

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £7000 acknowledged by Oxford to Thomas Skinner on 16 September 1580 in connection with indentures of the same date for the sale of the manors of Castle Camps and Fowlmere. For the indenture which states that on 16 September 1580 Oxford sold the manors of Castle Camps and Fowlmere to Skinner for £5000, see TNA C 54/1176.

For another recognizance in the amount of 2000 marks acknowledged by Oxford to Skinner a day later, on 17 September 1580, see TNA C 54/1094, Part 24.

For an earlier recognizance in the amount of £5000 acknowledged by Oxford to his receiver-general, Edward Hubberd (d.1602), on 2 March 1579 in connection with repayment of a debt of £2500 which Oxford owed to Skinner, see TNA C 54/1067, Part 21.

For the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 9 February and 12 April 1581 by which clear title to the castle of Camps and the manors of Castle Camps and Fowlmere passed from Oxford to Thomas Skinner for £1200, see TNA CP 25/2/260/23ELIZIEASTER.

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

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford and Skinner

Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, in his own person having appeared personally before the Lady Queen in her Chancery acknowledged himself to owe to Thomas Skinner, citizen & cloth-worker of London, seven thousand pounds of good & lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Thomas, his executors or assigns;

And if he shall not have done [+so], he wishes & grants for himself, his heirs, executors & administrators by these presents that then the foresaid seven thousand pounds be levied of the goods & chattels, lands, tenements & hereditaments of the same Earl to the use & behoof of the same Thomas Skinner, his heirs & assigns forever, wheresoever they may be found within the kingdom of England;

Witness the forenamed Lady Queen at Westminster on the sixteenth day of September in the twenty-second 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 whereas the above-named Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxenford, hath by one deed indented bearing date the day of the date hereof made between the said Earl on thone party and the said Thomas Skinner on thother party bargained and sold unto the said Thomas Skinner and to his heirs and assigns forever the

manors or lordships of Camps and Fowlmere lying and being in the counties of Cambridge and Essex or elsewhere with all their rights, members and appurtenances, together with the advowsons, patronages and free dispositions of the parish churches of Camps and Fowlmere, as by the same more at large it doth and may appear;

If the said Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors and administrators shall and will discharge, acquit or otherwise within three months after lawful request thereof publicly made at or in the Castle of Hedingham in the county of Essex sufficiently save and keep harmless as well the said Thomas Skinner, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns as the said manors or lordships and advowsons and all and singular other the lands, tenements, profits, commodities and hereditaments mentioned in the said-recited indenture to be bargained and sold of and from all bargains, sales, bonds, titles, charges and encumbrances whatsoever had, made, willingly suffered or done by the said Earl and by the right honourable John, late Earl of Oxenford, deceased, late father unto the said now Earl, or either of them, or by any person or persons lawfully having or claiming any estate, right, title or interest out of, in or to the said manors, lordships and advowsons, lands, tenements, profits, commodities and hereditaments in the said-recited indenture mentioned to be bargained and sold by, from or under them or either of them, except as in the said indenture is excepted;

If also the said Earl and his heirs shall and will at the costs and charges in the law of the said Thomas Skinner, his heirs or assigns, at all times and from time to time hereafter by the space of three years next ensuing the date hereof within convenient time after reasonable request thereof to be made do, knowledge and suffer & cause to be done, knowledged and suffered all and every such further reasonable act and acts, thing and things, conveyance and assurance in the law whatsoever for the further assurance and conveyance of the said manors, lordships, lands, tenements, profits, commodities and hereditaments in and by the said-recited indenture bargained and sold or mentioned to be bargained and sold and of every or any part thereof, be it by fine, feoffment, recovery, deed or deed enrolled, enrolment of the said-recited indenture, release, confirmation with warranty against the said now Earl and the said John, late Earl of Oxenford, their or either of their heirs and assigns, as by the said Thomas Skinner, his heirs or assigns or by his or their learned counsel in the law shall be reasonably devised, so as the said Earl nor his heirs be not compelled for or about the doing or making of any of the said acts or things touching the said further assurance to travel from the place where he or they shall be at the time of the said request, and so as also the said further assurance be not prejudicial nor hurtful to the condition or promise in these presents contained, that then this present recognizance shall be void and of none effect.

LM: *Recognitio inter Oxonie Comitum et Skynner*

1 Edwardus de Veer Comes Oxonie in propria persona sua coram domina Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter constitutus

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2 recognouit se debere Thome Skynner Ciui & Clothworker London Septem Mille libras bone & legalis Monete Anglie

3 soluendas eidem Thome executoribus vel assignatis suis Et nisi fecerit vult & concedit pro se heredibus executoribus & administratoribus

4 suis per presentes quod tunc predicte septem Mille libre leuentur de bonis & cattallis terris tenementis & hereditamentis ipsius Comitis ad opus

5 & vsum ipsius Thome Skynner heredum & assignatorum suorum imperpetuum vbicunque inventis fuerint infra Regnum Anglie Teste prefata

6 domina Regina apud Westmonasterium sextodecimo die Septembris Anno regni dicte domine nostre Elizabethhe dei gracia Anglie

7 ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris &c vicesimo secundo