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SUMMARY: The excerpt below is taken from a letter dated 17 March 1582 from Nicholas Faunt, one of Sir Francis Walsingham's secretaries, to Anthony Bacon, who was in France at the time. The letter mentions the fray on 21 February 1582 in which Oxford and Thomas Knyvet had both been hurt, Oxford 'more dangerously'. The same incident is recorded by Richard Madox in a diary entry dated 3 March 1582 (see BL Cotton, Appendix 47, f. 7v). Faunt's comment that Knyvet was 'not meanly beloved in court', and 'not like to speed ill whatsoever the quarrel be' is borne out in correspondence between Sir Christopher Hatton and Lord Chancellor Thomas Bromley which provides evidence of the Queen's intervention on Knyvet's behalf in the criminal proceedings which resulted from the death of Oxford's man Robert Breninges in this fray (see BL MS Add. 15891, ff. 65v, 67).

In England of late there hath been a fray between my Lord of Oxford and Mr Thomas Knyvet of the Privy Chamber, who are both hurt, but my lord of Oxford more dangerously. You know Mr Knyvet is not meanly beloved in court, and therefore he is not like to speed ill whatsoever the quarrel be.