

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £2000 acknowledged by Oxford to Sir William Spring of Pakenham on 19 February 1583 in connection with indentures of the same date for the sale of the manor of Earls Hall in Cockfield, Suffolk. A fine is said to have been levied of the manor of Earls Hall by Sir William Spring against Oxford in 1583 (see Copinger, W.A., *The Manors of Suffolk*, Vol. I, (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905), pp. 75, 82).

Sir William Spring of Pakenham was the son of Sir John Spring and his wife, Dorothy Waldegrave, and the grandson of the wealthy clothier, Thomas Spring of Lavenham. For the will of Sir John Spring, dated 8 June 1544 and proved 21 May 1549, see TNA PROB11/32, ff. 235-6. Sir John Spring is said to have died on 7 February 1547/8. For the will of Sir John Spring's wife, Dorothy (nee Waldegrave) Spring, dated 14 April 1564 and proved 10 November 1564, see TNA PROB 11/47, f. 228. For the will of Thomas Spring of Lavenham, dated 13 June 1523 and proved 3 July 1523, see TNA PROB 11/21, ff. 83-4. See also Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2004), p. 266, available online.

Sir William Spring of Pakenham married Anne, the daughter of Sir Thomas Kitson (1485-1540). From the online edition of *The Dictionary of National Biography*:

Kitson, Sir Thomas (1485–1540), merchant and local politician, was born in Warton, Lancashire, the son of Robert Kitson. . . . Kitson's four daughters all seem to have made advantageous marriages: Catherine to Sir John Spencer of Wormleighton in Warwickshire, Dorothy [see Tasburgh, Dorothy] to Sir Thomas Packington of Aylesbury, Frances to John Burchier, Lord Fitzwarine, and Anne to Sir William Spring of Pakenham in Suffolk. His son, Sir Thomas Kitson (1540–1603), was briefly (1557–8) married to Jane, the daughter of William, Lord Paget, but acquired a firm ally in Sir Thomas Cornwallis by marrying his daughter Elizabeth in 1560.

Sir William Spring is said to have died on 3 February 1599/1600.

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

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford & Spring

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 William Spring of Pakenham in the county of Suffolk, knight, two thousand pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid to the same William or his designated attorney, executors or assigns;

& if he shall not have done [+so], he wishes & grants for himself, his heirs, executors & administrators, that the said sum of money be levied & recovered of his goods & chattels,

lands, tenements & hereditaments & [+those] of his heirs to the use & behoof of the same William, his executors, administrators & assigns, wheresoever they may be found within the kingdom of England;

Witness the said Lady Queen at Westminster on the nineteenth day of February in the twenty-fifth 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, articles, clauses and agreements comprised & specified in a certain pair of indentures bearing date with these presents made between the said Earl of Oxenford of thone party and the above-named Sir William Spring of 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 according to the true intent and meaning of the said indentures, that then this present recognizance to be void and of none effect, or else it to stand and abide in full force, strength, virtue and effect.

LM: Recognitio inter Oxonie Comitem & Springe

1 Edwardus Comes Oxonie magnus Camerarius Anglie vicecomes Bulbek dominus de Badlesmere &

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

3 Spring de Pakenham in Comitatu Suffolcie Militi duo Millia librarum legalis monete Anglie soluendarum

4 eidem Willelmo aut suo certo Attornato executoribus vel assignatis suis & nisi fecerit vult & concedit pro se

5 heredibus executoribus & administratoribus suis quod dicta pecunie summa leuetur & recuperetur de bonis &

6 catallis terris tenementis & hereditamentis suis & heredum suorum ad opus & vsum ipsius Willelmi executorum

7 administratorum & assignatorum suorum vbicumque fuerint inuentis infra regnum Anglie Teste dicta domina Regina

8 apud Westmonasterium decimo nono die ffebruarij Anno regni dicte domine nostre
Elizabethhe dei gracia Anglie

9 ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris &c vicesimo quinto