

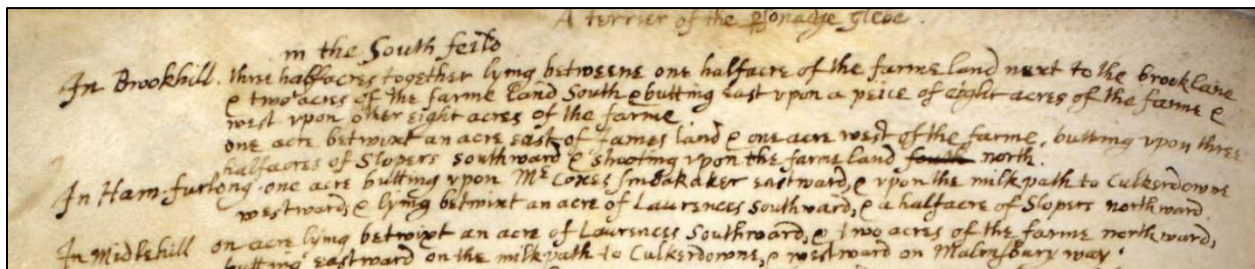
FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF JOHN AND ELIZABETH SLOPER

John Sloper was christened 18 September 1608 in Bishops Cannings, Wiltshire, the son of Thomas and Joan Sloper. He married Elizabeth. John was a yeoman farmer.

The Slopers were a prominent family in the parish of Bishops Cannings. A history of the parish recounts: "Without the Slopers Bishops Cannings would have been poorer both in the number and quality of its inhabitants. In just over 200 years (1591-1806) their names appear on 221 of the printed pages of the registers. Six young Slopers are baptized in one year alone by George Ferebe or his curate, and five times the family served as Churchwardens. In so doing they were upholding an old tradition, for it may be remembered that a **Thomas Sloper** was one of the pair who signed the deed making over "The Lady Bower" to John Ernle in 1563. This Thomas may well have been a son of **Thomas Sloper**, vicar of Cannings for 31 years in the first half of the sixteenth century. Another Sloper, **Richard**, is warden in 1591 and signs for the first parish register. In 1597 and 1608 **William Sloper de Eston** holds office, and in 1614-15 **Arthur** of Horton also witnesses the deed of administration for George Ferebe's goods and chattels when he died intestate. So it continues through the centuries, till we come at last to **Mark Sloper**, Churchwarden in the mid-nineteenth century, a respected and widely known farmer throughout N. Wilts". Slopers cannot be pinned down to any part of the parish. They crop up everywhere. William, the thatcher, gives birth to twins at Westend. Others of the clan are found at Bourton Cross and Bourton Green, at "The Downde", at Horton, Coate and Roundway. One of the earliest was **Thomas** of Knarstones. Since his daughter was baptized at Bishops Cannings it is likely that he lived on the extreme north-western edge of the parish and not down in Calstone itself. Sometime they are referred to as Gentlemen, and though an early Sloper disclaims the title at the Herald's Visitation of 1563, it occurs again in the next two centuries...Now there are no Slopers to farm Cannings land, to live long peaceful busy lives, to bear immense families, to act as churchwardens, and generally to add richness and flavour to village life." (Round About the Little Steeple, The Story of a Wiltshire Parish 1573-1623, Ida Gandy)

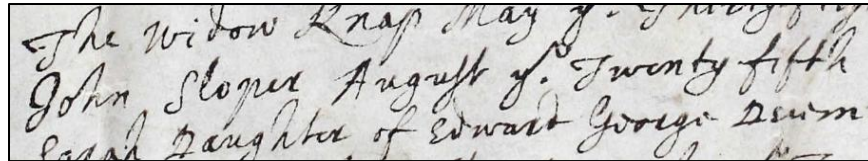
The Sloper families were found in Easton, as well as Horton and Bourton: "In George Ferebe's day Horton was evidently a prosperous place. Branches of the well-to-do yeoman families of Ruddle, Sloper and Western all lived here...To the east lay the big common field of Charcroft, with a path to Bourton and Bourton Green running along its norther edge. Bourton is still well-peopled but Bourton Green scarcely exists. Yet once it was a flourishing little hamlet. Here, in a farmhouse of comfortable size, lived in Ferebe's day a branch of the ubiquitous Slopers." (Round About the Little Steeple)

John and his family moved to Rodmarton. A land survey (terrier) for Rodmarton in 1661 listed a field called Slopers.



"A terrier of the parsonadge glebe - in the South feild: In Brookhill these half acres together lying betweene one halfacre of the farmeland next to the brook lane & two acres of the farme land south & butting last upon a peice of eight acres of the same & west upon other eight acres of the farme. One acre betwixt an acre east of James land & one acre west of the farme, butting upon three halfacres of **Slopers** southward & shooting upon the farme land north. In Ham furlong one acre butting upon Mr Cones smoakaker eastward & upon the milkipath to Culkerdowne westward & lying betwixt an acre of Laurences southward & a halfacre of **Slopers** northward."

John died and was buried 25 August 1674 in Rodmarton.

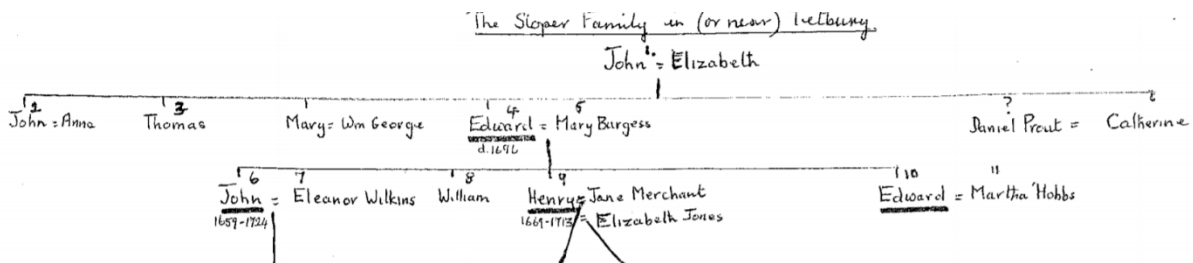


Burial record for John Sloper in Rodmarton:
"John Sloper August ye twenty fifth"

Elizabeth died as a widow and was buried 7 July 1694 in Rodmarton.



Burial record for Elizabeth Sloper in Rodmarton:
"Elizabeth Sloper widow July the seventh"



John Sloper pedigree from *The History of Tetbury Society*

John and Elizabeth had the following children:

1. **John**, christened 2 February 1645 in Rodmarton; married Anna.
- *2. **Mary**, born in about 1648 of Rodmarton; married William George 28 July 1679 in Rodmarton; buried 15 November 1689 in Rodmarton.
3. **Edward**, christened 24 August 1650 in Rodmarton; married Mary Burgess; occupation mercer in Tetbury, Gloucestershire; had five hearths in Rodmarton, also three in Tetbury; buried 30 October 1696 in

Tetbury; will proven 1697.

