

SUMMARY: The accounting for the manor of East Bergholt in TNA Ward 8/13 includes the Queen's lease dated 22 October 1563 of her 'thirds', that is, her one-third interest in the lands of her ward, Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford, which she leased to Sir Robert Dudley during Oxford's minority. A comparison of the provisions in the Queen's lease of her 'thirds' in Oxford's lands to Sir Robert Dudley with the provisions of the lease dated 28 June 1582 by which the Queen leased her 'thirds' in the lands of her ward, Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton, to Charles Howard (1526-1624), 2nd Lord Howard of Effingham (see HRO 5M53/273), reveals a number of significant departures from the standard practice of the Court of Wards.

The most unusual aspect of the Queen's lease of her 'thirds' to Sir Robert Dudley is the statement in the lease that it had been made by the Court of Wards 'knowing her Majesty's special determination to benefit the said Lord Robert Dudley'. No clause of this nature is found in the Queen's lease of her 'thirds' to Lord Howard, despite the fact that Lord Howard was the Queen's kinsman and her acting Lord Chamberlain. Another highly unusual aspect of the Queen's lease to Dudley is the absence of a fine. Although it was standard practice for the Court of Wards to include a fine in leases of the Queen's 'thirds', and a fine of £200 was assessed in the Queen's lease of her 'thirds' to Lord Howard, there is no mention of a fine in the Queen's lease of her 'thirds' to Sir Robert Dudley, an omission which was obviously a significant financial benefit to Dudley over and above the value of the lease itself. Five other non-standard aspects of the Queen's lease to Sir Robert Dudley are that (1) by her own admission the Queen granted Dudley more than the one-third interest to which she was legally entitled (see below); (2) the total value of the lands granted to Dudley is approximately £180 more than the valuation for the same lands in the inquisition post mortem, whereas in the lease to Charles Howard the total value of the lands in the lease matches the valuation in the inquisition post mortem; (3) Dudley's lease did not include the standard provision reserving to the Queen the right to presentation of all ecclesiastical benefits such as advowsons; (4) Dudley's lease did not include the standard provision providing that Dudley pay all fees, annuities, reprises etc. 'lawfully demanded and going out of the lands during the minority of the heir'; and (5) Dudley's lease provided that any monies required for the repair of the manors of Hedingham and Earls Colne would be paid by the Court of Wards. These seven highly unusual departures from the standard procedure of the Court of Wards in the Queen's lease to Dudley suggest that her desire to benefit Dudley far outweighed both her duty to Oxford as her ward, and to the royal coffers, and demonstrate the favouritism to Dudley which tainted the Queen's lease to him of Oxford's lands.

To locate the lease, which is included within the accounting for the manor of East Bergholt, scroll to the words 'This indenture made'.

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Manor of East Bergholt with the appurtenances, parcel of the foresaid lands in the foresaid county.

Account of Robert Lord Dudley, farmer there for the foresaid time.

Arrearages: The same accountant is charged with **£639 11s 1/4d** of arrearages of the last account of the next preceding year, as appears there in the foot. Total: **£639 11s 1/4d**.

Issues of the lands by the inquisition

Of any profit resulting or arising from the issues of the manor of East Bergholt in the foresaid county of Suffolk of the yearly value of **£55 9s 2d**, held of the Lady Queen in chief by knight-service, viz., by service of the 20th part of one knight's fee, of which certain manor & the rest of the premises with their appurtenances the foresaid John, late Earl of Oxenford, before his death was seised among others as before in the account of the honour, castle, & manor of Hedingham more fully appears, and the foresaid late Earl by the foresaid indenture among other things granted, promised, & completely agreed for himself & his heirs to & with the forenamed Duke of Norfolk, Robert, Lord Dudley, & Thomas Golding as before in the same account more fully appears.

And the foresaid late Earl by a certain writing sealed by his seal at arms & subscribed by his own hand dated the 6th day of March in the first year [=6 March 1547] of the reign of the late King Edward VI granted to **Thomas Bridge** all & all manner the fines & emoluments whatsoever of the courts-leet & views of frankpledge of all & singular his lordships & manors of East Bergholt in the county of Suffolk (except his manor called le Commandry) after the date of the foresaid deed arising or happening, to have all & singular the profits of them (except previously excepted) to the foresaid Thomas Bridge & his assigns to the term of his life to the only use of them without any contradiction & without account, in manner & form as Simon Hill, gentleman, has had, occupied or enjoyed, and also the foresaid Earl by the said deed granted to the forenamed Thomas the office of bailiff of all & singular his manors & lordships in East Bergholt, to have & exercise the foresaid office with the fees & profits usual to the same office to the forenamed Thomas Bridge & his assigns immediately after the death of the said Simon Hill, as by the foresaid deed in the foresaid inquisition specified more fully is clear & appears.

And the foresaid late Earl by a certain deed of his sealed by his seal at arms & subscribed by his own hand dated the 20th day of November in the first year [=20 November 1547] of the reign of the late King Edward VI granted to **Thomas Rusham** all manner the fines & profits of the courts, leets and views of frankpledge whatsoever of his lordships & manors of East Bergholt in the county of Suffolk, excepted entirely his manor there called le Commandry, after the death of Thomas Bridge growing or appertaining, and also the office of bailiff of all & singular his lordships of East Bergholt aforesaid, to have & to hold the profits & office aforesaid after the death of the foresaid Thomas Bridge in so ample manner & form as Thomas Bridge has had as above, as by the foresaid deed in the foresaid inquisition specified more fully will be able to appear,

And it remains in the hands of the Lady Queen as above in the foresaid account more fully appears, and in the whole as above is valued by year by the foresaid inquisition, to be paid at the feasts of the Annunciation of Blessed Mary the Virgin & Saint Michael the Archangel equally, viz., for two such feasts falling within the time of this account. Not received because it has been received thereof to the said Lady Queen below in the section "Farm by indenture" within the total of **£803 8s 9-1/2d** [sic], as in the same more fully will be able to appear. Total: none.

