

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of 1000 marks [=£666 13s 4d] acknowledged by Oxford to his servant, Hugh Beeston the younger (c.1547-1626), on 5 March 1580 in connection with indentures of the same date. The recognizance is struck through, and cancelled by a vacat in the left margin dated 27 June 1580. The document has the signatures of Hugh Beeston and (it would appear), William Cordell, Master of the Rolls. See also a later recognizance in the amount of 1000 acknowledged by Oxford to Hugh Beeston on 17 April 1580 in connection with indentures of the same date. By a fine in the Court of Common Pleas on 20 January 1579 Oxford had transferred clear title to lands in Bowers Gifford in Essex to Hugh Beeston and Geoffrey Crome, and it may be that the two recognizances were entered into in connection with this sale (see TNA CP 25/2/130/1672/21ELIZIHIL, Item 25).

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford and Beeston

The right honourable Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, Lord Great Chamberlain of England, Viscount Bulbeck, Lord Badlesmere and Scales, came personally before the said Lady Queen in her Chancery & acknowledged himself to owe to Hugh Beeston the younger, gentleman, servant of the said Earl, the sum of one thousand marks of good & lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Hugh or his designated attorney or executors on the feast of Easter next to come after the date of this recognizance;

And if he shall not have done [+so], he wishes & grants for himself, his heirs & executors by these presents that the foresaid sum of money be levied & recovered of his goods, chattels, lands, tenements & hereditaments to the sole & proper use & behoof of the foresaid Hugh, his heirs, executors & assigns, wheresoever they may be found;

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

The condition of this recognizance is such that if the above-bounden the right honourable Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns and every of them, do well and truly observe, perform, fulfil and keep all and every the covenants, grants, articles a[n]d agreements which on the part and behalf of the said Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns or any of them are or ought to be observed, performed, fulfilled or kept mentioned and specified in one pair of indentures bearing date the day of the date of these presents made between the said Earl of the one party and the above-named Hugh Beeston of the other party according to the purport, effect and true meaning of the same indentures, except one covenant in the same indentures specified touching the delivery of deeds, charters, letters

patent, exemplifications, rentals, terriers, court rolls, evidences, writings, counterpanes of leases and muniments in the same indentures specified, that then this present recognizance to be void, or else to stand and abide in full force, effect and strength.

LM: Recognitio inter Comitem Oxonie et Beeston

1 Prenobilis vir Edwardus de Veer Comes Oxonie dominus magnus Camerarius Anglie Vicecomes Bulbeck dominus Badlesmere et

2 Scales venit personaliter coram dicta domina Regina in Cancellaria sua & recognouit se debere Hugoni Beeston Iuniori Generoso

3 seruienti dicti Comitis summam Mille Marcarum bone & legalis monete Anglie Soluendarum eidem Hugoni aut suo certo Attornato

4 vel executoribus suis in festo Pasche proxime futuro post datum huius Recognicionis Et nisi fecerit vult & concedit pro se heredibus &

5 executoribus suis per presentes Quod predicta pecunie summa leuetur & recuperetur de bonis cattallis terris tenementis & hereditamentis suis ad

6 solum & proprium opus & vsum predicti Hugonis heredum executorum & assignatorum suorum vibumque inuentis fuerint Teste Regina apud Westmonasterium

7 quinto die Marcij Anno Regni domine nostre Elizabethhe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris &c vicesimo

8 secundo

LM: Vacata ista Recognicio vnacum condicione eiusdem pro eo quod vicesimo septimo die Iunij Anno regni infrascripto domine Regine vicesimo secundo infranominatus Hugo Beeston Iunior coram dicta domina Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter constitutus fatebatur se de omnibus & singulis pecuniarum summis in recognicione predicta vnacum condicione eiusdem specificatis plenarie fore satisfactus Ideo ad requisicionem prefati Hugonis ista recognicio vnacum condicione eiusdem cancellatur & omnino dampnatur

[=This recognizance vacated, together with the condition of the same, because on the twenty-seventh day of June in the within-written twenty-second year of the reign of the Lady Queen the within-named Hugh Beeston the younger, having appeared personally before the said Lady Queen in her Chancery, confessed himself to be completely satisfied of all & singular the sums of money specified in the recognizance aforesaid, together with the condition of the same; therefore at the request of the forenamed Hugh this

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recognizance, together with the condition of the same, was cancelled & entirely annulled.]