

SUMMARY: The document below is the letters patent, dated 19 March 1571, by which Queen Elizabeth granted to Nazareth (new Newton) Southwell (d. 16 April 1583), sister of Eleanor (nee Newton) Elyott (d.1588), the assets of Eleanor's husband, John Elyott, which had been forfeited to the Queen when Elyott was outlawed for debt in 1566.

Nazareth Southwell, a gentlewoman of the Privy Chamber, was the youngest daughter of Sir John Newton or Cradock (c.1505-1568) of East Harptree, Somerset, and Hanham, Gloucestershire, by Margaret Poyntz (c.1505-1559). Two of her sisters were Frances Newton (d.1592), one of the Queen's favourite gentlewomen, second wife of William Brooke (1527-1597), 10th Baron Cobham, and Eleanor Newton (d.1588), whose husband, John Elyott, was outlawed for debt in 1566, as noted above. For the will of Nazareth's sister, Eleanor Elyott, see TNA PROB 11/73/55. For the will of Nazareth's first husband, Sir Thomas Southwell (d.1568) of Woodrising, see TNA PROB 11/50/204.

After the death of Thomas Southwell, Nazareth married Thomas Paget (c.1544–1590), 4th Baron Paget. The marriage was an unhappy one. From McKeen, David, *A Memory of Honour; The Life of William Brooke, Lord Cobham* (Salzburg: Institut fur Anglistik und Amerikanistik, 1986), p. 380:

Thomas Paget, son of the protector of Cobham's youth, a cultivated nobleman in whose house William Byrd found employment and whose loss to England and "the Commonwealth of Learning" even that notable defender of the Elizabethan settlement William Camden deeply deplored, was informed against by his strident wife Nazareth Newton, whose perpetual demands had driven them to separate despite Burghley's efforts to reconcile them and Paget's reluctance to leave the woman he so self-destructively loved. Paget felt that he had a reason to remain in England so long as there was hope of regaining his wife, but when she died in 1583 he too fled abroad.

In 1581 Francis Southwell, the brother of Nazareth's first husband, Thomas Southwell, was involved with Lord Henry Howard (1540-1614) and Charles Arundel in allegations against Oxford. In 1583, Nazareth's second husband, Lord Paget, fled to the continent in the company of Charles Arundel (see Paris Archives K.1561).

Both Oxford and his father-in-law, William Cecil, later Lord Burghley, acquired assets once owned by John Elyott. By 11 December 1563, before Elyott's outlawry for debt, Cecil acquired the interest of Elyott and his wife Eleanor in the manor of Theobalds which had been granted to the Elyotts by Robert Burbage (d.1575). See TNA C 54/583, Nos. 18-19 and TNA C/54/662, No. 8.

Oxford later acquired one of the assets forfeited to the Queen when Elyott was outlawed for debt in 1566. This was a 31-year lease of the manor of Aveley, to commence on 29 September 1585, which became the subject of a lawsuit brought by Oxford in the Court of Star Chamber. See TNA STAC 5/O3/35 and TNA STAC 5/O8/52. According to Oxford's bill of complaint, on 10 October 1571 Nazareth Southwell assigned the interest granted to her by the Queen in the letters patent below, to her niece, Anne Elliott, the

daughter of John Elyott and Eleanor (nee Newton) Elyott. Anne Elliott subsequently married Robert Harris, and on 6 June 1581 Harris sold his interest in the 31-year lease of Aveley to Oxford. On 30 September 1585 Oxford entered into possession, the 31-year term of the lease having commenced on the previous day. However as noted above, the lease then became the subject of a lawsuit in the Court of Star Chamber.

LM: D(?) con{ } p{ro} Nazareth Southwell vid{ue}

Elizabeth by the grace of God etc., to our Treasurer, Chamberlains and Barons of our Exchequer for the time being, and to all and singular other our judges, justices, officers and ministers whatsoever, greeting;

Whereas John Elyott, citizen and merchant of London, in contempt of us and of our laws and statutes of this our realm, hath incurred the danger and forfeiture of his goods and chattels and th' issues and profits of his lands, tenements and hereditaments by reason of divers and sundry outlawries in personal actions commenced and used against him at the suit of divers of our subjects by order and course of the common laws and statutes of this our realm;

Know ye that we of our especial grace, mere motion and certain knowledge have given and granted and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant to our well-beloved subject, Nazareth Southwell, widow, one of the gentlewomen of our Privy Chamber, all and singular such sum and sums of money, goods, chattels, leases, debts, duties, obligations, bills, escripts, writings, indentures, forfeitures, profits, advantages and commodities whatsoever which we, our heirs and successors, or any of us or any other to our use or in our name, can or may have, recover or enjoy by reason, means or occasion of any outlawry or outlawries pronounced against the said John Elyott in any action personal or mixed at the suit of any of our subjects;

