

RECORDS OF EARLY ENGLISH DRAMA

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BOROUGH OF WARWICK

Edited by Alan Somerset

Uploaded November 2020

1564-5

Burgesses' Account Book, 1564-69 [WCRO: CR 1618/WA 1/1](#)

f 78v (*Accounts of John Fisher, Burgess*)

...

...And in Rewarde given to the quenes players in myne absence vjs viijd ...

...

1566-7

Burgesses' Account Book, 1564-69 [WCRO: CR 1618/WA 1/1](#)

ff 85-85v (*Accounts of Richard Brooke, Burgess*)

...

Rewardes & Charges (in margin)

Richard Heyney (in margin)

paide and geven in Rewarde to the quenes players plainge at the Madenhall Before Master Belie & his Bretherne -- xjs viijd To them for playinge the Morowe After Before the seid Compeney iijs iiijd To therle of Wysseturs players ffor playinge Before the seid Master Baley & his Bretherne -- iijs iiijd

xvijs iiijd |

paide to him The Marrowe After The Quenes players played At the Maden Halle Master Baley Beinge there *with* other of his Bretherne iis iiijd

iijs iiijd

...

1568-9

Burgesses' Account Book, 1564-69 [WCRO: CR 1618/WA 1/1](#)

f 93 (*Accounts of Thomas Dowell, Burgess*)

...

To the quenes *Maiesties* players playine at the scole howse before Master Bailye & other of his

compenye in Rewarde xxs ...

1571-2

Black Book of Warwick, Office of the Town Clerk; 1554-1716

f 69--70v (12 August) (*Description of Queen Elizabeth's visit*)

...But to retourne her *Maiestie* that saturday nyght was lodged agayn in the Castell at warwik where also she rested all sonday where it pleased her to haue the Countrey | people resorting to see her, daunce in the Court of the Castell her *maiestie* beholding them out of her Chamber wyndowe *which* thing as it pleased well the Country people so it semed her *maiestie* was much delighted and [pleas] made very myrry. That after none passed and supper done a showe of firewoorkes prepayred for that *purpose* in the templ felde was sett abroche the maner wherof this writer can not so truly sett fourth as if he had bene at hit being than sick in his bed. but the reaport was, that there was devised on the temple diche a fort made of slender tymber coverid *with* canvais in this fort were apointid divers *persons* to serve as soldiers and therfore so many harnesses as might be gotten *within* the towne were had wherof men were armed & apointid to shewe them selves. some others apointid to cast out fire woorkes as squibbes & balles of fyere. Against thet fort was an other castelwise prepared of like strength wherof was governor the [Lord] erele of oxford a lusty lentelman *with* alusty band of gentleman. Betwene thies fortes or against them were placed *certen* battering pieces to the number of xij or xiiij brought from london and xij skore Chambers or mortys peces brought also from the towere at the Chardge of therle of Warwick Thies pieces & Chambers were by traynes fyred and so made a great noise as thoug it had bene a fore assault. having some intermission in *which* tyme therle of oxford & his soldiers to the nomber of cc *with* qualivers & harqu buzers likewise gave divers assaults. They in the forte shoting agayn & casting out divers fyers terribel to those that have not bene in like experiences valiant to such as delighted therin and in dede straunge to them that vnderstood it not ffor the wyld fyre falling into the Ryver of Avon wold for a tyme lye still and than agayne rise & flye abrode casting fourth many flasshes and | flambes wherat the quenes *maiestie* took great pleasure till after by mischaunce a poore man or two were much trowbled ffor at the last whan it was apointid that the overthrowing of the fort should bee A A dragon flieing casting out huge flames & squibes lightid upon the fort and so set fyre theron. [but be] to the subversion therof. But whether by negligence or otherwise if happed that a ball of fyre fell on a house at the end of the bridge wherin one henry Cowper other [^]wise called miller dwelled and ssett fyre on thesame house the man & wief being both in bed & on slepe *which* burned so as before any reskue could be the house & all thinges in it vtterly perished *with* much a do to save the man & woman. and besides that house an other house or two [<...>] nere adioyning were also fyred; but reskued by the diligent & carefull helpe aswell of therle of oxford [& the] Sir ffulke Grevile & other gentlemen & Townesmen. *which* repared thither in greater nomber than could be ordered And no *marvaile* it was that so litle harme was done for the fire balles & squibbes cast vpp did flye quiet over the Castell and in to the mydes of the towne falling down some on houses some in Courtes & backsides and some in the streate as farre as almost to saint Mary Church to the great perill orells great feare of the Inhabitantes of this borough. And so as by what meanes is not yet knowne foure houses in the towne &

suburbes were on fyre at on<ce> wherof one had a ball cam thorough both sides & made a hole as big as a mans head & did no more harme This fyre appeased it was tyme to goe to rest. And in the next morning it pleased her *Maiestie* to have the poore old man & woman that had ther house brent brought vnto her whom so brought her *Maiestie* recomfortid very much And by her graces [b] bounty & other Courtiers There was given towards their losses that had taken hurt xxv li. xij s viijd or therabouts *which* was dispersed to them acordingly | On monday her maiesty taking *great* plesure in the sport she had at Kenelworth wold thither agayn...

Note: 'v' of 'vnto her' is written over another indecipherable letter.

1600-1

Bailiffs' Accounts WCRO: [CR 1886/B1 \[oom\] 8282](#)

f [2] (Extraordinary payments)

+ paid to the Earle of huntingdon his plears --- iij s iiijd

...

paid to the Queenes *Maiesties* pleares --- xs

...

f [10v] (Expenses)

...

given in rewardes to ye Earle of huntingtons players --- 3s 4d

...

given in rewardes to ye quens players --- 10s

...