Increase of rents by the survey of the feodary

Not yet received of any profit resulting or arising from the increase of rents of the foresaid lands at **£4 23d** by year thus assessed by the survey thereof made by John Southwell, esquire, feodary, surveyor & receiver of all the lands of the wards of the Lady Queen in the county of Suffolk, & remaining of record in the Court of Wards & Liveries of the Lady Queen, more than by the foresaid inquisition is found, to be paid at the foresaid feasts equally, viz., for two such feasts falling within the time of this account. Nothing here in charge for the reason specified above in the section "Issues of the lands by the inquisition". Total: none.

Perquisites of the courts

Not yet received of any profit resulting or arising from the pleas & perquisites of the courts held there this year. Nothing here in charge for the reason which is specified above in the section "Issues of the lands by the inquisition". Total: none.

Farm by indenture

But received of **£803 9s 8-1/2d** resulting or arising from the issues of the farm of the honour, castle & manor of Hedingham with three parks there in the county of Essex; the manor of Grays in Sible Hedingham with Peppers in the same county; the manor of Prayers alias Bower Hall in Sible Hedingham in the foresaid county; the manor of Little Yeldham alias Over Yeldham in the foresaid county; the manor of Earls Colne; one pasture called Warehills in the foresaid county; the manor of Maldon with Flanderswick in the foresaid county; the manors of Stansted Mountfitchet, Burnells, [&] Bentfield Bury in the foresaid county; the farm called Parks in Gestingthorpe; the manors of Nether Yeldham, Sheriffs in Gaines, Vaux [+in] Belchamp Otten, Pevers in Sible Hedingham, Great Bumpstead, Gobions in East Tilbury, Waltons in Mucking & Waltons in Purleigh in the foresaid county; the manor of Colne late priory, Hedingham late nunnery, & Langdon Hills in the foresaid county; the manor of Swaffham Bulbeck in the county of Cambridge & the rectory of Wickham in the same county, & the manors of Lavenham, Earls Hall, & East Bergholt in the county of Suffolk at **£803 9s 8-1/2d** by year thus demised to farm by the indenture made between the most excellent Lady now Queen of the one part, & the right honourable Lord Robert Dudley, knight of the noble Order of the Garter, Master of Horse of the Lady Queen, & one of the Privy Council of the same Lady Queen, of the other part, the tenor of which certain indentures follows in these words:

This indenture made between the most excellent princess and our most dread Sovereign Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. of thone party, & the right honourable Lord Robert Dudley, Knight of the Order of the Garter, Master of the Queen's Majesty's Horses, & one of her Highness' Privy Council, of thother party, witnesseth that our said Sovereign Lady, with the advice of the Master & Council of her Grace's Court of Wards & Liveries, knowing her Majesty's special determination therein to benefit the said Lord Robert Dudley, is contented & pleased to grant, & by these presents doth grant, demise & to farm let unto the said Lord Robert Dudley all the manors, lands, tenements, with all & singular their appurtenances in the Counties of Essex, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire, late the inheritance of the right honourable John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, hereafter particularly declared, that is to say:

The manor of Hedingham to the castle of uplands & Hedingham to the castle of burgage, with three parts [sic for parks?] in the said county of Essex, whereof the rent & farm, as well of the freeholders as of the customary tenants there being in the charge of William Brewster, deputy of Charles Tyrrell, esquire, bailiff there, are by year above all charges **£29 19s 3-1/2d**. The rent of the burgage there, **£6 4s 3d**. The rent & farm of 2 meadows there, whereof one is called Rush meadow, containing 7 acres, & thother called Marsh meadow, containing 7 acres, late in th' occupation of the said Earl, by year **28s**. The rent & farm of a warren of coneys & one hop-garden & one dovehouse there, late in th' occupation of the said Earl, by year **66s 8d**.

The manor of Grays with all & singular th' appurtenances in Sible Hedingham, & one tenement called Peppers, now in the tenure of Richard Wastlyn within the said county of Essex, by year **£16**.

The manor of Prayors alias Bower Hall with the lands in Sible Hedingham within the said county of Essex, whereof the rent & farm as well of the freeholders as of the customary tenants there, by year **£28 19s 7d**. The rent & farm of the site of the said manor of Prayors with the demesnes there, now in the tenure of William Falford [sic?], by year **£7**.

The manor of Little Yeldham alias Over Yeldham with th' appurtenances in the said county of Essex, & one pasture there called Hide field, now in the tenure or occupation of Robert Spring, by year **£24 5s**.

The manor of Earls Colne with the park there in the said county of Essex, whereof the rent of assize of the tenants of the said manor in the charge of Robert Jegon, bailiff there, all by year **£24 17s 4d**. One meadow called the Hall meadow, containing by estimation 18 acres, late in th' occupation of the said Earl, by year **36s**. One piece of pasture called Bonners, containing by estimation 16 acres, by year **16s**. One other piece of pasture called the Gall, containing by estimation 7 acres, by year **7s**.

One pasture called Warehills in the parish of Steeple in the said county of Essex, by year **41s 8d**.

The manor of Maldon with certain lands called Flanderswick within the said county of Essex, whereof certain lands in Maldon aforesaid now in the tenure of John Church, by year **£12 6s 8d**. Certain other pieces of land in Maldon aforesaid now in the tenure of John Coker, by year **£7 19s 8d**. A farm called Flanderswick farm, late in th' occupation of the said Earl, by year **£8 6s 8d**. Certain parcels of land called Bromsteads, parcel of Flanderswick, now in the tenure of Anthony Sparrow, by year **100s**. The rent & farm as well of the freeholders as of the customary tenants there, by year **65s 8d**.

The manors of Stansted Mountfichet, Burnells & Bentfield Bury in the said county of Essex, whereof the herbage of the park of Stansted aforesaid, with all the houses & buildings called Lodge's, together with the meadows, feedings & fishings within the said park, now in the tenure of John, Lord Darcy, by year **£23 6s 8d**. The rent & farm of the site of the said manor with the demesnes there, now in the tenure of Robert Hellam, by year **£13 6s 8d**. The rent & farm of the manor of Bentfield Bury aforesaid, now in the tenure of John Hubberd, by year **£11 6s 8d**. The rent of assize of the tenants there, by year **£50 5s 11-1/2d**.

