

Aubrey de Vere, 2nd Earl of Oxford

Aubrey de Vere, 2nd Earl of Oxford (c. 1163 – 1214), hereditary Master Chamberlain of England,^[1] served in military campaigns under King Richard and King John. He was succeeded in the earldom by his brother, Robert de Vere, 3rd Earl of Oxford.

Aubrey de Vere, the eldest son and heir of Aubrey de Vere, 1st Earl of Oxford, by his third wife, Agnes of Essex, the daughter of Henry of Essex, lord of Rayleigh, was born in 1163 or later.^[1] He had three brothers, Ralph, Robert and Henry, and a sister, Alice. His brother Ralph predeceased him, and his brother Robert succeeded him as 3rd Earl in 1214.^[2] The first notice of Aubrey de Vere is as a young boy witnessing his father's charters for Colne Priory.^[1]

In 1194 Vere was with King Richard I in France, and succeeded to the earldom on the death of his father on 26 December of the same year.^[1] In 1195 he was assessed to pay 500 marks towards the ransom of King Richard, who was being held captive by the Emperor Henry VI.^[3]

In 1197 Oxford was again with King Richard in Normandy^[3] when a dispute was litigated between Abbot Samson of Bury St Edmunds and some fifty tenants of the Abbey, including the earl of Oxford. Ultimately most of the tenants came to the King's court in London and acknowledged the Abbey's right to certain feudal aids. Earl Aubrey, the last to hold out, finally capitulated when the abbot seized and sold his plough-beasts.^[4]

In 1204 Oxford paid 200 marks for the third penny of Oxfordshire and 'that he might be Earl of Oxford',^[3] a confirmation of the title which had been granted to his father in July 1141 by the Empress Matilda during a time of civil war.^[5] The title had already confirmed to his father by Matilda's son, King Henry II and Aubrey III had been acknowledged earl of Oxford by Richard I and John. This payment five years after John took the throne is thus unusual.

In March 1208 Pope Innocent III placed England under an interdict.^[6] At the time of the interdict Oxford is said to have been regarded as one of the King's 'evil counsellors'.^[3] In the summer of 1209 he was among the courtiers who met the Pope's agents in Dover to try to prevent King John's excommunication. Their mission failed; Pope Innocent excommunicated the King in November of that year.^[7]

In what may have been his last military service, the earl of Oxford was with King John's forces during a nine-week campaign in Ireland from June to August 1210.^[8]

Among other appointments, Oxford was Keeper of the manor of Havering in 1208, Sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire from 1208 to 1213, and steward of the Forest of Essex in 1213. On 20 June 1213 he had the King's greyhounds in his charge.^[3]

Oxford died in 1214, in or before the month of October, and was buried at Colne Priory.^[3] He was succeeded by his younger brother, Robert de Vere, 3rd Earl of Oxford, later one of the guarantors of Magna Carta.^[9]

Aubrey de Vere IV

2nd Earl of Oxford



Heddingham Castle, Essex, seat of the Earls of Oxford

Born	c. 1163
Died	1214 <div>burial in Colne Priory</div>
Noble family	De Vere
Spouse(s)	Isabel de Bolebec <div>Alice</div>
Issue	Roger de Vere (illegitimate)
Father	<u>Aubrey de Vere, 1st Earl of Oxford</u>
Mother	<u>Agnes of Essex</u>

Contents

Marriages and issue

Footnotes

References

External links

Marriages and issue

Oxford married twice. His first wife was the heiress Isabel de Bolebec,^[10] whose marriage his father had purchased in 1184.^[11] She died in 1206 or 1207.^[12]

His second wife, Alice, is said to have been a daughter of Roger Bigod, 2nd Earl of Norfolk and thus his second cousin.^[12] After Oxford's death his brother and successor, Robert de Vere, 3rd Earl of Oxford, established Alice's dower by lot, drawing two knights' fees for every one drawn by Alice.^[12] She never remarried and outlived her husband by several decades. Earl Aubrey had no surviving issue by either of his wives.

The earl left an illegitimate son, Roger de Vere, who was apparently acknowledged and provided for by his father. Roger died in 1221 at Damietta on crusade.^[12]

Footnotes

- 1. Cokayne 1945, p. 208.
- 2. Cokayne 1945, pp. 113–114.
- 3. Cokayne 1945, p. 209.
- 4. Cokayne 1945, p. 209.
- 5. Cokayne 1945, pp. 200–201.
- 6. Gillingham 2010.
- 7. Gillingham 2010.
- 8. Cokayne 1945, p. 209; Gillingham 2010.
- 9. Richardson IV 2011, p. 261.
- 10. Not to be confused with her aunt, Isabel de Bolebec, widow of Henry de Nonant and daughter of Hugh de Bolebec of Whitchurch, who married Oxford's brother, Robert de Vere, later 3rd Earl of Oxford.
- 11. Cokayne 1945, pp. 204, 209.
- 12. Cokayne 1945, p. 210.

References

- Clarke, Ernest (1903). *The Chronicle of Jocelin of Brakelond*. London: De La More Press.
- Cokayne, George Edward (1945). *The Complete Peerage, edited by H.A. Doubleday. X*. London: St. Catherine Press.
- Gillingham, John (2010). *John (1167–1216)* (<http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/14841>). *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. Retrieved 13 October 2012.
- Gillingham, John (2004). *Richard I (1157–1199)* (<http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/23498>). *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. Retrieved 13 October 2012.

External links

For Oxford's dispute with the Abbot of Bury St. Edmunds see the chronicle of Jocelin de Brakelond, at ^[1] (http://www.gutenberg.org/files/37780/37780-h/37780-h.htm#page_98)

Peerage of England		
Preceded by Aubrey de Vere III	Earl of Oxford 1194–1214	Succeeded by Robert de Vere

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Aubrey_de_Vere,_2nd_Earl_of_Oxford&oldid=1015015303"

This page was last edited on 30 March 2021, at 06:43 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.