

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £2000 acknowledged by Oxford to Christopher Yelverton on 22 June 1578 in connection with Oxford's sale to Yelverton of the manor of Easton Maudit on that date.

See also 'Parishes: Easton Maudit', *A History of the County of Northampton: Volume 4* (1937), pp. 11-17. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=66306>

*On 23 January 1481 Sir William Trussell died seised of the manor of Easton Maudit, one part of which, called the West Side of the Over Bury, was held of the queen as of her manor of Higham Ferrers, and the rest of Richard Duke of Gloucester, as of his castle of Thorpe, Bucks. Sir William's son Edward, aged 2 at his father's death, died while still a minor, leaving a year-old son John, on 16 June 1499. This baby died on 20 December following, and the manor passed to Edward Trussell's daughter Elizabeth, aged 4, and later to John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, by her marriage with that earl.*

*The manor was held by the Earls of Oxford until 1578 when it was sold by Edward Earl of Oxford to Christopher Yelverton, esq., of Yelverton in Rougham, co. Norfolk. Sir Christopher Yelverton died, seised of the manor, in London, on 31 October 1612, and was buried in Easton Maudit Church, with an inscription that he was Sergeant-at-Law 1589, Sergeant to the Queen 1598, Judge of the King's Bench 1601–2 until his death, and Speaker of the House of Commons 1597.*

As Oxford was investing in the Frobisher expedition at this time, it is possible that he sold the manor of Easton Maudit to raise cash for that purpose (see TNA SP 12/149/42(15), f. 108v).

For the indentures dated 22 June 1578 between Oxford and Yelverton for the sale of Easton Maudit for £1200, see Northampton Record Office NPL 201.

The recognizance below is also mentioned in TNA PRO 30/34/14, No. 3.

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford and Yelverton

Edward, Earl of Oxford, Great Chamberlain of England, Viscount Bulbeck & Lord of Badlesmere & Scales, having appeared personally before our Lady the Queen in her Chancery, acknowledged himself to owe to Christopher Yelverton of Easton Maudit in the county of Northampton, esquire, two thousand pounds of good & lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Christopher Yelverton, his executors & administrators or his designated attorney;

And if he shall not have done [+so], the foresaid Earl wishes & grants for himself, his heirs, executors & administrators by these presents that the foresaid sum of money be

levied & recovered of his lands, tenements, possessions, hereditaments, goods & chattels or of the heirs, executors & administrators of the said Earl to whose hands soever they shall have come to the use & behoof of the said Christopher Yelverton, his heirs, executors, administrators & assigns, wheresoever they may be found within the kingdom of England by these presents;

Witness the Queen at Westminster on the twenty-second day of June in the twentieth year of the reign of our Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc.

The condition of this recognizance is such that if the within-bounden Edward, Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors and administrators and every of them, shall and will from time to time and at all times hereafter forever well and truly observe, perform, fulfil, keep and accomplish all and singular the covenants contained and specified in one pair of indentures bearing the date of these presents made between the said Earl of thone party and the said Christopher Yelverton on the other party which on the part and behalf of the said Earl, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns or any of them are to be observed, performed, fulfilled and kept, saving and excepting the covenant for the delivery of the evidences, deeds, charters, surveys, terriers, rentals, accounts, court rolls, counterpanes of leases, escripts, writings and muniments, that then this present recognizance to be void, or else to remain and abide in the full strength, power and virtue.

LM: Recognitio inter Comitem Oxonie et Yelverton

1 Edwardus Comes Oxonie magnus Camerarius Anglie Vicecomes Bulbecke & dominus de Badlesmere

2 & Scales coram domina nostra Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter constitutus recognouit se debere

3 Cristofero Yelverton de Easton Mawditt in Comitatu Northamptonie Armigero Duas Mille libras bone &

4 legalis monete Anglie Soluendas eidem Cristofero Yelverton executoribus & administratoribus suis aut suo

5 certo attornato Et nisi fecerit predictus Comes vult & concedit pro se heredibus executoribus & administratoribus

6 suis per presentes quod predicta pecuniarum summa leuetur & recuperetur de terris tenementis possessionibus hereditamentis

---

7 bonis & catallis suis vel de heredibus executoribus & administratoribus dicti Comitis ad quorumcumque manus

8 deuenerint ad opus & vsum dicti Cristoferi Yelverton heredum executorum administratorum & assignatorum suorum

9 vbicumque fuerint inuentis infra Regnum Anglie per presentes Teste Regina apud Westmonasterium vicesimo secundo die

10 Iunij Anno regni domine nostre Elizabethhe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei

11 defensoris &c vicesimo