**Sir Thomas Lovell**

Born into a minor family of Norfolk Gentry and later became administrator and speaker at the House of Commons

Service to the King

Began his career helping the King to dress and undress, according to Gunn.

In 1485, he served as a speaker of the Commons in Henry’s first parliament.

Primary responsibilities were financial: he was treasurer of the king’s chamber from 1485

From 12 October 1485 he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, meaning that he had to smooth relations with the older financial institutions and the new. Due to effective treasury with treasures such as Sir John Heron, he managed to raise Henry’s income from lands to £42,000 a year.

By 1503, when much of his work in the chamber seems to have been taken over by his former clerk John Heron, he became treasurer of the king's household which was more flexible but no less important.

He regularly travelled to Calais to collect the king's French pension, audited accounts with the king and other councillors, and took bonds for payment from many victims of the king's exactions. With Bishop Fox, made enemies with Empson and Dudley.

Also worked to maintain Henry’s security on the throne: from Michaelmas 1512, he took custody of many state prisoners. By the end of his life, he was keeping Lambert Simnel as falconer in the household.

He fought at Stoke in 1487, where he was knighted, in France in 1492, and at Blackheath in 1497, where he was made banneret.

In 1500 his loyalty was rewarded with election to the Order of the Garter. He was close to other leading councillors, especially Richard Fox and the Earl of Oxford. Their co-operation was important for the stability of Henry’s throne.

Second most regular attender of the reign in the Star Chamber.

Had considerable military power: in 1492, he raised 143 men for the king and 493 in 1497

At the accession of Henry VIII, Lovell remained a leading member of the king’s council. He cpntinues to sit sit regularly in the Star Chamber and helped to sort out the complex financial legacy of the previous reign.

Powerbase – land

Made considerable profit in Henry’s service by 1522–3 he enjoyed a clear landed income of over £450 a year, from estates spread across twelve counties from Yorkshire to Kent and from Wiltshire to Norfolk.

Steward of significant boroughs such as Derby, Lichfield and Nottingham.