
SUMMARY: The document below summarizes a letter dated 14 May 1571 written from the court by Sir George Delves to Edward Manners (1549–1587), 3rd Earl of Rutland, concerning the tournament held at Westminster on 1-3 May 1571. For two other accounts of this tournament see Segar, William, *The Book of Honor and Armes* (New York: Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, 1975) pp. 94-6, 99-100, and the letter written to King Charles IX of France (1550-1574) on 8 May 1571 by the French ambassador to England, Bertrand de Salignac Fenelon, seigneur de la Mothe (1523-1589), both available on this website.

Sir George Delves, gentleman pensioner, was the son of Sir Henry Delves (d. 2 August 1560) and Cecily Broke (buried 3 January 1562/3), the daughter and coheir of Sir Richard Broke (d.1529), Chief Baron of the Exchequer. For Sir Richard Broke, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/broke-richard-1474-1529>.

For the Delves pedigree, see Ormerod, George, *The History of the County Palatine and City of Chester*, (London: Lackington, Hughes, 1819), Vol. III, pp. 268 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/historyofcountyp03orme#page/268/mode/2up>.

For the will, dated 29 January 1571 and proved 30 September 1573, of Sir George Delves' brother, John Delves (d. 13 June 1571), who married Mary Sneyd, the aunt of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham, see 'Remains Historical and Literary' on this website.

See also the Wikipedia article on Sir George Delves:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Delves.

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. 92, available online.

Lord Oxford has performed his challenge at tilt, turn [=tourney] and barriers far above the expectation of the world, and not much inferior to the other three challengers. Their furniture was very fair and costly. The Earl's livery was crimson velvet, very costly. He himself and the furniture was in some more colours, yet he was the Red Knight. Charles Howard was the White Knight, Sir Henry Lee the Green Knight. Mr. Hatton was the Black Knight, whose horses were all trimmed with caparisons of black feathers, which did passing well. There were twenty-seven defendants, whereof your servant was one.

<http://www.oxford-shakespeare.com/>

Twenty-six of them were fair and gallantly furnished, Lord Stafford and Lord Harry Seymour the chief. Henry Grey had the prize for the tilt, Lord Harry for the turn [=tourney], Thomas Cecil for the barriers. Some there be that think they had not therein right judgment.