4. **Thomas**, christened 7 July 1651 in Rodmarton; buried 3 November 1675 in Rodmarton: buried "*Thomas Sloper son of ye widow Sloper November ye third*".

5. **Catherine**, christened 29 September 1655; married Daniel Prout 26 November 1685 in Rodmarton.

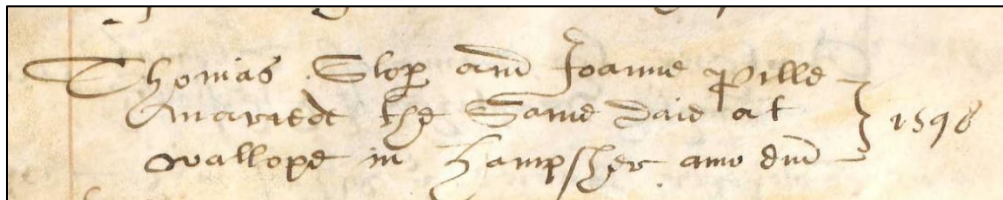
SOURCES: Rodmarton parish register; Rodmarton Bishops Transcripts; www.ancestry.com; will of Edward Slopar mercer of Tetbury, 1697, Prerogative Court of Canterbury; Bishops Cannings parish register, www.findmypast.com; correspondence between Ted Prince and Dr. William Church, citing Sloper pedigree chart, The History of Tetbury Society, www.tetburyhistory.com; Round About the Little Steeple, The Story of a Wiltshire Parish 1573-1623, Ida Gandy.



Bishops Canning

FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF THOMAS SLOPER AND zJOAN TILLE

Thomas Sloper was born in about 1562 of Easton in Bishops Cannings, Wiltshire, the son of William and Alice Sloper. He married Joan Tille 5 June 1598 in Bishops Cannings: "*Thomas Sloper and Joanne Tille mar: the same day at Wallope, in Hampsher*". Thomas was a yeoman.



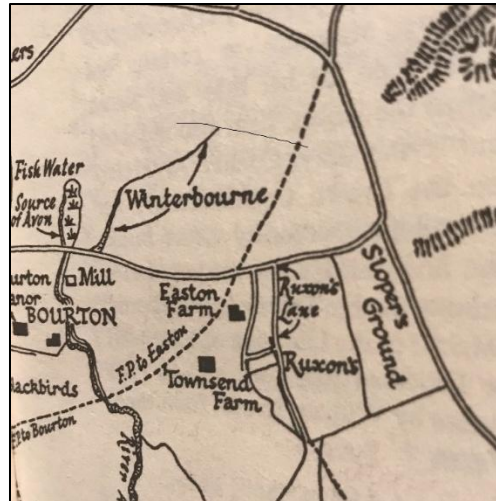
Marriage record for Thomas Sloper and Joan Tille in Bishops Cannings:

"Thomas Sloper and Joanne Pille married the same daie at Wallope in Hampsher ano dm 1598"

Note: Thomas's last name is not Slop. The letter P with a horizontal line on the descending part of the letter is an old abbreviation for per or par.

Thomas was described in a history of Bishops Cannings: "*Ahead Easton Hill rounds off the line of downs that slope gently up to Tan Hill. Below lies the little hamlet of Easton, more populous once upon a time*

than now, and at its feet steals out a tiny winter-bourne. Here in the seventeenth century stood two substantial farmhouses, in one of them lived Thomas Sloper, churchwarden and village patriarch. He must often have taken the field path to Bourton Manor to do business with John Ernle. But scarcely a soul uses it today." (*Round About the Little Steeple*)



*Location of the Sloper's farm in Easton - Townsend Farm
(Round About the Little Steeple)*

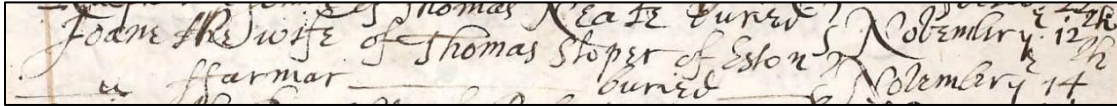
"But the most interesting of all the 'gentleman' Slopers is Thomas of Easton, Churchwarden to both the Ferebes. Michael Tidcombe's survey shows that he was a freeholder who farmed on a considerable scale. "Thomas Sloper holdeth freely of the said manor 26 acres arable land, 8 acres of meadow, severall Downes for sheep, yearly rent 2s. and 6d.", he writes. (*Round About the Little Steeple*) George Ferebe was the vicar in Thomas' lifetime, followed as vicar by his brother Thomas Ferebe.

Thomas was churchwarden when new church bells were placed in the church: "In 1602 eight bells, cast by John Wallis, were hung in the tower of St. Mary's...George Ferebe's name was set, as well it might be, on the fifth, and Thomas Sloper, senior churchwarden that year, is honoured on the sixth." (*Round About the Little Steeple*)

Born in 1562 Thomas lived for ninety-seven years, and remained active even in extreme old age. For when 88, he was required to view the highway at Bourton with two other yeoman in Whitsun week, 'and present the truth thereof'. (*Court Book for 1650*) He shared, as far as a quiet countryman could, in the excitements of Elizabethan days, and would have been among those who welcomed Queen Anne at Shepherd's Shore. Thirty years later he heard the guns boom across Roundway Down. But for him, perhaps the most memorable day in his life was the 'Mondaie in Whitsun wek' in 1598 when he rode over Salisbury Plain to 'Wallope in Hampshire' to marry Joanne Tille, and bring her back from her river valley to the house called Townsends under Easton Hill. There she bore him many children...A few stones lie buried under the ground where the Slopers' farm once stood, and some daffodils appear each spring to show that once there was a garden there. After fifty years with Thomas, Joan died on a November day in 1644 while the shadow of the Civil War was hung over Cannings. Though the Battle of Roundway was over there was constant skirmishing in the neighbourhood, as the funeral of a soldier 'dying at Roundway' three days after Joan bears witness. Fifteen years later Thomas joined her and innumerable

other Slopers in Cannings churchyard. But he left a son, William, to carry on the farm." (Round About the Little Steeple)

Joan died and was buried 14 November 1644 in Bishops Cannings: "Joane, w. of Thomas Sloper, of Eston, ffarmar; bur. 14 Nov. 1644".



*Burial record for Joan Sloper in Bishops Cannings:
"Joane the wife of Thomas Sloper of Eston ffarmar buried Novembr ye 14"*

Thomas died and was buried 16 December 1659 in Bishops Cannings: "Thomas Sloper de Eston, aged 97 years, bur. 16 Dec. 1659".

