

SUMMARY: The document below is a memorandum dated 25 March 1595 comparing Oxford's offer to increase the Queen's profits from the tin mines with the offer of Thomas Sackville (c.1536-1608), 1st Baron Buckhurst, to pay only the coinage and custom the first year, and afterwards £7000 a year, an offer which was of lesser benefit to the Queen than Oxford's. According to a note on p. 20 in the *Calendar of State Papers Domestic 1595-1597*, the memorandum below is similar to TNA SP 12/250/8, a memorandum dating from 13 September 1594 endorsed by Lord Burghley 'Profits of coinage £2465, Mr Carmarden' (see *CSPD 1591-1594*, p. 556). Since the memorandum dated 13 September 1594 was apparently prepared by Richard Carmarden (d.1603), the memorandum below may also have been prepared by Carmarden.

The Lord of Buckhurst's offer

1 To pay the first year no rent but that which her Majesty hath for coinage and custom.

Answer: By this her Majesty loseth £7000 which by my Lord of Oxford is offered, who will pay the same sum the first year without any such request.

2 The next year to pay £7000, and so yearly to continue, above all sums due for coinage and subsidies(?).

Answer: This doth not exceed my Lord of Oxford's offer.

3 The farmers to pay to the tanners such price as can be agreed betwixt them.

Answer: This will bring the country to their former inconvenience in an uncertainty, as before it was, which will be a discontentment to her Majesty's subjects, but my Lord of Oxford's way was without offence because it giveth to the country their own price, which was £24 the 1000 weight of tin, whereby the[y] have no colour of discontentment to hinder her Majesty's prerogative.

LM: (in another hand) £3 10s one with the other; the best at £3 12s(?)

4 For tin to be wrought within the realm, the farmer shall require no greater price than hath been of late years paid.

Answer: This maketh no difference, for my Lord of Oxford's notes did thereunto agree.

5 The farmers shall lend money to the tinworks after £8 the hundred.

Answer: The farmers already have it lent them after the rate of £5 the hundred & £6 the hundred.

6 The officers must have answer before the first of May.

Answer: It is very convenient it should be so; otherwise her Majesty loseth the benefit of the next coinage, which is the greater coinage, whether her Majesty will take it to herself, or let it to others, or have it remain as it is.

The coinage last midsummer for Cornwall

At Listillion was 600 blocks.

At Truro was 1200 blocks.

At Holsone was 900 blocks.

The whole sum is 2700 blocks.

For Michaelmas coinage was half so much, to wit 1350.

Both put together make up 4050.

These blocks, some are 500 lbs. apiece, some 400 lbs. and less, but all one with another may be reckoned at 400 lbs. weight apiece.

All the tin of Cornwall is transported, and that of Devon serveth England.

Devonshire blocks, some are of 150 lbs. weight, and a hundred and three quarters are the greatest.

So that the blocks of Cornwall, being 4050 in number, and every block weighing 400 lbs., falls out to the number of sixteen hundred thousand and two hundred pound weight.

For this transported, her Majesty is to have custom about £4800.

That tin which cometh from Devonshire serveth England, and is rated between 200 and 300 weight and upwards, and her Majesty's custom therefore is commonly £600.

The 20d upon every hundred transported yields custom £1333 6s 8d.

So that the whole custom due to her Majesty is £6133 6s 8d.

LM: 23o Sept {embris} 1594

A note of all the tin shipped out of the realm wrought and unwrought since Michaelmas 1592 unto Michaelmas 1593 and what accounted(?) spent in the realm

There came to London by certificates 954 thousand 500 weight.

LM: unwrought tin

There was shipped from the ports 33 thousand 400 weight.

LM: wrought tin

There was shipped from the ports 2 thousand 100 weight 28 lbs.

Total of all the tin shipped out and spent at home that year, as near as can be esteemed by this account, 9 hundred fourscore and ten thousand weight 28 lbs [=990,028 lbs.]

LM: unwrought tin

Of this was shipped over from London unwrought 737 thousand 400 weight.

From the ports was shipped likewise unwrought 33 thousand 400 weight.

LM: wrought tin

More was shipped from London unwrought tin 55 thousand weight.
100 weight [sic?]

More was shipped from the ports wrought tin 2 thousand 100 weight 28 lbs.

Total of all the tin shipped out of the realm, wrought and unwrought, 827 thousand 900 3 quarters.

So remained, which by likelihood was wrought in the realm for the use of the same, 162 thousand weight 50 lbs.

LM: 20 hundred thousand

LM: 16 hundred thousand

So it appeareth that of 9 hundred fourscore and ten thousand weight of tin there was wrought by her Majesty's subjects in all but 219 thousand 200 weight 28 lbs.

And then was there shipped out of the realm unwrought the rest, which was seven hundred fourscore and ten thousand 8 hundred weight 3 quarters.

LM: 20
16
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36

Endorsed: (in Lord Burghley's hand) 25 Mart{ij} 1594-1595.