The rent & farm of one tenement called Parks, now in the tenure of John Hall, valued by year at **106s 8d**, & also th' herbage of a wood there called Chelmissesey wood, by year **13s 4d**.

The manor of Nether Yeldham in the said county of Essex, whereof the rent of assize of the tenants of the said manor, by year **£6 14s 11-1/2d**. The rent & farm of the site of the manor of Yeldham Hall with th' appurtenances, now in the tenure of Robert Plombe, by year **£13 6s 8d**. The rent & farm of one barn there called Browne's barn, with certain meadow & pasture to the same belonging in Great Yeldham, now in the tenure of the said Robert Plombe, by year **£8**. The rent & farm of one tenement called Levingtons with th' appurtenances, now in the tenure of Edmund Harrington, by year **£8**. One other messuage in Yeldham aforesaid called Poole, now in the tenure of Edmund Browne, by year **£6 13s 4d**. Two parcels of lands called Boscotts & Sandpitts with th' appurtenances, now in the tenure or occupation of William Fitch, by year **33s 4d**. Certain other lands in Yeldham aforesaid called Boveleys, now in the tenure of William Fitch, by year **53s 4d**. Certain lands with th' appurtenances in Sible Hedingham called Rentbitlands, now in the tenure of John Bond, by year **26s 8d**. One meadow containing 8 acres, late in the tenure of the said Earl at the time of his death, by year **16s**.

The rent of assize of the tenants of the manor of Sheriffs, by year **52s 9d**. The rent & farm of the site of the manor aforesaid with the demesnes to the same belonging, now in the tenure of John Ward, by year **£6 12s 8d**. The rent & farm of th' herbage of one parcel of wood called the Gall in Gaines Colne aforesaid, by year **3s 4d**.

The rent & farm of the manor of Vaux with all & singular th' appurtenances in Belchamp Otten in the said county of Essex, now in the tenure of Thomas Golding, **£14 13s 4d**.

The rent & farm of one tenement & 80 acres land and pasture with th' appurtenances called Pevers in Sible Hedingham, now in the tenure of Maurice Walford, by year **53s 4d**.

The rent of assize of the tenants of the manor of Great Bumpstead within the said county of Essex, by year **£17 16s**. The rent & farm of the site of the said manor with the demesnes there, now in the tenure of Thomas Porter, by year **£13 6s 8d**.

The rent of assize of the tenants of the manors of Gobions & Waltons in the said county of Essex with 14d for the rent of 4 hens, one cock, & one goose, by year **60s 2d**. The rent & farm of the site of the manors of Gobions & Waltons with the demesnes there & all the lands, meadows & pastures with th' appurtenances in East Tilbury and Mucking, now in the tenure of John Lawrence, by year **£30 13s 4d**.

The rent & farm of the site of the manor of Waltons in Purleigh with the demesnes & rent of the freehold & customary tenants there in the said county of Essex, now in the tenure of Edward Madison, by year **£11**.

The rent of assize of the tenants of the late Priory of Colne, by year **£58 14s 6-1/4d**. The rent & the farm of the site of the mansion there called Colne Priory or Colne House, with all the houses, orchards, gardens, fishings, barns, stables & all the meadows & pastures with all th' appurtenances to the same Priory late belonging, late in th' occupation of the said Earl & now in th' occupation of the Lady Margery, late wife of the said Earl, by year **£13 6s 8d**. Certain pensions & portions to the same late Priory belonging, by year **£7 2s 4d**. The rent & farm of the site of the manor of Barwick Hall with the demesnes there & the tenth of corn in White Colne, now in the tenure of Robert Ball, by year **£10 10s**. One tenement with th' appurtenances in White Colne called Inglesthorpe, now in the tenure of Thomas Prentice, by year **£4 10s**. One water-mill with 3 acres pasture to the same belonging in Earls Colne called Colneford mill, now in the tenure of John Davy, by year **40s 4d**. The rectory of Bentley with all the tenths to the same belonging, by year **£9**. The rectory of Belchamp with all the tenths to the same belonging, now in the tenure of Thomas Coe, by year **£16 3s**. The rectory of Messing with all the tenths to the same belonging, now in the tenure of Robert Cannock, by year **113s 4d**. One fulling-mill called Chalkney mill & 6 acres pasture with th' appurtenances in Earls Colne & White Colne, now in the tenure of Roger Goodrick, by year **£4**.

The rent of assize of the tenants of the late nunnery of Hedingham within the foresaid county of Essex, by year **£17 2s 4d**. One messuage with th' appurtenances called Shetleford & Takeley in Stambourne, now in the tenure of John Rede, by year **£8 6s 8d**. The site of the late nunnery of Hedingham aforesaid with the demesnes & all the meadows & pastures to the same site belonging, now in the tenure of Robert Blandon, by year **£15**.

One messuage in Langdon Hills with all the lands, meadows, feedings & pastures to the same belonging in the said county of Essex in the tenure or occupation of John Pake, by year **£15**.

