

WHITELOCK PAPERS AT LONGLEAT, WILTSHIRE

We have known for some years that the Marquis of Bath has a huge collection of Bulstrode Whitelocke's papers at Longleat House in Wiltshire. The collection has been microfilmed and is available on 22 rolls of film. The problem has been to get access to these films and in particular the index that describes what is on each film. I was therefore very pleased to receive an item from Vicky House recently (R2998) that is described as: "Calendar of Papers of Sir James Whitelocke Knt., a Judge of the King's Bench from 1624 to 1632, and of his son Bulstrode Whitelocke One of the Commissioners of the Great Seal of the Commonwealth, and Ambassador to Queen Christina of Sweden." While much of the material is legal documents relating to their careers as lawyers, including many international treaty documents between England and Russia, Sweden and Poland, there is quite a few references to family matters. I have only been through a small portion of the calendar so far.

Some items from this collection include:
[Comments in brackets are mine]

Volume 1

23. Articles of agreement between Cicell Bulstrode widow of Edward Bulstrode, of Hedgely Bulstrode co. Bucks, and Henry Bulstrode son and heir of the said Edward, of the one part, and James Whitelocke, of the Middle Temple, London, of the other part, executed previous to the marriage of the said James Whitelocke to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the said Cicell Bulstrode. (Signed by Cicell and Henry Bulstrode.); 1 September 1602, f.37. [James Whitlock and Elizabeth Bulstrode were married at Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire September 9, 1602]

31. William Branston to Capt. [Richard] Whitelocke, at his lodgings at Tower Hill, at Mrs Mercam's house. Prays him to write to his brother James Whitelocke the counsellor to move Sir John Croke to accept common bail for George Cely who is arrested for debt. Aldergate Street, 7 November 1607, f.50. Endorsed [This is likely Edmund Whitlock not Richard]

46. The Council to the Warden of the Fleet. Warrant to receive James Whitelocke into his custody. (Copy); Whitehall, 18 May 1613, f.166.

47. The same to the same. Warrant for the liberation of James Whitelock. (Copy); Greenwich, 13 June 1613, f. 167.

Volume 2

46. 1 May 1623, f.87. 47. Bond of Sir James Whitelocke, Henry Bulstrode and Edward Bulstrode to Sir Roger Mostyn for £2000. [Sir Roger Mostyn & Elizabeth Whitlock were married at Stanton Lacy, Shopshire May 24, 1623]

Volume 3

89. Bond, Bulstrode Whitelocke to Cecilia Whitelocke his sister for £200. (Draft in the handwriting of Bulstrode Whitelocke, and corrected by Sir James)

Volume 4

19. Articles of agreement between Sir James Whitelocke, one of the Justices of the Pleas before the King to be holden of the one part, and Sir John Garrard, of 'Lammaer' [Lamer] co. Hertford, of the other part, touching the marriage of Bulstrode, eldest son of the former, with Jane, daughter of the latter. (Unsigned); 3 December 1629, f.45.[This marriage never took place]

Volume 5

21. Bulstrode Whitelocke to his wife Mrs Rebecca Whitelocke, at Fawley Court. Has thrived so well at Oxford, especially in his health, that he goes forward in the Circuit without fear of being ill. The writer's father and his Uncle Bulstrode, together with himself, desire to be remembered to the writer's mother. He is buying a horse of his cousin Unton Croke. Wishes her health, courage and freedom from fear, which she may well enjoy considering her security and the stillness of rogues at that time; Oxford, 13 March 1631, f. 153. [Bulstrode married Rebecca Bennet June 22, 1630 in Mortlake, Surrey]

62. 'Propositions by Mr Justice Whitelocke' concerning a marriage settlement, endorsed 'Mr Dixon', and also 'Treaty; Sister Dixon'; 10 May 1632, f.227.

70. Bond, Bulstrode Whitelocke and Richard Oakeley to Henry Dixon, of Hilden co. Kent, for £2000 conditioned for payment of £1400 on 30 November next; 30 June 1632, f.238. Underwritten: I. Receipt of Henry Dixon, for £900 from Thomas Rowden in part payment of the above £1400. 8 November 1632.

71. Receipt of Edward Dixon and Cecilia Whitelocke for £2500 from Bulstrode Whitelocke, executor of the late Sir James Whitelocke, being Cecilia Whitelocke's marriage portion; 2 July 1632, f.240 [Bulstrode's sister Cecely married Edward Dixon July 2, 1632 at Fawley, Buckinghamshire]

Volume 6

62. B[ulstrode] W[hitelocke] to [Frances Willoughby]. Having missed an opportunity of speaking to her, assures her that his love is as unfeigned as can lodge in the breast of any man. (Draft); 23 September 1634, f.129. Underwritten: I. The same to () Begs her to present and obtain from his 'Mestress' the acceptance of 'this inclosed' [Bulstrode's first wife Rebecca died May 9, 1634 at Fawley - he eloped with Frances Willoughby November 10, 1634]

I am looking forward to going through the rest of the 30 volumes of material to see what additional information it yields. This family is detailed on our WHITLOCK.02H chart.

SOURCE: R2998