

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £3000 acknowledged by Oxford to Christian Turner on 9 December 1584 in connection with indentures of 2 November 1584 for the sale of the manors of Lamarsh and Crepping Hall. For the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 25 November 1584 and 20 January 1585 by which clear title to the manors of Lamarsh and Crepping Hall passed from Oxford to Christian Turner, see TNA CP 25/2/132/1696/27ELIZIHIL, Item 30.

Christian Turner's husband, John Turner, had been a servant of John de Vere (1516-1562), 16th Earl of Oxford, and was named as an executor of his will, although he renounced the execution when probate was granted on 29 May 1563 (see TNA PROB 11/46, ff. 174v-6).

Lamarsh was among the manors whose revenues were assigned for 21 years for payment of the 16th Earl's debts and performance of his will (see TNA WARD 8/13), while a life estate in Crepping Hall had been allotted to the 16th Earl's brother, Geoffrey de Vere, by the private Act of Parliament of 23 January 1552 which restored the 16th Earl's lands to him after Somerset's extortion (see TNA WARD 8/13 and HL/PO/PB/1/1551/5E6n35). For the nuncupative last will and testament, dated 3 April 1572, of Geoffrey de Vere, see ERO D/DABW 38/187. John Turner held a lease of Crepping Hall which he bequeathed in his will dated 6 October 1578 and proved 21 August 1579 (see TNA PROB 11/61, ff. 274-7).

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

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford & Turner, widow

Edward, Earl of Oxford, Great Chamberlain of England, having appeared personally before the Lady Queen in her Chancery, acknowledged himself to owe to Christian Turner, widow, three thousand pounds of good & lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Christian, her heirs or executors;

And if he shall not have done [+so], he wishes & grants for himself, his heirs & executors that the said three thousand pounds be levied of his lands & tenements, goods & chattels to the use of the forenamed Christian, her heirs & executors, wheresoever they may be found within the kingdom of England;

Witness the said Lady Queen at Westminster on the ninth day of December in the twenty-seventh year of the reign of our 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 and executors, do well and truly keep, perform and fulfil all and singular covenants, grants, articles and agreements mentioned and comprised in one indenture bearing date the second day of November in the six and twentieth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc. made between the said Earl on thone party and the above-named Christian Turner of thother party which on the part and behalf of the said Earl, his heirs and executors, are to be holden, performed or fulfilled according unto the very purport, intent and true meaning of the said indenture, that then this present recognizance shall be void, or else to stand and remain in full strength and virtue.

LM: Recognitio inter Oxonie Comitem & Turnor viduam

1 Edwardus Comes Oxonie magnus Camerarius Anglie coram domina Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter

2 constitutus recognouit se debere Cristiane Turnor vidue tres Mille libras bone & legalis monete Anglie

3 Soluendas eidem Cristiane heredibus vel executoribus suis Et nisi fecerit vult & concedit pro se heredibus & executoribus

4 suis quod dicte tres Mille libre leuentur de terris & tenementis bonis & catallis suis ad vsum prefate Cristiane heredum &

5 executorum suorum vbicumque fuerint inuentis infra Regnum Anglie Teste dicta domina Regina apud Westmonasterium nono

6 die Decembris Anno regni domine nostre Elizabethhe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei

7 defensoris &c vicesimo septimo