

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £900 acknowledged by Lewis Mordaunt (b. 21 September 1538, d. 16 June 1601), 3rd Lord Mordaunt, to Oxford on 26 November 1580 in connection with indentures of the same date. The subject of the indentures is unknown. The recognizance is struck through, and cancelled by a vacat in the left margin dated 20 November 1581(?). The document has the signatures of Oxford and Gilbert Gerard, Master of the Rolls.

Oxford was related to Lewis Mordaunt, 3rd Baron Mordaunt, through the Fitz Lewis (or Fitzlewes) family, which had settled in Horndon by 1438, when the head of the family was Sir Lewis John, who married Alice Vere, the daughter of Aubrey de Vere (1338x40–1400), 10th Earl of Oxford. Sir Lewis John's heir was Lewes Fitzlewis. As a supporter of the Lancastrian cause and a near kinsman of the de Vere family, when Edward IV seized the throne Lewis Fitzlewis was attainted and his lands in Essex forfeited. He was succeeded by his son, Sir Richard Fitzlewis (d. 12 July 1528), who is commemorated by a monumental brass at Ingrave, Essex. See:

<http://www.mbs-brasses.co.uk/page94.html>.

John Mordaunt (1508-1571), 2nd Baron Mordaunt, married firstly Ela, the daughter of John Fitz Lewis, son and heir apparent of Sir Richard Fitz Lewis (d. 12 July 1528) of West Horndon, Essex, by Alice Harleston, daughter and co-heir of John Harleston. He married secondly Joan Fermor, the widow of Robert Wilford, merchant tailor of London, and daughter of Sir Richard Fermor of Easton Neston, Northamptonshire, by Anne Browne, the daughter of Sir William Browne. Lord Mordaunt's second wife was a Maid of Honour to Princess Mary, and attended her at her coronation. After Lord Mordaunt's death, she married thirdly, as his third wife (settlement 20 December 1571), Sir Thomas Kempe of Boughton Aluph and Chilham Castle, Kent, who died 7 March 1591. For Sir Thomas Kempe (d. 7 March 1591, see the will of his father, Sir William Kempe (1487 – 28 January 1539), TNA PROB 11/27/500; the will of his mother, Eleanor Browne Fogge Kempe, TNA PROB 11/43/638; and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/kempe-sir-thomas-1517-91>.

For John Mordaunt (1508-1571), 2nd Baron Mordaunt, see his will, dated 16 April 1571 and proved 19 October 1571, TNA PROB 11/53/462, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/mordaunt-sir-john-1508-71>.

For the will of Joan, Lady Mordaunt, dated 6 October 1591 and proved 5 April 1592, see TNA PROB 11/79/239.

Lewis Mordaunt (1538-1601), 3rd Baron Mordaunt, was the only son and heir of his father's first marriage, and as noted above, was thus related to Oxford through the Fitz Lewis family. He married Elizabeth Darcy, the daughter of Sir Arthur Darcy by Mary Carew, the daughter and co-heir of Sir Nicholas Carew. His will, dated 1 October 1593, was not proved. See G.E.C., ed., *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. IX, (London: St. Catherine Press, 1936), pp. 195-7.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Lewis Mordaunt, 3rd Baron Mordaunt, at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/mordaunt-lewis-1538-1601>.

For the Mordaunt tombs in the parish church of All Saints at Turvey in Bedfordshire, see:

<http://www.turveybeds.com/church.html>.