All which premises before rehearsed within the said county of Essex are by year **£628 10s 5-3/4d.**

The rent & farm as well of the freeholders as of the customary tenants & tenants at will of the manor of Swaffam Bulbeck in the county of Cambridge, by year **£13 2s 11-1/2d.** The farm of the demesnes of the said manor, by year **£10.**

The rent & farm of the freeholders of the manor of Hinxton in the county of Cambridge, by year **35s 8-1/4d.** The customary tenants of the said manor, by year **£19 4d.** The tenants at will of the lord of the said manor, by year **20d.** The demesnes of the said lordship, by year **£22 15s.** One water-mill there, by year **£4.**

The rectory of Wickham with all the glebe lands, tenths & other commodities to the same rectory belonging, now in the tenure or occupation of Edmund Armiger(?), within the said county of Cambridge are by year **£6.**

All which premises before rehearsed in the said county of Cambridge are by year **£76 19s 5-3/4d.**

The rent of assize of the manor of Lavenham, as well within the burgage as without, within the county of Suffolk, by year **£62 19s 11-1/2d.** The demesnes of the said manor, by year **111s 8d.** The herbage or gistment of 40 oxen & 6 geldings in the park of Lavenham in the tenure or occupation of Robert Christmas, parker or keeper of the same, by year **15s.** Th' issues or profits of a fair there, by year **2s.**

The rent or farm of the site of the manor of Earls Hall with the demesnes & rent as well of the freeholders as of the customary tenants there in the said county of Suffolk, by year **£20.**

The rents of assize of the tenants of the manor of East Bergholt in the county of Suffolk, by year **£28 20-1/2d.** The rent of assize & farm belonging to the late preceptory there, by year **£13 16s 1/2d.** The demesnes of the said manor of East Bergholt now in the tenure of Stephen Cardinal, by year **£26 13s 4d.**

Which premises before rehearsed in the county of Suffolk are by year in the whole **£153 19s 8-1/2d.**

All which lands in the foresaid counties of Essex, Cambridge, & Suffolk amount in the whole to the clear yearly value & rent [+of] **£859 9s 8d** now in th' hands & possession of our said Sovereign Lady by the minority of Edward, now Earl of Oxford, her Highness' ward, son & next heir of the right honourable John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, deceased,

Excepted & always reserved out of the said grant all woods, underwoods, marriages, knights' fees, reliefs, & mines of metal, stone & coal being(?) under, in & upon the said lordships, manors & other the premises with th' appurtenances or any part thereof during the minority of the said heir;

To have & to hold the said lordships, manors & other the premises with th' appurtenances (except before excepted) to the said Lord Robert Dudley & his assigns from the day of the death of the said John de Vere, late Earl of Oxford, deceased, during the minority of the said heir, yielding & paying therefore yearly during the minority of the said heir to the Queen's Majesty's feodaries of the said counties of Essex, Cambridge & Suffolk, or to their lawful deputies for the time being, to her Highness' use, the sum of **£803 9s 8-1/2d**, that is to say, to the Queen's Majesty's feodary of the county of Essex **£581 13s 1-1/2d** [sic], to the Queen's Majesty's feodary of the county of Cambridge **£73 11s 5-3/4d**, & to the Queen's Majesty's feodary of the county of Suffolk, **£148 5s 1-1/2d** at the feasts of St. Michael the Archangel & the Annunciation of Our Lady by even portions, over & above the deductions & reprises hereafter declared, that is to say:

60s 10d yearly deducted & allowed for the fee of Aubrey Vere, keeper or parker of the new park of Hedingham aforesaid, **100s** yearly for the fee of John Tey, keeper of the great park there, **7s** yearly for the decay of the rent of one croft called Coppings, & **2s** yearly to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said lands.

21d yearly for a rent resolute going out of the manor of Grays, **8s** yearly paid for a rent resolute out of a tenement called Peppers to William, Marquis of Northampton, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said lands.

53s 4d yearly paid out of the manor of Prayors to John Bridge, bailiff there, **7s** for a rent resolute yearly going out of the said manor of Prayors (whereof 2s paid to the sheriff of the county of Essex, & 5s to Rooke Greene), **2s** yearly allowed to William Carpenter for decay of rent, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said lands [+belonging] to the said manor of Prayors.

2s to the auditor's clerk yearly allowed for engrossing the accounts of the manor of Little Yeldham.

60s 10d yearly allowed for the fee of Lewis Jegon, bailiff of the manor of Earls Colne, **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said lands.

13s 4d yearly allowed to Anthony Sparrow, bailiff of the manor of Maldon, **17s 5-1/2d** for a rent resolute going out of the said manor of Maldon (whereof paid to George Norton, knight, 17-1/2d & to the rectory of Purleigh 16s), **4s** yearly paid for a decay of rent of one tenement in Fulbridge Street by violence of the sea, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said manor of Maldon.

£6 20d yearly allowed (whereof for the fee of Wystan Browne, esquire, keeper of the park of Stansted Mountfichet, 60s 10d, & to the bailiff of the same manor 60s 10d), & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of Stansted Mountfichet.

60s 10d for the fee of William Grave, bailiff of the manor of Nether Yeldham, **8s** yearly paid for a rent resolute to the Queen's Majesty (that is to say, 2s to the hundred of

Hinckford, 2s to the honour of Clare, & 4s to the manor of Stambourne), **4s** yearly paid to John Wentworth, knight, to his manor of Wethersfield Hall, **5s 3d** yearly allowed for decay of rent of parcel of the said manor of Nether Yeldham, **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said manor of Nether Yeldham.

2s to the auditor's clerk for engrossing th' accounts of the manor of Sheriffs.

40s yearly allowed for the fee of John Turner, steward of the manor of Great Bumpstead, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said manor.

6s 8d yearly paid to John Lawrence, bailiff of the manor of Gobions, **53s 4d** for a rent resolute yearly going out of the said manor of Gobions to divers persons, **£4 13s 4d** for a pension yearly paid to the late dissolved Abbey of Barking, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said manor of Gobions.

100s yearly allowed out of the Priory of Colne (whereof £4 paid to Bartholomew Church, bailiff there, & 20s to the keeper of the wood of the said Priory), **40s 4d** for a rent resolute yearly going out of the said late Priory to the manor of Earls Colne, **17d** yearly for a rent resolute to Richard Holburgh, **2s** for a rent resolute to the honour of Clare, **30s 2d** for decay of rent of parcel of the said Priory, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said Priory.

4s for a rent resolute yearly going out of [sic] the said Priory of Colne, **4s 10d** for a rent resolute yearly paid out of the nunnery of Hedingham (whereof to John Wentworth, knight, 8d & to William Aylofffe, esquire, 4s 2d), & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts aforesaid in Hedingham.

All which reprises above rehearsed in the county of Essex amount to the clear yearly value & rent of **£46 17s 4-1/2d**.

