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978-1-107-02780-0 - Popular Protest in Late Medieval English Towns

Samuel K. Cohn

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Popular Protest in Late Medieval English Towns

Contrary to received opinion, revolts and popular protests in medieval English towns were as frequent and as sophisticated, if not more so, as those in the countryside. This groundbreaking study refocuses attention on the varied nature of popular movements in towns from Carlisle to Dover and from the London tax revolt of Longbeard in 1196 to Jack Cade's Rebellion in 1450, exploring the leadership, social composition, organization, and motives of popular rebels. The book charts patterns of urban revolt in times of strong and weak kingship, contrasting them with the broad sweep of ecological and economic change that inspired revolts on the Continent. Samuel K. Cohn, Jr demonstrates that the timing and character of popular revolt in England differed radically from revolts in Italy, France, and Flanders. In addition, he analyses the repression of, and waves of hate against, Jews, foreigners, and heretics, opening new vistas in the comparative history of late medieval Europe.

SAMUEL K. COHN, JR is Professor of Medieval History at the University of Glasgow. His work over the past decade has concentrated on plague and the history of popular insurrection, and his previous publications include *Cultures of Plague: Medical Thinking at the End of the Renaissance* (2010) and *Lust for Liberty: The Politics of Social Revolt in Medieval Europe, 1200–1425* (2006).

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by
Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107027800

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First published 2013

Printed and bound in the United Kingdom by the MPG Books Group

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Cohn, Samuel Kline.

Popular protest in late medieval English towns / Samuel K. Cohn, Jr.;
with assistance from Douglas Aiton.

p. cm.

ISBN 978-1-107-02780-0 (Hardback)

1. Protest movements—England—History—To 1500. 2. England—Social
conditions—1066–1485. 3. Great Britain—History—1066–1687. I. Aiton,
Douglas. II. Title.

HN398.E5C64 2012

303.60941—dc23

2012017173

ISBN 978-1-107-02780-0 Hardback

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Dedicated to
Rudolph Binion (1927–2011)
friend, colleague, and master craftsman
of comparative history

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Acknowledgements

An ESRC three-year small research grant awarded in October 2007 (000–22–2339) made this project possible. Having just defended a Ph.D. thesis on the Jacquerie, Douglas Aiton served as the research assistant, Matthew Strickland was the adviser, and I was the principal investigator. In his ten-month stint, Aiton read and selected between two-thirds and three-quarters of the chronicles and documents from the Calendar of Patent Rolls analysed for this book. He also made several trips to TNA to check a sample of original documents with those edited at the end of the nineteenth and early twentieth century in the CPR. Over the next three years I checked and coded the records and searched for further examples of popular protest, reading additional chronicles and volumes from the CPR and a large array of published documents and secondary sources. I compiled the databases and wrote versions of the present book that were first commented upon and criticized by Strickland and Aiton and afterwards circulated for a one-day workshop at the University of Glasgow, attended by seven senior scholars and four post-graduates (in addition to the three grant holders). They included William Hepburn, Colette Bowie, Laura Crombie, Fergus Oakes, Neil Murphy, Hamish Scott, Graeme Small, Patrick Lantschner, Andrew Prescott, Christian Liddy, and Chris Dyer. I thank all these scholars for their time and intellectual generosity, but especially the three principal interlocutors – Prescott, Liddy, and Dyer – who submitted detailed reports and criticisms and were extraordinarily generous afterwards in offering materials from their own published, as well as unpublished, research. With their comments and criticisms, I returned to the drawing board for an intense period of reading, rethinking, and redrafting. Finally, Andrew Roach, an authority on European heresy, commented on Chapter 13.

In addition, Kathryn Dutton and especially Laura Crombie assisted for shorter periods, researching place names for the maps and compiling

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bibliographies. Early on in the writing, I benefited from discussions with, and the fine personal library of, Maryanne Kowaleski. Finally, I am indebted to both Elizabeth Friend-Smith and the anonymous readers at Cambridge University Press for their detailed, critical, and informed reports that went beyond the call of duty.

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Abbreviations

<i>BIHR</i>	<i>Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research</i>
<i>BjRL</i>	<i>Bulletin of the John Rylands Library</i>
<i>CCR</i>	<i>Calendar of the Close Rolls Preserved in the Public Record Office, 1227–1509</i> , 63 vols. (London, 1900–63)
<i>CEMCR</i>	<i>Calendar of Early Mayor's Court Rolls, a.d. 1298–1307</i> , ed. A. H. Thomas (Cambridge, 1924)
<i>CFR</i>	<i>Calendar of the Fine Rolls Preserved in the Public Records Office, 1272–1509</i> , 22 vols. (London, 1911–62)
<i>CPMR</i>	<i>Calendar of Plea and Memoranda Rolls Preserved among the Archives of the Corporation of the City of London at the Guildhall, 1323–1482</i> , ed. A. H. Thomas, 6 vols. (Cambridge, 1926–61)
<i>CPR</i>	<i>Calendar of Patent Rolls Preserved in the Public Record Office, 1216–1452</i> , 49 vols. (London, 1901–9)
<i>CS</i>	Camden Society
<i>CUHB</i>	<i>The Cambridge Urban History of Britain</i> , vol. I, ed. D. M. Palliser (Cambridge, 2000)
<i>ECHR</i>	<i>Economic History Review</i> , 2nd series
<i>EHR</i>	<i>English Historical Review</i>
<i>JBS</i>	<i>Journal of British Studies</i>
<i>JIDH</i>	<i>Journal of Interdisciplinary History</i>
<i>JMH</i>	<i>Journal of Medieval History</i>
<i>JUST</i>	<i>Justices in Eyre, of Assize, of Oyer and Terminer in TNA</i>
<i>KB</i>	King's Bench in TNA
<i>King's Bench</i>	<i>Select Cases in the Court of King's Bench</i> , ed. G. O. Sayles, 7 vols., Selden Society, LV, LVII, LVIII, LXXIV, LXXVI, LXXXII, LXXXVIII (London, 1936–71)
<i>LB</i>	<i>Calendar of Letter Books Preserved among the Archives of the Corporation of the City of London at the Guildhall: Letter-Book A-K</i> , 9 vols., ed. Reginald R. Sharpe (London, 1899–1912)

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List of abbreviations

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<i>ML</i>	<i>Memorials of London and London Life in the XIIIth, XIVth, and XVth Centuries Being a Series of Extracts, Local, Social, and Political from the Early Archives of the City of London A.D. 1276–1419</i> , ed. Henry T. Riley (London, 1868)
<i>ODNB</i>	<i>Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</i> , online edn (Oxford, September 2004–10)
<i>P&P</i>	<i>Past and Present</i>
<i>PROME</i>	<i>The Parliament Rolls of Medieval England, 1275–1504</i> [Electronic resource], ed. Chris Given-Wilson, The National Archives, The History of Parliament Trust (Leicester, 2005)
<i>RS</i>	<i>Rolls Series: Rerum Britannicarum mediæ aevi scriptores</i> , 119 vols. (London, 1858–96)
<i>SCBKC</i>	<i>Select Cases Before the King's Council 1243–1482</i> , ed. I. S. Leadam and J. F. Baldwin, Selden Society, XXXV (Cambridge, MA, 1918)
<i>SHF</i>	Société de l'histoire de France
<i>TNA</i>	The National Archives, formerly the Public Record Office
<i>UH</i>	<i>Urban History</i>
<i>VCH</i>	<i>Victorian County History</i>