

SUMMARY: The document below is the indenture made on 2 June 1562 between the 16th Earl and three trustees appointed by him: his nephew, Thomas Howard (1538-1572) 4th Duke of Norfolk; his brother-in-law, Sir Thomas Golding (d.1571), and Sir Robert Dudley (1533-1588), later Earl of Leicester, to whom the 16th Earl was not closely related by either blood or marriage, although Sir Robert Dudley's brother, Henry Dudley (d.1557) had been the first husband of Norfolk's wife, Margaret Audley (d.1564).

Both the will of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford (see TNA PROB 11/17, ff. 82-90), and the indenture below mention the 'old entails' and 'ancient entails' by which the lands and offices of the Oxford earldom had descended in former times, and which had been cut off when the Protector Somerset extorted the 16th Earl's lands from him by a fine of 10 February and 15 April 1548 (see TNA E 328/403). After Somerset's execution, the 16th Earl's lands were restored to him by a private Act of Parliament on 23 January 1552 (see HL/PO/PB/1/1551/5E6n35). The Act provided that the fine which Somerset had extorted from the 16th Earl on 10 February and 15 April 1548 was now deemed to be to the 16th Earl's use. In consequence, all the lands which the 16th Earl had inherited under the 'ancient entails' were now held by him subject to the terms of the Act of Parliament. A notable exception to the lands which the 16th Earl had inherited under the 'ancient entails' were the lands included in King Henry VIII's grant of Colne Priory to John de Vere (1482-1540), 15th Earl of Oxford, and his heirs by letters patent dated 22 July 1536 (see ERO D/DPr/631). Somerset omitted these lands from the licence to alienate of 30 January 1548 (see TNA E 328/345) and from the fine of 10 February and 15 April 1548. Because they had not been included in the fine, these lands were not covered by the provisions of the private Act of Parliament of 23 January 1552 which restored the 16th Earl's lands to him by deeming the fine of 10 February 10 and 15 April 1548 to be to his use. The 16th Earl therefore apparently continued to hold the lands comprised in King Henry VIII's grant of Colne Priory in chief from the Crown by knight service, as his father, the 15th Earl, had done, and they would pass from male heir to male heir according to the entail in the original grant. There was thus no need for the 16th Earl to include Colne Priory in the indenture below. Somerset also omitted from the fine the lands in Chester which the 16th Earl had inherited from his father, the 15th Earl. Again, because they were not included in the fine, the 16th Earl's lands in Chester were not covered by the private Act of Parliament of 23 January 1552, and apparently continued to be held by the 16th Earl in his demesne as of fee (see TNA SC 11/919 and TNA WARD 8/13, Part 56). The lands in Chester are included in the indenture below. It should also be noted that although Somerset included the manors of Christian Malford, Thorncombe, Colbrooke and Acton Trussell in the fine, the 16th Earl did not include those manors in the indenture below.

In his will of 28 July 1562 (see TNA PROB 11/46, ff. 174v-176), the 16th Earl refers to the indenture below as 'a late deed of entail', and the indenture itself states that its purpose is to provide for a future entail for the lands and offices of the Oxford earldom, the advancement of the 16th Earl's son and heir, Edward, and a jointure for the 16th Earl's second wife, Margery Golding (d.1568), for whom the 16th Earl had not been able to provide a jointure when they were secretly married on 1 August 1548 at the time of

Somerset's extortion. Although not specifically mentioned in the opening statement, another purpose of the indenture evident from its contents was to provide for a jointure for 'Lady Bulbeck', the 16th Earl's future daughter-in-law under the terms of the marriage contract which the 16th Earl entered into with Sir Robert Dudley's brother-in-law, Henry Hastings (1536?-1595), 3rd Earl of Huntingdon on 1 July 1562 (see Huntington Library HAP o/s Box 3(19)). The marriage contract and the indenture were closely linked; four days after he had signed the marriage contract, the 16th Earl appeared in Chancery in London on 5 July 1562 to acknowledge both the indenture below, which provided a jointure for his son's future bride, 'Lady Bulbeck', and the marriage contract itself. The contents of the two documents, and the 16th Earl's personal appearance in Chancery to acknowledge them, thus suggest that although the indenture below preceded the marriage contract of 5 July 1562, the negotiations between the 16th Earl and the Earl of Huntingdon for the financial arrangement surrounding the marriage had already been concluded by 2 June 1562, and that the indenture of that date as well as the marriage contract of 5 July 1562 gave legal effect to an earlier oral agreement between the two Earls. In that regard, it is important to note that one of the topics of negotiation between the 16th Earl and the Earl of Huntingdon would have been Margery Golding's jointure because in the marriage contract of 1 July 1562 the 16th Earl guarantees that he will leave lands in possession of £1200 and lands in reversion of £800, and since the lands in reversion included Margery Golding's augmented jointure, there must have been an oral agreement between the 16th Earl and the Earl of Huntingdon that that would be done via the indenture below before the marriage contract was signed.

