

SUMMARY: The document below is an excerpt from a list dated Thursday, 20 January 1575 indicating the allowances for bouche of court in the Queen's household for bread ('panis') and drink ('potus').

According to the Oxford English Dictionary, available online, 'bouge' is a corrupt form of 'bouche', meaning:

An allowance of victual granted by a king or noble to his household, his attendants on a military expedition, etc. Only in (or with reference to) the phrase to have bouche of (in) court = French avoir bouche a (en) cour, literally 'to have mouth at court'.

The list provides the names of some of Oxford's contemporaries at court on 20 January 1575 as Oxford was preparing to leave England on a continental tour. For Oxford's licence to travel, see TNA E 157/1, f. 1.

Only a small part of the document has been translated below, i.e. only those allowed bouche of court who are designated in the list as individuals, either by name or by title.

Anno 17o R{egine} E{lizabeth}

Hantoni die Iouis, 20 Ianuarij

Boug de Curia

Earl of Arundel
Earl of Warwick
Earl of Leicester, with gentlemen
Earl of Lincoln
Earl of Bedford
Earl of Oxford
Lord Treasurer
Lord Chamberlain
Lady Derby
Lady Marquis
Lady Stafford
Lady Howard
Lady Cobham
Lady Talbot
Lady Sidney
Lady Hunsdon
Lady Cheke
Mrs Scudamore
Mrs Edmonds

Mrs Drury
Mr Secretary with gentlemen
Mr Secretary Walsingham
Master of the Revels
Bishop of Westminster(?)
Treasurer of the Chamber
Sir George Howard
Mr Lichfield
Mr Alfances
Master of Requests
Mr Hatton