

SUMMARY: The documents below are a bond dated 24 December 1590 in the amount of £50 from the writer and soldier, Thomas Churchyard (1523?-1604), to Julian Penn, and a letter dated 6 January 1591 from Thomas Churchyard to Julian Penn.

Julian (nee Arthur) Penn (d. 14 November 1592) was the mother, by her first husband, of one of Lord Burghley's two principal secretaries, Michael Hicke (1543-1612), and of Baptist Hicke (1551?-1629), mentioned in the document below. For Thomas Churchyard, Julian Penn, Michael Hicke and Baptist Hicke, see the *ODNB* entries. See also the will of Julian Penn's husbands, Robert Hicke, TNA PROB 11/40/119, and Anthony Penne, TNA PROB 11/54/328.

In late 1590 Churchyard rented rooms for Oxford's men at Julian Penn's house on St Peter's Hill, and entered into the bond below by which he agreed to pay £25 by 25 March 1591 or forfeit double the amount. For Churchyard's letter to Julian Penn in which he states that he lies in sanctuary for fear of arrest on his bond, see BL Lansdowne 68/115, f. 257.

For Julian Penn's letter to Oxford concerning the debt, see BL Lansdowne 68/114, ff. 255-6. The debt must have been paid by Oxford soon after Julian Penn's letter to him, as according to Woodcock:

As it turned out, Churchyard went neither to prison nor abroad, and does not appear to have been pursued for the debt. Instead, he spent the early years of the new decade remaining close to the court and intermittently composing short publications concerning the achievements or deaths of courtiers. Late in 1591 the author marked forty years of writing for the press with a pamphlet commemorating the passing of statesmen, monarchs, and courtiers that he had either known or served.

See Woodcock, Matthew, *Thomas Churchyard: Pen, Sword and Ego*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=swGTDQAAQBAJ&pg=PT12&lpg=PT12&dq=%22Review+of+English+Studies%22+%22Churchyard%22&source=bl&ots=qmP141PON-&sig=pj_L55jbAhCmgCmqllgRta-ZoD4&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjY_9CBzM_TAhVVVWMKHfrfCaEQ6AEIJTAB#v=onepage&q=Julian&f=false.

Good Mrs Pen, I have lovingly & truly dealt with you for the Earl of Oxford, a nobleman of such worth as I will employ all I have to honour his worthiness.

So touching what bargain I made & order taken from his Lordship's own mouth for taking some rooms in your house by quarter after the rate of a hundred pounds a year with such necessaries as I can name, I stand to that bargain, knowing my good Lord so

noble & of such great consideration that he will perform what I promised in the highest degree of his bounty, & because I, always sickly & ready to part from this vain life, would neither quick nor dead see you a loser by any of my drifts, bargains or doings, I absolutely here for the love & honour I owe to my Lord bind myself & all I have in the world unto you for the satisfying of you for the first quarter's rent of the rooms my Lord did take, & further for the coals, billets, faggots, beer, wine & any other thing spent by his honourable means I bind myself to answer, yee [sic for 'yet?'] confessing that napery & linen was not in any bargain I made with you for my Lord, which indeed I know my Lord's nobleness will consider.

So Mrs Pen, to show myself honest in all my actions, I yield my body, goods & liberty freely unto you whiles you do live, to use by law & right as reason is till my good Lord do satisfy you in all reasonable points & demands herein.

In witness of this my true meaning I put to my hand & seal to this mine own writing the sixth of January ensuing the entry & coming of my Lord of Oxford into your house.

By me, Thomas Churchyard.

[f. 252v]

Made & written the sixth of January & delivered as my deed in the presence of Mr Somnar of the Temple, Mr Harry Russell of London, & Mr Baptist Hickes of Cheapside

Endorsed: Mr Churchyard's bond touching the Earl of Oxford

[f. 253r]

Noverint vniversi p{er} p{re}sentes me Thoma{m} Churchyard de London armiger{um} teneri et firmiter obligari Iuliane Penn de ead{em} civitat{e} Londo{n} vidue in Quinquaginta libris bone et legalis monete Anglie Solvend{is} eid{em} Iuliane aut suo certo attornato executorib{us} seu assignatis suis Ad quam quid{em} solutione{m} bene et fideliter faciend{am} obligo me heredes et executores meos firmiter p{er} p{re}sentes Sigillo meo Sigillat{am}(?) Dat{um} vicesimo quarto die Decembris anno regni D{omi}ne n{ost}re Elizabethe Dei gratia Anglie ffrancie et Hibernie Regine fidei defens{oris} &c tricesimo tertio

[=Know all men by these presents that I, Thomas Churchard of London, esquire, am held and firmly bound to Julian Penn of the same city of London, widow, in fifty pounds of good and lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Julian or her lawful attorney, her executors or assigns, to which certain payment well and faithfully to be made I firmly bind myself, my heirs and executors, by these presents, sealed with my seal, given the 24th day of December in the thirty-third year [=24 December 1590] of the reign of our

Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc.]

The condition of this obligation is such that if the above bounden Thomas Churchyard, his heirs, executors, or assignees or any of them, do well and truly content and pay or cause to be contented and paid to the within-named Julian Penn, her executors and assignees, the sum of twenty and five pounds [+of?] lawful money of England in or upon the feast-day of th' Annunciation of Our Lady the Virgin next ensuing the date of these presents at the now dwelling-house of the said Julian on St Peter's Hill in London aforesaid without fraud or further delay, that then this present obligation to be void and of none effect, otherwise to stand in full force, strength and virtue.

[Signature of Henry Russell]

[f. 254v]

Endorsed: Mr Churchyard's bond