1607-8

Antiquarian Extracts from Bailiffs' Accounts WCRO: [CR 1908/227/1](#); 1559-1716

f [5v] (Presents & Rewards)

...

To ye Kings Trumpete --- 1-0-0

To ye D of Lenox Trumpeters --- 0-6-8

...

Note: 1607 is given in left margin one line above first entry.

1613

Visitation Act Book, Diocese of Worcester; [WCRO: BA2884](#); 1610-13

f 93 (12 February)

ISancte Marii Warrwickl

Officium domini contra Annam Reynolds / ffor dressinge her selfe in manis apparrell and imodestly behavinge herselfe therein citatus per Bright non comparuit excommunicato

lexcommunicato euntl

lcitatus dominal

...

1614-15

Antiquarian Extracts from Bailiffs' Accounts WCRO: [CR 1908/227/1](#); 1559-1716

f [2] (Expenses)

...

10s givn to ye Waites of this Borough at Entertaining Lord Knolles.

...

Note: 1614 is given in left margin five lines above

1615-16

Bill of Complaint and Answers [TNA: PRO STAC 8/282/29](#)

mb [2] (Bill of Complaint)

To the Kinges most excellent *Maiestie*

Humbly Complayninge shewe and enforme vnto your highnesse your loyall Subiectes Iohn Townesend of the Borough of Warwick in the County of Warwick *Gentleman* Iohn Ridgley of the same Borough and County *gentleman* William Willis <...> in the same Borough That^{c1} whereas the ^rsaid^r towne of Warwick is and long time hath bin an aunciant towne Corporat endowed with many *privileges* aswell by *prescription* as by divers *Chartres* *grantes* & confirmacions of divers of *your Maiesties* most Royal *progenitors* Kinges and Queenes of this *your* highnes Realme of England. And whereas Kinge Philip & Queene Mary by their *lettres patentes* vnder the great seale of England bearinge date the twelueth day of November in the first and second yeares of their raigne of England did ordayne and graunt that the said Towne should thenceforth be a free Borough incorporated in name and deed by the name of Bayliffe and Burgesses of the borough of Warwick and should haue one body Corporate & Cominalty *perpetuall*, and *perpetuall* succession forever. And did thereby graunt that from thenceforth there should be twelue of the most discreetest & most honest men^{c2} of the Borough *which* should be aiding to the Bayliffe there for the time being in Causes & in matters Concerninge the burrough, and *which* should be called ye principall burgesses of the same burrough and should be the Common Counsell there for statutes Actes & ordinances touchinge the publique profittes of the same burrough, & Inhabitanes thereof, <*which*> by them or the greater parte of them with the Bayliffe for the time being should bee made for the better goverment & rule of the men causes things and businesses of the said burrough for ever. And further that the said Bayliffe & Burgesses should <ha>ue a Courte of Record to be houlden before the Bayliffe & Recorder of the said towne for the time being or their sufficient deputies every Munday, exceptinge onely some foure daies in the yeare in a Certaine house, Called the Court house of the *said* <tow>ne <and> in some <...>^{f1} other convenient place *within* the *said* towne. And that the Bayliffe and Burgesses should haue view of *ffrankpledge* and a Court Leete there also to be houlden twice every yeare as in & by^{c3} the *said* Letters patents more at large doth & may appeare And whereas ever sithence themakinge of the *said* *lettres* *patentes* the Bayliffe & Burgesses for the time beinge haue vsed & enjoyed the said liberties & *priviledges* & the Bayliffes & twelue principall Burgesses for the time being haue had the rule & <or>dringe and governance of theaffaires of the *said* towne, And Courtes haue bin kept in the *said* towne from time to time accordinge to the forme & effect of the *said* *lettres* *patentes*, And whereas *your* said subiec<t> Iohn Townesend by the space of thirty yeares now last past hath binne one of the principall burgesses of the *said* towne and hath twice borne the office of Bayliffe there, and by the space of ffourteene yeares last past hath also by speciall Comission vnder the great seale of England bynne a Iustice of peace for & *within* the *said* towne & Burrough & the liberties

