

Cambridge University Press  
 978-1-107-64930-9 - The Early English Dissenters: In the Light of Recent Research  
 (1550–1641)  
 Champlin Burrage  
 Excerpt  
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## I

HISTORICAL DATA RELATIVE TO THE ENGLISH CON-  
 VENTICLERS AT BOCKING AND FAVERSHAM IN 1550  
 AND 1551

[Various Depositions made about 1550.]

Here Folowithe the depositions  
 of Iohn Grey william Forshall Laurence  
 Ramsey and Edmonde Morres productid  
 apon the firste x<sup>th</sup> and xj<sup>th</sup> articles /  
 aforessaid./<sup>1</sup>

Iohn Grey:

Item Examyned apon the firste article  
 Saythe that Cole of Fauersham apon /  
 Lammas daye laste paste saide and affirmed  
 that the doctryne of predestynation  
 was meter for diuilles then for *christian* men /

Item Examyned apon the x<sup>th</sup>. and xj<sup>th</sup>  
 Articles saithe that henry harte aboute  
 bartholomewetide laste saide and affirmed  
 in the presence of diuers that ther was  
 no man so chosen but that he mighte dampne  
 hime selfe Nether yet anye man soo /  
 reprobate but that he mighte kepe goddes  
 Comaundements.

He saide that Saincte paule mighte haue  
 dampnid hime selfe if he listed  
 And deposithe that harte saide that ~ /  
 Learned men were the cause of grete errors /

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MS. 421, fol. 133–34 verso, in the British Museum.

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Laurentius Ramsaye

Item Examyned apon the x<sup>th</sup> article  
saiethe that henry harte saide and affirmed  
as it is conteyned in tharticle that is  
that ther is no man so chosen or predesty  
nate. but that he maye condempne hime  
selfe. Nether is ther anye so reprobate but  
that he maye if he will kepe the commande  
mentes and be salvid prout liquet in suis  
depositionibus

Item Examyned apon the x<sup>th</sup> article  
saythe that harte saide that lernyd men  
were the cause of grete Errors /

Willelmus Forstall

Item Examyned apon the x<sup>th</sup> article he  
dothe agree in his depositions withe the  
foresaide Laurence Ramseye

Item Examyned apon the xj<sup>th</sup> article  
saythe that henry harte saide the same tyme  
that his faithe was not growndid apon  
Lernyd men for all errors were broughte  
in by Lernyd men ∞ ///.

The depositions of m<sup>r</sup> Thomas  
Broke Roger Lynsey and Rycharde  
Dynestake Clarke productid apon the  
xij and xiiij<sup>th</sup> articles of the Interrogatories  
aforesaid.

Item Examyned apon the xxj[?]<sup>th</sup> article  
he saiethe that aboute xij monethes Sythen  
George Brodebridge saide and affirmed  
that goddes predestynation is not reteyne  
but apon condytion &c

Item Examyned apon the xxxix<sup>th</sup> and  
xl<sup>th</sup> articles he deposithe and saiethe that the  
contentes of those articles hath byn affirmed  
amonge them for a generall doctryne

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Item Examyned apon the xly<sup>th</sup> and xly<sup>th</sup>  
articles he deposithe and provithe the congregation  
and the fame And ther goyng into Essex

Item Examyned apon the xlvj<sup>th</sup> article  
he deposithe that Cole of Maidestone  
saide and affirmed that children were  
not borne in originall Synne

Willelmus grenelande

Item in aunsweringe to the xl<sup>th</sup> article  
he saithe that to playe at annye game for  
money it is Synne and the worke of the  
Flesshe

Item in aunsweringe to the xly<sup>th</sup> xly<sup>th</sup>  
and xly<sup>th</sup> articles he confessithe  
the congregation and their Meatinges at  
diuers places and ther going into Essex  
And also that he hathe contrybuted

Iohn plume de leneham

Item Examyned apon the iij<sup>or<sup>th</sup></sup> and v<sup>th</sup>  
articles apon his othe Saithe that he  
beynge emonge the congregators he hathe  
herde it diuers tymes affirmed as a  
generall doctryne that they oughte not to  
Salute a Synner or a man whome they  
knowe not And that Luste after Ivill  
was not Synne, if that were not committed

Item Examyned apon the xij<sup>th</sup> and xij<sup>th</sup>  
articles he saithe that vmfrey Middilton  
beyng in Coles house at fauersham apon  
Lammas daye he saide that Adam was  
elected to be salved And that all men/  
being then in Adams Loynes were  
predestynate to be salvid and that ther  
were no reprobates and in his defence  
he alleaged the doctryne conteyned in  
the xij<sup>th</sup> article

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Item Examyned apon the ix<sup>th</sup> article  
 he saithe that it is a generall  
 affirmation emonge them, that the  
 preachinge of predestynacyon is  
 a dampnable doctryne

Item Examyned apon the xvj<sup>th</sup>  
 article he deposithe and saithe that  
 Nicholas Yonge saide that they wolde  
 not comunycate w<sup>t</sup> Synners /

[Extracts from the “Privy Council Register” of 1550–1553  
 relating to the year 1551.]

