

SUMMARY: The document below consists of interrogatories in Oxford's hand to be put to Lord Henry Howard and Charles Arundel. For Arundel's answers, which consist principally of denials and counter-accusations, see TNA SP 12/151/43, ff. 95, 97. The very close correspondence between Oxford's interrogatories and Arundel's answers indicates that Arundel was responding to allegations written in Oxford's own distinctive handwriting, which Arundel would of course have recognized immediately. This can only have increased Howard and Arundel's enmity towards Oxford, which perhaps was the reason why the authorities chose to proceed in this manner rather than providing Arundel with interrogatories drawn up by a clerk from Oxford's notes.

Although two of Oxford's interrogatories were specifically designated for Henry Howard, Arundel responded to those as well.

For a discussion of the events which gave rise to the interrogatories, see TNA 15/27/46, ff. 81-2.

Persons referred to in the interrogatories include:

-Charles Arundel (d.1587), son of Sir Thomas Arundel (c.1502-1552) and Margaret Howard (d.1571), sister of Queen Katherine Howard

-Henry Howard (1540-1614), later Earl of Northampton, son of Henry Howard (1516/17-1547), Earl of Surrey, and Frances de Vere (1517-1577), daughter of John de Vere (1482-1540), 15th Earl of Oxford

-Henry Percy (c.1532-1585), 8th Earl of Northumberland

-James VI and I (1566-1625), King of Scotland, Ireland and England

-Francois-Hercules (1555-1584), Duke of Alencon, commonly referred to by the title 'Monsieur'

-Henri (1550-1588), 3rd Duke of Guise

-Swift (unidentified, but perhaps Thomas Swift, whose sister, Anne Swift, married the poet Thomas Watson)

- Sir George Gifford (1552-1613), gentleman-pensioner, son of John Gifford (1523-1563) and Elizabeth Throckmorton, the daughter of Sir George Throckmorton of Coughton and Catherine Vaux; Gifford married Eleanor Brydges, the daughter of Edmund Brydges (1522-1573), 2nd Baron Chandos, and Dorothy Braye

-Thomas Radcliffe (1526/7-1583), 3rd Earl of Sussex, Lord Chamberlain of the Household

-Robert Dudley (1532/3-1588), Earl of Leicester, (not mentioned by name, but referred to by Oxford as Sussex' 'enemy')

-Sir John Arundel (d.1590) of Traherne, Cornwall

-Jean de Simier, Baron de Saint-Marc

-Louis de Clermont (1549?-1579), Seigneur de Bussy d'Amboise

-Philip II (1527-1598), King of Spain

-John Jerningham (1525-1592) of Somerleyton

Item, to be demanded of Charles Arundel and Henry Howard

What combination, for that is their term, was made at certain suppers, one in Fish Street, as I take it, another at my Lord of Northumberland's, for they have often spoken hereof, and glanced in their speeches.

Further, for H{enry} Howard

If he never spake or heard these speeches spoken, that the King of Scots began now to put on spurs on his heels, and so soon as the matter of Monsieur were assured to be at an end, that then within six months we should see the Q{ueen's} Majesty to be the most troubled and discontented person living.

Further, the same

Hath said the Duke of Guise, who was a rare and gallant gentleman, should be the man to come into Scotland, who would breach her Majesty for all her wantonness, and it were good to let her take her humour for a while, for she had not long to play.

Item, to Charles Arundel

A little before Christmas at my lodging in Westminster, Swift being present, and George Gifford, talking of the order of living by money and difference between that and revenue by land, he [=Arundel] said at the last if George Gifford could make three thousand pound he would set him into a course where he need not care for all England, and there he should live more to his content and with more reputation than ever he did or might hope for in England, and they would make all the court here wonder to hear of them, with divers other brave and glorious speeches, whereat George Gifford replied, God's blood, Charles, where is this? He answered, If you have three thousand pound, or can make it, he could tell, the other [=Gifford] saying, as he thought, he could find the means to make three thousand pound. That speech finished with the coming in of supper.

Whether Charles Arundel did not steal over into Ireland within these five years without leave of her Majesty, and whether that year he was not reconciled or not to the church likewise, or how long after.

Item

When he was in Cornwall at Sir John Arundel's, what Jesuit or Jesuits he met there, and what company he carried with him of gentlemen.

RM: 1571

Item

Not long before this said Christmas, entering into the speech of Monsieur, he passed into great terms against him, insomuch he said there was neither personage, religion, wit or constancy, and that for his part he had long since given over that course and taken another way, which was to Spain, for he never had opinion thereof since my Lord Chamberlain played the coxcomb (so he termed my Lord at that time), as when he had his enemy [=Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester] so low as he might have trodden him quite underfoot, that then he would, of his own obstinacy, following no man's advice but his own (which he said was his fault), bring all things to an equality, wherein he was greatly abused in his own conceit, and so discouraged Simier as never after he had mind to Spain any longer, reputed the whole cause then to be overthrown.

And further for Monsieur, a man now well enough known unto him, and he would be no more abused in him, and it was for nothing that Simier saved himself, for he knew his unconstancy, and Bussy d'Amboise had been a sufficient warning unto him, whom Monsieur's treachery had caused to be slain, and would by practice bring Simier into the slander thereof that his villainy might not be found, but it was plain enough, and he had made an end and quite done with the cause and liked of it no more, and so with a great praising of the King's of Spain's greatness, piety, wealth, and how God prospered him therefore in all his actions, not doubting but to see him monarch of all the world, and all should come to one faith, he made an end.

And thus much, considering his practice with Jerningham and the other articles wherewith he is charged, import a further knowledge, and gives some light to his dealings with these persons of religion and Irish causes wherein the King of Spain seems underhand to deal.