



# *Inquisition*

## *Steeple Ashton*

**Thomas Lambert, esquire.**

Delivered into Court 9<sup>th</sup> May, 20 Charles I [1644].

*Inquisition* taken at the City of New Sarum, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 15 Charles I [1639], before Robert Worsham, esq., escheator, after the death of Thomas Lambert, ewq., by the oath of John Windover, George Marshall, Andrew Pewde, William Munday, Christopher Graye, William Hayes, Walter Graye, Edward Falkner, William Feltham, Edward Targett, Walter Graye, jun., Nicholas Woodford, Richard Eston, and Thomas Wilson, gent., who say that

Thomas Lambert was seised to him and his heirs male, the remainder thereof being to the right heirs of Edmund Lambert, esq., deceased, father of the said Thomas, of the manors of Keevell alias Keevell Leigh and Bulkington alias Buckingham ; 13 messuages, 4 cottages, 5 tofts, 5 gardens 5 orchards, 120 acres of land, 30 acres of meadow, 70 acres of pasture, 31 acres of wood, and common of pasture for all beasts in **Kevell, Bulkington, Kevell Weeke, Melksham, Semington, Seende, and Steeple Ashton**, last in the tenure of Dulcabella Lambert, widow, deceased, relict of Edward Lambert, brother of the said Thoms, likewise deceased, for the term of her life for her jointure ; the nanors of **Boyton and Sherington alias Sheringdon** ; 10 messuages, 2 water-mills, 2 cottages 12 gardens, 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture, 100acres of wood, 40s. rent, and common of pasture for all beasts in **Boyton, Corton, Sherington, Codford St. Peter, and Chicklade** ; the advowsons of the churches of Boyton and Sherington ; 100 acres of wood called **Chitterne Wood alias Chicklade Ridge Woods or Chicklade Ridge Coppices** ; one messuage, one toft, one garden, 40 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, and 2 acres of wood in **Ashton Gifford** and Codford St. Peter ; the moiety of the advowson of the church of Codford St. Peter ; the advowson of the churchof **Orcheston St. George**.

The said Thomas Lambert was likewise seised [nothing about remainder this time] of the manor of Bulkington, and 4 messuages, one cottage, 5 gardens, 5 orchards, and 200 acres of land, meadow, and pasture, and common of pasture for all beasts, free warren, and view of frank-pledge in Kevell, Bulkington, Melksham, Semington, Seende, and Steeple Ashton, purchased by the said Thomas of Edward and William Tucker, esqs., and others ; 10 acres of pasture and 2 acres of meadow in Kevell, purchased by the said Thomas of Roger Blagden and Agnes, his wife ; one messuage, one barn, one orchard, one garden, 20 acres of land, 18 acres of meadow, 30 acres of pasture, and common of pasture for all beasts in Kevell, Kevell Weeke, Bulkington, Melksham, Semington, Seende, and Steeple Ashton, purchased by the said Thomas of Edward Seede and Millicent, his wife ; one messuage or cottage, with an orchard and garden containing one aced, and 27 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in kevell, purchased by the said Thomas of George Worthe, William Sheppard, and William Hussey ; 2 other pastures in Melksham called Woodrowe containing 3 acres, purchased by the said Thomas of the said Dulcabella Lambert and others ; 3 messuages, 2 cottages, 3 barns, 5 gardens, 40 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture, and common of pasture for all beasts in **Corton alias Cortington** and Boyton, also purchased by him of the said Dulcabella and others ; and the reversion of 4 cottages and 4 gardens in Corton, in the tenure of divers tenants, purchased by him of Richard Tillie.

