
SUMMARY: The document below summarizes a letter written on 16 February 1577 from London by Thomas Screven to Edward Manners (1549–1587), 3rd Earl of Rutland, speculating that Oxford's sister, Mary de Vere (d.1624), would marry Gerald Fitzgerald (1559–1580), the eldest son and heir of Gerald Fitzgerald (1525-1585), 11th Earl of Kildare, and his wife, Mabel Browne (d.1610), the sister of Anthony Browne (1528-1592), 1st Viscount Montague, the father of Mary Browne (d.1607), mother of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton. Mary de Vere's prospective husband, Gerald Fitzgerald (1559-1580), was thus a first cousin of Southampton's mother, Mary Browne (d.1607). At the time this marriage between Mary de Vere and Edward Fitzgerald was being considered, Mary Browne had already been married for a decade to Henry Wriothesley (1545-1581), 2nd Earl of Southampton.

'Lord Garrett' is mentioned as an associate of Oxford's in TNA SP 12/151/46, ff. 103-4.

The summary below is taken from *Historical Manuscripts Commission. Twelfth Report, Appendix, Part IV. The Manuscripts of His Grace the Duke of Rutland, G.C.B., Preserved at Belvoir Castle.* (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1888), Vol. 1, p. 111, available online.

Most think that a marriage will take effect between the Earl of Hertford and Mrs Frances Howard, and also between Lord Garrat [=Fitzgerald] and Lady Mary Vere.