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SUMMARY: This unsigned note is in Lord Burghley's distinctive hand. It deals with a problem encountered in the preparation of the letters patent authorizing the purchasers of Oxford's lands to pay his debt to the Queen in the Court of Wards. As outlined by Lord Burghley, the problem would appear to be that in the letters patent the Queen retained power to cancel the letters patent at her pleasure, yet by virtue of the bonds given by the purchasers to the Queen they would still be liable for the principal amount of Oxford's debt to the Court of Wards. In order to resolve the problem, Lord Burghley proposes that the purchasers give collateral bonds to the Queen containing a proviso that they would be credited for the amounts received by execution against the lands in question. The note likely dates from 1587.

LM: To be considered:

By the provisos the Queen may revoke the whole force of the grant, and yet by the bonds delivered by the patentees to her Majesty for answering the principal, her Majesty shall have her debt of the patentees by force of their bonds, and they without remedy for levying of the said sums;

And thereto consideration would be had how that inconvenience may be remedied if some collateral bond were made by the patentees to her Majesty containing the substance of the proviso with a condition that the patentees shall pay no more of the principal debt than shall be proved in the Exchequer or Court of Wards that they have justly received by the execution clear above all their reasonable charges;

Whether such a provision may not seem reasonable, and hereby the proviso may be left out of the patent, so as before the patent be delivered the bond also be acknowledged by the patentees to her Majesty.