2s to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the manor of Swaffam Bulbeck in the county of Cambridge.

53s 4d for the fee of John Bond, bailiff of the manor of Hinxtton, **10s 8d** for a rent resolute yearly paid to the Queen's Majesty out of the said manor for the aid of the sheriff of the said county, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said manor of Hinxtton.

Which reprises in the said county of Cambridge amount to the yearly rent of **68s**.

4s 7d for a rent resolute yearly going out of the manor of Lavenham in the county of Suffolk, **22s** yearly allowed for a rent of meadow occupied & reserved for hay for the finding of deer in the park of Lavenham aforesaid, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of ye said manor of Lavenham.

2s allowed to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the manor of Earls Hall.

53s 4d yearly allowed to Robert Christmas, steward of the manor of East Bergholt, **8s 7d** for a tenth or rent reserved out of the manor of precept [sic?] yearly to the Queen's Majesty, **20s** yearly paid to the Queen's Majesty out of the manor of Old Hall, & **2s** to the auditor's clerk for engrossing the accounts of the said manor of East Bergholt.

Which reprises in the county of Suffolk amount to the yearly rent of **114s 7d**.

All which reprises above rehearsed in the said counties of Essex, Cambridge & Suffolk amount in the whole to the yearly value & rent of **£55 19s 11-1/2d**.

And the said Lord Robert Dudley covenanteth & granteth for him & his assigns by these presents that he, the said Lord Robert Dudley, & his assigns over & besides the said rent before reserved shall also content & pay to the Receiver-General of the said Court to the use of our said Sovereign Lady or of her heirs & successors all such sums of money which shall hereafter be found due & payable for the mean rates & profits of the said lordships, manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances from the last half year of the said term until such time as the said lordships, manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances be prosecuted and had out of the hands & possession of our said Sovereign Lady or of her heirs & successors by livery, ouster-le-main or otherwise, according to the order of the law;

And the said Lord Robert Dudley covenanteth & granteth for him & his assigns by these presents that he, said Lord Robert Dudley, & his assigns during the said term shall at his & their own proper costs & charges make or cause to be made all manner of necessary & needful reparations in & upon the said lordships, manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances when & as often as need shall require, except upon the manor[s] of Hedingham & Earls Colne aforesaid with th' appurtenances, for which the said Lord Robert Dudley shall have all such sums of money as he shall necessarily employ upon the said 2 houses according as shall be thought meet & necessary for [sic?] the said Master & Council for the time being, & so sufficiently repaired in th' end of the said term shall leave the same;

& shall discharge, content & pay yearly all rents resolute & other charges other than tenths lawfully demanded & going out of the said lordships, manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances;

And likewise also shall from time to time permit & suffer the said feodaries for the time being to survey the said lordships, manors & lands, as well for the knowledge of the performance of the covenants contained in this indenture on the behalf of the said Lord Robert Dudley & his assigns, as of all wastes, incommodities, hurts & decays already fallen & which may arise & grow to th' hindrance of the said heir or to th' impairment of the Queen's Majesty's right and profit, and shall at all times hereafter be contented to receive & fulfil all such further orders which the said Master & Council shall take for the redress of any default found by the said survey, as neither the Queen's Majesty nor her

Highness' said ward do sustain any loss or prejudice by their negligence or for lack of their help to whom the charge thereof appertaineth;

And the said Lord Robert Dudley covenanteth & granteth for him & his assigns by these presents that if at any time hereafter by the said survey of the Master & Council or any other by them authorized, it be found that the said manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances were of better or more yearly value or rent at the time of the making hereof than the rent before reserved doth amount unto, or that any rent or profit whereof the Queen's Majesty ought to be answered be omitted & not truly reserved upon this lease, that then the said Lord Robert Dudley & his assigns shall content & pay yearly during the said term to the said feodaries for the time being to her Highness' use at the feasts before limited for payment of the said rent the overplus found by the said survey to be above the said rent of **£803 9s 8-1/2d**, & above the profits of the courts, parks or the demesne lands belonging or appertaining to the said Earl's houses, & shall likewise content & pay the arrearages of the same overplus from the beginning of this lease & grant;

And the said Lord Robert Dudley covenanteth & granteth for him & his assigns by these presents that he, the said Lord Robert Dudley, & his assigns shall cause the courts heretofore had and used upon the said manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances to be yearly kept by the stewards of the said Edward, now Earl of Oxford, or by such other as shall be appointed by the said Master & Council, the court rolls engrossed & surely laid up together with all other evidences or writings coming to th' hands of the said Lord Robert Dudley or his assigns concerning th' inheritance of the said heir, as the[y] may come to him at the time of his full age without concealment, embezzling, or loss of them or any parcel of them to the knowledge of the said Lord Robert Dudley or his assigns;

And further also that neither he, the said Lord Robert Dudley, or his assigns shall do or suffer to be done any strip, waste, spoil, ruin or disorder upon the said manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances or any part thereof, ne wittingly decay any rent or service belonging to the same, nor expel or put out any tenant or tenants holding any part of the premises other than such as hold the parks & demesne lands of the said now Earl [] as they shall fall during the minority of the said heir without knowledge & agreement of the said Master & Council for the time being, and if at any time hereafter during the said term any strip, waste, spoil, disorder, intrusion or encroachment be unlawfully done or made upon the said manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances or any part or parcel thereof to the prejudice of the inheritance of the said heir, that then the said Lord Robert Dudley & his assigns, as much as in him & them lieth, shall withstand & defend the same, & for lack of power & sufficient authority so to do shall forthwith, after knowledge thereof had, certify the same to the Master & Council aforesaid for the time being, & receive & prosecute forth their order for the reformation thereof to & for th' advancement of the Queen's Majesty's interest & right & for the safeguard of th' inheritance of the said heir;