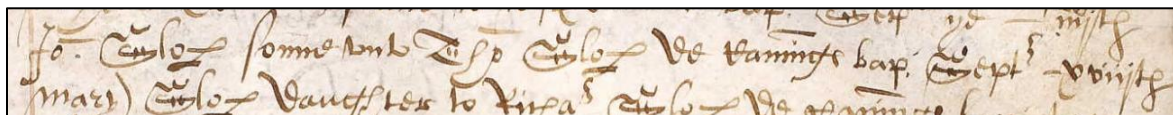
Thomas and Joan had the following children:

1. **William**, christened 25 November 1601 in Bishops Cannings; mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627. William was mentioned in a parish history when he became the heir after Thomas' death: "But he left a son, William, to carry on the farm. In the County Archives exists a Terrier of William's lands, including 'the house called Townsends in Easton' and the five-acre field known as Rixons or Ruxons. This is also the name of a small right-of-way that runs southwards through moist meadows and makes a short cut to Horton." (Round About the Little Steeple)

2. **Mary**, christened 26 February 1603 in Bishops Cannings; mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627.

3. **Thomas**, christened 31 August 1606 in Bishops Cannings; mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627..

*4. **John**, christened 18 September 1608 in Bishops Cannings; mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627; married Elizabeth; buried 7 July 1694 in Rodmarton.



Baptism record for John Sloper in Bishops Cannings: "Jo. Sloper sonne unto Tho Sloper de Cannings bap Sept xvijth"

5. **Mark**, christened 25 April 1623 in Bishops Cannings. Mark was also mentioned in the parish history: "Old Thomas Sloper, in addition to William the heir, had another son christened Mark, born in George Ferebe's last year of life – the first of a long succession of Marks." (Round About the Little Steeple)

6. **Michael**, mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627.

7. **Joanna**, mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627.

8. **Jone**, mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627.
9. **Dorathy**, mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627.
10. **Susanna**, mentioned in grandfather's will of 1627.

SOURCES: Bishops Cannings parish register, www.findmypast.com; correspondence between Ted Prince and Dr. William Church, citing Sloper pedigree chart, The History of Tetbury Society, www.tetburyhistory.com; Registers of Bishops Cannings, Wiltshire; will of William Sloper of Easton in Bishops Cannings, 1627; Round About the Little Steeple, The Story of a Wiltshire Parish 1573-1623, Ida Gandy.

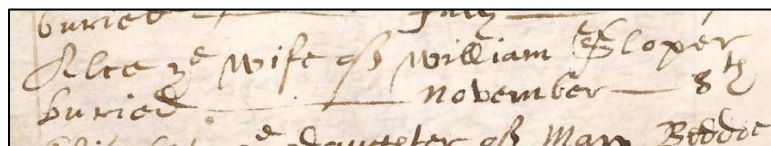


Bishops Cannings

FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF WILLIAM AND ALICE SLOPER

William Sloper was born in about 1540 of Easton in Bishops Cannings, the son of Thomas Sloper. He married Alice. William was mentioned in a history of Bishops Cannings as a churchwarden: "*In 1597 and 1608 William Sloper de Easton holds office*". (*Round About the Little Steeple*)

Alice died and was buried 8 November 1615 in Bishops Cannings: "*Alce, w. of William Sloper; bur. 8 Nov. 1615*".



*Burial record for Alice Sloper in Bishops Cannings:
"Alce ye wife of William Sloper buried November 8th"*

William died and was buried 19 August 1627 in Bishops Cannings.

Elizabeth Sparrow of ...
 William Sloper of Eston widdower bur Aug. 19
 John Manners's wife buried Sept. 25

Burial record for William Sloper in Bishops Cannings:
 "William Sloper of Eston widdower bur Aug 19"

William left a will proven in 1627:

In the name of God Amen; this one and thirteth day of June in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred twentie and six I William Sloper of Eston in the parish of Bishoppes Cannings in the Countie of Wilts yeoman beinge at this p^{re}sent time (thanks be to God) in perfect health mind and memorie doe ordaine this my last will and testament in manner and forme following. Ffirst I commend my soule into the hands of God hoping undoughtedlie to be saved by the alone merrittes and mercies of my onlie Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ and my bodie to be interred in the parishe church of Bishoppes Cannings aforesaide. First I give unto our Lady Church of Salsburie eighteene pence. Item I give unto my parish church Bishoppes Cannings six shillings eight pennce. Item I give unto the poore of Cannings aforesaid twenty shillings to be distributed at the discretion of mine overseers. Item I give unto my sonne John Sloper of Parton foure acres of land yearly dureinge the terme of foure yeres next after my decease. That is to say two acres of them to be sowne with wheate and the other two with barlie to be delivered at the appointment of my overseers and my will is that my executor shall soyle them with the folde and plough them in such husbandly manner as he doth his owne dureinge the aforesaid termes and my sonne John shall finde the feed to sowe them. And if my executor shall refuse to pforme my will in the point then my will is that he shall give him twenty pounds of lawfull mony within six months after such refusal. Item I give unto William Sloper my granchilde one acre of barlie. Same unto my sonne Thomas Sloper one acre of barlie. Item I give unto the rest of my sonne Thomas his children that is to say unto John, Michaell, Thomas, Marke, Joanna, Marie, Jone, Dorathy and Susanna, to each of them ten

The will of William Sloper of Eston in the parish of Bishop Cannings, 1627

In the name of God Amen; this one and thirteth day of June in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred twentie and six **I William Sloper of Eston in the parish of Bishoppes Cannings** in the Countie of Wilts yeoman beinge at this p^{re}sent time (thanks be to God) in perfect health mind and memorie doe ordaine this my last will and testament in manner and forme following. Ffirst I commend my soule into the hands of God hoping undoughtedlie to be saved by the alone merrittes and mercies of my onlie Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ and my bodie to be interred in the parishe church of Bishoppes Cannings aforesaide. First I give unto our Lady Church of Salsburie eighteene pence. Item I give unto my parish church Bishoppes Cannings six shillings eight pennce. Item I give unto the poore of Cannings aforesaid twenty shillings to be distributed at the discretion of mine overseers. Item I give unto my sonne **John Sloper** of Parton foure acres of land yearly dureinge the terme of foure yeres next after my decease. That is to say two acres of them to be sowne with wheate and the other two with barlie to be delivered at the appointment of my overseers and my will is that my executor shall soyle them with the folde and plough them in such husbandly manner as he doth his owne dureinge the aforesaid termes and my sonne John shall finde the feed to sowe them. And if my executor shall refuse to pforme my will in the point then my will is that he shall give him twenty pounds of lawfull mony within six months after such refusal. Item I give unto **William Sloper my granchilde** one acre of barlie. Same unto my sonne **Thomas Sloper** one acre of barlie. Item I give unto the rest of my sonne Thomas his children that is to say unto **John, Michaell, Thomas, Marke, Joanna, Marie, Jone, Dorathy and Susanna**, to each of them ten

*pounds apeece to be paid unto the men children at the age of 21 yeares and to the women children at 21 yeares of age, or at the day of marriage which shall first happen. All the rest of my goods and chattels not given and bequeathed moveable and unmoveable what soever. I give unto **my sonne Thomas** whom I make my sole and only executor of this my last will and testament. And I intreate my well beloved friends Thomas fferabe William Mandrell John Munday and Thomas Sloper to be my overseers of this my last will and testament. In wittnesse whereof I have her unto sett my hand and seale and have caused it to be read and published the day and yeare above written in the psence of Tho: fferaby William Sloper [torn] Arthur Sloper Tho Mundy William Maundrell [torn]*

William and Alice had the following children:

*1. **Thomas**, born in about 1575 of Bishops Cannings; married Joan Tille 5 June 1598 in Bishops Cannings; buried 16 December 1659 in Bishops Cannings.

