
SUMMARY: In this letter written on 28 March 1595 to Lord Burghley's secretary, Michael Hicks, Oxford alludes to Lord Burghley's doubt that 1,600,000 lbs. of tin are produced in Devon and Cornwall each year. However, Oxford says that he has evidence that every year there are 4050 blocks taken from the mines containing 1,800,000 lbs. of tin. In EL 2338, likely written in 1598, Oxford's calculations are based on blocks of tin weighing 350 lbs.; here he appears to base his calculations on blocks of tin weighing 450 lbs. Oxford encloses with his letter a paper, now apparently lost, dealing with 4,000,000 lbs. of tin. Oxford also asserts that he continues to be ready to perform his offer to increase the Queen's revenues from tin to £10,000 per year.

Good Mr Hicks, whereas I was determined to have visited my Lord at his house, I do now understand that his Lordship is removed to the court, and for that I am not able nor fit to look into that place (being yet no better recovered), if it shall please his Lordship at his best leisure to take so much pains as to look into my daughter Derby's house or mine, I hope so to satisfice his Lordship as touching this matter of the tins that he shall think it for her Majesty's contentment. For whereas I perceive my Lord doubteth that I shall not be able to find out the 16 hundred thousand, I am now very well assured that there is every year brought from the mines 4050 blocks, according to the last paper I sent him, and those contain 18 hundred thousand lbs. weight. As for the 40 hundred thousand, thereof what to think I will refer it to his Lordship's conceit when I have showed him such intelligences as I here have sent you to show his Lordship, and I do not doubt but to perform this 18 hundred thousand pound weight fully to her Majesty in the meanwhile, and to make up her custom, which is now about £3000, to the full sum of 10 thousand, without that she shall have cause to lay out one farthing. Thus desiring you to remember my Lord for me, and to show him this paper which I have sent you, I bid you heartily farewell. From Bishopsgate this present morning.

Your assured friend,
Edward Oxenford

Addressed: To his very well beloved friend, Mr Hicks, give these at my Lord Treasurer's lodging at the court

Endorsed: 28 March 1595, Earl of Oxford