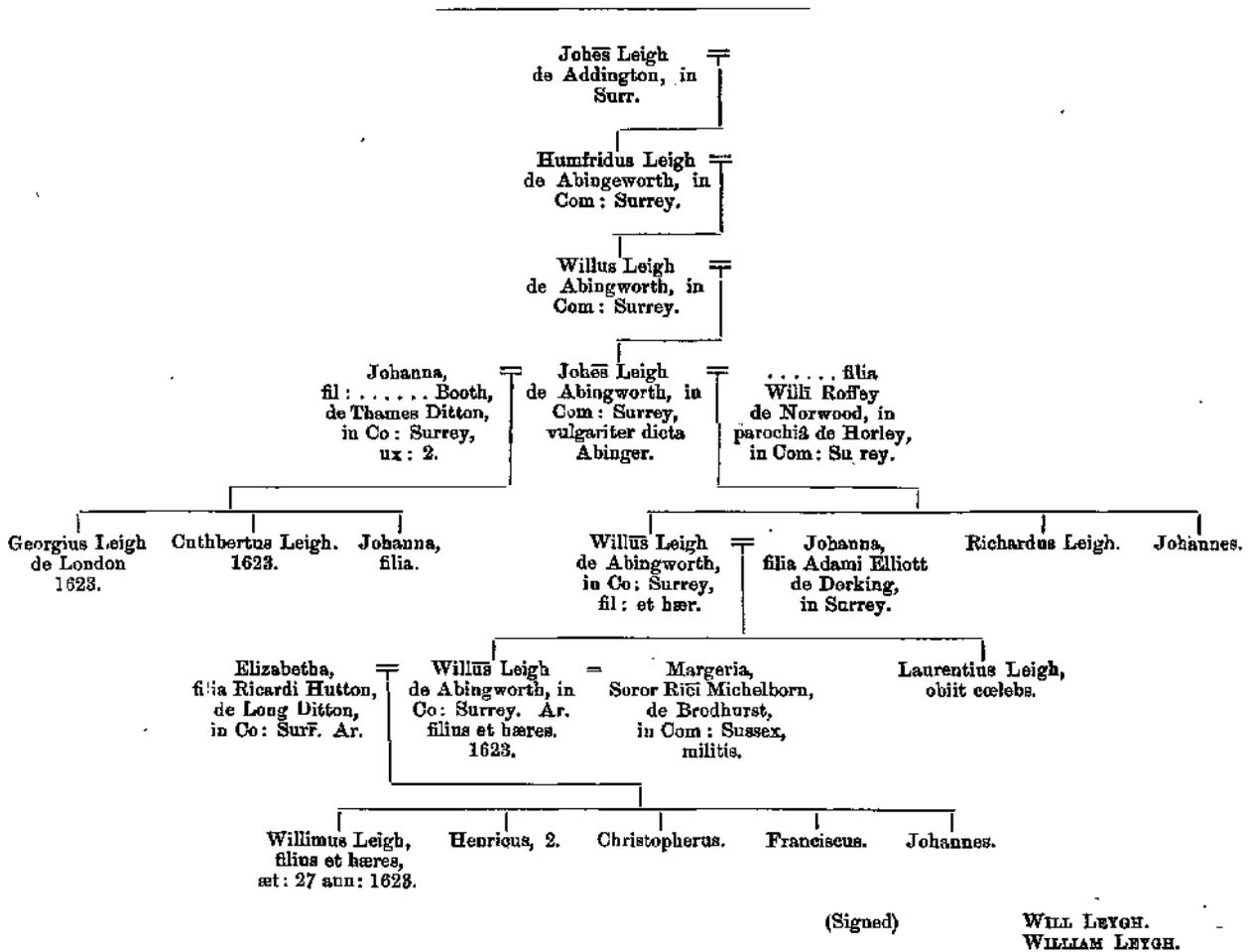


Leigh of Abinger. (1)

[From Pedigrees C. 2. Surrey, 1623, Coll: of Arms.]



(1) In Add. MSS. Brit. Mus. 14,311, fo. 142b, is a Pedigree of the Leighs of Abinger, identical for the most part with the above, with the exception that one generation is omitted. Notwithstanding that the Pedigree in the College of Arms is signed, and that there was a connexion between the Leighs of Abinger and those at Addington, as appears by their bearing the same arms, and by John Leigh of Abingeworth being one of the trustees of John Leigh of Addington in 1485, I am convinced that the descent as above given is wrong. In the first place there is in the P.C.C. (Adeane 23) the will of John Lee of Effingham, which was proved on 7 May, 1507, and he, and not John Leigh of Addington, was the father of Humphrey Leigh. He mentions therein his sons Humphrey, Thomas, and Richards, and his lands in Abingeworth, Ockley, Dorking, &c. Secondly, in none of the Pedigrees of Leigh of Addington, with the exception of that in the British Museum, is the Abinger family derived from John Leigh of Addington. In the Principal Registry Court of Probate (Wills Archdeaconry of Surrey, 32 Spaye), is the will of Robert Ley, of Abyngore. He desires to be buried in the Church of Abyngore, and appoints his wife Joan, and his father John Ley, executors. It is dated 11th October, 1435, and was proved on 4th April, 1436. There can be little doubt, I think, that they were the ancestors of the Leighs of Abinger; and if so, this would carry the Pedigree two generations farther back.

Harl. MSS. Brit. Mus. 1433, fo. 69, is a Pedigree of Leigh of Abingeworth, which mentions a confirmation of coat and crest to William Leigh of Sutton, by Wm. Camden, 7 July, 1609.