2. **John**, born in about 1586 of Bishops Cannings.

*SOURCES: Bishops Cannings parish register, www.findmypast.com; correspondence between Ted Prince and Dr. William Church, citing Sloper pedigree chart, *The History of Tetbury Society*, www.tetburyhistory.com; Registers of Bishops Cannings, Wiltshire.*

FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF THOMAS SLOPER

Thomas Sloper was born in about 1520 of Easton in Bishops Cannings, the son of William and Edith Sloper. He married 1) unknown, and 2) Alys. Thomas was a yeoman in Bishops Cannings.

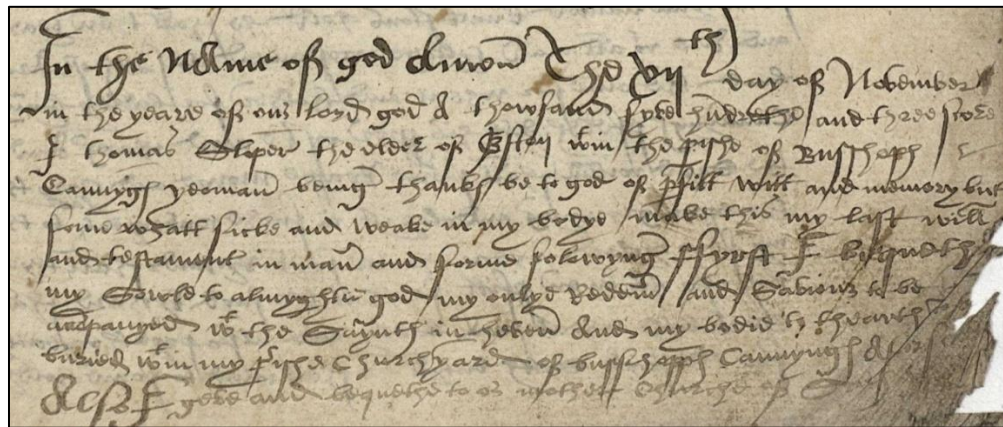
Thomas was mentioned in a parish history for Bishops Cannings: *"The Ernle chapel in the south transept, once dedicated to St. Clement, but later called 'Our Lady Bowere', had been made over to the Ernle family, thirty years before Ferebe became vicar, by the churchwardens, **Thomas Sloper** and John Perse. They signed a conveyance granting it to John Ernle, father Ferebe's patron, St. Michael, 'as a burying place for him and his heirs forever', provided that they continued to carry out all proper repairs."* (Round About the Little Steeple) George Ferebe became vicar in 1593, so this Thomas Sloper signed the conveyance in 1563.

Thomas died and left two wills and a mystery. A will for Thomas Sloper of Eston in Bishops Cannings is found in the Probate Records of the Court of the Dean of Salisbury, with a date of 1562. A nearly identical will for Thomas Sloper of Eston in Bishops Cannings is found in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, proven 20 January 1588. The spelling is slightly different between the wills, but the wording is the same. Some names are spelled differently. For example, Thomas left the same bequest to his fourth son, called "Raff" in the 1562 will, and "Raphe" in the 1588 will. His daughter is called "Lewce" in the 1562 will, but "Luce" in the 1588 will. Words like five are spelled "fyve" in the 1562 will, but "five". in the 1588 will. The date the will was written was the same in both wills, "*a thowsand five hudreth and three score*", or 1560.

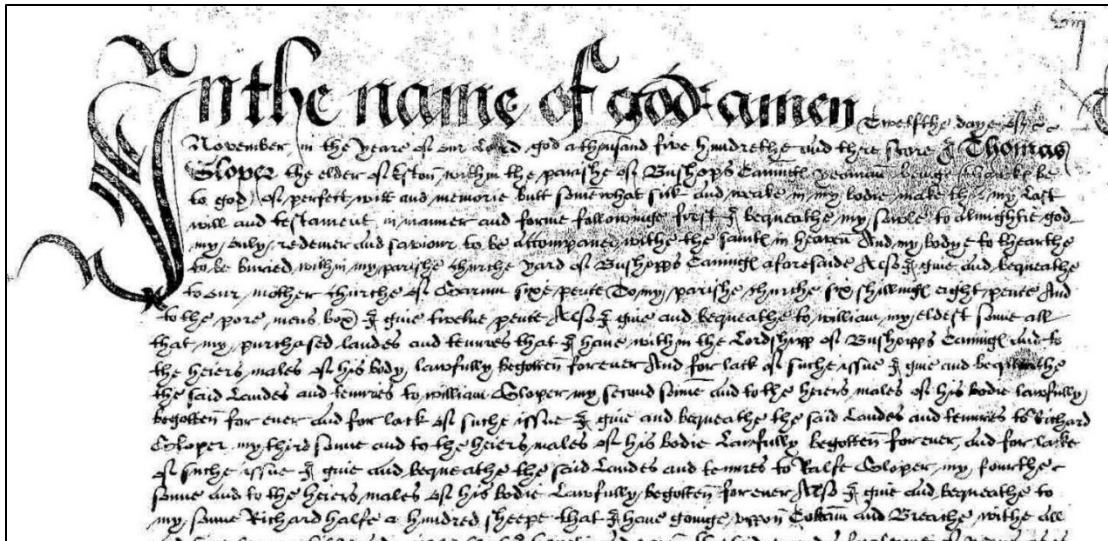
The dates for the wills have importance because the will for Thomas' father, William, in 1565 left a bequest to his son Thomas, still living. In William's will, he left bequests to his sons Thomas the elder, Thomas the younger, and Rychard. Thomas the younger and Rychard are both named as Thomas' brothers in both of Thomas' wills. William's will also mentioned additional children. If Thomas had died in 1562, then he would not have been left a bequest in 1565. Additionally, Thomas Sloper signed the conveyance of the Lady Bower in 1563, so was alive at that point: *"It may be remembered that a Thomas Sloper was one of the pair who signed the deed making over "The Lady Bower" to John Ernle in 1563."* (Round About the Little Steeple)

Also, Thomas mentioned Alys (Alice) in both wills, as his wife. She appears to be a second wife. Alys is listed as his wife in the will, but he left a bequest to his two daughters, leaving silver items *"which weare their mothers"* to them, implying that their mother was deceased. Thomas also left bequests to his two sons-in-law William and John Smyth. His daughters did not marry the Smyths, but the term was also used to describe step-sons. In 1577 Alice, a widow of Bishops Cannings left bequests to her two sons, John Smyth and William Smyth, as well as their children. She also left a bequest to her daughter Johan Sloper, as well as Alice Sloper, daughter of Richard Sloper. Since Alice was a widow in 1577, Thomas must have died by then.

