county, and has continued so ever since, so that he is not capable of governing either himself or his lands, goods, etc.

On the said 1st day of April the said John Yerbury was seised of all the site, capital messuage, and farm of **Atford alias Atworth** ; one garden, one orchard, and one close of pasture containing 8 acres ; one close called Bencroft containing 2 acres ; divers other closes, lands, meadows, etc., to the said capital messuage belonging ; one messuage, curtilage, garden and orchard with divers lands and tenements to the said messuage belonging in Atford, now in the tenure of John Leyceter by copy of court rolls of the manor of **Bradford** for the life of the said John, who still survives ; of which said manor the said messuage and other the premises last mentioned were late parcel ; and all such works of customary tenants, customs, and services as the tenants by copy of the said court roll ought to do in Atford.

All the said premises are held of the King in chief by knight's service ; the said site, capital messuage, works of customary tenants, and other the premises parcel of the farm aforesaid are worth per annum, clear, £6. The messuage and other the premises in the tenure of John Leyceter are worth per annum, clear, during the life of the said John Leyceter 13s., and afterwards they will be worth 40s.

The said John Yerbury was likewise seised of the 2 "fullinge stockes" standing under one roof in the mill house in or near Ilford, co. Somerset, at the east end of the said house, with the water wheel which serves to drive the said stocks, together with free ingress and egress at all time to and from the said mill, and divers shops, places, implements, and hereditaments to the said stocks belonging, granted by Tobias Horton, gent., to John Yerbury, father of the said John named in the writ, for the lives of the said John Yerbury, senior, John Yerbury, junior, and William Yerbury, his [sic] brother ; which said John Yerbury, senior, and William Yerbury died after the said 1st of April : upon which said demise the several yearly rents of £6 and of 6s. 8d. are reserved to be paid yearly during the life of the said John Yerbury, junior : which said fulling stocks and other the premises last mentioned are worth per annum, clear, 40s.

The said John Yerbury is now seised of divers utensils, implements, and household stuff remaining in the said capital messuage of the value of £125 7s. 4d. ; of silver plate of the value of £15 ; 2 horses valued at £4 ; 4 cows valued at £15 ; 3 pigs valued at 30s. ; and of divers debts and sums of money amounting to £287.

John Yerbury, father of the said John named in the writ, made his will 24th October, 1614, at Atworth within the parish of Bradford, and appointed William and John Yerbury, his sons, his executors, who afterwards proved the said will. The said William afterwards died at Powlsholt. On the said 1st day of April the said John Yerbury had not alienated or disposed of any of his said lands or tenements ; Joan, Elizabeth, and Mary are his daughters and coheirs, and are aged respectively, the said Joan 16 years, the said Elizabeth 15 years, and the said Mary 9 years and more.

Inq. p.m., 9 Charles I, pt. 2, No. 183. "Abstracts of Wiltshire Inquisitions Post Mortem," 1901, edited by George S. Fry & Edw. Alex Fry.