Another purpose of the indenture evident from its contents was the setting aside of certain lands for 21 years for payment of the 16th Earl's debts and legacies under his last will and testament. The 16th Earl had been authorized to set aside specified lands in his will for this purpose under the private Act of Parliament of 23 January 1552, and had done so ten months after the passage of the Act in an earlier will executed on 21 December 1552 (see BL Stowe Charter 633-4). However ten years had now passed, and circumstances had changed. The new will which the 16th Earl executed on 28 July 1562 brought his will up to date, and aligned it with the provisions in the indenture of 2 June 1562 and the marriage contract of 5 July 1562.

The making of a new will only 5 days before his death on 3 August 1562 has been construed by some as evidence that the Earl was putting his affairs in final order because he was in ill health and expecting to die shortly. This conclusion is contradicted by the fact that on 5 July 1562, less than a month prior to his death on 3 August 1562, the 16th Earl had appeared personally in Chancery in London to acknowledge both the indenture and the marriage contract. It is also contradicted by the fact that it was necessary for the 16th Earl to make a new will in order to remove obsolete bequests and add new ones which would take account of changed circumstances, and to bring his will into line with the provisions of the indenture of 2 June 1562 and the marriage contract of 5 July 1562. There were many provisions of the 16th Earl's will of 21 December 1552 which were now out of date. The 1552 will contained obsolete provisions for the marriage portion for his then-unmarried daughter, Katherine de Vere (1538-1600), who had since been married to Edward (1532?-1575), 3rd Lord Windsor. It contained no specific provision for his

daughter, Mary de Vere (d.1624), who had been born after it was executed. There were obsolete bequests to the 16th Earl's now-deceased brother-in-law, Sir Thomas Darcy (1506-1558) and to a long list of servants, a number of whom would have died or left the 16th Earl's service in the ten years which had passed since the making of the will. Two executors named in the 1552 will had since died, and no supervisors had been appointed in it.

More importantly, the will of 21 December 1552 was incompatible with the indenture which the 16th Earl had entered into on 2 June 1562. The private Act of Parliament of 23 January 1552 had authorized the Earl to assign specified manors in his will to his second wife, Margery Golding, as her jointure:

Provided always and that it may be enacted by the authority aforesaid that the said now Earl by his last will & testament in writing sealed with his seal of arms & subscribed with his hand shall have full power & authority by virtue of this Act to assign, limit & appoint to his lawful wife overliving him for the term of her natural life to & for her jointure the manors, lands & tenements of Tilbury, Downham, Easton Hall, Netherhall in Gestingthorpe, Garnons in Tendring, & Brownes tenement in Toppesfield in the county of Essex or as many of them as shall please the said Earl to assign, and the manors of Easton Maudit, Thorpe Malford & Marston Trussell in the county of Northampton, & Bilton in the county of Warwick, or as many of them as it shall please the said Earl to assign to any such his wife

By his will of 21 December 1552, the 16th Earl assigned all these manors to his wife as her jointure, but added to them by virtue of another provision of the Act which authorized him to alienate a limited number of specified manors:

Provided also and be it enacted by the authority aforesaid that the said now Earl shall have full power & authority at any time or times hereafter to alien from time to time entirely or by several alienations to such person or persons & to his or their heirs in fee simple, or unto such person or persons & to the heirs of his or their body or bodies lawfully begotten, or unto such persons for term of his or their life or lives as it shall please the said now Earl, the manors of Alden Bromfield, Munslow with the members, & Norton in Hales with th' appurtenances in the county of Salop, the manor of Lamport with th' appurtenances in the county of Northampton, & the manors of Crudwell & Eastcourt with th' appurtenances in the county of Wiltshire, & a certain tenement called Paynes in Pentlow in the county of Essex, or so many or so much of them & every of them as the said now Earl shall at any time hereafter please to alien or sell

The relevant clause in the 16th Earl's will of 21 December 1552 lists the manors comprising Margery Golding's jointure as follows:

