

SUMMARY: The document below is an extract from the pedigree of the family of Lucas. The pedigree shows that John Lucas (d.1556) was twice married, first to Mary, the daughter of John Abell, and secondly to Elizabeth, the daughter of ‘Christmas of Colchester, esquire’, i.e. George Christmas (d.1567) of Colchester, the brother of the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl’s servant, Robert Christmas. For the Christmas family of Colchester, see Higgs, Laquita M., *Godliness and Governance in Tudor Colchester* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1998), pp. 25, 32, 50. George Christmas (d.1567) married Bridget (nee Foster), the sister of George Foster (d.1556), the first husband of Alice (nee Clovill or Clovyle) Golding, who after George Foster’s death married the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl’s brother-in-law, Henry Golding (d.1576). See Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Suffolk* (Exeter: William Pollard, 1882), pp. 29-30, and Glencross, Reginald M., *Administrations in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1912) p.77.

John Lucas’ second marriage perhaps explains the favour shown by the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford to Robert Christmas, whom he made one of his executors (see TNA PROB 11/46, ff. 174v-176). According to the pedigree, John Lucas’ sister, Elizabeth, was married to ‘Aylofffe of Essex, esquire’, a relationship which perhaps sheds light on the later sale by the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl’s brother, Robert Vere, of his manors of Kennington and Wennington to William Aylofffe and his son (see TNA CP 25/2/131/1674/21ELIZITRIN, Item 12).

The pedigree also shows that Thomas Lucas, the eldest son and heir of John Lucas (d.1556) by his first wife, Mary Abell, had a daughter, Anne, who married Sir Arthur Throckmorton (c.1557-1626) of Paulerspury in Northamptonshire, whose sister Elizabeth Throckmorton married Sir Walter Raleigh. Sir Arthur Throckmorton was a personal friend of the 17<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford; his diary contains a number of entries mentioning Oxford, including an entry on 27 January 1580: ‘my lord Oxford writ a challenge to Philip Sidney’, and another on 28 January 1580: ‘I supped with my lord Oxford’ (see Rowse, A.L., *Raleigh and the Throckmortons* (London: Macmillan, 1962), p. 78).

As mentioned in the pedigree, John Lucas of Ramsey, the son of John Lucas (d.1556) by his second wife, Elizabeth Christmas, married Mary Roydon, the daughter and heir of Christopher Roydon, esquire, of Roydon Hall in Essex and after of Witham. John Lucas (d.1556), a lawyer, acted as advisor to both the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Earls of Oxford and played a questionable role in Somerset’s extortion against the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl for which he was specifically exempted from financial repercussions in the private Act of Parliament of 22 or 23 January 1552 by which the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl’s lands were restored to him after Somerset’s extortion (see HL/PO/PB/1/1551/5E6n35 and Bindoff, S.T., *The House of Commons 1509-1558*, vol II (London: Secker & Warburg, 1982), pp. 553-5). The excerpt below is taken from Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex*, Publications of the Harleian Society, 13-14 (1878-79), p. 236.

John Lucas, Master of the Request[s], who being a great gamester won of the Earl of Oxford the wardship of Roydon at dice, with whom he matched his youngest son.