

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £1200 acknowledged by Oxford to Richard Shepham, citizen and Merchant Tailor of London, on 24 February 1582. The document indicates that Oxford borrowed £960 of Shepham which was to be repaid in three instalments, i.e. £160 on 24 June 1582; £400 on 1 November 1582; and £400 on 1 May 1583. In the case of default, Oxford would owe Shepham the full amount of the recognizance, £1200.

For the will of Richard Shepham or Shipham, dated 20 July 1604 and proved 4 October 1604, see TNA PROB 11/104, ff. 270-2.

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

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford and Shepham

Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, Great Chamberlain of England, Viscount Bulbeck and Lord of Scales & Badlesmere, having appeared personally before the Lady Queen in her Chancery, acknowledged himself to owe to Richard Shepham, citizen & Merchant-Tailor of London, one thousand & two hundred pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Richard Shepham or his designated attorney, executors or assigns, on the feast of the Annunciation of Blessed Mary the Virgin next to come after the date of this recognizance;

And if he shall not have done [+so], etc.;

Witness the said Lady Queen at Westminster on the twenty-fourth day of February in the twenty-fourth year of the reign of our said Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc. 1581

The condition of this recognizance is such that if the above-bounden Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, his executors, administrators or assigns or any of them, do well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the above-named Richard Shepham, his executors, administrators or assigns, the sum of nine hundred and threescore pounds of lawful money of England in manner and form following, that is to say, on the four and twentieth day of June next coming after the date above-written at or in the house of receipt and payment set and being in the west side of the Royal Exchange in London one hundred and threescore pounds, and on the first day of November then next ensuing at the place aforesaid four hundred pounds, and on the first day of May then next following at the place aforesaid other four hundred pounds in full payment of the said sum of nine hundred and threescore pounds, that then this present recognizance to be void and of none effect, and if default be made of or in any payment of the payment aforesaid of the

said sum of nine hundred threescore pounds in part or in all contrary to the form abovesaid, that then this present recognizance to stand in full strength and virtue.

LM: Recognitio inter Comitem Oxonie et Shepham

1 Edwardus Dever Comes Oxonie magnus Camerarius Anglie Vicecomes Bulbeck ac Dominus de Skale

2 & Badlesmer coram domina Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter constitutus recognouit se debere Richardo

3 Shepham Ciui & mercatori scissori London Mille & Ducentas libras legalis monete Anglie soluendas

4 eidem Richardo Shepham aut suo certo Attornato executoribus vel assignatis suis in festo Annunciacionis beate Marie

5 Virginis proxime futuro post datum huius recognicionis Et nisi fecerit &c Teste dicta domina Regina apud Westmonasterium

6 vicesimo quarto die ffebruarij Anno regni dicte domine nostre Elizabethhe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie

7 Regine fidei defensoris &c vicesimo quarto 1581