

SUMMARY: The document below is an account prepared circa October 1578 by Michael Lok (c.1532–1620x22) listing the amounts invested by himself and the other adventurers in all three of the Frobisher voyages to the Canadian Arctic in 1576-8. Lok also states that Oxford became a partner with him for £2000 worth of the sum of £4270 which Lok had invested in the three Frobisher voyages. Oxford invested a total of £2520 in the Frobisher voyages, losing his entire investment when the ‘gold’ ore brought back from Baffin Island proved to be worthless. For additional documents concerning Oxford’s investment in the Frobisher voyages, see TNA SP 12/149/42, ff. 98-108 and TNA E 164/36, pp. 317-23.

For the Frobisher voyages generally, see:

Inuit and Englishmen; The Nunavut Voyages of Martin Frobisher, at http://www.museevirtuel-virtualmuseum.ca/Search.do?ex=on&R=VE_403&lang=en.

See also McDermott, James, ed., *The Third Voyage of Martin Frobisher to Baffin Island 1578* (London: Hakluyt Society, 2001).

For the document below, see also Collinson, Richard, *The Three Voyages of Martin Frobisher in Search of a Passage to Cathaia and India by the North-West, A.D. 1576-8*, (London: Hakluyt Society, 1867), pp. 358-9, available online.

Sum of all the stock of all the venturers	All the } venturers}	whereof	{Michael Lok & {his children
For the first voyage anno 1576	£ 875		£ 100
For the second voyage anno 1577	£ 4275		£1075
For wages at the return thereof	£ 1030		£ 235
For buildings at Dartford	£ 1105		£ 260
For the third voyage anno 1578	£ 6952 10s		£1755
For freight & wages at return thereof	£ 3347 10s		£ 845
Sum	£17585		£4270
For the second rate of freight	£ 2575		£ 650
Sum all	£20160		£4920

And note that of the foresaid sum of £4270 of his venture, the Earl of Oxford became partner with him for £2000 in such order and manner as himself was and is venturer.

And over and besides the said sum of £4920 of his venture, Michael Lok did pay of his own purse for the furniture of the first voyage £700, which was restored him in account of the second voyage.

And he did also pay of his own purse for the furniture of [+the] second voyage £400, which is now lately repaid him in account.

And he also did pay of his own purse for furniture of the third voyage and building at Dartford £700, which is now lately repaid him in account.

And moreover he hath taken great pains & travail and been at very great charges & expenses in doing the Company's business in all these 3 voyages, and hath not yet charged any of his accounts with one penny for the same, knowing that the venturers will consider of it with reason.

And now Michael Lok, having done all the premises in service of her Majesty & the venturers, he is openly slandered by Captain Frobisher thus to be:

A false accountant to the Company;
A cozener of my Lord of Oxford;
No venturer at all in the voyages;
A bankrupt knave.

Wherefore most humbly he beseecheth your Lordships to direct your letters unto the Commissioners of the business & the auditors of his accounts to certify your Lordships what he hath done in the premises.

Endorsed: All the stock of the venturers in all the 3 voyages, and Michael Lok.