THE WYNTER FAMILY OF THE FOREST OF DEAN

Very Roughly Chronological

by John Griffiths, June 2015

Bristol beginnings?

The oft-quoted Huddington origin of John Wynter of Bristol is very much disputed. There were Wynters in Bristol long before 'our' John Wynter. One was even called 'Sir' John Wynter as far back as October 1407 when his brother, Philip Wynter, a burgess of Bristol, wrote his will naming his wife as Constance and his children as Thomas Wynter, John Wynter and Margaret Wynter. His brother, 'Sir' John Wynter had charge of his namesake nephew, John, until he reached 21 years. The testator also had an apprentice called John who, oddly, received amongst his master's bequests a 'coat of mail'. The question arises: why was the name of that 'Sir' John Wynter, or Winter, of the Villa of 'Stanford' [where was that?], not included in the 'complete' list of knights of England? Was Philip Wynter the equivalent of an armourer or what?

Various families made a fortune as merchant traders operating from Bristowe alias Bristol, and someone called William Henry Dale or Henry William Dale was the mayor of Bristol at the time that people were exploring for a northwest passage to the East Indies. The mayor's wife was called either Felicia Wynter or else Agnes Wynter but it is not known if she had any links with John Wynter. The will of Henry (William in the margin) Dale, twice mayor of Bristol, was dated 8 March or May 1512. Briefly summarized: To be buried in *St Leonard's church. To our mother church of 'Worchester', £4. To the church of St Leonard, £6 13s4d [10 marks]. To Thomas Dale, £100, a candlestick and a basin. To William Dale, my son, £100 and a great basin. To Matthew Dale, my son, £100, a candlestick, a basin, eight 'potngers' and eight saucers. To my daughter Johane (Dale) Wyott, £26 8s4d [40 marks]. To my daughter Maud (Dale) Shippon, £26 8s4d. To Elizabeth Gaynerde, £22 [33 marks]. To Harry Wyott, £10. To Katherine Wyott, £10. Both my sons, Thomas and William Dale, to be executors and to have £5 each for their pains. John Wyott to be overseer and to have £10 for his pains and a gown. Witnesses: John Wyott, John Pashely, William Guyn. Proved 22 Jan 1512/1513 by Thomas Fysher, proctor for the executors. Henry [William) Dale of Bristol and Felicia Wynter.

Bristol merchant John Day wrote in a letter: "Since your Lordship wants information relating to the first voyage [of John Cabot in 1496], here is what happened. He went with

one ship, his crew confused him, he was short of supplies and ran into bad weather, and he decided to turn back." A year later, in 1497, the same year that Henry Dale was the mayor of bristol, John Cabot sailed out of Bristol for the second time on the *Mathew* and eventually reached northern America. John Day's account recorded: "This year, on St John the Baptist's Day [24 June 1497], the land of America was found by the merchants of Bristow in a shippe of Bristowe, called the *Mathew*; the which said ship departed from the port of Bristowe the second day of May and came home again the 6th of August next following." Several Bristol merchants who mounted expeditions soon followed him. Lady Dale's family, including the Throckmortons, Berkeleys and Reades, became wealthy Bristol families as a result. Henry Dale was a bailiff in Bristol in 1482, the sheriff of Bristol in 1491, mayor in 1497, and then again listed as mayor of Bristol in 1503. On the latter occasion, 1503/4, the sheriff of Bristol was the well-known Bristol merchant, Richard Americk.

*Note. St Leonard's church was near the Westgate in Bristol, one of the original entrances to the medieval city, which became known as St Leonard's Gate. This medieval church was one of many in the congested streets of the old city. It stood at the foot of Corn Street, where it is crossed by St Stephen's Street, and fell victim to the improvements being made in this area in the 18th century when Baldwin Street was re-routed and Clare Street created. In a Bill presented to parliament the church was described as a nuisance because it blocked the main thoroughfare. The Bill ordering demolition of the church became law in 1765, the parish being united to that of St Nicholas, and demolition was carried out in 1770-1. Nothing remains but a small lane on modern maps records Leonard Lane, going from Corn Street to Small Street where in medieval times there was a chapel-of-ease to St Leonard dedicated to St Giles.

Back to 'our' John Wynter. John Wynter's own family started sometime around around 1520/ His death in 1545 was the result of an illness, perhaps the plague, in the prime of his life rather than as a result of old-age. Why was his first son called Arthur?

Some genealogical sources suggested that John Wynter's father may have been linked to the Wynter family of Huddington. Others suggested a Breconshire family. Neither has reliable *contemporary* evidence. For instance, the two inquisition post mortems of successive Wynters of Huddington indicated that: (i) Roger Wynter 'of Huddington' and Elizabeth Hungerford were contemporary with Sir William Wynter 'of Lydney'; (ii) Robert Wynter and Catherine Throckmorton were contemporary with Sir Edward Wynter 'of Lydney'; and (iii) George Wynter 'of Huddington' was contenporary with Sir John Wyntrer 'of Lydney'. That implies that John Wynter 'of Bristol' was contemporary with Roger Wynter 'of Huddington' and Ann Ashbourne. Which doesn't

really fit? Was a generation omitted? It all seems improbable.

Yet another oddity in genealogical reporting: According to the *Dictionary of National Biography* Cardinal Thomas Wolsey (1471-1530) had a mistress, [very dubiously] the *sister* of John Wynter, keeper of the king's storehouse who died in 1545 but she may have been the *daughter* of another John Wynter 'of Cardington' in Bedfordshire, the second wife of Sir William Gascoigne, comptroller of Thomas Wolsey's household. There is a brass at Cardington, Bedfordshire to William Gascoigne and his two wives. His second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of John Wynter (Vinter) of Cardington whose arms were '*ermine, a bull passant sable*" (Wyther or Wynter). Other sources named his mistress as Joan, perhaps the daughter of Peter Larke, an inn-keeper of Thetford. His son, Thomas Larke (died Jul 1530) became Thomas Wolsey's confessor and the king's chaplain. He was given a canonry of St Stephen's on 10 Nov 1511 and became master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge in 1520-5.

Confusion over the Poyntz family

Yet again, two confusing sources suggested that: (i) John Wynter was brought up by Sir Anthony Poyntz (who died in 1533) of Iron Acton, father of Sir Nicholas Poyntz (1510-1556), sometime vice admiral of the West Seas. (ii) Sir Nicholas Poyntz of Iron Acton was guardian of John Wynter 'of Lydney', later a merchant venturer of Bristol and 'clerk of the king's ships' to Henry VIII. Nicholas Poyntz, when about 35 years of age and sheriff of Gloucestershire, was one witness to the will of John Wynter in 1545, when the latter died in mid-life due to an illness. The matter needs research.

Golden Falcon IX/4: 'John Winter had been recommended to Sir William Fitzwilliam, the admiral, by Thomas Cromwell, once [the nominal] recorder of Bristol, who knew Roger Winter of Huddington, probably a relative of John *who had been ward of Anthony fitzPoyntz of Iron Acton*, Gloucestershire (Hundred of Berkeley Vol. 3 page 225) in 1544 (35 Henry VIII)'. Anthony Poyntz was born around 1480 at Iron Acton, Gloucestershire, knighted in 1513, and died 1532. His son, Nicholas Poyntz, was born around 1507 and died 27 Nov 1556. For Anthony Poyntz to have been guardian of John Wynter, John would have been born post-1500, yet was married with children by 1520. No confirmation of this guardianship has been found.

Uncertain marriage of John Wynter and Alice Tirrey

It is usually claimed, though seemingly based on a single item in the Wynter family tree

recorded in the *Visitation of Worcestershire*, pages 148-9, a source considered of very dubious accuracy by some genealogical researchers, that John Wynter married someone called Alice Tirrey, the surname by numerous spellings. However, John's will named his wife as Alice.

They had children who included in uncertain order: (i) Arthur. Why was he called Arthur? He married and was later killed in a battle off the Orkneys around 1557, described later. (ii) William[1] the elder, later 'of London and Lydney' around 1520. He later married Maria Langton). (iii) William[2] the younger, roughly around 1525-1530, some reports presumed that he had died on an expedition to Portugese Guinea in West Africa but this is surely incorrect?. (iv) George 'of London and Dyrham'. He married Anne Brayne. (v) Ralph or Randolph or Ralf with very uncertain history. In addition there were several daughters including: (vi) Anne or Alice or Agnes who married Thomas Wilson. (vii) Elizabeth and (viii) Mary. There may have been more children. The precise order and dates are not known. Neither is it known why two sons were called William[1] the elder and William[2] the younger (born around 1525-1530). It was not at all uncommon in earlier centuries to give two children the same name, some thought because of high mortality, some thought because of names in leases for 'three lives', *etc*. The account in the 'Visitation' did not mention John Wynter's two sisters who were recorded by their married names in his 1545 will: Joan Mychell and Anne Preusse. Alas, despite this, nothing has been traced of them. John must have been born roughly around 1490-1495 to have had children by the 1520s bearing in mind the custom of apprenticeships in those times. His parentage is not known, though with numerous published suggestions, all without confirmation. Precise details of his marriage to Alice Tyrrell are not known.

1503 : The Mathew and the New Matthew
John Shipman and William Shipman, kinsmen of John Wynter

Extract from the internet (slightly modified): The *Matthew* of Bristol and the Financiers of John Cabot's 1497 Voyage to North America by Evan Jones.

Apart from the details of the goods shipped, the 1503/4 customs account of the port of Bristol revealed the names of the shipmasters who skippered the *Mathew* that year. On her voyage to Ireland her master was Edmund Griffith. On her subsequent voyages to France and Spain her skipper was William Claron. Neither of these individuals seemingly had a prior association with the ship. Indeed, Edmund Griffith was recorded as the master of the *Frances* of Bristol on that vessel's return from Ireland in October 1503 and, after serving as the master of the *Mathew* between December 1503 and May 1504, he

transferred to the *St Mark* of Bristol, which he subsequently took on voyages to Spain and Portugal. William Claron, for his part, was the master of the *Julian* (*Gelian*) *Bonaventure* of Bristol before taking over the *Matthew*. Such a rapid turnover of ship's masters appears to have been fairly typical of Bristol's marine at this time, with shipmasters transferring within the marine on a regular basis. There is thus no reason for assuming that either Edmund Griffith or William Claron had been the master of the *Mathew* on her 1497 voyage.

Following the last appearance of the *Mathew* in the 1503/4 customs account for the port of Bristol, the next document that refers to the ship comes from a Bristol 'Butlerage and Prisage' account of 1510/11. This stated that in 1510 'The mathewe William Glaron master came from Burdeux the xxvii day of October received oute of her ? ii ton wyn'. William Claron was still the master of the ship six months later, when a Bordeaux notary recorded that, on 29 April 1511, Guihem Chipman (William Shipman of Bristol) and associates freighted woad on the *Mathieu* of Bristol, under master 'Guilhem Clar'. It seems unlikely, however, that the vessel continued in service much longer, for she is not mentioned in the 1513 survey. This survey does, however, record the existence of a 120-ton ship called the '*New Matthew*', owned by John Shipman, who was one of Bristol's richest merchants and the town's principal shipowner. Since this 'new' *Matthew* was a 120-ton ship, she could not have been Cabot's vessel. The name given to her in this survey does, nevertheless, imply the existence of an 'old' *Matthew*, which had probably gone out of service fairly recently. Since all later references to the John Shipman's 120-ton *Matthew* omit the 'new' designation, it seems that it quickly became accepted that John Shipman's vessel was, from 1513 to 1539, Bristol's only '*Matthew*'.

[1503, Dec 20. The bark called the *Mathewe* of Bristol in which Edmund Griffeth is master sailed for Ireland on this day and has in it [cargo, chiefly for Hugh Elyot].

[1504 May 4] The bark called the Mathewe of Bristol in which Edmund Griffeth is master came from Ireland on this day.

[1504 June 13] The bark called the Mathewe of Bristol in which William Claron is master sailed for Bordeaux on this day.

[1504 Aug 12] The bark called the Mathewe of Bristol in which William Claron is master came from Bordeaux on this day.

[1504 Aug 28] The bark called the Mathewe of Bristol in which William Claron is master sailed for Spain on this day and has in it [cargo for a large number of merchants including William Thorne].

Known merchants of Bristol (1497-1513) include: Hugh Eliet or Elyot [Elliot], Edmund Griffeth [Griffith], Richard Hobie, Robert Barrero, *John Shipman* (at times with

John Ware), William Jeffereis (Jefferies), Humphrey Brown, Roger Dawes, William Hurste, John Grene (Green), John Meysam, Thomas Hawkens (Hawkyns or Hawlins), William Thorne, John Edee (Eddy), William Aphowell (ap Hywel], John Jansie, Robert Rowlowe, John Qwirke, Thomas Badcok, Thomas Aphowell (ap Hywel], William Estbie, John Messam, Martyn Pollard, John Collas, Nicholas Browne, *William Shipman*, Robert Buntre, *Thomas Dale*, John Hall, William Geffreys (Jeffreys), John Graunte, William Lane, John Spacheford, Robert Butre, John Drews, John Messan and Humphrey Hosgrove. There were no references to *John Wynter* before 1513 but his name was recorded in 1522 when there is some conflict of opinion of the ownership of the new *Matthew*. See John Wynter's 1545 will for the *Matthew*.

1520s : Births of Arthur Wynter and William[1] Wynter

Arthur Wynter was probably the eldest *son* of John Wynter. He was over 21 years of age and married before his father wrote his will in 1545. He was thus born sometime before 1524, probably nearer 1520. His parent's marriage was clearly prior the start of parish registers, and before Martin Luther, and would have been in accordance with the Roman Catholic faith. Other information suggested that Arthur's sibling, William[1] Wynter the elder, was born sometime roughly around 1521. It is possible that John Wynter's first child may have been his daughter, Agnes, who died before 1576. She married: (i) William Brooke and then, *c*1560, (ii) Thomas Wilson, born around 1523, died 1581.

No contemporary record of the dates and locations of their births and baptisms has been found. Later 'suggestions', without contemporary evidence it seems, have been very contradictory and thus unreliable. For example, William[1] Wynter was allegedly born at: (i) Lydney in Gloucestershire; (ii) somewhere in Breconshire; (iii) Tredegar, the historical house near modern-day Newport, Monmouthshire, which preceeded the 17th century rebuildin, and not the much later town of that name in 'the valleys'; and (iv) somewhere in the vicinity of the port of Bristowe, later called Bristol, Gloucestershire. However, it is generally claimed, all derived from the dubious *Visitation of Gloucestershire* it seems, that their mother, Alice, was a daughter of William Tirrey or William Tyrrell 'of Cork' in Ireland, assuming that this single source of information was correct. Where did John Wynter and Alice Tyrrell meet? Where and when did they get married? Where did they live?

Dubious digression. A description of the battle of the Solent in 1545 included: 'To these royal ships were attached from the auxiliary fleet twenty pinnaces, which had now joined from the western ports, and seven of the famous boats of Rye. In command of the

whole was Captain William Tyrrell with Captain Robert Legge as his vice-admiral'. 'Tyrrell, we know, was the man who had so brilliantly commanded the 'wing of oared pieces' in 1545, and he seems to have been knighted for his services'. Was this a coincidence of names? The following year, Henry VIII instructed William Tyrrell to be the admiral of a fleet to be sent to Scotland. But ... that was William Tyrrell *esquire*, not *knight*. This man, one of many with this name, may have had no connection with John Wynter's wife, Alice Tyrrell, as he would have been a very old man by 1545 and 1546, unlikely to captain a ship. He was a generation older than 'our' John Wynter.

1522 : War with France : John Wynter in Bristol

In the war between England and France, around 1522, when Arthur and William[1] Wynter were both very young and may have been born in Bristol, instructions were sent from the king, Henry VIII, to Bristol and elsewhere to raise men, *etc*. Bristol merchant, John Wynter, along with others in that city, was required to provide men for the *Matthew*, and other ships, in preparation for the war. John Wynter's ship, the *Matthew*, was not the earlier boat of that name used to take John Cabot on his journey to the west coast of northern America around 1497. The name *Mathew*, the original ship, appeared in documents around 1503/04 and 1510/11 but, in a slightly later 1513 survey, there was reference to a '*New Matthew*' and further references to this ship afterward left out the 'new', suggesting that John Cabot's *Mathew* no longer existed by then. Note: the first ship was written *Mathew* or *Mathewe* and the second *Matthew*. This, of course, contradicts the earlier account which claimed the new *Matthew* was owned by John Shipman. This needs sorting.

An authoritative account of the ships stated that the original *Mathew* was a thoroughly unremarkable product of the Bristol shipping industry, which was simply chartered out of the town's marine around 1497 to transport John Cabot on his expedition of exploration. John Cabot may not have been the captain. Following its return, the *Mathew* continued with ordinary commercial duties, apparently serving the port's trade mainly with Biscay and southeastern Ireland. Richard ap Meryk, or Richard Amerike or Ameryk, *c*1445–1503, was a wealthy merchant, royal customs officer, with Arthur Kemeys, and took his turn as sheriff of Bristol. He was allegedly the principal owner of the original *Mathew*. See later for the Dale family, one-time mayor of Bristol or Bristowe.

The following was taken, with slight modifications, from the internet, written by Evan Jones of Bristol University, a prolofic writer on the city's history. 'After 1504, the 50-ton

Mathew once again disappeared from view. However, a hint about its end can be found in a 1513 naval survey of Bristol. This document recorded the presence of a 120-ton '*New Matthew*' of Bristol, later shortened to '*Matthew*', owned by John Shipman, one of Bristol's richest merchants, a frustratingly unspecified kinsman of 'our' John Wynter. While this was clearly a different ship to John Cabot's vessel, the 'New' designation suggested that the old, much smaller vessel, had only recently gone out of service. It seems likely that John Shipman may have named his ship in memory of the earlier *Mathew*'. Other sources contradicted John Shipman as owner. So you take your pick. It is all very confusing.

1530 : Distant Branch

Thomas Winter, (*c*1530 - ?), was born about 1530 in Oxfordshire. *Burke's Peerage* of 1879 stated (*c*1530): 'This family is a branch of the same stock as that from which sprung the Winters of Lydney, Gloucestershire, and was settled in Oxfordshire before 1600. A 'cousin' was Sir William Winter of Lydney, vice admiral of England at the time of the Spanish Armada of 1588. At the time of Cromwell, the Lydney branch was for the king, while Thomas' grandson [*via* son Christopher Winter], Samuel Winter, was for parliament'. From *The Irish Bomfords*, chapter 20. Elsewhere: 'The family of Winter of Meath, Ireland claim descent from from the Winters of Wych through Christopher Winter 'of Oxfordshire', son of Thomas Winter 'of Balsall', Warwickshire'. *Golden Falcon* XVI/1. If a first-cousin of William[1] Wynter, Thomas Wynter would have been the son of John Wynter's brother. Or was that based on the old discredited genealogy of the Huddington family link to John Wynter?

1530s : John Wynter, a merchant of Bristol, and son Arthur Wynter

Whatever his very uncertain origins, by the 1530s 'our' John Wynter, gentleman, burgess and merchant, was seemingly involved in various aspects of sea trade from the port of Bristol. How and when did he get there? What was his life-history prior to his Bristol activities? It is possible that he may have lived in the Redcliffe area of the city, not far from the docks of those times. He, and/or his sea captains, may have travelled to North Africa, as far as Egypt, for spices; and to France and Spain for wine and woad, *etc*. Online sources have extensive details of the sixteenth century port of Bristol cargoes. Two others Bristol burgesses named in old documents of this vintage included Arthur Wynter, the eldest son of John Wynter, also described as a gentleman despite his

assumed age, and a seemingly unrelated Robert Wynter, also a merchant, about whom no further information can be located. The personal name, Robert, was to be found in the partially disputed Huddington genealogy. Thus the 1540 list of burgess included: Arthur Wynter, gentleman, son of John Wynter, gentleman and burgess. This requires some thought. Just how old was Arthur Wynter by 1540 if by then called a gentleman. No mention was made of William Wynter, Arthur's brother, and the other siblings. Were the children born in Bristol? If not, where? It seems that John Wynter married Alice Tyrrell but the date and location are not known.

Slightly differently, one of John Wynter's ships, so it was written in another source, was called the *Matthew Gonson* of Bristol, at one time captained by Sir Gawen Carew, uncle of vice admiral Sir George Carew of the ill-fated *Mary Rose*. A list of warships for that event included: *Matthew*, formerly *Matthew Gonson*, purchased 1539, last recorded 1558.

1534 : John Wynter and Thomas Cromwell

Thomas Cromwell (*bc*1485–1540) was the principal secretary to Henry VIII from 1532 until 1540. In April 1534, Richard, the last abbot of Tintern, sent a letter to Thomas Cromwell: 'I received your letter this Saturday by Rob Helyatte, servant to John Wynter of Bristowe, in which you desired me to attend you at Court. I will not fail to do so on Friday, begging you to respite me till Monday for the honour of this high feast of our Blessed Lady. Tyntern, Saturday'. Just over two years later, on 3 September 1536, the abbot, Richard Wyche, surrendered Tintern abbey and all its estates to the king's visitor and ended a way of life which had lasted four centuries alongside the river Wye. Valuables from the abbey were sent to the royal treasury and Abbot Wyche was pensioned off. Richard Wyche had studied at Oxford. He became abbot of Tintern rom 1521 until its dissolution in September 1536. He then moved to Woolaston where he became perpetual curate and 'pryste in the parysshe of Wolleston' with a pension of twenty-two pounds a year. At that time, there were also 12 monks and 35 servants in residence at the abbey. The monks were pensioned off, and the land around the abbey granted to the earl of Worcester.

It seems that, before the monasteries were threatened, thus prior 1536-1541, abbots and priors vied with each other in showering gratifications on the dreaded 'secretary of state', Thomas Cromwell. When the monasteries fell, and the Henry VIII's court was besieged by innumerable suitors for a share in the gigantic spoil, the flood of money that poured into the state coffers must have astounded even Thomas Cromwell. A

characteristic example of his unscrupulousness occurred shortly before his fall from grace. In August 1539, Morgan ap Gwilym, the last abbot of St Augustine's in Bristol, the site of the 'cathedral', transmitted him a bribe of £100 to secure the royal confirmation to that office which, alas, he was forced to surrender only four months later.

It appears that the corporation of Bristol was clearly aware of Thomas Cromwell's character at an early date. In 1533, with the office of 'recorder' for Bristol falling vacant, the position was conferred upon the 'secretary of state' as a sinecure, bringing him £20 a year, and thus secured his countenance, which was the one thing the corporation needed at that time. The royal grant had passed the Great Seal by only a few weeks when Thomas Cromwell, having served his master's purposes, met with the customary fate of many Tudor courtiers on 28 Jul 1540 on Tower Hill. As a consequence, the following entry occurred in the Bristol civic account book for 1540 : Paid to the lord privy seal by the hands of Mr Davy Broke, 'recorder', £20. A note added by the auditors: Forasmuch the £20 charged paid to the Lord Essex alias Thomas Cromwell, the *late* 'recorder', for his fee due to him at the feast of the nativity, 1540, which accustomally was used to be then paid at one time, and for that this said Lord of Essex was beheaded before the said feast in the said year, we the auditors find that the £20 ought not to be allowed in this account. So, what happened to the £20?

1534 : John Wynter goes to London

Going back a step, one source claimed that, in late 1534, John Wynter acted as a sort of 'spy' along the coast of Spain to investigate the ships the Spaniards were making. In September 1534, Sir William Fitzwilliam and others on the privy council wrote to Thomas Cromwell along the slightly modified lines: Yesterday there arrived here at the Court John Wynter of Bristol, the bearer hereof, with letters addressed to you by the 'customer' of Bristol, which we send. He had a long conference with the king, both of the 'occurrents' on the coasts of Biscay and Ireland, and of the good readiness of ten ships now at Bristol and his own willingness to serve His Grace in Ireland. These things the king communicated to us after supper, and determined to send him to declare to same to you. He thinks his experience on the coasts of Spain and England, the said John Wynter and one Thomas Dowding of Bridgewater, whom John Wynter recommends, should be captains of two of the said ships rather than Willoughby, Beeston or Waters, especially as he promises that he and Dowding will be ready for sea in six days after he arrives at Bristol. Ships set forth in other places would have many contrary winds to contend with; and if you have not already closed with Willoughby, Beeston and Waters beyond recall,

he advises you to furnish John Wynter and Thomas Dowding with money and a commission. For the ship appointed to keep the Land's End, the king rests upon Bedon, as he did at your departure. When you have heard the bearer's news about the earl of Desmond, you are to give the king your opinion. Langley, 18 Sep 1534. Signed by 'Fytzwilliam', William Poulet, Edward 'Foxe' and William 'Kyngston'.

In September 1536, John Wynter carried the letter from the king by ship to Abbot Richard Wyche at Tintern abbey on the river Wye in Monmouthshire which ordered him to leave the abbey.

Thomas Dowding was recorded in 1537 and 1538 in command of the *Primrose of Bristol*. Two examples have been found: 2 May 1537: Return of the *Prymrose of Bristol*, master Thomas Dowdyng, carrying 74 tons iron, 6.5 tuns oil, 0.5 tuns wine, orchil and alum belonging to Bristol merchants. 24 May 1537 Departure of the *Prymrose of Bristol*, master Thomas Dowding, carrying hides and cloth belonging to Bristol merchants.

1535 : Digression : Death of Roger Wynter of Huddington

This is a digression. Inquisition post mortem taken at Cirencester 27 Nov 1535 after the death of Roger Wynter. The jurors say that before the taking of this inquisition certain persons were seised of the manor of Bachessore [*very uncertainly perhaps Badgeworth, Tewkesbury, or Batsford, Moreton in the Marsh?], Gloucestershire, in demesne as of fee, and of the avowson of the church, to the use of the aforesaid Roger Wynter and his heirs, and being so seised at the request of the said Roger Wynter, by their charter dated 10 Dec 1510, granted the same to the said Roger Wynter and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Hungerford, knight, by the name of the manor of Baccessore, and also the advowson of the church of the said manor, to hold the said manor and lands to the said Roger and Elizabeth and the heirs of the body of the said Roger, in default remainder to the right heirs of the said Roger for ever ... and the said Roger and Elizabeth being thereof seised, had issue a certain Robert Wynter, and afterwards, at 'Hodyngton', Worcestershire, on 6 Mar 1534-5, the said Roger 'dyed', and the said Elizabeth [Wynter nee Hungerford] and is now living at 'Hodyngton', and is seised of the said manor, &c. And the jurors say that Robert Wynter is son and next heir of the said Roger and, at the time of the death of his father, was aged 14 or more. [This Robert Wynter was born sometime around 1521, roughly the date of birth of the later Sir William[1] Wynter.

*Badgeworth, Gloucestershire, was suggested by the Golden Falcon web-page but ... 'In medieval times the manor of Badgeworth, its rectory and the advowson of the vicarage belonged to the Benedictine Nuns of Usk in Monmouthshire'. Details of any Wynter family link to Batsford have not been found.

1537 : Pirates in the Bristol Channel

Thomas Cromwell wrote to the lord admiral of England, Sir William FitzWilliam, on 4 Jul 1537 : Have today received letters from John Wynter of Bristowe, stating that about St Peter's Day [29th June] tidings came of two Bretons lying on the Welsh coast, who entered a ship of Bristowe freighted for Biscay, and either took the ship or spoiled it. They have also robbed boats coming to St James' fair at Bristowe, and probably intend to wait for ships and boats coming to and fro the fair. Meanwhile, one Bowen of Bristowe has taken 14 or 15 of the Bretons who landed for victual near Tenby, and has put them in prison. John Wynter has manned a ship for La Rochelle with 50 soldiers, besides mariners, and will board them if they come in his way. Requests the lord admiral to advertise the king and find out his pleasure about the prisoners, and whether anything else shall be done in those parts. The Rolls, 4 July 1537. Signed.

A combined merchant/privateering venture was made by the Bristol shipowner, John Wynter, in 1537. On one voyage to La Rochelle, John Wynter carried 50 soldiers on board his ship in the hope of their being able to capture any of the Breton pirates that were troubling the Bristol trade.

A letter written by Thomas Cromwell in September 1539 concerned provision made for the dispatch of John Wynter to sea, and the king's pleasure for clearing the ocean of pirates. Thomas Cromwell was executed on 28 Jul 1540. It was a risky business having any connection with Henry VIII? John Wynter seemingly survived?

1538-1539 : John Wynter and Alice in Bristol

John Wynter and his wife, Alice, were recorded as living in Bristol in 1538 as witness the record of John Wynter's apprentice: 9 May 1538. Patricus Bellam, parent's name Thomas Bellam, parent's domicile *nuper de lidney infra forestam de Deane in Com' Glouc' defunctus*, parent's occupation husbandman, master's name Johannes Wynter, master's occupation *mercator*, master's wife Alicia, term of apprenticeship 12 years, freedom of Bristol 4s/6d. Roughly translated: Patrick Bellam, son of Thomas, late of Lidney in the Forest of Dean deceased, father's [former?] occupation husbandman, master's name John Wynter, merchant, husband of Alice. Term of years : 12 years. Fee to be paid by the master for the apprentice to have the freedom of the city, 4s6d.

On 18 Dec 1539 : Mark Lyche, son of Randulf Lyche of Bristol, deceased merchant, apprenticed to John Wynter and Alice for 10 years at a salary of 20s0d and 4s6d for the

'freedom'. There were also several records of Lydney people being apprenticed to Bristol traders. It seems odd that there were apprentice merchants? One source wrote: 'The number of those formally apprenticed in the 16th century was, however, probably quite small. By the 17th century, at the same time as the system was being extended to include the children of the poor, *the children of the gentry*, under economic pressures, *were being apprenticed to merchants* and manufacturers and to lawyers and doctors. By the 18th century apprenticeship is thus found at almost every level of society except the highest.

Thomas Gresham, of Gresham College, was himself an apprentice in 1535 to his uncle, John Gresham. As he explained, this was in order to obtain the practical skills he needed as a merchant: 'I need not have bynne prentisse for that I was free by my father's coppye: albeit my father Sir Richard Gresham being a wyse man, although I was free by his coppye, it was to no purpose, except I was bound prentisse to the same; whereby to come by the experience and knowledge of all kinds of merchandise'. Another source: 'Men of the merchant and professional class, predominant in Cheapside, London, married comparatively late as a result of the long apprenticeship and training that they undertook. First-time bridegrooms were usually in their late 20s but they married younger women, aged perhaps 20 or 21'. Did John Wynter serve such an apprenticeship? If so, was it in Bristol and who was his master? No details are known.

1538-1550 : The Ledger of John Smythe, merchant of Bristol, including references to John Wynter and George Wynter

The family of John Smythe of Bristol originally came from Aylburton near Lydney in the 15th century. Eventually, John Smyth bought at Ashton Court in 1545, though he remained at Small Street by the quay side in the city. The fascinating account is available online and includes the following items. (i) 1538 : To be payed to Master Wynter of Master Smythe for 20 C bysket £6 13s6d and 20 buttes of bere £8. Summa £14 13s4d. (ii) 1539 : John Wynter of Bristow marchant owith the last daye of May anno dicto £5 12s6d that is for ffreyght of 7 tons pipe iren in my ship the *Trynte* [Trinity] this viage at 15s the ton, to pay ½ in hand and thother ½ 3 months after her discharging. Itm. The 26 day Aprell 1542 rec'd by the hands of John Wynters son Arture £10. Itm. The 26 day September rec'd by his son George £8. (iii) 1543 : Richard Master of 'Wesbery' in the Forrest of Deane, smythe, owith the 26 day of July £3 to be paid at Candellmas next coming and it is for the rest of a pipe and 3 li iren solid and delivered to hym. I have a bond apon hym and besydes that Master Wynter is shewerty for hym. (iv) 1544 : John

Wynter Tresorer of the Kynges navy owith the 21 day of Marche £6 6s8d and is for 1 ton of iren d'd by his commandment to John Syng. John Wynter is dewe to have £6 13s4d and is for so myche he paid in acowmpt to my sarvant Leight. (v) 1549 : Georg Wynter of Bristowe marchant owith the 28 day of December £20 which I paid for hym to his purser called William Farnalls, *etc*. Georg Wynter per contra is dewe to have for the freight of 33 ton pipe of sackes at 35s per ton, £58 12s6d, *etc*.

1539 : Kinsman John Shipman

The gigantic will of the previously-mentioned John Shipman, dated 3rd August 1539, seemingly a well-known merchant in salt at Bristol, referred to: '*John Wynter my kynnesman*, for the trewe and faithfull service that he hath don unto me, three-score pounds to be paid in salt at 23s4d per tonne'. 'And also the *children* of the said John three score pounds of salt at 23s4d a tonne.'

How were they related? The word kinsman was not very specific. It often meant *via* some marriage. The internet contains much on the Shipman family of Bristol and this particular John Shipman, as there were others with the same name, owned the ship called *Mary Christopher*. 'I geve and bequeth unto my said wife my ship called the *Mary Christofer* and I will that she immediately after my decesse shall enjoye the said shipp with al maner of apparell belonging unto her and to use the same as hir ownee propre goodes'. In December 1539 it carried cloth to Spain and wine from Spain at 25s0d per ton and was claimed to be owned jointly by John Shipman and brother-in-law Thomas Dale, possibly from 1515.

An item describing parliamentary representation referred to John Shipman as one of two sheriffs of Bristol in 1513 and mayor in 1521 and 1529. A William Shipman, relationship not known, was mayor in 1533-1534. It is uncertain when he was, if he was, a member of parliament. The date was perhaps 1539? The Shipman 'kinsman' link to John Wynter is not known. The account of the executors of Thomas Berkeley, Lord Berkeley, deceased, dated 22 Jan 1533, included the names John Shipman and, oddly, 'John Wynter of Manyngfordebruse' alias Manningford Bruce [Wiltshire?]. Why? Who was he? Thomas Berkeley died at Mangotsfield in Gloucestershire on 22 Jan 1533 and was buried at St Augustine's in Bristol.

An account of Manningford Bruce recorded: At an unknown date the manor was allotted to either Maurice, Lord Berkeley (died 1506), or to his son and namesake (died 1523), or to his second son, Thomas, Lord Berkeley (died 1533). It descended with the title to 1565 when Henry, Lord Berkeley (died 1613), sold it to Edward Nicholas.

1539/1571 : The Manor of Dyrham

On 8 Sep 1539, Sir Nicholas Poyntz of Iron Acton, by a grant, conveyed the manor of Hinton, with lands in Dyrham and Hinton, to Thomas White. It is not known how Sir Nicholas Poyntz came into possession of Hinton manor. However, the conveyance was further assured by a common recovery suffered by Sir Nicholas Poyntz to Thomas White on 28 Jun 1540. In 1571, Sir Walter Dennis joined with his son, Richard, in conveying the manor of Dyrham, by sale or mortgage, to George Wynter, brother of William Wynter, of Lydney. George Wynter married Anne, daughter of Henry Brayne and sister and co-heiress of Robert Brayne of Bristol. Richard Brayne of St. James, Bristol, merchant of London, was granted the Priory of St James in Bristol by Henry VIII after the Dissolution. Henry Brayne of St James, Bristol in his will dated 23 Aug 1558, proved 28 Apr 1567, mentioned: ‘my daughter Anne, wife of George Winter, gentleman, and their children John, Elinor and Bridget’.

George and Anne’s eldest son, John, married Mary ‘Brouncker’ of Erle Stoke, Wiltshire. Their son, George Wynter, succeeded him in 1581 and he married Mary, the daughter of Edward Rogers of Cannington, Somerset. She brought to the family the Porlock Estate. He died in 1638 leaving a son, John Wynter, then sixteen years old. John Wynter eventually married Frances, daughter of Thomas Gerard of Trent. John died in 1668, leaving an only daughter, Mary, who, in 1686, married William Blathwayt, secretary of state to William III. He was also clerk of the privy pouncil to Charles II, James II, William III and Anne, and commissioner for trades and plantations. It was he who built some, if not all, of the west front of Dyrham House.

1540 : The Manor of Wick, north of Bath

On 26 Nov 1540, John Wynter, merchant of Bristol, transferred to to his son, William[1] Wynter the elder, his second son after Arthur Wynter, the manor and advowson of the church of ‘Wyke’ and a wood called ‘Fryes Woodes’ of 37 acres in Abson parish, Gloucestershire. It is believed that William[1] Wynter must have been, by then, over 21 years of age. Over eighty years later, on 17 Oct 1623: Lease for 99 years or 3 lives from [John’s great-grandson] John Wynter ‘of Lydney’, esquire, to Richard Fletcher, yeoman : close called Woodcroft, Abson, on surrender of former lease.

The name Abson is a corruption of Abbots Ton, a place belonging to the bbbot. This was the Abbot of Glastonbury, as the manor of Pucklechurch. including Abson and other

surrounding villages, was given to the Abbot after the murder of king Edmund at neighbouring Pucklechurch in the 10th century.

1541 : John Wynter still a Bristol merchant

On 11 Nov 1541 a ship called *The James* returned to Bristol, master John de Monmouth, with 8¾ tuns of wine belonging to Bristol merchant, John Wynter. Where did it come from? Who owned the ship?

1542 : 'Bristow' becomes the city of 'Bristoll'

From the old chronicles: 'In the month of July 1542 the town of Bristow was proclaimed a [cathedral] city and called Bristoll, and Paule Bush was made bishop and made resident of St Augustine's abbey which was then appointed to be called Trinitie college of Bristoll.' Do not confuse with its earlier city and county status. Redcliffe and Bedminster were incorporated into the city in 1373. Edward III proclaimed 'that the town of Bristol with its suburbs and precincts shall henceforth be separate from the counties of Gloucester and Somerset and be in all things exempt both by land by sea, and that it should be a county by itself, to be called the county of Bristol in perpetuity'. This meant that disputes could be settled in courts in Bristol rather than at Gloucester, or at Ilminster for areas south of the Avon which had been part of Somerset.

Paul Bush was born in Somerset, and studied at Oxford (BA about 1517). He subsequently read divinity (BD and DD) and become a friar. He obtained royal favour and was made chaplain to Henry VIII, who, on the foundation of the bishopric of Bristol, selected Paul Bush as the first bishop of the new see. He married Edith Ashley, who died in 1553, and proceedings were taken against him as a married priest. The following year, 20 Mar 1554, a commission passed sentence of deprivation on him. He made a voluntary resignation in the following June, and retired to the rectory of Winterbourne, near Bristol, which he held till his death, which occurred at the age of 68, 11 October 1558. He was buried near the grave of his wife, on the north side of the choir of Bristol cathedral where his renaissance monument still stands. John Wynter would have noted some of this before he died in 1545.

1544 : Oddity, Vice-Admiral of England

In former days, the vice-ddmiral of England was the second most powerful position in the

navy. The office was apparently created in 1545 by Henry VIII. Yet, according to the list in *Wikipedia*, three of the many people who served their term as vice-admiral of England included: William Wynter, 1544-1549; Benjamin Gonson 1549-1577, and John Hawkins 1547-1595. This seems very odd and clearly needs sorting? See below for other details.

1544 : John Wynter 'of Bristol' : Naval action and other things

In February 1544, in order to prepare the city's ships for naval service, the Bristol merchant, John Wynter, was called to London. On 23 February 1544, he was provided with £1000 'to fit out ships at Bristol to be sent to sea for the defence of the king's subjects'. In less than a month, John Wynter had four Bristol ships stationed in the Irish Sea between Dublin and Holyhead. Not only did their presence force the French to delay their expedition but, as the lord deputy of Ireland reported, the presence of the Bristol ships led both to a reduction in activity by French and Scottish privateers on the coast of Ireland, and made the Irish rebel, O'Donnell, reconsider his position, for his security depended on his island strongholds.

Thus, on 24 Feb 1543, with the usual confusion over the old calendar dating system, presumably 1543/1544, John Wynter, apparently 'gentleman usher', received £1000 towards preparing ships at 'Bristowe' to be set forth on that coast for the better defence of the king's subjects. Query the expression: 'gentleman usher of the bedchamber'? The author of the Golden Falcon web-site recorded it slightly differently: 'The king employed John Wynter and his ships in his service, *sold him lands*, made him the first 'paymaster' of the new Royal Navy and captain of one of its finest war ships; and appointed *his kinsman, Gilbert Winter*, gentleman usher of the bedchamber'. That may give a partial explanation but added another: how exactly was Gilbert Wynter his kinsman?

A memorial [memorandum?] dated 15 Apr 1544 for John Wynter, *esquire*, whom (sic!) the king's majesty *hath appointed to have the charge of his navy*, now sent with the earl of Lennox: (i) To see the navy furnished and ready at Holyhead, Beaumaris or Chester to receive Lennox and his train. (ii) To pay, according to the book delivered him, such as be in the castles for five months beforehand, 'if God send them thither in such time as the proportion appointed will serve for the same'; and those in the ships, which must be at Lennox's command, to be paid monthly. (iii) To see that the king is not overcharged, and suffer Sir Ryse Maunswell and Richard Brooke, when at Bute, to take musters of his men, and likewise Sir Peter Mewtas and Thomas Awdley at Dunbarton; and John Wynter and the captains with him shall likewise muster the soldiers of 'Manxwell and Mewtas'. (4) When Lennox and Sir Peter Meawtys shall go before to Dunbarton leaving 'Kylmawres'

and John Wynter at Bute, they shall take victuals for Dunbarton castle. (5) John Wynter shall advertise the king how things proceed both in his charge and in that of 'Meotes and Maunswell'.

According to *The English Business of Slavery* by Dan Byrnes : When William Gonson died in 1544, his office of 'naval paymaster', which had been evolving into the role of 'treasurer', was filled by the Bristol merchant and seaman, John Wynter, who later served at sea as captain of one of Henry VIII's ships in the campaign on 1545. He contracted a 'burning fever' and died at the end of that year. Note that Henry VIII also had a 'burning fever' sometime during March-to-June that year but he survived. What exactly was this particular 'burning fever'?

A little earlier, in 1544, when he was about 23 years of age, John Wynter's second son, William[1] Wynter the elder, sailed on the May 1544 expedition, involving 260 ships, to Leith and Edinburgh. In 1543, John Dudley had been appointed 'lord high admiral' and, in 1544, he led the attack on Scotland. In 1545, he commanded the channel fleet against French invasion threats in June and August of that year. It seems that the English were at war with the French, Scots and Irish.

On 30 Sep 1544, the privy council with the queen [Catherine Parr] wrote to Sir William Paget, 'secretary of state': Send herewith, to be signified to the king, letters and advertisements received this day out of the North and 'from the earl of Lennox, Sir Rice Maunswell, *John Wynter* and others of that company, being now landed at Bristol.' As it appears that they had discharged a great part of their men before the receipt of our letters advertising them of the king's pleasure touching their further proceedings, as signified by your letters of the 26th inst, we have 'eftsoons' written to John Wynter that, as we marvel that (after writing that he would remain at 'Beaumarres' to annoy enemies coming from the 'Newfoundland' and others) he has so suddenly both come from thence and discharged his men, so, if his men are indeed discharged, he, taking order for the sale of the victuals and custody of the ordnance and of such of the prize wines as shall be meet for the king, shall repair hither with his books of accompt; but, if his men are not discharged, he shall employ himself as signified in our former letters. Where Lord Eure writes that he and others have been unpaid for a year ended 16 August last, and we have not since the king left [for Boulogne] heard anything of it, we have written to my lord lieutenant for a declaration thereof; that order may be taken therein as the king shall command. Eltham, 30 Sept. 1544. *Signed by* Canterbury, Wriothesley, Westminster and Petre.

On 30 Nov 1544 the privy council wrote to Thomas Seymour. Mr Seymour, the king has received your letter and docket of your prizes and is pleased you shall have the wine

your own crayer took and bestow the prisoners among the captains; except such as be pilots and the like, not meet to be ransomed. Where you advertise your determination for the bestowing of the ships there and the sending of the prizes hither under conduct of eight merchant ships; as it should be tedious to write the king's answer thereto you shall send hither in post Sir William Woodhouse and *John Wynter well instructed of the state of all the ships*. Added but crossed out: I, the lord chancellor, pray you, in case you break bulk of the prize of your crayer to let me have a tun of wine thereof, or else out of any of your prizes, for my money, and have written to my steward to wait upon you. Westminster, 30 November, at night, 1544. A 'tun' of wine amounted to about 250 gallons or roughly 1,500 75cl bottles into today's customary measure. By the early 1540s, French wine cost about £5 per tun in Bristol and Spanish wine £7 per tun in the currency of those times. One pound in 1544 would have been equivalent to about £300 today making the comparative value of roughly £1 a bottle in today's money. When merchant John Smyth freighted wine on the *Hart* in 1549, he credited its owner, *George Wynter, son of John Wynter*, for the freight of 33.5 tuns, but then debited him for the cost of a butt (half-a-tun) of wine taken to prise: John Smyth's Ledger.

Meanwhile, written in 1577 but referring back to the same conflict between England and Scotland, *The Historie of Scotlande* (1577, volume 2, page 462.) recorded: 'Moreover kyng Henry beyng now upon his journey towards Bullongne, aswell for the annoyance of his highnesse enimies in Scotland, as for recoverie of the sayde Erles right in that realme, the [...] Len [...]e [...]neth [...]nto [...]land. appointed the sayd Erle to enter Scotland in the moneth of August, accompanied with sir Rise Maunffield, sir Peter Mewtas knights M. Thomas Audley, M. Thomas Brookes, *old M. Wynter controller of the Kings ships, & his sonne Sir William Wynter that now is* [written in 1577], & sundry other Capitaynes, having under their charge two hundred hakebutters, two hundred Archers with long vowes, and two hundred armed pikes, beside the Mariners belongyng to those shippes, that were appoynted to goe foorth in this journey, beyng in number aboute xij or xiiij sayle, belonging to Bristow, and other of the West partes'. Note: Some 12-14 ships from Bristol.

The following year: The Privy Council, meeting at Greenwich, 28 May 1545. Present: Chancellor, Suffolk, Privy Seal, Essex, Admiral, Winchester, Gage, Wingfield, Paget, Baker. Business: Letters to Lord St John and *John Wynter at Portsmouth* to set forth the ten ships, John Wynter to sail in the *Saviour* or the *Lesse Gallee* and bring with him as many of the Frenchmen as be pilots, with all the prizes and the ship and small boat taken by Sir George Carew. [Lord] St John to provide the ten ships with a month's victuals.

By 28 May 1545 the *Saviour* was serving in the navy at Portsmouth and John Wynter was ordered to sail in her. On 3 Aug 1545 the *Saviour* of Bristol was still at Portsmouth and was described as a ship of 340 tons with 200 men on board. On the 10 Aug 1545 it was described as a ship of 350 tons with 200 men on board, under *Captain Arthur Wynter, John Wynter' s son*. In the order of battle it was placed in 'the battle'. The ship would have been dismissed when the fleet was demobilised in early September.

The battle of the Solent took place on 18-19 Jul 1545 during which the *Mary Rose* was sunk. Francis I of France had launched an invasion of England with, it was said, 30,000 soldiers in more than 200 ships. The English had 80 ships and 12,000 soldiers. One source claimed that William Tyrrell, the father of Alice Tyrrell, and John Wynter were in charge of two of the ships, *Grand Mystress* and *Lesse Galley*. Yet see elsewhere for the uncertainty of that claim. John Wynter was at least in middle-age and, presumably, was his wife. Her father would surely have been too old for being a captain of a fighting ship. Alas, the plans were changed: John Wynter became too ill and Roger Basyng captained the *Lesse Gallye* instead. Another source stated that, in July 1545, William[1] Wynter also served in the Channel Fleet under John Dudley, duke of Northumberland. Yet another source recorded: William Tyrrell appears to have been Tudor England's most experienced galley captain because he commanded several of these vessels including the galley *Mermaid* in 1549 and 1550. The following year he was mentioned at court for allegedly being involved in piracy with William Holstock, one of the chief officers of the Navy Board established after the death at Deptford, Kent, of John Wynter in 1545/6. This was probably a different William Tyrrell to Alice's father.

1545 : Oddities around this time

Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, of the Reign of Henry VIII.
Dated 11 Nov 1544. William Wynter to be delivered at Portsmouth to John Wynter his father for payment of the king's navy there, £600.
Dated 8 Jan 1544/5. The Privy Council's warrant to Sir John Bakere to deliver to bearer, John Wynter, treasurer of sea matters, £1000 [Sterling?]. Greenwich, 8 Jan 1544/5. Signed Canterbury, Wriothsley, Russell, Hertford, Westminster, Sir John, Gage and Wyngfeld. Subscribed by Wynter as received from Richard Warner, one of the four tellets, of the Receipt at Westminster.
Dated 1 Feb 1544/5. Warrant of the Privy Council to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer to deliver bearer, John Wynter, treasurer for the sea matters, £1000 [Sterling]. Westminster 1 Feb 1544/5. Signed by Wriothsley, Suffolk, Russell, Essex,

Westminster and Browne. Endorsed by Wynter that he received of Richard Warner, in part payment of this, £500 on 8 Feb 1544/5.
Dated 18 Feb 1544/5. To deliver to bearer, John Wynter, treasurer for sea matters, in prest, £1000 [Sterling]. Westminster 18 Feb 1544/5. Signed Wriothsley, Suffolk, Russell, Essex, Westminster, browne and Wyngfeld.
Dated 8 May 1545. Letters to Lord St John and John Wynter at Portsmouth to set forth the ten ships, Wynter to sail in the *Saviour* or the *Lesse Galles* and bring with him as many of the Frenchmen as be pilots, with all the prizes and the ship and small boats taken by Sir George Carew. St John to provide the 10 ships with a month's vicuals.
Dated 8 Jul 1545.
The Privy Council, 8 Jul 1545. John Wynter had warrant to the Exchequer for £6000 for the seas.

Another oddity was noted in one of the many accounts of Thomas Dale. The autor wrote: 'We first encountered the name Llanthony when John Wynter acquired portions of the priory of Llanthony after the dissolution. John was the father of the famous Admiral William Wynter who we had already theorized played an important role in the roots of Sir Thomas Dale'. Alas, no other source confirms this claim.