LM: Recognizance between Lord Mordaunt and the Earl of Oxford

Lewis, Lord Mordaunt, having appeared personally before the Lady Queen in her Chancery, acknowledged himself to owe to Edward, Earl of Oxford, nine hundred pounds of good & lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Edward, Earl of Oxford, or his designated attorney, 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 said sum of money be levied of the goods & chattels, lands, tenements & hereditaments of the same Lewis, Lord Mordaunt, [+& those] of his heirs & assigns, to the use & behoof of the same Edward, Earl of Oxford, his heirs & assigns forever, wheresoever they may be found within the kingdom of England;

Witness the forenamed Lady Queen at Westminster on the twenty-sixth day of November in the twenty-third year of the reign of our said Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc. 1580

The condition of this recognizance is such that if the above-bounden Lewis, Lord Mordaunt, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, shall well and truly observe, perform, fulfil and keep all and singular the covenants, grants, articles and agreements specified and contained in one pair of indentures bearing the date of these presents made between the said Lewis, Lord Mordaunt, of thone party and the above-named Edward, Earl of Oxenford, on thother party which on the party and behalf of the said Lewis, Lord Mordaunt, his executors, administrators and assigns are and ought to be observed, performed, fulfilled and kept according to the true intent and meaning of the said indentures, that then this present recognizance shall be utterly void and of none effect.

LM: Recogn{itio} int{er} Mordaunte d{omin}um et Oxon{ie} Comit{em}

1 Lodovicus d{omin}us Mordant coram d{omi}na Regina in Cancellar{ia} sua p{er}sonalit{er} constitut{us} recognouit se

2 debere Edwardo Comiti Oxon{ie} Noningentas libras bone & legalis monete Angl{ie} soluend{as} eidem

3 Edwardo Comiti Oxon{ie} aut suo c{er}to attorn{ato} executorib{us} vel assignat{is} suis Et nisi fec{er}it vult &

4 concedit p{ro} se hered{ibus} executorib{us} & administratorib{us} suis p{er} p{re}sentis q{uo}d tunc d{i}c{t}a pecunie sum{m}a

5 leuet{ur} de bonis & catall{is} terr{is} ten{ementis} & hereditamen{tis} ip{s}ius Lodovici d{omi}ni Mordant hered{um} & assign{atorum}

6 suor{um} ad opus & vsum ip{s}ius Edwardi Comitis Oxon{ie} hered{um} & assign{atorum} suor{um} imp{er}p{etuum} vbicumq{ue}

7 inuent{is} fuer{int} infra Regnu{m} Angl{ie} Teste p{re}fat{a} d{omi}na Regina apud Westm{onasterium} vicesimo sexto die

8 Novembris Anno regni d{i}c{t}e d{omi}ne n{ost}re Elizabeth{e} dei gr{acia} Angl{ie} ffranc{ie} & Hib{er}n{ie} Regine fidei

9 defensoris &c vicesimo t{er}cio 1580

LM: Vac{ata} ista rec{ognitio} vnacum condic{ione} eiusdem p{ro} eo q{uo}d xxo die Nouembr{is} Anno regni d{omi}ne R{egine} infrascripte infrano{m}i{n}at{us} Comes Oxon{ie} venit coram d{i}c{t}a d{omi}na R{egina} in Cancellar{ia} sua p{er}sonalit{er} & fatebat{ur} se plenar{ie} fore satisf{a}c{tu}m & p{er}solut{um} t{a}m de om{n}ib{us} pecuniar{um} sum{m}is in ista rec{ognitio} content{is} q{ua}m de om{n}ib{us} articulis conuen{tionibus} concess{ionibus} & agreement{is} in Inden{turas} in Condic{ione} ista sp{ec}ificat{is} Ideo ad requisic{ionem} p{re}d{i}c{t}i Comitis rec{ognitio} & condic{io} p{re}dict{e} euacuant{ur} can{cellantur} & omni{n}o dampnant{ur}

[=This recognizance vacated, together with the condition of the same, because on the 20th day of November in the year of the reign of the within-written Lady Queen the within-named Earl of Oxford came personally before the said Lady Queen in her Chancery &

confessed himself to be completely satisfied & paid, both of all sums of money contained in the recognizance and of all articles, covenants, grants and agreements specified in the indentures in the condition; therefore at the request of the foresaid Earl the recognizance & condition aforesaid were voided, cancelled & entirely annulled.]