

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £2000 acknowledged by Oxford to John Southall, citizen and cloth-worker of London, on 1 January 1583 in connection with indentures of the same date for the sale of the manors of Stansted Mountfitchet and Burnells. For the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 20 January 1583 by which clear title to the manors of Stansted Mountfitchet and Burnells passed from Oxford to John Southall, see TNA CP 25/2/131/1688/25ELIZIHIL, Item, 25.

John Southall was the father of Jane Southall, first wife of Oxford's receiver-general, Edward Hubberd (d.1602), eldest son of Richard Hubberd of Birchanger.

For the will of John Southall, dated 4 October 1590 and proved 31 May 1592, see TNA PROB 11/79, ff. 283-4. The will contains this bequest:

*Item, I give unto Gabriel Spencer that did dwell with me five pounds, to be paid unto him at the age of twenty-one years.*

It is possible that the recipient of this bequest was the Gabriel Spencer who was later killed in a duel by Ben Jonson.

The recognizance below is also mentioned in TNA PROB 30/34/14, No. 3.

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford and Southall

Edward, Earl of Oxford, Great Chamberlain of England, Viscount Bulbeck, Lord of Badlesmere & Scales, having appeared personally before the Lady Queen in her Chancery, acknowledged himself to owe to John Southall, citizen & cloth-worker of London, two thousand pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid to the same John or his designated attorney, executors or assigns;

And if he shall not have done [+so], he wishes & grants for himself, his heirs, executors & administrators, that the said sum of money be levied & recovered of his goods & chattels, lands, tenements & hereditaments & [+those] of his heirs to the use & behoof of the same John Southall, his executors, administrators & assigns, wheresoever they may be found within the kingdom of England;

Witness the said Lady Queen at Westminster on the first day of January in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of our said Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc. 1582.

The condition of this recognizance is such that if the above-bounden Edward, Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns and every of them, do at all times hereafter well and truly observe, perform, fulfil and keep all and singular the covenants, grants and agreements comprised in a certain pair of indentures bearing date with these presents made between the said Earl of Oxenford of thone party and the above-named John Southall of thother party which on the part and behalf of the said Earl, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns or any of them are to be observed, performed, fulfilled and kept, except only one covenant therein contained made for the delivery of evidences, deeds, charters, terriers, rentals, court rolls, counterpanes of leases, escripts, writings and other muniments together with the copies of writings and evidences, as in and by the said indenture appeareth, that then this present recognizance to be void, or else it to stand in full force and virtue.

LM: Recognitio inter Oxonie Comitum et Sowthall

LM: perdon'

1 Edwardus Comes Oxonie magnus Camerarius Anglie vicecomes Bulbeck dominus de Badlesmere & Scales coram

2 domina Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter constitutus recognouit se debere Iohanni Sowthall Ciui & clothworker London

3 duas Mille libras legalis monete Anglie Soluendas eidem Iohanni aut suo certo attornato executoribus vel assignatis suis

4 Et nisi fecerit vult & concedit pro se heredibus executoribus & administratoribus suis quod dicta pecunie summa leuetur &

5 recuperetur de bonis & catallis terris tenementis & hereditamentis suis & heredum suorum ad opus & vsum ipsius Iohannis Sowthall

6 executorum administratorum & assignatorum suorum vbicumque fuerint inuentis infra regnum Anglie Teste dicta domina Regina apud

7 Westmonasterium primo die Ianuarij Anno regni dicte domine nostre Elizabethae dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris

8 &c vicesimo quinto 1582