thereof. And for the due execution of these^{c4} offices hath ever had <...>^{f2} to beh<au>e himselfe accordinge to his dewty & the Charge in that behalf imposed vpon him and for his life & Conversacion otherwise that every binne Carefull to order the same in Civill & temperate manner accordinge to his dewty as aforesaid and now hath & alwaies had a good and suff<icient> estate to satisfy all debtes & credittes what soever, and likewise to support the charge of his place and callinge in a meete & Convenient manner. & *your said* subiecte Iohn Ridgley hath for these twenty yeares last paste bin one of the principall Burgesses of the *said* towne and hath twice borne the office of Bayliffe there and hath ever binne of good & honest Conversacion, and *your said* subiect william willis hathe for a long time beene inhabitant in the sayd town & free^{c5} from the imputacions by the malefactors hereafter mentioned obiected against him.^{c6} All *which* said *lettres* patentes charters commission & vsages before mentioned and all and every the recited *premisses* were very well knowne vnto Henry Cater Iohn Gibbes, and Thomas Hankinson alias lenkes being^{c7} all inhabitantes of the *said* Boroughe of Warwick, & to other their Confederates hereafter mentioned. And whereas the *said* Henry Cater Iohn Gibbes & Thomas Hankin<son> and other of their Confederates haue also heretofore bynne lawfully & \$\$iustly Convicted & punished by the Magistrates of the *said* towne for <...>ses^{f3} & disorders Committed by them in the *said* Borough & towne^{c8} So yt is may yt please your Most excellent Maiestie that the *said* Cater Gibbes, & Hankinson^{c9} & the rest of their Confederates maliciously Conspiringe and combining^{c13} together to bringe the Magistracy & goverment of the *said* town in<to> Contempt and scorne, & to bringe *your said* subiects Iohn Townesend ^ Iohn Ridgley^{c11} & other the principall burgesses, being as aforesaid the Common Counsell of the *said* Boroughe and governors into^{c12} hatred derision and detestacion amongst all the <in>hab<itan>tes of the *said* towne and especially with such as are of good and honest Conversacion, & that without any manner of occasion or cause at all other then for takinge care to discharge his and their dewties of their places and offi<ce &> seekinge to preserue the liberties *priviledges* orders & good goverment of the *said* town & for the due execution of Iustice in inflictinge Condigne punishment vpon the malefactors & offenders within the Iurisdiction of th<e> *said* Borough & towne And to that end & purpose they the *said* Henry Cater Iohn Gibbes and Thomas Hankinson^{c13} & the rest of their *said* Confederates vpon or about the twentieth day of September in the <t>hirteenth yeare^{c14} of *your* highnes raigne did vnlawfully & riotously assemble themselues together at the house of one^{c15} William Clemens in the *said* Borough of Warwick the same being a Common Alehouse and kept in Contempt of goverment by the *said* Clemens without licence, and against express order & comaundement giuen in open sessions there held for the *said* borough for the suppressinge thereof And then & there in scorne & Contempt of the manner of keepinge of Courtes vsed in the *said* borough accordinge to the *said* *lettres* patentes & Chartres before mentioned, & in derision & disgrace of the meetinges and assemblies of the Bayliffe & principall Burgesses of the *said* Borough for the Common counsell and ordering^{c16} & governinge of the affaires and businesses of the *said* Borough Henry Cater Iohn Gibbs and Thomas Hankinson^{c17} with the res<t> of ther<e> Confederates did most vnlawfully & audaciously take vpon them to make solemne proclamacions & to Call an assembly or Counsell in manner^{f4} & fourme of keepinge of a Courte And the *said* Henry Cater by thappointment and abetment of the *said* Iohn Gibbes Thomas Hankinson & their other confederates^{c18} tooke vpon him the *said* Cater to be the crier, & one^{c19} Ieffery Wherret tooke vpon him to be the iudge of their intended lawlesse Court, & the *said*

John Gibbes & Thomas Hankinson^{c20} likewise tooke vpon them the manner of other offices pertayninge to the keepinge of Courtes, and did abett and incourrage the said Wherret and Cater in their saides^{f5} vnlawful manner of Courtkeepinge. And the said Wherret & Cater and other their said Confederates thus takinge vpon them the offices & places afore said yt was then published and giuen out by the said Wherret Cater Iohn Gibbes & Thomas Hankinson^{c21} & the rest of the^{c22} said Confederates that there should now be a iury summoned & Called *which* lurie the said Ieffery Wherret then openly sayd should be and Consist all of Whoremungers And therevpon the said Henry Cater takinge vpon him the office of Crier as aforesaid by the direction and abettment of the said Wherret Iohn Gibbes & Thomas Hankinson^{c23} and the rest of their said Confederates did with a very lowde voice cry out and make three solemne Oyes in manner of a *proclamacion* & willed all the persons then present being very many in number to keepe silence *which* he did to the intent that they the said Cater Gibbes & Hankinson^{c24} and the rest of their said Confederates might the more solemnelly *proceede* in their said vnlawfull enterprise. And therevpon the said Henrie Cater further with a very lowde voice and in manner of Callinge of a lury did Call and name your said subiect Iohn Townesend as a luror to serue their turne, for sport and scorne and to satisfie their malice as aforesaid, and the name of your said subiect Iohn Townesend being in this manner Called vpon yt was <...> therevpon demaunded of the said Ieffery Wherret by the said Cater what he (meaning your said subiect Iohn Townesend) was to the intent the said wherret shold giue his Censure, whether he were of that lewde behaviour^{c25}, and dishonest Condicion of which they gaue out & pretended that their lurors shold be as is aforesaid, And therevpon the said Ieffery Wherret in very scornefull and despitefull matter made answere that hee meaninge your said subiect was an old gowty whoremaster & that he owed more then he was worth. Wherevpon the said Gibbes & Hankinson^{c26} and all the rest of their said Confederates, and riotous persons then and there assembled did very much laugh and seeme to reioyce and to applaud this scandalous false & slanderous censure in this disgracefull and malicious manner deliuered and pronounced against your said subiect Iohn Townesend by the said Wherret then and there takinge vpon him the office & place of a Iudge as aforesaid & the Cheefe manageinge of their vnlawfull *proceedinges* And then the said Henry Cater as Cryer and in manner of Callinge of a lury as aforesaid proceeded on and with a lowde voice Called the name of your said subiect Iohn Ridgley *gentleman* as a luror [w<...>] ^{f7} being & C^{f6} [^{f7}<...>] one other^{c27} of the principall Burgesses of the said towne and hath twice executed the office of Bayliffe there ^ as is aforesaid ^ [^{f8}<...> very graue discrete and honest <...> and] ^{f8} and ^ was well knowne vnto the said Cater Gibbes & Hankinson^{c28}, and all the rest of the said Confederates soe to be Neverthelesse his name beinge in this matter as aforesaid mentioned yt was likewise asked by the said Cater Gibbes or Hankinson or^{c29} some other of the Confederates what he the said Iohn Ridgley was, and the said Wherret likewise in very scornefull & reprochfull manner made answere & said that hee (meaninge [the] ^ your ^ said ^ subiect ^ Iohn^{c30} Ridgley) was a whoremaster and therefore fitte to serue on our lury And soe the said Wherrett & Cater and their said adherentes proceeded further in their said Course and the said Cater Gibbes and Hankinson or some other the said^{c31} adherentes demaunded of the said Wherryt what Richard Lee *gentleman* one other of the principall Burgesses of the said Burough was wherevnto the said Wherryt answered that he is a greedy Cormorant. And in like manner the said Cater Gibbes Hankinson^{c32} & their said Confederates proceeded on still Callinge <over> misnaminge defaminge & <ab>usinge all the