1545 : Death of John Wynter

First a digression from the old chronicles for 1545: This year was a great plague in Bristoll which continued a whole year. And the 17th of July 1545 [the night before the battle] here was a marvellous great thunder, lasting from 8 of the clock at night until 4 in the morning, at which instant Mr Richard Abbington died and the thunder ceased. And this year a ship at the quay was fired by breaking of a gun chamber, which killed 3 men.

John Wynter did not take part in the battle of the Solent. He was too ill with a 'burning fever', presumably the consequence in those times of some infection or virus or plague. For whatever precise cause, he died four months later in November 1545, age not known, a merchant and sea captain of based in Bristol and London (Deptford) and, just briefly, treasurer of the navy. Probate was granted on 9 February 1546. Unlike successive generations of his decendants [William, Edward, John and Charles], he was not knighted. Some of his children included: (i) eldest son Arthur Wynter, married, sea captain, possibly of Bristol and London, killed in fighting somewhere off the Orkneys in 1577; (ii) William[1] Wynter the elder, later 'of London and Lydney', essentially a naval man and a merchant; (iii) George Wynter, later 'of London and Dyrham', and also of Bristol (?), under 21 years in 1545; (iv) Ralph Wynter, under 21 years in 1545, of unknown history;

and (v) William[2] Wynter the younger, under 21 years in 1545, seemingly another sailor, presumed to have died on an expedition to Portugese Guinea on the west coast of Africa but that is also very dubious. John Wynter's daughters included: (vi) eldest, Anne[1] Wynter the elder, married before 1545; (vii) second, Agnes alias Alice Wynter, later the wife of William Brooke then Thomas Wilson (*mc*1560); (viii) third, Anne[2] Wynter the younger; (ix) Elizabeth Wynter; and (x) Mary Wynter. John Wynter left property in Deptford, Limehouse, Lydney [was this the first reference to the location?] and Bristol. There was no reference in the will to a Robert Wynter at Bristol. Where are precise details of his properties in Lydney and Bristol?

According to the author of the excellent (though not always correct) Golden Falcon web-site, VIII/4: (i) John Winter's house in Lydney town was near a harbour from where wood from the Forest of Dean was sent to Bristol and elsewhere to build the royal ships. (ii) John Winter, who died 1545, clerk of the king's ships to Henry VIII, had a house in the main square of the Gloucestershire town of Lydney near the Forest of Dean. Lydney has a 14th century cross at the southern end of the main street and probably gave the name of *White Cross* manor to John's house and the house at Aylburton, a mile from Lydney which John Winter's eldest son, Sir William Winter purchased [when?]. The name *White Cross* may signify that the land or the family which owned it, had some connection with the knights hospitallars of St John of Jerusalem [see details on the internet] or that it was on a saltway.

Presumably John Wynter's eldest son, Arthur Wynter, was his principal heir in traditional style. Otherwise, he left his son, William[1] Wynter the elder, a share in a ship called the *George.* Nothing is known of what happened immediately to the land at Deptford and Limehouse. Presumably widow Alice Wynter retained the property [see Redcliff in 1548, later] until her death, date and location not known, though some reports suggested that she may have died around 1560. The 1545 will was witnessed by Richard Davey, Thomas Payntell, Edwarde Deane, William Woodhouse (below) and Nycholas Poyntz (below). Apart from the last, who were these people? In the details which follow, John Wynter considered himself as being 'of Deptford', not of Bristol nor of Lydney.

The *History of Parliament* recorded: Of a minor gentry family, William Woodhouse did well out of the Henrician reconstruction of the navy, and he became a distinguished naval officer. He received his first command by 1542, and served in French and Scottish waters. He became a member of the newly-formed admiralty board in 1546 and remained in office under Edward VI and Mary.

1545 : John Wynter's Will

This is a short summary of the will of John Wynter of Deptford. Dated 29 Nov 1545: I, John Wynter *of Detford in the county of Kent*, esquire. Alice my wife, £150. Third son George, £100. Fourth son Ralf [Ralph], £100. Youngest son William[2], £100. Eldest daughter, Anne, already married 'to my great cost', nothing. Second daughter, Alice, £60. Third daughter, Anne the younger, £60. Daughter, Elizabeth, £60. My youngest daughter, Mary, £60. Three sons, namely George, Ralf and William[2] the younger, were all under twenty-one years. Anne, Alice, Elizabeth and Mary were all under sixteen years. His two sisters, Joan Mychell and Anne Preusse [neither of which can be traced] received £4 each. Thomas Starnall of Nass received £2. Eldest son, Arthur, became owner of *my ship the Matthew* [in 1545]. Second son, William[1] the elder, one-third of the the ship called *George*. Wife, Alice, *all household at Deptford and Limehouse*. Arthur, after death of his mother, items at *houses in Lydney and Bristol*, except for the quarter which go to William[2] the elder. There were various conditions regarding Arthur, his frustratingly unnamed wife, and John's widow, Alice Wynter, over the houses at Lydney and Bristol. Rings, *etc*, to numerous friends. Sums of money to Joyce his maidservant towards her marriage, Elizabeth *his maid-servant in the Forest*, and his *man-servant in the Forest*. Son-in-law, husband of Anne the elder, namely William Bracke or Brooke, a ring. Supervisors: Sir William Woodhouse, Master John Bellowe, Robert Legge esquire, various bequests. Witnesses: Richard Davy, Thomas Paytell, Edward Dean, William Woodhouse and Nicholas Poyntz. Probate 9 Feb 1546. The last-named witness was the eldest son of Sir Anthony Poyntz (died 1533) of Iron Acton in Gloucestershire. One source claimed that Sir Anthony Poyntz was guardian of the young John Wynter but contemporary accounts have not been located in the histories of the Wynter and Poyntz families to confirm this. Sir William Woodhouse (1517-1564) of Norfolk was one of the most distinguished and active naval commanders during and after the Henrician reconstruction of the navy.

Note that this will referred specifically to the *houses in Lydney and Bristol*, but not to any land, farm or manor. Exactly what houses did this John Wynter possess in Deptford, Bristol and Lydney? The list would prove very interesting.

The History of Parliament web-site added of William[1] Wynter the elder: His father left him not only a share in a ship called the *George* and *the reversion of property at Lydney and Bristol,* but, far more important, the official contacts which, with his own ability, enabled him to advance rapidly in his profession and to weather the storms of Queen Mary's reign, particularly his implication in Thomas Wyatt's rebellion of January 1554. Once again: property at Lydney and Bristol but without specification.

On 6 February 1546, the minutes of the privy council record that 'William Karye, Robert Leyton, and John Pryne, merchauntes of Bristow, being commanded by John Wynter, deceassed, about i yere passed, to prepare for the Kinges Majestes service on the sees their ship called the *Marye James* of Bristowe, and haveng not sufficient ordenance for the furniture of the same, bought vi peces of ordenance with their chambres of one Williame Edgecombe and Richard Dane of Bristowe aforesaid for the somme of xxiiii li sterling' . The owners were being sued for non-payment but the Crown accepted that the debt was its own: On 13 April 1546, the office of augmentations issued a warrant to pay the amount owed by William Jaye, Robert Leighton and John Prinne. Note the difference in spellings of surnames.

1546 : Arthur Wynter at Bristol

Meeting of privy council at Greenwich, 31 May 1546. Thomas Wyndham had letters to the mayor of Bristol for the release of 'Gascon' wines which he sold to Arthur Wynter and which were stayed upon the general 'restraint of venturers goods', £6 13s4d [10 marks] for every 'tun' thereof to be deposited in the mayor's hands. What was the story behind this comment?

According to Wikipedia: After various activities, Thomas Wyndham settled in Somerset, like his brother John Wyndham, and took to a seafaring life. In 1544, in command of a 'west-country ship', he was serving in the North Sea against the Scots, and in the following year he commanded the 'great galley' of five hundred tons and three hundred men in the operations in the Solent. However, like most Tudor seamen, he combined these legitimate commissions with filibustering on a somewhat extensive scale, and a few years later the French ambassador described him as an expert in piracy as well as '*un grand homme de marine*'. He was not particular in confining his operations to the ships of hostile nations and, early in 1545, with William Hawkyns, the father of Sir John Hawkyns, he seized the *Santa Maria de Guadeloupe*, belonging to a Spaniard named Miranda. On 11 May 1545 the privy council ordered its restoration, and on 23 Sep 1545 directed Thomas Wyndham to come to London to answer for his conduct. In May 1546, another prize which he had taken was seized at Bristol by the council's order, because Thomas Wyndham had failed to satisfy Miranda's claims, and on 18 July he was ordered to pay £380 compensation. A nation of pirates? Yet, despite this, in Autumn 1547, Thomas Wyndham, who was given the office of 'master of the ordnance in the king's ships', was appointed vice-admiral under Edward Clinton of a fleet sent to the east coast of Scotland to enforce the Protector's Scottish policy.

1546 : A pardon for the Wynters?

A document in 1546 recorded: John Wynter, *deceased*, to William Wynter, his second son. Pardon for the acquisition by the said William[1] from the said John, *without licence*, of the manor and advowson of the church of Wyke, Gloucestershire, and woods called Fries Woodes (37 acres in Abson parish, Gloucestershire), to the said William[1] and the heirs male of his body, with contingent remainders to George, Ralph and William[2] Wynter, junior, other sons of the said John, and the heirs male of their bodies. (3rd.) P. 10, HI. 4. Query: There was no reference to Arthur Wynter and the three named sons were clearly alive in 1546.

1547 : William[1] Wynter in Seething Lane, London

While all this was going on, William[1] Wynter became ‘keeper of storehouse’ at Deptford ‘in Kent’. One source stated: William[1] Wynter had a storehouse by the Thames close to what is now St Katherine’s Dock. It was near his house on Seething Lane, later the Navy Office. Was William[1] Wynter a secret Catholic? A statue of the Virgin and an old stone font were found hidden in a niche in his warehouse at Seething Lane, previously the Chapel of Birkenshaw (?).

In 1547, after the death of Henry VIII, William[1] Wynter the elder was sent on another expedition to Scotland by Edward Seymour, known as ‘Protector Somerset’ during the minority of Edward VI. It is presumed that William[1] Wynter’s mother, Alice Wynter, may have lived at one or other of the family homes and that elder brother Arthur and his wife somewhere else. Alas no details of either have been traced. If Arthur was married, as stated in his father’s will, did he have any children. If so, how did William[1] Wynter acquire Lydney when Arthur was killed in action? Research is needed here.

Besides the churches of St Botolph and St Olave in London, the Wynters were sometimes associated with the nearby ancient church of All Hallows. Historian John Stow, around the end of the 16th century, wrote that All Hallows chapel stood to the north of the church and ‘was pulled downe in the yeare 1548 . . . [and] the grounde was imployed as a garden plot during the raigns of King Edward, Queene Mary, and parte of Queene Elizabeth till at length a large strong frame of timber and bricke was set thereon, and imployed as a storehouse of marchantes goodes brought from the sea by William[1] Wynter.

William[1] Wynter, in 1562, a decade or so before he was knighted, was rated in

Seething Lane for 2s6d, next to his 'father' George Wynter rated at 12d, these being the last two assessments in the lane. Clearly historian John Stow has slipped up and 'father' should have been 'brother'. About 1576, George Wynter, who had purchased the estate of Dyrham Park from Sir Walter Denys and his son in 1571, was still assessed in Seething Lane for 2s0d. John Stow went on: George Wynter himself occupied the one tenement but William[1] Wynter let his part, which was one great warehouse in Sethinge Lane to 'Hipolitan Beamontie', a merchant 'stranger'. Subsequently 'Hipolitan Beamontie' rented George Wynter's tenement also, and, in 1585, William[1] Wynter sold to Richard Smythe, a citizen and fishmonger dwelling in Bow Lane, both the 'messuage or tenement in Sethinge Lane in the parish of All Hallows Barking' and 'the one great warehouse in the said lane and parish'.

1548 : Christopher Wynter and others, appenticeships at Bristol

It seems that, in a book recording sixteenth century Bristol apprenticeships, the following were recorded: (i) On 4 Mar 1547: William Wynter, son of 'a' John Wynter of Lydney, Gloucestershire, *husbandman*, to John Eroth [from Welsh personal name Iorwerth], hooper of Bristol, and Matilda his wife, for 7 years. Apprentice to have at end 10s0d, one hatchet, one axe and one jointer iron, *etc*. (ii) 20 Apr 1548: *Christopher Wynter*, the son of John Wynter of Lydney, Gloucestershire, husbandman, to Simon Dunning (as Dunyng), shipwright of Bristol, and Alice his wife, for 8 years. The apprentice to have at the end 20s0d and one tool of every kind for the said craft. (iii) On 1 Aug 1548: Thomas Wynter, the son of John Wynter of Allaston (as Alliston), father's occupation not stated, to John Yerothe [from Welsh Iorwerth], hooper of Bristol, and Matilda his wife, for 8 years. Apprentice to have at end 20s0d, *etc*. What John Wynter, husbandman, lived at Allaston in the parish of Lydney around 1548? See the 1582 will of 'a' John Wynter 'of Allaston' in which no sons William, Christopher or Thomas 'appear' to have been named, only George and John Wynter. However, the will has not been fully deciphered. Were Christopher and Thomas younger sons?

It seems that Bristol apprentices received 'gifts' at the end of their terms. These gifts were usually tools of the trade that they had learnt. For example, one apprentice was to have shears and a pressing iron when he qualified as a tailor. Another was to have a tool of every kind when he became a hooper. When one apprentice became a ship carpenter he received an axe, a gennet, a borer, a mallet, a hand saw, a sledge hammer and two caulking irons amongst other items. Clearly the apprentice system not only trained young people for a trade but gave them the tools of that trade so they could start in

business soon after qualification. In addition to receiving equipment, the apprentices were paid money while in the master's service. Sometimes the amount increased during the apprenticeship term.

After the accession of Edward VI in 1547, around the time that these people were serving their apprenticeship in Bristol, the religious divisions in that city deepened, as elsewhere. Churches and religious objects were destroyed in an orgy of destruction until 1549 when a backlash occurred. In that year a great rebellion broke out across the West Country. Bristol was seized by the Catholics and the mayor had to seek refuge in a nearby 'marsh'. Protestant troops soon regained the city and the rebel leaders were executed. Where are the details? There were also problems with embezzlement at the mint at Bristol.

Walter Yate of Arlingham had bought from William Bashe, vicar of Arlingham, a reversionary right to lands in the parish of Lydney after the life interest of James Cooke and, at his death in 1546, Walter Yate held the manor of Allaston [where John Wynter was a husbandman] from the Latimers' Purton manor. He apparently left it, together with his Wellhouse estate at Purton, to a younger son, John Yate, who, in 1557, conveyed the house called Allaston Court and lands, then said to be held from Lydney Warwick manor, to Thomas Browne. *In or shortly before 1568 Allaston manor was acquired by William Winter*. The Winters sold much of the land, including Allaston Court farm, in 1668 to Gloucester corporation as trustee of Sir Thomas Rich's school in that city, and the corporation also acquired Driffield farm from Dame Frances Winter in 1712 in a belated adjustment to meet the value of the lands agreed at the sale of 1668. A farm called Little Allaston and the manorial rights had continued as part of that estate after 1668. How did any of this link with the Christopher Wynter of Allaston, who wrote his will in 1637, or his sons George and John Wynter? What happened to them after 1637?

A small estate in Purton tithing, held from the Latimers' Purton manor, was called the manor of Wellhouse in 1546 but has not been found described as a manor later. It was owned by Walter Yate (died 1546), who devised it to a younger son, John, and it passed with Allaston manor *to William Wynter* before 1568. In 1542, Walter Yate had leased the house and lands for 60 years to Laurence Gough, whose family retained the lease until its expiry. In 1623, Sir *John Winter*, grandson of Sir William[1] Wynter, leased Wellhouse with 106 acres to George Donning [not Dunning?], who was succeeded by his son Thomas. Thomas Donning bought the freehold *from the Winters* in 1659 and died in 1675 or 1676.

A court roll for Allaston manor survives for 1568 [where?] when the court met at Wellhouse, in Purton, and also exercised jurisdiction over the Wellhouse estate, and a

roll for Purton manor survives for 1579. By 1677, and probably for many years earlier, the Wynters held a single court baron for all the manors included in their Lydney estate, and rolls for that joint court survive for several years in the period 1681– 1707 and for the years 1863–4. Leet jurisdiction was exercised by the court of Bledisloe hundred, which belonged to the Wynters from 1595. By the late 17th century the hundred court was held on the same day as the court baron and at the same venue, the Feathers Inn, and there was some duplication in the matters presented in the two courts. The two courts continued to be held on the same day at the Feathers Inn in the 19th century. The hundred court appointed constables for the tithings of Lydney, Aylburton, and Purton, and one for Allaston and Nass.

See: *A History of the County of Gloucester*: Volume 5, Bledisloe Hundred, St Briavels Hundred, the Forest of Dean. Originally published by Victoria County History, London, 1996. None of this provided any useful evidence of the Wynter family.

1548 : Alice Wynter and Redcliff Street, Bristol

Roughly three years after the death of John Wynter, an extremely long document detailings numerous properties in Bristol, included the following extracts. Feoffment by Miles (*Milo*) Partriche of Amesbury Hyll, county of Gloucester, knight, and Hugh Partriche, gentleman, to William Sharyngton of Lacok, county of Wiltshire, knight of: [various items labelled (1) to (5) then]: (6) four messuages and tenements, in the several tenures of *Alice Wynter*, William Storye [see below], Alice Howell and Thomas Rawlyns, and a house or tenement or lodge late in the tenure of Hugh Jones, in Redcliff Strete and Redcliff Hill' within the parish of Redcliff in Bristol, to the late chantry called 'Cannynges Chauntrie' in the said parish of Redcliff formerly belonging. [Then came items labelled (7)-(16) followed by]: (17) a messuage and tenement, late in the tenure of Thomas Whyttock, in 'Wynstrete' in Bristol, to the late chantry called 'Erelles Chauntrie,' founded in the parish church of Holy Trinity *alias* Cristchurche, formerly belonging; all of which they had by the king's letters patent, 3 October, 2 Edward VI [or 3 Oct 1548]; attorneys to deliver seisin, Stephen Cole, gentleman, and Robert Butler, merchant. Signed M. P. and Hugh Partrege. One seal remaining, of arms. Memorandum at foot: Capt' et recognit' coram me Johanne Goodman clerico uno magistrorum Can^{rie} Domini Regis xxviij^{o} die mensis Junii et anno suprascripto. Memorandum endorsed of livery of seisin, 8 January, the within written year, in the presence of *Henry Brounker* and *Henry Brayne*, esquires, Edward Prine, merchant, *William Butler [see several paragraphs later], 'sopmaker,' John Browne, merchant, John Williams and Edward Woode, ship masters; also memorandum

of enrolment on the dorse of the Close Roll. Property ‘in the tenure of’ did not necessarily imply that Alice Wynter actually lived there. See the next paragraph. Note the surnames Brounker and Henry Brayne in relation to the Dyrham Wynter family.

1549 : Inquisition post mortem of Robert Wynter of Huddington

Diversion. Inquisition post mortem taken at Gloucester on 3 May 1549 after the death of Robert Wynter. The jurors say that the said Robert was seised of the *manor of ‘Bachessore’, in county of Gloucestershire, in fee simple, &c, &c, and so being seised made his will, describing himself as *Robert Wynter of Hodyngton*, county Worcestershire, and gave certain manors and lands therein described, being one third part of his whole estate, to *George Wynter* his son and heir apparent, and of the residue he gave to Katherine [Throckmorton] his wife as jointure the manor of Hodyngton, &c &c, for life, and in case the said Katherine should die before his son George Wynter should come of age, or in case of the deaths of any others of the testator’s sons, then the overseers of the will should receive the profits of the manors of ‘Bachesore’, &c, to the use of testator’s young son *Edward* Wynter. The testator appoints Katherine [Throckmorton] his wife as executrix, she to bring up his younger sons, *Edward Wynter and Valentine Wynter*, for 20 years after his death, and *Elizabeth* Wynter his daughter until she be married. Residue to be employed in the preferment of his daughter Elizabeth. Appoints his *brother-in-law Robert Throgmorton* and *cousin John Hungerford* overseers. The jurors say all the children are under age, and *living* with the said Katherine *at Hodyngton*, and they say that the aforesaid George Wynter is son and heir of the said Robert, and at the time of his father’s death was aged 5 years, born around 1544. Four children, eldest age five years! Presumably an early death for Robert?

The inquisition post mortem of Robert’s father, also called Robert Wynter, the husband of Elizabeth Wynter, also of Huddington, was dated 27 Nov 1535. It stated that [the previously mentioned] Robert, his son and heir, was 14 or more years of age. In other words, he was born around 1521 (compared with his children who was born during 1539-1544].

Consequently there was obviously no reference in either inquisition whatsoever to any son called John Wynter ‘of Bristol’ [born around 1495] nor to either of John Wynter’s sisters, suggesting that this possibility was a complete non-starter. In addition, the marriage of this Robert Wynter and Katherine Throckmorton must have been dated around 1539 or 1540, when that Robert was barely 21 years of age, four or five *decades* after the *birth* of John Wynter.

1549 : Arthur Wynter's property in Redcliffe, Bristol

Conveyance dated 10 Apr 1549. (i) Milo Partnycke of Almondsburye Hill, county of Gloucester, knight, and Hugh Partrycke, gentleman, his brother. (ii) *William Butler [see below], salter [mayor of Bristol in 1556]. Property: messuage with garden in Redcliffe Street *lately held* by Arthur Wynter, merchant, between tenement of St Thomas Church to the north and tenement where *William Storer [see earlier], wire-drawer, lives to the south, extending from the street on the east to the river Avon on the west. Consideration: £54. A map of that vintage shows the location in present-day Thomas Street, Redcliffe, Bristol. If *lately held* by Arthur Wynter, what had happened to him and his family, including mother Alice Wynter? Arthur died in 1557, some eight years later. A list of captains serving at Portsmouth on10 Aug 1545, recorded that John Wynter's son, Arthur Wynter, was the captain of the *Saviour* and that the *Margaret Butler* of Bristol was captained by the above-mentioned *William Butler, who was presumably related to the ship's owner, Edward Butler.

1549 : Edward VI at Deptford Dockyard

Deptford dockyard, in its time, received many royal and distinguished visitors; the earliest of whom there is any record was Edward VI, who, at just 12 years of age, thus tells in his own words the provision made for his reception: 'June 19th, 1549. I went to Deptford, being bedden to supper by the Lord Clinton [the lord high admiral under Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I], where before souper i saw certaine [men] stand upon a bote without hold of anything, and rane one at another til one was cast into the water. At supper Mons.Vieedam and Henadey supped with me. After supper was ober a fort [was] made upon a great lighter on the Temps [Thames] which had three walles and a Watch Towre, in the meddes of wich *Mr Winter was Captain* with forty or fifty other soldiours in yellow and blake. To the fort also apperteined a galery of yelow color with men and municion in it for defence of the castel; wherfor ther cam 4 pinesses [pinnaces] with other men in wight ansomely dressed, wich entending to give assault to the castil, first droue away the yelow piness and aftir with clods, scuibs, canes of fire, darts made for the nonce, and bombardes assaunted the castill, beating them of the castel into the second ward, who after issued out and droue away the pinesses, sinking one of them, out of wich al the men in it being more than twenty leaped out and swamme in the Temps. Then came the Admiral of the navy with three other pinesses, and wanne the

castel by assault, and burst the top of it doune, and toke the captain and under captain. Then the Admiral went forth to take the yelow ship, and at length clasped with her, toke her, and assaulted also her toppe and wane it by compulcion, and so returned home.' This royal record of a mimic naval engagement on the Thames appears in the Cotton MSS in the British Museum, and has been quoted by R P Cruden, one-time mayor of Gravesend, in his 570-page book *The History of Gravesend and The Port of London*, 1843.

1549 : George Wynter's ship 'The Hart'

In a list of Bristol ships dated 29 July 1549 was: *The Hart*. Size: > 40 tons burden. Owner: George Wynter, Bristol merchant, son of John Wynter. The three brothers, Arthur William and George, were very active around this time; but where was Ralph alias Ralf? One puzzle: George was born around 1523 and was thus about 26 years of age. When did he acquire *The Hart*? One list suggested that it was built in 1546, rebuilt in 1558. When Thomas Smyth freighted wine on the *Hart* in 1549, the owner was named as George Wynter.

1549 : William[1] Wynter, surveyor of the navy

William[1] Wynter became 'surveyor of the navy', a post he held for forty years from 4 Jul 1549 until 11 Jul 1589, when he died. The sequence of people holding this post was: (i) Benjamin Gonson 24 Apr 1546, son of William Gonson; (ii) William[1] Wynter 8 Jul 1549, son of John Wynter; (iii) Henry Palmer, 11 Jul 1589. It was worth £40 per annum plus allowances. Benjamin Gonson became 'treasurer of the navy' on 8 Jul 1549 and died in 1577. His father, William Gonson, apparently ran the navy almost single handedly for twenty years and was referred to as 'the keeper of the storehouses at Erith and Deptford'. William Gonson eventually fell from grace and died in 1544 leaving the navy disorganized.

According to Wikipedia: The 'surveyor of the navy' was a civilian officer in the navy and a member of the Navy Board from the inauguration of that body in 1546. He held overall responsibility for the design of warships although, until 1745, the actual design work for warships built at each royal dockyard was primarily the responsibility of the individual master shipwright at that dockyard. For vessels built by commercial contract, limited to wartime periods, when the royal dockyards could not cope with the volume of work, the surveyor's office drew the designs to which the private shipbuilders were required to build the vessels. In 1859 the post of 'surveyor of the navy' was changed to

'controller of the navy'.

1549 : War with France

Open war with France was resumed during 1549. French admiral, Leo Strozzi, with twelve Genoese galleys convoying some two thousand troops, attempted to blockade Jersey and Guernsey. Captain William[1] Wynter was entrusted with a small squadron and eight hundred soldiers and, with these, attacked Leo Strozzi and burnt many of his his galleys.

A little later, in December 1549, as captain of the *Little Minion*, William[1] Wynter captured the prize of a French ship, the *Mary of Fécamp*, laden with 280 chests of sugar. As a result, a reward of £100 was to be shared out among the crew of 300. Was this a form of legalized piracy? Then, sometime during 1550, William[1] Winter 'the elder' superintended the removal of ships from Portsmouth to Gillingham in the Thomas estuary. As a brief digression, December 1551 saw tidal flooding in the Thames as far up-river as Millwall. What did William Wynter 'the younger' do? Where did he live? Did he get married?

1552 : Piracy reversed

On 28 May 1552, William Wynter sent a petition to John Dudley, the duke of Northumberland, concerning the ship [query *The Hart* of Bristol?] and goods taken from him and George Wynter, his brother, by the French. The duke of Northumberland then led the government of Edward VI from 1550 to 1553 and unsuccessfully tried to install his daughter-in-law, Lady Jane Grey, to the throne after Edward's death. Instead, the duke was executed on 23 Aug 1553. He had served in the navy from 1537 until 1547, during which time he helped to set new standards of navy organisation. He took part in the 1544 campaigns in Scotland and France. Whilst this was going on, fifteen year-old Edward VI 'owed' William Wynter £471 for a voyage to Ireland.

Because of the problems with the monarchy at that time, the consequence of the loss of the Wynter brothers' ship seemingly took second place. During that fateful year for many, 1553, William Wynter went off on a voyage to the Levant. As a result, whilst he was away from home, on 9 Mar 1553, the privy council wrote to Sir William Pickering, ambassador to France: 'On Sunday last the French ambassador had promised to the council that, in the absence in the Levant of William[1] Wynter, owner of the *Hart* of Bristow, whence he could *not return before Christmas*, the oath of his brother, George

Wynter, co-proprietor of the said vessel, should be taken; and the ship, with all her apparel, munition, ordnance and artillery, be delivered to him in as good case as they came to their hands. Instruct 'him' to see that this promise of the ambassador be faithfully performed by the French commissioners'. The consequence is not known.

1553 : Black servant

One source claimed that William[1] Wynter invested in Thomas Wyndham's 1553 voyage to Portugese Guinea during which, in 1554, Thomas Wyndham died of some fever. William Wynter then joined the syndicate of Guinea merchants which, in 1561, advanced the project of building a fort in Portugese Guinea. He was also one of the investors of John Hawkyns's second slaving voyage of 1564/65, and in 1565 he financed, in partnership with his brother, George Wynter, the voyage of their ship the *Mary Fortune*, which the Portuguese sank off the Guinea coast, taking the crew prisoner. It is also on record that, in 1570, one ship of a fleet of three, owned by William[1] Wynter and bound for Guinea to participate in the transatlantic slave trade, sailed back home without reaching the Caribbean. Clearly William[1] Wynter and brother George worked in partnership. Why were brothers Arthur and Ralph, and the younger William, never involved or mentioned?

Had Thomas Harridaunce, the parish clerk of St Botolph Aldgate, not been keeping separate memoranda besides the ordinary parish registers, it might never have been known that Sir William Wynter, even in his old age, could not do without a Guinea slave or two working in his household. On 17 Aug 1587, Thomas Harridaunce recorded in his daybook the death of 'Domingo Beinge a ginnye Negar' who was 'servaunt to the Right worshipfull Sr William Wynter' and had died in his [Sir William's] London manor house at East Smithfield.

Some four years later, in 1567, according to Wendy Garcia, author of the enormous Golden Falcon web-site: Two Portuguese 'rogues' named Antonio Luis and Andre Homem had told a remarkable story to William Wynter of the Navy Board in London. They apparently reported that, in a part of Africa still unoccupied by any of the European powers, there was a gold mine, fantastically rich, and within convenient reach of a good harbour. William[1] Wynter was impressed by what he heard, Lord Burghley was impressed, and the queen herself was impressed. Planning and preparation followed, and John Hawkyns was chosen as commander of an expedition which would sail to Africa to find out whether there was any substance to this Portuguese story. The queen contributed two naval vessels and conferred on the expedition the right to fly the royal standard. Various privy councillors invested, the City invested. William[1] Wynter of the

Navy Board became a shareholder. John Hawkyns lent four ships of his own. The two Portuguese, Homem and Luis, were nowhere to be found. The queen, when told this, ordered that instead of its original objective, the fleet should take inhabitants of the Guinea Coast and sell them in the West Indies. John Hawkyns persuaded Edward Baeshe or Bysshe, surveyor of victuals to the queen's fleet, to provide sacks of dried beans for feeding the slaves. This raised the suspicions of the Spanish ambassador, Guzman de Silva. De Silva went to Elizabeth I for an assurance that the Spanish 'monopoly' of the slave trade would not be affected. Elizabeth I and Lord Cecil told him the expedition was bound for Elmina to compensate for the sinking of Wynter's ship *Mary Fortune* on the Guinea coast in 1565 by a Portuguese Armado. Twenty-one of her crew had been taken captive to the castle of São Jorge de la Mina on the same coast. William[2] Winter, the younger, was apparently one of the crew, presumably in his late thirties. The Queen complained to the King of Portugal but satisfaction was refused. Two decades earlier, the Mary Fortune of Gloucester was a 65 ton ship owned by Gloucester merchant Robert Pole. Later ships were also named the Mary Fortune of Bristol and, in 1664 for instance: 'Certificate by eight of the crew of the Mary Fortune of Bristol. On December 6 three Quakers were brought to their ship for transportation, but they durst not carry away innocent persons, who walk in the fear of the Lord ; are persuaded the King does not wish to make void the Act that Englishmen shall not be carried abroad without their consents ; moreover, these men are bound by no indenture or agreement for their passage ; and there is a law in Barbadoes that whosoever brings thither any persons against their wills, and not being bound by indenture, shall be liable to such penalties as the law may inflict, and also shall be forced to bring them back to their habitations ; have therefore put these men on shore again'.

1553 : Diplomatic activities

Meanwhile, on 26 Nov 1553, William[1] Wynter had attended a meeting associated with Thomas Wyatt's rebellion against Mary I's proposed marriage to Philip [Felipe] of Spain. On 3 Feb 1553/4, Thomas Wyatt and the Kentish men marched from 'Depeford' towards London. Thomas Wyatt, aged 23, had his headquarters at Rochester. His fellow-conspirator allegedly included William[1] Wynter, who commanded a fleet which brought him ordnance to his headquarters. The first group of conspirators, who were sent to the Tower of London on 20 February 1554, included *William Wynter*, Sir Nicholas Throckmorton [whose portrait appears in some of Ancestry.com accounts *in error* as Sir William Wynter, of whom no portrait has seemingly survived, perhaps due to the burning

of White Cross during the civil war], a diplomat and politician, and William Thomas. They were examined in an attempt to implicate Elizabeth I or Courtenay or both of them. On 7 April 1544, a 'True Bill' was found in the Guildhall before the lord mayor against Throckmorton, Crofts, Arnold, Carew, Pickering, Rogers, *Wynter* and Warner who were charged with conspiring with Wyatt, Harper and others in London on 16 November 1553, with seizing the Tower of London, and levying war against the queen to deprive her of her royal title. William Wynter, Warner, Rogers and Arnold were never brought to trial. William Wynter was pardoned, reason not known. Many of the conspirators paid fines but not Rogers or Wynter. William Wynter may have supplied Thomas Wyatt with guns and ammunition from his squadron in the Medway and, according to his own 'confession', which was used in the trial of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, he acted as a go-between for Throckmorton and Wyatt. He was sentenced to death, put in the Tower of London, but pardoned on 10 November 1554, probably having been released some time earlier. He retained his surveyorship and even escorted Philip II on his final return to Spain in the ship *Bark of Boulogne*. Sir Nicholas Throckmorton was pardoned and served Elizabeth I in various capacities.

William Wynter was sent with a squadron to Ostend to bring to England the ambassadors of the Emperor Charles V. A squadron, or naval squadron, was a significant group of warships which was nonetheless considered too small to be designated a fleet. It was typically a part of a fleet. The ambassadors concerned were charged to negotiate the preliminaries of a proposed marriage between Philip of Spain, the son of Charles V, and the new queen, Mary. The emperor, Charles V, on this occasion sent *Captain William Wynter* a chain of gold which, upon his return to England, he showed to Sir Nicholas Throckmorton. The latter exclaimed: 'For this gold chain you have sold your country'? Such indeed was the unpopularity of the proposed match that Thomas Wyatt's abortive rebellion was the instant outcome of the arrival of the ambassador. In Summer 1554, Philip of Spain, with an imposing fleet of one hundred and sixty sail, set out for England.

Like William Wynter, Nicholas Throckorton had been arrested. He was brought to trial at the Guildhall on 17 April 1554 but found not guilty. However, as a result of that verdict, the court fined and imprisoned the jury and sent Nicholas Throckmorton to the Tower of London until he was later released. He fled to exile in France until he was eventually pardoned in 1557.

A letter from the privy council, Westminster, to the king's and queen's attorney and solicitor general, dated 4 Nov 1554 recorded, concerning William Wynter's pardon: 'we require you to returne the same ageyne subscribed with your handes'. Signed by Stephen

Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester (Ste. Winton, cancell.); William Paulet, Marquess of Winchester; Henry FitzAlan, Earl of Arundel; John Russell, Earl of Bedford; Francis Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury; William Howard, Baron Howard of Effingham; Cuthbert Tunstall, Bishop of Durham (Cuth. Duresine), Nicholas Heath, Bishop of Worcester (Nic. Wigorn).

1553 : Chancery

It seems that the names John Wynter, Robert Wynter and William Wynter of Gloucestershire were included in Chancery records 1553-5. The reason is not known. It seems that these may have been of the Dyrham branch?

1555 : The Dudley conspiracy

The December 1555 Dudley Conspiracy was headed by Captain Henry Dudley in an attempt to force Queen Mary out of power, and bring Princess Elizabeth to the monarchy. It hit close to home in the Forest of Dean and Arthur Kingston of Saint Briavels and John Throckmorton of Tortworth, both in the Forest, were just two of those executed. William Wynter, Dudley's business partner, was implicated, but he was needed for his naval knowledge.

1557 : Back to work

Westminster was flooded after great storms and wind and rain in September and October 1555. How did that affect the ships? Are there any reports? Some time later, 26 July 1557: 'Order to several to repair to Mr Wynter at Dover and to serve as Captain in the fleet in the Narrow Seas, 1 Sept'. William[1] Wynter captained the ship *Jesus of Lubeck* (later to become the first English slave ship to reach America in 1564, then commanded by John Hawkyns) in June-July 1557, capturing a consignment of French wine. On 22 July 1557 the king and queen (Philip and Mary, married 25 July 1554) wrote to the governor of Guernsey: 'William Wynter, master of ordnance on the seas, and surveyor of admiralty, on 7 June last, set out a bark called the *Roe*, which took, near Sark, a Guernsey ship laden with Frenchmen's wines. Thus, in 1557, William Wynter was appointed 'master of navy ordnance', which post he held along with the surveyorship for the rest of his life. £100 per annum plus a lot of allowances.

1557 : Death of Arthur Wynter

Whilst all this was going on, what happened to the various brothers of William[1] Wynter, for example, Arthur Wynter, William[2] Wynter the younger, George Wynter and Ralf Wynter? It was the year that Sebastian Cabot, born in Bristol in 1474, died in London in 1557. He was the son of John Cabot, of *Mathew* fame, and creator of the Muscovy Company. Muscovy was the earlier name for Moscow. Arthur Wynter, the eldest son of John Wynter and hence brother of William[1] Wynter, also had property in Bristol, presumably acquired upon the death of his father and query mother, (see John Wynter's strange 1545 will), but was officially a London merchant venturer and sailor, though with links to Redcliffe in Bristol. It was as a sailor that died in Scotland in 1557 along with Sir John Clere and three other English ship captains in 'the Orkneys'. He had been designated captain of *New Bark* on 29 May 1557 but was commanding *Trinity Henry* by 20 June, and listed as second-in-command to Sir John Clere for Iceland fishery protection. He was killed during a retreat from a Kirkwall raid on 13 Aug 1557. What about a will. As he was married prior 1545, what about his wife and/or children? Or his mother, Alice Wynter? Details have not been located. How did his death affect William[1] Wynter and his other siblings in view of the fact that he was John Wynter's eldest son and heir? What happened to Arthur Wynter's estate? There is a big blank here. Somehow William[1] Wynter acquired Lydney, for example. Note that the name Arthur Wynter was used in later generations of the Dyrham family.

1558 : Marriage of William Wynter and Margaret Langton

On 22 May 1558, William[1] Winter brought ships from Dunkirk to Dover which were sailing on to Portsmouth. He was present at the burning of Conquet and details thereafter were described in a letter dated 1 Sep 1558 from William[1] Winter to Sir John Boxall, secretary of the privy council.

Sometime during the mid-1500s, date and place not known, William[1] Wynter married Mary Langton. He was surely in his thirties. Mary died just fifteen or so years later on 4 Nov 1573 at Seething Lane, London, shortly after she became Lady Wynter. She was buried at Barking, near Seething Lane, according to one source, seemingly not at Lydney? Was there a monumental inscription in the church? It is not known for certain where and when they were married, Lydney or London, or wherever. References in numerous online genealogies are extremely dubious and without any contemporary sources. However, it has been recorded, and generally accepted, that Mary was the

daughter of Thomas Langton and Catherine. If so, what was the link between the Wynters and the Langtons: social or business? There is a will dated 25 Feb 1551 of 'a' Thomas Langton, skinner of London (£3 3s0d at the National Archives]. Did this contain any details? Another document (at Lowestoft) HA12/B2/6/17 dated 14 May 1565 was called: 'Discharge by James Althem and Mary, his wife, *former wife and sole executrix of Thomas Langton, citizen and skinner, London*, to John Tasburghe, Southelmham, Esq., of all obligations by virtue of Statute Staple made by father of John Tasburgh to Thomas Langton, for payment of £600. James Althem was sheriff of London in 1558 and sheriff of Essex in 1570-1.

William[1] Wynter and Mary's children included, in no particular order: Edward (later Edward Wynter 'of Lydney'), William (later William Wynter 'of Coleford'), Nicholas (later 'of Reading', who died during Sir Francis Drake's expedition to the West Indies, leaving son Francis, ancestors of which are allegedly recorded on American genealogies), James, Mary, Elizabeth, Eleanor, Jane and, very strangely, yet another William (later the 'Captain William Wynter' mentioned in his brother's will), all within such a comparatively short marriage. There may have been other children, of course. No dates of birth or baptism, or of places of birth, have been found.

William[1] Wynter died in London on 20 February 1589, about 15 years after his wife, allegedly aged 68. If remotely correct, this would suggest that he married comparatively late in life. Or, was William[1] Wynter a widower at the time of his marriage to Mary Langton. Was the birth of William the younger, the last child and the second with that name, the cause of the death of Mary Wynter *nee* Langton?

One source recorded: 'The seaventh daie of Februarie, being Saturdaie before Shroue Sundaie, my Lord Maior maried one Thomas Langton's widowe, a skinner, which died three daies before Twelvetide last past, which was a rich mariadge, the inventorie amounting to sixe thousand poundes and more, having five children [one was Mary Langton] by the said Langton, all orphans'. Another source recorded: On 7 Feb 1552, Mary Langton *nee* Mary Mathew of a Colchester family, wife and widow of Thomas Langton, became the third wife of Sir Andrew Judde, several times Master of the Most Worshipful Company of Skinners. This marriage took place, a chronicle of the period revealed, only five weeks after the decease of Thomas Langton of the Skinner' Company. In due time, this Mary bore Sir Andrew a daughter named Martha Judde, the only child of their marriage.

There is a great deal of confusion about Sir Andrew's wives. Wife number three was also named Mary and some accounts claimed she was Mary Mirfyn. However, she was more probably Mary Mathews, the daughter of Thomas Mathews of Colchester, Essex.

She, too, married three times, ending up as an extremely wealthy woman. Mary's first husband was Thomas Langton of London (died 1551), a skinner. On 7 Feb 1551/2 she married Sir Andrew Judde, who had been Lord Mayor of London the previous year. He had served an eight-year apprenticeship as a skinner merchant in his youth. After his death, his widow married James Altham (died 1583), a former sheriff of London who was sheriff of Essex in 1570-1 and the owner of Mark Hall in Latton (now Harlow), Essex. She may have had as many as nine children from these three marriages, two sons and seven daughters, but since she referred to several of her grandchildren as her sons and daughters in her will, the result is still more confusion. She had at least two daughters by Thomas Langton, Mary (died 1575, the wife of the recently knighted Sir William Wynter) and Jane (died 1609) and one, Martha, by Sir Andrew Judde. There are extensive accounts of the Judde family on the internet.

1558 : Elizabeth I

Elizabeth became queen of England on 17 Nov 1558 and remained so until her death on 24 March 1603. Nothing linking any of the Wynter family to the coronation has been located.

1559 : Miscellaneous

A few months after the succession of the new queen, on 24 March 1559, William Wynter made a declaration as 'master of the queen's ordnance for the seas', but, on 16 Oct 1559, his commission as such ceased. At the coronation of Elizabeth I on 15 January 1558, William Wynter's name was included in the queen's general pardon issued on that occasion. Why?

On a 'local' scale: Sometime in 1559 William[1] Wynter 'of London and Lydney', bought the manor of Nass, in the Bledisloe hundred, Gloucestershire, where farms were owned in 1607 by his eldest son and heir, Edward Wynter. The Crown sold the endowment of the chantry in Newland in 1559 to William[1] Wynter 'of Lydney' and, later, Edward Wynter sold the land at Newland to Thomas Baynham, owner of Clearwell, in 1596. Thomas Baynham's successors retained it in 1653, when the house was called Chantry or Charter House. William[1] Wynter became MP for Portsmouth in 1559. A 1559 survey of the manor of Lydney, late Warwick, was produced as evidence in the case of Rex v Wynter in 1637. It has not been seen and details of the case are not known.

1559 : More work at sea

On the broader scene: On 16 Dec 1559, Elizabeth I gave William[1] Wynter instructions, on his being made the ‘admiral’ of a fleet of 14 ships of war, to convey stores up the eastern coast to Tynemouth, Holy Island and Berwick, ‘to intercept any succours coming from France to Scotland, and to pick a quarrel with the French fleet if he can’. A month later, William[1] Wynter was sent with a fleet to Scotland in January 1560 during the crisis of the Scottish Reformation. On 11 July 1560 ‘lord admiral’ Edward Fiennes Clinton wrote to Sir William Cecil, ‘secretary of state and lord treasurer’: ‘The ships under Wynter’s command are to go to Portsmouth where the rest of the fleet is’.

1560 : Edward Wynter, son of William[1] Wynter

Edward Wynter was born roughly around, or just before, 1560. The place of birth and date of birth have not been located, nor those linked to his baptism. Was he born and baptized somewhere in or near London during the period that his very active father worked there? Who knows. He was apparently the first *son* of William[1] Wynter by his wife, Mary Wynter *nee* Mary Langton, the daughter of Thomas Langton, a London ‘skinner’ or dealer in furs and other commodities. It is not known whether Edward’s father, William[1] Wynter, married anyone before or after Mary Langton. He was in his forties by then. The Skinners Company developed from the medieval trade guild of the furriers: members of the guild dressed and traded furs that were used for trimming and lining the garments of richer members of society. Why was the eldest son named Edward? His grandfathers were *John* Wynter and *Thomas* Langton. Perhaps there is some history in the Langton family that can explain? Thomas Langton, skinner of London, wrote his will on 25 Feb 1551. It has not been seen. How did William[1] Wynter and Mary Langton meet?

1561 : Lydney manors

William Wynter bought the two manors of Lydney in 1561. The first, called Warwick, was obtained from William Herbert [earl of Pembroke] by an indenture dated 12 May 1561. He also purchased the manors of Wyck and Purton; Newent from Sir Nicholas Arnold; and Kingsweston from Sir William Berkeley. William Wynter then purchased on 12 Nov 1561, from William Herbert [earl of Pembroke], Lydney Manor alias Shrewsbury Manor in Gloucestershire, as his residence. These were added to the estate which his father, John

Wynter, already held in Lydney. Where are the details of John Wynter's acquisition of property in Lydney and details of what happened to the Lydney estate between John Wynter's death in 1745, Arthur's death in 1557, and the purchases by William[1] Wynter in 1560? The Lydney estate later passed from Sir William Wynter, through his eldest son, Sir Edward Wynter, and the latter's surviving son, Sir John Wynter, to Sir Charles Wynter, who died in 1698, leaving his widow, Frances, in possession, *there being no male heir*. That latter remark was and is much disputed. Lady Frances Wynter, sometimes written Dame Frances Wynter, later married Thomas Neville, and she died in 1720. In 1718 the bankcrupt Lydney estate was sold to the mortgagees who, in their turn, conveyed it to Benjamin Bathurst of Mixbury in 1723. 'A rich widow named Boevey, a friend of Sir Richard Steele, helped Lady Frances Wynter of Lydney when she was bankrupted'. *Four Personalities of the Forest of Dean* by Ralph Anstiss. Query Crawley-Boevey? Why did William Wynter purchase so much land at that time?

1561 : Miscellaneous

In 1561, William[1] Wynter helped save the palace of the bishop of London from fire by advising the mayor of London, William Harpur, to demolish the roof of the adjacent north aisle of St Paul's cathedral, when the church caught fire after being struck by lightning on 4 June 1561. Another source: During a great storm in 1561, St Martin's church, Ludgate, was struck by lightning; immediately after, the wooden steeple of St Paul's started into a flame. The fire burned downwards furiously for four hours, the bells melted, the lead poured in torrents; the roof fell in, and the whole cathedral became for a time a ruin.

History of Saint Paul's Cathedral, in London, from Its Foundation Etc. 'The state of the steple and church seming both desperate, my Lord Mayor was advised by one maister Winter, of y^{e} admiraltie, to converte the most part of his care and provisio to preserve the Bishops palace adjoyning to the North-west end of the church: least from that house beinge large, the fier might sprede to the stretes adjoyning, whereupon the ladders, buckets, and laborers, were commanded thither, and by greate labor and diligence, a piece of the roofe of the North Ile was cut down, and the fier so stayed, and by muche water, that parte quenched, and the said Bishops house preserved. ... There wer above v.C persons y^{t} laboured in carrying and filling water, and divers substancial citizens toke paynes as if thei had bene laborers, so did also divers and sondrye gentlemen, whose names were not knowen to the writer hereof, but amongst other, the said M. Winter, and one Mr. Stranguish did both take notable paines in their own persons, and also much

directed and encouraged others, and that not without great daunger to themselves'.

As Nicholas Wynter, perhaps the second son of William[1] Wynter of Lydney, Gloucestershire, was admitted to the Middle Temple in London on 14 Jan 1583, it suggested that Nicholas Wynter may have been was born around 1561-1563, a few years after Edward Wynter. Very little is known of his life history.

More than 15,000 people died of the plague in London: 1000 people died weekly in mid-August 1561, some 1600 per week in September, and 1800 per week in October. The queen, Elizabeth I, appparently sought safety in Windsor castle under stringent conditions. William[1] Wynter was at sea during July and August, somewhere off Le Havre, as captain of the *Antelope*, but where were his family: his wife and young children? Were they at Lydney or London? Was Nicholas at London?

William[1] Wynter was a member of parliament around this time and a justice of the peace for Gloucestershire shortly afterwards. William Wynter, in 1562, a decade or so before he was knighted, was rated in Seething Lane for 2s6d, next to his brother, George Wynter, rated at 12d, these being the last two assessments in the lane.

Plymouth born John Hawkyns, obtained the aid of Benjamin Gonson and others, including William[1] Wynter, to fit out three good ships and sail on an expedition in October 1562. He set sail for the Caribbean *via* Sierra Leone, highjacked a Portuguese slave ship, and traded the 301 slaves in the West Indies. Two of the three ships were seized by the Spanish authorities. The sale of the slaves in Santo Domingo gained a profit for his investors, including William[1] Wynter it seems.

