

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 22 May 1592 by which clear title to the rectory of Walter Belchamp passed from Oxford and his second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (d.1612), to Elizabeth Trentham's brother, Francis Trentham (d.1626), and maternal uncle, Ralph Sneyd (d.1620). For the licence, dated 2 March 1592, authorizing Oxford and Elizabeth Trentham to alienate the rectory of Walter Belchamp to Francis Trentham and Ralph Sneyd, see TNA C 66/1383, m. 10.

The transaction is mentioned in Oxford's inquisition post mortem (see TNA C 142/286/165), where it is stated that by indenture dated 12 March 1592 Oxford and his wife sold the rectory of Walter Belchamp to Francis Trentham and Ralph Sneyd under a condition which allowed Oxford to take the profits from the rectory during his lifetime. The transaction is also mentioned in a lawsuit brought by Francis Trentham and Ralph Sneyd against Edward Coe in 1602 for unpaid rent for the rectory of Walter Belchamp (see TNA REQ 2/276, Item 62).

The rectory of Walter Belchamp had been among the properties included in Henry VIII's grant of Colne Priory to John de Vere (1482-1540), 15th Earl of Oxford, and his heirs on 22 July 1536 (see TNA C 66/668, mm. 26-7).

This is the final agreement made in the court of the Lady Queen at Westminster on the morrow of Holy Trinity in the year of the reigns of Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. from the Conquest the thirty-fourth [=22 May 1592], before Edmund Anderson, Francis Wyndham, William Peryam & Thomas Walmesley, justices, & others faithful to the Lady Queen then there present, between Francis Trentham, esquire, & Ralph Sneyd, esquire, querents, and Edward, Earl of Oxford, & Elizabeth, his wife, deforciant, concerning the rectory of Walter Belchamp alias Belchamp Water with the appurtenances and the tithes of grain, hay, wool, lambs, wood & other tithes, oblations, obventions & emoluments whatsoever with the appurtenances in Walter Belchamp alias Belchamp Water;

Whereof a plea of covenant was summoned between them in the same court, namely that the foresaid Earl & Elizabeth acknowledged the foresaid rectory & tithes with the appurtenances to be the right of the same Francis as those which the same Francis & Ralph have of the gift of the foresaid Earl & Elizabeth, and they have remised & quit-claimed them from themselves, the Earl & Elizabeth, & their heirs to the foresaid Francis & Ralph & the heirs of the same Francis forever;

And besides the same Earl & Elizabeth have granted for themselves & the heirs of the foresaid Earl that they will warrant to the foresaid Francis & Ralph & the heirs of the same Francis the foresaid rectory & tithes with the appurtenances against the foresaid Earl & Elizabeth and the heirs of the same Earl forever;

And for this acknowledgement, remission, quit-claim, warrant, fine & agreement the same Francis & Ralph have given to the foresaid Earl & Elizabeth one hundred & sixty pounds sterling.

Essex

Examined

According to the form of the statute, the first proclamation was made on the fourteenth day of June in Trinity term in the thirty-fourth year of the within-written Queen;

The second proclamation was made on the fifteenth day of November in Michaelmas term in the thirty-fourth year of the within-written Queen;

The third proclamation was made on the thirtieth day of January in Hilary term in the thirty-fifth year of the within-written Queen;

The fourth proclamation was made on the fourth day of May in Easter term in the thirty-fifth year of the within-written Queen.

examinatus

1 Hec est finalis Concordia facta in Curia Domine Regine apud Westmonasterium in Crastino sancte Trinitatis Anno regnorum

2 Elizabethe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris &c A Conquesto tricesimo quarto coram

3 Edmundo Anderson ffrancisco Wyndam Willelmo Peryam & Thoma Walmysley Iusticiarijs & alijs domine

4 Regine fidelibus tunc ibi presentibus Inter ffranciscum Trentham Armigerum & Radulfum Sneade Armigerum

5 querentes et Edwardum Comitem Oxonie & Elizabetham vxorem eius deforciantes de Rectoria de Water

6 Belchamp alias Belchampe Water cum pertinentijs ac de decimis granorum feni Lani agnorum bosci & aliarum

7 decimarum oblacionum obvencionum & emolumentorum quorumcumque cum pertinentijs in Water Belchamp alias

8 Belchampe Water vnde Placitum Conuencionis summonitum fuit inter eos in eadem Curia Scilicet quod predicti

9 Comes & Elizabetha recognoverunt predictas Rectoriam & decimas cum pertinentijs esse ius ipsius ffrancisci vt illa

10 quas ijdem ffranciscus & Radulfus habent de dono predictorum Comitis & Elizabethae Et illa remiserunt &

11 quietaclamaverunt de ipsis Comite & Elizabetha & heredibus suis predictis ffrancisco & Radulfo & heredibus ipsius

12 ffrancisci Imperpetuum Et preterea ijdem Comes & Elizabetha concesserunt pro se & heredibus ipsius Comitis quod ipsi

13 Warantizabunt predictis ffrancisco & Radulfo & heredibus ipsius ffrancisci predictas Rectoriam & decimas cum

14 pertinentijs contra predictos Comitem & Elizabetham & heredes ipsius Comitis Imperpetuum Et pro hac recognicione

15 remissione quietaclamacione Waranto fine & Concordia ijdem ffranciscus & Radulfus dederunt predictis

16 Comiti & Elizabethae Centum & sexaginta libras sterlingorum

Essex

examinatus

Secundum formam statuti

Prima proclamatio facta fuit quartodecimo die Iunij termino sancte Trinitatis Anno tricesimo quarto Regine Infrascripte

Secunda proclamatio facta fuit quinto decimo die Novembris termino sancti Michaelis Anno tricesimo quarto Regine infrascripte

Tercio proclamatio facta fuit tricesimo die Ianuarij termino sancti Hillarij Anno tricesimo quinto Regine infrascripte

Quarta proclamatio facta fuit quarto die Maij termino Pasche Anno tricesimo quinto Regina infrascripte

examinatus