Wills were not usually filed in two different courts, and with two different dates, while being nearly identical in wording. Perhaps one is an earlier draft? Wills were sometimes filed for probate years after the decease. It seems likely that Thomas died between 1566 and 1577.



*Will of Thomas Sloper the elder, yeoman of Bishops Cannings, 1562,
Probate Records of the Court of the Dean of Salisbury*



Will of Thomas Sloper the elder, yeoman of Bishops Cannings, proven 20 January 1587/8,
Prerogative Court of Canterbury

This extract uses the spelling and wording of the 1587/8 will:

*In the name of God Amen the xijth day of November in the yeare of our Lord God a thowsand five hudreth and three score I **Thomas Sloper the elder** of Eston within the parishe of Bushops Canninges yeoman being (thanks be to God) of perfitt will and memory but some what sicke and weake in my bodye make this my last will and testament in manner and forme folowyng first I bequeathe my sowle to Almyghtie God my only Redemer and Saviour to be accompanied with the saintes in heaven. And my bodye to thearthe to be buried within my parishe churche yard of Bushoppes Canninges aforesaide. Also I give and bequeathe to our mother churche of Sarum sixe pence. To my parishe churche six shillinges eight pence. And to the pore mens boxe I geve twelve pence. Also I gyve and bequeath to **William my eldest sonne** all that my purchased lands and tenures that I have within the Lordshipp of Busshoppes Canninges and to the heiers males of his body lawfullie begotten for ever. And for lack of suche issue I give and bequeathe the said landes and tennures to **William Sloper my second sonne** and to the heiers males of his bodie lawfully begotten for ever, And for lack of suche issue I give and bequeathe the said landes and tennures to **Richard Sloper my third sonne** and to the heiers males of his bodie lawfully begottin for ever, and for lacke of suche issue I give and bequeathe the said landes and tennures to **Ralfe Sloper my fourth sonne** and to the heiers males of his bodie lawfully begotten for ever. Also I gyve and bequethe to **my sone Richard** halfe a hundred sheepe that I have goinge uppon Cokam and Breache withe all and singuler my title and reghte that I have in and upon the said groundes for terme of years as is specifited at large with in a payer of indentures concerninge the same groundes and stock of halfe a hundred shepe duringe his natural life. And after him I gyve and bequeathe the sayd stock of a halfe hundred shepe withe all the said pastures and state that I have theruppon to **Raphe my youngest sone** durying his naturall life, And after him the said stock of shepe withe all and singuler the premisses I give and bequeathe to the next brother then livinge and so to passe to the longest liver of all my sayd fower sonnes who shall have my good will to give and bestowe the sayd stock of shepe withe all the premisses at his will and pleasure duringe all the terme of years that then shall be to come upon the sayd Cokam and Breache. Also I give and bequeathe to **Wiliam my sone the younger** all that my farme land which I howlde in Canninges feilde withe all and singuler thappurtenancis and profittes thereunto belonginge duringe the terme of yeares whiche I have*

and howld by virtue of an indenture made theruppon. Furthermore I will that when **my sayd sone William** shall come to the holdinge in Cannynge some time named Knackstones howlde he shall then yearly till and are with all manner tillage accustomed to settes of arable land the own for wheate and thother for barley lyinge within Cannynge feildes at his proper coste and charges. And also he the sayd William shall sow reape mowe and carrie the cropp theruppon growinge and lay hitt in suche convenient place to the use of **my sone Richard** wheare he the sayd Richard shall thinck it best for his owne profitt so that the sayd Richard shall finde seede bothe wheat and barley and also paye the yearly rent for the said setts untill he shall come to some holdyng to dwell upon him selfe, and then he shall leave and no longer have the use nor profitt of those two said settes. Also I gyve and bequeathe to **my son William thelder** and to **my sonne Rychard** all that my farme land lyinge in Horton and Easton feildes with all manner thapptenances and customes therunto belonginge equally to be devided betwene them duryng my terme of years specified within a payre of indentures concerninge the same. Also I give and bequeethe to **my sonne Raphe** halfe a hundred shepe to be delivered to hym in ther wooll timinge att the leate when he shall come to the age of fourtene yeares. And also I will that **my sayd sonne William thelder** shall yearly till or cause to be tilled withe all maner accustomed tillage twoe settes of land in Horton and Eston feildes the one for wheate and the other for barley to the use and profitt of **my said son Raphe**. And also to sowe reape and and mowe, and carrie the cropp theruppon growinge at his owne proper coste and charges, and laie the same cropp in suche convenient place al Raphe shall think moste best for his profitt so that he the sayd Raphe shall finde seede bothe wheat and barley and also paye the yearly rent to the said settes duryng all the time that he shall enjoye the profitt of the same that is untill he shall come to a holdinge to dwell upon him selfe. Also I my wyll and desire is that the sayd settes before spoken of to be filled & sowne to the use of **Richard and Raphe my sonnes** yearly to be appoynted by the discreation of my overseers. Also I give and bequeathe to **Luce Sloper and to Joane Sloper my dawghters** to everye of them a payre of silver hookes whiche weare their mothers to be delivered to them at my monethes end. And also I gyve every of them tenne poundes of good currant Englishe money to be delivered and paid to them when they or any of them shall come to eightene yeares of age by **William my eldest sonne**. And also I will that my said twoe dawghters shalbe kept by my executors tyll they shall fully come to the said age of xvij years at all manner of nessessaryes to them belonging. Furthermore, my will is that Alice my wife shall take her choyce wheather she wyll take agayne all suche the self same stuff and goodes as she brought to me and nine poundes of money whiche I had of her, or ells to take fortie poundes in money to be paid to her by my executors within one yeaer after my deathe. And also I give and bequeth to her a cowe to be delivered to her by my executors, and thapparell to her bodie imediatly after my deathe to be delivered to her or to her assignes. Also I give and bequeathe to Robert Nashe my godson a weather shepe. To **Raphe Sloper** a weather sheepe. To Alice Sloper a daughter of Richard Sloper a weather sheepe. To **John Smyth and William Smyth my sonnes in lawe** to everye of them a weather sheape. To John Caswell the younger twelve pence. And to John Edwards the sonne of William Edwards twelve pence. Also I give and bequeathe to every one of my other godchildren eight pence to be delivered to them at my monethes mynd by my executors. Furthermore I will and comannde that my executors shall suffer all manner persons to have occupie and enjoye peaceably all suche parcells of areable land named settes and other grounds whatsoever they be that I have taken money for before hand without any lett or interruption duringe the time tht they have taken hitt for. Also I gyve and bequethe to Thomas Neate twelve pence. To Joane Hewe twelve pence. To Alice Alrege eighte pence and to Katerin Ruddle twentie in money or ells a kerther; Theis are all the detts that I do owe as folowethe ffirst to Margery Stevens twelve shillinges. To Agnis Bayley the daughter of Robart Bayley sometime of Cote twentie shillinges. To William Dick the sonn of Thomas Dycke dwellinge with Mr Robart Nicholas of Cote fourtene shillinges. To Joane Dick daughter of the sayd Thomas dwellinge withe John Peerte of Cote tenne shillinges eight pence. To Agnes Dick daughter of the sayd Thomas dwelling with Alice Jeffery att Bremble tenne shillinges eighte