Magistrates & officers haueing any manner of authority within the said towne or Borough. And the said Cater Gibbes & Hankinson^{c33} and the rest of their Confederates not Contentinge themselues with these abusive and scandalous aspersions Cast vpon your said subiectes Iohn Townesend & Iohn Ridgley and the^{c34} rest of the said principall Burgesses as aforesaid, [*<.>*]^{f9} but out of their hatred and malice vnto^{c35} your said subiectes William Willis^{c36} and such other Inhabitanes within^{c37} the said towne as were of Civill & honest Conversation and did stand well affected vnto the orderly and peaceable government of the said Towne did further proceed to Call & name divers others of the said Inhabitanes And namely & particularly the said Cater Gibbes or Hankinson they or some of them^{c38} by the abettment of the rest of the said Confederates in like scornfull manner as aforesaid did call and name one^{c40} Michael Harriot and likewise did demand of the said Wherryt what he the said^{c41} Michael Harriot was, wherevnto the said Wherryt replied that hee (meaning the said^{c42} Harriot) was an olde whoremaster vpon recorde and therefore fitt to passe as a lurer And then the said Cater Gibbes Hankinson or some of them^{c42} further nominated your said subiect William Willis^{c43} & also demanded of the said Wherryt what he meaning your said subiect William Willis^{c44} was, wherevnto the said Wherryt answered that he was an olde whoremaster or gaue wordes to the same or like effect^{c45} and soe likewise said hee should be of their lury. And^{c46} accordinge to this infamous and disorderly Course the said Wherryt Cater Gibbes Hankinson^{c47} and the rest of their said adherentes did proceede Callinge naming and maliciously and falsely slandering censuring and defaminge diuers others of your Highnes subiectes of the better sort inhabitinge within your said burrough to the exceedinge great greife and defamacion of your said subiectes soe scandalously and falsely traduced and to their damage and great impeachment of their Credittes & reputations & detriment of their estates some of them beinge tradesmen and therein the more damnified. And vpon proclayminge and passing of all & every the aforementioned disgracefull scandalls & libellous speaches & Censures vpon all and every the parties afore named, the said Cater Gibbes and Hankinson together with diuers other^{c48} their Confederates then & there present did with loude voices laugh at, reioyce approue of and applaude the said approbrious & false Calumniacions & every of them soe maliciously published as aforesaid. all which they did not onely of purpose for to bring your said subiects Iohn Townesend ^r Iohn Ridgley^{c49} and the rest of the said principall burgesses and magistrates of the said towne and your said subiect William Willis^{c50} by them named & scandalously defamed as aforesaid into hatred and disgrace amongst all the Inhabitanes of the said Towne and of the Cuntry thereaboutes but as much also as in them lay to bring the very magistracy yt selfe into Contempt & scorne and vtterly to subvert all manner of order and gouernment within the said towne and in this manner the said Henry Cater Iohn Gibbes and Thomas Hankinson^{c51} and the rest of their said riotous Companie did continue then and there in the said house of the said William Clemens beinge a Common alehouse vnlicensed as aforesaid by the space of tenne or twelue houres together committinge the abuses before mencioned & diuers other outrages of the like nature, All which they did by the abettment & instigacion of the sayd Cater Gibbes & Hankinson^{c52} & diuers other of their Confederates whose names your subiectes yett certainly know not, but humbly pray that they may insert theyr names into this bill of complaynt as soone as they shall attayne to the knowledge of them. And the sayd <Gibbes> Hankinson and Cater^{c53} & the rest of theyr confederats did not only by combinacion abett and encourage the sayd wherrit^{c54} in theyr vnlawfull proceedings, heere before mencioned, but they the said Cater