And by virtue of one Act in the Parliament holden at Westminster in the fifth & sixth year [=1552] of the reign of our said most gracious Sovereign Lord King Edward the Sixth provided, I will and bequeath to my right loving & well-beloved wife, the Lady Margery, Countess of Oxenford, and in full & perfect recompense, allowance & satisfaction of all

such her dower as she or any other in her name or for her can or may at any time hereafter have, challenge or demand in, out or by reason of any manner of freehold lands, tenements or hereditaments which were mine or unto me at any time during the marriage of or espousals between me, the said Earl, and the said Lady Margery, Countess, my wife, had or celebrated, the manors of Tilbury next Clare, Downham, Easton Hall, Netherhall in Gestingthorpe, Garnons in Tendring, & Brownes tenement in Toppesfield in the county of Essex, and the manors of Easton Maudit, Thorpe Malford, Marston Trussell & Lamport with th' appurtenances in the county of Northampton, the manor of Bilton with th' appurtenances in the county of Warwick, all & singular the lands & tenements called Paynes in Pentlow, and all & singular the manors & hereditaments called Munslow with the members & Norton in Hales in the county of Salop, and if the same manors & hereditaments in the said county of Salop be aliened by me, the said Earl, before my decease, then I will unto my said wife all & singular such rents as I shall be entitled unto in or out of the same manors & hereditaments or any of them in the said county of Salop, to have and to hold all the same manors and other the premises with all & singular their appurtenances unto my said wife & her assigns for term of her life in the name and for her jointure in full recompense and allowance of her dower as is before expressed & declared;

Thus, in his will of 21 December 1552, the 16th Earl had complied with the Act by assigning the list of manors specified in the Act to his wife as her jointure, but had supplemented her jointure by adding to it four of the properties which he had been authorized to alienate – the manor of Lamport in Northamptonshire, the lands and tenements called Paynes in Pentlow in Essex, and the manors of Munslow with the members, and Norton in Hales in Salop, with the proviso that if manors in Salop were sold, she would receive the rents.

When the list of manors assigned to Margery Golding as her jointure by the 16th Earl in his 1552 will is compared with the list of manors in which she is given a life estate in the indenture below, it will be seen that the manors of Lamport in Northampton and the manors of Munslow with the members and Norton in Hales in Salop assigned to her in the 1552 will are omitted from the indenture (although the lands and tenements called Paynes in Pentlow remain), while the manors of Barwicks, Scotneys, Gibcrack and Fingrith in Essex, Fowlmere in Cambridge, and Warmingham, North Rode, Blacon, Ashton, Worleston and the Gate of Westchester in Chester have been added to the indenture. This significant discrepancy between his existing will of 21 December 1552 and the indenture of 2 June 1562 constituted a sufficient and compelling reason for the 16th Earl to execute a new will on 28 July 1562 to bring the provisions in his will for his wife's jointure into line with the provisions in the indenture of 2 June 1562 (and, incidentally, to bring his will into strict compliance with the 1552 Act of Parliament). The relevant clause from the 16th Earl's will of 25 July 1562 reads:

And by virtue of one Act of Parliament holden at Westminster in the fifth and sixth years [=1552] of the reign of the late King of famous memory, Edward the Sixth, provided, I will and bequeath to my right loving and well-beloved wife the Lady Margery, Countess of Oxford, in part of a recompense of and for all such her dowry as she or any other in

her name or for her can or may at any time hereafter have, challenge, or demand out of any of my lands or tenements, except such as I have given unto her being contained in a late deed of entail, the manors of Tilbury next Clare, Downham, Easton Hall, Netherhall in Gestingthorpe, Garnons in Tendring, and Brownes tenement in Toppesfield in the county of Essex, and the manors of Easton Maudit, Thorpe Malford and Marston Trussell with their appurtenances within the county of Northampton, and the manor of Bilton with th' appurtenances in the county of Warwick, and all and singular the lands and tenements called Paynes in Pentlow with th' appurtenances, to have and to hold all and singular the said manors and other the premises with all and singular their appurtenances unto my said wife for the term of her life;

Moreover the provisions of two key clauses in the marriage contract itself constitute evidence that both the 16th Earl and the Earl of Huntingdon considered the 16th Earl to be in good health at the time it was entered into. By its very nature, the contract was a forward-looking one which depended on the 16th Earl being alive until his son was in a position to marry six years later when he reached the age of 18. The relevant clause in the contract reads:

First, the said Earl of Oxenford doth covenant, promise and grant for him, his heirs, executors and administrators, to and with the said Earl of Huntingdon, his heirs, executors and administrators, by these presents that the said Lord Bulbeck, when he shall accomplish the age of eighteen years, shall within one month after marry and take to wife the said Lady Elizabeth or Lady Mary, sister of the said Earl of Huntingdon, if the said Lord Bulbeck and Lady Elizabeth or Lady Mary, whom the said Lord Bulbeck shall elect and choose to marry, will thereunto consent and agree, and the laws of God will it permit and suffer;

The contract also contained a clause stating if the 16th Earl were to die, any moneys which had been paid pursuant to the contract by the Earl of Huntingdon must be repaid to him within one year of the 16th Earl's death:

