

**THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE
SURTEES SOCIETY, VOL. CXII;
WILLS AND INVENTORIES
INVENTORIES FROM THE
REGISTRY AT DURHAM; PART III**

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REGISTRY AT DURHAM

PART III.

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At a Meeting of the COUNCIL OF THE SURTEES SOCIETY,
held in Durham Castle on Tuesday, March 7th, 1899, the
REV. WILLIAM GREENWELL in the chair,

It was ordered that a third volume of Wills and Inventories
be edited by Mr. J. C. HODGSON.

WILLIAM BROWN,
Secretary.

PREFACE.

OF the ever increasing number of volumes issued by the Surtees Society, perhaps none have possessed more general interest and popularity than the two volumes of Wills and Inventories selected from the Registry at Durham, and edited respectively by the Rev. James Raine and the Rev. William Greenwell. Although the choicest of the wills of the spacious Tudor period were taken for the second volume of the series, published forty-seven years ago, there remains a very large number belonging to the smaller gentry, clergy, yeomen and merchants. Some of them were indeed transcribed or abstracted for, but were crowded out of, that volume. These have been handed over to the present editor by Mr. Greenwell and form the nucleus of the following selection.

The union of the two Crowns, in 1603, in the person of James I., ushered in a period of peaceful development and extended to the country parishes of Northumberland and Durham the security which previously had been enjoyed only by the inhabitants of the walled towns, and, to some extent, by the owners of the greater castles. Wills of a later period, therefore, lose a considerable part of their historical interest and for that reason it is considered desirable not to extend the present collection beyond the reign of Elizabeth.

Specimens of nuncupative wills are given on pp. 35, 97, 100, 114, 157, 164 and 165. The will of 'the lady of Kenton' (p. 10) and the will of Gawen Hoppen (p. 66) supply additional details to the pedigrees of Bennet and Hoppen. Bertram Anderson (p. 60) gives to his sister, Marion Chapman, three 'tennes of coals'; Simon Wellbury (p. 87) gives legacies to his 'cosins,' the children of his son; Margaret Middleton (p. 122) bequeathes a 'garnyshe,'—that is, a set of 12 platters, 12 dishes, 12 saucers, and 12 porringers,—of pewter;