

SUMMARY: The document below is a list of allegations against Oxford in Charles Arundel's hand, to which there are additions and corrections in a hand which appears to be that of Lord Henry Howard, shown in boldface type below.

In light of the fact that Charles Arundel elsewhere accuses Oxford of sodomy, it is significant that the allegation of sodomy in the document below is not in Arundel's hand, and has been added by the annotator, apparently Lord Henry Howard.

The brevity of the list below suggests that it was the earliest one Arundel composed, perhaps while he and Lord Henry Howard were still in the house of the Spanish ambassador, Don Bernardino de Mendoza, on 26 and 27 December 1580 (see Archivo General de Simancas Leg. 835, ff. 121-4).

The credibility of the extensive allegations made by Charles Arundel and Lord Henry Howard against Oxford must be carefully weighed in light of the collusion among Howard, Arundel and Southwell in preparing their allegations (see TNA SP 151/47, ff. 105-6), in light of Arundel's statement that their objective was to discredit Oxford so that his evidence against them would not be taken seriously (see TNA SP 151/46, ff. 103-4), and in light of their subsequent activities. On the evidence of the Spanish ambassador in England, Mendoza, Howard acted as a spy for Spain from the night of 25 December 1580 on (see Mendoza's letter of 25 December 1581 above, and other documents on this website). Moreover Mendoza himself suggested that one of the reasons for both Henry Howard and Charles Arundel's flight from court on the night of 25 December 1580 was fear of arrest because of 'their having been very intimate with the French ambassador' (see Archivo General de Simancas, Leg. 835, f. 6). After he fled England in December 1583, Charles Arundel acted as a spy for both Spain and France (see Paris Archives K.1564.218 and other documents on this website), and was declared guilty of high treason in England (see Paris Archives K.1563.122). Lord Henry Howard was named in a letter of Mendoza's as one of the principals involved in the Babington plot (see Paris Archives K.1564.150). When all these facts are considered, it is evident that both Howard and Arundel might have had much to hide when they fled the court on the night of 25 December 1580 for fear of arrest, and that the flood of allegations they unleashed against Oxford, whom they considered had reported their doings to the Queen, was designed to discredit him as a witness by bringing his character into such disrepute that anything he might say against them would be viewed with suspicion. In the end, the strategy was successful, and both Howard and Arundel were eventually released.

For a letter dated 13 July 1581 in which Oxford reports to Lord Burghley that the Queen has sent him a message through Sir Francis Walsingham, that 'she would have heard the matter again touching Henry Howard, Southwell and Arundel' see BL Lansdowne 33/6, ff. 12-13.

The document below contains several items of interest concerning Oxford, including mention of his house in Broad Street, his railing when he was confined to his chamber at Greenwich by the Queen's order, his familiarity with the works of Aretine, his claim that

marriages solemnized during Queen Elizabeth's reign were invalid (an opinion perhaps motivated by a desire to invalidate his marriage to his first wife, Anne Cecil, from whom he was estranged at the time), his being at the Horsehead in Cheapside, and his two attempts to kill Leicester.

Persons mentioned in the allegations in the order in which they appear or are alluded to in the allegations include:

- Lord Henry Howard (1540-1614), later Earl of Northampton
- Dr. Nicholas Sander [Sanders] (c.1530–1581), religious controversialist
- Sir Richard Shelley (c.1513–1587), diplomat and prior of the hospital of St John of Jerusalem in England
- William Cecil (1520/1-1598), Lord Burghley, Lord Treasurer
- Thomas Howard (1538-1572), 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Norfolk
- Robert Dudley (1532/3-1588), Earl of Leicester
- James Eustace, 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount Baltinglass (1530–1585), nobleman and rebel
- Thomas Butler (1531-1614), 10<sup>th</sup> Earl of Ormond and 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Ossory
- Tom Cook (unidentified)
- Orazio Cuoco

1 Unreverent speeches of her Majesty at all times in derogation of her virtues. His railing when he kept his chamber at Greenwich, and, being warned to forbear, he said ere it were long he would over, and send her another kind of writing.

2 His proffering me all friendship to dissuade my Lord Harry from writing a treatise in the Queen's commendation, [CROSSED OUT: and that he had cut his throat with all the Catholics for writing against Sanders for he dealt with many beyond] [-the seas]. At Greenwich in his chamber.

**LM: And that by writing against Dr. Sanders he had cut his own throat with all the Catholics beyond sea.**

3 Better defence for bawdry in the scripture than in Aretino. At Westminster.

4 That he had detected Shelley at Rome to the **fugitives** for giving intelligence to my Lord Treasurer. At Hampton Court, Greenwich, everywhere.

5 Daily defending among us all that there was no marriage good in the Queen's, and when my Lord Harry objected the allowance of the marriages in King Edward's time by Queen Mary, he said she was a foolish Queen, and afraid, and that made it not the better. At Westminster, Greenwich, everywhere.

6 Railing at my Lord of Norfolk for his coming at the Queen's commandment, contrary to his counsel, as he said, in a letter he wrote him. At the Horsehead in Cheap, Richmond, everywhere.

7 His intent to kill my Lord of Leicester, first at his landing at the privy stairs, from which I [LM: **led him**], and afterwards laying in wait for him with a barge ready as he should pass over the water from Greenwich to Wanstead, from which my Lord Harry drave him in revealing his own **danger**.

8 All the Catholics good Ave Mary coxcombs because they would not draw their swords against the Queen. In his parlour in Broad Street. **& other places**

9 How he loved no man but Doctor Sanders, and that he should be his doctor, for he was just of his humour, and as he had written, railed and executed, so he wanted no will to do as much. At Richmond, at Hampton Court, and at ever[y] other place.

10 His commendation of my Lord of Baltinglass for a letter that he wrate to the Earl of Ormond, the copy whereof he had seen, as he told me, and found therein many things to please him, but this above the rest (these are the words): how he could not but wonder by what claim or colour her Majesty could challenge that authority that Christ never gave to his own mother. That this was the best argument that ever he heard, but he knew it well; it came from his doctor.

**His buggery with Tom Cook, his boy; Orazio, the Italian boy, and other of his pages, as he could prove, etc.**