And farther that if it shall happen the said Earl of Oxenford to decease before the said marriage had and solemnized, by reason whereof the same marriage cannot take effect without further charge to the said Earl of Huntingdon . . . that then within one whole year next after such death of the said Earl of Oxenford . . . the said Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors or assigns, shall well and truly content and repay or cause to be repaid unto the said Earl of Huntingdon, his executors or assigns, all such sums of money as by the same Earl of Oxenford, his executors or assigns, shall before that time have had and received of the said Earl of Huntingdon, his executors or assigns, in consideration of the said marriage, and also by good, sufficient and lawful means shall release, acquit, exonerate and discharge the same Earl of Huntingdon, his heirs, executors and administrators, of all such other sums of money covenanted, agreed or intended by these presents to be paid to the said Earl of Oxenford by the said Earl of Huntingdon, and then or after to become due to be paid and not paid for and in consideration of the said marriage or by reason of any agreement confirmed in these presents;

Thus, the contract depended by its very nature on the 16th Earl being alive for at least six years. It was therefore by its very nature not a contract which the 16th Earl would have entered into had he been in ill health and expecting to die shortly, nor would the Earl of Huntingdon have entered into the contract which depended on the 16th Earl being alive for at least six years had he considered the 16th Earl to be in ill health and in imminent danger of death.

The possibility that the 16th Earl's sudden death on 3 August 1562 was not due to natural causes is raised by the fact of Sir Robert Dudley's prominence in the 1562 indenture, the 1562 marriage contract, and the 1562 will. Under the marriage contract, the 16th Earl's son and heir was to marry a sister of Sir Robert Dudley's brother-in-law, Henry Hastings (1536?-1595), 3rd Earl of Huntingdon. Under the will, Sir Robert Dudley was appointed a supervisor. Under the indenture, Sir Robert Dudley was one of the three trustees appointed to control the 16th Earl's lands. It seems likely that Sir Robert Dudley played a key role in arranging the marriage, and thereby gained the 16th Earl's confidence sufficiently to be appointed a supervisor of the 16th Earl's will and one of the three trustees in control of his lands. This fact, together with the manifest benefits which Sir Robert Dudley enjoyed as a result of the 16th Earl's death, raises the question of whether the Earl's death on 3 August 1562 was due to natural causes.

After the 16th Earl's death, the Queen granted the most profitable of the 16th Earl's lands to Sir Robert Dudley during the nine-year minority of the 16th Earl's son and heir, Edward de Vere, by an indenture made 22 October 1563 (see WARD 8/13, Part 25, manor of East Bergholt), and the marriage contract between the 16th Earl's son and heir and a sister of Dudley's brother-in-law, the Earl of Huntingdon, was never heard of again. Moreover Dudley's servant, Robert Christmas (d.1584), was appointed sole administrator of the 16th Earl's last will and testament (see TNA PROB 11/46, ff. 174v-6).

The indenture below divides the 16th Earl's estates into the following nine categories. Properties in each category were to descend according to the uses outlined in that category, with the 16th Earl reserving the right to lease the lands and appoint officers, but with any future conveyance of the properties stated to be subject to the uses set out in the indenture.

1. Earldom of Oxford, offices of Lord Great Chamberlain and Lieutenanship of the Forest of Waltham with the keeping of the house and park of Havering, and core properties of the earldom in the counties of Essex, Suffolk and Cambridge: a life estate to the 16th Earl, followed by an entail to male heirs.
2. Lands in the counties of Essex, Northampton, Warwick and Cambridge: a life estate to the 16th Earl, followed by a life estate to Margery, Countess of Oxford, and then an entail to male heirs.
3. Lands in the county of Chester: a life estate to the 16th Earl, followed by a life estate to Margery, Countess of Oxford, and then to the right heirs.

4. Lands in Leicester, Essex, Hertford and Cornwall: a life estate to 'Lady Bulbeck' (i.e. the sister of the Earl of Huntingdon whom the 16th Earl's son and heir was to marry under the marriage contract of 1 July 1562), followed by an entail to male heirs.
5. Lands in the counties of Essex, Buckingham, Kent, Cambridge and Suffolk: a life estate to the 16th Earl, followed by a life estate to 'Lady Bulbeck', and then an entail to male heirs.
6. Lands in the counties of Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex: a life estate to the 16th Earl, followed by a term of 21 years during which the revenues from these lands would be used for performance of the 16th Earl's last will, and then an entail to male heirs.
7. Lands in Essex in which Aubrey Vere currently held a life estate: a life estate to the 16th Earl after the death of Aubrey, and then an entail to male heirs.
8. Lands in Essex and Berkshire in which Robert Vere currently held a life estate: a life estate to the 16th Earl after the death of Robert, and then an entail to male heirs.
9. Lands in Essex in which Geoffrey Vere and his wife currently held life estates: a life estate to the 16th Earl after the death of Geoffrey and Geoffrey's wife, and then an entail to male heirs.

