

Mr. Adlard continues his presumption, and says, that Thomas and John, whom he "presumes to have been our ancestors," went into the dry goods business; which was not lower than Queen Elizabeth's foremothers and forefathers had gone; for they had been "mercers."

I don't quite admire such hits at Queen Bess. She was no *mercenary* woman at any rate, although she really did have clothes enough to set up a wholesale jobbing house in silks, satins, woolens and ready-made clothing. If I thought she had poor descendants I would not say it. The Dudleys will never see her like again among their friends in England. The Thomas Dudley of Quondam's day is not sufficiently identified in that one, who made the will in 1549. But he is good enough to be anybody's forefather. He never appears to have failed in trade or even got his notes extended. When the end of his career came he was ready to retire, and humbly asked to be buried in St. Michael's church yard.

There are so many Thomas Dudleys, and so many Captain Dudleys, that we ought to have some other evidence besides the name and age. Why did not the Heralds record the pedigrees and arms of these London families? We must find what arms they bore and discover their title deeds.*

*WILL OF THOMAS DUDLEY OF THE CITY OF LONDON,—1549.

Extracted from the Registry of the Commissary Court of London.

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.

The XVIIIJ day of the monythe of October, Anno dni. 1549 no. and in the thyrd yere of the reigne of or Souvrayne Lorde, Edwarde the syxte, by the grace of God Kinge of Englande, Fraunce and Ireland, Defendor of the Faythe and of the Church of Englande, and also of Irelande, in carthe the supreme headde, I, Thomas Dudley, cytyzen and draper of London, being whole of mynde and in good remembraunce, make and ordeyne this my pnte testament and last Will in Manner and forme followinge, that ys to say :—Fyrste and principallie I comytte my soull to God Allmightie, my maker, savyor and redeamr, and my body to be buried in the church yarde of Sainte Myghell, upon Cornhill, in London. Item, I will that all suche debtes and duytes as I owe of righte or conscience to any psonne or psonnes bee well and truly payed by myne executrix under named, and after my debtes payed and my funerall chardge doone and pformed, thole resedue of my goodes, cattalls, and debtes, whatsoever they bee, I wholly gyve and bequeathe to Margaret, my wyfe, she therewt to doo and dispoose her owne will and to doo wt the same as she shall thynke mooste good for thealthe of my soull, which Margaret, my wife, of this my pnte testamente and laste Will, I make myne Executrice. And I utterlie revoke and disannull all former wills, testaments, bequestes, legacies and executors before this tyme made. And I will that this stande and remayne for my very laste will and testamente. In wytnes whereof to this my present testamente and laste will, I, the said Thomas Dudley, have set