

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 2 November 1592 by which clear title to the rectory of Great Bentley passed from Oxford to Henry Smith and John Glascock for £180. For the licence dated 12 August 1592 authorizing Oxford to alienate the rectory of Great Bentley to Smith and Glascock, see TNA C 66/1387, m. 41.

The rectory of Great Bentley had been among the properties included in Henry VIII's grant of Colne Priory to John de Vere (1482-1540), 15th Earl of Oxford, and his heirs on 22 July 1536 (see TNA C 66/668, mm. 26-7).

The schedule of Oxford's debts in his indenture of 30 January 1575 shows a debt to Henry Smith of 32 shillings (see ERO D/DRg2/25). This Henry Smith may be the Henry Smith who purchased the rectory of Great Bentley.

The John Glascock who purchased the rectory of Great Bentley from Oxford may have been John Glascock of Roxwell, for whose will, dated 1 May 1594 and proved 29 January 1595, see TNA PROB 11/85, ff. 17-19.

This is the final agreement made in the court of the Lady Queen at Hertford Castle on the morrow of [+All] Souls in the year of the reigns of Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France, & Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. from the Conquest the thirty-fourth [=2 November 1592] before Edmund Anderson, William Peryam & Thomas Walmesley, justices, & others faithful to the Lady Queen then there present, between Henry Smith, esquire, & John Glascock, esquire, querents, and Edward, Earl of Oxford, deforciant, concerning the rectory of Great Bentley alias Bentley with the appurtenances, and of one messuage, two barns, two gardens, eighty acres of land, twenty aces of meadow, forty acres of pasture & twenty acres of wood with the appurtenances in Great Bentley & Little Bentley;

Whereof a plea of covenant was summoned between them in the same court, namely that the foresaid Earl has acknowledged the foresaid rectory & tenements with the appurtenances to be the right of the same Henry as those which the same Henry & John have of the gift of the foresaid Earl, and has remised & quit-claimed them from himself & his heirs to the foresaid Henry & John & the heirs of the same Henry forever;

And besides the same Earl has granted for himself & his heirs that they will warrant to the foresaid Henry & John & the heirs of the same Henry the foresaid rectory & tenements with the appurtenances against the foresaid Earl & his heirs forever;

And for this acknowledgement, remission, quit-claim, warrant, fine & agreement the same Henry & John have given to the foresaid Earl one hundred & eighty pounds sterling.

Essex

According to the form of the statute, the first proclamation was made on the twenty-eighth day of November in Michaelmas term in the thirty-fifth year of the within-written Queen;

The second proclamation was made on the twenty-sixth day of January in Hilary term in the thirty-fifth year of the within-written Queen;

The third proclamation was made on the ninth day of May in Easter term in the thirty-fifth year of the within-written Queen;

The fourth proclamation was made on the fifteenth day of June in Trinity term in the thirty-fifth year of the within-written Queen.

examinatus

1 Hec est finalis Concordia facta in Curia Domine Regine apud Castrum Hertfordie

2 in Crastino Animarum Anno regnorum Elizabethae dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie

3 Regine fidei defensoris &c A Conquesto tricesimo quarto coram Edmundo

4 Anderson Willelmo Peryam & Thoma Walmysley Iusticiarijs & alijs domine

5 Regine fidelibus tunc ibi presentibus Inter Henricum Smith Armigerum & Iohannem

6 Glascock Armigerum querentes et Edwardum Comitem Oxonie deforciantem de Rectoria

7 de magna Bentley alias Bentley cum pertinentijs ac de vno mesuagio duobus

8 horreis duobus gardinis octoginta acris terre viginti acris prati quadraginta

9 acris pasture & viginti acris bosci cum pertinentijs in Bentley magna & Bentley

10 parua Vnde Placitum Conuencionis summonitum fuit inter eos in eadem Curia Scilicet quod

11 predictus Comes recognovit predicta Rectoriam & tenementa cum pertinentijs esse ius ipsius Henrici

12 vt illa que ijdem Henricus & Iohannes habent de dono predicti Comitis Et illa remisit

13 & quietaclamavit de se & heredibus suis predictis Henrico & Iohanni & heredibus ipsius Henrici

14 Imperpetuum Et preterea idem Comes concessit pro se & heredibus suis quod ipsi Warantizabunt

15 predictis Henrico & Iohanni & heredibus ipsius Henrici predicta Rectoriam & tenementa cum pertinentijs

16 contra predictum Comitem & heredes suos Imperpetuum Et pro hac recognicione remissione

17 quietaclamacione Waranto fine & Concordia ijdem Henricus & Iohannes dederunt predicto

18 Comiti Centum & octoginta libras sterlingorum

Essex

Secundum formam statuti

Prima proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo octavo die Novembris termino sancti Michaelis Anno tricesimo quinto Regine Infrascripte

Secunda proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo sexto die Ianuarij termino sancti Hillarij Anno tricesimo quinto Regine infrascripte

Tercio proclamatio facta fuit Nono die Maij termino Pasche Anno tricesimo quinto Regine infrascripte

Quarta proclamatio facta fuit quintodecimo die Iunij termino sancte Trinitatis Anno tricesimo quinto Regina infrascripte

examinatus