To have, hold, perceive, take, levy, receive, recover and enjoy the said sum and sums of money, goods, chattels, leases, debts, duties, obligations, bills, escripts, writings, indentures, forfeitures, profits, advantages and commodities and all and singular other the premises with th' appurtenances and every part and parcel thereof to the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators and her assigns, to her and their own use and uses freely and absolutely and clearly without any manner of account, prest, reckoning or recompense therefore or for any part or parcel thereof to be rendered, yielded, had or made to us, our heirs or successors, or any of us in as large ample manner and form to all intents and purposes as we, our heirs or successors, or any of us or any other in our or their names or to our uses can or may have, receive, enjoy, take or recover the same or the whole sum or sums of money, penalties, forfeitures, fines, issues, profits, commodities and advantages due for the same or any part or parcel thereof by any ways or means whatsoever;

And further know ye that we of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have given and granted and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant to the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators and assigns and to every of them, that they and every of them shall and may from time to time and at all times hereafter have, perceive, receive, levy, take and enjoy to her and their own proper use & uses the said sum and sums of money, goods, chattels, debts, duties, leases, obligations, bills, escripts, writings, indentures, forfeitures, profits, advantages and commodities whatsoever that are so forfeited and due to us by reason or means of any the said outlawries according to th' effect of this our grant, as well at the hands of any of our officers and ministers as also at and by the hands of any other person or persons, and these our letters patents or th' enrolment thereof shall be from time to time and at all times hereafter a sufficient warrant and discharge as well to all judges, Barons of our Exchequer, and to all other our officers and ministers as to all other persons whatsoever for the payment, allowance and delivery of the premises by these presents granted or any part thereof without any further warrant to be made or sued from us, our heirs or successors, to them or any of them;

And further of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion for us, our heirs and successors, we give and grant to the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators and assigns and to every of them, at all time and times hereafter for the better executing of this our grant full power and authority to enter into the said leases and to take, seize, levy, receive, have and enjoy by themselves or by any other their ministers, deputies or deputy in any place or places whatsoever within this our realm the said sum or sums of money, goods, chattels, debts, duties, obligations, bills, escripts, writings, indentures, forfeitures, profits, advantages, commodities and other the premises whatsoever of any person or persons according to the due order and course of our laws;

And moreover of our special grace, mere motion and certain knowledge for us, our heirs and successors, we give and grant unto the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators and assigns and every of them, full power and lawful authority as absolutely, wholly and freely as we ourselves, our heirs and successors, may and can do to compound or agree with any person or persons whatsoever for the [m. 10] said sum and sums of money, goods, chattels, debts, duties, obligations, bills, escripts, writings, forfeitures, profits, advantages and commodities and other the premises before by these presents to her granted;

And that the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators and assigns and every of them, shall have full power and authority to release, acquit and discharge all and every person and persons whatsoever, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, their lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods and chattels for the said ready money, goods, chattels, debts, duties, obligations, bills, escripts, writings, indentures, forfeitures, profits, advantages and commodities before by these presents granted;

And that the said composition agreement, release, acquittance or other discharge so made or done by the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators or assigns or by any of them, shall be a sufficient and lawful bar, discharge, acquittance and exoneration

against us, our heirs and successors, to be pleaded or sued by any person or person which shall at any time hereafter be impleaded, sued, molested or vexed by us, our heirs or successors, or by any other person or persons by any grant, assignment or appointment by us, our heirs or successors, of or for the same in as large ample manner and strength as [+if?] the same were made or done by us, our heirs or successors, or by any of us;

And further of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion for us, our heirs and successors, we do give and grant to the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators and assigns and to every of them, full power and authority in the name of the said Nazareth during her life or in the name or names of her executors or administrators after her decease or otherwise to sue for, implead, recover, prosecute, demand, levy, receive, take, put in due execution and ure the said sum and sums of money, goods, chattels, debts, duties, obligations, bills, escripts, writings indentures, forfeitures, profits, advantages and commodities and all other the premises and every of them against any person or persons whatsoever according to this our grant in any of our court or courts of record or in any other place or places within this our realm according to our laws and statutes at the will and pleasure of the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators and assigns and every of them;

And further of our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion for us, our heirs and successors, we do give and grant to the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators and assigns and every of them, full power and authority for or in the name of us, our heirs and successors, or in the name or names of the said Nazareth Southwell, her executors, administrators or assigns, to redeem, have and enjoy all and every lease and leases, term and terms of years, indenture and indentures which the said John Elyott did mortgage, convey or assign to any person or persons upon any condition or conditions for the payment of any sum or sums of money on his part to be paid in as large ample manner and form as we ourselves, our heirs or successors or any of us or any other in our or their names or to our uses can or may redeem, have or enjoy the same by any ways or means whatsoever, although express mention etc.;

In witness whereof etc.;

Witness ourself at Westminster the 19th day of March.

p{er} br{eu}e de privato sigillo [=By writ of Privy Seal]