

SUMMARY: This document appears to be a draft of a bond to the Queen to be signed by the purchasers of Oxford's lands under the scheme which took effect in 1586/87 under which the purchasers of Oxford's lands were to repay Oxford's debt to the Queen in the Court of Wards. The condition to the bond states that the Queen's letters patent were made in the 32nd year of her reign, which appears to date the draft bond to 1589, when the original repayment scheme had been frustrated by the fraud of Thomas Skinner and as a result execution was taken against some of the lands which had been purchased from Oxford. The draft bond appears to have been intended as a guarantee that a purchaser to whom Oxford's bonds and debt in the Court of Wards had been assigned by the Queen under the letters patent of 1589 would take direction from Lord Burghley with respect to the conduct of any execution taken by virtue of the bonds in question. A number of alterations made to the draft in another hand have not been incorporated into the transcript below.

Noverint vniuersi per presentes nos (blank) de [+blank] in Comitatu (blank) et (blank) de (blank) in Comitatu (blank) teneri et firmiter obligari Serenissime domine nostre Elizabethae dei gratia Anglie ffrancie et hibernie Regine fidei defensori &c in (blank) libris bone et legalis monete Anglie Solvendis eidem domine Regine heredibus vel Successoribus suis Ad quam quidem Solucionem bene et fideliter faciendam obligamus nos et vtrumque nostrum per se pro toto et insolidum heredes Executores et Administratores nostros et vtriusque nostrum per presentes Sigillis nostris Sigillatas datum &c

[=Know all men by these presents that we, (blank) of [+blank] in the county of (blank) and (blank) of (blank) in the county of (blank), are held and firmly bound to our most serene Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc. in (blank) pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid to the same Lady the Queen, her heirs or successors, to which certain payment well and faithfully to be made we bind ourselves, and each of us by himself for all and collectively our heirs, executors and administrators and [+those] of each of us, by these presents sealed by our seals, dated etc.]

The condition of this obligation is such that whereas the Queen's most excellent Majesty that now is by her Highness' letters patents under the great seal of England bearing date at (blank) the (blank) day of [+blank] in the 32nd year [=1589/90] of her Highness' reign hath granted, assigned & set over as well unto the above-bounden (blank), their executors & assigns, as well divers bonds & writing obligatory as also the sums of money therein contained, specified & declared in the said letters patents together with full power and authority for the levying thereof, as by the said letters patents more at large it doth & may appear;

Now therefore if the said (blank), their executors, administrators & assigns, upon every execution to be had or taken upon any the said bonds or writings obligatory do and shall

from time to time & at all times stand to obey and abide such order and direction as at any time or times hereafter shall be made or taken therein by the Lord Treasurer of England for the time being and by (blank), or by any the two of them, then this present obligation to be void & of none effect, or else the same to remain and be in full power, strength & virtue.