So seised, the said Thomas Lambert and Richard Lambert, his brother, by indenture dated 10<sup>th</sup> April, 11 Charles I [1635], made between themselves of the one part, and Robert Cole, of Willingale Doe, co. Essex, esq., and Edward Manninge, of St. Mary Craye, co. Kent, esq., of the other part, in consideration of a marriage then to be solemnized between Edmund Lambert, son and heir-apparent of the said Thomas, and Elizabeth Cole, daughter of the said Robert agreed as follow [here set out in 'English'] : viz., that the said Thomas and Richard before the end of Trinity Term next should levy a fine or fines "Sur conisans de droit come ceo que ile ad de lour done" to the said Robert and Edward and the heirs of one of them of the manors of Boyton, Sherington, Corton, Codford, Orcheston st. George, Kevell, and Bulkington ; the advowsons of the churches of Codford St. Peter, Orcheston St. George, Boyton, and Sherington ; and all the messuages, cottages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments wherein the said Thomas Lambert had any estate of freehold or inheritance in Boyton, Sherington, Corton, Ashton Gifford, Chicklade, Codford, Orcheston St. George, Kevell, Bulkington, Melksham, Semington, Seende, and Steeple Asthon ; all the lands, etc., which were of his own proper purchase, and not heretofore of Edmund Lambert, esq., father of the said Thomas, or Edward Lambert, esq., his brother, other than in Ashton Gifford and Chicklade always excepted : which said fine or fines were to be to the following uses:- As to so much of the said manors of Kevell alias Kevell Leight and Bulkington and of other the premises wherein the said Dulsabella had any estate in jointure, to the use of the said Dulsabella for her natural life; after her decease, to the use of the said Thomas Lambert for his natural life ; after his deceased, the to the use of the said Edmund, son of the said Thomas, and of the said Elizabeth Cole, and of their heirs male ; for default, to the use of the heirs male of the body of the said Edmund Lambert ; for default, to the use of the heirs male of the body of the said Thomas Lambert ; and lastly, for default, to the use of the right heirs of the said Edmund for ever. As to the manors of Boyton, Sherington, Corton, and Orcheston St. George, the advowsons of the churches of Codford St. peter, Orcheston St. George, Boyton, and Sherington, and all other the messuages, lands, etc., etc., in Boyton, Sherington, Corton, Codford, Orcheston St. George, Ashton Gifford, and Chicklade, to the use of the said Thomas Lambert and Anne, now his wife, for the term of their natural lives; after their decease, the to the use of the said Edmund and his heirs male by the said Elizabeth; for default, to the use of the heirs male of the said Edmund; for default, to the use of the heirs male of the body of the said Thomas Lambert ; and lastly for default, to the use of the right heirs of the said Edmund Lambert for ever.

Afterwards, to wit, on the Morrow of the Ascension, 11 Charles I [1635], a fine was levied at Westminster between the said Robert Cole and Edward Manninge, plaintiffs, and the said Thomas and Richard Lamberts, deforciant, of all the said premises except as before excepted, whereby the said Thomas and Richard acknowledged the said premises to be the right of the said Robert as those that he {Robert} and Edward had of their gift, and the same remised to them and the heirs of the said Robert for ever.

The marriage between the said Edmund Lambert and Elizabeth Cole took place on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 11 Charles I [1635], Dulsabella Lambert died the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 12 Charles I [1636]. The said Thomas and Anne had issue Edmund, William, Thomas, John, and Walter Lambert.

The said manors of Kevell and Bulkington and all other the premises sometin in the tenure of the said Dulsabella are held of the King in chief by knight's service, and are worth per ann., clear, £20. The manors of Boyton and Sherington and others the premises limited to the said Thomas and Anne Lambert are held and are worth as follows :- The manor of Boyton, the advowson of the church of Boyton, and other the premises in Boyton, Corton, and Chicklade are held of the King by fealty only, and are worth nothing per ann. during the liife of the said Anne, but afterwards £30. The said manor of Sherington and other the premises in Sherington and Codford, except the moiety of the advowson of the church of Codford, are hold of the King, by what services is not known, and are worth nothing during the life of the said Anne, but afterwards £10. The 100 acres of wood called Chilterne Woods are worth nothing per ann. during the life of the said Anne, but afterwards 20s. ; of whom they are held the jurors know not. Of whom or by what service the premises in Ayston Gifford and Codford Peter are held the jurors know not : they are worth nothing per ann. during the life of the said Anne, but afterwards £3. The advowson of the church of Orcheston St. George is held of the King in chief by knight's service, and is worth per ann., clear, nothing because it is wholly the incumbent's [quia est plen incumbent]. The manor of Bulkington and other the premises there, purchased of the said Edward and William Tucker, and others, are held of the King as of his manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only in free and common socage and not in chief or by knight's

service, and are worth per ann., clear, 20s. Of whom the 10 acres of pasture and 2 acres of meadow in Kevell purchased of Roger Mugden and Agnes, his wife, are held is not known ; they are worth per ann., clear, 5s. Of whom or by what services the premises in Kevell, Kevell Weeke, Bulkington, Melksham, Semington, Seende, and Steeple Ashton, purchased of Edweare Seede and Millicent, his wife, are held is not known ; they are worth per ann., clear, 20s. Of whom the premises in Kevell purchased of Worth, Sheppard, and Hussey are held the jurors know not ; they are worth per ann., clear, 5s. The closes of Melksham called Woodrowe are held of the King in free and common socage, by fealty only, and are worth per ann., clear, 2s. The premises in Corton and Boyton purchased of the said Dulsabella and others are held of the said Anne Lambert, as of her manor of Boyton, in free and common socage, by the yearly rent of 1d., and are worth per ann., clear, 5s. Of whom the said four cottages and gardens in Corton purchased of the said Richard Tillie are held is not known ; they are worth per ann., clear, 6d.

Thomas Lambert died at Boyton 30<sup>th</sup> August last past ; Edmund Lambert is his son and next heir, and was then aged 25 years and more. The said Anne Lambert still survives at Boyton.

**Inq. p.m., 20 Charles I, pt. 1, No. 35. "Abstracts of Wiltshire Inquisitions Post Mortem," 1901, edited by George S. Fry & Edw. Alex Fry.**