There were also problems at Dieppe in October 1562 and the queen informed Edward Ormsbeye that she would send her 'trusted servant', William[1] Wynter, with all haste to ascertain what could be done to secure the safely of her subjects there. Some 800 soldiers were assembled to be transported to Dieppe when ready. See accounts of the Huguenots on the internet.

1564 : Frozen Thames

A few years later, severe and prolonged frost set in on 7 Dec 1564. The court of Elizabeth I later, on 21 Dec 1564, indulged in sports on the ice at Westminster. Football and other games were played on the ice. In the depths of the Little Ice Age this would not have been too unusual. The reason this event was noted in particular was because the queen and court were involved. It would have been an impressive sight! Thaw set in during mid-Jan 1565, accompanied by a notable Thames flood: A 'very unhealthy fog' followed this thaw. Winter of 1564/1565 was particularly severe as regards the depth of cold, amongst the

top 10% of bitterly cold winters in the millenium. Did any of the Wynter accounts mention the consequences of these weather conditions on shipping?

A 1565 survey of demesne woods in Lydney was apparently produced as evidence in case Rex v Wynter in 1637. What was that court case about? Details have not been located.

William[1] Wynter and George Wynter's jointly-owned ship, the *Mary Fortune*, with a crew of twenty-nine and goods valued at £7,600 was sunk near the River Sestos, Portugese Guinea, in 1565 by a Portuguese 'Armado'. Twenty-one of her crew were taken captive to the castle of São Jorge de la Mina on the same coast. William[2] Wynter *the younger* was recorded as *'inter'*, though whether this meant 'interred' or 'interned' is not known. Yet, see later, there are 'suggestions' that William[2] Wynter, whether 'the younger' or 'junior', may have survived his capture. The queen later complained to the king of Portugal but satisfaction was refused. What exactly happened to William[2] Wynter the younger? There were two, or more, with that name: (i) William[1] Wynter's younger brother as above and, much later, (ii) William[1] Wynter's son, though he was not by then born. As a result of the refusal, George and William[1] Wynter, as the queen's servants, were licensed from 5 Feb 1569 to take goods valued at £7,600 out of Portuguese ships as recompense.

William[1] Wynter was briefly a 'special ambassador' from 22 Mar to 25 Mar 1567 (£40 plus expenses) with Sir Thomas Smith, a 'special ambassador' from 13 Mar to 14 May (£3 6s8d), with resident ambassador Sir Henry Norris, credited to demand the surrender of Calais from the town authorities, and the restitution of Calais from the French crown. William[1] Wynter met the Calais authorities on 3rd April specifically to take military possession, and Sir Thomas Smith had audience with French court on 29th April.

In 1563, Sir Thomas Chaloner had urged Thomas Wilson's appointment as ambassador to the court of Spain, but Thomas Wilson's first diplomatic employment of any note was his mission to Portugal in 1567; it dealt mainly with commercial matters, and much of Thomas Wilson's energies were largely devoted to furthering in Portugal the mercantile interests of his brother-in-law, William Wynter. He was married to William and George's sister, Agnes. His commission was apparently dated 6 May 1567 but it was October before he had his first interview at Lisbon.

Sir Thomas Chaloner was ambassador to Emperor Ferdinand at Camrai in 1558. From July 1559 to February 1560 he was ambassador to Philip II of Spain at Brussels. From 1561 he served in the same capacity in Spain. His letters were full of complaints of his treatment there, which is why he wished to be replaced by Thomas Wilson, but it was not till 1564, when in failing health, that he was allowed to return home.

1568 : Allaston in Lydney

Meanwhile, back in the Forest of Dean, some property in Allaston near Lydney was ‘bought’ in 1568 by William[1] Wynter and, many decades later, it was ‘leased’ in 1623 by his grandson, Sir John Wynter, who ‘bought’ the freehold in 1659. This is a puzzle, as the name Christopher Wynter was linked to Allaston in the early seventeenth century (for example, his will was written in 1637 naming sons John and George). How frustrating it is that the link, if any existed at all, between Christopher Wynters and the Lydney Wynter family is not clearly recorded? The summer of 1568 was excessively hot with drought. There was a survey of Lydney, ‘late Warwick’ in 1568. It is apparently stored at the Gloucestershire Record Office. It has not been seen. Did it record Christopher Wynter’s children?

1568 : William Wynter ‘the younger’ and the Holinshed Texts

Moreover, the .xxviij. day of the foresayde Moneth of March [1568], the sayde William Holstock serving in the *Anthelop* (at that present Admirall) & in his companie, being *William Wynter the yonger* (at that tyme his Vice admirall) serving in the *Ayde*, and John Basing Captaine of the *Swallow*, and Thomas Gonarly Captaine of the *Phenix* met in the narrow seas [the name for the Dover Straights] with xiiij. saile of great Hulkes, which were come out of Portugale, & bound to Flanders: their chiefe lading being Portugall salt, and yet had good store of Spanish Ryals of plate, & also of good spices: The which .xiiij. Hulkes did mainteyne their fight for the space of two houres. And after that they did perceyue that they coulde not prevaile, having tasted of the ordinance of the Queen’s ships, to their great hurt, as well in slaughter of their men, as also in spoile of their ships, the sayd Holstocke & his companie tooke .viij. of the sayd Hulkes, whereof .vj. were sent into the River of Thames. And the Admirall, and Vice admirall of the sayd Hulkes being two great ships (which Holstocke himselfe did take) were caried to Harwich, and there discharged. Comment : What a pity that no further details of William Wynter, the younger, were not recorded. Yet he was clearly a seaman of substance. Note that the titles ‘admiral’ and ‘vice-admiral’ were not quite as modern naval ranks. They signified the person appointed to be in command of a fleet of ships and his deputy. When the commision was complete, the title went. Strictly speaking, the title ‘captain’ also meant the person appointed to be in charge of a ship on a specific commission. William Wynter ‘the younger’ was then in his early forties and clearly not dead in Portugese Guinea?

William Wynter, later ‘of Coleford’, was then a child.

1559 : Strange request

Sometime in 1569, the privy seal wrote to the treasurer and barons of exchequer, ordering that the charge of HM Ordnance should be taken from Sir William[1] Wynter, *at his petition*, and that the artillery should be lodged in the Tower of London by the masters of the armory. What did that mean? Another odd item from state papers, dated 21 Jul 1569. Note. Spanish money brought into the Tower of London *from Dartmouth* and from William Wynter. What did that mean?

1570 : Manor of Kings Weston near Bristol

The following year, 1570, the manor of Kings Weston near Bristol was sold by William Berkeley to William[1] Wynter (written as Wintour), who may have built the Elizabethan house by 1588. It was later sold by his son, Edward Wynter (as Wintour), to Sir Humphry Hook, whose son sold the property to Sir Robert Southwell, a distinguished diplomat and politician. The latter assisted in the arrangement of the marriage between William Blathwayt and Mary Wynter (1651-91), heiress to nearby Dyrham Park, and his son married William Blathwayt’s daughter in 1716.

1570 : More active service

The same year, ‘lord admiral’ Charles Howard and William Wynter (as the sailor) were sent by Elizabeth I to escort Anna of Austria [see Wikipedia for the strange story) on her sea journey from Flanders to marry her uncle, Philip II of Spain. During his marriage to Mary I (1554–58), he was also king of England. Why was this journey down the English Channel arranged?

On 30 July 1570, William Wynter’s name appeared as ‘vice admiral of Somerset’. The holder of the post ‘vice admiral of the coast’ was responsible for the defence of one of the twenty maritime counties of England, Wales or Ireland. As a vice admiral, the post holder was the chief of naval administration for his district. His responsibilities included pressing men for naval service, deciding the lawfulness of prizes captured by pirate ships, dealing with salvage claims for wrecks and acting as a judge. The queen wrote to ‘lord admiral’ Clynton on 29 Aug 1570, saying that she had ‘appointed her navy to put to sea under the command of Charles Howard and William[1] Wynter.’

Not long afterwards, on 5th October 1570, a great tidal flood affected the Thames estuary as far up-river as Erith: extending from the Humber to the Straits of Dover. The high tide was associated with severe gales and the flood was aggravated by heavy rainfall. November saw the greatest North Sea storm and flood, after that of 11 Oct 1250: coastal changes; cities drowned on the continent. How was William Wynter and his family affected?

All the accounts repeat the same sentence: In 1571, during the first of the Desmond rebellions, one of William Wynter's ships was seized at Kinsale by James FitzMaurice Fitzgerald, the Irish rebel. Not one of these accounts, it seems, continues with the story and explains the reason or consequences.

1571 : Local property transactions

A grant dated 31 Mar 1571 by William[1] Wynter (as Wyntere) of Lydney, county of Gloucester, esquire, to Christopher Hall of Newland, gentleman, of an annuity or annual rent of 13s4d issuing out of certain demesne lands and hereditaments of the said Christopher Hall at 'Asherudge' alias Asheridge in Newland late belonging to the chantry in the parish church of Newland. Also a grant of a parcel of land containing three acres lying in 'Stawnton' [Staunton] in a place called 'le Clowre' between the common way there from 'Asherudge' or Asheridge towards 'Monmouthe' on one side and land of the said Christopher Hall on all other sides. And appointment of Charles 'Johnes', gentleman, and Thomas Moreland, as 'attornies' to give seisin. Signature, W. Wynter, and tag, seal gone.Witnesses to deed: Roger Monox, William son of Thomas Moreland. To livery: William Bugge of 'Heymedowe', Willam Starnold and others.

William Wynter's brother, George Wynter, purchased Dyrham Manor, Gloucestershire, from Sir Walter Denys in 1571. George Wynter was 'clerk of our ships', a position he held until he died in 1582. He was mentioned in an order of Elizabeth I dated 16 Jul 1563 to Lord Clinton, 'lord high admiral', to deliver certain stores to George Wynter 'clerk of our ships'.

As JP for the county of Gloucester, William[1] Wynter and Sir Nicholas Arnold wrote to the privy council on 20 Sep 1571 certifying their proceedings in search and watch for rogues and vagabonds.

1571 : Recognaisances for ship's good behaviour : William[2] Wynter

On 10 Nov 1571, John Hawkyns gave recognaisance for the good behaviour of his ship

commissioned to search for contraband and to take pirates. Usually the recognaisance was for £1000. At the same time, Martin Frobisher gave recognaisance for the *Carrick Lane*, William[2] Wynter, the junior brother, for the *Frauncis*; and Thomas Prydeaux for a ship and two barks. Who exactly was this William[2] Wynter, junior? See the account for 1572.

No ship called the *Frauncis* has been located. However, Much earlier, around 1503, there was a ship called the *Frances*; and, much later, there was 'a' sail ship called the *Francis*. In 1585, Thomas Moon was captain of the *Francis*. From another source: 'In the mean time the Spaniards had sent five stout frigates to bring away the galleon from Porto Rico, having exact intelligence of the intention of the English admiral to attempt that place. On the 30 Oct 1595, Sir John Hawkins weighed from Dominica, and, in the evening of the same day, the *Francis*, a bark of about thirty-five tons, and the sternmost of Sir John's ships, fell in with the five sail of Spanish frigates before mentioned, and was taken; the consequences of which being foreseen by Sir John, it threw him into a fit of sickness, of which, or rather of a broken heart, he died on the 12th of November, 1595'. During the great migration period, well underway in 1634, 'a' Thomas Boyden went from England to America. At least four ships left England with eighty to a hundred passengers headed for the American colonies. The *Francis* left London in April, carrying 84 passengers, one of which was Thomas Boyden, age 21, listed in the ships' roll. Thomas Boyden signed an oath of allegiance to king Charles I before boarding the vessel, a requirement for passage to the New World.

The book, *Elizabethan Privateers* 1583-1603, by Kenneth R Andrews recorded: Lesser figures, such as Sir Henry Palmer, *William Wynter junior*, and John and Robert Crosse, were now [around 1585] at least as interested in privateering as Drake or Hawkins.

William Wynter, junior, was captain of the *Foresight* in 1587: 300 tons, 110 mariners, 20 gunners, 20 soldiers; total 160 captains and officers. This was not the son of William[1] Wynter, but his younger brother. Sir Thomas Dale (died 19 August 1619) was a naval commander and deputy-governor of the Virginia Colony in 1611 and from 1614 to 1616. He married Elizabeth Throckmorton of Gloucestershire, the later Lady Dale. One source describing Thomas Dale alleged that one ship that sailed from Bristol was under the command of *William Wynter, junior*, who was married to Lady Dale's cousin. Alas, no details were given. Beware of confusion with the Breconshire family with these names.

In 1571 the Spanish ambassador, Guerau de Spes, reported that William Wynter sent 7-8 ships on slaving voyages. Wynter sent three ships in March 1571, according to Spanish report in the West Indies, which raided at Borburta in July and attacked St Augustine, Florida on the return journey.

1571 : Compensation

William[1] Wynter ‘the elder’ and George Wynter were named, with various others, in two letters from the privy council at Westminster in April 1571 concerning compensation claimed by various merchants whose goods had been ‘taken’ by Portugese during that period of authorized piracy. Clearly it was very well known in Westminster that there were two brothers, ‘elder’ and ‘younger’.

1572 : William Wynter ‘the younger’

In 1572, William, Count De la Marck [see Wikipedia for his history], wrote to the privy council. He complained that William[2] Wynter ‘the younger’, lieutenant to Captain John Hawkyns, had forcibly seized seven prisoners of war taken by the Prince of Orange’s captains in Flanders, and lying in Dover roads, and also wounded and taken prisoner one of the captains. As William[2] Wynter ‘the younger’ had refused to give them up he [the Count] was obliged to seek redress from their lordships. Dover, 27 Jan 1572. *Signed*. Who was this William[2] Wynter ‘the younger’? Now almost fifty years of age, clearly he had not died near Portugese Guinea as usually stated? Or had the Count made a mistake and meant William[1] Wynter ‘the elder’?

Meanwhile, William[1] Wynter’s business partner in 1573 in a wharf and lands owned jointly at Wapping, London, was Christopher Baker, son of Thomas Baker. Christopher Baker was recorded in Sir William[1] Wynter’s 1589 will : a gown. Various internet sites link the families of Wynter and Baker.

1572 : Grant to Christopher Hall of Newland

Grant dated 31 Mar 1572 by William ‘Wyntere’ of Lydney, Gloucestershire, esquire, to Christopher Hall of Newland, gentleman, of an annuity or annual rent of 13s4d issuing out of certain demesne (?) lands and hereditaments of the said Christopher Hall at ‘Asherudge’ in Newland late belonging to the chantry in the parish church of Newland. Also grant of a parcel of land containing three acres lying in ‘Stawnton’ [Staunton] in a place called ‘le Clowre’ between the common way there from ‘Asherudge’ towards ‘Monmouthe’ on one side and land of the said Christopher Hall on all other sides. And appointment of Charles ‘Johnes’, gentleman, and Thomas Moreland, as ‘attornies to give seisin’. Signature, W. Wynter, and tag, seal gone. Witnesses to deed: Roger Monox,

William son of Thomas Moreland. To livery: William Bugge of ‘Heymedowe’ [High Meadow], Willam Starnold and others.

Christopher Hall, son and heir of William Hall, was born in 1521-2, and was aged 23 years on his father’s death. He resided at Newland like his father. One son was Benedict Hall, his successor. The members of the Hall family, in the 16th century, continued as adherents to the ‘old learning’ and were subject to all the persecutions and disabilties which befel Roman Catholics during the reigns of Elizabeth and James. Like most others of their faith, they maintained their loyalty during the civil war in the middle of the 17th century. Benedict Hall garrisoned his house at Highmeadow for the king and took an energetic part during the war in the Forest of Dean district, generally acting with Lord Herbert and Sir John Wintour, his brother-in-law.

1572 : Inner Temple Admissions.

29 Apr 1572 : John Wynter, late of Lyons Inn, gentleman, son and heir of George Wynter of Dyrham, Glos., esquire.

1573 : Knighthood at last for William[1] Wynter

William[1] Wynter the elder ‘of Lydney’ was knighted on 28 Aug 1573 at Gillingham [or various other places according to source] by Elizabeth I, allegedly the only man knighted personally by Elizabeth I for his *services to the navy* over a period of thirty years. He had to work long and hard for the honour. Not long afterwards, on 11 Oct 1573, fellow mariner John Hawkyns (who was knighted in 1588) had a narrow escape of his life, being stabbed as he was riding along the Strand in company with newly-knighted Sir William[1] Wynter, by one Peter Burchett, a gentleman of the Middle Temple, who, in a fit of fanatical fury, mistook him, as he said, for thirty-three year old Christopher Hatton (‘lord chancellor’ of Elizabeth I, knight of the garter in 1578). Thirty-one year old John Hawkyns was dangerously wounded. The queen sent her own surgeon to attend him and wanted Peter Burchett hanged forthwith by martial law; but that, she was persuaded, was illegal. On 12 Nov 1573, however, the assailant was hanged on the spot where he had stabbed John Hawkyns.

1573 : Death of Lady Mary Wynter

Rather sadly, the joy of the knighthood was short-lived. Lady Mary Wynter, wife of Sir

William[1] Wynter, died on 4 Nov 1573 at Seething Lane, London, just two months after her husband was knighted. The cause is not known but the consequences of childbirth [last son, William] may have been the reason. Her children, or at least the younger ones perhaps, seemingly passed into the custody of their maternal grandmother, by then known as Dame Mary Judde *nee* Mary Mathew. Where did they all live? In her 1601 will, Dame Mary claimed all of the 'surviving' Wynter children as if her own 'sons' and 'daughters', though by then [1601] they were surely adults. However, in 1573, when his mother died, the eldest of the children, Edward Wynter, was about 13-14 years of age. What happened to him at that time? Was he involved in any sort of apprenticeship? Or was he involved with sailing? The children included: Edward, William, Nicholas, James, William, Mary, Elizabeth, Eleanor and Jane in no certain order, with the two called William later being known as William Wynter 'of Coleford' and 'Captain William Wynter', his brother. Both survived well into adulthood. It is possible that Lady Mary Wynter died in child-birth in 1573, her assumed last son, William Wynter, attending Oxford from 1689 when he would have been around 16 years of age.

Rather puzzlingly, her burial certificate [not seen, taken from the online web-site Golden Falcon, XI/1] apparently mentioned four sons and four daughters : sons Edward, William, Nicholas and James; and daughters Mary, Elizabeth, Anne and Jane. Yet that omitted the second William? Or was James omitted? Married son, Nicholas Wynter, died fighting the Spaniards and James appears to have died young as he is not mentioned in the 'Visitation'. Edward Wynter later mentioned in a letter that he had *two* younger brothers in his care. What about the younger William? Where was he? Nothing more is known of daughter Jane. Daughter Elizabeth married *William Morgan of Machen, Monmouthshire; and daughter Eleanor married Sir George Huntley of Woodchester, Gloucestershire, 2nd Marquis. Her cousin, Mary Wynter of Dyrham, married Anselm Huntley.

*From the Golden Falcon XII/9 : William Winter of Coleford, in his 1628-9 will, mentioned his 'cousin' William Morgan 'of Coleford' but perhaps meaning his nephew of that name, the son of William Morgan of Machen (his brother-in-law) who married Elizabeth Winter (Sir William's daughter). 'Item I give and bequeath to my loveing 'cosin' Mr William Morgan of Collford my best ---'. When was William Morgan, son of Elizabeth Morgan *nee* Wynter, born? The following extracts may also give a clue: (i) 'Thomas Morgan, likely born about 1640 in Whitecliffe near Coleford, parish of Newland, Forest of Dean. His children were baptised and buried in the parish church at Newland. The father of Thomas Morgan was William Morgan of Whitecliffe, most likely born William Morgan of Rumney, Monmouthshire, the third son of Sir William Morgan of Tredegar House and

Elizabeth Winter of Lydney. William Morgan of Rumney moved to the Forest of Dean {Oak House, Newland) when he married, in about 1620, Jane Morgan of the manor of Hurst, Lydney'. (ii) Jane Morgan of the Hurst, Lydney, Gloucestershire married William Morgan of Rumney, the third son of Sir William Morgan of Tredegar and Elizabeth Winter of Lydney. Elizabeth Winter was the daughter of Sir William Winter of Lydney. William Morgan of Rumney, near Cardiff, Monmouthshire after his marriage may have settled at Coleford, Newland, Gloucestershire and may be the person mentioned by William Winter of Coleford in his will of 1625 as 'my loving cousin William Morgan of Coleford' (William Winter of Coleford was the son of Sir William Winter and brother of Elizabeth Winter).

1573 : Indenture of pasture in Lydney

Sir William Wynter, Knt. Indenture made 31 March 16 Elizabeth between Sir William Winter, Knt, of the one part and Roger Monoux and Richard Vyncente, of London, yeomen, of the other, witnesses that Sir William, for 20 marks, grants to the said Roger Monoux and Richard Vyncente, their heirs and assigns, all that pasture called *Passins filde als Passhions filde*, with the moor adjoining, in Lydney, county Gloucester, between Hales Lane and the land of Sir William, to them and their heirs for ever. Enrolled : 11 May, said year. Footnote: Roger Monoux of London cannot be definitely placed in the pedigree. He was from St. Botolph's, Aldgate, and married Ursula Morley, spinster, of St. Olave's, Hart Street, 11 June, 1575. A brass to their son Morley is to be seen in Wouldham Church, Kent.

1574 : Back to work

After the death of his wife, Sir William Wynter 'the elder' became actively engaged in the fortification of the Isle of Shepey and the coast of Kent during May, August and September 1574. The map, drawn at the time, apparently still exists. In October 1574 he went with Anglo-French diplomat, Daniel Rogers, to Antwerp on government business. Anglo-Spanish relations had been in steady decline since the accession of the Protestant Elizabeth I in 1558. In 1574 there was a fear that the Spanish would launch an attack from the Netherlands [Zealand] on ships at Chatham. The transfer of the main fleet to Queenborough was suggested as a precaution. Under the command of Sir William Wynter, 'surveyor of the navy', and Sir William Pelham, 'lieutenant general of ordnance', and map-maker Robert Lythe, a survey of Sheppey was carried out. Sheerness and the Isle of Grain were rejected in favour of a new port at Swaleness opposite Queenbrough

which would prevent a raid from the rear by way of the Swale. Swaleness was a marsh and, in order to build fortifications, drainage and embanking of the area was necessary. This was authorised by the privy council in September 1574. Earthworks were created but the fortifications were not built and, in the event, the Spanish did not invade until 1588.

It seems that William Winter's last son, also called William Wynter, was born around that sad time and the coincidence suggested that Lady Wynter may have died as a result of his birth? Thus the Oxford record: William Wynter of the county Gloucestershire, *equites fil*, Magdalen College, matriculation, 9 May 1589, aged 15 (born in 1574). He would have been a brother of Edward Wynter, by then a teenager.

In the same year, writer Richard Eden dedicated *A very necessarie and profitable Booke concerning Navigation* to Sir William Wynter, 'master of the ordnance', in 1574.

1575 : Spanish complaint against Sir William Wynter and others

The Spanish king's complaints of English piracies, dated 1575 but referring to previous years, was a long list to Elizabeth I entitled 'Memorial of the English pirates who have committed robberies in the Indies, and of what his Catholic Majesty demands from her Majesty'. It was written in Spanish. One translated portion ran as follows: '(i) And as her Majesty should give orders to be informed of all, it is well that she should know that it is believed that amongst the participators and accomplices in these crimes and robberies are Captain John Haquins [Hawkyns alias Hawkins] and his brother [William Hawkyns], and *Sir William Wynter* and many others, and the brothers of Francis Drake [several], and Lewis Lader [Larder]; and they particularly say that from one of these robberies a slave was given to a member of the Council, who, as they believe, was brought from Portugese Guinea. (ii) Other English, whose names are not known, went to the island of Jamaica *with three ships belonging to George and William Wynter, gentlemen*, and robbed and burned a ship of Hernan Ruyz, an inhabitant of Seville, and committed many other injuries and insults; and by what is sent from England, it is known that a negro was in possession of Juan Baptista de Sanct' Victores, and the earl of Hertford held another, from which it may be known that he was a pirate'.

Also during 1575, Elizabeth I sent Sir William Wynter and Robert Beal (clerk or secretary to the privy council, later buried at Allhallows church) on a mission to Holland. In 1576, Sir William Wynter was sent on another mission, this time to the Prince of Orange. Edward Chester wrote to Lord Burghley, 20 Jul 1576: 'Arrived in 'Zealand' on the 8th inst, made his repair to *Sir William Wynter*, and gave him to understand of the

great displeasure conceived by her Majesty at the outrageous dealing of the ‘Flushingers’ with her merchants, willing him to let the Prince understand the same, that he might so satisfy her that her wonted goodwill might not be changed to his utter ruin. William Wynter’s opinion was that in no case should Edward Chester use any such speech to the Prince as would make him distrust that revenge for these outrages would follow, for he found him of such mind that if any such suspicion grew he would be so careless of all that might ensue that he would endeavour all further spoil of her subjects, having now the forehand and start. William Wynter has very wisely proceeded with his Excellency, and by his great temperance and courtesy wrought that the ships of the merchant adventurers are now at liberty’.

A dictionary on Low Dutch recorded: (i) Zealander (1573), a native of Zealand, a province of the Netherlands; from Zealand (Du. Zeeland) and the suffix -er. (ii) Netherlandish (1600), of or pertaining to the Netherlands; ad. Du. Nederlandsch, or from Netherland and the suffix -ish. (iii) Netherlander (1610), an inhabitant of the Netherlands or Holland, formerly including Flanders or Belgium; ad. Du. Nederlander . (iv) Flushinger (1689), a Flushing sailor or vessel; from Flushing (Du. Vlissingen), the name of a Dutch port, and the suffix -er .

1577 : Roman Catholic John Sandys at Lydney

It has been recorded that, a little while after the early death of Lady Mary Wynter, a person called John Sandys, born perhaps in Lancashire, worked in Gloucestershire as tutor to the younger children of Sir William Wynter at Lydney at a date sometime between 1577, when Edward Wynter went to Oxford, and 1583. Did this imply that, somehow, Sir William Wynter’s younger children lived at Lydney? What about Dame Mary Judde?

1577 : Back at London

In 1577, Sir William Wynter was passed over for the post of ‘treasurer of the navy’ in place of the younger John Hawkyns, a promotion that would have doubled his income. Very approximately: (i) William Wynter was born around 1521 and died in 1589; (ii) John Hawkyns was born around 1532 and died around 1595, leaving ‘my best Jewell a crosse of emerod to my very good cosen Sir Francis Drake’; and (iii) the latter’s ‘cousin’ Francis Drake was born around 1540 and died around 1596.

1577 : Francis Drake's circumnavigation of the globe

Sir William Wynter and his brother George Wynter both received a handsome return on their investment in Francis Drake's 1577 voyage (four years before Francis Drake was knighted in 1581). Francis Drake was noted in his life for one daring feat after another; his greatest was his circumnavigation of the earth, the first after Magellan's. He sailed from Plymouth on 13 Dec 1577. The squadron consisted of just five vessels, the two larger ships being the *Pelican*, Francis Drake's own ship, renamed *Golden Hind* on the voyage on 20 Aug 1578; and the *Elizabeth*, commanded by John Wynter, son of George Wynter of Dyrham. He navigated his ship through the Straight of Magellan in both directions. Three smaller vessels were the *Marigold*, *Swan*, and *Benedict*. Only one ship, the *Golden Hind*, made the complete voyage, returning on 26 Sep 1580, 'very richly fraught with gold, silver, pearls and precious stones' (Stow, *Annales* , page 807). The expedition was financed as a joint venture, the investors being such high officials as 'privy councillor' Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester; Sir Francis Walsingham; earl of Lincoln, 'lord high admiral of England'; Sir Christopher Hatton, 'lord chancellor'; Sir William Wynter, 'surveyor of the Navy'; and John Hawkyns, Francis Drake's former commander. Queen Elizabeth herself may have been an investor, though this is not quite certain; but what is certain is that she appropriated the lion's share of the proceeds of the voyage. Francis Drake himself participated to the tune of £1000.

Around 1577 Richard Hakluyt wrote *The Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques, and Discoveries of the English Nation.* This account concerned Captain John Wynter, son of George Wynter of Dyrham. He wrote: Hereafter followeth the copie of a letter written by Francis Drake, being in the South Sea of New Spaine, in his ship called The Pellican or the Golden Hinde with the ship of Sant John de Anton, which hee had taken, to his companions in the other shippes that were of his company, and by foule weather separated from him, as I said before: The contents whereof were these: Master Wynter, if it pleaseth God that you should chance to meete with this ship of Sant John de Anton, I pray you use him well, according to my word and promise given unto them, and if you want any thing that is in this ship of Sant John de Anton, I pray you pay them double the value for it, which I will satisfie againe, and command your men not to doe her any hurt: and what composition or agreement we have made, at my returne into England I will by Gods helpe perfourme, although I am in doubt that this letter will never come to your hands: notwithstanding I am the man I have promised to be: Beseeching God, the Saviour of all the world, to have us in his keeping, to whom onely I give all honour, praise and glory. What I have written, is not only to you M. Wynter, but also to M.

Thomas, M. Charles, M. Caube, and M. Anthonie, with all our other good friendes, whom I commit to the tuition of him that with his blood redeemed us, and am in good hope, that we shal be in no more trouble, but that he will helpe us in adversitie, desiring you for the Passion of Christ, if you fall into any danger, that you will not despaire of Gods mercy, for hee will defend you and preserve you from all danger, and bring us to our desired haven, to whom bee all honour, glory, and praise for ever and ever. Amen. Your sorowfull Captaine, whose heart is heavy for you: Francis Drake.

A person called Thomas Doughty (one-time secretary to Christopher Hatton, 'lord chancellor') befriended Francis Drake during the latter's military actions in Ireland. Francis Drake, Thomas Doughty and John Wynter 'of Dyrham' left Plymouth, England in 1577, purportedly on a simple trip to Alexandria. Francis Drake's real mission was to interfere with Spanish treasure fleets in the New World; whither he proceeded with the full knowledge and sanction of Elizabeth I, and whether his original intent was the circumnavigation of the globe are still topics of debate. The three men apparently shared responsibility for the voyage but Francis Drake soon assumed the role of commander of the expedition, a matter which caused friction between Francis Drake and the aristocratic Thomas Doughty. Eventually Thomas Doughty was executed by Francis Drake for reasons described more fully in detail on the internet. It seems that Captain John Wynter 'of Dyrham' volunteered, instead, to keep Thomas Doughty prisoner on his ship, the *Elizabeth*, to which Francis Drake initially agreed, but qualified the statement by saying that the ship would then have to return to England with no share of the treasure they would gain from attacking Spanish ships. John Wynter was shouted down by his crewmen, and Thomas Doughty's fate was sealed. However, John Wynter's ship never circumnavigated the world.

According to the author of the online web-site Golden Falcon: John Wynter 'of Dyrham', who went with Francis Drake on the voyage of circumnavigation of the world, was known to be a pirate. Did that imply a 'pirate' as distinct from a 'privateer'? So, apparently was 'a' *Christopher Wynter* (around 1716) who was in New Providence, Bahamas, when Woodes Rogers became governor, and accepted the king's pardon with many other pirates. Who was this Christopher Wynter? No details have been located. According to one source: When Woodes Rogers suppressed the pirates at New Providence Island, Christopher Wynter surrendered. He was a minor footnote in pirate annals as he seems to have disappeared after his surrender in 1717. He next resurfaced in 1722 where he was a captain of the Cuban coast guard. He was the captain of the Cuban *Hispaniola* accused of robbing English ships and stealing slaves.

1577 : George Wynter in the Irish Sea

One source recorded (very oddly?) that: 'George' Winter commanded a squadron of three of the Queen's ships on the coast of Ireland in 1577. He had orders to cruise between the Cape of Cornwall and the River Shannon looking for La Roche, a Frenchman reported to be preparing some private expedition against Ireland and to stay there until his provisions ran out. The squadron sailed July 20th, returning on October 18th; but there is no record of the trouble which Howard mentioned. What was that all about? Had there been an error?

1577 : Family news

Two years or so after the early death of his mother, possibly but uncertainly as a result of child-birth, Edward Wynter, seemingly the eldest son of William[1] Wynter, received a part of his education at Brasenose college in Oxford, possibly enrolling on 20 Dec 1577, age 17 years, suggesting his year of birth roughly 1560. Where did live until then? His father would have been roughly 40 years of age and one might wonder whether he had married previously? No evidence of such a marriage has been located. At the same time the Brasnose records also included: George Bonner, Gloucestershire, *Matr. priv.* 20 Dec. 1577, aged 19, *serviens Edwardi Winter*. How was this explained. How long did Edward Wynter remain at Brasenose college? Barely a year? How was that explained? Information is needed.

Also in 1577, a person called William Jones was the owner of a small estate in Naas near Lydney and his family later purchased more land from the Wynter family. Where are the precise details? It seems that the Winters' estate at Nass included land that Joan 'Greyndour' gave to endow a chantry at Newland in 1446, and William Winter bought in 1559, and possibly also land that Joan Greyndour and her second husband sold in 1481. Thirty years later, in 1607, Edward Wynter owned several small farms in that area and one was leased to a Charles Jones. Half a century later still, in 1651, Edward Wynter's son, Sir John Wynter 'of Lydney', had his land surveyed for the sale of the estate, which had been forfeited to the Commonwealth for Sir John's treason. In the survey, three farms were leased to Charles Jones' son, another William Jones, who bought the freehold in 1652. Another source recorded that, between 1658 and 1668, John Vaughan of Ruardean sold the manor and Naas Court to William Jones who had leased the property since 1650. Who was John Vaughan?

1578 : Another strange account

One source recorded: When first Sir Humphrey Gilbert undertook the western discovery of America and had procured from her Majesty in 1578, a very large commission to inhabit and possess at his choice, all remote and heathen lands not in the actual possession of any Christian princes, the same commission exemplified with many privileges such as in his discretion he might demand, very many gentlemen of good estimation drew unto him to associate him in so commendable an enterprise, so that the preparation was expected to grown unto a puissant fleet, able to encounter a king's power by sea.

(1). The *Delight* alias the *George* of burden 120 tons, was 'admiral', in which went the general and *William Winter, captain in her and part owner* and Richard Clarke, master. [Which William Wynter was this?].

(2). The bark *Raleigh* set forth by Master Walter Raleigh of the burden of 200 tons, was then 'vice-admiral', in which went Master Butler, captain Robert Davis of Bristol, master.

(3). The *Golden Hind* of burden 40 tons, was then the 'rear-admiral', in which went Edward Hayes, captain and owner, and William Coxe of Limehouse, master.

(4). The *Swallow* of burden 40 tons, in her was Captain Maurice Browne.

(5). The *Squirrel* of burden 10 tons in which went Captain William Andrew and one Cade, master. We were in number in all about 260 men, among whom we had of every faculty good choice, as shipwrights, masons, carpenters, smiths and such like requisite to such an action; also mineral men and refiners.

The titles 'admiral', etc, here referred to the ships. If the 'admiral' was lost in battle, the 'vice-admiral' took over, and so on.

1578 : John Wynter's Bark

'Winter's Bark' is an evergreen shrub or tree, native from Mexico to Tierra del Fuego. Its name now commemorates Captain John Winter, son of George Wynter of Dyrham, who, whilst captaining the ship *Elizabeth* in Sir Francis Drake's expedition, first used the bark. It had been suggested [by whom?] that the drug within the bark was a good medicine against scurvy. The seamen were always on the lookout for cures for scurvy and, when in the Straits of Magellan, John Wynter found the tree whose bark provided such a remedy. How did he find out? Loosing track of Sir Francis Drake after a storm, Captain John Wynter returned to England in 1578 with samples of the bark. Some 200

years later, when Captain James Cook was making his second voyage of discovery, he took advantage of this information and made use of the bark, countering its acrid taste with honey. So thye say.

1578: What John Wynter was this?

A book which described how people, who were captured by pirates, could ask their relatives for assistance. One sentence recorded: 'In 1578, two close relatives, (i) the widowed mother and (ii) the wife, of 'a' John Wynter, *a shipwright and merchant of Bristol*, being held by the Turks at la Roche, Barbary, obtained letters patent to request alms for his release. The following year, two merchants of Bristol were licenced to collect alms for their fellows, still in captivity, who had been captured by Turks off the coast of Sardinia'. This was not the John Wynter 'of Dyrham' as his father, George Wynter (bought Dyrham 1571) , was still alive (died 1581). In any case, that John was with Sir Francis Drake, during which journey he observed the eclipse of the moon. Edward Cliffe, mariner, wrote in his journal [presumably modified]: On the 15th September [1578], the moon was eclipsed, beginning to be darkened immediately after sun-set, about six in the evening, being then the vernal equinox in this southern hemisphere. This eclipse happened in England on the 16th before one in the morning, which is about six hours difference, agreeing to one quarter of the circumference of the globe, from the meridian of England to the west.

According to Wikipedia: The Barbary pirates had long attacked English and other European shipping along the North Coast of Africa. They had been attacking English merchant and passengers ships *since the 1600s*. Regular fundraising for ransoms was undertaken, generally by families and local church groups, who raised the ransoms for individuals. The government did not ransom ordinary persons. The English became familiar with captivity naratives written by Barbary pirates' prisoners and ransomed captives, as so many people were taken.

1579 : Strange report

A report on a voyage dated 2 June 1579 was found in the British Museum in 1929 with the 'Prelude and Draft Plan of the Voyage' which showed that William Wynter and George Wynter financially backed the 1577 voyage with £750 and £500 respectively. The documents were transcribed by Professor E G R Taylor into modern English. It seemed to have been an abridgement of a ship's log book and was addressed by John Winter to his

uncle, William Winter, surveyor of the Navy and master of the ordnance of the Navy and to his father, George Winter, clerk of the Queen's ships, both shareholders in the voyage who passed it to Lord Burghley and was endorsed by him 'Voyage of Mr Winter with Mr Drake to ye Strait of Magellan June 1579'.

(1). 19th September. At first, when I came from London in great haste with one ship and furniture in the same, answerable to the greatness and length of such a voyage, thinking to have found all things ready, I found contrary to my expectations all things unready. For the ships were most untacked, most unballasted and unvictualled.

(2). After putting out of Plymouth the 11th of November, by 'contrariety' of wind, we were put into Falmouth, where the *Pellican* and the *Marigold* bring on ground, caught both leaks and were enforced both to cut their masts overboard, and so we were put back again into Plymouth for a new supply of those wants.

(3). The 13th of December we put from Plymouth and arrived the 27th of this month at an island called Mogador, where we stayed five days for putting together of one of our pinnaces.

(4). The 8th day of January I fell with Cape de Garr (Cape Guer). Here Francis Drake caused me to go into the pinnace with the which we took three canters (Portuguese fishing boats) for the refreshing of our victuals.

(5). We fell with Cape Blanko (Blanco) the 16th of January where we stayed for the discharging of those canters which we had taken afore at Cape de Garr.

1579 : More naval administration for Sir William

In 1578, a book titled *Treasure for Travellers*, about Gravesend, was dedicated to Sir William Wynter. The same year, Sir William Wynter wrote to the 'lord admiral' (the earl of Lincoln) on 21 Oct 1578 about the decaying in ships. Then, in 1579, Sir William Wynter commanded a squadron of ships off Smerwick in Ireland, cutting off the sea-routes and seizing the ships of the papal invasion force. It seems that John of Desmond and FitzMaurice together commanded a force of over 3000 men, including a small number of European soldiers, but many native Irish troops. The prospect of further continental reinforcements was hampered though, when Sir William Wynter, on 29 July 1579, four days after the landing at Smerwick, seized the ships of the invasion force and cut off their sea-routes. See the maps of Smerwick available online, some allegedly claim compass bearings drawn by 'a' William Wynter? Smerwick harbour was the scene of the landing of Spaniards and Italians under the papal banner in 1579 and of Walter Raleigh's butchery of the garrison called Fort del Ore.

See: National Archives MPF 1/75. County Kerry. Plan of Smerwick Harbour, 1580, showing the siege of the Castello del Oro. English ships shown and named. Also shows guns, figures, buildings and tents of attacking force. Scale bar in fretwork cartouche with heraldic beasts: 1 inch to 15 [?perches]. Compass indicators. [Drawn by William Wynter]: 1 inch to 15 [?perches]. 56.4 cm x 45.2 cm.

1579 : Item mentioning 'a' William Wynter 'the younger'

In 1579, William Wynter 'the younger', son of John Wynter, would have been roughly 50 years of age. An item on the internet called *Ancient Bristol Documents*, page 121, included: (i) Item: all that great ground of pasture called by the name of further Ashley now in the tenure of *William Wynter the younger* or of his assigns or assigns (sic) which bordereth upon a mill called Glasse mill of the south part, upon the land of Horfield on the north part, upon higher Asheley and Priors hill of the west part and upon the land of the wilde howse of the east part. (ii) Item: all that part of a ground inclosed called by the name of Priors hill now in the tenure of the said *William Wynter the younger* or of his assigns of assigns (sic) which joineth to Appshard and Oxelease on the west part and upon higher Ashley upon the north side, and on the south side upon certain land in the tenure of William Gittons, and upon the east part upon three great Mearestones which are newly pitcht up and laid by *George Wynter* in the said Priors hill with all manner of tythes that shall arise grow increase or renew of all that great ground called further Asheley and of all that part called Priors hill. Barton hundred within the County of Gloucester. [Which William Wynter the younger was this? There were several within this family and numerous elsewhere at various times, causing endless confusion amongst the genealogists].

Henry VIll confiscated St James Priory estates in 1544 and granted them to Henry Brayne, a London tailor and church plunder-broker for £667 7s6d and a yearly reserved rent of £3 10s9d. From Henry Brayne it passed first to his childless son Robert, then to daughters Eme and Ann, who married Sir Charles Somerset and George Winter respectively. In 1579 they carved up the estate between them which at that time was mainly countryside, both enclosed and open, with two mills, some farm buildings and two substantial houses, *Ashley Manor and Lower Ashley House* (both since demolished).

It was first mentioned as 'Glaspelmull' in 1391 and 'soon after the dissolution of the monasteries', in 1579, 'Glass Mill' fell into the hands of George Winter esquire of Dyrham Park who made one of those strategic marriages the well-heeled are so good at.

1579 : Edward Wynter's continued education in London

Edward Wynter was awarded the degree of bachelor of arts in January 1579, just one year after matriculation? He then enrolled as a student at Middle Temple, London, in 1579. The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple was, and still is, one of the four 'Inns of Court'. The 'Inns of Court' were/are membership organisations for barristers and students intending to practise at the Bar. It seems that the 16th century was an age of expansion at the Court and new buildings were constructed to accommodate its growing membership, although not all the students joining at that time intended to pursue a legal career. The majority of students were the sons of country gentlemen, not intended for the legal profession. Presumably Edward Wynter was such a student?

One source recorded: Edward Wynter of county of Gloucester, *equites fil* [a knight's son], Brasenose College, matriculation 20 Dec 1577 aged 17; BA 28 Jan 1578-9; student of Middle Temple 22 Sep 1579, age 19 years; son and heir of Sir William of Lydney, county of Gloucester, knight. Edward was himself knighted in 1595 [Why?], MP for Newport, Cornwall, 1586-7, MP for Gloucestershire, 1588-9 and 1601. Edward would have been born around 1560.

1579-1582 : Unsourced allegations concerning Edward Wynter

Around 1579-1582, according to 'Dave' Bradley on a Geneanet web-site, Edward Wynter 'allegedly' fathered two sons by a daughter of Christopher Wyrall, the brother of George Wyrall of Bicknor Court in the Fforest of Dean. Details of the marriage, if any, have not been found. It seems that these two sons were named: (i) William Wynter (*bc*1579) and (ii) Christopher Wynter, presumably in traditional commemoration of their 'alleged' granfathers: Sir William Wynter of Lydney and Christopher Wyrall of English Bicknor. The parish registers for English Bicknor contain no such baptisms. However, their much later presence 'may' have been those recorded by two baptisms in the parish of English Bicknor: (i) Joanna, the daughter of William Wynter, on 12 Mar 1598, when William Wynter was about 19 years of age [*Baptizata fuit Joanna fillia willmi wynter gent duodecimo die marcij Anno p~dicto*]; and (ii) William, the son of Christopher Wynter, in November 1619, seemingly several years after the burial of William's mother, Christopher's wife, Ann Wynter, unless there had been some typographical error in reading the parish script of those times [*Willialmus filius Christopheri Winter baptizat[us] fuit [blank] vz Nove[m]bris [blank] an[n]o p~dict[o]*]. Burial records for the parish of English Bicknor included: (iii) Ann, the wife of Christopher Wynter, on 3 Nov 1615 [*Ann the wife*

of Xpoffer wynter was buryed the 3 of November 1615]; (iv) Elizabeth, the daughter of Christopher Wynter, on 20 Jul 1618 [*Elizabeth the daughter of Christopher Wintor was buryed the 25 day of July anno p~dic*]; and (iii) Joanna Wynter on 29 Mar 1623 [*Joanna Wintor fuit sepulta 29 Martij 1623*]. Only one marriage was found: (i) Alice Wynter in 1622 [*Franciscus Duitris et Alicea Winter matrimonio iuncti fuernt die ct An p~dict[o]*]. Who was she? Perhaps she was of similar age to Joanna? In between was *Sibilla winter sepulta fuit 22 die mensis Aprilis 1606.* Note: *p-dict* from *prædictus* roughly 'aforesaid'. There were many Worrell [Worall] records including: *Edward the sonne of George worrall gent was Baptized the iijrd daie of November in the yere Afforesaied [1575]. Edward worrall afforesaied was buried the ixth daie of November in the yere afforesaied [1575]*

According to *The Golden Falcon*, the Christopher Wynter of English Bicknor, Gloucestershire, was a *servant* to George Wyrall. Note 1: George Wyrall also had a young black servant called Charles, buried at English Bicknor. Note 2: that George Wyrall, nephew of Christopher Wyrall and cousin of assumed Christopher Wynter, eventually married Bridget Wynter, a daughter of George Wynter of Dyrham Park, the latter being a brother of Sir William Wynter of Lydney *etc*.

Note also that the person called William Wynter 'of Portsmouth' died, age 74 years, in 1654. He was thus born roughly around 1580, 'allegedly' a grandson of Sir William[1] Wynter? Was he the William Wynter born at English Bicknor around 1579? If so, how, when and why did he get to Portsmouth? End of allegation. Clearly much work is needed.

For example, according to Bradley's account in Geneanet, from which this allegation was taken: (i) Christopher Wynter of English Bicknor and wife, Ann, had a son called William Wynter around 1619. (ii) That 1619 William Wynter also had a son called William Wynter around 1640. The personal name goes on for generations? (iii) That 1640 William Wynter had a son called Christopher Wynter around 1660 and he was the one who married Hannah Low in Bristol. Where are the contemporary sources of this information? What were Bradley's sources? The answer may lay in the fact that this was a problematic period for church records, the decades before, during and after the civil war. The family 'may', like others with the Wynter surname, have been Roman Catholic. But there is no supporting information anywhere it seems, though William Wynter 'of Portsmouth' named one of his sons Edward Wynter.

1580 : More on Sir William[1] Wynter

Meanwhile, Sir William Wynter was described as the steward and receiver, duchy of Lancaster lands in Gloucestershire and Herefordshire, from 1580.

William[1] Wynter received instructions from the privy council on 17 March 1580 on being appointed ‘to go to the seas with three of the Queen’s ships to cruise off the Irish coast, to intercept any succours that might be sent by the king of Spain to aid the rebels in Ireland. To arrest all pirates that he may fall in with.’ In March 1580, the Crown forces had an important strategic victory, taking the Desmond stronghold at Carrigafoyle castle at the mouth of the Shannon. With 1400 soldiers, and assisted by Sir William Wynter and his naval forces, William Pelham captured Carrigafoyle, the principal Desmond stronghold at the mouth of River Shannon and massacred the rebel garrison there. One accounted recorded simply: 13 Apr 1580 Sir William Wynter arrived at Kinsale.

A very strange letter, dated 15th July 1580, from Sir William Pelham, ‘lord justice of Ireland’, to Sir William Wynter referred to Sir Owen O’Sullivan Bere. The record is held by Lambeth Palace Library. What did all this mean? Sir William Wynter and his fleet arrived in Dingle Bay to blockade Fort del Ore in November 1580. He had previously tried to return to England with his ships and men and thus missed the arrival of a large Spanish force at Fort del ore.

Sir William Wynter was recorded at Parliament in 1581. Around this time there was another reference to ‘a’ William Wynter *the younger* near the end of a long letter from the Spanish ambassador in 1580: ‘The injuries are great, as [Francis] Drake’s, Mr [Francis] Knollys, a ship of M. de la Motte, the case of one Venero, taken by a ship having a letter of marque from the Prince of Cond; rescued beside the Isle of Wight by William Wynter *the younger* and yet restored to the pirate. And divers other outrages done upon the coast of Spain by the English, which he could recite if need were. *Mem. in writing of R. Beale.* Which William ‘the younger’ was this? Presumably he was in his mid-fifties by then.

Digression. Was Sir William’s son, Nicholas Wynter, born in London? Was he baptized at Lambeth on 29 Jan 1581? If not, who was that Nicholas Wynter. End of digression.

In 1581, the parliamentary bill for the repair of Dover-Haven was read the second time, and committed unto Sir William Wynter, Sir Edward Horsey, Mr Recorder of London, Mr Sands, Mr Dalton and others; and the bill was delivered to the said Sir Edward Horsey, who, with the rest, was appointed to meet upon Monday next at seven of the clock in the forenoon in the Exchequer Chamber.

1580 : Dunbious reference to ‘a’ Christopher Wynter

Grant dated 25 Aug 1580 in fee by John Smith of St Dunstan of London, ‘cordwyner’, to George Churchey of Pendock, Worcestershire, of all the messuages, tenements, lands,

meadows, *etc*, in ‘Stanton’ and all house orchards, gardens, etc, then or late in the tenure of the said George Churchey: To hold of the chief lords of that fee, *etc*. Mark and seal. Witnesses to deed and livery of seisi: ‘John Tymber als Wynter’, Thomas Trehearne, Thomas Mays, Thomas Bund, John Horne, *Christopher Wynter*, Richard Baddam, John Cole, Richard Evans. George Churchey of Pendock died 7 Feb 1605. Wife was Alice.