The entails in the indenture establish that on 2 June 1562 the 16th Earl's brother Aubrey had two male heirs, Hugh and John; that his brother Robert had as yet no male heir; and that his brother Geoffrey had two male heirs, John and Francis.

Indentura inter Iohannem de Veer Comitem Oxonie et Thomam Ducem Norff' & alios

This indenture quadripartite made the second day of June in the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc., between the right honourable John de Vere, Earl of Oxenford, Lord Great Chamberlain of England, Viscount Bulbeck, and Lord Badlesmere and Scales, on thone party, and the right honourable Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding, knight, on thother party;

Witnesseth that whereas the earldom of Oxenford and the honours, castles, manors, lordships, lands, tenements, hereditaments and other the possessions of the same earldom, together with the office of Great Chamberlainship of England, the Lieutenantship of the Forest of Waltham and the keeping of the house and park of Havering, have of long time continued, remained, and been in the name of the Veres from heir male to heir male by title of an ancient entail thereof made long time past, and the said Earl now having the said earldom and all honours, castles, manors and other the possessions, together with all offices, fees, dignities, commodities, prerogatives, pre-eminences, jurisdictions, rights, members and appurtenances to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining, is fully persuaded in conscience and also doth take it for his part to provide that the same earldom and other the premises should and might continue, go, remain and be in the name of the Veres from heir male to heir male forever, if it may please Almighty God so to permit and suffer the same to continue;

And as well for the said considerations as to th' intent to advance Edward, Lord Bulbeck, son and heir apparent to the said Earl, to the more better surety of living of the manors, lands, tenements, hereditaments and other the premises that the said now Earl hath or of right ought to have in possession or reversion to him, the said Lord Edward, and to the heirs males of his body, and for lack of such issue that the same may remain, be and continue to the heirs males of the body of the said Earl, and for lack of such issue that the same may remain, come and be to and amongst the brethren of the same now Earl and such issue males as are and shall be of their bodies severally begotten successively one after another;

And also to th' intent to enlarge the living of the Lady Margery, Countess of Oxenford, now wife to the said Earl;

He, the same Earl, doth grant, promise and is fully agreed for himself and his heirs to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding, their heirs and executors and every of them, that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, shall from henceforth stand and be seised as well of and in the earldom of Oxenford, th' offices of Lord Great Chamberlain of England and the Lieutenanship of the Forest of Waltham with the keeping of the house and park of Havering, as also of and in the castle and manor of Hedingham otherwise called Hedingham at Castle, and of and in the manors of Grays in Hedingham Sible, Prayors alias Bower Hall, Peppers, Pevers, Little Yeldham, Earls Colne, Stansted Mountfichet, Burnells, Bentfield Bury, Bury Lodge, Nether Yeldham alias Much Gelham, Sheriffs in Colne Engaine, Maldon with the members, Flanderswick, Vaux, Warehills, Parks in Gestingthorpe, Mountnessing alias Ging Mountney within the county of Essex, and of and in East Bergholt, Lavenham alias Over Hall and Nether Hall in Lavenham, and Bergholt Commandry within the county of Suffolk, and of and in the manor of Castle Camps within the county of Cambridge, and of and in all and singular his other messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, possessions and hereditaments set, lying and being in Hedingham at Castle, Hedingham Sible, Little Yeldham, Earls Colne, Stansted Mountfichet, Gestingthorpe, Bentfield Bury, Much Yeldham, Maldon, Warehills and Mountnessing within the said country of Essex, and in East Bergholt and Lavenham in the said country of Suffolk, and in Castle Camps and Bartlow within the said county of Cambridge, to the uses, intents, trusts and confidences hereafter declared, that is to say, to th' use of himself for term of his life without impeachment of any manner of waste;

And after his decease then to th' use of the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said Earl lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Aubrey Vere, brother to the said Earl, for term of life of the said Aubrey, and after his decease then to th' use of Hugh Vere, eldest

son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Hugh lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, second son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten by the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the body of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Robert Vere, esquire, one other of the brethren of the said Earl, for term of life of the said Robert, and after his decease then to th' use of th' eldest son of the said Robert and of the heirs males of the body of the same eldest son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the second son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same second son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the body of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Geoffrey Vere, esquire, youngest brother of the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of John Vere, eldest son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Francis Vere, second son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Francis lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the body of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to [+be] begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of John, late Earl of Oxenford, father to the said now Earl, lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue, then to the right heirs of the said now Earl forever;

