

SUMMARY: The document below is the report by Thomas Neale and William Baynham of the results of their audit of the accounts of Michael Lok (c.1532–1620x22). The report was certified into the High Court of Chancery in compliance with a writ of certiorari dated 6 May 1583. See also McDermott, James, ed., *The Third Voyage of Martin Frobisher to Baffin Island 1578* (London: Hakluyt Society, 2001), p. 47.

Michael Lok's accounts concern the three voyages made by Martin Frobisher (1535?-1594) to Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic in the years 1576-1578. The auditors' report below establishes that Oxford invested £2520 in the Frobisher voyages, losing his entire investment when the alleged 'gold' ore brought back from Baffin Island proved to be worthless. Oxford was also assessed at and paid £180 for the building of the workhouses at Dartford at which the worthless ore was refined (see TNA E 164/36, pp. 171-3). It appears from the wording of report below that the assessment of £180 is included in the figure of £2520. The report below establishes that by 6 May 1583 Oxford still owed £540, indicating that he had paid £1980 by that date. It seems clear that his disastrous investment in the Frobisher voyages was a significant factor in Oxford's financial downfall.

For additional documents concerning the amount of Oxford's investment in the Frobisher voyages, see TNA SP 12/149/42, ff. 98-108. For a letter from Michael Lok's nephew, Henry Lok, to Lord Burghley in which he states that Oxford was persuaded to invest by Martin Frobisher, see TNA SP 12/234/6, ff. 8-9.

I must be ready by oath and otherwise to prove what I affirm and his Honour knoweth for true, that Sir Martin Frobisher persuaded it, Edward Fenton writ letters, and William Walters carried them between my Lord and my uncle till all was concluded during my absence in Lincolnshire with my Lord Willoughby.

The remaining pages of the auditors' report, which concern the auditing of Michael Lok's accounts, have not been transcribed.

Persons named in the document below include:

Allen, Thomas
Andrews, Christopher
Baynham, William
Bond, William, the younger (son of William Bond, d. 1576?)
Borough, William (bap. 1536, d. 1598)
Richard Bowland (d. by 1586)
Bowyer, Simon
Brocket, Sir John
Bird, William, the elder
Caesar [formerly Adelmare], Sir Julius (bap. 1558, d. 1636)
Carey, Henry, 1st Baron Hunsdon (1526–1596)
Cecil, William (1520/21-1598), 1st Baron Burghley

Clinton, Edward Fiennes de (1512-1585), 1st Earl of Lincoln
Dee, John (1527-1609)
De Vere, Edward (1550-1604), 17th Earl of Oxford
Dougle, William
Duckett, Sir Lionel (d. 1587)
Dudley, Ambrose (c.1530-1590), Earl of Warwick
Dudley [nee Russell], Anne, Countess of Warwick (1548/9–1604)
Dudley, Robert (1532/3-1588), Earl of Leicester
Dyer, Sir Edward (1543-1607)
Field, Matthew
Frobisher, Sir Martin (1535?-1594)
Gresham, Sir Thomas (c.1581-1579)
Herbert, Henry, 2nd Earl of Pembroke (b. in or after 1538, d. 1601)
Herbert [nee Sidney], Mary, Countess of Pembroke (1561–1621)
Hogan, Edmund
Hudson, Christopher
Jenkinson, Anthony (1529–1610/11)
Kindersley, Anne Frances
Kindersley, Matthew
Kindersley, Robert
Knollys, Sir Francis (1511/12-1596)
Lok, Michael (c.1532-1620x22)
Marler, Anthony
Martyn, Dame Elizabeth (d.1583)
Martyn, Robert
Neale, Thomas
Ormeshawe, William
Owen, Thomas (d. 1598)
Painter, William (1540?–1595)
Pelham, Sir William (d.1587)
Radcliffe [nee Sidney], Frances, Countess of Sussex (1531?–1589)
Radcliffe, Thomas (1526/7-1583), 3rd Earl of Sussex
Randolph, Thomas (1525/6-1590)
Sidney, Sir Philip (1554–1586)
Somers, John
Talbot (nee Herbert), Lady Anne
Turville, Geoffrey (d. by 1586)
Wallop, Sir Henry (c.1531–1599)
Walsingham, Sir Francis (c.1532-1590)
Wilson, Thomas (1523/4-1581)
Winter, Sir William (c.1525-1589)
Young, Richard

The account of Michael Lok, late Treasurer of the three several voyages made to Meta Incognita in the three several years of 1576, 1577 & 1578 by Martin Frobisher, general captain thereof, made and audited before us, Thomas Neale & William Baynham, esquires, according to the tenor & effect of two several letters from the Queen's Majesty's most honourable Privy Council to us directed in that behalf, the one dated the 12 day of August 1580 with certain articles thereunto annexed, the other dated the 6 day of May 1581, which account & letters we do certify into the High Court of Chancery according to the tenor of the Queen's Majesty's writ of certiorari bearing date under the Great Seal of England the 6 day of May in this 25th year [=6 May 1583] of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc. to us directed for the same, which account, among other things, followeth:

First, the whole cessment of all the adventurers for their stock & venture in the said three voyages and for the building of workhouses erected near Dartford in Kent for the working of the mineral ore brought home in the said voyages, as in the said accounts the adventurers are cessed by their own consents or(?) by order of the Commissioners for the said voyages appearing by their particular names & sums hereunder following amounteth in all to the sum of £20,345, viz.:

The Queen's Majesty	£4000
The Lord Burghley, Lord High Treasurer of England	£ 400
The Earl of Lincoln, Lord High Admiral of England	£ 400
The Earl of Sussex, Lord Chamberlain to her Majesty	£ 400
The Earl of Warwick	£ 400
The Earl of Leicester	£ 600
The Lord of Hunsdon	£ 140
Sir Francis Knollys, knight, Treasurer of her Majesty's Household	£ 200
Sir Francis Walsingham, knight, her Majesty's Principal Secretary	£ 800
Mr Thomas Wilson, one of her Majesty's Secretaries	£ 200
The Earl of Oxford	£2520
The Earl of Pembroke	£ 600
The Countess of Sussex	£ 140
The Countess of Warwick	£ 200
The Countess of Pembroke	£ 100
The Lady Anne Talbot	£ 35
Sir Henry Wallop, knight	£ 200
Sir Thomas Gresham, knight	£ 800
Sir Lionel Duckett, knight	£ 200
Sir William Winter, knight	£ 300
Sir John Brocket, knight	£ 200
Dame Elizabeth Martyn, widow	£ 70

Mr Philip Sidney	£ 200
Mr William Pelham	£ 200
Mr Thomas Randolph	£ 200
Mr Edward Dyer	£ 100
John Somers, Clerk of the Council	£ 200
Simon Bowyer, Gentleman Usher	£ 100
John Dee, gentleman	£ 100
Anthony Jenkinson	£ 200
Geoffrey Turville	£ 200
Richard Bowland	£ 200
William Painter	£ 200
Anne Frances Kindersley, widow	£ 210
Matthew Kindersley	£ 100
Robert Kindersley	£ 200
William Bird th' elder	£ 140
William Ormeshawe	£ 100
Thomas Allen	£ 200
Richard Young	£ 200
Christopher Hudson	£ 200
Edmund Hogan	£ 400
Matthew Field	£ 200
William Bond the younger	£ 400
Thomas Owen	£ 100
William Borough	£ 140
William Dougle	£ 100
Anthony Marler	£ 100
Julius Caesar Adelmare	£ 100
Christopher Andrews	£ 35
Robert Martyn	£ 35
Martin Frobisher	£ 400
Michael Lok	£2180

Sum of all the said cessments £20,345

Item, of the said sum of £20,345 the said adventurers have already paid and disbursed as particularly followeth, viz.:

To Michael Lok	£16,404 6s 8d)	
To Thomas Allen	£ 1,053 10s)	
To William Borough	£ 240)	
Sum			£17,697 16s 8d

And so there is remaining of the said cessment not yet received of the said adventurers but is still owing

by the persons appearing particularly hereunder the
 sum of £ 2,647 3s 4d
 whereof received by Mr Allen

viz.:

The Lord Burghley, Lord High Treasurer of England	£ 65
The Earl of Lincoln, Lord High Admiral of England	£ 65
The Earl of Sussex	£ 65
The Earl of Warwick	£ 75
The Earl of Leicester	£ 11 3s 4d
The Lord Hunsdon	£ 85
Sir Francis Knollys, knight	£ 32 10s
Sir Francis Walsingham, knight	£ 20
The Earl of Oxford	£540
The Earl of Pembroke	£187 10s
The Countess of Sussex	£140
The Countess of Warwick	£ 62 10s
The Countess of Pembroke	£ 31 5s
The Lady Anne Talbot	£ 10
Sir Henry Wallop, knight	£ 5
Sir Lionel Duckett, knight	£ 67 10s
Sir William Winter, knight	£ 60
Sir John Brocket, knight	£ 82 10s
Sir William Pelham, knight	£140
Mr Thomas Randolph	£ 85
Mr Philip Sidney	£ 72 10s
Mr Edward Dyer	£ 70
John Somers	£ 72 10s
Simon Bowyer	£ 28 15s
John Dee	50s
Anthony Jenkinson	£ 62 10s
William Painter	£ 5
Geoffrey Turville	£ 12
Richard Bowland	£ 32 10s
Anne Frances Kindersley	£ 7 10s
Matthew Kindersley	£ 31 5s
Robert Kindersley	£ 62 10s
William Bird th' elder	£ 20
Thomas Owen	£ 15 5s
William Dougle	50s
Julius Caesar Adelmare	50s
Christopher Andrews	£ 5
Robert Martyn	£ 20
Martin Frobisher	£280

Michael Lok

£ 26 10s

Sum of all the said cessment owing by the said
adventurers not yet received of them

£2647 3s 4d

And so there is remaining of the said cessments not yet
received of the said adventurers but is still owing by
certain persons of the said adventurers whose names &
sums do appear particularly in a schedule remaining
with us, the said Thomas Neale and William Baynham,
the sum of

£2647 3s 4d