

SUMMARY: The document below is a letter dated 18 July 1574 written by the diplomat Sir Henry Killigrew (1525x8-1603) from Edinburgh to an unidentified correspondent whom he addresses as 'your Honour'. Sir Francis Walsingham (c.1532-1590) has been suggested as the letter's recipient. In a postscript to the letter Killigrew writes:

I beseech your Honour to import these to my Lord Treasurer and my Lord of Leicester, for I have no time now to write to them.

Sir Henry Killigrew and Lord Burghley

Sir Henry Killigrew (1525x8-1603) was Lord Burghley's brother-in-law, having married Lady Burghley's sister, Katherine Cooke (d. 27 December 1583), for whom see the entry at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=667

Their daughter, Dorothy Killigrew (d.1643), married Sir Edward Seymour (c.1580-1659) of Berry Pomeroy, Devonshire, for whom see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/seymour-edward-ii-1580-1659>

b. c.1580, 1st s. of Edward Seymour I. educ. M. Temple 1598. m. 15 Dec. 1600, Dorothy (d.1643), da. of (Sir) Henry Killigrew by his 1st w. Catherine, da. of Sir Anthony Cooke of Gidea Hall, Essex, 6s. 6da. Kntd. 1603; suc. fa. as 2nd Bt. 1613.

For Dorothy Killigrew, see also the will of Margery (nee Saunders) Wolman Leigh Killigrew, TNA PROB 11/146/44.

Identity of Oxford's companion, Lord Seymour

Among other matters, Killigrew includes in his letter a report of Oxford's flight from England on 1 July 1574 with 'Lord Seymour':

That my Lord of Oxford and my Lord Seymour were fled out of England & passed by Bruges to Brussels.

In a letter dated 1 July 1574 from Edward Bacon to his brother, Nathaniel Bacon, Oxford's companion is more specifically identified as 'Lord Edward Seymour':

My Lord of Oxford is gone beyond the sea, & hath carried a great sum of money with him. He took shipping by his house in Essex. My Lord Edward Seymour is with him,

Edward Yorke, one Cruse & another(?). He went without leave. The cause of their departure unknown. Much speech thereof. The Queen is said to take it ill.

See Folger MS X.d.502(2) at:

<https://findingaids.folger.edu/dfonathaniel.xml>

See also A. Hassell, Gillian Baker and R.W. Kenny, eds., *The Papers of Nathaniel Bacon of Stiffkey*, Vol. I, (Norwich: Centre for East Anglian Studies, 1979), p. 123.

In CSP Rome, No. 350, Lord Edward Seymour is erroneously referred to as the third son of the Duke of Somerset, but correctly referred to as the brother of the Earl of Hertford, and is said to be going to Spain:

There goes to Spain Lord Edward Seler [Seymour], third son of the Duke of Solerset [Somerset]. . . . And now the said Lord Edward Seler [Seymour] pretends to be a Catholic and gives out that he desires to serve under Don John of Austria, and nevertheless will not allow that the Queen of Scotland has any right to the Crown of England. Some say that Secretary Secil [Cecil] is minded to do something for him, and to try if the Catholic King will give ear to a proposal for the marriage of one of the Infantas with the son of his brother, the Earl of Arford [Hertford]. . . .

See:

'Rome: September 1574', in *Calendar of State Papers Relating To English Affairs in the Vatican Archives, Volume 2, 1572-1578*, ed. J M Rigg (London, 1926), pp. 184-186. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/cal-state-papers/vatican/vol2/pp184-186> [accessed 19 November 2018].

It is not known whether Lord Edward Seymour did in fact travel to Spain. He wrote to his brother from Paris on 18 September 1574 (see BL MS Add. 32091, f. 277), and is said, on what authority is unclear, to have died in Rome later that year. See Nelson, Alan H., *Monstrous Adversary*, (Liverpool University Press, 2003), pp. 111, 459. See also BL MS Add. 32091 in the British Library online catalogue:

79. Sir E[dward] Seymour [of Bury Pomeroy] to his brother, Edward, Lord Hertford, on the disposition of his estates; Paris, 18 Sept. 1574. Hologr. ; with seal. f. 277.

Edward Seymour (c.1500-1552), 1st Duke of Somerset, had four sons, all named Edward Seymour. Of the four, only two would have been referred to as 'Lord Edward Seymour'.

By his first wife, Katherine Fillol (c.1507-1535), the Duke had a son, Edward Seymour (1529-1593), of Berry Pomeroy, Devonshire. Dorothy Killigrew (see above), married the grandson of this Edward Seymour (1529-1593) of Berry Pomeroy.

By his second wife, Anne Stanhope (c.1510–1587), the Duke had three more sons named Edward Seymour. The first died an infant in 1539. The second was Edward Seymour (1539-1621), styled Earl of Hertford from 1547. He married firstly, in November 1560, Lady Catherine Grey; secondly, in 1582, Frances Howard, daughter of William Howard (c.1510-1573), 1st Baron Howard of Effingham; and thirdly Frances Howard, the daughter of Thomas Howard (c.1520-1582), Viscount Howard of Bindon, youngest son of Thomas Howard (1473 – 25 August 1554), 3rd Duke of Norfolk. The third was Lord Edward Seymour (1548–1574), who died unmarried and without issue.

It thus seems both Edward Seymour (1529-1593) of Berry Pomeroy and Edward Seymour (1548-1574) were styled ‘Lord Seymour’. Oxford’s companion, Lord Edward Seymour, was likely the latter. As noted above, the British Library catalogue entry identifies him as ‘of Bury Pomeroy’, but this appears to be an error. It was Edward Seymour (1529-1593) who was of Berry Pomeroy.

That my Lord of Oxford and my Lord Seymour were fled out of England & passed by Bruges to Brussels. [The remainder of Sir Henry Killigrew’s letter has not been transcribed.]