

The Lady Arbella, daughter of this Countess of Lincoln, was one of those eighteen children. I have tried to discover her grave at Salem but without success. It was a very wild place there in that day, and even Gov. Bradstreet's monumental tablet at Salem has decayed. The memory of them outlasts their monuments.

Theophilus thought himself fortunate to find such a legally trained man as Thomas Dudley to manage his affairs. Part of the Steward's duty seems to have been to find his young lord a suitable wife. This he soon accomplished to the great satisfaction of all parties concerned. He selected Bridget, the daughter of Wm. Fines, first Viscount Say and Seal, who had that title given him in 1624, being the son of Richard Fines, Lord Say and Seal. William was a noted Puritan. This Wm's son, Nathaniel, afterwards became a Privy Councillor under Cromwell.

Lady Bridget appears to have ever continued a fast friend to Mr. Dudley; and he addressed a historical epistle to her from Boston, in New England sometime after the establishment of Massachusetts Bay Colony. One account says she proved a great blessing to the Earl's family and house. Her mother was Elizabeth, daughter of John Temple of Stow in Bucks, Esq.

The estates belonging to the Earldom were exceedingly large and extended in various directions, over portions of several counties. But Mr. Dudley in a few years cleared off the debts, although they amounted to over twenty thousand pounds, and the Earl had almost despaired of ever freeing his vast demesnes of such an enormous incumbrance. During this time a little circumstance is related that shows the shrewdness as well as the piety of Steward Dudley. Some lands or parks had been conveyed by documents so carelessly drawn up, or "profanely contrived," that the time of payment therein named fell on the Lord's Day.

Two Knights, that were to make the payment, seeing that the day appointed was a Sunday, and hearing that Mr. Dudley, the Earl's Steward, was a noted and strict Puritan, who would not be likely to transact secular business, such as counting specie money, giving receipts, discharges, &c., on that day, they resolved to try Mr. D's conscience and tempt him to dispense with his pious principles, for the sake of receiving a great sum of money. So they came to the Earl's castle on the Sabbath-day morning bringing their money bags with them.

Mr. Dudley perceiving their real intentions, and yet considering the trouble that might arise from refusing to accept it when duly tendered, he therefore contrived a plan to get even with them, and