Was ‘Stanton’ perhaps the Staunton located 2½ miles east of Monmouth and 2½ miles north west of Coleford in the Forest of Dean? The document was kept at the Gloucestershire record office.

1581 : Knighthood for Francis Drake

Francis Drake (1540-1596) received his knighthood in 1581. He was known as *El Draque* to the Spanish and their king, Philip II, was said to have offered a reward of 20,000 ducats, about £4 million by modern standards, for his life.

1581 : Family matters

The rentals of Lydney, ‘late Shrewsbury’, 1581 and undated, are apparently conserved at the Gloucestershire Archives.

Thomas Wilson was born about 1546, apparently in Kilkenny, Ireland, during the reign of Henry VIII (1509-1547). His existence is verifiable from the death of his wife, Agnes Wynter, 16 Jun 1581. There are no birth records of their children but, presumably, there was a son, probably also named Thomas Wilson, who carried on the family name in Kilkenny. This Thomas Wilson was twice married: first, to Jane, daughter of Sir Richard Empson, and widow of John Pinchon of Writtle, Essex. By her, Thomas Wilson appeared to have had no issue. He married, secondly, Agnes, a daughter of John Wynter ‘of Lydney’, Gloucestershire, and *a sister of Sir William Wynter*, and by then she was also the widow of William Brooke. Of her three children, the only son, Nicholas Wilson, settled at Sheepwash; Mary Wilson married (i) firstly, Robert Burdett (*dc*1603) of Bramcote, by whom she was mother of Sir Thomas Burdett, first baronet, ancestor of Sir Francis Burdett and of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts; and (ii) secondly, Sir Christopher Lowther of Lowther, Westmorland. She was buried in the choir of Penrith parish church. Thomas Wilson’s second daughter, Lucrece Wilson, married Sir George Belgrave of Belgrave, Leicestershire.

In April 1582 Sir William[1] Wynter was consulted as to the repair of Dover harbour. Note the record at St Olave Church (near Seething Street, London) 4 Mar 1581/2.

Baptism of George son of Robert Perkins, *Sir William Wynter's cook*. Around a century later, Samuel Pepys and his wife were buried at this church, the church being saved by Samuel Pepys and Sir William Penn [not Wynter, long deceased] during the great fire of 1666. Pepys Street abuts Smeething Lane.

A document in Gloucestershire Archives, D421/F2, recorded: Thomas Wilson, esquire, one of the 'principal secretaries' to our most dread sovereign lady, Queen Elizabeth, and one of her highness most honourable 'privy council', 19 May 1582 : proved 9 July 1582. Added: He married, around 1560, Agnes, daughter of John Wynter of Lydney, widow of William Brooke. To be buried in Saint Katherine's church without any charge or pomp at all. My very good and loving friend, Sir Francis Walsingham, knight. *My brother in law, Sir William Wynter, knight*. Matthew Smythe, esquire, my cousin. My house at Edmonton and my lands there. My lands, tenements *etc* in the county of Lincoln wherein I have any estate of inheritance. My daughter, Mary Wilson, at marriage or at twenty one years of age. My daughter, Lucrece Wilson, at marriage or twenty one. My son, Nicholas Wilson, to be sole executor. My overseers (the previously mentioned Walsingham, Wynter and Smythe) shall take a straight accompt of my brother, Godfrey Wilson, touching his dealings *in mine affairs at Dyrham* and, finding him to have dealt honestly, to give unto him one hundred pounds, or else to give him nothing. Tirwhite.

One source wrote: Among his [John Wynter's] offspring were 'admirals' Rauf [Ralf], Arthur, William and George. His daughters included the *ostracised, headstrong wife of William Brook* and later of Dr Thomas Wilson. The usual error in the use of 'admiral'.

Family digression, John and Alice Wynter had eleven children named in his will dated 1545. Arthur Wynter, the eldest, was killed off the Orkneys in 1577. Both John's second son and fifth son were called William (the elder 'of Lydney' and the younger), one of them (William[1] Wynter) becoming 'surveyor of the navy', William[2] Wynter the younger continued the family tradition of sea-faring. George Wynter, the third son, became 'clerk of the king's ships' and eventually owned Dyrham. The fourth son, it was claimed in one source, Ralph or Ralf or Raffe, allegedly settled in Cornwall, perhaps at Kellyfrith-in-Kea. Other sources claimed that he died at sea. According to the *Cornish Armory* the family of Wynter who settled there bore the same coats of arms. There was two or three daughters of John and Alice Wynter all named Anne, the eldest, the third and one called 'the younger' who may had been the same person as the third daughter. In addition, Alice or Agnes, the second daughter, according to the *Visitation* of 1569, married, as her first husband, William Brook of Pensax, a hamlet in Worcestershire where there are tablets in the church to the Clutton-Brock family of Pensax Court. She married secondly, as his

second wife, Sir Thomas Wilson (1520-1581) of Strubby, Lincolnshire, scholar, 'secretary of state' to Elizabeth I and author of *Arte of Rhetorique* (1553). He led a mission to Portugal in 1567 where he was involved in furthering the trading interests of his brother-in-law, William[1] Wynter 'the elder', who was appointed overseer of his will. Thomas Wilson's son, Nicholas Wilson, sole executor, wrote a letter in October 1582 from Paris. 'Right Honourable, in most humble manner my dewty remembered although yet it myght be judged great negligence in me that your Honour hath not hard from me since my coming into France yet I trust you will not mislike of me, knowing the truth. So it was Right Honourable that as soon as ever I came to Paris, I wrote to you by means of one of my Lord Ambassador's men bringing a packet to your Honour who was robbed by the way and all his letters taken from him. Thus most humbly desyring your Honour neither to think amiss of me, for your yet that you did not hear from me this long whyle nor yet for my staying at Paris. considering I doe stay *for my cousin Sir Nicholas Wynter, my uncle Sir William Wynter's sonne* at his commandment, thus learning my true excuse in my whoel estaet to your goodly wysdom, most humbly requesting your favourable letter in my behalf to my Lord Ambassador for his Lord's favourable usage towards me. I rest bound to for your Honour for your Honour's most humble to command. Nicholas Wylson. To the Right Honourable Sir Francis Walsingham, Knight Pryncypall Secretary to her Majesty at the Court or elsewhere.' Nothing further is known of John Wynter's fourth and fifth daughters, Elizabeth and Mary. Nicholas Wynter may have died a few years later on Francis Drake's voyage, 1585-6. 'The men of name that dyed on this voyadge as I presently recall them to my remembraunce accordinge to the tymes of theyr deathe: Master Nicholas Wynter, ' ... and so on.

1582 : The will of 'yeoman' John Wynter of Allaston in Lydney

Whilst all the Wynter activities described above were in full swing and, bearing in mind that the John Wynter of Deptford in Kent, former merchant of Bristol, died in 1545, a document GDR/Wills/1582 (72) recorded the 1582 will of a yeoman called John Wynter living at Allaston in Lydney, seemingly unconnected with the Wynters of Lydney? It was written in the Elizabethan handwriting of its time and fairly 'unreadable' except to an expert. It may well be slightly incomplete with witnesses and signature not obvious. It seems that *this* particular John Wynter [as it was an abundantly common family personal name through the generations] had a son, also called John Wynter, and hence three granddaughters by the said son, namely: Jennet Wynter, Joan Wynter and Anne Wynter. He lived on a farm at 'Allaston within the parish of Lydney'. However it is

presently uncertain whether the will (in its missing portion) made any mention of William Wynter, Christopher Wynter and Thomas Wynter, the three sons of the John Wynter 'of Lydney', *husbandman*, who were apprenticed in Bristol around 1548, a full generation earlier, not long after the earlier merchant John Wynter died in 1545. It may simply have been a coincidence of such common names but clearly requires much more research. What became of the three apprentices?

It might be guessed that, as a grandfather, this particular John Wynter may have been born roughly around the 1520s or 1530s, coinciding with the dates of birth of Arthur Wynter, Ralph Wynter, William Wynter and the rest, children of John Wynter, the merchant of Bristol, later of Deptford. Yet no no record even hinting of a sibling of Arthur *et al* called John has been found? By coincidence, however, one of Arthur and William's siblings was called George Wynter 'of Dyrham' and he, too, died in 1582, a few years before Sir William Wynter. It presently remains a mystery.

1582 : Death of George Wynter of Dyrham

Sir William[1] Wynter's brother, George Wynter 'of Dyrham', died at his home at Dyrham Park, Gloucestershire, in 1582 and was buried in the church there. Sir William[1] Wynter became a trustee of the estate, though by now he was probably in his sixties, a good age for those times. Earlier, he had taken some navy contracting, and he evidently had made a fortune of £10,000 when he dissolved an earlier partnership with his brother. Meanwhile, John Hawkyns secured the reversion of George Wynter's office of 'clerk of the ships'. This vacancy did not occur until 1582, when George Wynter died, before which time John Hawkyns had entered the navy board at the top and not at the bottom. He had facilities for knowing what went on it the dockyards and what was the policy of the navy board, for his father-in-law was head of the board and he, himself, was formally promised a seat on it. Sir William[1] Wynter kept all his business in his private books and thus became suspect of over-charging the queen. George Wynter 'of Dyrham' had married Anne Brayne, sister and co-heiress of Robert Brayne of Bristol. Their eldest son,[yet another] John Wynter 'of Dyrham', had married Mary Brouncker of Erle Stoke, Wiltshire. He had sailed on a voyage with Francis Drake when his father died, returning early to face various accusations, and the property at Dyrham, *etc*, was left in trust until he cleared himself of the charge of piracy.

According to the online Gloucestershire Archives: The manor of Dyrham was bought from the Denys family by George Wynter, brother of Sir William Wynter of Lydney, in 1571. Apart from deeds and settlements (D1799/T2-4) there are few records in the

county archives relating to the Dyrham estate during its ownership by the Wynter family. A few deeds are signed by Sir William Wynter including the acquittal of Captain John Wynter, 1582, for acts of piracy committed during Sir Francis Drake's circumnavigation of the world (D1799/T3). In 1680-2 John Wynter was involved in lawsuits said to have cost him £10,000 (D1799/L9-13) which evidently severely reduced his fortune. Where are the details?

Between 1577-1578, former friend, John Hawkyns, accused Sir William[1] Wynter of 'abuses in the admiralty touching Her Majesty's navy, of inefficiency, speculation and sabotaging England's defences in return for Spanish gold'. The Wynter family biographical researcher, Wendy Garcia, wrote [in the online Golden Falcon web-site]: John Hawkyns even accused Sir William Wynter of being paid by the Spanish. He produced a report to William Cecil, Lord Burghley, about the condition of the navy which was highly critical of Sir William Wynter, saying he kept records of indents for tackle and cordage in his private books and the navy office knew nothing about it. There were alleged abuses in purchasing and disposing of timber and planks which were used by private individuals. John Hawkyns maintained there was fraud 'for Sir William Wynter's commodity' and presented details under the heading 'matteres that touch Sir William Wynter particularly'. Mentioned here were that the *Mary Fortune* and the *Edward* were built of royal timber (probably from the Forest of Dean); also wharves (one was at Wapping). What happened?

1582 : More on John Wynter 'of Dyrham'

Stored at Gloucestershire Archives: Manors of Dyrham and Hinton, advowson, and capital messuage of Dyrham with the park, messuage tenement; watermill and lands, all in Dyrham: manor of Wick; hundred of Barton and messuage and lands belonging to Fortune's Chantry; manor of St James's, Bristol, and rectory of St Philip and Jacob; messuage in Iron Acton, messuage in Mangotsfield, two messuages in Hanham. It includes a declaration by executors and heirs of George Wynter that his son, John Wynter 'of Dyrham', had been acquitted of charges of piracy 'supposed againste him by the Portingalles that hadd bynne commytted in the tyme while he .... was upon the seas in Companie with Fraunce Drake', signed by uncle, William Wynter 'of Lydney', and others, 1582. In addition: settlements before marriage between John Wynter and Mary Brouncker of Erle Stoke in Wiltshire, 1590, and after marriage between George Wynter and Mary Rogers of Cannington in Somerset, 1622.

1582 : Henry Gilman's will

In the year 1582, Henry Gilman was living in Poplar in the parish of Stepney, where he made his will and where he died in the following year. His will commenced: 'I Henrye Gilman, gentleman, dwellinge in Poplar in the Parishe of Stebunheathe (Stepney) in the County of Middlesex, *etc*'. The huge will was dated 'The fourtenthe daye of Marche in the year of our Lorde God .....' and continued ..... 'I commende my Soule to Allmightie god and my bodye to be buried in the Chauncell of the Parishe Church of Stebunheath (Stepney)'. There is an entry in the register in the parish church of St Dunstan, Stepney, in the county of Middlesex, in the year 1583 : 'Mr Harry Gilman was buried the second of Aprill.' Parts of the will included: 'I doe geve to *Sir William Winter Knight* a ringe of goulde of the value of fortye shillings and my dammask gowne. Item I gyve to John Hawkins a ringe of like value and one ringe of the value of twentie shillinges to his wife. I bequeathe unto Xjiofer Baker one ringe of goulde of the value of forty shillings. ..... And I ordaine and make my wel beloved frendes the fore saide *Sir William Winter Knight* and Mr John Mathewe [query of Coleford?] overseers of this my laste Will desyringe theme moste hartelye to take some paynes to see the same in all things performed accordinge to the creditt I have alhvayes hadd in theme. Signed. Theise beinge witnesses' : W. Wynter *et al*. Henry Gilman was treasurer and keeper of the queen's naval stores in 1567 at Deptford, Kent.

1582 : Nicholas Wynter

Agnes Wynter married secondly (as his second wife), Sir Thomas Wilson (born around. 1520, died 1581) of Strubby, Lincolnshire, scholar, secretary of state to Elizabeth I and author of *Arte of Rhetorique* (1553), who led a mission to Portugal (1567) where he was involved in furthering the trading interests of his brother-in-law Sir William Winter who was overseer of his will. His son, Nicholas Wilson, sole executor, wrote a letter in October 1582 from Paris: Agnes had two daughters by Sir Thomas, Mary and Lucrece Wilson. Nicholas's letter was as follows: Right Honourable, in most humble manner my dewty remembered although yet it myght be judged great negligence in me that your Honour hath not hard from me since my coming into France yet I trust you will not mislike of me, knowing the truth. So it was Right Honourable that as soon as ever I came to Paris, I wrote to you by means of one of my Lord Ambassador's men bringing a packet to your Honour who was robbed by the way and all his letters taken from him. Thus most humbly desyring your Honour neither to think amiss of me, for your yet that you did not

hear from me this long whyle nor yet for my staying at Paris. considering I doe stay for my cousin *Sir Nicholas Wynter, my uncle Sir William Wynter's sonne* at his commandment, thus learning my true excuse in my whoel. estaet to your goodly wysdom, most humbly requesting your favourable letter in my behalf to my Lord Ambassador for his Lord's favourable usage towards me. I rest bound to for your Honour for your Honour's most humble to command. Nicholas Wylson.

1583 : The Martin Frobisher expeditions to Baffin Island

There was a report by Thomas Neale and William Baynham of the results of their audit of the accounts of Michael Lok (c1532–1620/22). The report was certified into the high court of chancery in compliance with a *writ of certiorari* dated 6 May 1583. Michael Lok's accounts concerned the three voyages made by Martin Frobisher (1535?- 1594) to Baffin Island. The numerous people mentioned included *Sir William[1] Winter*, whose contribution to the expedition amounted to £300. The earl of Oxford contributed £2500 and Elizabeth I contributed £4000.

1583 : Sir Gilbert Humphrey's expedition to Newfoundland

Edward Haies: *Sir Humphrey Gilbert's Voyage To Newfoundland*, 1583. 'Orders thus determined, and promises mutually given to be observed, every man withdrew himself unto his charge; the anchors being already weighed, and our ships under sail, having a soft gale of wind, we began our voyage upon Tuesday, the 11 day of June in the year of our Lord 1583, having in our fleet (at our departure from Cawset Bay) these ships, whose names and burthens, with the names of the captains and masters of them, I have also inserted, as followeth: I. The *Delight*, alias the *George*, of burthen 120 tons, was admiral [the command ship]; in which went the general, and *William Winter*, captain in her *and part owner*, and Richard Clarke, master [see 1596]. 2. The bark *Raleigh*, set forth by Master Walter Raleigh, of the burthen of 200 tons, was then vice-admiral; in which went Master Butler, captain, and Robert Davis, of Bristol, master. 3. The *Golden Hind*, of burthen 40 tons, was then rear-admiral; in which went Edward Haies, captain and owner, and William Cox, of Limehouse, master. 4. The *Swallow*, of burthen 40 tons; in her was captain Maurice Browne. 5. The *Squirrel*, of burthen 10 tons; in which went captain William Andrews, and one Cade, master. We were in number in all about 260 men; among whom we had of every faculty good choice, as shipwrights, masons, carpenters, smiths, and such like, requisite to such an action; also mineral men and

refiners. Besides, for solace of our people, and allurement of the savages, we were provided of music in good variety; not omitting the least toys, as morris-dancers, hobby-horse, and May-like conceits to delight the savage people, whom we intended to win by all fair means possible. And to that end we were indifferently furnished of all petty haberdashery wares to barter with those simple people'.

Elizabeth's Sea Dogs: How England's Mariners Became the Scourge of the Seas ... by Hugh Bicheno included: ' ...on 11 June 1583 sailed out of Southampton on the 120-ton *Delight* [see 1596] under its *owner William Wynter*, not to be confused with Sir William Wynter ...'. Yet, five years later, on 1 Aug 1588, a long letter from Sir William Wynter to Lord Walsinbgham included the paragraph: 'The which vessel my lord did cause to be followed with small vessels, and boats, which did force her to run aground upon the bar of Calais haven, the tide being half spent. Great fight made there between our men and them; and one William Coxe, *master of a bark of mine* called the *Delight* did first board her; who sithen that time is slain. And so others, in boat and small pinnace, did very valiantly behave themselves, which was better done by reason that my Lord Admiral did stay off and one, with some good ships with him to give comfort and countenance to our men'.

1583 : Life at Lydney, John Sandys and Edward Wynter

Lancashire born John Sandys, the tutor of the 'young' Wynter children (who were born at unknown locations between 1560 and 1574) at Lydney, went to France on 4 Jun 1583. He was ordained at Reims Cathedral in 1584 by cardinal archbishop Louise de Guise. Then he returned to Lydney on 2 Oct 1584 as a Roman Catholic priest, where he worked for two years despite the dangers of those dreadful times. One report mentioned that 'after he was a priest he returned thither again *in layman's apparel* and resorted to his old friends of those quarters'.

The activities of Edward Wynter, son and heir of Sir William[1] Wynter, during this period are, alas, rather vague. He was described by the queen, herself, Elizabeth I, sometime around 1588-1593, around his 30th birthday: '*you, Mr Wynter; whom we know never to have had charge at all in any martial service, but to have lived as a private person*'. That didn't give an impression of a naval captain with action either at sea or land. He was, in fact, very prone to sea sickness and consequently disliked life at sea. If the much earlier alleged hypothesis is correct, then something must have happened during the period 1580-1585 that saw the departure of Edward Wynter from the Forest of Dean. One source claimed that, around 1579 or so, there were allegedly two sons of

Edward Wynter born in the neighbouring parish of English Bicknor, William and Christopher. Both survived but what happened to their mother, the daughter of Christopher Wyrall? Did she die, possibly in childbirth or one of the many other illnesses of those times? Was her death, if such there was, the reason why Edward Wynter went seeking adventure away from Lydney and the Forest of Dean? Or was he 'encouraged' to do so by his father, William[1] Wynter, to get some experience in the style of the Wynters? Or was it the extremely barbaric murder of John Sandys? Who knows.

For some reason, thought often repeated verbatum in various sources, between 1584-1585, a commission was appointed to 'examine' Sir William[1] Wynter, consisting of Lord Burghley, Francis Walsingham, Sir Walter Mildmay, 'chancellor of the exchequer', the earl of Lincoln who was 'lord admiral', the 'lord chamberlain' and Lord Hunsdon, who chose a jury of sea captains: Sir Thomas Cotton, Sir William Gorges, Sir Francis Drake, Richard Bingham, Martin Frobisher, Fulke Greville, Carew [which one], Walter Raleigh, Henry Palmer, George Beeston and Thomas Ellis. The commission found Sir William Wynter 'at fault' [of what?]. This meant even less of the Wynters in naval management circles. The reason for this account has not been located.

1585 : Chamberlain's Accounts.

10 Dec 1585: To Robert Smithe by order from Mr Recorder for writing out a long discourse delivered to Sir William Wynter, knight, by Roger Tyler complaining against the lord mayor and aldermen and containing divers false and scandalous speeches touching the said search: 20s.

1585 : Edward Wynter's sea adventures

Despite what was written in the previous paragraph, a list of men fit to command ships in *The Names of Sea Captains*, 5 Jan 1585, included: (i) Sir William Wynter, knight, (ii) Edward Wynter, esquire, (iii) John Wynter 'of Dyrham', esquire, and (iv) William Wynter, gentleman. Who exactly was the last-mentioned? There were so many called William Wynter but the possibilities included Sir William's brother and, less likely, Sir William's young son [who was barely into his twenties], the latter later called William Wynter 'of Coleford'.

Whatever the reason, as suggested earlier, in September 1585 a 25 year-old Edward Wynter must have left the Forest of Dean and joined Francis Drake's voyage to the West Indies as captain of *The Aid*, an expedition not unlike 'piracy' but with royal permission,

which returned in July 1586 with a total booty allegedly worth £60,000 at that time. Edward Wynter had gained some 'experience' at a price, seemingly being far less experienced than the other sea captains, but a later comment by him indicated that he was very sea-sick during the voyage and suffered from the problem on this and on other sea voyages. Did something happen at home during this time? Where were his two 'alleged' sons, William and Christopher Wynter when their father was in the West Indies? Edward's brother, Nicholas Wynter [see earlier paragraph, 1582], is said to have died at the battle of Santo Domingo and Catregena de las Indies, Columbia, in 1586. He may have left a wife and children with links to Reading, Berkshire? Details are needed. It has also been recorded that William Wynter 'the younger', allegedly the fourth son of Sir William Wynter [but see 1565], commanded the *Foresight* with Drake in 1587 and again in 1595 [see 1596], whilst in 1588 he commanded his father's ship the *Minion*. Surely this is not possible as Sir William's youngest son, William, was born in 1574. What about William Wynter 'of Coleford', born in the 1560s. He could be described as either 'the younger' (compared with his father) or 'the elder' [compared with his brother]. It is all rather ambiguous and extremely confusing. In all probability it was William[2] Wynter the younger, born around 1525, but clarification is needed here.

Meanwhile, Edward Wynter returned from Sir Francis Drakes' West Indies expedition and, in 1586, Sir William Wynter was MP for Gloucestershire and Edward Wynter was MP for Newport juxta Launceston in Cornwall. Edward Wynter's first appearance in the parliament of 1586-1587 was perhaps due to his father's influence in high places.

While all of this was going on, John Sandys was arrested at Lydney in 1586, seemingly living at the Lydney home of Sir William Wynter. He was tried at Gloucester under the statute of 1585 'against Jesuits and seminary priests and such other disobedient persons'. This made it an offence for an Englishman ordained abroad to come into, or remain in, England. Found guilty by Sir Roger Manwood, he was sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered, and in such a manner was barbarically martyred at Gloucester on 11 Aug 1586. The records of the English College in Rome stated that John Sandys was a poor (in the sense 'not wealthy') scholar at Oxford before being appointed tutor to Sir William's children. After becoming a priest he visited friends in Gloucestershire, including the home of the Anglican rural dean of Lydney. The dean's enemies betrayed the dean, having no interest in John Sandys. John Sandys was more recently beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1987. These were the conditions of extreme religious bigotry and intolerance during which Edward Wynter and the Wyrall daughter of Bicknor, it is believed, may had their two sons.

It is not known whether any pardon was suggested as in a later case: The judge, Sir

Roger Manwood, was chief baron of the exchequer. He was a judge of the Oxford circuit which, at that time, included Gloucester. Sir Roger is recorded as not wishing to condemn another Roman Catholic, William Lampley, to death and offered him pardon if he would only go to church. He also commanded William's kinsmen, friends and officers and preachers to try to persuade him to conform. Their efforts were fruitless and the judge ordered that the passing bell should be tolled in the hope that the ominous sound would cause the martyr to weaken in his resolve. This, and other last minute offers of pardon, proved to be in vain. Details of John Sandys are needed.

1586 : List of ships

A list of ships in 1586 included: (i) *Aid* (200-250 tuns), the queen's ship; Edward Wynter, captain. (ii) *Sea Dragon* (140 tuns), owned by Sir William Wynter, the queen's surveyor of Ships; Henry Whyte, captain. Evidently this latter was one of the vessels scattered in 1558 by the storm that arose while the fleet rode at anchor off the Outer Banks. On her return, she required new anchors and cables.

1587 : Edward Wynter on the Continent

When it became apparent that there was no immediate prospect of further excitement at home, Edward Wynter determined to seek it elsewhere. A year later, in August 1587, he was in Bergen-op-Zoom in southern Netherlands and, from there, he wrote asking Sir Francis Walsingham (*bc*1532-*dc*1590), 'principal secretary' from 1573 to Elizabeth I, often called her 'spy-master', to secure him the necessary permission. In other words, he was offering himself as one of Sir Francis Walsingham's many spies. Edward Wynter wrote: 'Because I despair of any new putting again into the field this year, I am resolved to repair with all speed to the king of Navarre (northern Spain, Basque area), who, as I hear, useth such gentlemen as come unto him honourably'. Then, for some unexplained reason, he added: 'I am resolved to live in the wars for a time, or else to travel for a year or two'. He was clearly ill at ease over something? He ended his letter by recording that he left his father, Sir William Wynter: 'most naturally affected towards me', whatever that meant. A brief reference in a subsequent letter suggested that Edward Wynter obtained the necessary permission and found the sort of service he had been seeking. Why was he so unsettled? However, despite this, Edward Wynter returned home the following Spring, 1588, when the threat of a Spanish offensive against England became more real, presumably in the hope of some service, though presumably not at sea. It is not known

whether he was successful. Nothing of his activities, if any, in the famous sea-battle is known. Instead, in 1588, he was appointed sheriff of Gloucestershire.

1587 : Sir William Wynter's servant at East Smithfield, London

The registers of St Botolph Aldgate: 27 August 1587: 'Domingo, a negroe' (parchment burial register, GL Ms 9222/1). The paper burial register (GL Ms 9221) gives the same entry in the following words: 'Domingo, a black neigro servaunt unto Sir William Wynter, was buryed the 27 of August. East [end]. Con[sumption?]. Yeres 40.' The parish clerk's memorandum book, GL Ms 9234/1, f.127v, gives: 'Domingo, beinge a Ginnye negaro and beinge servaunt to the Right Worshipfull S(i)r William Wynter knyght, dwellinge in the abbye place, beinge the mannor howse of Eastsmithfield, was buried the xxviith daye of August [1587]. He had the best clothe. Con[sumption?].'

1588 : Letter mentioning Sir William Wynter

Lord C. Howard to Sir F. Walsyngham, 1587-8, January 28. ….. Sir, yf the Comysyoners be wonse gonne over, and that ther be a surcese of armse, it shal be but folly and to no pourpose, for me to ly heer; I thynke bothe I and the noblemen, levynge souffysent lyvtenants in our shyps, and the offysers, as *Sir W. Wynter*, Mr. Hawkynse, and Mr. Bowros, (to) remayne heer with the navy, wyl be sofiysent, for befor thees shyps chan have ther full nomber of men agayne, it wyllbe a monthe together. ….. hartely farwell, from abourd her Majesties good shype the Beer, the 28 of Ja.
Your assured lovynge frend, (Signed) C. Howard.

1588 : The Spanish Armada

During the battle with the Spanish Armada, which coincided with a period of severe south-westerly storms, Sir William Wynter was involved in a lesser capacity, despite his old age, but seemingly not Edward Wynter. It is said that his brother, William Wynter 'of Coleford', took part, but where are the details. It was also recorded that William Wynter the younger, allegedly the fourth son of Sir William Wynter, commanded his father's ship the *Minion*, 200 tons, 80 crew, in 1588. It seems very unlikely. If Edward was born in 1860, a fourth son, assuming no intervening daughters, would have been a young teenager by 1588, and that William was born around 1574. On 17 Aug 1588, Lord Henry Seymour to Sir Francis Walsyngham [*Small extract*]. Sir: Monsieur de Nassau came to dinner unto me, where he found Sir Henry Palmer, *Edward Wynter 'of Lydney' and John*

Wynter 'of Dyrham', Sir William Wynter 'of Lydney' being ill at ease in his bed. On 22 Aug 1588, Howard to the privy council. Upon my coming back to Dover the 21st of August, I presently sent for Henry Seymour, *William Wynter*, Francis Drake, John Hawkyns, Henry Palmer and Thomas Fenner, to come unto me, to confer with them for the present consideration of Her Majesty's service; who declared unto me the state of the fleet, which with sorrow and grief I must deliver unto your lordships.

The 800-ton *Ark Royal* with 400 men was the flag ship of Lord Charles Howard. The 800 ton *Victory* with 400 men was *admiral* with Sir John Hawkins' ship, captained by R Barker. The 1000 ton ship *The Triumph*, with 500 men, was the *vice-admiral* with Sir Martin Frobisher's ship [Other sources named the *Aid*?]. Sir Francis Drake's ship was the 500 ton *Revenge* with 250 men. Sir William Wynter's ship was the *Vanguard* with 250 men. And so on.

Here is an oddity which requires research, taken from the extensive accounts of the Dale family. 'We were unable to find Thomas Dale mentioned in the land or sea forces awaiting the Spanish invasion, but it comes as no surprise as Thomas Dale stated in his own handwriting that he started his military career as an enlisted man and therefore would not be mentioned. We did discover a John Dale as master of one of the English ships, the *Minion*, which sailed from Bristol as well as *another under the command of William Wynter Junior who was married to Lady Dale's cousin*. John Dale became our major candidate as the John Dale, son of Edward Dale, who gave testimony regarding Clearwell Manor in 1607'. Which William Wynter junior was this. Not the one born in 1574?

William Wynter wrote to Lord Walsyngham on 1 Aug 1568 a long letter mentioning his nephew, John Wynter 'of Dyrham'. 'But after the council was ended, my Lord Admiral sent aboard me a gentleman of his, both to see how I did, as also to tell me that my Lord Seymour had order to repair back again, to guard the Thames mouth from any attempt that might be made by the Duke of Parma ; and that I was to attend upon him, and 2 all the rest that were of his former charge ; and that we should bear away in the twilight, as 3 the enemy might not see our departing. And so, obeying the commandment which was brought unto me by Sir Henry Palmer, Sir John Hawkyns, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Beeston, and Mr. Baker, and likewise advertised to me from my Lord Henry Seymour, *and by my nephew John Wynter, whom I did send aboard (being my lieutenant) to the council*, to know what order should be taken, all agreeing with the message delivered unto me by my Lord Admiral's servant, I did about 8 of the clock in the night, a-being then little wind and veered to the NE., bear back again through our fleet ; and truly we had much ado with the staying of many ships that would have returned with us besides our own

company'.

1588 : Edward Wynter to Francis Walsingham

On 24 Aug 1588: Edward Wynter wrote to Francis Walsingham [*Major portion omitted*]. Now, Sir, for mine own particular, if it please you to know thus much. In hope that the Spanish fleet would ere this have returned, I have enforced myself to endure the seas, which (*by reason of my late sickness*) *I find doth in no sort agree with me*; and *therefore, because I am out of all hope now to see this year any service by sea*, my humblest desire is, seeing I am resolved to follow the wars, that it would vouchsafe your Honour to be mindful of me if there happen any occasion that forces *either of foot or horse* should be employed. To be plain, Sir, I protest unto you my two journeys, the one to the [West] Indies, the other to the Low Countries, *have already so dearly cost me* as I would be loth, upon my own charge, absolutely to enter into the like; and therefore do desire instantly to be advised by you what course to follow. I have nothing else to write but that I am ready to obey you with all duty and true inward affection in whatsoever service it shall best please you to employ me; and do beseech God to make you ever happy, and yourself, Sir, to continue me in your honourable favour. Dover, the 24th of August 1588. Your Honour's humbly at command, Edward Wynter . That was clear enough. He was not a natural sailor.

Later, on 17 Aug 1588, some time after the Spanish fleet had been scattered, Edward Wynter dined at Dover with Lord Henry Seymour and Maurice of Nassau, and a week later sent Sir Francis Walsingham the latest information to reach that port. Yet again, he ended his letter, typically, by telling Sir Francis Walsingham that he was 'resolved to follow the wars' and asked to be remembered 'if there happen any occasion that forces, either of foot or horse, should be employed' ... *because he was frequently sea-sick*!

In December 1588, just before he succeeded his father, Edward Wynter was elected to one of the Gloucestershire county seats. In 1589 he succeeded his father in becoming 'steward and receiver' of the Duchy of Lancaster lands in Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

1588 : Digression

Extract: 'The common people did use to say that in Queen Elizabeth's days the Spaniards sent an ambassador purposely to get this wood [in the Forest of Dean] destroyed. As Mr Evelyn writes that he 'heard' what he states of the matter, Mr Secretary Pepys was

probably his informant, who was told it by his friend, Sir John Wynter, who again heard it from his grandfather, Sir William Wynter, vice-admiral [sic!] of Elizabeth's fleet, but kinsman to Thomas Wynter of Huddington [?], who at the close of this reign was constantly aiding the Spanish Romanists in their intrigues here, and eventually took part in the Gunpowder Plot. *The Forest of Dean* by H G Nicholls, page 23.

1588 : The last battle for Sir William Wynter

William[1] Wynter took his part in dispersing the Spanish Armada in 1588. From his ship, *The Vanguard*, in the Downs, he wrote to the admiralty on 28 Feb 1588, 'The ships have suffered from the roughness of the weather. It does a man's heart good to see the gallant fleet, and they only long for the Prince of Parma to put to sea'. He was still watching for the Spanish fleet in the Downs on 28 June, and off Folkestone on 27 July, but a few days later on 1st August, he wrote from the *Vanguard* off Harwich to Sir Francis Walsingham, that he was chasing and fighting the enemy. 'Another engagement with them, and great was the spoil done unto them. *Wynter hurt'*. Ironically, it was Sir William Wynter who altered the type and tactics of the cannon used that allowed the English ships to sit safely back and fire upon the armada. He partially recovered from his wound, and was still 'keeper of the ordnance' in 1589, but died thereafter. The state papers recorded: 'And in the service of his country, Sir William Wynter was hurt by the recoil of a gun during the battle against the Spanish Armada and he died [where?] on 20 February 1589, but *his sons Edward and William* [which one?] and his nephew John *continued voyaging*...'. Therein lie the queries: Was Edward Wynter involved at sea? Presumably William Wynter was a very young William 'of Coleford'. His younger brother, William Wynter, was only 14 years of age. John, of course, was John Wynter of 'Dyrham'.

1588 : Odd document in Tower of London

'In the year 1588, when the navy of Spaniards came over to invade England, Queen Elizabeth, of blessed memorie, in her owne defence sent out her navie, Capt. Fran Drake being one of the admirals under the Earle of Nottingham, her lorde high admiral, and Capt. William Wynter, a vice-admirall, who by their great courage and good conduct did so valiantly behave themselves, that they soon brook their line, burnt their ships, and totally routed that great fleet, styled by the Pope the invincible Armada, for which good service then done the Queen after, in her royale tent at her camp, then at Tilbury in Essex, was graciously pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on her vice-admiral,

and style him Sir William Wynter, etc'. ??? Very odd?

Sir William[1] Wynter the elder 'of Lydney' had already been knighted on 28 Aug 1573 at Gillingham [or various other places according to source] by Elizabeth I, allegedly the only man knighted personally by Elizabeth I for his *services to the navy* over a period of thirty years.

1588/9 : Statement from the Queen

The Queen to the Justices of the Peace and others in various counties. Requires her Highness's officers in Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Dorsetshire, Gloucestershire, Bristol, Somersetshire and Monmouthshire, to be aiding and assisting William Holstoke, controller of her ships, and *George Wynter, clerk of the same*, to seek out, apprehend, and commit to prison all such disobedient persons as since the time of her Majesty's last pardon have received prest and conduct money to serve her in her ships, and never came to their appointed service: as also all such as after they did appear departed from her service without sufficient licence by passport.

During 1585-9, William Holstock, often a sea captain, was one of the officials who attempted to combine efficiency with economy in naval administration. He and William Wynter reported from Tower Hill in December 1587 their satisfaction that John Hawkins had 'faithfully performed all the conditions of his offer' to undertake repairs and new building. There is much of his career online.

1588 : Ship construction plan

1588. Nov. [20.] Device by Lord Admiral Howard. Sir F. Drake, Sir W. Wynter, Sir John Hawkyns, Captain Wm. Borough, and others for the con struction of four new ships to be built on the model of the *Revenge*, but exceeding her in burthen. The dimensions to be 100 feet by the keel, 35 feet in breadth, and 15 feet depth in the hold. Cal. S. P. Eliz.

1589 : The will of Sir William Wynter

The will of Sir William Wynter, 1 Feb 1589, recorded, amongst much other things: To my son, William [Wynter of Coleford], I bequeath half the goods in my house in London and 150 oz of silver plate, also *oxen*, clothes and Milan corselet, *6 bows, 12 sheaves of arrows and crossbows*. From one point-of-view, this person was also William Wynter 'the younger', as Sir William's son, just as his paternal uncle, William Wynter 'the younger'

was so-called because he happened to have an elder brother of that name, *viz* Sir William Wynter. Yet, to confuse the issue, this William Wynter 'of Coleford', born in the 1860s, also had *a younger brother later called Captain William Wynter*, born around 1574. Try sorting that one out? In other words: Sir William Wynter had a brother and two sons all called William Wynter, none of which died in infancy, besides grandsons and henceforth with that interminable first name. That also meant that Edward Wynter had two adult brothers called William Wynter, (i) William 'of Coleford' and (ii) 'Captain' William Wynter; and sons of his own called William! What utter confusion? How did the family differentiate?

Thus, in 1588, Sir William Wynter was wounded during the sea-battle against the Spanish Armada and eventually died in February 1589 (or 1588/9 in the old calendar). His eldest son, Edward Wynter, paid for the funeral. He was still in London when his father's will was proved on 15 Mar 1589. What a pity there are no contemporary accounts of the funeral either at London or at Lydney. Who attended?

More from the will of Sir William Wynter, 2nd son of John Wynter, of Whitecross House, Lydney dated 1st Feb 1589. (i) I desire to be buried in the chapel which I lately made in Lydney church. (ii) To my *daughter Elizabeth* Wynter £1,100; to my *daughter Jane* £1,000. These were huge dowries? (iii) The will referred to his son-in-law Thomas Bayneham [Baynham] and my servant Roger Monosee putting it forth upon good assurance to be paid on marriage by consent of the said Thomas Bayneham. (iv) His *son Edward Wynter*; his son-in-law George Huntley; his nephew John Wynter 'of Dyrham'; his kinsmen George Wirral 'of Bicknor' and John Morgan; and his friend Charles Jones 'of Nass'. (v) To my niece (did he mean granddaughter?) Cecily Bayneham [Baynham], £50; and to the rest of *my daughters, Mary and Eleanor*, £30 each. (vi) To my friend Christopher Baker, a gown. See earlier in these notes. (vii) To my son Edward, my manor of Wyche, county of Gloucester [Wick north of Bath]. (viii) To my daughter Bayneham, a chain of pearls with a jewel of emeralds in the manor of a mermaid; other jewellery to daughters before-named. (ix) To my servant Thomas Merson, a copyhold tenement *in my manor of Purton*, late in the tenure of Edward Johnson, deceased. Executor my eldest son Edward. Why was there no mention of William Wynter the younger, the one born around 1574, later alias Captain William Wynter? What was the explanation? In 1589 he was only about 15 years of age. Where did he live? Who looked after him?

Writer William Patten eulogized two former patrons: (i) Henry, earl of Arundel, whom he had served in France, in a broadside entitled *A Moorning Diti* (1580); and (ii) Sir William Wynter, in his essay: *In mortem W. Wynter equitis aurati Monumentum diutinae mutuaeque amicitiae ergò* (1589). William Patten (1510-1598) was an author, scholar and

government official during the reigns of Edward VI and Elizabeth I.

According to one source: For his elegy on his old friend William Wynter, a member of the Inner Temple from 1561, knighted in 1573, who died on 20 February 1589, William Patten reverted to Latin verse. William Wynter, a fellow-expeditioner to Scotland, was, like William Patten, a small shareholder in the Mines Royal; Patten mentions Wynter as capacious in friendship, beloved by his equals and respected by the common people. The unfading glory of his people, he opened up trade routes and brought the fleet safely home from many actions at sea. He was sixty eight at his death and was buried on 10 March on his estate at Lidney in Gloucestershire. [Betty Hill, 'William Patten's Friends', *Leeds Studies in English*, 1998, 127-36]. Following the Scottish expedition, Patten was preferred to Exchequer appointments. He became collector of petty custom and subsidy in the Port of London from July 1549 to 1552, receiver-general of Yorkshire revenues in 1558, and teller of the receipt of the exchequer for life in 1562.

There was a sort of 'double burial' for Sir William Wynter, rather macabre but not uncommon in those times. For example, St Botolph without Aldgate, parish clerk's memoranda, 21 Februarie Anno 1588 [in modern terminology 21 Feb 1588/9]: 'The Bowels of Sr William Wynter Weare buried'. It went as follows: 'Memerandum that the Bowelles of Sr William Wynter knygh[t] weare by Thomas Ponder ower Sexten Buried onn the northe Syde of the churche in the churchyeard the xxjth Day of Februarie anno 1588 Betwixt the oweres of Seven and eyght of the clocke at nyght and tha[t] in my prsentes. Then: 20 Februarie Anno 1588. Memerandum that Sir William Wynter Knyght *Endid this Lyfe in His Howse* in this parishe the 20th daye of Februarie Anno 1588 att ellevenn of the clocke in the nyght beinge Cutt of the collick and the stone. Then on 10 Marche Ano 1588. The right Worshipfull Ser William Wynter his corps Was caried towards glostershyer to be buried there. Memerandum that the Corps of the Right worshipfull Ser William Wynter who Departed this lyfe Beinge Cutt For the Stone the xxth Daye of Februarie ano 1588 Last past was carried towardes glostershyre to be Buried there the xth Day of marche anno 1588 and Heare was Ronge for Him This Sayd Daye aforenoones knell wt the greate bell and the peales as yf that He Showld Have beene buried Heare wt us at wch tyme *His Sonne mr Edward Wynter* Ded paye the Dewties unto this parishe For that He died in this parishe as yf that He Had beene buried in the parishe Churche as Followethe the Funirall chardgis received For the Funirall of Sr William Wynter athowghe not buried heare: For the minester ijs. For the Forenoones knell wt the greate bell vjs viijd. For the grownd in the church not used vjs viijd. For the best cloth not used ixd. For breakinge of the grownd not used ijs. For the peales ijs. For the pitt & knelles not made nor used xviijd. For the clarkes attendance viijd. For the Sextenes attendance iiijd. For iij

passinge belles wt the great bell ijs. And for the pulpet clothe wch I Had nott nether Had we anye to use For that He was not buried heare'. What a strange situation?

Thus bells were rung and burial charges incurred. Sir William Wynter was indeed an important man. He had a house near Tower Hill as well as his family residence in Gloucester. It seems that separate burial of the bowels, and indeed of the heart and other parts of the body, was certainly not unheard of in medieval and early modern England, particularly for royals and other high-status persons. If such a person died away from home, there was emotional value in returning the body to be interred in familiar surroundings, and so a method needed to be found of transporting the body that would minimise decay and stench. Embalming techniques at the time were not particularly effective and so, before sending the body on the long journey home, the bowels would first be removed and buried. But on the death of important personages, there could also be conflicts about where they should be buried, with more than one locality wishing to claim the remains: one solution was to divide the body. In such cases, the heart and head were considered of the greatest importance, and a certain amount of competition could evolve over which locality received these for burial. If there had been any competition between Aldgate and Gloucester over the claiming of Sir William's body, Aldgate won the heart and Gloucester won the body.

1589 : Snippets

(i) In the expedition to Portugal in 1589 ... were ...: *Foresight* with Captain William Winter [of uncertain identity, but see 1596 and other references to this ship; possibly 'of Coleford' or unlikely the latter's youngest brother mentioned in William of Coleford's will as he was only a teenager then]. (ii) In the channel squadron under Martin Frobisher: *Antelope* with John Winter 'of Dyrham', captain and vice-admiral, 1st January to 13th July 1589, at 8 shillings a day. The same comments apply. See the next paragraph.

1589 : Edward Wynter

It was a difficult time for the Wynter family, ignoring the consequences of the religious intolerance and bigotry of those times. Edward Wynter's father died. Edward, as eldest son and heir, seemingly inherited Lydney and other estates. In this capacity he also arranged the strange double burial of his father. His *youngest* brother went to Oxford: William Wynter of the county of Gloucester, *equites fil*, Magdalen College, matriculation 9 May 1589 aged 15 (born in 1574)? In addition, Edward Wynter received a special pardon

by Elizabeth I. What was the story behind that? It cannot be found online except the Gloucestershire Archives: 1588/9. Special pardon by Elizabeth I to Edward Wynter, esquire, *for having killed Henry Welshe in a duel in Marylebone*. What was the story behand that? However, there are several notes of interest. (i) An account of the surname Tockell stated that the first recorded spelling of the family name may have been that of Jane Tackle, who married *Henry Welshe*, at St James church, Clerkenwell, London, on 7 Dec 1561. This was during the early part of the reign of Elizabeth I, 1558-1603. (ii) 23 Jan 1573. True Bill that, at the parish of St Brigitte in Flete strete London in the ward of Farringdon without London, *Henry Welshe*, late of London, woodmonger, assaulted Thomas Vaughan, late of London, woodmonger, and with a piece of wood called a billett, which he (Henry Welshe) held in his right hand, struck him [Thomas Vaughan] on the right side of the body, giving him a wound of which he died on 1 February next following.

One item in the Gloucestershire Archives was listed as: Letters patent granting to Edward Wynter licence to take possession of estates held from the Crown by his father deceased. One account of his father included the following: ‘At his death, on 20 Feb 1589, he was still active and his house [in Lydney] *still building*. In his will, made on 1 Feb 1589 and proved on 15 Mar 1589, he, Sir William, asked to be buried in the chapel he had built in Lydney church. The executor, his heir Edward, *had already been provided for*. How? The next son, William ‘of Coleford’, clearly the brother of Edward Wynter, received half the goods in his London house, a fine collection of weapons, and plate. No other sons were mentioned. Why was this? What about the other son called William ‘the younger’? Odd? He went to Oxford university.

1589 : Edward Wynter’s wandering bug

The wandering bug, whatever the cause, was still with the thirty year old Edward Wynter, despite his succession to the Lydney estate. So, once again, he set off ‘to pass into France to see the manner of service there’. Alas, he was quickly captured and fell into the hands of the wife of the governor of Eu and Tréport who, ‘coming aboard in ye haven, took me away’, an event which cost Edward Wynter some four years of captivity, for the governor then sold him to Bernardo de Mendoza, the Spanish ambassador to the king of France. It seems that he had ‘a bone to pick’ with the English. In 1583, Elizabeth I hosted her last Spanish ambassador. When it became known to the queen that Bernardino de Mendoza was conspiring with the Jesuits and negotiating with the French on Philip II of Spain’s behalf, he was ordered to leave England. Mendoza was told that his dismissal was due to his involvement in the Throckmorton Plot to disturb the realm of

England. Directly before his departure, Bernardo de Mendoza ordered the English officials seeing him off to go and 'tell your mistress that Bernardino de Mendoza was born not to disturb kingdoms, but to conquer them'. Edward Wynter wrote to Sir Francis Walsingham from Amiens in October 1589, reporting that he had been well treated, but he pressed for the queen to arrange his release. The idea was that he should be exchanged for Don Pedro de Valdes, a Spanish nobleman who had been captured during the Armada campaign.

By February 1590 (1589/90 in the old calendar) Edward Wynter had been transferred to Antwerp castle, and was no longer so optimistic about his imminent freedom. It had been reported to him that the duke of Parma, governor of the Spanish Netherlands, would exchange him only for all Spanish prisoners in England and Holland, an impossible suggestion. He was also worrying about his relatives [which ones?] and estates at home in Lydney and elsewhere. Someone had brought a lawsuit against him, and 'one' of his young brothers still needed supervision. Which one? Was it the younger William, about 15-16 years of age. How had he managed whilst his eldest brother, Edward, was away? Edward Wynter clearly regarded Sir Francis Walsingham as his principal friend in high places, and implored him to look into these matters, but the queen's 'secretary' received these pleas just before his own death. The negotiations to release Edward Wynter failed because Elizabeth I, in spite of a desperate plea from Edward Wynter to Lord Burghley in 1591, decided that Don Pedro de Valdes, who had been one of the principal Armada commanders, was far too important to be exchanged for a relatively 'unknown captain' with little martial experience. The privy council, in a tactfully worded letter, told Edward Wynter the bad news. His 'friends' eventually persuaded Edward Wynter to pay for his own ransom. At last, in Spring 1593, his release was obtained. However, he discovered on his return that his 'friend', Richard Drake (of Esher, not related to Francis Drake), in order to secure Edward Wynter's freedom, had undertaken that Edward Wynter should pay not only his own ransom but that for Don Pedro de Valdes's also. Edward Wynter's disgust was natural, because Don Pedro de Valdes had been living at Richard Drake's house and some of the ransom money would go to Edward Wynter's supposed friend. However, in 1593, Edward Wynter received permission to have two weeks recuperation at the Roman baths in Bath, a place well-used by recussants of those times, including those plotting the gundpowder plot some years later in August 1605. Very oddly, in 1593, Edward Wynter was then appointed as a justice of the peace.