Gibbes & Hankinson^{c55} & the rest of theyrs confederates, yet unknowne whose names you<r> subiectes humbly pray they may insert into this bill of Complaint assone as they shall attaine to the knowledge of them haue^{c56} also at other times & places by divers other abuses and outrages of the like nature as those before mentioned & by Contrivung, inventinge and raisinge false & slanderous reportes against your subiectes Iohn Townesend & Iohn Ridgley, & other^{c57} yes Cheefe Burgesses of the sayd towne and your s<a>yed subiect William Willis,^{c58} and by raysinge & maintayninge of faction & division amonst the Inhabitanes of the sayd Towne disturbed the Common peace & welfare of the sayd towne & indeede sought the vtter overthrowe of your *Maiesties* sayd towne All *which* offenses misdemeanors & abuses before mencioned haue bin done & Committed by the sayd Henry Cater Iohn Gybbes & Thomas Hankinson^{c59} and the rest of their Confederates, sithence your *Maiesties* last generall and most gracious free pardon. Wherefore to the intent that the sayd malefactors may receive some exemplary & Condigne punishment for their demerites in that behalfe may yt please your *Maiestie* to graunt vnto your subiectes your Highnes most gracious [Ritt] Writt of Subpena to be awarded out of your most highe and honorable Court of Starrchamber and to be directed to the sayd Henry Cater Iohn Gibbes and Thomas Henkinson^{c60} & the like proces to be awarded to the rest of the sayd vnknowne persons that were of their Confederacye assoone as your sayd subiectes shall attaine to the Knowledge of them, & haue inserted their names into this bill of Complaint thereby Commaundinge them & every of them at a Certaine day & vnder a Certaine paine in that behalfe to be limited personally to be and appeare before your *Maiestie* and your *Maiesties* most honorable Privye Counsell in your sayd Court of Starrchamber then & there to answeere the premises and to abide the order and Censure of that most honorable Court touchyng the same, and your subiectes according to there b<oun>den duty shall pray^{c61} for your *Maiesties* long life with increase of all honor and happines^{c62}.
(Signed) Richard Townesend^{c63}

Footnotes:

- f\1 perhaps a word, obscured by smudge
- f\2 <.>rge obscured; 'Care' in STAC 8/282/30
- f\3 two words obliterated by wearing of parchment
- f\4 manner 3 minims for nn
- f\5 saides for said
- f\6 &c *written below* being
- f\7 42 mm erasure; no text apparently lost
- f\8 8 words crossed out
- f\8 single letter crossed out

Collation with *TNA: PRO, STAC 8/282/30 (D2)* (see *Document Descriptions for details*). 282/29 bears an endorsed date, 13 November 1615, while 282/30 bears the date, 11 November 1616. I do not know why an amended version of this bill of complaint was written a year after the first and, among other changes, adds further names to the list of the accused.

- c\1 Iohn Ridgley...in the same Borough That: ^Michael Harriott, William Bolton and Iohn Owen Inhabitanes of the said Towne of Warrwick'. That (*D2*)
- c\2 & most honest men: and [honestest] most honest men (*D2*)
- c\3 in & by: in [the] and by (*D2*)
- c\4 these offices: the said offices (*D2*)

- c\5 subiecte Iohn Ridgley...free: subiectes Michael Harryott, William Bolton, and Iohn Owen haue euer bynne of honest & Ciuill Conversacion and free (D2)
- c\6 him: them (D2)
- c\7vnto Henry Cater...alias Ienkes being: vnto Nicholas Wilkins, Henry Cater, Ieffrey Wherret, William Clemens ^r Richard Handes George Wilmore Iohn Gibbes^ and Iohn Mandick being (D2)
- c\8 Henry Cater...Borough & towne: Nicholas Wilkins was heeretofore and since you^r *Maiesties* last general pardon lawefully Convicted for vnlawefull keeping of an alehouse within the said burrough without lycence, and ordered not to keepe the same anie longer, And the said Ieffery Wherret and other of the said Confederates haue allsoe heeretofore bynne lawefully and iustly Convicted and punished, by the said Magistrates of the said Towne for Certaine abuses and disorders Committed by them in the said burrough or Towne (D2)
- c\9 Cater Gibbes, & Hankinson: Wilkins, Wherrett, Cater, Clemens, ^r Handes Wilmore Gibbes^ and Mandick (D2)
- c\10 combining: practising (D2)
- c\11 ^r Iohn Ridgleye^: (omitted D2)
- c\12 governors into: governours thereof into (D2)
- c\13 Henry Cater Iohn Gibbs and Thomas Hankinson: Nicholas Wilkins, Henry Cater, Ieffery Wherrett [and] William Clemens ^r Richard Handes George Wilmore Iohn Gibbes Iohn Mandick^ (D2)
- c\14 September in the thirteenth yeare: September last past in this present thirteenth yeare (D2)
- c\15 one: the said (D2)
- c\16 counsell and ordering: Counsell [and] orderinge (D2)
- c\17 Henry Cater Iohn Gibbs and Thomas Hankinson: The said Nicholas Wilkins, Henry Cater, Ieffery Wherret, William Clemens ^r Richard Handes George Wilmore Iohn Gibbes^ & Iohn Mandicke (D2)
- c\18 Iohn Gibbes Thomas Hankinson & their other confederates: Wilkins, Wherret, ^r Mandick^ and Clemens (D2)
- c\19 one: the said (D2)
- c\20 Iohn Gibbes & Thomas Hankinson: Wilkins ^r Mandick^ and Clemens (D2)
- c\21 Iohn Gibbes & Thomas Hankinson: (omitted D2)
- c\22 the: theire (D2)
- c\23 Iohn Gibbes & Thomas Hankinson: (omitted D2)
- c\24 Cater Gibbes & Hankinson: Wherret, Cater (D2)
- c\25 behaviour:demeanou^r (D2)
- c\26 Gibbes & Hankinson: Wilkins and Clemens (D2)
- c\27 name of your said subiect Iohn Ridgley *gentleman* as a Iuror [w<...>] ^ being &c^ [<...>] one other: name of Iohn Ridgley *gentleman* as a Iuror which Iohn Ridgley is one other (D2)
- c\28 Cater Gibbes & Hankinson: Wherret (D2)
- c\29 Cater Gibbes or Hankinson or: Cater and (D2)
- c\30 (meaninge [the] ^ your^ said ^r subiect^ Iohn): meaning the said Iohn (D2)
- c\31 Cater Gibbes and Hankinson or some other the said: Cater and other the (D2)
- c\32 Cater Gibbes Hankinson: Wherret, Cater (D2)
- c\33 Cater Gibbes & Hankinson: Wherret & Cater, (D2)
- c\34 subiectes Iohn Townsend Iohn Ridgley and the: subiect Iohn Townsend & the (D2)
- c\35 vnto: to (D2)
- c\36 William Willis: Michael Harriott, William Bolton & Iohn Owen, (D2)
- c\37 within: of (D2)
- c\38 Gibbes or Hankinson they or some of them: (omitted D2)
- c\39 one: your said subiect (D2)
- c\40 the said: your said subiect (D2)
- c\41 the said: your said subiect (D2)
- c\42 Gibbes Hankinson or some of them: (omitted D2)
- c\43 Willis: Bolton (D2)
- c\44 Willis: Bolton (D2)
- c\45 or gaue wordes to the same or like effect: & kept a bawdie house, (D2)
- c\46 Iury. And: Iurie. And allsoe the said Cater ^r called^ by name your said subiect Iohn Owen, & asked the said wherret what hee (meaning your said subiect Iohn Owen was: wherevnto the said Wherret replied & said that hee (meaning your said subiect Iohn Owen) was. a bankrupt & would bee a begger within these two yeares. And (D2)