And also the said Earl for himself and his heirs doth fully and plainly grant, agree and promise to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding and their heirs, that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, shall from henceforth stand and be seised of and in the manors of Tilbury juxta Clare, Downham, Easton Hall, Netherhall in Gestingthorpe, Garnons [+in] Tendring, Brownes tenement in Toppesfield, Paynes in Pentlow, Barwicks & Scotneys, Gibcrack & Fingrith in Blackmore within the said country of Essex, and of and in the manors of Easton Maudit, Thorpe Malford & Marston Trussell within the county of Northampton, and of and in the manor of Bilton within the country of Warwick, and of and in the manor of Fowlmere within the county of Cambridge, and of and in all other his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, possessions and hereditaments whatsoever, set, lying and being in Tilbury next Clare, Gestingthorpe, Walter Belchamp, Downham, Tendring, Toppesfield, Gibcrack & Blackmore within the said country of Essex, and in Easton Maudit, Thorpe Malford, Marston Trussell and elsewhere within the said county of Northampton, and in Bilton or elsewhere within the said county of Warwick, and in Fowlmere within the said county of Cambridge,

To th' use of him, the said Earl, for term of his life without impeachment of any manner of waste;

And after his decease then to th' use of the foresaid Lady Margery, his wife, for term of her life;

And after her decease then to th' use of the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said Earl lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Aubrey Vere, brother to the said Earl, for term of life of the said Aubrey, and after his decease then to th' use of the said Hugh Vere, eldest son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the said Hugh lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, second son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the body of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Robert Vere, esquire, one other of the brethren of the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of the eldest son of the said Robert and of the heirs males of the body of the same eldest son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the second son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same second son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Geoffrey Vere, esquire, youngest brother of the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of John Vere, eldest son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for want of such issue then to th' use of Francis Vere, second son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Francis lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for want of such issue then to the use of the fourth son of the body of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of John, late Earl of Oxenford, father to the said now Earl;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the right heirs of the said now Earl forever;

And also the said Earl for himself and his heirs doth fully and plainly grant, agree and promise to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding and their heirs, that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, shall from henceforth stand and be seised of and in the manors of Warmingham, North Rode,

Blacon, Ashton, Worleston and the Gate of Westchester within the county of Chester, and of and in all other his lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services and hereditaments within the said county of Chester, to th' use of himself, the said Earl, for term of his life without impeachment of any manner of waste;

And after his decease then to th' use of the said Lady Margery, his wife, for term of her life;

And after her decease then to th' use of the right heirs of the said Earl forever;

And also the said Earl for himself and his heirs doth fully and plainly grant, agree and promise to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding and their heirs, that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, shall from henceforth stand and be seised of and in the manors of Elmsthorpe and Earl Shilton within the county of Leicester, and of and in the manors of Waltons in Purleigh, Waltons in Mucking, and Gobions in East Tilbury within the county of Essex, and of and in the manors of Much Hormead, Barkway and Newsells within the county of Hertford, and of and in the manors of Roseworthy, Bejowan, Tregenna Wollas, Tregenna Wartha, Domellick, Tresithney & Tregorrick within the county of Cornwall, and of and in all other his lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, possessions and hereditaments set, lying and being in Elmsthorpe, Earl Shilton and elsewhere within the said county of Leicester, and in Purleigh, Mucking, and East Tilbury within the said county of Essex, and in Much Hormead, Barkway and elsewhere within the said county of Hertford, and in Roseworthy, Bejowan, Tregenna Wollas, Tregenna Wartha, Domellick, Tresithney, Tregorrick and elsewhere within the said county of Cornwall, to th' use of the Lady Bulbeck immediately after marriage solemnized with the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, for term of her life;

And after her decease then to th' use of the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck and of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said Earl lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Aubrey, brother to the said Earl, for term of life of the said Aubrey, and after his decease then to th' use of the said Hugh Vere, eldest son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the said Hugh lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, second son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the body of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Robert Vere, esquire, one other of the brethren of the said Earl, for term of life of the said Robert, and after his decease then to th' use of the eldest son of the said Robert and of the heirs males of the body of the same eldest son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the second son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same second son lawfully to be begotten;

And for want of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Geoffrey Vere, esquire, youngest brother of the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of John Vere, eldest son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Francis Vere, second son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Francis lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for want of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the body of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said John, late Earl of Oxenford, father to the said now Earl;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the right heirs of the said now Earl forever;

And the said Earl for himself and his heirs doth fully and plainly grant, agree and promise to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding and their heirs that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, shall from henceforth stand and be seised of and in the manors of Countesmead in Bumpstead and Langdon

Hills within the county of Essex, and of and in the manors of Whitchurch, Aston Sandford, Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury within the county of Buckingham, and of and in the manor of Fleet within the county of Kent, and of and in the manors of Swaffam Bulbeck & Abington within the county of Cambridge, and of and in the manor of Earls Hall in Cockfield within the county of Suffolk, and of and in all other his lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, possessions and hereditaments set, lying and being in Bumpstead and Langdon Hills within the said county of Essex, and in Whitchurch, Aston Sandford, Chesham Higham, Chesham Bury and elsewhere within the said county of Buckingham, and in Fleet or elsewhere within the said county of Kent, and in Swaffam Bulbeck and Abington within the said county of Cambridge, and in Cockfield within the said county of Suffolk,