Of uncertain date around 1594/5, Herefordshire Archives. Bargain and Sale: (i) James Bridges of The Lay, gentleman; (ii) Edward Wynter of Lydney, county

Gloucestershire, esquire. Consideration of £100. All messuages, lands *etc* in Lydney, Aylberton, Hundred of Bledisloe or elsewhere in the Forest of Dean. What did all that mean? See later for details of William Wynter 'of Coleford' and the Bridges family.

By then, though still in his early thirties, Edward Wynter had seemingly lost interest in his former activities as one of Sir Francis Wallsingham's spies. Sir Francis had died on 6 Apr 1590. So, instead, Edward Wynter apparently retired to his home, the White Cross, at Lydney, spent his time in sorting out the problems which had arisen in his long absence from home, and busied himself with the management of his estates and other enterprises, including the establishment of iron furnaces in the Forest of Dean, which caused many further problems. Though he remained on the commission of the peace, he tried to avoid extra local duties, and asked to be excused serving as sheriff in 1595.

During this period, somehow, Edward Wynter met and married (query at Lydney?), on 11 Aug 1595, Lady Mary Anne Somerset, one of the numerous daughters of the 4th earl of Somerset. How, where and when did they meet? She was born at Raglan in Monmouthshire around 1570, seemingly about ten years younger than Edward Wynter, perhaps about twenty-five years of age. Following their marriage they had a number of children including, it is believed, seven sons and three daughters. Edward had succeeded his father, Sir William, at Lydney in 1589; and was knighted at Greenwich 'for some reason' by Elizabeth I in 1595. Why was he so honoured? Was it because he had been let down so badly during his long capture? Or was there another reason? In the meanwhile, what had happened to William Wynter and Christopher Wynter of Bicknor, the two 'alleged' sons by his 'alleged' first marriage, details of which cannot be found? What happened to all of Edward's siblings after 1575 when their mother died? Meanwhile, at Bristol Record Office. 7 Oct 1595. Lease for 99 years or two lives from Sir Edward Wynter to George Forde : a pasture called Gostehill al. Lesser Ruddinges, and land called Smoke acre. What was that about?

1590 onwards : Feet of Fines

Pedes Finium or Excerpts from the Feet of Fines, in the County of Gloucester, from the 30th Elizabeth to the 9th James I, by Sir John Maclean, F.S.A., F.R.S.A., &c

[Around 1590] At Westminster in 15 days of Holy Trinity, 33 Eliz. 33 Eliz. Between Miles Jackson, gentleman, and William Lavyngton, gentleman, q., and John Wynter, gentleman, William Wynter, gentleman, and Bennet (Benedictum) Wynter, gentleman, def. of the *Manor and Park of Dyrham* with appurtenances and 60 messuages, &c, in Dyrham and Henton, and also of the Advowson of the Church of Dyrham. Whereupon,

&c. Warranty to Miles and William Lavyngton and the heirs of Miles against John Wynter, William Wynter and Bennet Wynter severally and their heirs. And for this, &c, Miles and William Lavyngton have given to John William Wynter and Bennet £600.

[Around 1605] At Westminster in 15 days from the day of Holy Trinity, 4 James. 4 Jas. I. Between Henry lord Herberte, Henry Guyldforde, knight, Henry Poole, knight, and George Huntley, knight, q., and Edward Wyntour, knight, def. of the *Manors of Lydney alias Lydney Shrowesburyes, Lydney Warwyckes, Kingesweston and Wyke*, with appurtenances. and 40 messuages, &c, and £3 rent in Lydney, Newent, Kyngesweston, and Wyke. Whereupon, &c, to have and to hold to Henry, Henry, Henry, and George from the feast of All Saints next, for term of sixteen years fully to be completed. Yielding yearly fourpence (if it be demanded) to Edward and his heirs at the feast of St John Baptist. Warranty to them for the said term. And for this, &c, Henry, Henry, Henry, and George have given to Edward £800.

[Around 1610] At Westminster in five weeks from Easter-day, 9 James. 9 Jas. I. Between *William Wyntour, esquire*, and Richard Kirle, gentleman, q., and Thomas Bayneham esquire, def. of the Manor of Abenhall, with appurtenances and 30 messuages, &c, in Abenhall, Great Deane, and Little Deane, and also the Advowson of the church of Abenhall, also a third part of the Manor of Great Deane, with appurtenances and a third part of the Advowson of the church of Great Deane and a fourth part of the Manor of Little Deane. Whereupon, &c. Warranty by Thomas to William and Richard and the heirs of William against all men for ever. And for this, &c, William and Richard have given to Thomas £1000.

1592 : Benedict Wynter's Will

This is a strange one. Several sources have reported that Benedict Wynter, son of George Wynter 'of Dyrham', was killed by Spaniards in 1588? This will was dated 14 Feb 1592, some years after 1588: Benedict Wynter of the city of Bristol, gentleman. At this present I am bound on a voyage to the Seas and know not whether ever I shall return home again or not yet reposing myself into the hands of the Almighty both abroad and at home and alwayes appealing unto Christ Jesus the son of God for mercy. To *brother William Wynter* [of Clapton-in-Gordano], £200. To Anne Huntley, daughter of Anselm Huntley of Hull alias Hill [near Rockhampton] of the parish of Berkeley, Gloucestershire, gentleman, who married with *my sister Mary*, £100. To *sister Anne*, wife of George Price, £50, to be delivered by the executors to the mayor and 'commonalty' of Bristol to the use of the said Anne, and by them to be put forth upon good assurance for her better maintenance from

time to time so long as she shall be ‘covert baron’ with the said George Price, and no part thereof to be delivered unto him, in consideration of the special care which I desire the mayor to take thereof for the time beinge. The sum of £10 unto the newly erected hospital called the Queen’s Hospital in the College Green of Bristol. The same amount to servant Robert More, if he returns from Sea. To Thomas Knowell of Sherborne the sum of ten pound to employ in a piece of silver plate and thereon to grave my armes and name in Remembrance of me. *Brother-in-law Anselm Huntley* to have the residue and be executor. Witnessed by *Anselm Huntley*, George Baldwyn and Thomas Stevens. No record of probate has been found.

1595 : Edward Wynter’s correspondence

A letter from Sir Edward Wynter to Robert Cecil, ‘lord privy seal’ and Sir Francis Walsingham’s successor as ‘spymaster’ , in November 1595: ‘Your honourable kind letter I have received with no small contentment, to find how it vouchsafes you to remember so poor a countryman as myself. I sent you of late some few *pasties of red deer*, such as the barrenness of this country and my unskilful woodmanship could yield. Hereafter, if ought be amiss in these, it shall be amended, since *my wife* hath promised her best cares herein, *whom of late I have brought home to my house from her father’s*. [They were three months married]. I presume to send you £100, which, by the privy council’s order, I was commanded to pay to my lord of Pembroke. I have herein written to my lord admiral, whatsoever you shall think fittest to be done by him or consented to by me, I will be most ready to obey your orders. Of what temper the man is your honour knows sufficiently. I am sore afraid of an unwelcome office to be cast upon [me] this year; I beseech you to keep me from it; I mean *the shrievalty of this shire*. I assure you it will be wonderfully to my hindrance many ways. But I will hope you will not forget me herein, nor despair of Her Majesty’s willingness in granting a matter so reasonable. Your Barbary falcon I received, which if I should praise very much, you would rather commend me for a courteous knight than a skilful falconer. But howsoever, I thank you for her, though I think she be dead or this. The tassell of a goshawk had been fitter for our woodland country.’

Another letter dated 18 Nov 1595 from Sir Edward Wynter to Robert Cecil: Having written unto you heretofore touching the difference for the payment of the £100 to my lord of Pembroke, and thereof as yet receiving no answer, I have once again presumed to remember you herein, beseeching you very humbly to let me know what you have already done in this business, because I understand his lordship means to complain against me

for disobeying the order taken between us at the privy council table, and purposes withal to proceed with his former cause of taking the office from me by force upon his only authority; which I am resolved in so honest and just a cause to withstand to my uttermost, until either by order from the lords or by due course of law my patent be judged insufficient to carry the office I have so dearly paid fine for. Lydney, 18th of November.

1595 : At Lydney

Taken directly from the Internet : According to the pedigree given to the Reverend Philip Wynter, DD, by Sir Charles Young, garter king of arms, Sir Edward Wynter of Lydney (son and heir of Sir William[1] Wynter by Mary, daughter and heiress of Thomas Langton) who married, on 11 Aug 1595, [Mary] Ann, the third daughter of Edward Somerset, fourth earl of Worcester, had four younger sons [clearly excluding the 'alleged' sons at English Bicknor]: Robert, William, Henry and Edward; whose descendants, *if any existed*, are not accounted for. [Sir Edward's] eldest son, John [Wynter], was born in 1600, was knighted by James I at Belvoir Castle in 1624, age 24 years, and was afterwards 'private secretary' throughout the civil war, to Queen Henrietta Maria. He married Mary (or Anne), 3rd daughter of Lord William Howard (2nd son of Thomas Howard, 4th duke of Norolk, who was beheaded 'by' Elizabeth I) known as 'Belted Will'. Sir John Wynter had only one son [incorrect], Charles (a godson of Charles I) who reached manhood and had three daughters: (i) Anne, who married Humphrey Borlase of Cornwall; (ii) Elizabeth, who married Sir John Fortescue, knight, of Saldon, Buckinghanshire; and (iii) Mary, who married Sir Richard Wingfield of Letheringham and Easton, Suffolk, and had son Henry [baronet]. Charles Wynter succeeded to the Lydney estates, much impoverished through sequestrations by the parliamentary government, on the death of his father about 1674. He was knighted by James II at Oatlands (sic!) [error, Bristol in 1686, no reason given] and died in 1691. He married Mary (sic!) (error, Frances) 3rd daughter of George Napper (Napier)of Ludwell in Wiltshire and had three children: (i) John, who died as an infant, baptised and buried 18 Aug 1681, (ii) William, born 1681; and (iii) Anne, born 1683. After Sir Charles' death, Lady Frances Wynter subsequently married Colonel [Thomas] Nevill of Nevill's Holt in Leicestershire and, according to information given by the late Major J T Wynter RA (a descendant of the Wynter of Tal-y-llyn, Brecon [error, sic!], her two surviving children were put out to nurse at Perivale near Harrow. She appears to have been very extravagant and consequently Lydney was sold [acquired by the mortgagees due to bankruptcy] and hence to ancestors of the present owner, Charles

Bathurst, esquire, (now Lord Bledisloe) about the year 1724. The Wynters of Lydney were strong Roman Catholics *like their cousins of Huddington* who became extinct in 1658. All the families with whom they intermarried during the 17th century, the Somersets, Howards, Huntleys of Boxwell, Morningtons of Sarnsfield, Halls of High Meadow, Borlases, Fortescues of Salden, Wingfields, *etc*, were of the same thinking in religion and politics. The Wynters of Dyrham, who were descended from Sir William Wynter's 'youngest' brother, George, appear to have conformed to the established church. There are many errors in this extracted account.

In 1595, the manor of Awre in the Bledisloe hundred, was sold by Katherine Neville, wife of Henry Percy (*dc*1595) and Francis Fitton to Sir Edward Wynter and passed to Sir John Wynter and his sons, William and Charles. John Wynter and his son and heir, William, sold the manor in 1668 to the Gloucester Corporation. Another document recorded, in 1595: Inspeximus of docs. re Forest of Dean from temp. Edw. I, with interrogatories put in dispute WYNTER v. COMPTON re Prior's Mesne in Aylburton. (evidently used in case NEVILLE v. HIGFORD, 1720). What did all that mean?

It was recorded very ambiguously that William Wynter 'the younger', commanded the *Foresight* with Drake in 1595 having, in 1588, commanded the ship the *Minion*. Who was this person, or even who were they? Presumably William[2] Wynter, born around 1525-1530, was then almost seventy years of age? Query unlikely?

1595 : Continued problems with the earl of Pembroke

On 5 Feb 1595/6, Sir Edward Wynter wrote to Charles Howard, earl of Nottingham, and the 'lord high admiral' and Sir Robert Cecil, the 'lord high treasurer'. My lord of Pembroke's [Henry Herbert, 2nd earl of Pembroke, lord president of Wales] demand I should yield him good security for my behaviour in the office of the constableship of the Forest of Dean proceeds out of his dislikes, undeservedly conceived against me, rather than out of just cause, since the law itself will sufficiently restrain and punish any misdemeanours of mine, whersoever they should happen, and therefore for me to enter into bond with his lordship were but unnecessarily and fondly to give him that advantage against me, which I know he longs for. And whereas he chargeth *my brother* [unnamed?] and others under me with misgoverning themselves in that office towards his lordship and his followers, which is the chiefest ground upon which he frames his complaints, I will assure your Honours, upon my credit, nothing hath ever been committed by either of us, that might savour of any manner of forgetfulness of that respect which is due, as well to one of his rank, as to the honour and greatness of that place which he holds here

under Her Majesty. And as touching his followers, I know not any of them to be of such worth or worship in this country, that should look for at our hands any other measure than such as their unneighbourly dealings do justly merit, since they only, for the better effecting some malicious practice of their own, have caused my lord to pick quarrels against those who otherwise would be ready to do him all honour and service. But his lordship may proceed against us as he sees cause; we crave no manner of favour, but justice only, which in so honest a cause, I must humbly beseech your Honours that you will vouchsafe to help me with indifferency. To conclude, if please his lordship to have my £100, he must give me that security for the quiet exercising this unquiet office as in all honour and reason he is bound; if not, he may proceed by the due course of law to displace me by over-throwing my patent, which otherwise, God willing, I purpose to maintain. If in your judgments this answer of mine be found reasonable, I have my wish; if otherwise, I humbly refer myself to be overruled in this, as your Honours think fittest. Lydney, this 5th of Feb.

The Parliamentary History of Gloucestershire included the following snippets: Edward Wynter of Lydney fought *on board his father's ship* against the Armada on 1 Aug. 1588; was knighted in 1595; presented to Lydney 1594 and to Newent 1616; and was lord of the manors of Awre and of Abston and Wyck in 1608. On the death of the 2nd earl of Pembroke [with whom he was in dispute, above] on 19 Jan 1601, he became constable of St Briavel's Castle and keeper of Dean Forest for a few years but surrendered these posts to the 3rd earl of Pembroke on 10 Jan 1609.

1595 : William Wynter 'the younger' with Sir Francis Drake

In *Sir Francis Drake* by John Sugden it was recorded that when Sir Francis Drake set out in August 1595 with twenty-seven ships, the *Foresight* was captained by William Wynter the younger [see other earlier references to this ship and its captains]. Would a man around 70 years of age command a ship? The 'other' William Wynter 'the younger', born around 1574, on the other hand, would have been too young to be in command of such a ship? Was William Wynter 'of Coleford', born 1567, called to the Bar 1682, also a sailor like his father and brother Nicholas? He may have been called 'the younger' being the son of Sir William[1] Wynter.

It seems that Sir Francis Drake's last campaign was an expedition commanded jointly by him and his old associate, Sir John Hawkins, under whom his career had had such a spectacular beginning at San Juan de Ulúa, in 1567. Nearly thirty years later, they sailed from Plymouth on 28 Aug 1595. Their primary objective was a treasure ship

which had suffered damage at sea, and which was in the harbour of San Juan, Puerto Rico, with 2,000,000 ducats aboard. The attempt to surprise this ship failed, as San Juan was well fortified and well defended. Drake then went to Nombre de Dios, on the Panama isthmus, which he used as a base for an attack on Porto Bello and Panama, where the treasure from Peru was carried across the isthmus for shipment to Spain. This attack, during 27-30 Dec 1595, was also a failure. They returned to Nombre de Dios, then sailed again. On 28 Jan 1596, Drake died at sea off Porto Bello. He was buried in the waters of the Caribbean, the scene of many of his most daring exploits, the next day, in a lead coffin. In May 2015 A team of treasure hunters claims to have discovered two ships from Drake's fleet lying on the seabed off the coast of Panama. The 195-ton *Elizabeth* and 50-ton *Delight* were scuttled shortly after the naval hero's death from dysentery, aged about 55, in 1596. It is thought that Sir Francis Drake's final resting place may be nearby [possibly located in May 2015]. All this apart, what happened to William Wynter 'the younger' [whichever] and the *Foresight*? Here is a part of the ship's history. Built by Richard Chapman at Deptford, launched Sep 1570. Eventually: 1582, admiral William Borough. 1587, *captain William Wynter*. 1588, captain Christopher Baker. 1589, *captain William Wynter*. 1591, captain Thomas Vavasour. 1592, captain Robert Cross. 1595, *captain William Wynter*. 1597, captain Carew Reynolds. 1597, captain Alexander Ratcliffe. 1599, captain Thomas Shirley. 1599, vice-admiral John Troughton. Broken up 1604. These must surely have been Captain William Wynter the younger, the brother of Sir William Wynter, but what about William Wynter 'of Coleford'? Was he a sailor, too?

1600 : Miscellany on people called William Wynter

Here is another extract from the internet which made reference to a 'Captain' William Wynter, this time suggesting the Sir Edward Wynter had 'a' brother with that rank, but which one? 'This matriarch, Dame Mary Judde, with an allure for wealthy widowers, began life as Mary Mathew of Colchester, Essex. Her first husband was Thomas Langton of London, who left her with several marriageable daughters. One of these, Mary Langton, married William[1] Wynter, surveyor of the Navy, and she brought into the world a large family, including several sons who became well-known mariners: Nicholas Wynter, Edward Wynter (later knighted), and **Captain William Wynter* [one not two?]. Lady Mary Wynter died in 1575 and the children, at any rate the younger ones, presumably passed into the custody of their grandmother as Mary Judde, in her will, claimed all of the surviving ones as her own 'sons' and 'daughters'. Since Mary Wynter

was a half-sister of another daughter of Mary Judde's who, in turn, became the mother of Mary Golding, Bartholomew Gosnold acquired all these Wynters as 'cousins by marriage. On the sea-going side, Dame Mary Judde was the aunt of the *three* sons of her older half-sister, Mary Wynter, *all of them naval officers*. The eldest was Master Nicholas Wynter. Next came Captain Edward Wynter, later knighted, who married the daughter of the earl of Worchester (and granddaughter of Earl of Huntington). Lastly there was *Captain William Wynter* [one not two?], who sailed as far as Newfoundland with Sir Humphrey Gilbert around 1583 and who was still living at the time of Bartholomew Gosnold's voyage to Norumbega, around 1602. It seems that Sir Humphrey Gilbert was on board the 120-ton *Delight*, captained by William Wynter. They left port on 11 Jun 1583'. Comments: Which William Wynter was the author writing about? It could not have been Edward Wynter's youngest brother, the William Wynter born in 1574, and thus could have been only William Wynter 'of Coleford' unless, of course, there was confusion with William[1] Wynter's younger brother, William[2] Wynter 'the younger', born around 1525. Yet he would have been in his late fifties in 1583 and in his late seventies by 1602. There is a great need to sort out the numerous people with this name, William Wynter, over several generations.

'In a list of men fit to command ships (*The Names of Sea Captains*, the 5th January Anno 1585, SP Dom. clxxxvi. 8) were Sir William Wynter, knight, Edward Wynter, esquire, John Wynter esquire and *William Wynter gentleman* [one not two William Wynter].' Comment: They would not have considered a eleven year-old boy but the oft-quoted 'the younger' was missing.

'Sir William [born c1520], his sons Edward [born *c*1560] and *William* [one not two], his brother George [of Dyrham, *c*1523], his nephew John of Dyrham [born *c*1572] and his kinsman [how?] Thomas Wynter of Huddington were either naval officers, privateers whose ships took part in the Battle of the Armada [1588], or volunteers in Robert Dudley's army in the Netherlands. The ships in the English Fleet commanded by Sir Willam Wynter, his sons Edward and *William junior*, and his nephew John Wynter of Dyrham are listed in the Naval Tracts of Sir William Gonson'. Comment : There is clearly much confusion? What is fact?

1595-1597 : At Lydney

A chantry was a monetary trust fund established for the purpose of employing one or more Catholic priests to sing a stipulated number of masses during a stipulated period of time for the spiritual benefit of a deceased person, generally the donor. Before the

Reformation, chantries were commonly established in England and were endowed with lands, rents and other assets given by donors, often in their wills. The income from these maintained the chantry priest. With this in mind, note that 'the Crown' sold the *endowment of the chantry* in Newland in 1559 to William Wynter 'of Lydney', presumably just before his death, whereupon it transferred to Edward Wynter. Several decades later, in 1596, Edward Wynter sold the chantry land in the parish of Newland to Thomas Baynham, owner of Clearwell. Thomas Baynham's successors retained it in 1653, when the house was called Chantry or Charter House. Thomas Baynham (1536-1611) was lord of the manor of Clearwell in the Forest of Dean. He was sheriff of Gloucester in 1582 and 1602 and died in 1611. He married Mary Winter, daughter of William Winter 'of Lydney' and sister of Edward Wynter 'of Lydney', and they had two sons, both of whom died without issue, and two daughters: (i) Cecily Baynham, who married Sir William Throckmorton of Tortworth, Gloucestershire, and (ii) Joanna Baynham, who married John Vaughan of Kinnersley, Herefordshire. The endless interlinking of families.

An extract from: *The strange journey of Edward Swarthye, an African in Elizabethan England: from the Spanish Caribbean to rural Gloucestershire* : in National Archives online. 'In 1597, an African man named 'Edward Swarthye, alias negro' appeared before an English court. He gave evidence that, at the command of his employer Sir Edward Wynter, he had whipped another servant, John Guye, in the hall of his house in Lydney, Gloucestershire. From another source: Edward Swarthye was a black man who had come to England from the Caribbean in 1586 with Sir Francis Drake, then worked as a porter to Sir Edward Wynter in Gloucestershire, and appeared in a *Court of Star Chamber* case in 1597. He testified that, on his employer's orders, he had whipped fellow servant, John Guye, in the hall at Whitecross Manor in front of 20 people. His story apparently challenged preconceptions about the lives of Caribbean-Africans in Tudor England. He was a trusted servant, not a slave. His testimony was accepted in court, which, along with his name, Edward, suggested that he was a baptised Christian, like many other Caribbean Africans in Britain at the time'.

Joanna Wynter, daughter of William Wynter, *gentleman*, of Bicknor was baptized on 12 Mar 1598/99 [query whether this particular William Wynter was perhaps only about 19 years of age and a bit young to have been a gentleman]. In Latin. Alas, Joanna Wynter was buried at Bicknor on 29 Mar 1623, long after it is assumed, though probably widely inaccurately, that this particular William Wynter 'may' have moved to Portsmouth though that is hypothesis and not fact. What happened? Research is clearly needed here.

On 4 May 1599: Grant by Edward Wynter of Lydney, knight, to Walter Nurse of Weston under Penyard, county of Hereford, gentleman, who died in 1611, of a moiety of a

meadow called Westend Meadow in Ruardean between lands of Thomas Baynham, esquire, land of the said Walter Nurse, land of Edmund ‘Longe’ and land of Richard ‘Yeme’, on every side; And also a parcel of pasture late in the tenure of Thomas Howe in Ruardean between land of the said Thomas Baynham on every side. And appointment of Anthony Stirry, clerk, and William ‘Gunne’ as attorneys to give seisin. Signature, Edward Wynter, written as Wyntour, and seal. Witnesses (i) to deed: William Morgan, John Cuddemore, Thomas Harwarde; (ii) to livery of seisin: ‘Rychard Yerothe’, Thomas Brynder Edward ‘Longe’ Henry Morgan, Phillip ‘Taylor’, Thomas ‘Appowell’.

A document dated 1599, stored at the National Archives, concerned a bargain and sale by Thomas Baynham and George Huntley to Sir Edward Wynter of their estates in Gloucestershire. What did that mean? Note that they all took turns as sheriff of Gloucestershire.

North of Lydney town there were a few outlying dwellings, the earliest of them probably the Holms, west of the Bream road. In 1558 it was the centre of a freehold estate belonging to the Hyett family, which sold it to the Wynters [Sir Edward Wynter] in 1600.

Around this turn of the century, Edward Wynter was deputy lieutenant of the county; deputy constably of the Forest of Dean, member of the Council in the Marches of Wales, and served as knight of the shire for Gloucestershire. Edward Wynter was also MP for Gloucestershire.

Also around the time of his marriage to a daughter of the earl of Worcester, Edward Wynter apparently returned to London and to the Court. When Elizabeth I died, he was one of the six knights who served as canopy bearers for the queen at her funeral in March 1603. Why was he chosen for this honour? Some sources state that: ‘Whenever the canopy is borne, it is borne by *Knights of the Garter*. There have been a very small number of exceptions but none in the reign of Elizabeth I’. Or did that apply only to coronations? Did Edward, like his father, have a London house?

An interest item of those times: William ‘Vawer’ [alias William ‘Fawr’ ap Jenkin from Pemrokeshire], mayor of Bristol, wrote to the privy council on 15 Feb 1601/2. ‘I received your warrant of the 13th for the pressing and sending to Plymouth of all the sailors and mariners to be found here. The warrant being directed to the vice-admiral of the county of Somerset, I sent [it] to *Sir Edward Wynter*, vice-admiral there. Having sought through this city and port, I find no sailors but such as are already shipped for the transporting of the soldiers in those ships which are ready to depart with the first wind, above 20 sail in number, besides Her Majesty’s ships in the road, who as yet lack men to carry them hence. At Bristol, 15 Feb., 1601’. Comments : Extremely interestingly there were *Postal*

Endorsements. 'This packet cam not to the post Master's hand of Bristoll before x of the clo$^{k.}$ at nyght the 15 of Februry. At Marchefeeald [Marshfield] at one of the cloke after myd-nyght this 16. At Calnn [Calne] 16th of Febarye half owr past 4 in y^{e} moring. At Marlbrowth [Marlborough] at — of the colik in the moring. At Novbery [Newbury] at ii of the cloke. At Readinge [Reading] at 7 of the clocke in the night xvi day of Febarye. Hovnsslow [Hounslow] the xvith of Februarie at almost tow a cloke in the night.' Not unlike modern-day parcel tracking?

William Vawer was more correctly, in patronymic style, William 'Fawr' ap Jenkin ap Thomas of Haverfordwest in Pembrokeshire, a merchant, card-maker and mayor of Bristol in 1601-2. By a deed dated 1607, 'William Vawer gave houses, lands, and fee farm rents, in the parish of St Mary, Haverfordwest, *and in the city of Bristol*, now producing £161 14s4d per annum, towards the support of six decayed burgesses of this town' [Haverfordwest]. His extremely long and interesting will was dated 14 Sep 1619, probate 23 May 1620. He was buried in the churchyard of St Nicholas in Bristol (close to Bristol bridge) in the tomb 'where his wife lies', with others of the family. This church, like others in Bristol, was badly damaged during the second world war. What happened to the tomb? It is no longer a church.

1600 : Forest enquiry

Gloucestershire Archives Reference: D2026/X7, 1600. Scope and Content: Commission from earl of Nottingham, justice in eyre of Forests south of the Trent, to the earl of Pembroke and Lord William Chandos to inquire into abuses in the Forest, with *articles of enquiry and list of the offences of* Richard Hill of Newnham, Thomas Tanner als. Morse of Blackmorsall, Thomas Brayne of Littledean, Richard Glassonbury of Ruddle, Newnham, *Sir Edward Winter*, Henry Hawkins and William Hall, James Barrowe, Thomas Baynham, John Eylburton of Rodley, and Thomas Hawkins of Littledean. Seal of Justice in Eyre of Forests South of Trent. Reverse: Earl of Nottingham's personal signet. [Damaged].

1600 : Grant by Edward Wynter of Westend Meadow, Ruardean

Grant dated 4 May 1600 by Edward Wynter of Lidney, knight, to Walter Nurse of Weston under Penyard, Herefordshire, gentleman, of a moiety of a meadow called Westend 'Medowe' in 'Ruardeane' between lands of Thomas Baynham, esquire, land of the said Walter Nurse, land of Edmund 'Longe' and land of Richard 'Yeme', on every side And also a parcel of pasture late in the tenure of Thomas Howe in 'Ruardeane' between land of the

said Thomas Baynham on every side. And appointment of Anthony Stirry, clerk, and William Gunne as attornies to give seisin. Signature, Edward Wyntour. Witnesses, to deed: William Morgan, John Cuddemore, Thomas 'Harwarde'. To livery of seisin: 'Rychard Yerothe', Thomas Brynder Edward Longe, Henry Morgan, Phillip Taylor, Thomas 'Appowell'.

1602 : Council of the Marches of Wales

The following were successive presidents of the Council of the Marches of Wales around the turn of the century: (i) Henry Herbert, 2nd earl of Pembroke, 1586-1601; (ii) Sir Rochard Lewknor (acting) 1601; (iii) Edward de la Zouch, 11th Baron Zouche.

On 7 Jul 1602 at Greenwich: Instructions given by the queen to Edward, Lord Zouch, 'lord president', and the Council in the Marches of Wales: The council is to consist of: Edward, earl of Worcester, 'master of the horse'; William, earl of Pembroke; the bishops of Worcester, Hereford, Chester, Gloucester, St Asaph, St David's, Bangor, and Llandaff, for the time being; Edward 'Lord Stafford'; William 'Lord Chandos'; John Herbert, esquire, Her Majesty's 'second secretary'; Sir Richard Lewkenor, 'chief justice of Chester'; Sir John Scudamor; Sir John Leighton; Sir John Harrington; Sir Richard Barkely; Sir Richard Bulckely; Sir Henry Poole; Sir Thomas Lucy; Sir William Herbert of Swansea; *Sir Edward Wynter*; Sir Thomas Mauncell; Sir Richard Treavor; Sir Thomas Jones; Sir Thomas Mostyn ..... *and onwards.*

Lord Zouche, president of the Council of the Marches of Wales, to Sir Robert Cecil, the 'lord high treasurer', 4 Nov 1602: The especial cause of my writing at this time is to pray your favour that these enclosed may be sent to 'my lord keeper' and 'my lord treasurer'. The one is concerning the sheriffs, the other concerning the escheators. For the first, though the statute be that it should be directed to 'my lords of the council', yet the use here hath been that it hath been sent to 'my lord keeper', from whom I would be loth to derogate the least. For the other, though I do see no rule either by statute or instruction, yet because it is said here that the use hath been so to do, I have observed the same. I pray your help, as occasion shall serve, *against Sir Edward Wynter*, or rather, in defence of this council, who hath been pleased to undertake the crossing of us here, the matter being thus. There hath been some communication of marriage betwixt Sir Thomas Throckmorton and one Mr Baynham, of Gloucestershire, for the son of the former and the daughter of the latter to be had. The fathers breaking off after some extraordinary liking by the young couple, a marriage or contract hath passed betwixt them, such as I think the laws of this land will adjudge so, but young Throgmorton

complaining of a detention of his wife by bill in this court, and swearing to the parts of the bill, we could not, as was thought, do less than send for the gentlewoman and her father, and upon hearing the cause take order that an indifferent place might be chosen for the keeping of the gentlewoman from further dissuasion by the parents and persuasion by the young gentleman or his friends, until the cause might be decided by the ecclesiastical law, to *which the decision did belong. Sir Edward Wynter, in contempt of this court, hath withheld her, contrary to justice and reason*, for if we have done any fault, it were better that we should be punished than the court contemned. Thinking it more honourable for Her Majesty and less scandalous to this council to have every term a bishop to assist here, I have thought good to pray the presence of the bishop of St David's for this term. Now it should seem that Sir Richard 'Lewkenar' doth take it that his place should be before the bishop, notwithstanding the instructions expressly place the bishop before. He allegeth that the 'justice of Chester' hath ever preceded. What will grow betwixt them I know not, but I should be loth that Sir Richard 'Lewkenar' should think that I would do him wrong. There is another matter may come to your hearing, wherein I crave your help, and that is in respect there is some money beforehand, but little or no implements of household, so as there is not ordinary linen for the board, but that they are fain to wash every day. The council themselves complain of their beds and for want of lodgings. These things had need to be bought, so will there arise another question when there is money, by what warrant it ought to be. For my part, I should think it fit upon 'my lord treasurers' warrant, but if it might please him to procure an instruction, that as we are to send the account into the exchequer, so we should pay into the exchequer by such a time that which remaineth, I should think myself well satisfied; but to have the receiver of the county to demand it, as if it were due to him, or to have no trust with a surplusage here, if any be, I beseech you conceive what is fit to be, and then deal with me as justice will work in you. Ludlow, 4 Nov 1602.

28 Jan 1602/3. The earl of Worcester [Edward Somerset, father-in-law of Edward Wynter since 1595] and Sir Robert Cecil to the president of the Council of Wales. Because we write in a matter which may be misinterpreted in respect of our quality, being councillors of state, and so peculiarly interested in the care to prevent all manner of contempts to magistrates, we must now tell you that we lay aside our public condition, and write unto you as a nobleman and our private friend. *The case concerneth Mr Wynter*; the contempt is to your lordship as president, and therefore, the support disclaimed by us, who would be loth to be otherwise dealt withal. But because we know your lordship seeketh only preservation of the dignity of your place, and that in all these cases submission and apparent obedience satisfieth the expectation of the world, we

shortly say thus much unto you. That the gentleman intendeth nothing more than to make his personal repair unto your lordship, according to his duty, and there to submit himself to your pleasure, having, as we understand, sought your lordship by a reverent letter as became him. Only our request unto you is *in respect that the lady his wife at this time is in some worse case of her infirmity than we could wish, that you will at our request suspend any sharp proceeding against him for some convenient time until he make his appearance*, which we shall take for a great courtesy at your hands, and if you do by your letter certify us what day you will prefix him, he shall then not fail to accomplish the same, thereby to manifest to the world that no friendship nor partiality here shall exempt any man from receiving that which is due to him from you upon any such neglect of the duty he owes to that council.

The reply from Lord Zouche. It is an honourable request from those I honour so much to demand only stay for a willing satisfaction. I in my particular have been much bound to you both for your honourable favours in this matter in respect of myself, though I know the justness of the cause required your regard. I would be loth you should not think me respective of your loves and thankful for your favours. I have therefore enquired *what proceedings have been against Sir Edward Wynter and do find that a process of sequestration was to have gone forth within two or three days, which may be stayed near three months*, but by reason of my going into South Wales, Lent Term will be ended here the second week of Lent, so that there will be no appearance again before Trinity Term. Wherefore, *it will be good for Sir Edward Wynter to be here before that time*, which may be prolonged, but I think it shall be more honourable to make an end of his fault than by delays to work a taxation of partiality in us, and yet at the end purpose to perform the same, as I hear from you he does. Ludlow, 28 Jan., 1602/3.

It would be very interesting to determine the full story behind this correspondence? Did it have anything to do with the marriage of William Throckmorton (born 1579) and Edward Wynter's niece, Cecily Baynham (born 1586)? Did the marriage involve the manor of Clearwell?

1602-1607 : Miscellany

[Uncertain date around 1603] Cecil Papers. The case of the stewardship of the manor of Rodney. The patent was granted to *Sir Edward Wynter*, and afterwards, upon complaint of the tenants, to Robert Chambers. It being bruited that Edward Wynter had *returned to England*, Robert Chambers ceased to hold the courts, when in truth Edward Wynter had not returned, and afterwards a new and absolute patent was granted to Robert

Chambers. *Undated*.

Elizabeth I died on 24 Mar 1603 [the last day of the year 1602 in the old calendar) at Richmond Palace and she was buried at Westminster on 28 April 1603. Sir Edward Wynter served as one of the six canopy bearers. Why was he chosen? A few months later, at the coronation of James I, Sir Edward Wynter's name was amongst those receiving a general pardon on 25 Jul 1603. Why did he need a pardon?

The following year, in 1604, Sir Edward Wynter obtained a royal licence to cut timber in Lydney and Newland for use in his iron works, the start of many local problems. Later details indicate that Edward Wynter's daughter, Mary Winter, may have been born in 1605. Who was the Sybil Wynter buried on 22 Apr 1606 at English Bicknor per the parish registers (in Latin).

The *Golden Falcon* recorded: In 1559, William[1] Wynter bought (the manor of) Nass, in the Bledisloe hundred, *where farms were owned in 1607* by his son, Edward Wynter. Allaston or Allastone in the same hundred was also bought in 1568 by William Wynter of Lydney and leased in 1623 by his grandson, John Wynter, who bought the freehold in 1659.

1602 : The Wynter bailiffs

From the Gloucestershire Archives. Mr Woodrofe v James (Tithes) 9 Mar 1602. (i) Deponents: John Rowles, yeoman, of Willowberry. John Reeve, husbandman, of Alvington. Lived there 40 years. Born Canon Frome, Herefordshire. Aged 60. Edward Taylor, yeoman, of Alvington. Born and lives there. Aged 74. John Sledd, labouring man, of Aylburton in Lydney. On the part of Mr Woodroff. (ii) Depositions (abstract): John Rowles had heard that most of the Sterts belonged to Llanthony Priory which came into the hands of Henry VIII upon the dissolution and Mr Arthur Porter purchased it. He paid thirteen shillings and four pence yearly to the vicar of Lydney for his duties for the Sterts and paid no other tithes. Mr Woodroffe bought Alvington Court and the Sterts from Arthur Porter. John Rowles held the Sterts and other land belonging to the farm of Alvington Court from Sir Thomas Porter, knight, which lay within the tithing of Aylburton. Roger Vaughen was farmer of both the rectory of Lydney and Alvington Court for four or five years and in his time John Rowles ploughed and sowed with corn part of the Sterts. John Rowles paid thirteen shillings and four pence for tithes to Sir Thomas Turner and afterwards to Mr Sterry for all the time he farmed the Sterts. He paid Thomas Cam, *Sir William Wynter's bailiff*, and, after him, Robert Typper, *Sir Edward Wynter's bailiff*, fourteen shillings rent for grounds and part of the Sterts that he held for twenty

years under them. He paid six shillings and eight pence for the Sterts for every tax on the inhabitants of Aylburton. John Watkins sued him for the tithe corn that grew on Horns Croft adjoining the farm house of Alvington, which croft had been in the possession of Llanthony Priory, and he paid Watkins the tithe. The Sterts lay a quarter of a mile from the farm house. *Sir William Winter* purchased all the lands that were Shipman's. The lordship of Aylburton did belong to the Priory of Llanthony. About forty years ago, John Reene sowed corn on the Sterts for two or three years and helped carry the corn to the barns of the farm then in the tenure of John Vaughan and after in the tenure of Roger Vaughan. He is certain there was no tithe of corn or hay left on the grounds. Mr Woodroffe bought the farm of Alvington Court two years ago. Roger Vaughan was farmer of the rectory of Lydney from the cathedral of Hereford at the same time as he was farmer of Alvington Court and tithe corn for Lydney was paid to him. Edward Taylor has known the Sterts for sixty years and seen corn growing in some years. He has credibly heard that John and Roger Vaughan paid no tithe corn when it was in their tenure. John Sledd also said he had never known tithe corn paid on the Sterts but he cannot answer whether it was freed from paying tithes. Rodmores Grove belonged to Llanthony Priory. He heard his aunt, Margaret Barbor, affirm that her father Robert Tymber, who was farmer of the tithe corn of Aylburton, brought home three loads of wheat that was tithe from the Sterts. Note: 'farmer' sometimes meant 'collector': a person who undertakes the collection of taxes, duties, *etc*, paying a fixed sum for the privilege of retaining them. See earlier in these notes for Shipman and John Vaughan as names.

1602 : Edward Naylor of Coleford

The will of Edward Naylor of Coleford in the parish of Newland, dated 3 June 1602 ; probate at Gloucester 14 June 1602. Named wife Anne Naylor, *Edward Wynter*, Walter Whitson, Jane Whitson, and Phillip Whitson.

1600-1610 : Miscellaneous digressions

A 1605 document in the National Archives : Obligation for Sir Robert Woodrofe of Alvington, *Sir Edward Wynter of Lydney*, and *William Wynter 'of Coleford'*, esquire, [the older of Sir Edward's two brother called William] all Gloucestershire, to pay £200 to Thomas Berwick of London. Sealed and delivered in the presence of Robert Holland and Richard Dale his servant. One seal (of three) remaining. [Endorsed] Condition of the obligation was that if Sir Robert Woodrofe, Edward Wynter and [brother] William Wynter

'of Coleford', pay Thomas Berwick £105 on 17 May 1606, the obligation will be void. Later note as to receipt for £107 10s0d paid by Edmund Foxe, Philip Williams and Lady Mary Woodrofe, 1 June 1609. Date: 15 Nov 1605. What was the explanation?

Another document, 1607-1609, at the National Archives went as follows: Cancelled obligation for Sir Robert Woodroffe (Woodrofe) of Alvington, Gloucestershire and *Sir Edward Wintour* 'of Lydney', Gloucestershire, to pay £200 to Thomas White of the parish of St. Leonard Shoreditch, Middlesex, esquire. Sealed and delivered in the presence of Edward White. One seal. Later note: receipt for £140, paid by Edmund Foxe for Lady Mary Woodroffe, 26 November 1609. [Endorsed] Condition of the obligation is that if Woodrofe and Wintour pay White £105 on 29 November 1607, the obligation will be void.

Another document around 1606: Obligation for Sir Robert Woodroffe (Woodrofe) of Alvington, *Sir Edward Winter* 'of Lydney', and *William Winter* 'of Coleford', all Gloucestershire, esquire, to pay £200 to John Sharpe of London, gentleman. Sealed and delivered in the presence of Robert Holland, John Dayler and Richard Dale, servant. [Endorsed] Condition of the obligation is that if Woodrofe, Edward Wynter and William Winter pay Sharpe £100 on 20 May 1606, the obligation will be void.

And yet another around 1609: Cancelled obligation for Sir Robert Woodroffe (Woodrofe) of Alvington, Gloucestershire, John Throckmorton of Lypiatt, Gloucestershire, esquire, to pay £200 to John Machell, gentleman. Sealed and delivered in the presence of Philip Williams, Thomas Farmer, Georges Wrixon. Seals of Woodrofe and Throckmorton. [Endorsed] Condition of the obligation is that if Woodrofe and Throckmorton pay £105 to John Machell on 12 May 1609, the obligation will be void. Later note: receipt for £107 8s. paid by Lady Mary Woodrofe for the debt of her late husband, 29 June 1609.

1606-1608 : What weather?

During January 1606/7 there was severe flooding: 2,000 people died around the Severn estuary on Tuesday, 20 January 1606 (old calendar). Lowlands on both sides of the estuary suffered inundation, with the Somerset and Gwent levels suffering devastating effects. It is thought that a severe gale from the west or southwest was responsible, coupled to an astronomically high tide: the excess over prediction was some 2.3m. As well as the cost in human life, there was much damage with loss of housing *etc*. Cattle, sheep and horses perished. There would have been a great deal of salt-contamination of arable fields too. Bristol and Barnstaple were badly affected. What happened around Lydney? See the illustration of St Mary's, Nash.

Then there was the Great Winter. Trees died due to the severity and length of the

frost; ships were stranded by ice several miles out into the North Sea. This was a major concern as much commerce was done in those days by coastal shipping. In December, a deep frost until mid-month, then a thaw until just before Christmas, then from 21st December (old calendar) intense freezing for much of the time until at least mid-January. Ice formed on the Thames in London, sufficient to bear all sorts of sports, perambulations and even cooking! The frost lasted overall for some two months. The severe weather lasted in parts of England until about 20th February (old calendar), though with variations in depth of cold. This winter ranked near the top of the most severe winters of the last 1000 years. For the following decades the weather swung from severe winters to drought-hit summers.

In 1608, Edward Wynter was constable of St Briavel's castle and vice-admiral of Somerset. Around the same time, *William Wynter, esquire*, Anthony Stanton, Roger Barton and John Hopkin were named as 'servants' of Sir Edward Wynter in Coleford *where the King's M(ajes)tie is lord.* Edward's younger brother, William Wynter 'of Coleford', died in 1626, leaving a will. He had survived his older brother, Edward, by a few years. What about 'Captain' William Wynter?

1607 : Portsmouth

The list of burgesses in Portsmouth included: 1607 : William Wynter junior. Which William Wynter 'junior' did this refer to? See 1635 for William Wynter 'of Portsmouth' and his children. There was no record of him as a burgess? But there was a William Winter around 1567. Was the latter the father of the later Portsmouth man? And not Edward Wynter 'of Lydney'? If so, how would their claimed link to Sir William Wynter have been established?

1608 : Oddity

From the Golden Falcon XII/8: William Wynter 'of Coleford' was Sir Edward's contemporary: '*Colford where the King's Ma(jes)tie is Lord: William Winter Esq, Anthony Stanton, Roger Barton, John Hopkin, all servants of Sir Edward Wynter*'. [Men and Armour from Gloucestershire, 1608].

1609 : Oddity

From an account of Thomas Dale on the internet: 'In 1609, Thomas Dale commanded the

Holland Company of ninety men for which he was paid 1,297 guilders. Wyatt, *Wynter*, and Robert Carey were also company commanders in the Holland Company. We expect that this is Francis Wyatt, future Virginia Governor, and Robert Carey, brother to Baron Hundson, the man who rode by horseback from London to Edinburgh to advise King James VI of Scotland that Elizabeth had died and that he was king. Captain Wynter was probably the son or grandson of William[1] Wynter, father-in-law of Thomas Baynum of Clearwell Manor'.

1609 : Memorial, Wyrall Chapel, on flat-stone

Here lieth the body of George Wyrall, esquire, who married Bridget, the daughter of *George Wynter of Dyrham*, esquire, and had issue, William, Edward, George, Anne and Mary. Bridget lived 70 years and died the 15th of January 1609. She was born, it is therefore assumed, in 1538-9.

1610 : Another Edward Wynter

It seems that 'an' Edward Wynter, son of 'another' William Wynter, was baptized at St James in Bristol in 1610. Further details are not known. The item clearly does not refer to the Portsmouth family as that Edward Wynter was born around 1622. What about the Edward, son of William Wynter, of the Coleford family? Was there any link to this item? Where are details of the baptism of Edward Wynter, son of William Wynter 'of Coleford'? Two of his sublings were baptized at Newland in 1612 and 1617. His children were born from 1639. Did William Wynter 'of Coleford' live at Bristol before moving to Coleford?

1609 – 1611 : Back in the Forest of Dean

In November, 1609, someone called Father Holtby, a Jesuit, was on a visit to Louvain, and said Mass at St Peter's, a convent of the Nuns of St Monica. In the collection of *Old Clergy Chapter* MSS is a very long letter from Father Holtby to Father Robert Parsons (under the name of Marco Mercante), dated 6 May 1609. This letter, partly in cipher, is almost entirely confined to matters of missionary detail. Among other points of news, the writer wrote: 'Here were lately up in arms in Gloucestershire some three or four hundred women to resist the king's officers about cutting down the wood of the Forest of Dean. *They were suppressed by one Sir Edward Wynter* and the sheriff, and many men of wealth are called in question for it, and some in prison. Poor recusants are still

ransacked by the Bishop's pursuivants'.

Licensed exploitation of the demesne woods began in 1611 when Sir Edward Wynter, owner of ironworks at Lydney, was given a five-year lease of the 331 acres of the old coppices in the Bradley hill area; for the sum of £800, he was given a free hand to work them, the statutory obligations to reinclose and preserve timber trees being waived.

1610 : Oddity

There is a note in the state papers of James I, sometime between August and October of 1610, regarding court records, which indicated that Sir Thomas Dale (most likely the later Governor Thomas Dale of Virginia) received a grant to the benefit of the recusancy of widow Elizabeth Russell *nee* Sheldon of Worcester *and John Wynter*. The 'grant of recusancy' was used in varying ways during the period of Elizabeth I but, in this case, Thomas Dale, who was that year well connected politically, assumed responsibility for *John Wynter* and Elizabeth Russell for which they paid a sum of money to allow them to observe Catholicism. The recusant John Wynter was, most likely, the son of Edward Wynter of the Drake voyages, and grandson of William[1] Wynter. However, John Wynter 'of Dyrham' was still alive, but was he a Roman Catholic? William Throckmorton, another overseer of Governor Dale's will and Governor Dale's brother-in-law, *was John Wynter's uncle*. He had married Mary Wynter amidst some controversy. However, Sir Edward Wynter was still alive in 1610.

1613 : William Wynter of Coleford

From the Golden Falcon web-site, XII/9: 'Eldersfield Court in the Pershore Hundred of Worcestershire belonged in 1499 to the Brydges family. When the last of them died in 1594, Elizabeth Kennedy and Katherine, daughter of Sir Francis Russell, appear to have sold it in 1605 to William and Margaret Winter [of Coleford] who dealt with it in 1613'.

1615 - 1620 : More family news

Thomas Wynter 'of Portstmouth' was born in 1615 or 1616 at Portsmouth, when his father, William Wynter 'of Portsmouth', was around 35 years of age. Thomas Wynter later married Anne Swinglehurst. According to the inscription on his tomb at All Saints, Fulham, he was proudly *a great grandson of Sir William Wynter*, 'surveyor to the navy' to Elizabeth I. In his will he left £200 to the mayor and aldermen of the town of Portsmouth

'*where I was born'*. To have been a great grandson with the surname Wynter, one of Sir William's sons must have been Thomas's grandfather. Alas, his name was not recorded on the tomb, a matter of some loss to genealogists.

'Advowson' or 'patronage' is the right in English law of a patron, the avowee, to present to the diocesan bishop a nominee for appointment to a vacant ecclesiastical benefice or church living, a process known as 'presentation'. In 1616 Sir Edward Wynter of Lydney, age about 56 years, released all his rights to the advowson in Dymock in Gloucestershire, to his brother, William Wynter 'of Coleford' , who, in consequence, made the presentation of the new vicar to that church in 1626. William Wynter 'of Coleford and Dymock' was described in 1616 as the *brother* of Sir Edward Wynter, who died a few years later in 1619. In the same year, 1615, Ann, the wife of Christopher Wynter, age not recorded, was buried at English Bicknor on 3 Nov 1615. (Latin). What a pity no marriage of Ann [surname?] to Christopher Wynter can be traced. If the earlier very dubious hypothesis was correct, then this Christopher Wynter may have been the son of Sir Edward Wynter by his first marriage to a Wyrall daughter. However, the hypothesis cannot be confirmed and none of Edward Wynter's documents [or those of his family] ever referred to such sons.