- c\47 Gibbes Hankinson: (*omitted D2*)
- c\48 Cater Gibbes and Hankinson together with diuers other: Wherret, Cater, Mandick, Clemens and Wilkins & all the rest of (*D2*)
- c\49 subiectes Iohn Townesend ^ Iohn Ridgley ^ and: subiect Iohn Townsend and (*D2*)
- c\50 your said subiect William Willis: and the rest of your said Subiectes (*D2*)
- c\51 Henry Cater Iohn Gibbes and Thomas Hankinson: Iefferie Wherret, Henry Cater (*D2*)
- c\52 sayd Cater Gibbes & Hankinson: said (*blank*) Wilkins and (*blank*) Clemens ^ Richard Handes George Wilmore Iohn Gibbes ^ (*D2*)
- c\53 sayd <Gibbes> Hankinson and Cater: said (*blank*) Wilkins, (*blank*) Clemens (*blank*) & Mandicke (*D2*)
- c\54 wherret: Wherret and Cater (*D2*)
- c\55 Cater Gibbes & Hankinson: Ieffery Wherret, Henry Cater, Nicholas Wilkins Willaim Clemens Iohn Mandicke Richard Handes ^ George Wilmore and Iohn Gibbes ^ (*D2*)
- c\56 haue: hath (*D2*)
- c\57 subiectes Iohn Townsend & Iohn Ridgley, & other: subiect Iohn Townsend & other (*D2*)
- c\58 and your s<a>yed subiect William Willis: and the rest of your said subiectes (*D2*)
- c\59 Henry Cater Iohn Gybbes & Thomas Hankinson and: Ieffrey Wherret, Henry Cater, Nicholas Wilkins, William Clemens, Iohn Mandicke, and (*D2*)
- c\60 Henry Cater Iohn Gibbes and Thomas Henkinson: Ieffery Wherret, Henry Cater, Nicholas Wilkins, William Clemens ^ Richard Handes George Wilmore Iohn Gibbes ^ and Iohn Mandick (*D2*)
- c\61 pray: pray to god (*D2*)
- c\62 long life with increase of all honor and happines: most prosperous longe and happie Raigne over vs. *Memorandum* the names of Richard Handes George Wilmore and Iohn Gibbes were inserted the 7th of ffebruary 1615 (*D2*)
- c\63 Richard Townesend: Thomas Malet (*D2*)

1620-1

Antiquarian Extracts from Bailiffs' Accounts WCRO: [CR 1908/227/1](#); 1559-1716

f [2v] (Expenses)

...

12d to a lugler to ridd ye Town of him

...

Note: 1620/1 is given in left margin two lines above this entry.

1634

Evidence in a Suit Respecting Water-mills WCRO: [CR 1886/7543](#); 1634

mb[2] (21 January) (Interrogatories)

Interrogatories to be administred vnto Wiliam Hus to bee produced on the parte and behalfe of the righte honorable Robert Lord Brooke *Complainante* againste Thomas Bewsowe and Henry Bewsowe *Esquires Defendantes*

...

8. Item what Customes have bene tyme out of minde vsed by the loader of the Castle Mills or of other Mills with their load horses yearely on Midsommer daye in rideinge throughe the sayde Towne of Warwicke And where haue they mett and howe hath bene the manner of their comeinge together, and rideinge throughe the sayde Towne, and hath not the sayde Custome of rideinge bene taken and generally reputed to bee for the better keepinge in memorie, whoe or what persons oughte to bee permitted to loade <within the> sayde Towne, hathe not the loader of the Castle Mills had the firste place in rideinge and did not the other

loaders come to the Castle Mills to fetch him there, and, at the end of such riding did they not bring him back againe to the sayde Castle Mills, declare what is your knowledge touching this Custome *with all circumstances therevnto.*

...

mb [3-3d] (Depositions ex parte Robert Lord Brooke)

Depositions of witnesses sworne & examined had & taken att Warwicke in the Countye of Warwicke the one & twentieth daye of Ianuarye in the ninth yeare of the Raigne of our Soueraigne Lord Charles by the grace of god of England Scotland ffraunce & Ireland kinge Defender of the faithe &c Anno *domini* 1633 Before vs Iohn Onebye Esquire Richard Wright Clerke, Iohn Parsons & George Palmer *gentlemen* by virtue of his *Maiesties* Commission forth of his Highnesse Honourable Court of Exchequerre to vs directed ...

