

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £3000 acknowledged by Oxford to Henry Atslowe on 30 October 1584 in connection with indentures of the same date for the sale of the manor of Downham. For the fine in the Court of Common Pleas in Hilary term 1585 by which clear title to the manor of Downham passed from Oxford to Henry Atslowe, see CP 25/2/132/1696/27ELIZIHIL, Item 29.

For the petition of Henry Atslowe in 1599 concerning the manor of Downham, and the answers of Frances Atslowe and Edward Francis, see TNA C 2/Eliz/A2/56. Frances Atslowe was the wife of Edward Atslowe, and was Oxford's first cousin.

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

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford and Atslowe

Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, Viscount Bulbeck, Lord Scales & Badlesmere & Lord Great Chamberlain of England, having appeared personally before the Lady Queen in her Chancery, came & acknowledged himself to owe to Henry Atslowe, son of Edward Atslowe of London, esquire, Doctor of Physic, three thousand pounds of good & lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Henry Atslowe, his heirs, executors or assigns on the feast of the Birth of the Lord next to come after the date of this recognizance;

And if the foresaid Earl of Oxford shall not have done [+so], he wishes & grants for himself, his heirs, executors & administrators by these presents that then the foresaid three thousand pounds be levied & recovered of the goods, chattels, lands, tenements & hereditaments of the same Earl, his heirs, executors & administrators, to the sole & proper use & behoof of the same Henry Atslowe, his heirs, executors & administrators, wheresoever they may be found by these presents;

Witness the said Lady Queen at Westminster on the thirtieth day of the month of October in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of the same our Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc. 1584.

The condition of this recognizance is such that if th' above-bouden right honourable Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns and every of them, do well and truly observe, perform, accomplish, fulfil and keep all and every the covenants, grants, articles and agreements which on his and their parts are or ought to be observed, performed, accomplished, fulfilled and kept comprised and specified in one pair of indentures of bargain and sale bearing the date above-written made between between the said Earl on thone party and the above-named Henry Atslowe on thother party according to the tenor, purport, intent and true meaning of the said

indentures in every respect and thing without fraud or covin, that then this present recognizance to be void and of none effect, or else to stand, remain and abide in full force, strength and virtue.

LM: Recognitio inter Oxonie Comitem et Attslowe

1 Edwardus de Veere Comes Oxonie Vicecomes Bulbeck Dominus Scales & Badlesmere & Dominus magnus Camerarius

2 Anglie coram domina Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter constitutus venit & recognouit se debere Henrico Attslowe

3 filio Edwardi Attslowe de London Armigeri in medicinis Doctoris Tres Mille libras bone & legalis monete

4 Anglie Soluendas eidem Henrico heredibus executoribus vel assignatis suis in festo Natalis domini proxime futuro post

5 datum huius Recognicionis Et nisi predictus Comes Oxonie fecerit vult & concedit pro se heredibus executoribus & administratoribus

6 suis per presentes quod tunc predicta Tres Mille libras leuentur & recuperentur de bonis Catallis terris tenementis & hereditamentis

7 ipsius Comitis heredum executorum & administratorum suorum Ad solum & proprium opus & vsum ipsius Henrici Attslowe

8 heredum executorum & administratorum suorum vbicumque fuerint inuentis per presentes Teste dicta domina Regina apud Westmonasterium

9 Tricesimo die mensis Octobris Anno regni eiusdem domine nostre Elizabethe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine

10 fidei defensoris &c vicesimo sexto 1584