Elsewhere in the Wynter family, Sir Edward's cousin, John Wynter 'of Dyrham', son of the first George Wynter 'of Dyrham', was involved in an incident outside Bath Abbey when he endeavoured to stop a sword fight between two of James I's lords in 1617, and was thrown to the ground for his efforts. By then he was apparently a poor elderly man relying on sticks. He may have living at Bath at that time and may have been involved, with numerous others, in an action for slander, *etc*. He wrote his will in 1617 with the inquest at Thornbury on January 1620/1.

Further deaths at English Bicknor included Elizabeth, the daughter of Christopher Wynter, who was buried at English Bicknor on 20 Jul 1618. As before, if correct, she would have been a granddaughter of Sir Edward Wynter, though, like all members of the Bicknor Wynters, she was never mentioned in the Lydney and Dyrham family accounts.

One of Sir Edward Wynter's known daughters was apparently a nun: Mary Wynter as Mary Wintour, known as Marie. She died on 1 Apr 1630 in Brussels, aged 25, born around 1605. The recorded stated: Father, Sir Edward Wynter 'Cath' of Lydney, Gloucestershire. Mother, Lady Ann Somerset 'Catholic convert' of Raglan Castle, Monmouthshire. Benedictines, Brussels, choir nun. She was clothed 13 Oct 1619. She professed 25 Oct 1620, aged 16, born *c*1604. Her dowry was 5000fl. She was the aunt of Cecilia Hall, Catherine Hall and Barbara Hall. She was the cousin of Anne Somerset (*that is what it recorded*). She was the kinswoman of Mary Wynter (*which one*). Sources:

AMbenbx-12: 1630; Brussels Obit: 19; Brussels Benedictine Annals: 119; Brussels Benedictines Profession Book: 184. It is possible that this Anne Somerset was the neice of Mary's mother, also nee Anne Somerset.

1617-1619 : John[1] Wynter of Dyrham

Inquisition post mortem 24 Elizabeth, Part 2, No 79. 5th Jan 18th James, after the death of John Winter. The jurors say that on 21st October 15th James, the said John was seised in his demesne as of feel tail of the moiety of the manor of Staunton, *etc*, as described in the last abstracted inquisition, and being so seised by his will, dated the said 21st day of Oct. 1617, gave to his *second son John*[2] *Winter* [1596] the Lodge and Park of Derham, names also his *daughter Mary*, wife of Robert Hodges, his sons *Henry, Benedict* [1597*] and Cirrill* Winter [1604], his daughter *Elizabeth* Winter [1605/6], and his eldest son *George*[2] Winter, whom he makes executor. And the jurors say the said John Winter died 22 Aug 17 James (1619) and that the foresaid *George Winter is son and heir* of the said John, and is aged 27 years and more [born before 1592]. Henry Chitting, John Philpot, William Camdem. *The Visitation of the County of Gloucester*: *Taken in the Year* 1623. Publications of the Harleian Society, Volume XXI. London, 1885, p. 292. No William Wynter born 1599. This John Wynter 'of Dyrham' was a first-cousin of Edward Wynter 'of Lydney'.

1619 : The end of the road for Sir Edward Wynter

The Golden Falcon web-site XI/2: Sir Edward Wynter retired to White Cross, Lydney, to manage his estates and the iron furnaces of the Forest of Dean. He remained on the 'commission of the peace' but did not undertake local duties and asked to be excused from serving as sheriff in 1595. He died on 3 Mar 1619/20 and was then succeeded by his young son, John Wynter, who later fought in the Royalist army during the civil war. John Wynter (*c*1600-1673?) became a *ward of the king* between 1619 and 1623 [*Calendar of State Papers Domestic,* 1619-23, page 159] because of his minority. He married Anne or Mary, a daughter of William Howard, earl of Carlisle, third son of Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk.

Thus Sir Edward Wynter died on 3 Mar 1619, seemingly a little less than sixty years of age. What happened to his wife, the former Mary Anne Somerset? The strange Dyrham document of 1621 named just four sons of Sir Edward Wynter of Lydney, presumably those alive at the time of their father's death in 1619: Robert, Edward, William and

Frederick. Why was their brother, the son and eventual heir, John Wynter, excluded from that list? Nothing is known too specifically of Sir Edward Wynter's religious views but, in the next generation and later, this branch of the Wynter family was clearly staunch Roman Catholic. If Sir Edward was a Roman Catholic himself, or his funeral arranged by his Roman Catholic wife and widow, if she was still alive, where was he or they buried? Where are the details? Was it in the family vault in the established church at Lydney?

The *inquisition post mortem* or its equivalent of Sir Edward Wynter alias Sir Edward Wintour, 1619 or thereabouts, has not been located, which is very frustrating, but it seems it was available 'somewhere' in the Gloucestershire archives. It is surprising that none of the genealogists have reproduced anything from it. It would have explained many things, perhaps? For example: Gloucestershire Archives : Lydney Estate: D421/T21, 1591. Contents: Letters patent granting to Edward Wynter licence to take possession of estates held from the Crown by his father, deceased. [Great Seal of Elizabeth – defective]. D421/T22, 1571-1723. Contents: Manors of Lydney, Allaston, Nass, Aylburton, the Hundred of Bledisloe, Lydney Park, Overstreet Farm, Millend Farm, White Cross, the Court, Pill Forge, messuages and lands; extract from Pipe Roll, 1571; grant of wardship of Sir John Wynter, with extract and *inquisition post mortem on the death of his father Edward Wynter,* 1619; will of John Woolfe, 1682; conveyance of estate to Benjamin Bathurst, 1723. [Marked Bundle 1, 2nd part]. And so on.

The previously mentioned Robert Cecil became 'master of the court of wards' on the death of his father, Lord Burghley. Wardship applied to those landowners who held their estates on a feudal tenure from the Crown. In theory, anyone with a wardship was bound to provide military service to the Crown when it was required. However, this had all but died out by the time of James I. When a tenant of Crown land died leaving an *underage male heir*, *the boy became a ward of the Crown*. In practice this responsibility of guardianship was 'sold off' to the highest bidder who used his position to exploit the ward's land to its greatest extent. The Crown then made more money by requiring the ward to pay for his land once he came of age. Thus a a wardship could have serious financial consequences for a family that came under its rules if the head of a family died early and left his estate to an underage boy. In 1611, Robert Cecil issued a new set of instructions *via* the Court of Wards that stated that the members of a ward's family had to be given preference when the guardianship was up for sale. [See the internet for greater detail of the custom of wardship in such cases]. So, who was the guardian of John Wynter?

1619 : Christopher Wynter

'A' Christopher Wynter was *buried* at English Bicknor on 28 Jun 1619 per the Forest of Dean family history society web-site. Note: this was seemingly not recorded as Christopher, the son of Christopher Wynter. However, William, the son of Christopher Wynter, was *baptized* at English Bicknor in November 1619. If this William was the son of Christopher (who died in 1619) and Ann (who died in 1615) how was this late baptism explained? In addition, was there any link to the later Christopher Wynter of Allaston who, by 1637, had sons John Wynter and George Wynter? Where are there *later* details of the William Wynter who was born at English Bicknor in 1619? Where did he live? What happened to him? Did he get married? Did he have a son around 1640 also called William as suggested by S Bradley in the Geneanet web-site? This needs more research.

By 1620, someone called Edward James [see the internet for full details] was seised of two messuages, one of which was called Sulley alias Soylewell House or Soilwell House, and the other Rodmore, situate within the parish of St Briavell; five cottages, ten gardens, ten orchards, one water-grain mill called Wood mill, and thirty-one several closes of land, meadow, pasture, wood and wood land, to the same belonging, some of which are called Sulley alias Soylewell Fields, Greenes pitt, the Harpe, Dimer Dines, Broadfield, Rodmore Coppice, Keeres groove, Martins wall, and Eddies Lande, lying within the parishes, vills and fields of: Lydney, Breavell, Hewellfield, Ruerdine, Newnham and Awre, and within or next to the Forest of Dean; ... *and numerous other items more ... including* ... (i) a yearly free rent of 6s. 10d. issuing out of Maunsels field, and out of the other lands and tenements in Lydney and Ayleberton in the tenure of *John Wynter* as John Wyntour, knight; (ii) a yearly free rent of 6s2d issuing out of a messuage and divers lands in Allaston, 'late' in the tenure of *Christopher Wynter* as Christopher Wintour; (iii) and one parcel of meadow containing 2½ acres in Eastmerch enclosed with another meadow in Lydney, formerly parcel of the lands of *William Wynter*, esquire. Was the latter the brother of John Wynter? The will of 'a' Christopher Wynter/Wintour, 'late' of Allaston was dated 1637. Once more, clarification is needed. Where are the details of manorial accounts, *etc*.

Another source recorded: Mr. Ivor James has also been good enough to inform me that Sir John Wynter was probably connected, and certainly had dealings, with the James family, which was probably the reason why Wynter's Forest was named after him. Mr Ivor James informs me that Mrs James (daughter of Thomas Powell of Preston Court, and sister of the first Lady Coke), widow of Edward James (a son of alderman Thomas James) had leasehold interests in the Forest of Dean, which were assigned to Sir John

Wynter just before the date of James's voyage. 'Wynter's Forest' was doubtless named in allusion to this. Taken from: *The Voyages of Captain Luke Foxe of Hull, and Captain Thomas James of Bristol, in Search of a Northwest Passage, in 1631-32; With Narratives of the Earlier Northwest Voyages of Frobisher, Davis, Weymouth, Hall, Knight, Hudson, Button, Gibbons, Bylot, Baflin, Hawkridge, And Others*. What a lengthy title?

Another source: Edward James' inquisition post mortem included: a yearly free rent of 6s2d issuing out of a messuage and divers lands in Allaston, late in the tenure of *Christopher Wintour*. Allaston tithing lay between Plummer's brook and the Newerne stream. Its principal farmsteads, called Soilwell, Allaston Court, Rodley Manor, and Hurst, were established in the Middle Ages as the centres of small manors. Driffield farm (formerly Lower Allaston farm) on Driffield Road, leading up the hill from the main Gloucester road, is an L-shaped 17th-century farmhouse which was altered in the 19th century. A farmhouse stood at the Hulks by the Yorkley road near the north end of the tithing in 1668 but the site comprised only farm buildings in the early 19th century.

1620 : Giles Wynter of Coleford and Dymock

William Wynter 'of Coleford' (and later of Dymock as well), the brother of Edward Wynter 'of Lydney', had a son and heir called Giles Wynter. He was born roughly around 1600 if the following item is appropriate: Giles Wynter 'of Coleford', Gloucestershire, *armiger, fil. nat. max.*, or eldest natural son, Queen's College, Oxford: matriculated on 17 Nov 1620. Note that Edward Wynter was *equites fil* (a knight's son) and Giles Wynter was *armiger* (family with coat of arms).

1621 : The strange Dyrham document

A manuscript, dated 14 Apr 1621, originally kept by Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery and by Bristol Reference Library, Reference 5139/368a, recorded: 'George Wynter of Dirham, Gloucestershire: to Sir Charles Blount of Maple Dirham, Oxon, and William Whittington of Coldeston, Gloucestershire, (copy of) settlement of estates of Dirham and Henton also Hinton; also of the manor of St James's, Bristol, the rectory of St Philip, Bristol, and all other property in these places, with the object of continuing the estate in the name and blood of the Wynters, and to prevent it falling to issues female. The trustees to pay the profits to [George] Wynter for life, then to his first and other sons in tail male. In default of males, to his brothers, John, Benedict, Henry, Cecil, successively and to their sons in tail; in default, the estate to go to grantors uncle William Wynter 'of

Clapton' Somerset and to his sons in tail; *then to Robert, Edward, William and Frederick, sons of Sir Edward Wynter 'of Lydney', successively in tail male*. In default of all, to grantor's right heirs. Livery of seisin executed same day'. What was the reason why George Wynter of Dyrham *did not include his nephew John Wynter* amongst the sons of Sir Edward Wynter of Lydney?

Why was John the heir to Sir Edward if he was still a ward of court in 1621-1623. What, exactly, were the ages of Sir Edward's children? Who was John's guardian when ward of court? Where are the details? It costs £30 to have details online. As usual there was no mention whatsoever of Sir Edward's alleged two children at English Bicknor, which makes the idea very dubious.

1622-1626 : Miscellaneous accounts

It seems that someone called Alice Wynter (of unknown ancestry) married at English Bicknor on 30 Nov 1622 someone called Francis 'Duitris'. In Latin. This needs an explanation and an identification of 'Duitris'.

Note that there were *two* people called Sir Edward Wynter. The first was the son of Sir William Wynter 'of Lydney', Sir Edward[1] Wynter (c1560-1619); and the second was the son of William Wynter 'of Portsmouth', Sir Edward[2] Wynter. The latter, and his older brother, Thomas Wynter, both 'claimed' to be great grandsons of Sir William Wynter 'of Lydney' but, alas, they did not name their paternal grandfather, whether Edward[1] Winter 'of Lydney' or William Wynter 'of Coleford' or one of their brothers. Yet again, it is frustratingly not known whether the link was *via* William Wynter 'of Bicknor'.

The second Sir Edward[2] Wynter (1622–1686) was born shortly after the death of the first Sir Edward[1] Wynter. He became an agent of the East India Company at Fort St George, Madras (Chennai). He was the son of William Wynter 'of Portsmouth' and claimed to have been a great-grandson of Sir William Wynter. He went to India about 1630, about 8 years of age, but probably under the charge of his elder brother, Thomas Wynter, who eventually became chief of the Masulipatam factory in 1647. They were both buried in London.

The internet web-site 'Golden Falcon' recorded: In 1559, William[1] Wynter 'of Lydney and London' bought the manor of Nass, in the hundred of Bledisloe, where farms were owned in 1607 by his son, Sir Edward Wynter. Allaston in the same hundred was also bought in 1568 by William Wynter 'of Lydney' and leased in 1623 by his grandson, Sir John Wynter 'of Lydney', who bought the freehold in 1659.

Joanna, the daughter of William Wynter 'of English Bicknor' was baptized on 12 Mar

1598 when William may have been about 19 years. Joanna Wynter was buried at English Bicknor on 29 Mar 1623. Where were her parents then? Has anything been recorded of her short life?

A document at Gloucester Castle, dated 15 Nov 1623, drawn up by William Wynter 'of Coleford and Dymock' concerning the future marriage of his son, Giles Wynter 'of Coleford', and Alice Carwardine, a widow, the daughter of John Mallett of Berkeley. Alice married Giles Wynter on 8 Apr 1626 [where?]. Her father died on 21 Jan 1639. See below, 1630.

1624 : The gunpowder plot?

Through his mother's side of the family, John Wynter was a first cousin of Edward Somerset, second marquis of Worcester, whose addiction to Roman catholic ideas and mechanical experiments he shared. In June 1624 the government was informed of a great store of powder and ammunition kept at Raglan castle, belonging to the earl of Worcester, by John Wynter and other papists. Despite this, no importance was apparently attached to the report, for John Wynter was knighted very shortly afterwards. A little earlier, Sir Edward[1] Wynter's eldest son, John Wynter 'of Lydney', who was born in 1600, became a ward of court upon the death of his father in 1619, and remained so until 1623. He was knighted by James I at Belvoir Castle in 1624. The question arises: why was he knighted at such a young age by James I, along with various others, at Belvoir Castle in Leicestershire? No explanation has been located. What did John Wynter do between the death of his father and his knighthood, apart from storing gunpowder at Raglan castle? Later, Sir John Wynter became a private secretary to the queen, Henrietta Maria, who married Charlies I on 13 Jun 1625. It presently remains a mystery.

Diversion : Someone with the pseudo-name 'OwlWinter' wrote on the Forest of Dean family history web-site: 'I've found that Sir Edward[1] Wynter owned several farms in the manor of Nass. His son, William Wynter, the brother of Sir John Wynter of Lydney, birth estimated around 1600 or so, bought in 1652 the freehold of three farms leased to him, and *he had a son called Christopher Wynter*, born perhaps around 1625-1635? This does not match the history of Nass manor as described elsewhere. Alas, 'OwlWinter' did not respond to a request for details.

1626 : William Wynter 'of Coleford and Dymock'

William Wynter 'of Coleford' and then also 'of Dymock' (the elder of the two brothers

called William Wynter) presented the new vicar of Dymock in 1626 in accordance with the protocol of the avowson. It appears that he married around 1600. About the same time, someone called Alice Carwardine, a widow *nee* Alice Mallett, married Giles Wynter on 8 Apr 1626, William's eldest son and heir. Then William Wynter 'of Coleford', brother of the late Sir Edward[1] Wynter, died at Coleford, presumably at his home [where?], and was buried at Newland, the location of the parish church, leaving a will and, strangely, though perhaps not for this family, named his *brother* as 'Captain William Wynter'. Who was this 'Captain' William Wynter, obviously another son of Sir William Wynter (deceased) and brother of Sir Edward Winter (deceased)? Where did he live during his life, including 1626? Was he the brother born around 1574, when his mother died, and who later attended Oxford university? If so, he would have been around 52 years of age in 1626.

The detailed will of William Wynter 'of Coleford' named only four of his daughters, including (i) Phillippe, (ii) Elinor, (iii) Mary who was baptized on 18 Nov 1612 and (iv) Ann who was baptized on 15 Dec 1617; but excluding (v) Elizabeth who died in 1622 and (vi) Jane, who married, at Newland parish church on 6 Apr 1619, John Duckett of Corsham (see below). Then it named three sons as: (i) Giles Wynter, who received the Coleford estates, presumably now including the avowson of Dymock, (ii) yet another William Wynter, and (iii) yet another Edward[3] Wynter 'of Coleford', who later married someone called Jane and had various children at Coleford around 1640-1654, a period including the civil war. It seems that letters of administration for this Jane, wife of Edward Winter, living in Coleford, described Edward as 'late lawful husband of Jane Wintour, late of Coleford'. Her maiden name is not known. In particular, the omission of any son called Christopher Wynter implied that neither (i) the later Christopher Wynter of Allaston until 1637 nor (ii) the Christopher Wynter of Lydney until 1699 were of this Coleford family. In the same way, none of the children of Edward Wynter and Anne Somerset was called Christopher Wynter excluding the strange account of the English Bicknor situation.

As another brief digression concerning William Wynter 'of Coleford': John Duckett was born in the rather remote village of Calstone Wellington, Wiltshire, and baptized at nearby Calne on 13 Sep 1581. He married twice: (i) Elizabeth Elkington in 1611, no children, and (ii) Jane Winter, born 1587, on 6 Apr 1619 'at Gloucester', daughter of William Winter of Coleford. They had: (i) a son called William Duckett, born or baptized 23 May 1624, died 1 Nov 1686 at Hartham House, Corsham, age 62 years; and (ii) Stephen Duckett, 1626-1626 [died same day?]. Several sources have recorded, seemingly erronously, that Jane Duckett *nee* Jane Wynter died at St Andrew, Holborn, London, in 1627, age 57 years [born around 1570] which would, of course, explain no further

children. Other sources recorded that Jane Duckett, wife of John Duckett, was buried on 14 Apr 1642 in Wiltshire. John Duckett, was buried at Calne on 27 Oct 1648, age 68 years, having been a royalist colonel during the troubled times and later fined for refusing a knighthood. His home, Calstone House near Calne, was burned down during the troubled times and he may thereafter have lived at Hartham House north of Corsham. He matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, on 15 December 1592, aged 11 or 12 years. So they said?

The inquisition post mortem, the procedure in those times of settling estates after the death of its owner, taken after the death of William Wynter 'of Coleford' gave his date of death as 5 Jul 1626, when his son and heir, Giles Wynter, was aged 21 years or more, thus born prior 1605. The will itself named Giles Bridges [alias Brydges or Brugge or Bruges] as a brother (-in-law?); and *Captain* William[2] Wynter as a *brother*, born around 1574, presumably age about 52 years by then.

More fully: Inquisition taken at the Castle of Gloucester, 27th September, 2 Charles I [1626]: Peter Bird esquire, escheator, after the death of William Wintour, esquire, by the oath of Richard Packer, gentleman, Joseph White, gentleman, Robert Showell, John Licence, Edmund Wicke, William Brush, John Cowesstance, William Ockle, William Yarnoll, Thomas Keake, John Younge, Henry Crompe, William Venn, John Holder, Thomas Goslinge, and John Hopkins, who say that William Wintour was seised in fee of the rectory of Dymock with appurtenances, and of all the tithes, 'oblations', and profits thereto belonging lying in the parish of Dymock : which said rectory is held of the king in chief by the twentieth part of a knight's fee [see the internet for details], and is worth per annum, clear, £7. William Wintour died 5th July, 2 Charles I [1626]; Giles Wintour is his son and next heir, and was then aged 2 1 years and more. Inq, p, m, 2 Charles I, part 3, No.80.

1628 : Thomas Wynter of Newland or Staunton

Who was the Thomas Wynter of the parish of Newland buried at Newland parish church 21 Mar 1627/28, a few years after William Wynter but clearly not mentioned in the 1626 will. A generation earlier, on 6 Apr 1586, William Wynter, the son of shoemaker Thomas Wynter of Staunton, Gloucestershire, was apprenticed to Richard Morse, a baker in Bristol, and Agatha his wife for 7 years. The apprentice was to have at the end 33s4d.

Sir William Throckmorton was buried there on 20 July 1628. Sir Edward Wynter's daughter, Mary, a nun, died on 1 Apr 1630 in Brussels, aged 25, born around 1605.

1629 : Sir John Wynter's land in Allaston

On the 3 Aug 1629, the said Thomas Hill made his will whereby he gave to his daughter Elizabeth £ 200. The premises in Just and Bilshamsfield are held of Ralph Sadler, esquire, as of his manor of Olveston, by fealty and the yearly rent of 6s0d, and are worth per annum, clear, 10s0d. The Brenthouse and other the premises to the same belonging in Ridven, Compton, Tockington, and Almondesbury, are held of the mayor and commonalty of the City of Bristol as of their manor of Gaunts Ircot and the Lea, by fealty and the yearly rent of 12d, and are worth per annum, clear, 2s0d. The Millhouse and the premises thereto belonging are held of William Yonge, gentleman, as of his manor of Tockington, by suit at the court of the said manor, and by the yearly rent of 2s6d, and are worth per annum, clear, 10s0d. The premises called Haselfields and other the premises in Etlowe are held of the king in chief by knight's service, but by what part of a knight's fee the jurors know not, and are worth per annum, clear, 3s4d. *The pasture called Pilgaster, the meadow called a Moore, and the messuage and premises in Alleston, are held of John Winter, knight, as of his manor of Lidney, by ... and are worth per annum, clear, 2s0d.* The messuages and other the premises in Ashwicke and Catcat are held of Theodore Newton, knight, as of his manor of Catcat, by fealty, suit at court, and the yearly rent of 5d, and are worth per annum, clear, ... The fourth part of the mill aforesaid, and other the premises in Kingescaple, Fownhope, Fawley, and Howcaple are held of the king in chief, by what service the jurors know not, and are worth per annum, clear, 12d.

1630 : Death of Giles Wynter of Coleford and Dymock

Giles Wynter 'of Coleford and Dymock' died on 21 Feb 1630 at a very early age when his son, yet another William Wynter (later called 'of Dymock'), was only 4 years old. This particular William Wynter 'of Coleford and Dymock' was thus born around 1625 and would therefore have been old enough to have been the patron of Dymock who presented the new vicars in 1654 and 1664, though other explanations are also possible. According to the burial records: Mr Giles Wynter, esquire, of Dymock died on 21 Feb 1629/30 and was buried at Newland church, the parish containing the township of Coleford. Less than a year later, on 29 Dec 1630, his widow, Alice Wynter as Alice Wintour, married Walter Kearle or Kyrle, esquire, at Dymock. They had numerous children. There is a charter at Gloucester castle dated 15 Nov 1623, concerning the marriage of Giles Wynter and Alice Carwardine, widow, on 8 Apr 1626.

1630 : Inquisition post mortem of Giles Wynter

Inquisition post mortem taken at Gloucester castle on 8 Apr 1630 before Thomas Nurse, esquire, escheator, after the death of Giles Wynter, by the oaths of ... who say that: Long before the death of the said Giles Wynter, one William Wynter ['of Coleford and Dymock'], his father, was seised of the manor of Little Dymock, together with the rectory of Dymock, and all the oblations, glebe lands, profits, etc, to the said rectory belonging, and of the advowson of the church of Dymock. So seised, the said William Wynter, by his charter dated 15 Nov 1623, and made between himself of the one part and [son-in-law since 1919] John Duckett, esquire, [of Wiltshire] and William Lawrence, gentleman, of the other part, in consideration of a marriage to be solemnized between the said Giles Wynter, son and heir apparent of the said William Wynter, and Alice Carawardine, widow, in compensation for the dower of the said Alice, granted to the said John Duckett and William Lawrence all the said premises aforesaid: to hold to them and their heirs forever to the use of the said William Wynter for the term of his life, and after his decease to the use of Giles Wynter and his heirs male by the said Alice, paying out of the said premises to the said Alice, if she happens to survive the said Giles, an annuity of £120 during her life. The said William Wynter died on 1 Aug 1626. After his death, the said Giles Wynter entered into all the said premises and was thereafter seised as of fee-tail [that is, the land was tied to the family by promigenure]. So seised, the said Giles and Alice, by their indenture tripartite dated 7 Ma[?] 1629, made themselves of the first part, Miles Smyth, esquire, of the second part, and John Typper and William Leigh, gentleman, of the third part, in consideration of a certain sum of money in hand paid to the said Giles, demised to the said Miles Smyth the moiety of the rectory of Dymock, with all rights and members thereof, together with the reversion and remainder of the said premises to hold to the said Miles for 99 years, he paying therefor yearly one red rose at Midsummer ... and so on. What happened to Alice Wynter and her son, William Wynter 'of Dymock'? The latter eventually married and lived at Dymock whilst brother Edward Wynter 'of Coleford' married someone called Jane and remained at Coleford. The rest requires research.

1632 : Miscellaneous, Allaston or Allastone

According to *The Golden Falcon* web-site, XI/1: Allastone in the same hundred was bought in 1568 by Sir William Wynter and leased in 1623 by his grandson, Sir John

Wynter, who bought the freehold in 1659. However, Sir John lived in Lydney: so who lived at Allaston? There was no reference to either Christopher Wynter or William Wynter of English Bicknor, as usual, but who was the Christopher Wynter 'of Allaston' who wrote his will in 1637?

Pauntley Court : D2700/NQ2/1, 1632 Contents: Rectory of Newent and messuages purchased by Sir Edward Wynter, knight, deceased, in Newent, Oxenhall and Pauntley, from John and Richard Hill, all comprised in a fine [*legal fee*] levied in 1632 by Robert Wynter [who was he?] and Sir John Wynter to Sir Charles Somerset. (William Wynter; Robert Wynter) [Eb 3/1 (17). National Archives, Badminton Muniments. What did all this mean? Needs research. It is guessed that Robert Wynter and William Wynter were two of the sons of Sir Edward Wynter. Robert was one of those who emigrated to America in 1634.

1633 : The fishing company

In 1633, Sir John Wynter had become an adventurer in, and member of the council of, the Fishing Company, which was part of Charles I attempt to enforce his supremacy in the Narrow Seas against the Dutch who were then proving troublesome to the king.

1633 : Survey of Forest of Dean

A survey of the trees in the Forest of Dean, taken in 1633 by John Broughton, showed that there were then 166,848 trees, worth on an average a pound apiece, and if very small trees and brush-wood were included the whole of the wood might be valued at £177,681 6s8d. *George Dunning, an experienced 'ship-timber man*,' assured the surveyor that there was timber enough there to furnish the kingdom with shipping, but John Broughton evidently thought that the wood was most profitably employed for the king's iron-works. See 1637 for George Dunning again.

From the internet : The marriage of Sir Edward[1] Wynter of Lydney to the Lady Ann had produced an outstanding personality in *their second son*, (Sir) John Wynter, the dedicated Royalist leader of Ayleburton in the Forest of Dean. He was *initially a ward court* [usually because he was a minor at the time of his death and the land was held of the king] but eventually he was knighted by Charles I in 1634 [surely by James I in 1625?]. John Wynter became secretary to Queen Henrietta Maria. He was a man of enormous wealth and prestige. Samuel Pepys in his famous *Diary* spoke of him as 'a man of many fine parts'. His wife was the very beautiful daughter of the duke of Norfolk, Mary

Howard. King Charles I rented him the entire Forest of Dean for an enormous sum of money, which suited the hard-up monarch very well, and enabled Sir John to supply timber to the Navy which so denuded it of trees that an Act of Parliament was passed in order to restrain his activities. From the forest mines, that were older than the Roman administration and rich in coal and iron, he discovered a method of making coke, using a blast furnace operating at Lydney. He also had a flair for mechanical invention, and, much earlier, with his father, Sir Edward, and his uncle, the earl of Worcester, invented a rough type of steam engine.

In 1634, Charles I, when reviving the ancient prerogatives of the Crown, convened a forest eyre (or justice seat) for Dean, as a result of which a total of about £130,000 in fines was imposed for encroachments, waste of woods, and other offences against the vert and venison. Many offenders incurred only small fines but some of the ironmasters and grantees of lands were made liable for massive sums including, for example, Sir John Wynter, £20,230, mainly for illegal cutting and charcoaling in the demesne woods by him and his father for their Lydney works. In the event, the principal offenders had their fines considerably reduced, and it is thought that no more than about one fifth of the total originally imposed was collected. In the following years, however, the Crown profited by the willingness of landowners in the revived bounds to pay to disafforest their lands: John Wynter paid £1,000 to free his large and well-wooded Lydney estate.

1634 : The Ark

The *Ark* was the name of a 17th-century ship which carried emigrants bound for the new Maryland colony in America during the pioneering expedition of 1634. The settlers began a permanent settlement in a shared Indian village south of St Clement's Island and named it St Mary's. The *Ark* eventually returned to England, leaving the ship called the *Dove* behind to provide transportation for goods to be traded up and down the Atlantic seacoast. The following year, *Dove* headed back to England but she never arrived and was presumed lost at sea. The captain of the *Ark* on the outward journey was Robert Winter, esquire, a son of Sir Edward and Lady Anne Wynter of Lydney. Brothers Edward Wynter and Frederick Wynter were also part in the first expedition to Maryland. Robert Wynter had helped twenty-eight Benedictine nuns to become established in Brussels and brought five servants with him to America. He died in Maryland on 4 Sep 1638 and his inventory included at least 12,577 lb of tobacco, 7 servants, 40 beaver skins. He was closely associated with Lord Baltimore, the leader of the movement.

Transcription of the Journey of the *Ark* and *Dove* Gravesend, England then Cowes,

Isle of Wight to St. Clement's Island, Maryland 25 March 1634. Because of persecution by the Church of England, two vessels, financed by Cecil Calvert, second Lord Baltimore, transported over 100 (perhaps over 300) 'adventurers', many of whom were Roman Catholic, to the colony of Maryland in America. 'It was 25 Mar 1634, the initial day of Spring and the first day of the Julian calendar, as well as the feast of the annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, all of which were propitious for joyous and solemn celebration and a memorial day for each adventurer who had survived the voyage of 123 days or slightly over four months from the sailing from Cowes to their destination. They selected the larger of three islands lying near the shore of the Potomac, not too far distant from the mainland, to disembark. To the island they gave the name of St Clement after the fourth bishop of Rome. Father White directed several of his retainers to construct a huge cross from one of the native trees. It was hastily hewn together and, on that virgin day of Spring in 1634, led by Father White, who was assisted by Father Altham, all the Roman Catholics, and not a few of the Anglicans, gathered for the first sacrifice of the Roman Mass ever to have been celebrated in one of the original thirteen English colonies.'

Documented List of the Adventurers of the Ark and the Dove, and those who were early identified with the Settlement. 106: Edward Wynter, gentleman, emigrated. 107: Frederick Wynter , esquire, emigrated. These were two sons of Sir Edward Wynter 'of Lydney'. In the book *History of St Mary's County, Maryland*, by Regina Combs Hammett, 1977: (i) '...seventeen gentlemen who arrived aboard the *Ark* in 1634 included (among others) Edward Wynter and Frederick Wynter, sons of Lady Anne Wynter;' and (ii) 'In March, 1638, Governor Calvert commissioned Robert Wynter, one of his council, 'justice of the peace' for St George's hundred giving him authority to appoint a constable.' Most of the people on board were people transported for 'criminal' offences.

According to American sources, Robert and Henry Wynter (perhaps Henry Frederick Wynter) went in the ship *Ark* and the pinnace *Dove* to Maryland, the settlement of which began in 1632 when a charter was granted to Sir George Calvert, 1st Lord Baltimore. After some delay, the ships sailed from London in 1633. The *Dove* ran into problems and had to return but met the *Ark* in Barbados and continued on in 1634 with 20 gentlemen settlers, their slaves, indentured servants, tradesmen, farmers and wives totalling about 320 people. The gentlemen were Roman Catholic gentry and included Edward Wynter (son of Lady Anne Wynter) and Frederick (also one of her sons). Both Edward and Frederick received large grants of land, which they subsequently gave to the church.

Cecilius Calvert in the 'Conditions of Plantation' published in a work entitled *A Relation of Maryland*, gave a list containing 'The names of the gentlemen adventurers that are gone in person to this Plantation' : Leonard Calvert, the Governor; George

Calvert, his lordship's brothers; Jerome Hawley, Esquire, Thomas Cornwaleys, Esquire, the Commissioners; Richard Gerard, son to Sir Thomas Gerard, knight and baronet; Edward Wynter, Frederick Wynter, sons of the Lady Anne Wynter; Henry Wiseman, son to Sir Thomas Wiseman, knight; John Saunders, Edward Cranfield, Henry Greene, Nicholas Ferfax, John Baxter, Thomas Dorrell, Captaine John Hill, John Madcalfe, William Saire.'

During the afternoon session of the same day, January 29th, a proposition was laid before the House to consider laws to be sent to the Proprietary. Leonard Calvert advised that a committee should be selected to prepare a draft and report to the House when they were ready, the members in the interim to have time to attend to their private concerns. The proposal was favourably received and a committee of five was chosen out of a candidature of ten members. It is worthy of note as it gives evidence of the high esteem in which Captain Cornwaleys was held in the House, that he received fifty-four votes, the highest number cast for any of the successful candidates. Captain Evelin received forty-eight; Captain [Robert] Wynter, forty-five; Governor Calvert, thirty-eight; and Mr. Justinian Snow, thirty-one. The House then voted to adjourn, to meet again on the 8th of February. As the Court was to meet in the interval, the privilege of Parliament was suspended so that there might be no obstruction to the course of justice.

Miscellaneous snippets from Maryland history on the internet: *Frederick Wynter died before 1638, and Edward Wynter shortly after him.*

Because of the accusation brought against 'Claiborne' of having told the Indians that Calvert's party were Spaniards, and on June 20, at Patuxent, there was a meeting of four of the Virginia Council, with Claiborne, George Calvert and Frederick Wynter being present on the part of Maryland, to question the Indian chiefs as to the origin of the rumour. They admitted they had thought Calvert's party were 'Waspaines', but denied that Claiborne had told them so, or that Fleet had truthfully interpreted what the .?. said in the cabin of the *Ark*. The others present at the opening of this second General Assembly of Maryland were all from St Mary's. Cornwallis, Robert Wynter, and Lewger were present as Councillors and sat with the other freemen, the Governor, or Lieutenant-General, presiding. Wynter was authorized to name another in his stead, if his sickness prevented his serving. *Robert Wynter, another councillor, who died during the summer of 1638.*

Another source gave the following details: Sir Edward Wynter's children were: Edward[1] Wynter; Robert Wynter, who went in *Ark* to America; Elizabeth who married Benedict Hall of Highmeadow, Gloucestershire; Mary Wynter, who became a nun at Brussels; William Wynter; Edward[2] Wynter; Henry Frederick Wynter of Siddington, who

went to America and back and died in 1681 at Lydney (contradicted elsewhere); and Sir John Wynter.

1635 : Mayor of Portsmouth

William Wynter, mayor of Portsmouth [age about 40-50 years?], at his election in 1635, renounced his position in the Portsmouth garrison and promised hereafter to be none of their company.

1635 : Archived documents concerning Allaston manor

Gloucestershire Archives, document D421/T5, covering 1635-1717, referred to: 'Manor of Allaston, messuages and lands, including tenement called the Mills, messuages called Allastons Court, Browns, Whites Court and Duffolds Farm; land called Chapel Ley (all in Allaston); manor of Aylburton; Overstreet farm and lands (all in Aylburton)'. Alas, the eight documents have not been seen.

1637 : Death of Christopher Wynter of Allaston

Although no earlier reference to this person has been located, which is strange, one person called Christopher Wynter 'of Allaston' died at Allaston in Lydney in 1637 leaving a will. Unfortunately it was in the script of its age and almost unreadable? It left the lease of his property firstly to his wife, Alice Wynter, and then equally and jointly to his sons, George Wynter and John Wynter, with no mention whatsoever of any William Wynter (of Bicknor or Portsmouth?). Why is there no record of his *burial* in Gloucestershire? Probate details apparently exist somewhere in the Gloucestershire archives. Note that, at that time, a nearby 'lord of the manor', so to speak, was Sir John Wynter. If the unlikely hypothesis was correct, then this Christopher Wynter would have been an older half-brother of Sir John Wynter, though records of the latter never hinted at such. Was Christopher Wynter's family also Roman Catholic? Did either of his sons, George Wynter and John Wynter, support Sir John Wynter of Lydney during the oncoming civil war, whether related or not? What was the case Rex v Wynter in 1637?

1637 : The king's support

During the troubles in the Forest of Dean, Sir John Wynter's Roman catholicism had

been charged against him and Charles I had, in 1637, ordered that no indictment should be brought against him or his wife on account of their recusancy.

1638 : Secretary to Queen Henrietta

In May 1638, Sir John Wynter became, although ‘a man never thought of’ , appointed secretary to Queen Henrietta Maria, his nomination being taken as a proof that Charles I had yielded to the queen’s demand for Roman catholic servants. He was also made ‘master of requests’ to the queen with a salary of £200, double that of an ordinary master. His function was probably not to decide matters in litigation but to ‘investigate petitions for personal satisfaction’.

1638 : Survey of Forest of Dean

In 1638, an elaborate survey was made of the greater part of the Forest of Dean, and the total number of trees in Dean, the Lea Bailey excepted, was returned at 70,971 oaks, of which 24,549 were timber trees, 20,823 beeches, and 13,763 ‘stogalls’,14 containing 61,928 tons of timber and 150,808 cords of wood, besides the underwood furnishing some 2,401 cords. The total value of this timber and underwood was estimated at £120,261 2s2d.

Upon this survey an entire sale was made by the Crown to Sir John Wynter of all woods and waste ground belonging to the Forest of Dean except the Lea Bailey, with the wood, timber, mines, and quarries, in consideration of £106,000 to be paid by instalments, and a fee-farm rent of £1,950 12s8d for ever. Sir John Wynter aroused intense opposition by his enclosures and by grubbing up trees and underwood, and during the civil war the people of the forest took the law into their own hands, threw down his fences, and for a time local anarchy prevailed, order being ultimately restored by the strong action of the parliamentary government.

1639 : Lady Anne Wynter, wife of Sir Edward Wynter ‘of Lydney’, still alive

National Archives: HA/D/6 1639 June 20. Contents: Mortgage of £4,300, by way of demise for 92 years from Sir John Wynter and Lady Mary his wife *and Lady Anne Wynter his mother* to Edward Nicholas, clerk of the privy council, and Philip Warwick, clerk of the signet: manors of Wick and Abson. [Deed and copy]. Sir Edward’s wife was still alive.

1639 : Edward Wynter ‘of Coleford’

Another other son of William Wynter ‘of Coleford’, namely yet another Edward Wynter, but this time Edward Wynter ‘of Coleford’, had married someone called Jane. Alas, no marriage can be traced. Why? Much later, according to the Golden Falcon web-site XII/8, letters of administration [date?] for Jane, wife of Edward Wynter, still living in Coleford, Gloucestershire, described Edward Wynter as ‘*late lawfull husband of Jane Wintour, late of Coleford*’. Alas, such letters of administration have not been located; and no details of the dates of deaths and burials of Edward and Jane have been traced either. Meanwhile, their children, baptized at Coleford (Newnham), included: Ann on 2 Dec 1639, Margaret on 9 Dec 1640, [yet another] William on 13 Feb 1641, and eventually, after the war years, Elizabeth on 12 Jul 1652, and Charles on 18 Oct 1656. Other details await research, especially the gap during the ‘troubled times’. During the decade between the baptisms of William in 1641 and Elizabeth in 1652, it is possible that Edward and Jane Wynter ‘of Coleford’ could have had a child called Christopher Wynter. But that has to be total conjecture in view of the seemingly total absence of records during the war years. Meanwhile, what happened to their sons: William Wynter 1641 and Charles Wynter 1656? Again, nothing has been traced online. The latter name was ‘overwhelmed’ by that of contemporary, Charles Winter ‘of Lydney’.

According to official record in the Heralds College, parish of Newland: 1612. Maria Wyntour, filia Will’mi Wyntour de Colford, arm., baptizata 18 Nov. 1617. Anna, filia Will’mi Winter, arm., de Colford, bap. fuit 15 Dec. 1619. Mat. solemp. fuit inter Joh’nem Duckett de Corsham, arm., et Jana Wintour, filia Will’mi Wintour de Coleford, arm., 6 April. 1622. Elizabetha, filia Will’mi Wintour, arm., sepulta 7 Jan. 1625. Wil’mus, filius Egidii Wintour, Esq., de Colford, bap. fuit 31 Julii. 1626. Will’mus Wintour, arm., de Colford, sepultus fuit 7 Aug. 1627. Tbomas Winter sepultus 21 Mar. 1639. Ann, filia Edwardi et Janas Winter, bap. 2 Dec. 1640. Margareta, filia Edwardi et Janie Wintour de Coleford, bap. 9 Dec. 1641. Guilielmus, filius Edwardi et Janse Wintour de Colford, bap. 13 Feb. 1652. Elizabetha, filia Edwardi Wintour de Coleford, gen., bap. 12 Julii. 1656. Charles, the son of Edward Winter, gent., and Jane his wife, of Coleford, born 10, bap. 15 Oct. 673. Catherina, filia Giles Winter, gen., et Cath. uxoris, de Colford, bap. 10 Dec.

1639 : Recusancy

1639. Middlesex Sessions Rolls, 23 Apr, 15 Charles I. GSP held at Westminster: Ninety persons to be proceeded against by way of indictment for Recusancy, in not coming to

church *etc* during one month, comprising: Prudence Burke widow, Anne Burke spinster, Joan Molton widow, Joseph Kerson gentleman, his wife Sara Kerson, Richard Musdale yoman, his wife .... Musdale, Bridget Woodcocke widow, John Fish gentleman, John Crompton yoman, Joseph Quinton gentleman, Sir John Symondes knt., Penelope Lady Gage widow, ... Birch widow, all fourteen of Clarkenwell; Thomas Foster esq. and Richard Greenbury gentleman, both of St. Johnstreete; John Lawrence of Kentishtowne gentleman; Bridgett Saunders widow, Nicholas Lameere gentleman, his wife .... Lameere, Edward Lee gentle- man, his wife .... Lee, all five of Cheswicke; *Sir John Wynter of Kensington knt;* Peter Seret of Ruislipp gentleman; George Matchett gentleman and his wife .... Matchett, both of Saffronhill; Richard Route gentleman, Mark Belwood MD, Margaret wife of Thomas Greene gentleman, Robert Portington gentleman, Sir Richard Minshaw knt, all five of St. Giles's-in-the-Fields; the others of the ninety recusants consisting chiefly of persons of humble condition, whose names appear repeatedly in previous lists of indicted recusants. Note the location of Sir John Wynter: *Kensington*.

How many people were called 'Sir' John Wynter in 1639? Another source 4 Dec 16 Charles I. SP held at Hickes Hall in St John Street county of Middlesex. : Fourteen hundred and thirty persons to be proceeded against for Recusancy in not coming to church *etc*. during one whole month; the said 1,430 persons comprising the following individuals, to wit, ... *Sir John Wynter knt* ... and so on. The footnote recorded: *Over the name of Sir John Wynter, late of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, county of Middlesex, knight, appeared the minute, ' protulit bre' D'ni R'gis de Cer' retourn' in B. R'is in xv a S'c'i Hill' 1640.'* What on earth did that mean? The phrase appeared in other documents around that time. 'And for a writ' . When was he secretary to the queen? See below. He was secretary before January 1642 when parliament attempted to stop him giving counsel to the king.

1639 : Grant of lands

Grant of lands, iron mills, woods with the perambulation of the Forest of Dean as made temp. Edward I., (1639/40) [Certified copy, dated 1658]. Gloucestershire Archives.

1640 : More troubles

In November 1640, in a popular squib to Sir John Wynter's relationship to the gunpowder plotters, the fact was pointed out. He was accused of having written for aid to the pope in the previous August. On 27 Jan 1640–1 the house of commons required his

attendance to give an account of the money collected from Roman catholics for the war of 1639 and, on 16 March following, they petitioned for his removal from court. Charles I paid no heed and, on 26 May 1641, a committee of the commons was appointed to administer to him the oaths of allegiance and supremacy. On 15 Feb 1641–2 his removal from court was voted, he being 'of evil fame and disaffected to the public peace and prosperity of the kingdom'. On 16 March 1642 the house of commons declared him unfit by reason of his recusancy to 'hold his bargain in the Forest of Dean,' and appointed a committee to examine his accounts. It failed to collect sufficient evidence for his indictment, but on 22 July 1642 required his attendance at the 'painted chamber'.

1640 : Dedication

In addition to his plays and pageants, Tatham was responsible for at least two small volumes of verse. The first, entitled *Fancies Theater*,'by Iohn Tatham, gentleman, London, 1640, is dedicated to Sir John Winter.

1640 : Documents in Gloucestershire Archives

Gloucestershire Archives 1640. Copy royal grant of lands and mines in the Forest of Dean to Sir John Wynter. Manors of Lydney, Aylburton, Allaston, Purton, Nass, Wick, Abson, Awre, Dymock, Kingsweston, Newent, and Hundred of Bledisloe; rectories of Newent and Pauntley [see D421/T2, T3]; land in Newland and St Briavels; messuages, forges, lands; with royal grant, 1639/40, and livery post mortem with extent, 1622. Gloucestershire Archives. What did all that mean?

1642 : Dangerous counsellors

1642. The committee of lords appointed to discover and prevent evil counsellors about His Majesty, passed several votes, which were reported to the house of parliament. Votes against evil counsellors. 'That His Majesty be desired, that all privy counsellors and great officers of state, except such as had their places by inheritance, be removed. That His Majesty would be pleased to receive none into those places, but such as shall be recommended, by the humble advice of both houses of parliament. That Mr William Murray, and Endymion Porter, Lord Digby (died 6 June 1642), Mr William Crofts and *Sir John Wynter* be removed from the persons of the king and queen, as conceived to give dangerous counsel. Date around Jan-Feb 1642.

During the civil, Endymion Porter remained a constant and faithful servant of the king. He was with him during the two Scottish campaigns, attended him again on the visit to Scotland in August 1641, and followed Charles on his last departure from London in 1642, receiving the nominal command of a regiment, and sitting in the royalist parliament at Oxford in 1643.

In July 1642, John Wynter may have joined Hertford and Sir Ralph Hopton in Somerset, and accompanied them during their campaign in the west. He, Hopton, and Sir John Stawell were said to have been arrested at Falmouth, brought to the commons' bar on 14 Oct 1642, declared delinquents, and committed to the tower of London. The commons' journals do not confirm this statement, nor is it clear how Sir John Wynter obtained his liberty for, early in 1643, he was lieutenant-colonel of the Welsh force raised by the marquis of Worcester to oppose the parliamentarians in Gloucestershire.

1643 : War at Lydney

Of the distractions of civil war, the first event that occurred in this part of the county of Gloucestershire may have been that dated 20 Feb 1643. It was recorded that, on this day, Lord Herbert, the earl of Worcester's eldest son, and the king's lieutenant-general of southern Wales, marched through Coleford and elsewhere in the Forest of Dean towards Gloucester. He was at the head of an army of 500 horse and 1500 foot, the outfit and preparation of which is stated to have cost £60,000. At Coleford their progress was impeded by a troop of parliamentarians under Colonel Berrow, aided by a 'disorderly rabble of country people'. It seems that, on 28 Nov 1542, Colonel John Berrow was paid £500 and given the task of recruiting a foot regiment in the Forest of Dean. There is no record of uniforms being issued to the Coleford volunteers and it is fairly certain that they fought in civilian clothes. Some of their weapons may have been looted during the raid on Sir John Wynter at Whitecross, Lydney. Berrow's second in command was Lieutenant-Colonel *Charles Wynter*, allegedly a relative of the Lydney Wynters. How? Does anyone know? He appears a total mystery.

An affray ensued, during which the old market-house was burnt, and there were various casualties. They forced a passage through, after capturing the *parliamentarian* officier, Lieutenant-Colonel *Charles Wynter*, together with other officers and soldiers, and, putting the rest to flight, marched without further molestation for Gloucester. Taken, with modifications, from *The Forest of Dean* by H G Nicholls, page 29. The question arises, who was this Lieutenant Colonel Charles Wynter of 1642-3? What happened to him? Apparently he was either released or may have escaped and was shot

in the head in a battle at Allaston Meend and, it was recorded, buried in the Wynter chapel in Lydney church. That explanation requires much thought? There was ‘a’ Charles Wynter, son of William Wynter of Clapton, descended from the Dyrham branch, born around 1598. Yet he seems to have been a mystery.

