

SUMMARY: The document below is an account prepared by Michael Lok (c.1532–1620x22) circa 25 March 1579 of his expenses in connection with the three voyages to the Canadian Arctic by Martin Frobisher (1535?-1594) during the years 1576-8. Oxford invested a total of £2520 in the Frobisher voyages, losing his entire investment when the ‘gold’ ore brought back from Baffin Island proved to be worthless. Lok’s figure of £2430 in the document below falls short of Oxford’s total investment by £90. The reason for the discrepancy is unclear. For additional documents concerning Oxford’s investment in the Frobisher voyages, see TNA SP 12/149/42, ff. 98-108 and TNA E 164/36, pp. 317-23.

For the Frobisher voyages generally, see:

Inuit and Englishmen; The Nunavut Voyages of Martin Frobisher, at http://www.museevirtuel-virtualmuseum.ca/Search.do?ex=on&R=VE_403&lang=en.

See also McDermott, James, ed., *The Third Voyage of Martin Frobisher to Baffin Island 1578* (London: Hakluyt Society, 2001).

For the document below, see also Collinson, Richard, *The Three Voyages of Martin Frobisher in Search of a Passage to Cathaia and India by the North-West, A.D. 1576-8*, (London: Hakluyt Society, 1867), pp. 350-1, available online.

Michael Lok hath paid for divers charges for the affairs of the Company in the 3 years of the 3 voyages of Martin Frobisher, gentleman, for the Northwest parts as followeth:

For my riding charges to the court at Hampton, Windsor, Richmond & other places in progress to attend on her Majesty’s most honourable Privy Council for commissions, directions & money collections of the venturers in 3 years at £40 by year	£ 120
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For my riding charges to Dartford for the buildings & works there, & to other places daily for necessaries in these 8 months	£ 60
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For my boat-hire to the court at Greenwich to attend on the Council for the commissions & money collections of the venturers, and to the ships & other places	£ 20
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For the table diet of the commissioners, auditors, captains & others of these voyages at my house often & daily in these 3 years, at £50 by year	£ 150
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For interest of money taken up from time to time to furnish these 3 voyages, & dispatch of the ships in due time for lack of the

venturers' money, £	£ 250
Sum	£600
For the ordinary charges & travel of myself & my servants & household to follow this business & take charge of th' accounts, & house-room of the goods in these 3 years' voyages, at £200 by year	£ 600
Sum of all,	£1200
Thus much money, £1200 & more, hath it cost me out of my purse, whereof nothing is yet allowed me in accounts. Allow me what reason & equity requireth.	
And Michael Lok hath in stock & venture for himself & his children, which he hath paid	£2152 10s
And in the name of John Dee	£ 97 10s
Sum	£2250
Besides the stock & venture of the right honourable the Earl of Oxford, which is	£2430
By me, Michael Lok	