And it is agreed on the behalf of the Queen's Majesty by the said Master & Council that the said Lord Robert Dudley & his assigns during the said term shall have & take upon the said manors, lands & other the premises by th' assignment of the said Master & Council for the time being, or any other by them authorized, sufficient housebote, firebote, hedgebote, ploughbote and cartbote, only to be used & expended in & about the said manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances;

And the said Lord Robert Dudley covenanteth & granteth for him & his assigns by these presents that he, the said Lord Robert Dudley, & his assigns shall not give, grant, commit, bargain or sell this lease or his interest in the same to any person or persons without knowledge & agreement of the said Master & Council for the time being, & shall once in every year during the said term bring or send to the Auditor-General of the said Court of Wards & Liveries his acquittances declaring payment of the rent before reserved or hereafter growing upon this lease, and also bring the same lease within one half year next after the date thereof to have the same there enrolled as the same Auditor may have perfect knowledge & understanding how to charge & allow the said rent or other charge arising upon the same lease at all times when need shall require;

And it is provided on the behalf of the Queen's Majesty by the said Master & Council that if at any time hereafter during the said term it fortune the said rent of **£803 9s 8-1/2d** to be behind unpaid in part or in all after any of the said feasts in the which it ought to be paid by the space of 2 months, or if any of the said covenants be broken, unkept & not reformed within 3 months next after lawful warning to him or them thereof given, that then this present lease to be void & of none effect;

And that it shall be lawful for the said Master & Council for the time being or any other by them authorized into the said manors, lands & other the premises with th' appurtenances & every part thereof not only to re-enter, and the same to repossede & continue to th' use of the Queen's Majesty, but also to distrain the goods & cattles of the said Lord Robert Dudley & his assigns, & the same to drive away, withhold, bargain & sell to th' use of the Queen's Majesty until her Highness be fully answered & paid, as well of the rents & of th' arrearages thereof as of the value of the detriment & damage sustained by the breaking of the said covenants or of any clause or article before mentioned, this lease or anything therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding;

In witness whereof to thone part of these indentures remaining with the said Lord Robert Dudley our said Sovereign Lady's seal of her Grace's Court of Wards & Liveries with th' advice of the Master & Council of her Grace's said Court is affixed & set, & to thother part remaining with our said Sovereign Lady in her Grace's said Court the said Lord Robert Dudley hath put to his seal & subscribed his name the 22nd day of October in the fifth year [=22 October 1563] of our said Sovereign Lady's most gracious reign.

Viz., for two such feasts falling within the time of this account. And there remains:
Total: **£803 9s 8-1/2d**

Total of the whole receipt with the arrearages: £1042 10s 7-3/4d, to which he is charged with **£19** as of all moneys by the foresaid accountant received of part of the issues of the manor of Lavenham with the appurtenances, parcel of the foresaid lands, owed for the middle of the year ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in the 4th year [=29 September 1562] of the same Lady Queen, as in the same in the foot more fully appears, and thus by the totals he owes forthwith: **£1061 10s 7-3/4d**, of which there is allowed to him **£4** of moneys paid by the said accountant to William Cordell, knight, Master of the Rolls of the Lady Queen, steward of the foresaid manor of Lavenham, at **40s** by year thus to him by the foresaid late Earl of Oxenford granted for the reason of the exercise of that office. It is allowed here by virtue of the warrant of the foresaid Lady Queen, so signed by her own hand as sealed under the signet of the same Lady Queen, dated the 19th day of March in the fifth year [=19 March 1563] of her reign and directed to the Master & Council of the Court of Wards & Liveries of the same Lady Queen for the allowance, so of the foresaid fee as of divers other fees & annuities to divers persons by the forenamed late Earl of Oxenford granted, as appears by a certain decree made thereof in the Court of Wards & Liveries of the foresaid Lady Queen in Easter term in the 6th year of her reign, of which certain decree the tenor follows in these words.

In Easter term in the 6th year of the Lady Elizabeth, Queen:

Where the right honourable John De Vere, late Earl of Oxenford, deceased, in his lifetime as well in consideration of good counsel to him given & to be given, and also for true & faithful service to him, the said Earl, to be had & done, as for divers & sundry other good & reasonable considerations him thereunto specially moving, by his several deeds severally to divers persons did give & grant divers & sundry offices, fees & annuities for term of their natural lives, that is to say:

To Sir William Cordell, knight, Master of the Rolls, the stewardship of the manor of Lavenham with the fee of **40s** by year;

To Henry Golding, the constableness of the castle of Camps, the keeping of the park and bailiwick there, with the yearly fee of **£9 11s 3d** [sic?] out of the same manor for th' exercising of the same office, and also one annuity of **£20** by year going out of the manor of Thornecombe;

To Robert Christmas, the keeping of the park of Lavenham with **£6** yearly for the fee of the same, & **£20** yearly going out of the lands & tenements of the said Earl in the county of Chester;

To John Turner, the general surveyorship of all the said Earl's lands with the yearly fee of **£20** for the exercising of the same going out of the said manor of Lavenham;

To John Booth, the keeping of Colne Park with **£6** [sic?] yearly fee;

To Robert Read, the bailiwick of Bumpstead with **60s** yearly fee;

To Thomas Bacon, the bailiwick of Lavenham with the yearly fee of **£4**;

To John Lovell, one yearly annuity of **£10** going out of the manor of Camps;

To George Tyrrell, one yearly annuity [+of] **£6 13s 4d** going out of the manor of Hedingham;

And also to Edward Clere, **£20** by year out of the manor of Thornecombe;

To John Davy, one annuity of **40s** going out of the manor of Lavenham;

To Richard Wood, the bailiwick of Whitchurch with **£4** out of the said manor for the exercising of the same;

To John Clench, the stewardship of certain lands in the county of Buckingham with the fee of **40s** [sic?] per annum;

To William Brewster, the keeping of the park of Hedingham, the constableness of the castle there, & th' office of bailiwick with the fee of **£17 20d** for th' exercising of the same offices, & also one annuity of **£6 13s 4d** out of the manor of Hedingham;

To Thomas Fowle, one annuity of **£10** out of the manor of Lavenham;