Not much had been heard from Sir John Wynter during the period of the Gloucester seige and he had not intervened earlier when Colonel Berrow was recruiting for the parliamentarians at Coleford in December 1642. One quote related that ‘he had been secretly strengthening against attack for some time, storing his house with arms and ammunition, and collecting soldiers’. It is recorded that around that time, his home at Lydney was attacked and looted by parliamentarian soldiers from Gloucestershire and Herefordshire, and his servants tortured. Those soldiers were probably local volunteers and members of the militia from the Forest settling old scores after years of frustrating disputes with his family. He appears at this stage to have kept his head down and was offering no immediate military threat to the parliamentary forces. He spent some of that time fortifying his home and assets at Whitecross and probably organised the manufacture and supply of weaponry for the Royalist garrisons.

After a very hot Summer, the siege of Gloucester was raised on the 6 Sep 1643 and, within a week of that event, Sir John Wynter sent a troop of horses to Newnham to protect a ship from Bristol laden with munitions for the royalists. It was, however, captured without fighting by a superior body of parliamentarians, and safely conveyed to Gloucester. On 20 Sep 1643 he received his commission from the king making him governor of Lydney and authorising him to fortify his home and to raise and maintain a ‘convenient number of soldiers.’ During the winter of 1643-4, when there was eight days of snow from 31st January, Edward Massey, the parliamentary governor of Gloucester, and John Wynter, the royalist governor of Lydney, were both active in the Forest area.

Thus, one of the various individuals who figured prominently in these parts at this eventful period was the royalist Sir John Wynter. His was described by Sanderson: ‘From the pen, as secretary to the queen, he was put to the pike, and did his business very handsomely, for which he found the enmity of the parliament ever after.Corbet, one of the parliamentary adherents, designated him ‘a plague,’ and his house of White Cross, near Lydney, ‘a den.’ This place he had been secretly strengthening against attack for some time, storing it with arms and ammunition, and collecting soldiers; but he did not openly declare himself until the siege of Gloucester was raised on 5 Sep 1643. During the ensuing Winter, and on to the 7 May 1644, Corbet speaks of him as ‘referring all his industry to his own house’ , described as being ‘in the heart of the Forest,’ of which, says the same writer, he had ‘obtained the entire command,’ and from whence he succeeded

in making constant attacks upon the adjoining small parliamentary garrisons of Huntley and Westbury, who were treacherously sold to him by Captain Thomas Davis, and he was thus enabled to advance almost to Gloucester. Also taken with modifications from *The Forest of Dean* by H G Nicholls, page 30.

On 15 Oct. 1644 he was defeated at Tidenham, and 'forced down' a cliff two hundred feet high to the river, where he escaped in a small boat; subsequent legends declared that he leaped the whole distance, and the spot became known as 'Winter's Leap'. Eventually he was so hard pressed by Sir Edward Massey that, in April 1645, he fired his house at Lydney and retired to Chepstow, of which he was for a time governor with three hundred men under his command. Thence he made his way to Charles I at Oxford, and was by him sent to queen Henrietta Maria at St Germains, where he had arrived in November . He had been despatched with letters to the queen, in France, and mentioning him in these terms: 'This bearer, Sir John Wynter, as thy knowledge of him makes it needlesse to recommend him to thee, soe I should injure him if I did not beare him the true witnesse of having served me with as much fidelity and courage as any, not without much good successe; though some crosse accydents of late hath made him (not without reason) desire to waite upon thee, it being needfull that I should give him this testimony, least his journey to thee be misinterpreted'.

1643 : Retribution

Committee for advance of money cases, 25 Sep 1651, recorded that: Richard Aram of Newent, William Barton of Stone, John Birke of Blakeney, Kitford Brayne, Samuel Dobbins of Newent, Valentine Dobbins of Bramsborrow, all in the county of Gloucestershire; *George Dunning of Lydney* (see elsewhere), Thomas Sower, Thomas Vaughan and John Winyett. Information that, in 1644, William Barton assisted the king with horse, and gave intelligence to Bristol when garrisoned. That Kitford Brayne was a captain for the king *hrs adrm*, and that the Dobbinses assisted with men at arms in 1643 and 1644. That *George Dunning*, John Birke and Richard Aram were in arms with Sir John Wynter at his house and elsewhere in 1643 and 1644. That Thomas Sower and Thomas Vaughan were in arms against parliament. Information that: John Winyett furnished *William Wynter, captain for the late king*, with two able horses, in 1643 and, one being killed, he supplied its place in 1644. Who was this particular William Wynter in the 1640s? There were so many? It would be very useful to know. Has anyone written about the person?

1646-1648 : Turbulent times

Sir John Wynter returned to England, probably in 1646, and on 7 Nov 1648 was excluded from pardon by the house of commons. The lords, however, disagreed and, in February 1648–9, after Charles I's execution, John Wynter was selected as envoy to the Irish Roman catholics with the idea of extending some toleration to them and thus preventing their alliance with the royalists in Ireland. The project came to nothing, and on 15 March the commons ordered John Wynter's banishment and the confiscation of his estates, which were given to Edward Massey. He was allowed reasonable time to leave the country, but, failing to do so, he was arrested on 31 August and committed to the tower of London. On 6 May 1651 he was allowed the liberty of the tower, and was offered leave to go abroad if he would make his submission to parliament. He refused, and, on 17 Dec 1652, was sent back to the tower. Gradually, however, his confinement was relaxed and, on 14 Oct 1653, he was allowed to reside anywhere within thirty miles of London. He employed his liberty and leisure in making experiments 'to char sea coal,' and Evelyn saw his works at Greenwich ferry in 1656. From the description he gives, Sir John Wynter's idea was merely the production of coke, which, though profitable as a by-product of gas, can scarcely have been lucrative to John Wynter, who, however, set great store by it, and after the Restoration procured a monopoly for the invention.

1649 : More retribution

House of Commons Journal, 14 Mar 1649. Resolved, *etc*. That the persons hereafter named; *viz*. Charles Stuart, eldest son of the late king; James Stuart, second son of the late King; John Earl of Bristol, William Earl of Newcastle, Sir William Widdrington, George Lord Digby, Sir Philip Musgrave, Sir Marmaduke Langdale, Sir Richard Greenvile, Sir Francis Doddington, the earl of Worcester, *Sir John Wynter*, Sir John Culpepper, Sir John Byron and George Duke of Buckingham; and all that have been plotting, designing, or assisting, in the 'Irish Rebellion'; and all such persons as now do hold out any castle, fort or island, against the parliament; *shall be proscribed, as enemies and traitors to the Commonwealth; and shall die without mercy, where-ever they shall be found within the limits of this nation; and their estates shall be confiscate, and forthwith employed for the use of the commonwealth*. Resolved, that the persons hereafter named shall be the twelve, to be presented to the house of commons, to be so banished and confiscate. Charles Stuart, eldest son to the late king, James Stuart, second son of the late king, supernumerary. John, earl of Bristol, William, earl of Newcastle, Sir William

Widdrington, George Lord Digby, Sir Philip Musgrave, Sir Marmaduke Langdale, Sir Richard 'Greenvile', Sir Francis Doddington, earl of Worcester, *Sir John Wynter*, Sir John Culpepper, Sir John Byron. Resolved, that all such as have had a hand in plotting, designing, and assisting, the rebellion in Ireland, shall be excepted from pardon. Resolved: That *Sir John Wynter* shall have convenient time to depart into any foreign parts. Why was he chosen for this option? Where did he go? What happened to him?

31 August, 1649. Resolved (upon the question) by the Commons assembled in parliament that Mr. Walter Mountagu do within ten days next ensuing, depart this nation ... that Sir Kenelm Digby do depart this nation ... that the estate and estates of all such person or persons as shall or do conceal *Sir John Winter*, Mr. Walter Mountagu, and Sir Kenelm Digby, or any of them, shall be sequestred.

Digression. Sir John Wynter entered the realms of fiction writing. *The Cheapside Corpse* by Susanna Gregory included the paragraph: 'The carriage rattled on, passing Nonesuch House, a fabulous jumble of onion domes and great glass windows, currently rented by a fellow named Sir John Winter. The earl pursed his lips. Not only was Winter a Catholic, but he was reputed to be an authority on gunpowder, too. And if *that* combination was not sinister, then the earl did not know what was. He would have ordered Winter put under surveillance but the only man he trusted to do it, Thomas Chaloner, was in Wimbledon on other duties. Still, Chaloner would be back soon, and then he could look into whatever dark business was fermenting on the Bridge'. The four-storey Nonsuch or Nonesuch House on London Bridge, *completed in 1579*, is the earliest documented prefabricated building. It was originally constructed in the Netherlands, taken apart and shipped to London in pieces in 1578, where it was reassembled.

1650 : Edward Somerset, earl of Worcestershire.

Mid-17th century : Roman catholic faith: Edward Somerset (1553-1628), 4th earl of Worcestershire, was deputy master of the horse (1559), master of the queen's horse (after the earl of Essex's execution), knight of the garter, lord privy seal (1615-1628) and master of the king's horse to James I (1603-3 Mar 1628). His seat was at Raglan and he bought Badminton from Henry Boteler in 1608. He married Elizabeth Hastings (who died in 1621), a daughter of the earl of Huntingdon, and was father of Anne Somerset, later the wife of Edward Wynter of Lydney. Edward Somerset was a Catholic but his wife was a Protestant. Their children (including daughter Anne Somerset) were brought up as Protestants *but converted to Catholicism*.

1650 : Marriage of William Wynter ‘of Dymock’ and Margaret Maxey

05 Jul 1650: Gloucestershire: Dymock Parish Registers: William Wintour & Margaret Maxey married.

1651 : Manor of Nass

The following is from a report for the owners of Naas House by The Gloucestershire Gardens and Landscape Trust (1990s): In 1577, a William *Jones* was the owner of a small estate in Naas and the family later purchased more land *from the Wynter family*. In 1607 *Sir Edward Wynter* owned several small farms and one was leased to Charles *Jones*. In 1651 *Sir John Wynter’s* land was surveyed for the sale of the estate, which had been forfeited to the Commonwealth for treason. In the survey, three farms were leased to Charles Jones’ son, *William Jones*, who bought the freehold in 1652. Between 1658 and 1668, John Vaughan sold the manor and Naas Court to William Jones who had leased the property since 1650. The house is now much as it appeared in the 1720s. Naas House remained in the Jones family until 1916-18 when it was bought by the Biddle family, who still farm the surrounding land.

A *History of the County of Gloucestershire*, Volume V: The tithing of Nass (usually spelt Naas in the late 20th century), southeast of Lydney, was settled by 1066. Nass Court, site of the ancient manor house, and Nass House, built in the mid-17th century, stand close to the river at the end of Nass Lane and were once part of a larger hamlet. In 1651 there were three small farmhouses on the same part of the lane but, in the following year, William Jones, owner of Nass House, bought them and he probably demolished them soon afterwards.

However, although ‘owlWynter’ seems to have made a slight mistake, there was no mention of anyone called Christopher (either Wynter or Winter or Wintour or Jones) in these alternative accounts. Where, then, did ‘owlWynter’ get the information that ‘a’ William Wynter had ‘a’ son called Christopher Wynter? It remains a mystery. This is the wording: “The Wintours of Nass by ‘owlwinter’, Monday, October 04, 2010: I’ve found that Sir Edward Wintour owned several farms in Nass. His son, William (brother of Sir John) bought the freehold of three farms leased to him in 1652 *and he had a son, Christopher*. This is probably the Christopher I am looking for.

Another possibility is a Christopher Wintour who was recorded as having ‘a messuage and divers lands at Allaston’ (which Sir John had leased in 1623 and bought the freehold of in 1659). This Christopher is mentioned as being a *cousin* by the son of

Alice/Agnes Wintour and Thomas Wilson". That son was Nicholas Wilson and he died in 1604.

1651 : Survey of Sir John Wynter's estate

A survey of Sir John Wynter's demesne lands around 1651, made under an Act of Parliament for the sale of estates forfeited for treason to the commonwealth. Gloucestershire Archives. Where are the details other than at the archives?

1652 : Disentailment of Wynter estates

1652: Articles of agreement between Sir John Wynter *and his heir, William Winter*, concerning the *disentailment of Wynter estates*. Gloucestershire Archives and National Archives, the latter confirming Lydney estates. What was the reason for this? Exactly what did the document state? Is this the reason why, much later, Sir Charles Wynter's widow was able to acquire the Lydney estate? Research is needed.

1652 : Return of Sir John Wynter

On his eventual return to this country, Sir John Wynter nevertheless seems to have been imprisoned for, it has been recorded, on the 7 Sep 1652 he was liberated from the tower of London upon bail for three months, on account of an unspecified sickness; a term of liberty which was enlarged upon the 7 Dec 1652 on the same security to three months longer, with permission to go where he pleased within twenty miles of London. However, on 17 Dec 1652 he was remanded back to the tower of London. From *The Forest of Dean* by H G Nicholls, page 35.

1652 : William Wynter 'of Coleford' and Margaret Maxey

William Wynter 'of Coleford and Dymock' was born around 1626 and was only four years of age when his father, Giles Wynter, died in 1630. What happened to William Wynter and his mother immediately thereafter? Who knows? Eventually this particular 1626 William Wynter 'of Dymock' married someone called Margaret, possibly in 1650, and they had a number of children baptized at Dymock, not Coleford or Newland, including: (i) Margaret on 8 May 1652 when her father was about 26 years of age; (ii) William on 28 Jul 1653; (iii) John on 22 Jul 1657; (iv) Mildred on 6 Sep 1660, born on 27 Aug 1660; (v)

Edward on 14 Sep 1661, born 8 Sep 1661; and (vi) Charles on 9 Mar ? (all in old dating system). There were allegedly several others including a Giles Wynter and a Robert Wynter, and sometimes repetitions of these same names. This needs sorting. When widow Margaret Wynter [*nee*?] died in 1674, surviving children named in her will included William, Giles, Robert, John, Edward, Mildred and Margaret. She had two married sisters: (i) Elizabeth, the wife of Orlando Gee and (ii) Margaret Scudamore, the latter with the same name, Margaret [Odd]? Orlando Gee was born in 1619 in Devon and married firstly, on 17 May 1662, by licence, Elizabeth the daughter of Sir William *Maxey* of Essex and the widow of Thomas Barker of Suffolk. Elizabeth died before he remarried in 1682. Thus William Wynter of Dymock married Margaret *Maxey*. Unless intervening genealogists made mistakes?

1653 : Baptism of William Wynter at Dymock

Thus William Wynter ‘of Coleford and Dymock’, born 1625, son of Giles and Alice Wynter, married Margaret Maxey, daughter of Sir William Maxey, and they had numerous children. One was named [yet again] William Wynter, baptized at Dymock on 28 Jul 1653. According to the genealogies he married someone called Hester Kyrle and had they had various children.

Around the same time a document at Gloucestershire Archives dealt with the: Manor of Lydney and mansion house called ‘Wighte Crosse’, with land and other messuages in Lydney. It has not been pursued.

1654 : Death of William Wynter ‘of Portsmouth’

William Wynter ‘of Portsmouth’ died in 1654, allegedly 74 years old. He was thus born sometime around 1580, somehow a grandson of Sir William[1] Wynter according to the monumental inscription of his son, Thomas Wynter ‘of Portsmouth’ . Perhaps the meaning of relationships was slightly different in those days? However, Thomas’s younger brother was also called Edward, later another Sir Edward[2] Wynter’.

Digression. Sir Edward[1] Wynter’s *youngest* brother, William Wynter, was born in 1574, just before his mother died, and was thus not ‘of Portsmouth’ unless the age at death was much in error. Sir Edward[1] Wynter’s other brother was the one later called William Wynter was ‘of Coleford’. Neither of these brothers of Sir Edward Wynter ‘of Lydney’ could possibly have been the father of William Wynter ‘of Portsmouth’. Sir Edward, seemingly the eldest son of Sir William[1] Wynter, was born around 1560. See the

account of his alleged 'marriage' with a daughter of Christopher Wyrall of English Bicknor around 1580 and their two children, one called *William Wynter around 1579-1580* and one called Christopher Wynter shortly afterwards. It is not known whether their mother died. The idea that this William Wynter 'of English Bicknor' was the William Wynter 'of Portsmouth' seemingly fails, however. Sir William[1] Wynter's 1589 will referred to his *son-in-law* Thomas Bayneham and my *servant* Roger Monosee putting it forth upon good assurance to be paid on marriage by consent of the said Thomas Bayneham; his *son* Edward Wynter; his *son-in-law* George Huntley; his *nephew* John Wynter 'of Dyrham'; his *kinsmen* George Wirral 'of Bicknor' and John Morgan; and his *friend* Charles Jones 'of Nass'. To my niece (did he mean *granddaughter*?) Cecily Bayneham, £50; and to the rest of my *daughters*, Mary and Eleanor, £30 each. To my *friend* Christopher Baker, a gown. There was not a single reference to the 'alleged' English Bicknor family, who would by 1589 have been Sir William's oldest grandsons, despite the inclusion of kinsman George Wirral in the will, presumably linked *via* a Wyrall marriage to Bridget Wynter. End of digression.

Back at Portsmouth. In his 1654 will, William Wynter of Lumps Farm, Portsmouth, named his eldest son as Thomas Wynter, *c*1615-1616, his second son as Edward[2] Wynter, *c*1622, and his third son as Francis Wynter. His daughters included *Elizabeth*, Margery and *Joan*. There was no reference whatsoever to English Bicknor nor, alas, to his father, which would have been very useful. Note: Recall *Joanna* of English Bicknor and that Christopher Wynter's daughter *Elizabeth*, but these were common enough names of the times. The will of William Wynter 'of Portsmouth' is available at National Archives, £3.50p. The probate is also available somewhere: William Winter, gentleman, Portsmouth, 1654. Do not confuse this will with the online will of William Winter of Clapton, also dated 1654. As a wild hypothesis, was it possible that Sir William[1] Wynter married before his marriage to Mary Langton in the mid-1550s, leaving a son William? It seems unlikely as not a single hint has been found.

1656 : Document of conveyance

Although Sir Edward[1] Wynter's heir was eventually his son, Sir John Wynter, Sir Edward also had another son called [yet again] William Wynter, as recorded in 1621 in the Dyrham account earlier. This William Winter *was still alive* in 1656, post civil war, as per the following document. Counterpart Conveyance D3270/159 4 November 1656: Between: (1) Sir John Wynter of Lydney, knight, and Dame Mary his wife, William Wynter and Edward Wynter, their sons, and *William Wynter, brother of said Sir John Wynter*,

John Wildman of London, John Browne of London, John White of London, John Bancks of London, merchant, and Robert Bird and John Parry of London . (2) Thomas Aylwey of Awre and William Rowles of Newnham . (3) George Bucke of Blakeney, Awre, Thomas Dunning of the Willows, Lydney, Richard Hopkins, Richard A'Deane, William Arram, Mathew White, Edward Butler, Andrew Bucke, Joseph A'Dean, William Kedwicke, Richard Hayward, John Robbins, Charles Daniell, all of Awre, yeomen, and William Dunning of Purton, Lydney. Counterpart conveyance of Heavens otherwise Harmors (1 acre), Long Row (1 acre), Eyemeade (4 acres), Part of the Eye (¼ acre), close of land (1 rood), Heavens Croft (2½ acres), all in Blakeney, part of the Manor of Awre and Etloe, Chesterley (66 acres), Howcroft (5 acres) with a barn, Grove (5 acres), Moore (½ acre), Greene Croft (1 acre), Mincks Grove (½ acre), land in Downefield (1 acre), 10 rudges in Northingtons Field, 7 rudges 2 butts in Podmeadow (2 acres), 5 rudges 1 goare in Hamstalls (2 acres), 9 rudges in Lynchfield, 1 rudge in Enychyns, 5 rudges in Brodfurlong, 7 rudges in Punck Marsh, land in the Wooding Marsh and Olde Land (4 acres), Netherhall with barns and outhouses, 1 garden, 1 orchard, 8 parcels of land called the Moores, Grasfeild, Grasfeilds Hill, Smithfields, Churchcroft Mead, Churchcroft and the Orchard (50 acres), Guylehay; Meese Place with 4 closes called Cox and Cox Grove (30 acres); Bennetts with garden and two parcels of land (30 acres); 2 groves called Bennetts (16 acres), Gorstie Leaze (7 acres), Little Glovers (½ acre), Great Glovers, Lowfields or Pensbridge (5 acres), Hawfield (1½ acres), Broad Lowfields, 2 mills and 12 acres of land, Cowstie Meadow (1 acre), Wigpoole (3 acres), Hawfield (4 acres), Hundish and Martuns, a cottage with 3 bays of buildings and garden belonging, 1 parcel of land (2 roods), Sledds Land (4 acres), 1 dwelling house with 3 rooms in Northington, with garden belonging, and 1 close of pasture ground; Drys Hase in Woodley Hills (1 acre); 2 other parcels of pasture in Woodley Hills, parcel of meadow ground, 2 rudges in Lenchfield (6 acres); Gifford's Croft (1 acre); Mashfield, with garden and orchard (2 acres), 3 closes of arable land (14 acres), Bismores Mead (2½ acres), Westmore (2 acres), all in Awre. Consideration 5s and £2471.

1657 : Recovery of debts

The Gloucestershire Archives has a document dated 1657 [D421/T26]: (i) Agreement and counterpart that John Caryll and Edward Walpole (see below) shall be seised of Lydney estate and shall *pay debts of* [which] *William Wynter* out of the rents and dues from the estate (with schedule of debts); (ii) receipt from William Beavan (see below) of Monmouth to John Caryll and Edward Walpole, 1658. What did that mean?

From the Forest of Dean History Society : By an indenture dated 1642, John Typper of Flaxley, gentleman, and Robert Typper, the son and heir apparent of John Typper, conveyed Millend House and property to Sir John Wynter *etc*, for £1600. The 'grant' was for the use of such persons as Sir John Wynter should appoint but Millend remained the property of John Typper's heirs. In 1658, Millend belonged to William Beavan of Llandylo-Crossenny in the county of Monmouth, gentleman, and Eleanor his wife, sole daughter and heir of Robert Typper, late of Millend in the county of Gloucester, deceased, who was son and heir of John Typper, late of Millend aforesaid, gentleman, also deceased. In 1658 Millend was 'sold to uses' to John Caryll of Harting and Edward Walpole of Grays Inn, *who also held much of the Wynter land*. A Typper family had lived in Aylburton from before 1551, when John Typper paid £12 19s8d rent to the Wynter estate for lands. In 1565 he wrote his will, proved in 1567, leaving his house and ground in Aylburton to his eldest son, Robert, and a house in Thornbury to his younger son, John. He asked to be buried in Lydney church, [around 1567/75]. Robert Typper of Aylburton wrote his will in April of 1601 and it was proved in October of the same year. He requested burial in Lydney church or churchyard. He left the freehold lands he had bought 'from any person whosoever' to his son, John, and *a lease of land from Sir Edward Wynter* to his younger son, Mathew. Robert had married Joanne Eddy, daughter of Peter Eddy of Ayleburton. Robert left her the lease of the mill in Aylberton which he leased from *Edward Wynter*. This appears to be at Millend which Peter Eddy had occupied.

1658 : Burgesses of Portsmouth

From 1658 onwards, all three sons of William Wynter 'of Portsmouth' were variously named in the rolls of burgesses of Portsmouth: Thomas 1659 and 1666, Edward 1661 and 1682 (query son), Francis 1681 and 1682.

1659 : Freehold of Nass

The *Golden Falcon* recorded: In 1559, William[1] Wynter bought (the manor of) Nass, in the Bledisloe hundred, where farms were owned in 1607 by his son, (Sir) *Edward Wynter*. Allaston or Allastone in the same hundred was also bought in 1568 by William[1] Wynter and leased in 1623 by his grandson, Sir John Wynter, who bought the freehold in 1659. See the 1637 will of Christopher Wynter 'of Allaston' and the earlier John Wynter 'of Allaston' [do not confuse with Sir John Wynter 'of Lydney'].

1660 : The Restoration

The return of Charles II at once *restored Sir John Wynter to liberty*, and to the benefits of the patent which the late king had granted him, as also to his place as secretary and chancellor to the Queen Dowager. He proceeded to act upon the patent by repairing his enclosures in the Forest of Dean, in spite of determined opposition from the neighbouring inhabitants, who strongly represented to the government that the continuance of that grant would injure both the forest and the public.

1660 : The Queen Dowager returns

In June 1660, Sir John Wynter he went to France to prepare for the queen dowager's return, and he retained his office as her secretary till her death and burial in 1669 in France. despite this, very few references of him occur in any of the accounts of the queen. Thereafter, his remaining years were spent chiefly on his ironworks and forestry in Gloucestershire, and in litigation and other proceedings relating to them. His provision of timber for the navy brought him into frequent contact with Samuel Pepys, who thought him 'a man of fine parts'. He is said to have been a 'great depredator' of the Forest of Dean, but as a colliery manager he was apparently successful.

1662 : Another John Wynter in Bristol

Phillippa Winter of the City of Bristol wrote her will on 3 Dec 1662: To be buried in St James Church [a favourite of the various Wynter families]. To my cousins John Farewell and James Farewell, sons of my brother Sir John Farewell, knight deceased, £50 each. My kinsman Nathaniel Farewell, son of my brother, Sir George Farewell, knight, deceased. *My late husband Mr John Winter deceased*. My kinswoman Susan Barber and Mary Meredith, 'Extrices'. Proved 21 Jun 1663. Tomb of Sir George in Bishop's Hull near Taunton.

1662 : Negotiations over the Forest of Dean

Regarding the drawing up of this 1662 agreement, Samuel Pepys's Diary for 20 Jun 1662 supplied the following details: He was up by 4 or 5 o'clock, and to the office, and there drew up the agreement between the king and Sir John Wynter about the Forest of Dean.

Having done that, he [Sir John] came himself, 'whom I observed to be a man of fine parts; and we read it, and both liked it well. That done, I turned to the Forest of Dean, in John Speed's maps, and there he showed me how it lies; and the lea-bayly with the great charge of carrying it to Lydney, and many other things worth knowing'. They evidently enjoyed each other's society for, in the month of August next following, they again met at 'The Mitre,' in Fenchurch Street, 'to a venison pasty,' whither Samuel Pepys was brought in Sir John Wynter's coach, 'where I found him a very worthy man, and good discourse, most of which was concerning the Forest of Dean, and the timber there, and iron works with their great antiquity, and the vast heaps of cinders which they find, and are now of great value, being necessary for the making of iron at this day; and without which they cannot work.'

Samuel Pepys Diary for 18 Jun 1662 recorded, after earlier details: 'Thence to Somerset House [the queen's residence in London] to Sir John Wynter's chamber by appointment, and met Mr Pett, where he and I read over his last contract with the king for the Forest of Dean, whereof I took notes because of this new one that he is now in making. The last contract had been that of March 1640, by which he had bought a lease of 18,000 acres of the Forest of Dean with all ironworks, mines, wood and timber, except ship timber. It had been cancelled by parliament on 21 March 1662 because of his delinquency. Now a new contract (concluded on the following 30 July) was in negotiation, by which he was given the lease for 11 years. This, in turn, was cancelled by the king in 1668 in response to protests against his felling of timber made both by the commoners of the forest and in parliament.

1663 : William Winter, brother of Sir John Wynter, old age

Sometime in his old age, according to a document in Gloucestershire Archives, a licence was granted in 1663 to William Wynter (of where?), this one being the brother of Sir John Wynter, and thus the son of Sir Edward Wynter, 'to eat meat in Lent'. The season of Lent started on Ash Wednesday and continued through six Sundays until Easter. In the Christian church, Lent was a time of penance and spiritual growth, and was often typified by people abstaining from a particular food or activity. Before the Reformation it was obligatory not to eat dairy products, such as eggs and milk, during Lent and, on the day before Ash Wednesday, these foods would all be used up by making pancakes and other batters. It was also obligatory to abstain from eating meat. In 1562-3 an act of parliament was passed which meant that meat could not be eaten during Lent and on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Ember Days. A penalty of £3 or three months'

imprisonment was imposed if an individual was caught eating meat, and 'flesh searchers' were appointed by the local court to visit people's houses and check whether any meat had been eaten. It was possible that a dispensation or licence could be granted by the bishop, or local minister, to allow an individual to eat meat during Lent, especially for those whose health made the concession necessary. Hence the application by William Wynter, son of the late Sir Edward Wynter. However, no burial of any William Wynter of this time has been located in Gloucestershire except for William Wynter 'of Dymock', esquire, in 1666. However, *that* William Wynter was *not* the brother of Sir John Wynter. He was his uncle. So, what happened to him?

1663: Sir John Wynter and son William Wynter, his heir

A document at Leicester and Rutland Record Office. A copy of the marriage settlement of Sir John Fortescue and (his third wife) Elizabeth Wynter. (i) Sir John Fortescue, knight and baronet, Salden, Buckinghamshire. (ii) *Sir John Wynter*, knight, 'secretary and master of requests' to Princess Henrietta Maria, the mother of Charles II [the dowager queen). Elizabeth [Wynter], one of his daughters. (iii) Sir Kenelme Digby, knight and 'chanceller' to Princess Henrietta Maria. The Hon Mervin Touchett, esquire, 3rd son of the earl of Castlehaven (deceased). *William Wynter, esquire, son of (ii).* Humphrey Burlase, esquire, Treluddrow, Cornwall. Henry Benedict Hall, esquire, High Meadow, Gloucestershire. Charles Fortescue, esquire, of Husbands Bosworth. Edmund Fortescue, esquire, of London. (i) Release to (iii) premises in Shenley, Bucks, the 'manoruires' of Over Shenley and Nether Shenley with the advowson of the parish church on trust for (i) and his heirs with £700 rent charge as a portion for his son, William [Fortesque], by Mary, his former wife, £3,000 to be raised as marriage portions for his daughters. Consideration: £3,000 marriage portion. 28th July 1663. The three daughters of their marriage died young. When Sir John Fortesque of Salden House in Buckinghamshire married Elizabeth Wynter, it was decided that her coachman, John Pello, should be taken into her service. In 1675, Sir John Wynter of Lydney, in his will, added a codicil stating that John Pello was owed £20 in wages and provision was made to grant him a lease. Thus this William Wynter, like his father's brother, William Wynter, were both alive in 1663.

1665: Treasury Accounts

14 Jul 1665 : Warrant from same to Sir George Charnock, one of the sergeants at arms,

and [Thomas] Agar,esquire, one of the surveyors of woods, to take a view of those 18,000 acres in Dean Forest, lately surrendered to the king by *Sir John Winter, secretary to the Queen Mother*, and of parts of which the king has resolved to dispose for the making of convenient nurseries for future growth of ship timber in supply of the great decay thereof in this kingdom: and to report hereon the present state of the timber, the best method of enclosure. &c.: and particularly to inform themselves on conference with the freeholders of the several parishes concerning their discontent at the award made formerly by Sir Charles Herbert [Harbord] and others by way of composition for their pretended rights of common therein.

1666 : Bubonic plague

The last major outbreak of the plague in London ended around 1666. In 1665, the year before the fire of London, it is thought that 100,000 people, 15% of London's population, were killed by the plague. In other European cities, the bubonic plague appeared to die out at the same time, without the assistance of accidental great fires.

The Great Fire of London swept through the central parts of the city from Sunday 2 Sep 1666 to Wednesday, 5 September 1666. It gutted the medieval part of the city (inside the old Roman wall). It threatened, but did not reach, Westminster. It consumed 13,200 houses, 87 parish churches, St Paul's Cathedral and most of the buildings of the authorities. It is estimated to have destroyed the homes of 70,000 of the 80,000 inhabitants.

The plague of 1665 prompted all who could, particularly the wealthy, to leave London. Samuel Pepys' diary for 29 June 1665 recorded: 'By water to Whitehall, where the Court is full of waggons and people ready to go out of town. This end of the town every day grows very bad with the plague. Home, calling at Somerset House where all were packing up, too; the Queen-mother setting out for France this day...'. Henrietta Maria never returned to England and died in France four years later. The great fire of 1666, started in the City to the east of the Strand, destroyed nearly three-quarters of the town, but conveniently cleared the city of disease. The fire stopped just short of Somerset House, home of Queen Henrietta Maria. What happened to Sir John Wynter when the queen fled to France? What happened to his family?

1667 : Death of William Wynter 'of Coleford and Dymock'

It is believed that William Wynter, esquire, 'of Coleford and Dymock', born in 1629, died

in 1666 at Dymock and was buried on 20 Jan 1666 [query 1666 or 1666/7?]. His wife, Margaret Wynter *nee* Margaret Maxey, died about twelve years later on 8 Jan 1674/5 and a stone in Dymock church recorded: Margaret 'Wyntour', widow, buried 12 Jan 1674/5. The probate of her will was dated 17 Mar 1674/5 with the inventory dated 18 Mar 1674/5.

1668 : Lease to burgesses of Gloucester

7 Oct 1668. Sir John Wynter of Lydney, knight, *William Wynter of Lydney* (son and heir of Sir John Wynter), Charles Wynter (another son of Sir John Wynter): to the mayor and burgesses of the city of Gloucester. *Lease for a year of lands and premises* (as described in assignment dated 7 Oct. 1668) *in Allaston and Lydney*. Consideration 5s0d rent, a peppercorn if demanded. What happed to this son and heir, William Wynter, as Charles Wynter eventually acquired the Lydney estate after Sir John just six years later? William Wynter was also named in 1663 at the marriage of his sister, Elizabeth Wynter. His burial has not been located. Why? No will has been located.

1669 : Mysterious William Wynter in London

There was a two-generation gap between Sir William Wynter 'of Deptford and Lydney' and his grandson son, Sir John Wynter 'of Lydney', and a further generation to the latter's son and original heir, William Wynter 'of where', who apparently predeceased his father by just a few years. This particular William Wynter was alive in 1668, and then the heir to the Lydney estates, but died before 1674. There is no trace of William Wynter's burial *in Gloucestershire* and his brother, the later Sir Charles Wynter, became sole heir. Did William Wynter 'of where', older brother of Charles Wynter 'of Lydney', live part-time in London like his father, Sir John Wynter? Although perhaps very unlikely, could he have been the William Wynter who was buried at St Botolph on 9 Dec 1699. That William Wynter, however, lived at Swan Lane in London (not far from All Hallows and Seething Lane), a place known for weavers and other occupations. One William Wynter was a member of the Guild of Weavers. That William Wynter may have been the one who set up the Wynter Charity with an endowment of £1,000 (later reduced to £600) for a school at All Hallows Staining, near Seething Street, where Samuel Pepys and his wife were buried. However, the William Wynter buried at St Botolph was not described as a weaver. Alas, his occupation could not be deciphered in the parish registers, available online. In addition, the 1699 will of William Wynter, with names, *etc*, has not been located.

Seething Lane, Tower Street, running northward to Crutched Friars, was originally (wrote John Stow) called Sidon Lane, and in his time there were fair and large houses there. This old chronicler of London, John Stow, mentioned among the distinguished residents of Seething Lane the wily Sir Francis Walsingham (a close friend of Sir William and Sir Edward Wynter), 'principal secretary' and unofficial spy-master to Elizabeth I. This great counter-plotter against the Jesuits in Spain died 5 Apr 1590, and the next night, at ten o'clock, was quietly buried in Paul's Church. Sir Francis Walsingham's name occurred perpetually in Elizabethan annals, and no one by darker or more secret means fought better for Elizabeth I against the dangerous artifices of Mary, Queen of Scots. The garrulous, gallant and inimitable Samuel Pepys also lived in this lane, to be near his work at the Navy Office, the very year in which the Great Fire broke out. He and the admiral Sir William Penn [not Wynter] helped save All Hallows church from the Great Fire in 1666. The church continued to be used for 200 years with little change until 1870 when the parish of All Hallows Staining and St Olave Hart Street were combined. The church became redundant and everything was demolished in 1870 except the tower which was saved by the cloth-workers guild and retained. The old Navy Office in Seething or Sidon Lane had its chief entrance in Crutched Friars, and a smaller one in the lane. It stood on the site of a chapel and college attached to the church of All Hallows, Barking, which had been suppressed and pulled down in the year 1548 (Edward VI). The consecrated ground remained a garden-plot during the troubles of Edward's reign, the rebellions of Mary's reign, and the glorious days of Elizabeth I, *till at length Sir William Wynter, surveyor of Elizabeth's ships, built on it a great timber and brick storehouse for merchants' goods, which grew into a Navy Office*.

Alas, as shown in 1673-1674, William Wynter was still alive and wrote his strange will in Gloucestershire.

1669 or later : Wimbledon

The Mannor of Wymbledon with the sayd Mannor house parke and lands before mentioned were purchased of the coheires of the late Viscount Wymbledon *by and for the said late queene* the conveyances of which purchase were taken in the names of the late Earle of Holland Sir Richard Wynne deceased *and Sir John Wynter as Trustees for her* but where those evidences certeynely remayne wee cannot discover though wee have examined severall persons upon oath touching the same but are informed that they are in the custody of Mr Maurice Wynne executor to the said Richard Wynne whoe held the said Manor house and parke untill his death as trustee for the queene but wee finde by

the ancient Court rolls of this Mannor remayning in a chest in Wymbledon church that this Mannor was anciently crowne land till about 70 yeares agoe and therefore as to the tenure of it wee leave it to better judgments : a transcript of those examinations is herewith sent.

1669 : Henrietta Maria died

After the Restoration in 1660, Henrietta Maria returned to England at the invitation of Charles II, where she tried unsuccessfully to prevent the duke of York's scandalous marriage to Anne Hyde. She lived comfortably at Somerset House (Denmark House) until 1665. Then, in failing health, and the occurrence of the plague, she returned to France and retired to Colombes, near Paris. She died on 21 August 1669 and was buried at the cathedral of St Denis.

In a non-fictional writing, *The Memoirs of Ann, Lady Fanshawe*: On the 6th [of November 1666] her Majesty sent Mr Church in one of his coaches to convey me to Chaillot, a nunnery, where the Queen then was, who received me with great grace and favour, and promised me much kindness when her Majesty returned for England. Her Majesty sent by me letters to the King, Queen, Duke and Duchess of York, with a box of writings to her Majesty's secretary, *Sir John Winter*. November the 'nth' 1666 we began our journey towards Calais, and upon the 'nth' of November (old style) we embarked at Calais in a little French man-of-war, which carried me to Tower wharf, where I landed the next day at night, being Tuesday, at 12 of the clock. I made a little stay with my children, at my father's house on Tower Hill. The next day, being the 13th, we went all to my own house in Lincoln's Inn Fields, on the north side, where the widow Countess of Middlesex had lived before ; and the same day likewise was brought the body of my dear husband'.

And elsewhere: 'Sir John Winter J (Kt. 1624) was to the surprise of all the Court appointed Secretary to Queen Henrietta Maria in 1638, and soon afterwards was made Master of Requests also to the Queen. He was one of the servants of the royal household whose removal was voted by Parliament in 1642, and he was confined in the Tower in that year, and again from 1649 to 1653 upon refusing to comply with a sentence of banishment from England. He was lessee of the then important ironworks in the Forest of Dean : and he was accused of having ruined the forest for the sake of the works, from the proceeds of which he lent large sums both to the King and the Queen. He died in 1673'.

1669 : Lydney tithes

The Gloucestershire Archives possess the articles of agreement between (a) William Wynter [query the son and heir of Sir John Wynter] and (b) Dame Frances Wynter [query his mother] and the then vicar of Lydney re tithes, 1669, 1698 (with memos of 1699 and 1711). Why did this not involve Sir John?

1672 : William Wynter of Dymock at Oxford

The William Wynter 'of Dymock' who was baptized at Dymock church in 1653 attended Bailliol college in Oxford from 21 Jun 1672, age 17 years [born 1655]. He became a student at Middle Temple in 1676, and was actually called to the Bar in 1682. The last was surely unusual for a Wynter, but see later.

1674 : Death of Sir John Wynter

Sir John Wynter died [where?]. Details are needed here. With no sign of son and heir William Wynter, another son, Charles Wynter, succeeded to the Lydney estates, much impoverished through sequestrations by the parliamentary government, on the death of his father about 1674. He was knighted (why?) by James II at Bristol in 1686. John Wynter was author of *A True Narrative concerning the Woods and Ironworks of the Forest of Deane* and of *Observations on the Oath of Supremacy*, published posthumously (London, 1676), in which he maintained [in the very wordy manner of the day] that taking the oath was compatible with Roman catholic orthodoxy.

1674 : Background notes : William Wynter's will

During the civil war, Sir John Wynter supported the royalist forces in the Forest of Dean area, engaging in numerous skirmishes with the parliamentary garrison of Gloucester until finally driven from Lydney in 1645. His estate at Lydney and elsewhere was apparently discharged from sequestration sometime in 1647, but in 1649 Sir John was among twelve leading royalists condemmed to perpetual banishment and confiscation, and, failing to leave England, he was imprisoned for a while in the Tower of London. In 1651 or 1652 he bought the estate back from the commissioners for delinquents' lands, but to meet the resulting debts many farms in Purton, Nass and the adjoining parish of Awre were sold to the tenants, and Sir John *and his son and heir, William Wynter*, also

negotiated a long series of mortgages. In 1668, when a further large sale of lands in Awre and Allaston was made, Sir John still had some rights in the estate *but he had evidently released them to his heir, William Wynter*, by 1674. In 1673, this William Wynter drew up a will leaving an annuity to his father [Gloucestershire Archives, D 421/F 2, L6, not seen, copy MF334/3]. William Winter died, details needed [before or after his father?], and was succeeded by his brother, Charles Wynter, who eventually left the estate to his widow, Lady Frances Wynter. She married Thomas Nevill but, continuing to style herself Dame Frances Winter, retained sole control of the mortgaged estate.

Documents at the Gloucestershire Archives not seen include: (i) The above 1673 will of William Wynter; (ii) Assignment of sum settled by Dame Frances Wynter, as executrix of Sir Charles Wynter, 1707/8; and (iii) Agreement that William Woolfe and Edward Pearson shall administer for Dame Margaret Conyers the money left to her by the will of Dame Frances Wynter from the sale of the Wynter estate. Some of the money was to buy shares in the joint stock of the South Sea Annuities. An annuity of £500 pa was to be paid to Thomas Neville, husband of the late Dame Frances.

1674/5 : Death of Margaret Wynter at Dymock

As mentioned earlier, Margaret Wynter as Margaret Wintour *nee* Margaret Maxey, died at Dymock on 8 Jan 1674/5, after one of the coldest winters across England and Wales, and a note in Dymock church referred to a stone found on the chancel floor when tiles were removed in 1983 inscribed *Margaret Wyntour, widow, buried 12 Jan 1674/5*. This obviously implied at her husband had died prior 1674. He was buried on 20 Jan 1666 [query 1665/6 opr 1666/7]. She was thus a widow for about 8 years. The probate of her will was granted on 17 Mar 1674/5 and an inventory of goods and chattels, not seen, made on 18 Mar 1674/5. The spelling has not been corrected in the following.

Margareta Wintour. In the Name of God, Amen. The Two and Twentyth day of September in the yeare of Our Lord God, One Thousand Six Hundred and Seaventy and Fower and in the six and twentyth yeare of the reigne of our Lord Soveriegne Charles the Second by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith. Margarett Wintour of the Parish of Dimmock in the County of Gloucester, Widdow, being in perfect memory and remembrance, praise be God, doe hereby make, ordain and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following. That is to say first and principally I commend my soule into the hands of Almighty God, my Maker, hoping that through the meritorious death and passion of Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and Redeemer, to receive free pardon and forgiveness of all my sinnes and my

body to the earth from whence it was take, to be buryed in decent and Christianlike manner, according to the discretion of my executors hereafter nominated and as touching my worldly goods which it hath pleased God to bestow upon me, I will dispose, give and bequeath as follows:

(i) Primis I give and bequeath unto my eldest sonn *William Wintour*, my silver tankard and two twenty shilling pieces of gold to be paid to him by my executors herafter nominated and appointed, within three monthes after my decease.

(ii) Item I give and bequeath unto my sonn *Giles Wintour*, his heires and assignees forever all that my fee farme rent of the Rectory of Dimmock which I purchased of Mr Fooley which by a deed at large may appeare (be mortgaged?), the true intent and meaning of this my Will is that if my sonn William Wintour shall pay or cause to be paid unto my sonn Giles Wintour or his assignees the sume of £30 of current money with the rent that shall be then in arrears and unpaid within one yeare after decease that then the trust intent and meaning of this my Will is that the said fee farm rent of the Rectory of Dimmock shall be and remaining unto my sonn William Wintour and his heires forever. I give more unto my sonn Giles Wintour three twenty shilling pieces of gold to be paid to him within six months after my decease. Item. I give unto him one silver plate dish.

(iii) Item I give unto my sonn *Robert Wintour* the sume of £30 to be paid to him by my executors within one yeare after my decease or else to preserve such security to be given in the name of the said Robert Wintour for the £30 which security shall be thought sufficient to the overseers of my Will hereafter mentioned or by one of them which security so given and approved of as aforesaid shall be sufficient discharged to my executors for the aforesaid legacy of the £30. Item. I give and bequeath more unto my sonn Robert Wintour three twenty shilling pieces of gold to be paid to him within three months after my decease. Item. I give more unto my sonn Robert one silver cupp with the cover belonging to it.

(iv) Item I give more to *John Wintour* my sonn three twenty shilling pieces of gold to be paid to him within three monthes after my decease likewise I give more unto my sonn John Wintour one silver plate dish.

(v) Item I give more unto *Edward my sonn* three pieces of gold of twenty shillings a piece to be paid within three monthes after my decease. Item. I give and bequeath unto Edward Wintour my sonn the sume of £30 to be paid to him in the same time or in the same manner as it is to be paid to the aforesaid Robert Wintour. Item. I give more unto Edward my sonn three pieces of gold of twenty shillings a piece to be paid within three monthes after my decease. Item. I give more to the said Edward Wintour my sonn two

little silver salts.

(vi) Item I give unto my daughter *Mildred Wintour* the sum of £30 to be paid to her as it is bequeathed to the aforesaid Robert Wintour. Item. I give more unto my daughter Mildred a jewell of diamonds which I have and also I give unto her three pieces of gold of twenty shillings a piece, I give more unto her the bedd and all that belong to him which I doe now lye upon, being over the kitchen but formerly was in the hall chambers. Item. I give more unto her one other bedd with two pairs of flaxen[1] sheets, three pillow boards and two duzzen of flaxen napkins and fower flaxen table clothes. Item. I give more unto my daughter Mildred all my diaper and lynnen excepting my long diaper table cloth and one duzzen of diaper napkins and towell and cubbord cloth. Item. I give more until my daughter Mildred all my gold rings and sinnets excepting my wedding ring, I give more unto her my two lesser brasse potts and my great brasse posnett.

(vii) Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter *Margaret Wintour* the summ of £30 and also I give unto her three twenty shilling pieces of gold, also I give unto her my pearle necklace and my wedding ring, also I give more unto my daughter Margarett the bedd and bedstead over the great parlour and all the rest of the furniture belonging to it. Item. I give more unto her two pairs of flaxen sheets, two duzzen of flaxen napkins, fower table clothes, three pillow boards. Also I give unto my daughter Margarett my long dinner table cloth, the cubbard cloth and towell and a duzzen of diaper napkins, likewise I give unto her my bigest brasse pott and my preserving pan, also I give unto her the couch in the little parlour and the two little old chaires over the great parlour.

(viii) Item I give unto my loving brother (in-law) Mr Orlando Gee twenty shilling piece of gold to buy him a ring. Item. I give unto my deare sister Mrs Elizabeth Gee a twenty shilling piece of gold. Item. I give unto my sister Mrs Margaret Scudamore a twenty shilling piece of gold as a token of my love. Item I give unto my nephew James Scudamore a twenty shilling piece of gold. Item. I give unto my brother (in-law) Mr John Kyrle a twenty shilling piece of gold. Item. I give unto my loving friend Mr William Bridges a twenty shilling piece of gold. Item. I give unto my friend and neighbour John Wilse a twenty shilling piece of gold. Item. I give unto my servants as I shall having with me at my death five shillings a piece. Item. I give unto the poore of the parish of Dimmock the sume off forty shillings to be disposed of according to the discretion of my executors.

(ix) And also my Will is if any of my children shall happen to dye and depart this life before their legacys given to them shall become due and payable that then such child or children so dying, the legacy shall be equally divided between my surviving children.

(x) And lastly my Will is and the true intent and meaning thereof is that if the inventory of my money, goods and chattels after my debts be paid and my funerall

expenses discharged shall not amount to pay the legacyes by mee gyven that then there shall be an equal defalcation or abatement out of the legacys given to my children according to the sumes gyven.

(xi) And I doe make, constitute and ordayne my beloved *daughter Margarett Wintour* and my loving friend John Wilse to be the sole executors of this my last Will and Testament. And I doe desire my well beloved friends viz my brother (in-law) Mr John Kyrle and my loving friend Mr William Bridges as much as in them hath to see this my last Will and Testament accomplished and performed whence I doe make and appoint overseers of the same. In witness whereof I, the said Margaret Wintour, hav hereunto put my hand and seale this day and year first above written. Margaret Wintour. Signed, sealed, published and declared as my last Will and Testament.

Orlando Gee, born 1619, 4th son of John Gee (died 1631), vicar of Dunsford, Devon by Sarah Mogridge of Littleham, Devon. Married (1) by licence 17 May 1662, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Maxey of Bradwell-next-Coggeshall, Essex, widow of Thomas Barker of Sibton, Suffolk, *s.p.*; (2) Anne, daughter and heiress of Robert Chilcot of Isleworth, *s.p.* Knighted 18 Aug 1682. Gee came from a clerical family of Lancastrian origin that had produced several notable *anti-Catholic polemicists* in Elizabethan and early Stuart times. He took no known part in the Civil War.