Thomas Heywood of the towne & Burrough of Warwicke & Countye of Warwicke loader, aged fiftie eight yeares or thereabouts sworne & examined saith as followeth.

...

8 To the eighth Interrogatorye this deponent saith That there is, & hath beene an ancient Custome duringe the whole time of this deponents remembrance, & as hee hath heard for many yeares before, for the seuerall loaders of the aforesaid Castle Mills, Priory Mills, GuyesClifte Mills & Emscotte Mill to ride yearely & euerye yeare on Mydsommer daye 'on their seuerall loade horses' vp & downe the Towne of Warwicke in manner followeing, that is to saye, The loader of the Castle Mills goinge on his loade horse with his bells for his musicke, The loader of the Priorye Mills on his loade horse havinge with him for his musicke a taber & a pipe, The loader of GuyesClifte Mills on his loade horse havinge for his musicke a paire of bag pipes, the loader of Emscott Mills rydinge on his loade horse & havinge for his musicke a fiddle: and further saith, that the loaders of the three mills, called Priory Mills, Guyes Clifte Mills, & Emscott Mills doe then vsuallye come & repayre on their loade horses, & musicke vnto the said Castle Mills, to call the loader of the said Castle Mills, who continuallye rideth foremoste vpe & downe the towne together with the said other loaders, who afterwarde doe bringe home the said loader of the said Castle Mills vnto the said mill, & there *commonlye* leave him & thence departe, & further saith, That he hathe been credibly informed, That if any of the loaders of the Priory Mills, GuyesClifte Mills, & Emscott Mill shall faile in the performance of this Ceremonie, & to ride vp & downe the aforesaid towne of Warwicke, *with* the loader of the Castle Mills, & to call the said loader as aforesaid, That then such loader soe makinge Defaulte ought to haue noe priueledge or libertie of loading within the said towne for one whole yeare next followeing, & alsoe saith, he hath heard that the reason of such ridinge of the said loaders is to continue a remembrance that noe loader belonginge to any other mill ought to bee privileged to loade or fetch & carrye any griste from the saide towne of Warwicke. Roger Moris of Tamworth in the Countie of Warwicke milner aged fiftie yeares or thereabouts, sworne & examined, saith as followeth....

...|

...

8 To the eighth Interrogatorie this deponent saith Thatt there is & hath beene an auncient Custome for the loaders of the mills called [<...>] the Castle mills the Priorye Mills, Emscott Mill, & Guyes Clyfte Mille yearelye on Midsommer daye to ride vp & downe the towne & burrough of Warwicke *with* their loade horses & seuerall musicke, & that the loader of the

Castle Mills did ryde foremost, & that the other three loaders did & doe vsually reparaire that daye to the said Castle Mills, and fetch the loader belonginge to the said mills, & bringe him home againe ^yf they be able^ the *which* Custome of rydinge this deponent saith as he conceaveth, & hath crediblye heard, <that>f10 to keepe in memorie that it doth of right apperteine to the said foure loders onelye, to fetch & carrye griste to & from the said towne of Warwicke, & that no other loaders belonginge to any other milles haue any priueledge or libertie of loadinge to or from the said towne

...

mb [4]

Interrogatories to bee ministred vnto witnesses to bee produced on the parte and behalfe of Thomas Beaufou and Henry Beaufou Esquires Defendantes to the Bill of complainte of Robert Lord Brakef Baron of Beauchamps Courte *Complainant*.

...

5. Item whether doe you knowe That the severall Loaders of the mills in Warwicke called the Castle mills & of the mills of *Sir* Thomas Puckering knight & Baronett in or neere Warwicke called the Priory Mills & of the said mill called Edmondscott mill and of the mills aforesaid called Guyscliffe mills haue vsed or accustomed yearely and everie yeare on the feast day of *Sir* Iohn the Baptiste commonly called Mid sommer day to ride together in and throughout the Towne of Warwicke aforesaid If soe in what manner and for how longe tyme haue *you* knowne it so vsed And what hath ben the reason thereof As *you* knowe believe or haue heard declare the truth to this *Interrogatorie*

...

mb [5-5d] (Depositions ex parte Thomas and Henry Bewsowe)

William Whatley of the Bourough of Warwicke in the Countie of Warwicke Carpenter of thage of ffourescore yeares or thereabouts sworne and examined saith as followeth:

...

5 To the fifte *Interrogatorie* this deponent saith That hee knoweth That for the space of Threescore yeares last past, the Loaders of the said Mills called Castle Mills, Priorie Mills, Guyscliffe Mills, and Edmondscott Mill did once in euerie yeare viz on Midsomer day, vse to ryde on their seuerall loade horses with their seuerall sortes of Musicke in and throughout the said Towne and Borough of Warwicke and that the said Loaders went willingly together without repynge one against the other And further saith That it is and hath ben duringe all the tyme of this deponentes remembrance generally reputed That the reason why the said foure Loaders of the said seuerall Mills did soe then ride as aforesaid was for the continuance of the memorie That noe Loaders from any other Mills should haue liberty to take the Comoditie of gryndinge of any Corne of grayne of the Inhabitnantes *within* the said Towne or Borough of Warwicke beside them

....

Iohn Walford of the Borough of Warwicke in the Countie of Warwicke geaven Aged foure score yeares or thereaboutes sworne and examined saith as followeth

...|

...