To Thomas Phillips & Jane his wife, one annuity of **£13 6s 8d** of the lands in the county of Hertford;

And to Anthony Stapleton **£13 6s 8d** yearly during his natural life for his counsel given & to be given unto the said Earl;

& to John Turner for his service done & to be done unto the said Earl, one annuity or yearly fee of **£10** during his natural life out of the manor of Lavenham;

& divers other fees to sundry of the councillors & trusty servants of the said Earl, the payment of which said fees & annuities have been deferred ever since the death of the said late Earl, as well of purpose to have the said deeds of grants truly proved to be sealed & delivered as the several deeds of the said late Earl as also for that the Queen's Majesty might be made privy thereunto before any allowance thereof should pass;

And now forasmuch as the said several grants have been severally proved to be the several deeds of the late Earl & delivered by the said Earl as his deeds before commissioners appointed for the finding of th' office after the death of the said Earl, & be found & entered in the said office;

And forasmuch also as the Queen her Majesty hath been made privy thereunto & hath thereupon signified her pleasure in this Court by a bill signed with her most gracious hand & signed with her signet & remaining in this honourable Court of record, & by the

same authorizeth her trusty & well-beloved councillor Sir William Cecil, knight, Master of her Wards & Liveries, & the rest of the Council of this Court by their discretions to allow by decree or other order in the said Court all or such of the said grants as to them shall be thought convenient, as well for the time sithence the possessions of the said late Earl came unto the Queen her Highness' hands by the minority of the now Earl as also during the time as the same possessions or any of them be & shall be & remain in the said Queen her Highness' hands, & for such further & so long time as to the said Master of the said Wards & Liveries & the Council of the said Court should be thought requisite & needful, and the said bill assigned should be a sufficient discharge to the Master of the Wards & Liveries & the said Council to pass the same by decree or other order in the said Court, & also good warrant to the Receiver to make payment of the same & to th' Auditor to make allowance for the same from time to time according unto the said order touching the premises, as by the said bill assigned remaining in this honourable Court as before is said doth at large more plainly appear;

Whereupon the first day of May in this present term of Easter [=1 May 1564] it is ordered & decreed by the right honourable Sir William Cecil, knight, Principal Secretary to the said Queen her Highness, & Master of her Court of Wards & Liveries, & by the Council of the same Court in form as followeth, that is to say, that all the said persons before specified & named shall have & enjoy all their said several fees & annuities before rehearsed according to their said several grants & assurances, & also shall have & enjoy all th' arrearages of the same annuities & fees & other profits to them severally granted as is before [+said];

Provided also that where before it appeareth that divers of the said annuities be going out of divers manors, lands & tenements which be at these presents in the possession of the now Earl, the Queen's Majesty's ward, & come to him as a purchaser, it is now ordered that the same shall be paid out of such of the manors, lands & tenements as be appointed to her Majesty for her third part for that her Highness hath more than a full third part, & for that also the Queen's Majesty's pleasure is they should so be paid according to the tenor of her Highness' said warrant in such manner & form & at such days & times as are contained in their several grants thereof, and also for & during all such time & times as the possessions of the late Earl shall remain in the said Queen's Highness' hands by reason of the minority of the said now Earl if the said Master and Council shall so think it meet and convenient & make no order hereafter to the contrary, and that this present order and decree shall be as well a sufficient warrant to the Receiver-General of this honourable Court & to the bailiffs and farmers of the said now Earl to pay the said fees and annuities yearly to the persons before specially named according to the purpose of the said several grants, as also to the Auditor or Auditors for the allowance of the same during the time appointed and ordered by this decree;

And furthermore it is ordered by the said Master and Council that all person & persons that hereafter shall be by them admitted to enjoy any other fees & annuities to them granted by the said late Earl shall have and enjoy in like manner the benefit of this present order & decree in as large manner as the persons before specially named shall or may do;

Provided always that if her Majesty shall lack of a 3rd part or of so much as she ought to have by reason of the allowance of the said annuities, that then the said Master and Council may & shall at all times hereafter take up [+of] the residue of the lands & tenements of the said Earl so much as shall make a full third part, or so much as her Highness of right ought to have;

Provided also that the said Master and Council may at any time hereafter upon such consideration as to them shall seem reasonable revoke the allowance of all the same annuities or of so many of them as they shall think meet & convenient, anything in this decree to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Viz., in allowance of this kind, namely, for two entire years ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in this 6th year [=29 September 1564] of the foresaid Lady Elizabeth now Queen according to the foresaid rate by year by virtue of the foresaid decree, beyond **20s** for the half year for the foresaid fee owed at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in the 4th year [=1562] of the same Lady Queen allowed in the account of Edward Glascock, bailiff of the manor of Lavenham in the county of Suffolk, parcel of the foresaid lands, from the fifth year of the foresaid Lady Queen, as there more fully appears.

And to the same, **£15** of like moneys by the said accountant paid to Robert Christmas, keeper of the foresaid park of Lavenham, at **£6** by year here allowed in the name of his fee, so by virtue of the warrant of the foresaid Lady Queen specified in the item next above as by virtue of the foresaid decree of this year in the same item enrolled at large, viz., in such allowance of the fee, namely for two entire years & a half ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in this 6th year [=1564] of the Lady Elizabeth now Queen for the reason aforesaid.

And to the same, **£50** of like moneys by the said accountant paid to John Turner in the name of his fee for exercising the office of surveyor-general of all the lands & possessions of the said late Earl of Oxenford at **£20** by year thus to him granted by letters patent of the foresaid late Earl out of the manor of Lavenham aforesaid, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for the foresaid time according to the foresaid rate by year, so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree.

And to the same, **£20** of like moneys by the said accountant paid to the forenamed John Turner in the name of his annuity at **£10** by year thus to him granted as above out of the foresaid manor of Lavenham, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for two entire years ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in this 6th year [=1564] of the now Lady Queen, so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree, beyond **100s** allowed yearly in the account of the foresaid Edward Glascock, bailiff of the same manor, from the 5th year of the foresaid now Lady Queen for the foresaid annuity owed for the moiety of the year ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in the 4th year [=1562] of the same Lady Queen, as there more fully appears.