1676 : William Wynter ‘of Dymock’ at Middle Temple

William Wynter, the son of William Wynter ‘of Dymock’, Gloucestershire, gentleman, Balliol College, Oxford, matriculated on 21 Jun 1672, aged 17 years, born around 1655. He was admitted to the Middle Temple on 17 May 1676 and called to the Bar on 13 May 1682.

1677 : Allaston Meend

Certain woodland in the Forest of Dean, which was subject to common rights, was gradually cleared of trees to become open pasture. Allaston Meend, comprising a compact area south of the house called Soilwell and a long roadside strip extending down Primrose hill on the road to Newerne, was denuded of trees in the early 17th century by the Wynter family to make charcoal for their iron furnace. The last trees, a grove adjoining Soilwell, were felled by Charles Wynter in 1677 during a dispute with the owners of Soilwell over rights in the common.

1679 : William Wynter ‘of Dymock’ and Hester Kyrle

The online web-site ‘Golden Falcon’ recorded that: ‘William Wynter ‘of Dymock’ (1653-1706) married Hester Kyrle at Much Marcle in Herefordshire on 22 Nov 1679. Some fourteen years later, Hester (née Kyrle), wife of William Wynter, esquire, was buried on 28 Jun 1693 at Dymock.

1680 : Early will of Charles Wynter

Charles Wynter ‘of Lydney’ wrote his will, naming his wife as sole beneficiary, as early as 20 May 1680. This clearly excluded all of the future children of their marriage, which is surely odd? A year later: (i) John, the son of Charles and Frances Wynter, was baptized at Lydney on 15 May 1681; and (ii) William, the son of Charles and Frances Wynter, was also baptized at Lydney on 15 May 1681. It appears that they may have been twins.

One source of information claimed that: Sir John Wynter had only one son, Charles, seemingly a godson of Charles II, who reached manhood, married, and had several sons and several daughters. The three daughters of Sir John Wynter were apparently: (i) Anne Wynter, born around 1683, and she married Humphrey Borlase of Cornwall; (ii) Elizabeth Wynter, and she married Sir John Fortescue, knight of Saldon, Buckinghanshire; and (iii) Mary Wynter, and she married Sir Richard Wingfield of Godwin’s Place, Suffolk.

Humphrey Borlase and Anne Winter obtained a marriage license on 3 June 1663. He died between January 1709 and November 1709, without surviving issue. He was buried at Newlyn in Cornwall and his will was proven by probate on 1 Dec 1709. He was Commander of the Regiment of Foot in 1643 *against the Roman Catholic rebels*. He held the office of Member of Parliament for St. Michael on various occasions and created Lord Borlase of Borlase and Baron of Mitchel, co. Cornwall [Jacobite]. He was high sheriff of Cornwall from 1687 to 1688. His last will was dated 20 January 1704. Two children, who did not survive him, included Nicholas and Trese Borlase. Further information is available on the internet.

One granddaughter of Sir John Wynter included: Hannah, the daughter of Charles and Frances Wynter, was baptized at Lydney on 14 Jun 1683. What happened to her? Charles and Frances Wynter’s sons included: (i) William, born in 1681; (ii) twin John, born 1686, died 1687; (iii) George, born 1686, died 1687; and (iv) Charles Wynter born 1689 and alive at the time of his father’s death.

1681 : Burial of William Wynter, son of Christopher[1] Wynter, at Lydney

The Lydney parish registers recorded that William Wynter, the son of Christopher[1] Wynter, was buried at Lydney church on 14 Jun 1681. No record of his earlier baptism has been located. A few years later, Mary, the daughter of this Christopher[1] Wynter, was buried on 5 Feb 1684/5 at Lydney. Again, no record of her baptism has been found. The problem that these two items create lies in the two alternatives. (i) Was this the Christopher[2] Wynter who married Hannah Low at Bristol cathedral in 1686, assuming that his 'first' wife had died, for example in child-birth in 1685? Or (ii) was this Christopher[1] Wynter, 'senior', the father of Christopher[2] Wynter, 'junior', with the latter Christopher[2] Wynter, 'junior', the one who married Hannah Lowe at Bristol. If the latter, why were there no baptisms of William Wynter and Mary Wynter at Lydney in the 1680s? The third possibility is that there were two unrelated people called Christopher Wynter; and the fourth possibility is that all of this is totally incorrect?

1682 : William Wynter 'of Dymock' called to the Bar.

Meanwhile, William Wynter 'of Dymock', the son of the earlier William Wynter 'of Dymock', Gloucestershire, gentleman, attended Balliol College, Oxford, with matriculation dated 21 Jun 1672, age 17 years (born around 1655). He later became a student of Middle Temple (1676), was admitted to Middle Temple on 17 May 1676, and finally called to the Bar 13 May 1682 when about 27-29 years of age. The last event was unusual for the Wynter family.

1686 : Dyrham marriage settlement

Marriage settlement dated 26 October 1688. Blaythwayte and Wynter. Articles of agreement made 21 Dec 1686, between (1) William Blaythwayte, esquire, 'clerk to the privy council', (2) John Wynter 'of Dyrham', county of Gloucester, esquire, (3) Sir Robert Southwell of King's Weston, county of Gloucester, knight; his son and heir apparent, Edward Southwell, esquire; Sir John Newton of Barscourt, county of Gloucester, baronet; Sir Gabriell Lowe of 'Mewewerke', county of Gloucester, knight; and Richard Leveson of Wolverhampton, county of. Stafford, esquire.

In consideration of his intended marriage with Mary, only daughter and heir apparent of John Wynter 'of Dyrham' [who died a few years later], William Blaythwayte has settled by indentures of even date lands in Middlesex and London on the said

marriage, and further agrees to pay £2,000, which, with £500, part of £800 bequeathed to the said Mary by Henry Rogers, esquire, deceased, and £500 by *her sister Ann Wynter, lately deceased*, and £1000 to be paid by her father, are to be paid to Sir Robert Southwell, *etc*, to be by them invested in lands to the use of the said William and Mary and their heirs. Signatures of John Wynter 'of Dyrham', Robert Southwell, J Newton. Witnesses: Thomas Edwards, Joseph Dorney, Joseph Penwarne, William Hyde, J. Povey, Thomas Morgan.

1686 : Christopher[2] Wynter and Hannah Lowe married at Bristol cathedral

'A' Christopher[2] Wynter married someone called Hannah Low at Bristol cathedral on 29 May 1686. It has been noted that the *Bristol Diocese Marriage Bonds* 1637-1700 recorded that, on Saturday 29 May 1686, Christopher Wynter, described as a *carpenter of Lydney*, Gloucestershire, and Hannah Low of Winterbourne, 'Bdm' (*What did that mean*? *Bondsman*? *Bristol Diocese Marriages*?); at (*Bristol*) Cathedral. Why were they married at the cathedral? The witness, George Philpott, was described as a sailor. No link to the families is known. Alas, that was all. In the 17th century, Lydney was much involved with ship-building and Christopher[2] Wynter may have been a carpenter (or ship-wright) in that industry? Or what? Was he, instead, a Lydney-born carpenter then living in or near Bristol and perhaps working with many others on ship-building there? It is all so very uncertain? Where can more information on the cathedral wedding be obtained? For example, did the documentation indicate whether Christopher Wynter was a bachelor or a widower? Other sources recorded him as Christopher Wynter, gentleman, not carpenter, which is very odd. What was the situation regarding religion in Bristol cathedral in those turbulent times? Protestant or Roman Catholic? The later children were baptized at Lydney parish church, St Mary's. To have been a carpenter Christopher Wynter would, in those times, have had to serve an apprenticeship lasting many years. Can details be found?

No Low or Lowe family has been located in Winterbourne, north of Bristol? Elsewhere, but with different spelling: Hannah Lowes, the daughter of John Lowes of Great Badminton, was baptized on 20 Jul 1659. Note that the first son of the 1686 cathedral marriage was called William Wynter and the second son was called *John* Wynter but these were abundantly popular personal names even in those days. The same Badminton family also had son called Henry Lowes in Oct 1661 and a daughter called Elizabeth Lowes in June 1656, probably others. Less likely: 'Hannah the daughter of Henry Low of either Broadway or Broadwater and Hannah his wife (the daughter of Giles

Clark of Ford, nearby) of this parish was baptized at Temple Guiting (in the Cotswolds northwest of Stow-in-the-Wold) on 23 Jul 1665'.

1686 : Charles Wynter 'of Lydney' knighted at Bristol by James II

On 27 Aug 1686, at Bristol, three people were awarded knighthoods by the staunchly Roman Catholic James II. (i) Charles Wynter of Lydney, high sheriff of Gloucester; (ii) William Merrick, sheriff of Bristol; and (iii) Edmund Thomas of Glamorganshire. Other sources claimed *in error* that Charles Wynter was knighted at the royal palace of Oatlands near Weybridge in Surrey.

It seems the corporation of Bristol received intimation early in August 1686 that the king had resolved upon a visit to the West of England, for the purpose of inspecting the battlefield of Sedgemoor, where the well-known battle occurred on 6 July 1685, and immediate preparations were made for his entertainment in a manner calculated, it was hoped, to mitigate his displeasure. The king arrived on the 25th, and was welcomed by the mayor and common council at Lawford's Gate, the precedents of the previous reign being exactly followed. The house of Sir William Hayman, in Small Street, had been made ready for the reception of the royal guest, and a grand banquet wound up the day's proceedings. On the 26th, the king held a review in the Marsh of some troops that had encamped there. He afterwards rode up St Michael's Hill, to view the remains of the defences from Royal Fort to Prior's Hill Fort, and returned by way of Newgate to his lodgings, where he 'graciously touched' several persons afflicted with scrofula. An early dinner having been disposed of, he made an inspection of the strong city walls extending from Redcliff to Temple Gate, and thence took a long ride to survey the fort at Portishead. In the evening the king knighted William Merrick, one of the sheriffs, and *Mr Winter, sheriff of Gloucestershire*, and early next morning departed for Sedgemoor. His visit cost the corporation, who could ill afford the outlay, £573, of which £146 went for wine and £63 for confectionery. The mayor received 10s for a lost silver fork, a rare luxury at that period. Taken from *The Annals of Bristol in the Seventeenth Century* by John Latimer, with slight modifications. The king's reign ended 2-3 years later at the Glorious Revolution.

1686 : Roman Catholic baptisms at Lydney

Like James II, *some* of the Wynter family in the Forest of Dean were of the Roman Catholic faith and had their children baptized privately, often secretly, at home. For

example, a book called *Old English Catholic Missions* by J O Payne, 1889, recorded for 11 Dec 1686: Baptised at Lydney at his father's house, *George, son of Sir Charles Wynter : godfather, Mr Ignatius Thorpe : godmother, Madam Isabella Guillims. Two years later, °Charles, another son of Sir Charles Wynter was also baptised at Lydney, 28 Feb 1688. These baptisms were *not recorded* in the excellent Forest of Dean family history Society genealogical web-site and, presumably, not in the Lydney parish registers either. However, the *burial* of the same *George on 23 Jul 1887 was recorded. Thus son °Charles may well have survived as no record of burial has been traced in Lydney and, seemingly, he went to live with his aunt.

Father Ignatius Thorpe (alias Stafford alias Potter alias Xavier), kept a record in a little private volume which he carried about with him from place to place during his missionary career. The entries commenced on 9 May 1685, when Father Stafford was stationed at the Jesuit house in Mounce Street, Monmouth. From there he would appear to have oocasionally served High Meadow (near Lydney), Gloucestershire, the seat of the Hall family; Lydney in the same county, the seat of Sir Charles Wynter; Courtfield, in Welsh Bicknor, the seat of the Vaughan family, and so on. A messuage in a street at Monmouth called Mounce Street was in the possession of Ignatius Thorpe, a priest, and granted by George Milbourne to James Richardson, superior of the Jesuits for sustaining certain Jesuits at a place called the College of St Xaverius at the Combes in the county of Hereford. Elsewhere in the town of Monouth was an apartment in the Priory House, late in possession of Francis Williams, a Franciscan Friar, given by Thomas Edwards to Francis Baskerville to the use of the 'Elders of the Church of Rome', to make a Popish chapel, which was afterwards done in the time of James II, and Mass frequently celebrated there. They were awful times in which to live.

1687 : Baptism of Alice Wynter at Lydney

While Sir Charles had two of his sons baptized at home, Alice, the daughter of someone called Christopher Wynter and 'Ann' (not Hannah) was baptized on 7 Mar 1687/8 at Lydney parish church, suggesting a Church of England family of Wynters. Someone called Alice Wynter, not necessarily this one, was buried at Lydney on 16 Dec 1737. Why was she called Alice? This needs sorting?

1690-1691 : Children of Christopher[2] Wynter 'jun:'

Hannah, the daughter of Christopher[2] Wynter and his wife, also called Hannah, was

buried on 19 May 1690 at Lydney. William, the son of 'Christ. Wintor, jun (or gent)', and Hannah was baptized at Lydney on 15 Jun 1691. That item is a stumbling block in our ancestry. Was it 'jun:' or 'gent:'. Why was the son called William? This was the only time that Christopher was labelled 'jun:'. Ann, the daughter of Christopher[2] Wynter and Hannah, was baptized at Lydney on 19 Mar 1692/3. Why was she called Ann? John, the son of Christopher[2] Wynter and Hannah, was baptized at Lydney on 6 Jan 1694/5 by Henry Price, curate. His father, Christopher[2] Wynter, died just five years later. Why was he called John Wynter? Only two sons of Christopher[2] and Hannah Wynter seemingly survived, all those called Christopher Wynter seemingly died. What happened to the John Wynter born in 1694? *It is presently believed that the sibling, William Wynter, 1691, was our ancestor*. Another Christopher, son of Christopher[2] and Hannah Wynter, was baptized at Lydney on 10 Nov 1696 and buried there on 5 Jan 1696/7.

From the Golden Falcon website, XVI/1: 'There were two Christopher Winters in Gloucestershire, one of English Bicknor and the other of Lydney, but neither left a surviving son called Christopher according to the records there, though they may have moved. Christopher Winter of English Bicknor, Gloucestershire, was servant to George Wyrall. He married Anne (buried 3 Nov 1615 at English Bicknor) and had a daughter Elizabeth (buried. 20 Jul 1618). Another Christopher (buried 5 Jan 1696 at Lydney) married Hannah and had two sons: William (baptized 15 Jun 1691), Christopher (baptised 10 Nov 1696, buried 28 Oct 1699) and a daughter Ann (baptized 19 Mar 1692). There was also a group of Wynters in the records of the church of St Martin's-in-the-Fields where 'a' Christopher Wynter married Jane Syster on 26 Jul 1604'.

1691 : Death of 'Mrs' Winifred Wynter

Who was the 'Mrs' Winifred Wynter buried at Lydney on 6 Jan 1691? Who was Winifred, daughter of Winifred Wynter, buried at Tidenham on 12 Jun 1724?

1693 : Burial of Hester Wynter at Dymock

Meanwhile, Hester (*née* Kyrle), the wife of 'a' William Wynter 'of Dymock', esquire, was buried on 28 Jun 1693 at Dymock.

1696 : Counterfeiter William Wynter of Dymock

A few years after the death of his wife, Hester Wynter *nee* Kyrle, and after William III and

Mary II had ascended the throne of England in 1688, widower William Wynter 'of Dymock,' 1654-1706, despite being admitted to the Bar in 1782, was involved in a possible attempt by the Jacobites to destabilise the economy and send funds to the exiled Stuarts. However, William Wynter 'of Dymock' was taken prisoner for counterfeiting and clipping coinage and, as a consequence, was sent to the West Indies as a punishment. Here is a brief extract of the document: ' ... we do hereby command and require all his Majesties loving subjects to discover, take and apprehend *Captain William Wynter of Dymock* in the county of Gloucester. [Note the title, Captain?] He is a tall lusty big man, of a brown complexion, of about five and forty years of age [in 1696, thus born around 1650, though above dated 1655]; he speaks loud and hoarse'. He was taken to the West Indies where he eventually died.

Digression taken directly from the Golden Falcon XII/8: A document in Whitehall dated 6 Jan 1698 referred to information dated 24 Dec 1679 that 'Samuel Clark, a prisoner in Worcester jail, impeached among others, William Wintour, esquire, of 'Dimock' for procuring silver and blanch copper to make counterfeit money and uttering the same'. Later, on 22 Jan1698 (Whitehall): a document regarding proceedings on the petition of 'George Smyth, esquire, of North Nibley, Gloucestershire, being a Justice of the Peace largely concerned with the discovery and prosecution of clippers and counterfeiters of coin, has undergone false accusations both before a committee of the House of Commons during the last sessions and before the late Lords Justice and the Privy Council. His chief accuser was *Edward Wintour, brother of the Captain William Wintour* who was now in Worcester jail upon a fresh impeachment for counterfeiting the new coin, who did attempt to murder the petitioner in the open streets of Gloucester prays ... *etc*. On 20 Aug 1696: Order of the Council directing George Smyth, esquire, Justice of the Peace for Gloucester, to send to the Council Board all such information on oath as had been taken relating to *Captain William Wintour* and other persons named in the proclamation. A document dated 12 Oct1696: 'As a great many clippers are apprehended and a proclamation is issued against one Captain Wintour**,** a gentleman, of about £800'. End of digression but further details of William Winter's death are covered in the 1706 pargraph later.

1698 : Lydney tithes

Articles of agreement between (a) William Wynter and (b) Dame Frances Wynter and the then vicar of Lydney re tithes, 1669, *1698* (with memos of 1699 and 1711). Gloucestershire Archives. What did all that mean?

1698 : Death of Sir Charles Wynter

Sir Charles Wynter 'of Lydney' was buried at Lydney on 24 Apr 1698, in the family vault. A rich widow named Boevey, a friend of Sir Richard Steele, helped Lady Frances Wynter of Lydney when the estate was bankrupted: *Four Personalities of the Forest of Dean'* by Ralph Anstiss. Sir Charles Wynter's will, written before any of the children were born, was contested by the guardians of his son, also called Charles, guardians on 22/24 Nov 1698 : for some reason the claim was disallowed. Was it because of the earlier agreement on disentailment and his father's strange will? Or was it because Charles, son of Sir Charles Wynter was baptised at Lydney, 28 Feb 1688, some eight years after the will was written? Or was it because he was baptized by a Roman Catholic priest?

The 1680 will had been contested in 1698 by Thomas Brome Whorwood (of which there were several people so-named around that time despite its strangeness), guardian-at-law of Charles Wynter, described as the natural and legitimate son [born 1688] of Sir Charles Wynter. The case was heard in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury by Sir Richard Raines, knight, who ruled in Lady France Wynter's favour. Thomas Brome Whorwood had married Elizabeth Forescue, daughter of Sir John Fortescue, second baronet, and of Elizabeth Wynter, the latter a daughter of Sir John Wynter of Lydney and thu: (i) a sister of Sir Charles Wynter and (ii) an aunt to the disinherited Charles Wynter, junior, born 1688 and baptized in secret by a Roman Catholic priest at the home of his parents, Sir Charles and Lady Wynter. Thus Thomas Brome Whorwood was an 'uncle-by-marriage'. Thomas Brome Whorwood may have lived at Sandwell in West Bromwich, described as a crypto-Catholic, actively involved in Jacobite affairs. Crypto-Christianity occurred where Christians practiced their faith secretly in an anti-Christian society. Thus crypto-Catholics practiced their faith in Protestant territories where Catholicism was banned and heavily persecuted, such as England around that time. See: Wynter estate, including White Cross House; with Chancery case Broom Whorwood v. Wynter, 1707. [Marked 'Bundle 2']. Gloucestershire Archives, not seen.

Extracted notes from the *Golden Falcon* online account.Legends grew up about Lady Frances Wynter's extravagance but the forges in the Forest of Dean were mortgaged and she was fined for recusancy. Her *sons* [plural] were supposed to have been led astray. Lady Frances Wynter married, as her second husband, Thomas Nevill or Neville, brother of Henry Nevill of Holt. Lady Frances and Thomas Nevill were registered as English 'Nonjurors and Catholics' after the 1714 Jacobite rebellion. The Bill regarding this was dated the 1st year of George I and described as *an Act to oblige Papists to register their*

*names and real estate (*1716-1717). The Non-Jurors' foreign estates were registered twelve months later. The forfeited estates papers are in the Public Records Office. A series of wills in the register of non-jurors shows the relationships between these families. Thomas Nevill of Lydney and Dame Frances Wynter, his wife: the manor of Lydney and county in fee in Gloucester, £1,160 14s8d (MS p57). Thomas Nevill and Dame Frances Wynter his wife, two freehold houses at Monmouth (MS.p70). Frances Wynter paid the highest fine for refusing to take the Oath of Allegiance to William III and she must have also paid fines for recusancy. There is no doubt that these Wynters of Lydney were Catholics. When the old manor house, Lydney Park, was demolished in 1873 Catholic missals, a communion cup and paten, were found walled up in the corridor. Both Sir John Wynter and his son-in-law, Benedict Hall of High Meadow, were listed in the Catholics records.

Draft court rolls and court papers dated 1695-1711 for the hundred, with schedule of court rolls handed over by Lady Wynter in 1718, are apprently stored in the Gloucestershire Archives: Wynter estate, with four abstracts of title, one dating from 1560. Gloucestershire Archives 1718.

1699 : Death of Christoper[2] Wynter

Christopher[2] Wynter (the adult) was buried at Lydney 28 Apr 1699 leaving probate and/or will. The short 'document' was unreadable, possibly in Latin, but not signed by him. Christopher (his child), son of Christopher and Hannah Wynter, was buried at Lydney on 28 Oct 1699. What happened to his wife, Hannah Wynter, and surviving children: Hannah 1690, William 1691, Ann 1692.

1700 or so : William Wynter

Our ancestor, William Wynter, was born probably sometime before, say, 1706 if he was the one married in 1725/6 presumably in his twenties. Prior to this date were just two known baptisms with this name, obviously ignoring any that may have occurred in Roman Catholic families, which causes a problem. (i) The nearest, on 5 Nov 1696, referred to William the son of George and Sarah 'Wintor' alias Wynter, with no marriage of George and Sarah located in Lydney or elsewhere. (ii) An earlier one, on 15 Jun 1691, referred to William, the son of Christopher[2] Winter, either junior or gentleman, and Hannah.

1702: Marriage licence of another John Winter of Bristol

17 May 1702. John Winter of St Augustine, gentleman. Ann Knight (W) of St Augustine. Bdm [bondsman? Bristol diocese marriages?] James Taylor of Bristol, clerk. At St John, St Augustine, Cathedral or Bishop's Chapel. Married at St Augustine on 7 May 1702. There were two references of a George Winter in 1709, one an ironmonger, the other a mariner, in the book of marriage licences. Who were these people?

1706 : Death of counterfeiter William Wynter of Dymock

Captain William Wynter 'of Dymock', the counter-feiter, ended up in Jamaica, where he eventually died on 25 Mar 1706. In that year, 1706, someone called Jane Wynter wrote to Charles Davenant, esquire, doctor of law, at his house in Red Lyon Square, London: Eaton, 24 Jun 1706, asking for help in acquiring any estate which her brother [-in-law?] William Wynter 'of Dymock' may have left. Which brother of this William Wynter married someone called Jane and had died by 1706?

1717 : James Ayres, keeper to Lady Wintour

Here lyeth the Body of JAMES AYRES, Keeper to the Lady WINTOUR, of Lidney,
who died March 1, 1717.

1719 : Benjamin Bathurst

In 1719, Lydney Park Estate was acquired by Benjamin Bathurst and his descendants have owned it ever since. In 1876 the family demolished the original road-side mansion house, moving to a new house in the centre of the deer park. In 1935 Captain Charles Bathurst was created Viscount Bledisloe for his services as Governor General of New Zealand.

1720-1721 : Will of Dame Frances Wynter

Not yet acquired: Wynter estate, with will of Dame Frances Wynter, 1720, proved 1720/21. Gloucestershire Archives.

According to one source: Thomas Nevill of Lydney, esquire, and Dame Frances Wintour, his wife. Manor of Lydney, *etc*, in fee. £1,164. A son of Henry Nevill. He d.s.p.

1722-3. The following is the monumental inscription of his wife, Frances Napper, at St Pancras, Middlesex. Here lyeth the body of Lady Frances Wintour, widow of Sir Charles Wintour of Lidney, in Gloucestershire, and late wife of Thomas Nevell, esquire, of Holt, in Leicestershire, who departed this life the I4th day of December, 1720, in the 69th year of her age. R.I.P. In her will, dated 11 Dec 1720, she mentioned her nieces, Frances, widow of John Tasburgh, of Flixton, and Dame Margaret Conyers. The manor of Lydney was granted in fee by Queen Elizabeth to Sir William Wintour, for his services against the Spanish Armada in 1588. He built the stately manor house called the White Cross, which, during the civil war, was garrisoned by Sir John Wintour, his grandson, one of the most strenuous supporters of the Royal cause; but at last it was deserted and set on fire.

1725 : Marriage of William Wynter and Mary Trafford

It seems that our William Winter (or Wintour) married by licence someone called Mary Trafford at Bristol on 17 Feb 1725, though, once again, the reason for the location is not known. Lydney and Bristol were accessible by regular boats in those days and people ‘seemed’ to have moved from one to the other, Lydney to Bristol, fairly easily. Note that the two most appropriate (of the several) people called Mary Trafford of Lydney were baptized on: (i) 8 Aug 1702 (the *second* daughter of that name of *Roman Catholic* James and Mary Trafford, the *first* daughter Mary having lived briefly from 11 Oct 1700 to 28 Oct 1700) and (ii) 4 Oct 1702 (the daughter of David and Elizabeth Trafford : she married William Prosser. The names James and Mary may suggest the better option as the names David and Elizabeth do not appear in the later generation as one might have expected? Alas, no earlier marriage of James Trafford and Mary could be traced. Why? It may have something to do with the fact that they were of the Roman Catholic faith.

Despite that, some of the children of William Wynter (or Wintour) and Mary Wynter *nee* Trafford baptized at Lydney may have included: Mary 1727, William 14 Sep 1729 (buried 25 May 1730), our ancestor James 8 Aug 1731, George 3 Feb 1733, Sarah 13 Mar 1736, William again 13 Apr 1740 (buried 26 Jun 1743) and Ann 4 Oct 1745 (implying that Mary was born post-1700). These were seemingly the only Wynter baptisms in Lydney around that time but many of the wider Wynter family in the Forest of Dean were probably of the Roman Catholic faith and some may have had their children baptized privately (often secretly) at home. It seems that James 1731 and sister Sarah 1736 later witnessed the marriage of brother George 1733.

1726 : Death of Hannah Wynter, widow of Christopher Wynter?

Hannah Wynter (adult) buried Lydney 3 May 1726. She was possibly the widow of Christopher[2] Wynter. What happened to her during the quarter of a century between her husband's death in 1699 and her own death in 1726? What happened to her surviving children during this period? Is this all wrong?

1752 : John Wynter in Bristol

The will of John Wynter, a ship's carpenter of Bristol, was dated 10 Jul 1752. Who was he? Details are needed: £3.30p online.

1754 : Death of William Wynter

Here lyeth the body of William Winter, who departed this life July 2, 1754, aged 58 years (1696). Also her lyeth the body of Martha [not Mary?] his wife, who departed this life the 12 March 1785, aged 84 (born 1701). Lydney. Where did Martha or Mary Wynter live from 1654 until 1785?

1759 : Marriage of James Wynter and Anne Etherton / Atherton

James Winter, son of William Winter and Mary Wynter *nee* Trafford, born 1731, married by licence Anne Etherton (perhaps alias Atherton?) at St Mary's Church in Lydney on 29 Sep 1759, age about 28 years, curate Richard Sargeant, with witnesses John Etherton (perhaps a brother of Anne) and William Davis. Both parties were 'of Lydney' and both signed. By this time the family were seemingly of the established Church of England and not of the Roman Catholic faith as in the distant past. The Victoria County History series: *A History of the County of Gloucester:* Volume 5, around pages 46-84 (Lydney), stated that the Wynter family were recusants at least from the time of Sir John Wynter, who inherited the Lydney estate in 1619. Its presence encouraged the survival of a group of Catholics at Lydney: 20 were recorded there in 1676 and 35 *c*1720. But this was now 1759. What was it like then?

James and Anne Wynter *nee* Etherton had at least five children baptized at Lydney parish church: Anne on 3 Aug 1760; Mary on 6 Dec 1761; our ancestor William on 29 Jan 1764; Hannah on 1 Mar 1767; and Sarah on 24 Sep 1770. Only one son to carry on the Wynter surname *via* James's branch.

1764 : Birth of William Wynter

James and Anne Winter *nee* Etherton of Lydney may have had four daughters and just one son all baptized at Lydney: Anne, (baptized) on 3 Aug 1760; Mary on 6 Dec 1761; 'our' William Wynter on 29 Jan 1764; Hannah on 1 Mar 1767; and Sarah on 24 Sep 1770. It seems that the Wynter or Winter surname continued only with our William's ancestors along this particular branch.

1772 : Marriage of James' brother George Wynter at Lydney

On 18 Jun 1772, George Winter, bachelor of Lydney, and Mary Trafford, spinster, were married at Lydney by licence, both signing, with witnesses Sarah Winter and James Winter: minister Richard Thomas. Presumably the witnesses were George's brother and sister? Another Trafford.

1776 : Children of George and Mary Wynter

Here lyeth the body of Martha, the daughter of George and Mary Winter, of this parish, who died the 27th December 1776. Also John their son who died on June the 19, 1780.

1783 : Marriage of William Wynter and Mary Cook

William Winter, the son of James Wynter, born 1764, married Mary Cook, seemingly originally of Lydney in Gloucestershire, at Llantwit North in Glamorgan on 1 Jun 1783 according to the Glamorgan marriage. This was Llantwit-juxta-Neath near Neath in the Glyn Neath valley. They had a number of children and moved to Merthyr Tudful later. The 1841 census returns for Workshop Row, Pentrebach, 045/015, recorded: (i) William Winter, 78, independent, not born in Glamorgan c1763. (ii) Mary Winter, 83, not born in Glamorgan c1758. [Age 84 per baptism].

1788 : Letter from Gardiner

Letter from 'Gardiner' dated 13 Sep 1788. Register of Lydney 1678 : two sons, William and John, were baptized on 4 Apr 1681, of Sir Charles Wynter and his lady Frances. Daughter Ann was born June 1683, ditto. Son George was buried on 23 Jul 1686; and

Sir Charles was interred in the [Wynter] vault on 23 Apr 1698.

1811 : Baptism of Mary Winter at Lydney

Mary Winter, the daughter of William Winter and Mary *nee* Cook, married William Morgan at Merthyr Tydfil on 27 Apr 1811 by banns. The records fortuitously recorded her place of birth as *Lydney* in Gloucestershire. Presumably her parents, William Winter, the son of James Winter of Lydney, and Mary Winter *nee* Cook, had both gone 'home' to Lydney around the time of the death and burial (on 19 Mar 1793) of William's father, James Winter, and, whilst there, the baby was born and baptized. Thus this Mary, the daughter of William Winter and wife Mary, was baptized by curate W Jones at Lydney on 7 Apr 1793, ten years into the marriage of her parents. Mary *nee* Cook's own parents had previously moved to nearby Newnham, Gloucestershire, and both had died by then.

1825 : Letter from C Bathurst

1825 : Letter from Later Occupant of Lydney Manor Letter from C Bathurst to Rev E Nares. Lydney Park, Gloucester , 23 Mar 1825 Dear Sir Dr Hay has transmitted to me your letter of enquiry on behalf of Mr Wynter respecting his connection with the family once settled at this place which I am sorry you had any difficulty in addressing directly to me as I should have had great satisfaction in giving you all the information in my power. I have now examined my title deeds, County Histories and some MSS Gloucestershire Pedigrees which I happen to have, from which, I believe, I can point out the only branch of the Wynter family from whom it is possible that your correspondent can be descended without going back to a very remote period. The last of the family seated here was *Sir Charles who died without issue* [odd?], leaving issue of his two sisters, his heirs-at-law, about 1684. His father, Sir John, married a daughter of Lord William Howard, a son of the duke of Norfolk and ancestor of the present Lord Carlisle and died, I believe, about 1670. *His sons all died without leaving issue***.** Of his brothers it seems probable that none of them could have left issue unless it was his next brother, Robert, but as he never succeeded to the estate, I can find no further trace of them in deeds or pedigrees and there are no monuments of any of the family in this church, nor do I know where any of them were buried. If therefore, this Robert married and left children, your correspondent may be descended from him and thus trace his descent from Sir Edward Wynter, father of Robert who died in 1618, but there is no Sir Charles in the direct line from whom he could be descended nor does the name Sir George occur anywhere. These therefore, if

existing, all must be traced in the descendants of the above Robert of whom there were probably not less than five generations to the present gentleman. I should only add that they all spelt their name ‘Wynter’ but I am aware how little reliance is to be placed on that circumstance and that they were all Roman Catholics. If this should lead to any further enquiries, I shall be happy to furnish such answer as I shall be able. I am, dear Sir, Your faithful and obedient humble servant , C Bathurst. The use of pronouns made the letter rather ambiguous?

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Tables follow ……..

The children of William Winter and Sophia Thomas at Merthyr Tydfil.		
William Winter married Sophia Thomas around 1853		
1853	1855	1859
James	Mary-Ann	**Catherine**
William Winter died in 1873		

The children of James Winter and Ann Davies at Merthyr Tydfil.					
James Winter (married Merthyr Tydfil 6 Nov 1815) Ann Davies					
1814	1819	1820	1821	1825	1829
Mary	James	Richard	Ann	Ruth	**William**
James Winter and family lived at Pentrebach. Ann may have died 1840 and James may have died 1866?					

The children of William Winter and Mary Cook at Cadoxton & Lydney					
William Winter (married Cadoxton-juxta-Neath 1 Jun 1783) Mary Cook					
1786	1789	1791	1793	1795	1797
Sarah	John	**James**	Mary	Ann	William
Cadoxton	Cadoxton	Cadoxton	Lydney	Cadoxton	Cadoxton
William moved from Lydney to the Neath locality. William's father, James Winter, died Lydney 1793.					

The ancestry of William Winter in Lydney and district											
Chris. Winter	⇔ *m*	Han. Low	James Trafford	⇔ *m*	Mary ?	? Etherton	⇔ *m*	Wife ?	James Prout	⇔ *m*	Eleanor ?
⇳			⇳			⇳			⇳		
William Winter	⇔ *m Bristol*		Mary Trafford			Richard Etherton	⇔ *m*		Hannah Prout		
⇳						⇳					
James Winter	⇔ *m Lydney*					Ann Etherton					
⇳											
William Winter											

The children of James Winter and Anne Etherton baptized at Lydney				
James Winter (married Lydney 29 Sep 1759) Anne Etherton				
3 Aug 1760	6 Dec 1761	29 Jan 1764	1 Mar 1767	24 Sep 1770
Anne	Mary	**William**	Hannah	Sarah
William moved from Lydney to the Neath locality.				

The children of William Winter and Mary Trafford							
William Winter (married 17 Feb 1725) Mary Trafford							
24 Mar 1727	14 Sep 1729	8 Aug 1731	3 Feb 1733	13 Mar 1736	13 Apr 1740	Civil War	4 Oct 1745
Mary	William[1]	**James**	George	Sarah	William[2]	Missing	Ann
James and Sarah witnessed marriage of brother George.							

*The children of **Christopher** Winter and Hannah Lowe*							
Christopher Winter (married 29 May 1686 Bristol) Hannah Lowe							
Alice	Hannah	**William**	Ann	John	Christopher	Christopher	Christopher
1687	1690	1691	1692	1694	1696	1697	-
1737	1690	-	-	-	1697	1697	1699
Only three known 'survivors' but what happened to Ann and John?							

Christopher[1] (senior) Winter and (unknown wife?) [*This Christopher born roughly 1640 and perhaps his father, whatever his name, born roughly 1610*?]			
Child	Baptized	Parents (Senior)	Buried
Why were there no other records?			
William[1]		Son of Christopher[1] Winter	Buried 1680 07 14
Mary		Daughter of Christopher[1] Wintour	Buried 1684 02 05 [1684/5]
Why are there no burials of Christopher[1] Wynter?			
Christopher[2] Winter (junior) and Hannah[2] Low, married Bristol Cathedral by licence 29 May 1686. [*This Christopher born very roughly 1660-1665*?]			
Child	Baptized	Parents (Junior)	Buried
Alice	1687 03 07	Daughter of Christopher[2] & 'Anne'	Query buried 16 Dec 1737?
Hannah[3]	-	Daughter of Christ.[2] Wintor and Hannah[2]	Buried 1690 05 19 but note 1726
William[2]	1691 06 15	Son of Christ.[2] Wintor, junior [or else 'gent'?], and Hannah[2] baptized	Our ancestor
Two sources recorded 'junior' and one 'gent'. If the latter was correct then, of course, the entire premise of Christopher Winter, junior and senior, becomes invalid. However the original parish register suggested 'jun not 'gent''.			
Ann	1692 03 19	Daughter of Christopher[2] Wintor and Hannah[2]	?
John	1694 06 06	John son of Christopher[2] and Hannah	?
Christopher[3]	1696 11 10	Son of Christopher[2] Wintor and Hannah[2]	Buried 1697 01 05
Christopher[3]	1697 01 05	-	Buried 1697 01 05
Christopher[2]	parent	Junior (not senior) ?	Buried 1699 04 28
Christopher[2]	parent	-	Peculiar 'Will' 1699
Christopher[4]	son	Son of Christopher[2] Wintour, dec'd, and Hannah his widow	Buried 1699 10 28
Did this imply that Hannah was also deceased or had become his widow as a result of Christopher's death?If so, who was the 1726 Hannah? If born around 1659 she would have been around 67 years of age at death.			
Hannah	?		Buried 1726 05 03

Children of Edward and Ann Wynter										
Edward Wynter married Ann Somerset 11 Aug 1595										
William	Chris.	Edward	Robert	Elizabeth	Ann	Mary	William*	Edward	Frederick	John
1579	1580's	Died young	Died America	Richard Monnington	Benedict Hall	Nun	?	Died America	Died America	Anne Howard
Ch.	Ch.	-	-	Ch.	Ch.	-	?	-	-	Ch.
Because of the family's Roman Catholic faith, baptismal details are lacking. The sons who went to Maryland all died around 1638. Son William is a mystery.*										

The children of William Wynter and Margaret Bridges at Coleford							
William Winter (married) Margaret Bridges [or Margaret Maxey?]							
Jane	Phillipe	Mary	Eleanor	Ann	Giles	Edward*	William
m 1619 John Duckett	Not married 1625	Not married 1625	Not married 1625	Born 1612	Married Alice Carwardine nee Mallett	Married Jane	?
William died 1625/6.							
Edward married Jane and children at Coleford included: Ann 1639, Margaret 1640, William 1641, gap during civil war, Charles 1656.*							

The children of William and Margaret Wynter nee Maxey of Dymock								
William Wynter (born 1622, son of Giles Wynter) married Margaret Maxey 5 Jul 1650 Dymock								
Margaret	Mildred	Robert	John	Mildred	Edward	Charles	William*	Giles
Sir Wm Humphrey	died	-	-	Richard Snead	Jane	**	°Hester Kyrle	Sybil Kyrle
Margaret died 1674/5 (will 1674). Son William was taken prisoner around 1696 for counterfeiting and clipping coinage and sent to the West Indies. **Charles was not included in Margaret's will. °Hester Wynter nee Kyrle died in 1693. One genealogist, John Howell Winters, Jr., Rootsweb, added a Christopher Wintour 1664.*								

The children of William and Mary Wynter.								
William Wynter married Mary Langton								
Edward	William	Nicholas	James	Mary	Elizabeth	Eleanor	Jane	William
Lydney	Coleford	Reading	?	-	-	-	-	?
Sir William Wynter died in London in 1589; his wife Mary in 1573 at Seething Lane. Nicholas bc1558-1585. Died on Drake's expedition.								

Dave Bradley's Tree (Geneanet)				
*The Wyrall family tree acknowledges only two 'sons' of *Christopher Wyrall*				
Christopher Wynter 1580-1604	Edward Wynter 1561-1619-	William Wynter 1522-1589	John Wynter 1490-1546	John Wynter 1465-1531
	↓	↓	↕	?
			Alice Tyrrell 1500-1561	William Tyrrell 1472-?
		↑		Alice ?
		Mary Langton 1538-1573	Thomas Langton 1500-1551	Thomas Langton 1460-1541
			↕	Ellinor Gascoigne 1475-1515
			Mary Mathew 1520-1602	Thomas Mathew 1485-1534
	↑			Marion (Westden) Bardfield 1490-1534
	Daughter Wyrall 1560-1595	*Christopher Wyrall 1530- X	John Wyrall c1500	William Wyrall c1470
		↓	↕	Anne Ashehurst c1475
			Isabel Motton c1505	? Robert or William
				?
		?	?	?
			↕	
			?	?

The Children of John Wynter and Alice Tyrrell									
Arthur	William[1]	George	Ralph	William[2]	Anne[1]	Alice	Anne[2]	Elizabeth	Mary
1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
-	-	£100	£100	£100	Nil	£60	£60	£60	£60
marr	-	-	-	-	marr	-	-	-	-
Taken from John Wynter's 1545 will									

The children of John Wynter of Allaston						
John	William	Christopher	Thomas	Jennet	Joan	Anne
1582 will three daughters	1548 apprentice hooper Bristol	1548 apprentice shipwright Bristol	1548 apprentice hooper Bristol	1582 will	1582 will	1582 will

The children of Edward and Jane Wynter at Coleford (Newland)					
Ann	Margaret	William	Others	Elizabeth	Charles
2 Dec 1639	9 Dec 1640	13 Feb 1641	1642-1651	12 Jul 1652	18 Oct 1656
Edward died before Jane.					

Records of William Wynter showing one born around 1763±1 in Lydney						
1680	WINTER	*William			Burial	Lydney
1691	WINTER	William	Christopher	Hannah	Baptism	Lydney
1696	WINTER	William	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney
1729	WINTER	William ↓	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1730	WINTER	*William ↑			Burial	Lydney
1740	WINTER	William	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1743	WINTER	*William			Burial	Lydney
1749	WINTER	*William			Burial	Lydney
1754	WINTER	*William			Burial	Lydney
1764	WINTER	William	James	Ann	Baptism	Lydney
1783	WINTER	William	George	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1808	WINTER	William	William	Elizabeth	Baptism	Lydney
1838	WINTER	William	William	Caroline	Baptism	Lydney
1850	WINTOUR	*William			Burial	Lydney
1863	WINTOUR	*William			Burial	Lydney
No realistic burial of William Wynter, born 1764, in Lydney						
*Query. Who were these *William Wynter?*						

Baptisms of James Wynter in Lydney indicating parents William and Mary						
1731	WINTER	James	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1759	WINTER	James			Marriage	Lydney
1793	WINTER	James			Burial	Lydney
1824	WINTER	James	William	Elizabeth	Baptism	Lydney
1841	WINTER	James	William	Caroline	Baptism	Lydney
1868	WINTOUR	James	James	Pamela	Baptism	Lydney
1853	WINTER	James Henry	James	Elizabeth	Baptism	Lydney
James married in 1759 age 28 years and died in 1793 age 62 years						
James Wynter married Ann Etherton 29 Sep 1759, with witnesses John Etherton and William Davis, by curate John Sargeant, by licence.						

In between baptism 1731 and burial 1793 James (and Ann) had five children						
1760	WINTER	Ann	James	Ann	Baptism	Lydney
1761	WINTER	Mary	James	Ann	Baptism	Lydney
1764	WINTER	William	James	Ann	Baptism	Lydney
1767	WINTER	Hannah	James	Ann	Baptism	Lydney
1770	WINTER	Sarah	James	Ann	Baptism	Lydney

James the son of William and Mary Trafford						
1725	WINTOUR	William			Married	Bristol
1727	WINTER	Mary	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1729	WINTER	William	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1731	WINTER	James	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1734	WINTER	George	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1737	WINTER	Sarah	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1740	WINTER	William	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1745	WINTER	Ann	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1755	WINTER	John ?	not stated	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1755 John seems unlikely? No burials?						
William Wynter and Mary were not married in Lydney *William 'Wintour' married Mary Trafford at Bristol on 17 Feb 1725 per Ancestry.com* *Many family tree assumed the name Mary 'Tookerman', not Trafford.*						

Baptism of Mary, daughter of William & Mary Wynter, in 1793						
1727	WINTER	Mary	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1793	WINTER	Mary	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney

Baptism of William Wynter : seemingly none prior 1691?						
1691	WINTER	William	Christopher	Hannah	Baptism	Lydney
1696	WINTOR	William	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney
1729	WINTER	William	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney

Baptism of children of George & Sarah Wynter around 1690s						
1690	WINTOUR	Robert	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney
1693	WINTER	George	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney
1695	WINTER	Sarah	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney
1696	WINTOR	William	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney
1699	WINTOUR	Winifrid	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney
1702	WINTOUR	Mary	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney
1709	WINTOUR	George			Burial	Lydney
1714	WINTOUR	George			Burial	Lydney
1723	WINTER	Sarah (widow)			Burial	Lydney
Note the burials of George Wintour						

Baptism of William Wynter in 17th century						
1619	WINTER	William	Christopher		Baptism	English Bicknor
1625	WINTOUR	William	Giles		Baptism	Newland
1642	WINTER	William	Edward	Jane	Baptism	Newland
1653	WINTOUR	William	William	not stated	Baptism	Dymock
1685	WINTOUR	William	William		Baptism	Dymock
1691	WINTER	William	Christopher	Hannah	Baptism	Lydney
1696	WINTOR	William	George	Sarah	Baptism	Lydney

No hint of any marriage of any William Wynter, born 1619, prior 1650 when William Wynter married Margaret Maxey						
1650	WINTOUR	William			Marriage	Dymock
1679	WINTER	William			Marriage	Much Marcle
1684	WINTOR	William			Marriage	Much Marcle
1738	WINDERS	William			Marriage	Deerhurst
1755	WINTER	William			Marriage	Dymock
1760	WINTER	William			Marriage	Chepstow
1760	WINTER	William			Marriage	Chepstow
1760	WINTER	William			Marriage	Chepstow
1794	WINTER	William			Marriage	Aston Ingham
1794	WINTER	William			Marriage	Aston Ingham

During the 1720s, 1730s and 1740s, the only Wynter baptisms in Lydney seem to have been those of William and Mary						
1723	WINTER	*Sarah [widow]	?		Burial	Lydney
1725	WINTER**	*Thomas	?		Burial	Lydney
1726	WINTER	*Hannah	?		Burial	Lydney
1727	WINTER	Mary	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1729	WINTER	William ↓ died	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1729	WINTER	*Winifred	?		Burial	Lydney
1730	WINTER	William ↑	William	Mary	Burial	Lydney
1731	WINTER	James	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1734	WINTER	George	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1737	WINTER	Sarah	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1737	WINTER	*Alice	?		Burial	Lydney
1740	WINTER	William ↓ died	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1743	WINTER	William ↑	William	Mary	Burial	Lydney
1745	WINTER	Ann	William	Mary	Baptism	Lydney
1749	WINTER	*William	?		Burial	Lydney
**Who exactly were the Wynter burials other than those marked? **Or Wintour.*						

Children of Charles and Frances Winter of Lydney						
1681	WINTER	John ↓ died	Charles esq	Frances	Baptism	Lydney
1681	WINTER	John ↑	Charles	Frances	Burial	Lydney
1681	WINTER	William	Charles esq	Frances	Baptism	Lydney
1683	WINTER	Ann	Charles esq	Frances	Baptism	Lydney
1686	WYNTER	George ↓ died	Charles	Frances	Baptism	Home
1687	WYNTER	George ↑	Charles	Frances	Burial	Lydney
1689	WYNTER	Charles	Charles	Frances	Baptism	Home

Children of John Wynter and Ann at Dymock						
1789	WINTER	Hester	John	Ann	Baptism	Dymock
1790	WINTER	John	John	Ann	Baptism	Dymock
1793	WINTER	Elizabeth	John	Ann	Baptism	Dymock
1797	WINTER	Thomas	John	Ann	Baptism	Dymock
1803	WINTER	Winifred	John	Ann	Baptism	Dymock

Children of Richard Wynter and Elizabeth at Dymock						
1731	WINTOUR	Mary	Richard	Elizabeth	Baptism	Dymock
1733	WINTER	William	Richard	Elizabeth	Baptism	Dymock
1736	WINTOUR	Richard	Richard	Elizabeth	Baptism	Dymock
1741	WINTER	Joseph	Richard	Elizabeth	Baptism	Dymock
1749	WINTER	Anne	Richard	Elizabeth	Baptism	Dymock

Children of William at Dymock						
1652	WINTOUR	Margaret	William	Margaret	Baptism	Dymock
1653	WINTOURE	William	William	Margaret	Baptism	Dymock
1659	WINTOUR	John	William	Margaret	Baptism	Dymock
1660	WINTOUR	Mildred	William	Margaret	Baptism	Dymock
1661	WINTOUR	Charles	William	Margaret	Baptism	Dymock
1661	WINTOUR	Edward	William	Margaret	Baptism	Dymock
1680	WINTOUR	Hester	William	not stated	Baptism	Dymock
1683	WINTOUR	Margaret	William		Baptism	Dymock
1685	WINTOUR	William	William		Baptism	Dymock

Children of George Wynter of Dyrham and Anne Brayne of Bristol										
Thomasin	Robert	Benedict	Mary	William	Elizabeth	Bridget	Margaret	Anne	Elinor	John
dc1586		dc1588	Anselm Huntley	Mary Arthur	Ferdinando Joyce	George Wyrrall	Thomas Weeks	George price		Mary Brunker
						*b*1539				
						*d*1609				

Children of John Wynter of Dyrham and Mary Brucker										
*George	Mary	Benedict	William	Henry	Bryan	Cyril	Elizabeth	Susan	Grace	Anne
1594	1594	1597	1599	1600	1601	1604	1605	1606	1611	?
*George was born in Wiltshire, the former home of his mother, 7 Apr 1594. The rest at Dyrham.										