5. To the fifte *Interrogatorie* this deponent saith That duringe all the tyme of his this deponentes remembrance the severall Loaders of the said mills called Castle mills, the Priory

Mills Guyscliffe mills, and Edmondscott mill on Midsomer day in everie yeare haue vsed and accustomed to ryde vpon their severall loade horses in & through the said Towne and Borough of Warwick, and the Loader of the said mills called <...>f3 Castle Mills hath vsed to ryde foremost *with* bells about his horse necke and thother said three Loaders of the said three mills followe after Rydinge on their seuerall loade horses with their seuerall sortes of musicke And that noe other Loaders from any other mills haue vsed and accustomed to Ryde in the said Towne of Warwicke in such sort as aforesaid And hee conceveth That the reason why the said foure Loaders of the said foure seuerall mills and noe other Loaders doe soe ryde together in the said towne on the day aforesaid Is for that they clayme some priviledge thereby

...

Note: The date given (the only date in the document) is the day upon which depositions of witnesses in this case were taken at Warwick by Commissioners for the Court of Exchequer. This is a complex case over ancient rights of the owners of various mills in and near Warwick. The complainant, Robert Lord Brooke, alleged that as owner of the three Castle mills he had a monopoly right to mill the grain of Warwick=s inhabitants, so other millers needed his permission to do business in the town. The defendants, Thomas and Henry Bewsowe, owned mills in Guys Cliffe and Edmondscot, and they contended that they had the right to mill the grain corn and grist of any townspeople who were willing that they do so. Printed here are the interrogatories and depositions in connection with one matter in dispute, the manner of the customary annual midsummer ceremonial riding through Warwick of the load-horses, accompanied by music. The load-horse from Sir Thomas Puckering=s Priory mills was also involved in this riding, but he was otherwise not a party to the proceedings. Lord Brooke contended that the rituals of this custom provided evidence of the special status of his load-horse, and thus of his mills.

1636-7

Antiquarian Extracts from Bailiffs' Accounts WCRO: [CR 1908/227/1](#); 1559-1716

f[6] (Expenses)

To ye Kings Servants who shewd ye dancing of ye Ropes & other rare activities of ye Body: 2s spent ye same day of our Company yat were there

...

Note: 1636 is given in the left margin twelve lines above this entry.

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Burgesses' Account Book, 1564-69

Warwick; Warwick County Record Office; **CR 1618/WA 1/1**; English with some Latin headings; parchment (ff 34---) and paper (ff 1-33); 310 mm x 210 mm; 99 leaves; foliated; bound in parchment (front top right corner torn away), title on front cover '1546 to 1569 Accounts.'

Black Book of Warwick, 1554-1716

Warwick, The Court House, Office of the Town Clerk; **no shelfmark**; 1554-1716; English with some Latin; paper; 390 mm x 265 mm; iii + 363 + iv; contemporary foliation (a few leaves missed); bound in modern black leather, title on spine 'The Black Book of Warwick'.

Bailiffs' Accounts 1600-01

Warwick; Warwick County Record Office; **CR 1886/B1 [oom] 8282**; 1600-01; English; paper; 405 mm x 150 mm; 24 leaves; unfoliated; bound in parchment, title on front cover 'Deliuered to mr

Norton the 20th day of december 1622 by mee William Townsend'

Antiquarian Extracts from Bailiffs' Accounts 1599-1716

Warwick; County Record Office: CR 1908/227/1; 1559-1716; English; paper; 300 mm x 188 mm; ten leaves (five bifolia stitched together with two ties at right side); unfoliated; no cover.

Visitation Act Book, Diocese of Worcester; WCRO: BA2884; 1610-13

Worcester, Worcestershire Record Office, BA 2884, 1610-13, Latin and English; paper, 388 folios; 286 mm x 195mm; foliated 2-388 (f1 is a stub, torn away); some leaves very perished; some loose sheets at end; bound in worn parchment bindings, now detached; no title.

Bill of Complaint and Answers; TNA: PRO, STAC 8/282/29

London; The National Archives: Public Record Office, STAC 8/282/29; 1615-16 English; parchment; 4 membranes, joined at left edge; 290 mm x 290 mm, 195 mm x 330 mm, 205 mm x 450 mm, and 580 mm x 700 mm (mb damaged at top and left side); written on one side. Mb 4 endorsed 'Lune Decimo Tercio Die Novembris Anno Decimo tercio Jacobe Regis'.

Bill of Complaint and Answers; TNA: PRO, STAC 8/282/30 (collated only)

London; The National Archives: Public Record Office, STAC 8/282/30; English; parchment; 2 membranes, joined at left edge; 170 mm x 310 mm, and 605 mm x 670 mm, damaged at bottom and right edge; written on one side. Mb 2 endorsed: 'Lune die vndecimo die novembris Anno xiiij Jacobe Regis'

Evidence in a Suit Respecting Water-mills WCRO: CR 1886/7543; 1634

Warwick; County Record Office; CR 1886/7543; 1634; English; parchment; 6 membranes joined at top left by a parchment thong (mbb 5 and 6 also joined by a thong at the middle top); 95 mm x 250 mm, 585 mm x 260 mm, 545 mm x 250 mm, 585 mm x 255 mm, 520 mm x 260 mm, 530 mm x 240 mm; mb 1 endorsed with signatures of commissioners; mb 3 written over onto dorse; mb 5 written over onto dorse and continued directly onto mb 6; mb 6 endorsed.