To th' use of him, the said Earl, for term of his life without impeachment of any waste;

And after his decease to th' use of the said Lady Bulbeck, wife to the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, for term of her life;

And after her decease to th' use of the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said Earl lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Aubrey Vere, brother to the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of the said Hugh Vere, eldest son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Hugh lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, second son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Robert Vere, one other of the brethren of the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of th' eldest son of the said Robert and of the heirs males of the body of the same eldest son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the second son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same second son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Geoffrey Vere, youngest brother of the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of John Vere, eldest son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Francis Vere, second son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Francis lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said John, late Earl of Oxenford, father to the said now Earl;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the right heirs of the said now Earl forever;

And also the said Earl for himself and his heirs doth fully and plainly grant, agree and promise to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding and their heirs that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, from henceforth shall stand and be seised of and in the manors of Tattingstone and Aldham within the county of Suffolk, and of and in the manor of Weybourn within the county of Norfolk, and of and in the manors of Wivenhoe, Nevers, Battleswick, Much Canfield, Much Bentley, Doddinghurst, Lamarsh and Colne Wake in the county of Essex, and of and in all other his lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, possessions and hereditaments set, lying and being in Tattingstone, Holbrook, Capel, Grantham, Bentley, Aldham and Hadleigh within the said county of Suffolk, and in Wivenhoe, East Donyland, Shenfield, Doddinghurst, Lamarsh, Henny, Colne Engaine, Canfield and Wakes Colne within the said county of Essex,

To th' use of him, the said Earl, for term of his life without impeachment of any manner of waste;

And for term of twenty & one years next following the death of the said Earl to th' intent to declare and perform his last will and testament with the same;

And then from th' end of the said term of twenty-one years to th' use of the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said Earl lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Aubrey Vere, brother to the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of the said Hugh Vere, eldest son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Hugh lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, second son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Robert Vere, one other of the brethren of the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of the eldest son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten and of the heirs males of the body of the same eldest son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the second son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same second son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Geoffrey Vere, youngest brother to the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of John Vere, eldest son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Francis Vere, second son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Francis lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the said John, late Earl of Oxenford, father to the said now Earl;

And for lack of such issue to the right heirs of the said now Earl forever;

And also the said Earl for himself and his heirs doth fully and plainly grant, agree and promise to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding and their heirs that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, shall from henceforth stand and be seised of and in the manors of Tendring, Jackletts in Fambridge, Battles Hall in Stapleford Abbotts, Hayes in Stowe, and Earls Fee in Bowers Gifford within the county of Essex, and of and in the reversion of all other his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, possessions, services and hereditaments whatsoever set, lying and being in Tendring, Fambridge, Stapleford Abbotts, Stowe and Bowers Gifford within the said county of Essex,

After the death of the said Aubrey Vere, who holdeth the same now for term of his life, the reversion to the said Earl for term of his life without impeachment of any waste, and after his decease then to th' use of the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said Earl lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Hugh Vere, eldest son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Hugh lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, second son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Robert Vere, one other of the brethren of the said Earl for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of the eldest son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten and of the heirs males of the body of the same eldest son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the second son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same second son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Geoffrey Vere, youngest brother of the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of John Vere, eldest son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Francis Vere, second son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Francis lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the said John, late Earl of Oxford, father to the said now Earl;

And for lack of such issue to the right heirs of the said now Earl forever;

And also the said Earl for himself and his heirs doth fully and plainly grant, agree and promise to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding and their heirs that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, shall from henceforth stand and be seised of and in the reversion of the manors of Kennington and Wennington within the county of Essex, and of and in the reversion of the manor of Shottesbrook within the county of Berkshire, and of and in the reversion of all other his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, possessions and hereditaments whatsoever set, lying and being in Kennington and Wennington within the said county of Essex, and in Shottesbrook and elsewhere within the said county of Berkshire,

After the death of the said Robert Vere, who holdeth the same now for term of his life, the reversion of the same to the said Earl for term of his life without impeachment of any waste;

And after his decease to th' use of the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the said Earl lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Aubrey Vere for term of his life and after his decease then to th' use of Hugh Vere, eldest son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Hugh lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, second son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the body of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the eldest son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same eldest son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the second son of the said Robert Vere hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same second son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Geoffrey Vere, youngest brother to the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of John Vere, eldest son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of Francis Vere, second son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Francis lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to [+the use of] the heirs males of the said John, late Earl of Oxenford, father of the said now Earl;

And for lack of such issue to the right heirs of the said now Earl forever;