pence. To Katherin Dick daughter of the said Thomas dwelling with the George Woodd at Boston tenne shillings. To Roger Dicke sonne of the said Thomas dwelling with the said George Wood fourtene shillings. To **Richard Sloper my brother** thirtie thre shillings fower pence and to pay to him or to his assigns by seaven shillings six pence yearly duringe a term of years agreed upon for certeine settes of arable land. To **my brother Thomas** twentie nine shillings fower pence. To Eedie Ffarr eleven shillings. To Thomas Weston sixtene shillings fower pence. To **William Smyth** a calfe or ells five shillings in money. To John Townsend fower shillings and to Thomas Grannte fower shillings. Other debts which I have borrowed towards my losse in the Lordes rent, ffirst to **John Sloper** twentie shillings. To **Richard Sloper** twentie shillings. To Thomas Smithe thirtie shillings. To John Smithe twentie shillings. To William Pike thirtie shillings. To **Simon Sloper** fower poundes. To Harris Chever of Stockton fower poundes. To Master William Ernley fortie shillings. To Richard Ffyshelake twentie shillings. To John Townsend fortie shillings. To Thomas Weston twentie shillings and to John Birchall fortie shillings. Thies are the debtes which are owinge to me ffirst John Prickle of of Sheyne owe to me fiftene shillings. Robart Byrrett xixd. James Pownde fourtene shillings and Agnes Byllynge the widowe five shillings. The rest of my goods moveable and unmoveable what soever they be my debts legacies and funeralls fully contented and paide I gyve and bequeathe to **William my eldest sonne** and to **William the younger** whom I ordeyne and make joyntly togeather my executors to dispose all thinges accordingly to the termes of this my last will and testament, most hartely desyrynge Master Edward Baynton esquier five shillings Mr Ernley esquier five shillings Mr Snell esquier five shillings John Lake twoe shillings **Simon Sloper** twoe shillings John Dick twoe shillings and William Nashe twoe shillings to take the paines to be overseers of this my last will and testament who shall have for ther paines so takeing every of them as is before noted. Wittnesses hereunto John Dick Richard Woodrosse William Nashe **John Sloper Richard Sloper** William Coxe Thomas Grannte Richard Ruddle with the many others.

Thomas and his wife had the following children:

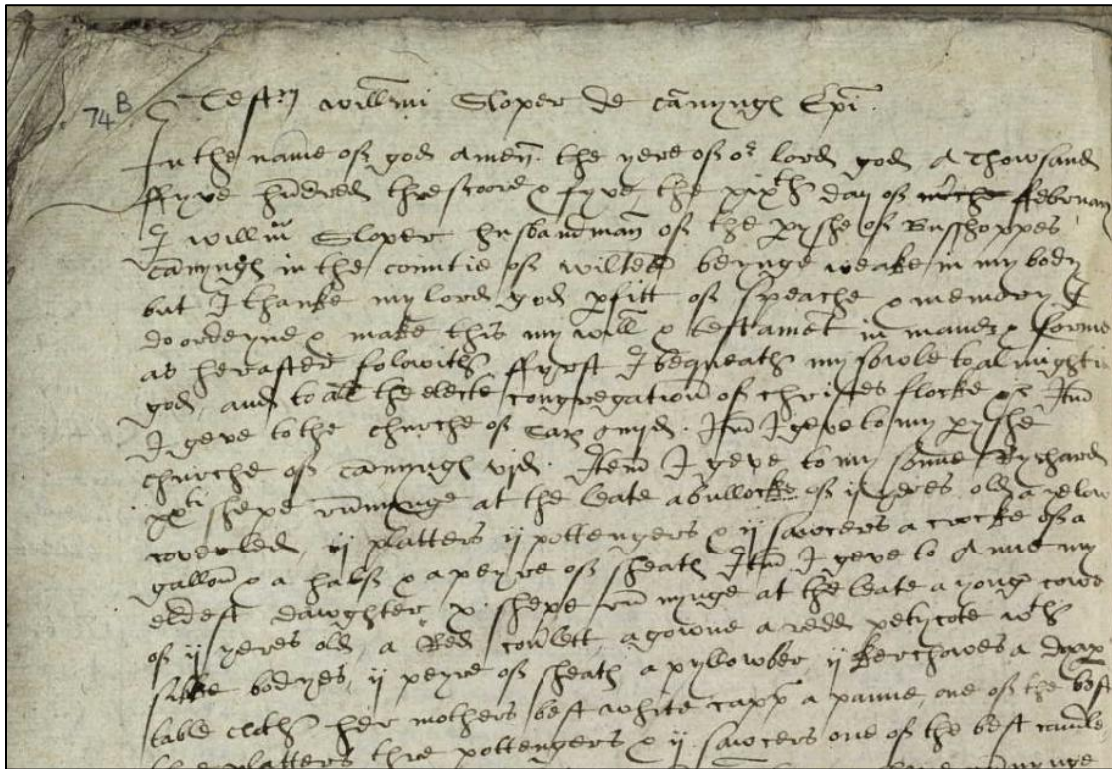
- *1. **William**, (called the elder in his father's will), born in about 1540 of Bishops Cannings; married Alice; buried 19 August 1627 in Bishops Cannings.
2. **William**, (called the younger in his father's will).
3. **Rychard (Richard)**, mentioned in a parish history: "*Another Sloper, **Richard**, is warden in 1591 and signs for the first parish register.*" (*Round About the Little Steeple*)
4. **Raff (Raphe)**
5. **Lewce (Luce)**
6. **Jone (Joane)**

*SOURCES: Bishops Cannings parish register, www.findmypast.com; correspondence between Ted Prince and Dr. William Church, citing Sloper pedigree chart, *The History of Tetbury Society*, www.tetburyhistory.com; Registers of Bishops Cannings, Wiltshire; will of Thomas Sloper of Bishops Cannings, 1562, Probate Records of the Court of the Dean of Salisbury, www.ancestry.com; will of Thomas Sloper of Bishops Cannings, 1587, Prerogative Court of Canterbury.*

FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF WILLIAM AND EDITH SLOPER

William Sloper was born in about 1500 of Easton in Bishops Cannings, the son of Nicholas Sloper and Agnes Dismet. He married Edith. William was a husbandman in Bishops Cannings.

