

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £500 acknowledged by Oxford to John Wood of Theydon Mount, Essex, on 21 December 1578 in connection with a sale by Oxford to Wood on 18 December 1578. Wood was the nephew of, and had been secretary to, Oxford's former tutor, Sir Thomas Smith (1513-1577).

The recognizance below is also mentioned in TNA PRO 30/34/14.

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford & Wood

Edward, Earl of Oxford, Great Chamberlain of England, Viscount Bulbeck & Lord of Badlesmere & Scales, having appeared personally before the Lady Queen in her Chancery, acknowledged himself to owe to John Wood of Theydon Mount in the county of Essex, gentleman, five hundred pounds of good & lawful money of England, to be paid to the same John or his designated attorney, executors or assigns on the feast of the Purification of Blessed Mary the Virgin next to come after the date of this recognizance;

And if he shall not have done [+so], he wishes & grants for himself, his heirs, executors & administrators that the foresaid sum of money be levied & recovered of his goods & chattels, lands, tenements & hereditaments to the use & behoof of the same John Wood, his executors, administrators & assigns, wheresoever they may be found within the kingdom of England;

Witness the Queen at Westminster on the 21st day of December in the twenty-first year of the reign of our said 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 above-bounden Edward, Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns and every of them, do at all times hereafter well and truly observe, perform, fulfil and keep all and singular the covenants, grants and agreements comprised in a certain pair of indentures bearing date the eighteenth day of this present month of December made between the said Earl of Oxenford of thone party and the above-named John of thother party which on the part and behalf of the said Earl, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns and every of them are to be observed, performed, fulfilled and kept, except only one covenant therein contained made for the delivery of evidences, deeds, charters, surveys, terriers, rentals, accounts, court rolls, counterpanes of leases, escripts, writings and other muniments together with the copies of writings and evidences as in and by the said indenture appeareth, that then this recognizance to be void and of none effect, or else it to stand and abide in full strength and virtue.

LM: Recognitio inter Oxonie Comitem & Woode

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

2 coram domina Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter constitutus recognouit se debere Iohanni Woode de Thaydon

3 ad montem in Comitatu Essex Generoso quingentas libras bone & legalis monete Anglie Soluendas eidem Iohanni

4 Wood aut suo certo Attornato executoribus vel assignatis suis in festo Purificacionis beate Marie Virginis proxime futuro

5 post datum huius Recognicionis Et nisi fecerit vult & concedit pro se heredibus executoribus & administratoribus suis

6 quod dicta pecunie summa leuetur & recuperetur de bonis & catallis terris tenementis & hereditamentis suis ad opus & vsum

7 ipsius Iohannis Wood executorum administratorum & assignatorum suorum vbicunque fuerint inuentis infra Regnum Anglie

8 Teste Regina apud Westmonasterium xxjo die Decembris Anno regni dicte domine nostre Elizabethe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie

9 Regine fidei defensoris &c vicesimo primo