

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated the octave of Michaelmas (29 September) in the second year [=6 October 1560] of the reign of Queen Elizabeth by which Robert Burbage (d.1575) transferred clear title to the manors of Tongs alias Clays alias Theobalds alias Cressbroke and Darcies to William Slywright (d.1578) and Thomas Butler for £800 sterling. Oxford's father-in-law, William Cecil, Lord Burghley, later purchased the property from Burbage, and built his mansion of Theobalds on the site.

It appears that Robert Burbage's father, Thomas, died in 1560, and that the purpose of the fine was to establish Robert Burbage's title to the property, particularly with respect to any possible claims against it by Thomas Burbage's second wife, Eleanor.

For Robert Burbage's sale of the manor Theobalds alias Tongs to Lord Burghley, see TNA C 54/662, mm. 8-11, and the will of Robert Burbage, TNA PROB 11/57/448.

Although the link between the family of Robert Burbage of Park Hall in Hayes, Middlesex, and the family of the builder of the first London theatre, James Burbage, has not been found, Robert Burbage of Park Hall bore the same Burbage coat of arms as James Burbage's son, Cuthbert Burbage. See the pedigree of Burbage of Park Hall in Armytage, George John, ed., *Middlesex Pedigrees as Collected by Richard Mundy*, (London: Harleian Society, 1914), Vol. LXV, p. 80 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/middlesexpedigre65mund#page/78/mode/2up>.

See also the pedigree of Cuthbert Burbage in Howard, Joseph Jackson and Joseph Lemuel Chester, eds., *The Visitation of London*, (London: Harleian Society, 1880), Vol. XV, p. 121 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationoflond01stge#page/120/mode/2up>.

The fine states that Robert Burbage sold the manors the will of Tongs alias Clays alias Theobalds alias Cressbroke and Darcies to William Slywright. For the will of William Slywright (d.1578) of Teddington, Middlesex, who was connected by marriage to the families of Collet, Bodley, and Brend who were directly involved with the property on which the Globe Theatre was built, see TNA PROB 11/60/518. In William Slywright's will is a bequest to 'my mother Collet', i.e. his mother-in-law, Joan (nee Hunt) Collet. See also the will of William Slywright's brother-in-law, Francis Bodley (d.1566) whose widow, Mercy (nee Collett), married Thomas Brend (d.1598); in the will of her mother, Joan (nee Hunt) Collet, dated 1 August 1576, she is described as 'my daughter Brend'. For the will of Joan Collet, see TNA PROB 11/61/389. For the will of Thomas Brend, who owned the ground on which the Globe was built, see TNA PROB 11/93/316. For the will of Nicholas Brend, who leased the ground on which the Globe Theatre was built to William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon and other members of the Lord Chamberlain's Men, see TNA PROB 11/98/348.

This is the final agreement made in the court of the Lady Queen at Westminster on the octave of Saint Michael 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 second, before James Dyer, Humphrey Browne, Anthony Browne & Richard Weston, justices, & others faithful to the Lady Queen then there present, between William Slywright, gentleman, and Thomas Butler, gentleman, querents, and Robert Burbage, esquire, deforciant, of the manors of Tongs alias Clays alias Theobalds alias Cressbroke and Darcies with the appurtenances, and of one messuage, one dove-cot, three barns, three gardens, three orchards, two hundred & twenty acres of arable land, sixty acres of meadow, one hundred & fifty acres of pasture, sixty acres of woods & six hundred acres of furze & heath with the appurtenances in Cheshunt & Tunford;

Whereof a plea of covenant was summoned between them in the same court, namely that the foresaid Robert has acknowledged the foresaid manors & tenements with the appurtenances to be the right of the same William, as those which the same William & Thomas have of the gift of the foresaid Robert, and he has remised & quit-claimed them from himself & his heirs to the foresaid William & Thomas & the heirs of the same William forever;

And besides the same Robert has granted for himself & his heirs that he will warrant to the foresaid William & Thomas & the heirs of the same William the foresaid manors & tenements with the appurtenances against all men forever;

And for this acknowledgement, remission, quit-claim, warrant, fine & agreement the same William & Thomas have given to the foresaid Robert eight hundred pounds sterling.

Hertfordshire

1 Hec est finalis concordia facta in Curia Domine Regine Apud Westmonasterium in octabis sancti Michaelis Anno regnorum Elizabeth

2 dei gratia Anglie Francie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris & Aconquistatoris secundo coram Iacobo Dyer Humfrido Bronu

3 Antonio Bronu & Ricardo Weston Iusticiariis & Alijs domine Regine fidelibus tunc ibi presentibus Inter Willielmum Slywright genosum &

4 Thomam Butler Genosum querentes et Robertum Burbage Armigerum deforciantem de Manerijs de Tongs alias Cleys alias Thebawdes

5 al{ias} Cresbokes & Darcies cum p{er}tin{entijs} Ac de vno mesuagio vno Columbar{io} trib{us} horreis trib{us} gardinis trib{us} pomar{ijs}

6 ducentis & viginti Acr{is} t{er}re sexaginta Acr{is} prati Centu{m} & quinquaginta Acr{is} pastur{e} sexaginta acr{is} bosci &

7 sexcent{is} acris iam p{er}tin{entijs} & bruere cum p{er}tin{entijs} in Chesthunt & Tunford vnde pl{ac}it{u}m conuenc{i}o{n}is sum{monitum} fuit int{er}

8 eos in ead{e}m Cur{ia} Scil{ice}t q{uo}d p{re}d{i}c{t}us Rob{er}tus recogn{ovit} p{re}d{i}c{t}a Man{er}ia & ten{ementa} cu{m} p{er}tin{entijs} esse ius ip{s}ius Will{elm}i

9 vt ill{a} que ijd{e}m Will{elmu}s & Thomas h{ab}ent de dono p{re}d{i}c{t}i Rob{er}ti Et ill{a} remisit & quietclam{avit} de se &

10 hered{ibus} suis p{re}d{i}c{t}is Will{elm}o & Thome & hered{ibus} ip{s}ius Will{elm}i Imp{er}p{etuu}m Et p{re}t{er}ea id{e}m Rob{er}tus concessit p{ro}

11 se & hered{ibus} suis q{uo}d ip{s}i Warant{izabunt} p{re}d{i}c{t}is Will{elm}o & Thome & hered{ibus} ip{s}ius Will{elm}i p{re}d{i}c{t}a Man{er}ia & ten{ementa}

12 cu{m} p{er}tin{entijs} cont{ra} om{n}es ho{m}i{n}es Imp{er}p{etuu}m Et p{ro} hac recogn{icione} remissione quietclam{acione} Warant{o} fine & concordia

13 ijd{e}m Will{elmu}s & Thomas deder{unt} p{re}d{i}c{t}o Rob{er}to octingentas libras sterlingor{um}

Hertf{ordie}

[DATES OF PROCLAMATION OF THE FINE NOT YET TRANSCRIBED]