William died and was buried in about 1565, leaving a will:



Will of William Sloper, husbandman of Bishops Cannings, 1565

*In the name of God Amen the yere of our Lord God a thowsand ffyve hundred three score & five the sixth day of ffebruary I **William Sloper husbandman of the pyshe of Busshoppes Canynge**s in the countie of Wiltes beyng weake in my body but I thanke my Lord God pfitt of speache & memory I do ordeyne & make this my will & testament in maner & forme as hereafter folowith ffyrst I bequeath my sowle to Almighty God and to all the electe congregation of Christes flocke. Item I geve to the church of Sarum iiijd. Item I geve to my pyshe churche of Canninges vjd. Item I geve to **my sonne Rychard** xxli shepe any age at the leate a bullock of ij yerres old a plow a covered ij platters ij pottengers x ij sawcers a roocke of a gallow & a half & a peyre of sheats. Item I geve to **Anne my eldest dawghter** x shepe any age at the leate a yong cowe of ij yerres old, a red cowlett a gowne a redd petycote with silke bodyes ij peyre of sheats a pyllowber ij kerchowes a dyaper table cloth her mothers best white capp a panne one of the best three platters three pottengers & ij sawcers one of the best candle styckes. Item I geve to **Edith my dawghter** x shepe any age at the leate a cow heyffer of ij yerres old, a panne a worsted kertell & a vyolett kertell iij sheats of the second best a pyllowber ij kerchowes a white capp a candlestycke ij platters ij pottengers & sawcers a lyned cowlett colored. Item I geve to **Thomas my sonne** ij shepe any age at the*

leate and oxe bullock of a yere old ij platters a candlestycke & a sheat. Item I geve to **Thomas my youngest sonne** iij shepe a yong blacke heyffer of yere old a sheate a fether pillow. Item I geve to **Robert my sonne** ij shepe any age at the leate a blacke bullock. Item I geve to **Christyan my dawghter** iij shepe one platter one pottenger & one sawcer a bolster & a sheate. Item I geve to **Comford my dawghter** iij shepe a platter a pottenger & a sawcer. Also I geve my **eldest sonne William** the leasses of my lvynges at Canynges to enjoy hit when soew hit shall please God to call me to his mynd yf William lyve without the yeres having no man child then hit shalbe lawfull for **Rychard his brother** to enioy his leases & from **Rychard** to **Thomas the elder** & from **Thomas thelder** to **Thomas the yonger** & from **Thomas the younger** to **Robert my youngest sonne** so one to enjoye after an other until the yeares be ended. Item I geve to **William my eldest sonne** a yoke of oxen & xx shepe any age at the leate my gray mare, a cowe the best racke save one the best lined covered a peyre of sheates a bolster ij platters ij pottengers & ij sawcers a candlestycke a peyre of blankettes one feather pyllowe a peyre of wheales bound a yoke & a stondge a rulser & a share. Also I geve **my sonne William** half of my chippes dyses & shotes, also my wood at Canynges I geve to **my sonne William**. Also I geve hym ij yokes & all my sullowe at Canynges. Also I will that **my sonne William** shall enjoye all the croppe in the field at Canynges paying the whole rent at Canynges except that whiche I have geven unto my wife. Item I owe to Thomas Symons vjs viijd. Item to the said Thomas vs detts that be owinge unto me ffyrst Thomas Baker of the vize owith me xls. Item Daffery Workeman of allynton xlvjs vijd. Item John Borchall of Canynges & xiijs iijd Thomas Bendall owith me xvjs. Robert Barber of Marleburrow owith me xxs Rychard Woodrose owith me xxxvijs iijd Ffynche of Patney owith me xiijs John Whytaw of Comerford owith me xiijs iijd. Robert James owith me vjs & ij shepe. Also I will that my ffyve children shall enjoy the xxli that Mr Thomas Nycholas hath in his hands yf that my wife do not buy the lyvinge for the children that be lawfully begotten betwixt her & me. Item I geve to **Edith** a coffer that her geve ys in all ready. Item I geve **Rychard my sonne** my best russet cote & a chamblett dublett. Also I will that **Rychard my sonne** shall have ij setts of my land in Hortons field for xij yeres to be plowghed & sowed the first yere at the charge of my sonne William & to be powghed & carried yerely after that, at the charge of the same William during the said terme. Item I will that my owne fower children shall receive their hole legacies at the months mynd. Also I geve to **Edith my wife** a sett of the best wheat & a nother of barley in Canyngs field & also my setts of barley land in Hortons field. The rest of all my goodes movable & unmovable I geve & bequeth to **Edith my wife** whom I do make my whole executrix for to paye my dettes & to receive my dettes & to se my legaties fulfilled and for to dispose for my sowle as she shall se cawse most neadefull. I will that my wife do delyver the legaties of **William & Rychard** at the moneth mynd & the legaties of **Anne & Edith** at xxi yeres of age. The oversears of this my last will I make Thomas Nycholas gent Thomas Westover Rychard Copes & **Thomas Sloper** witnesses to this will John Ffrancklyn Rychard Woodrose Mathew Dalynover Clerke William Peves Robert Dykee & **John Sloper**.

Both William and Thomas Sloper were mentioned in the will of Thomas Sloper, vicar of Bishops Cannings (from 1504 to 1537). The will was written in 1535, but does not specify the relationships. Both William and Thomas were mentioned as having wives, so they may be William and his brother Thomas, who would be of an age to be married. Possibly Thomas the vicar was an uncle?

Will of Thomas Sloper, vicar of Bishops Cannings (from 1504-1537), written 1535, proven 1537
In dei nomine amen the first daie of January the xxvij yere of the reigne of King Henry the eighth in the year of our Lord God cccxxxv witnesseth that I Thomas Sloper clark vicar of the pyshe of Bysshoppes Cannynges being in hole mynde and pfect of remembrance will and make my testament in this maner of wise/ ffyrst I comyt my soule to Almighty God unto our lady saynt Mary and to all the company of hevyn and my body to be buried within the channcell dore within the pishe church of Bysshoppes Cannynges.