And to the same, **£8** of like moneys by the said accountant paid to Thomas Bacon, bailiff of the manor of Lavenham aforesaid at **£4** by year to him granted as above, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for the foresaid time so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree, beyond **40s** for the foresaid fee owed for the half year ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in the 4th year [=1562] of the foresaid Lady Queen, allowed as in the next item is noted down.

And to the same, **£4** of like moneys by the said accountant paid to John Davy in the name of his annuity to him granted out of the manor of Lavenham aforesaid at **40s** by year for term of his life, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for the foresaid time according to the foresaid rate by year, beyond **20s** for the foresaid annuity owed for the moiety of the year ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in the 4th year [=1562] of the foresaid Lady Queen, allowed as above in the account of the foresaid manor of Lavenham of the next preceding year, as there more fully appears.

And to the same, **£12 3s 4d** of like moneys paid by the said accountant to John Booth, keeper of the park of Colne, in the name of his fee at **£6 20d** by year thus to him by the foresaid late Earl granted for the reason of the exercise of that office, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for the foresaid time, so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree, beyond **60s 10d** for the foresaid fee owed for the moiety of the year ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in the 4th year [=1562] of the foresaid now Lady Queen to him allowed in the account of Luke Jegon, bailiff of the foresaid manor of Colne, in the next preceding year, as there appears.

And to the same, **£8** of like moneys paid by the said accountant to Thomas Bridge in the name of his annuity at **£4** by year to him granted by the forenamed late Earl out of the manor of Colne, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for the foresaid time so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree, beyond **40s** for the foresaid annuity allowed to him in the account of the same manor of the next preceding year, as there appears.

And to the same, **£10** of like moneys paid by the said accountant to John Ludham in the name of his annuity at **£4** by year thus to him granted by the foresaid late Earl out of the manor of Great Yeldham, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for two entire years & a half ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in this 6th year [=1564] of the Lady Elizabeth now Queen, so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree.

And to the same, **£6** of like moneys paid by the said accountant to Robert Read for occupying the office of bailiff of the manor of Bumpstead in the name of his fee at **60s** by year thus to him granted for the reason of the exercise of that office, viz., in allowance of this kind, so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree, namely for two entire years ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in this 6th year [=1564] of the Lady Elizabeth now Queen, beyond **30s** allowed to him for the moiety of the year ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in the 4th year [=1562] of the Lady Elizabeth now Queen in his account of the next preceding year, as there appears.

And to the same, **£24 16s 8d** of like moneys paid by the said accountant to William Brewster in the name of his fees for occupying the office of constable of the castle of Hedingham (**£4 6s 8d**), of keeper of the park there (**100s 10d**) & of bailiff of the manor there (**60s 10d**) at **£12 8s 4d** by year thus to him granted for the reason of the exercise of those offices, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for the foresaid time, so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree, beyond **£6 4s 2d** allowed for the same fees for the moiety of the year ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in the 4th year [=1562] of the foresaid Lady Queen Elizabeth in the account of the foresaid honour or castle of Hedingham of the next preceding year, as there particularly appears.

And to the same, **£13 6s 8d** of like moneys paid by the said accountant to the forenamed William Brewster in the name of his annuity at **£6 13s 4d** by year thus to him granted out of Hedingham aforesaid by the foresaid late Earl of Oxenford, viz., in allowance of this kind, namely for the foresaid time according to the foresaid rate by year, so by virtue of the warrant as of the foresaid decree, for the reason aforesaid.

And in moneys delivered to John Glascock, feodary & receiver of all the lands of the wards of the Lady Queen in the county of Essex according to his acknowledgement on this account: **£607 23-1/2d**.

And [+in] moneys delivered to John Southwell, feodary & receiver of all the lands of the wards of the Lady Queen in the county of Suffolk according to his acknowledgement on this account: **£131 15s 10d**.

And in moneys delivered to William Bugby, feodary & receiver of all the lands of the wards of the Lady Queen in the county of Cambridge according to his acknowledgement on this account: **£106 2s 4-1/2d di qa**.

[LM: Paid to the feodary of the county of Essex]

[LM: Paid to the feodary of the county of Suffolk]

[LM: Paid to the feodary of the county of Cambridge]

And he owes: £41 3s 9-1/2d di qa.

Whereof

Above

Francis Jobson, knight, farmer of the warren of coneys in le Castle park, of one le hop-garden, & of one dove-cote within Castle Hedingham in the county of Essex at **66s 8d** by year of moneys in his hands remaining unpaid of his foresaid rent, namely for two entire years ended at the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel in this 6th year [=1564] of the Lady Elizabeth now Queen according to the foresaid rate by year, still in arrears: **£6 13s 4d**.

The same Francis Jobson, knight, farmer of a certain meadow called Rush mead at **28s** by year of like moneys in his hands remaining unpaid of the issues of the same, namely for the foresaid time, still in arrears: **56s**.

Executors of Charles Tyrrell, esquire, farmer of lands called Bonners in le Gall with other lands in Earls Colne in the county of Essex at **65s 4d** by year of moneys in their hands remaining unpaid of the issues of his foresaid farm, namely for the foresaid time: **£6 10s 8d**.

Thomas Dudley, esquire, farmer of the manor of Flanderswick in Maldon in the county of Essex at **£8 6s 8d** by year of moneys in his hands remaining unpaid of the issues of his foresaid farm, namely for the foresaid time according to the foresaid rate by year, still in arrears: **£16 13s 4d**.

Executors of the foresaid Charles Tyrrell, farmer of a certain meadow in Nether Yeldham in the foresaid county of Essex lately being in the hands of the lord at **26s 8d** by year of moneys in their hands remaining unpaid of the issues of the same, namely for the foresaid time according to the foresaid rate by year: **53s 4d**.

Himself, the accountant, of his arrearages of this year unpaid: **117s 10-1/2d di qa**.