

MAYNE (or Meyn, Meyne, Meine), SIMON (1612-1661), regicide and parliamentary radical, MP 1645, 1659 (Aylesbury), was son and heir of Simon Mayne, High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire, and Coluberry Lovelace, daughter of the first Lord Lovelace and sister of the second, as well as widow of Richard Beke of Hurley (died 1606); she died 10 January 1629. The regicide was baptized 17 February 1612 at Dinton, Buckinghamshire. Mayne had a sister, Coluberry, who married Thomas Bulstrode, son and heir of Henry Bulstrode of Hedgley, Buckinghamshire. The regicide was widely connected: Henry Marten the regicide was his mother's brother-in-law; he was doubly related to the Lovelaces (his aunt was also one); Colonel Richard Beke, MP, was his nephew; Robert Lilburne the regicide was his niece's husband; James Temple the regicide was his aunt's first cousin; and Oliver Cromwell was his nephew's uncle by marriage. Mayne married 21 May 1633 Jane Burgoyne of Bedfordshire (1614-1641) and secondly a widow (name unknown) by whom he had a son Simon, born circa 1644, who married Elizabeth Browne (born circa 1647) of Hertfordshire in 1688/9, had issue, and became a judge. The regicide had no fewer than eight step-brothers and sisters name Beke. Aged 5, his father left him in his will (P.C.C. Wills, Prob-11-130, p. 190) Dinton Hall upon his mother's death, which occurred when the regicide was 16, and after 15 years a lease of the parsonage of Ladenham (Luddingham) and Cuddington, Buckinghamshire. The regicide also inherited further lands. Dinton Hall itself still stands, and is a sizeable mansion. Mayne could be described as being of the greater gentry and highly prosperous. Ten minutes away by horseback lived Richard Ingoldsby the regicide, and twice that distance away was one of the homes of Thomas Scott the regicide.

Maybe was admitted to the Inner Temple in November 1630 (contemporary with John Downes the regicide) and became a county magistrate (Robert Gibbs, 'The Regicides of Bucks.', *The Records of Buckinghamshire*, V, 87). In 1642 he signed a petition to Charles I to disband his army, and served on the Berkshire County Committee, presumably because of his Beke family connections. A document dated 27 October 1643 (Add. MSS. 5497, 91) shows Mayne securing property already under lease to him from the sequestered owners, the Dean and Chapter of Rochester, with Henry Marten as intermediary (CJ, III, 291a; Sloane MSS. 856, 23b-24a).

Mayne was elected to Parliament as a recruiter with Thomas Scott for Aylesbury in 1645 (their Bucks. regicide colleagues Ingoldsby and George Fleetwood did not join them in Parliament for another two years). Scott and Mayne set about getting the affairs of Buckinghamshire into their iron grip, and a remarkable document survives showing the forcefulness and confidence displayed by Mayne in 1648 when he was running the Buckinghamshire County Committee (Add. MSS. 5494, 28-9). The first draft (21 September) was followed by a second (23 September) where he got his first cousin Henry Beke and George Fleetwood the regicide (who was by then an MP) to back him up in replying to requests for accounts of all real and personal estates of delinquents sequestered between 1642 and 1648 inclusive, according to the ordinances of Parliament of 9 and 15 August. Mayne replied to this seemingly reasonable request of the Treasurers at Guildhall in London by brazenly reminding them of a Parliamentary ordinance of 1644 empowering his committee with full disposal of Bucks. sequestrations, said he was using the profits to finance a militia troop of horse and to pay arrears of former Bucks. Soldiers who, he tartly added, 'hitherto have not been necessitated to wait at the Parliament's doors with

petitions for the same, as from many other counties they have done.' Mayne's absolute refusal to meet the requests of Parliament was only mitigated after Pride's Purge, when he did allow his County Treasurer to send in a token specimen account covering only a single month in the spring of 1649 (*Ibid.*, 30-1). Mayne ran a tight ship and his attitude is in sharp contrast to many of the county committees who meekly submitted reams of accounts of inspection (Bedfordshire, for instance, sent in a most respectful letter and 25 lengthy, meticulously neat pages of exhaustive accounts). Two months later, Mayne was named by Parliament a Buckinghamshire commissioner for assessment (CJ, VI, 87b).

Mayne was named to the High Court of Justice to try the King and attended many of its meetings, not being slow to sign the Death Warrant, for his signature precedes those of three of his Bucks. colleagues (Challoner, Fleetwood, and Scott), which seems to belie the story he later told (*Somers Tracts*, VII, 456-7) that Thomas Challoner had made him sign the Warrant and had boasted 'that he was the man that made Mr. Mayne a man of courage and resolution'. Mayne published this after Challoner was safely on the Continent, but kept back Challoner's actual name at his own trial (Noble, II, 66). During the Protectorate, Mayne continued with the Bucks. County Committee (*Ibid.*, II, 65). He returned to Parliament in 1659, languishing there in his customary obscurity. On August 12 he was granted 8 days' leave of absence to attend a trial in Bucks. (CJ, VII, 756b) and must have been in the House on September 30 because he was not fined for absence (*Ibid.*, 789-90). But Mayne, comfortable as a large fish in a small pond, was remarkably timid in the larger councils of the nation and appears never to have served on a parliamentary committee or to have been a teller for a vote in the House. He remained very much a local boss and the High Court was his one flash onto the greater stage, subsiding very much into the pan. This one action was, however, sufficient cause for his surrender, trial, and imprisonment at the Restoration. He died in the Tower of illness on 13 April 1661, and was buried at Dinton Church on 18 April. Quite soon afterwards, his son and presumably also widow regained his confiscated lands and the family continued at Dinton as before.