Also I give and bequeth unto our lady churche of Sarum iijs iiiijd. Item I give and bequeth to the pishe churche of Bisshoppes Cannynge before namyd ten poundes. And to the chappell of Seynt James of the Grene of the pishe of Bisshoppes Cannynge ffyve poundes. Item I give and bequeth unto every childe that comyth of the stoke of the Slopers xls. Item I give and bequeth to John Ryver my servant iiiij li and to his wyff Jone Rivers xls. Item I give and bequeth xx li to be bestowed and disposed that ys to say ten pound at my burying and the other ten poundes at my monneth mynde. Also I give and bequeth unto every one of my god childryn ijs. Item I give and bequeth unto an honest preest xx li to be elected and chosyn be my executours to singe for me three yeres. Item I give and bequeth unto Mr William Joye my pishe preest of Bisshoppes Cannynge the advoson of my benefices of the pishe of Rowde xls of money and my gowne lyned with sable. Item I give and bequeth to Sir Jarmyn my gowne of the coller of Morey furred thorowe with black lambe. Item I give and bequeth to to Mr John Manyon chapleyn with Master John Erneley iijs iijd. **Item I give and bequeth to William Sloper and his wyf xx li.** Item I give and bequeth to Robert Pynshin and his wyf xx li. **I give and bequeth to Thomas Sloper and his wyff xx li.** Item I give and bequeth to Mr John Erneley my best wodewynd. I give and bequeth my second best wodewynd unto **William Sloper** Robert Pynchin and **Thomas Sloper** my thre executours. Item I give and bequeth my thyrde wodewynd amongst the poore peopell of the pishe of Bisshoppes Cannynge to be delivered be myn executours. Item I give and bequeth to every one of my executours a goblet of sylver. All the residewe of my goodes not bequeathed after my yeres mynde don and kept I give and bequeth unto the foresaid **William Sloper** Robert Pynchin and **Thomas Sloper** the whiche I ordeyn and make my executours to dispose the said goodes for the welthe of my soule amongst poore peopell and specially among the poore peopell of the pishe of Bysshoppes Cannynge. And Master John Erneley to be overseer of this my last will. Witnes Willm Joye curat of Bisshoppes Cannynge **Willm Sloper** Thomas Smyth Robert Pynchin **Thomas Sloper** John Ryver Henry Mayne Thomas Erneley

William Sloper of Easton in Bishops Cannings supplied horses in the muster roll for 1539.

William was listed in a Taxation List in 1545 in Eston in Bishops Cannings, and was assessed forty shillings.

BURTON AND ESTON			
	£	s	d
John Ernle thelder esquier	4		
Thomas Smyth thelder		20	
William Sloper		40	
William Annettes		10	
John Smyth		10	
Thomas Nete		6	8
John Cocks		6	8
John Townsend		10	

List of Taxpayers for the Benevolence of 1545

William and Edith had the following children:

1. **William**
2. **Anne**

3. **Edith**

4. **Rychard**, mentioned in his brother Thomas' will.

*4. **Thomas**, (the elder) born in about 1525 of Bishops Cannings.

5. **Thomas** (the younger), mentioned in his brother Thomas' will.

6. **Robert**

7. **Christyan**

8. **Comford**

SOURCES: Correspondence between Ted Prince and Dr. William Church, citing Sloper pedigree chart, The History of Tetbury Society, www.tetburyhistory.com; will of Thomas Sloper of Bishops Cannings, 1562, Probate Records of the Court of the Dean of Salisbury, www.ancestry.com; Two Sixteenth Century Taxation Lists: 1545 and 1576, by G.D. Ramsay; Wiltshire Wills and Probate Index, www.findmypast.com; will of William Sloper of Bishops Canning, 1566, Wiltshire Wills, www.ancestry.com.

FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF NICHOLAS SLOPER AND AGNES DISMER

Nicholas Sloper was born in about 1475 of Bishops Cannings. He married Agnes Dismar, the daughter of John and Dorothy Dismar, who held the Free Chapel of Winterbourne Monkton, Dorset of the Abbott of Glastonbury. When John died Agnes and her sons Robert and Simon held the chapel.

Nicholas and Agnes had the following children:

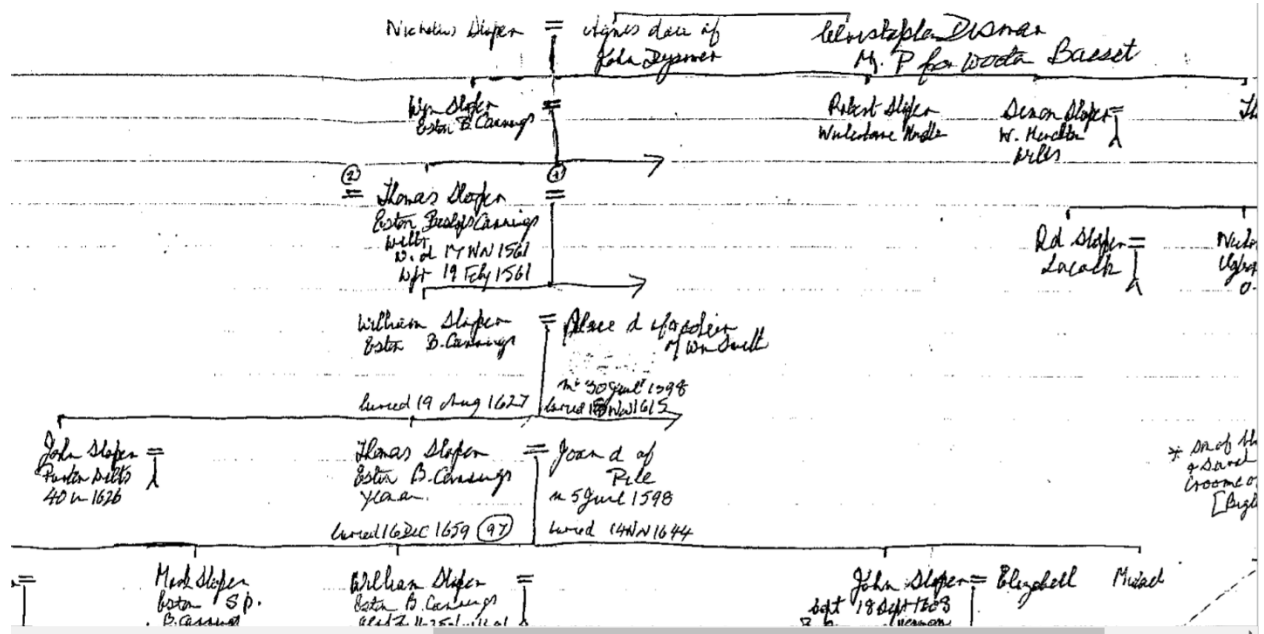
*1. **William**, born in about 1500 of Bishops Cannings; married Edith; died in about 1566, leaving a will.

2. **Robert**

3. **Simon**, may be the Simon Sloper named as executor in the will of Thomas Sloper, his nephew, in 1562. Simon Sloper, yeoman of Winterborne Monkton (about seven miles from Bishops Cannings) left a will in 1587. He mentioned his wife Maryan, his eldest son John, son Simon, youngest son Nicholas, daughters Margery, Susan, Edithe and Alice. In addition to his farm in Winterborne Monkton he owned a farm in Horton in the parish of Bishops Cannings.

4. **Thomas**; married Jane.

SOURCES: Correspondence between Ted Prince and Dr. William Church, citing Sloper pedigree chart, The History of Tetbury Society, www.tetburyhistory.com; will of Simon Sloper of Winterborne Monkton, 1587; <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~kitwithers/genealogy/sloper/sloper.html>.



Sloper pedigree chart (Correspondence between Ted Prince and Dr. William Church, citing Sloper pedigree chart, The History of Tetbury Society, www.tetburyhistory.com)