And also the said Earl for himself and his heirs doth fully and plainly grant, agree and promise to and with the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Robert Lord Dudley, and Sir Thomas Golding and their heirs that he, the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, shall from henceforth stand and be seised of and in the reversion of the manors of Crepping Hall and Gutteridge within the county of Essex, and of and in the reversion of all other his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, possessions and hereditaments whatsoever set, lying and being in Wakes Colne, Pontisbright, Fordham and Guttridge within the said county of Essex,

After the death of the said Geoffrey Vere and his wife, who holdeth the same for term of their lives and the longer liver of them, the reversion to the said Earl for term of his life without impeachment of any waste,

And after his decease then to th' use of the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the said Earl lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Aubrey Vere, brother to the said Earl, for term of his life and after his decease then to th' use of Hugh Vere, eldest son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Hugh lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, second son of the said Aubrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the same Aubrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the said Robert Vere, one other of the brethren to the said Earl, for term of his life, and after his decease then to th' use of th' eldest son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten and of the heirs males of the body of the same eldest son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue [+then] to th' use of the second son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same second son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Robert hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of John Vere, eldest son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten,

And for lack of such issue then to the use of Francis Vere, second son of the said Geoffrey, and of the heirs males of the body of the same Francis lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the third son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same third son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the fourth son of the said Geoffrey hereafter to be begotten, and of the heirs males of the body of the same fourth son lawfully to be begotten;

And for lack of such issue then to th' use of the heirs males of the said John, late Earl of Oxenford, father to the said now Earl;

And for lack of such issue to the right heirs of the said now Earl forever;

Provided always, and it is the full, true and plain meaning and intent of the said Earl, and also it is fully granted and agreed between the said parties, that the said Earl shall and may at his free will and pleasure let and grant for the term of twenty and one years or fewer such part of the premises as have by the space of forty years last past heretofore been most commonly used to be letten for years or lives, reserving upon the same several leases and grants yearly to continue during the several terms and leases hereafter to be made the old accustomed rents and services or more;

And that the same lease, leases, grant and grants so of the same premises or any part thereof to be made as is aforesaid shall be as good, available and effectual in the law to all intents, purposes and constructions against him, the said Earl, and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, the said Countess of Oxenford, the Lady Bulbeck, and the brethren of the said Earl and the issues males of every one of the bodies of the same brethren of the said Earl, to the same leases and grants and every of them, th' executors and assigns of every of them, as if the same Earl were seised of such part of the premises as he shall let or grant as is aforesaid in his demesne as of fee at the time of the making of the same leases or grants;

And also it is the full and plain meaning and intent of the said Earl, and also it is fully concluded, granted and agreed between all and singular the parties to these presents, that the said Earl shall and may at his free will and pleasure hereafter give, grant, assign or appoint th' office and offices of bailiwick and bailiwicks of any & of so many of his said manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments, and of keeping and keeper and keepers of any & of so many of his parks, with th' accustomed fee & fees belonging to any of the said offices, to any or such of his servants or any person or persons as shall please and like the said Earl for life or lives, and that every person and persons to whom the said Earl shall so give, grant, assign or appoint to have any of the said offices and fees shall and may, during his or their life or lives, according to such gift, grant, assignment and appointment, have, hold, occupy and enjoy quietly the same office, offices, fee and fees against the said Earl and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, the said Edward, Lord Bulbeck, and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, the said Countess of Oxenford, the said Lady Bulbeck, the said brethren of the said Earl and the issues males of every of their bodies lawfully begotten, in like manner and form as they or any of them should, might or could have had, enjoyed or hold the same if the premises or any part thereof had not been entailed by these presents as is aforesaid;

And it is further covenanted, granted and agreed between the said parties by these presents that, as well the said Earl, his heirs and assigns, as also all and every other person and persons which hereafter shall be seised of the said honors, castles, manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments or of any part or parcel thereof of any estate of

inheritance, shall from henceforth stand and be thereof seised, and that all conveyance and assurance at any time heretofore made and hereafter to be made, had or suffered of the premises or of any part thereof by fine, feoffment, recovery or otherwise, shall be to th' only uses and intents before in these presents declared and expressed, and to none other uses or intents;

In witness whereof the parties before-named to either part of these indentures have put their seals the day and year above-written.

Et memorandum quod quinto die Iulij Anno suprascripto prefatus Iohannes de Veer Comes Oxonie venit coram dicta domina Regina in Cancellaria sua et recognouit Indenturam predictam ac omnia & singula in eadem contenta & specificata in forma suprascripta.

[=And it is to be remembered that on the fifth day of July in the year above-written the forenamed John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, came before the said Lady the Queen in her Chancery and acknowledged the foresaid indenture and all & singular in it contained & specified in the form above-written.]