A *Lettre* to the Lorde Chancellour to sende hither [Vpcharde]  
 the man of Bocking that was examyned by him<sup>1</sup>. [Under the  
 date Jan. 26, 1550/1.]

<sup>2</sup>Vpcharde of Bocking was brought before the  
 Counsaill tooching a certain assemble that had been made in his  
 howse in Christmas last who confessed that were [*sic*] certain  
 kentishemen to the towne to ha[ve] Lodged with goode man  
 Cooke. And bicause Cookes wief was in Chilbeded, thei cam[?]  
 to this vpcharddes howse weare Cooke was th[en] at dinner and  
 by Cookes entreatie there thei were Lodged. And vpon the  
 morowe which was Soundaie[?] divers of the towne about xij of  
 the clocke came in and there thei fell in argument of thinges of  
 the Scripture, speciallie wheather it were necessarie to stande  
 or kneele, barehedde, or covered at prayer. whiche at length was  
 concluded in ceremonie not to be materiall, but the hartes  
 before God was it that imported, and no thing els, And bicause  
 it seemed suche an assembly being of lx persons or moo, shulde  
 meane some great matter, therefore bothe the said vpcharde  
 and one Sympson of the same sorte was committed to the

<sup>1</sup> “Privy Council Register 1550–1553”, in the Public Record Office,  
 p. 205.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 206.

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Marshalsie, till further triall were had, and order taken that *lettres* shulde be sent bothe into Essex and kent for thapprehension of these that arr accounted chief of that practise/. [Under the date Jan. 27, 1550/1.]

A <sup>1</sup>*Lettre* of sir George Norton knight Shrief of Essex tapprehende certain persons wose [*sic*] names were sent enclosed in a scedule and to sende them hither that none of them haue conference with other.

The parsons sent for, were of those that were assembled for Scripture maters in Bocking. viz

John Barrett of Stamphorde Coweherde

Robert Cooke of Bocking Clothier

John Eglise of the same clothier

Richard Bagge

Thomas pygrinde

John kinge.

. Myxsto

. Boughtell

Robert Wolmere

A like *lettre* to sir Edwarde wootton and sir Thomas wyat tapprehende and sende vp these persons folowing

William Sibley of lannams

Thomas yonge of the same

Nicholas Shetterton of Pluckley

John Lydley of Asheforde

. Chidderton of Asheforde

. Cole of Maydestone Sholemaster. / [Under the date Jan. 27, 1550/1.]

This daie [Feb. 3, 1550/1]<sup>2</sup> william Sibley & Thomas yong of lenham Nicholas Sheterenden and Thomas Sharpe of Pluckeley

. Coole of Maydestone, appeared before the Counsaill, being of those that assembled at Bokyng in Essex. /

like wise vij others of Essex appeared the same daie bothe *which* being examyned confessed the cause of their assemble to be for talke of Scriptures, Not denyeng but thei had refused

<sup>1</sup> "Privy Council Register 1550–1553", p. 207.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 215.

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the communyon aboue ij yeres, vpon verie superstitiouse and  
erronyose purposes: withe Divers other evill oppynyons worthie  
of great punyshement. Wherevpon Boughtell Barrey  
Coole william Sibley and Nicholas Shittrenden were  
commytted to

Iohannes Eglins, Thomas Myxer, Ricardus Blagge Thomas  
piggerell et Iohannes king de Bocking in Essex recognouerunt  
&c in x<sup>libras</sup> pro quolibet eorum.

The Condiscon [*sic*] tappeare whan thei shalbe called vpon, and  
to resorte to their ordinarie for resolucion of their oppynyons  
in cace thei haue any doubtte in religion

The like Recognisaunce taken of Thomas Sharpe of plukeley and  
Nicholas Yong of lenham. /

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## II

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE LIFE AND CHARACTER  
OF ROBERT COOCHE

[Part of a Letter of John Parkhurst, Bishop of Norwich, to Dr. Rodolphus Gualtherus, dated June 29, 1574.]

Magna nostra Comitia in 20 diem Octobris sunt dilata. Quo quidem tempore Thimelthorpus cogetur (vti spero) vnanimi omni consensu et Reginae et mihi satisfacere. Ante illud tempus nihil certi de illo possum pronuciare. De controuersiis nostris circa Ceremonias quasdam, de Roberto Coochaeo, et alijs rebus nonnullis, in superioribus meis litteris satis fusè scripsi<sup>1</sup>.

[Part of another Letter of John Parkhurst, Bishop of Norwich, to Dr. Rodolphus Gualtherus of Zürich, dated, Feb. 6, 1574/5.]

Robertus Coochaeus est vir valdè humanus, et in arte musica bene doctus. Cum ego in Aula Reginae Catharinae concionator essem, fuit ille in Cellam vinariam promus. Contrà hunc scripsit libellum (dum in viuis esset Edouardus Rex) clarrissimus ille medicus et doctissimus Theologus D. Gulielmus Turnerus, in quo illius sententiam de peccato originali refutauit. Perperam item tamen de baptismo infantum sentiebat. Insolita de Caena domini somniauit. Saepissimè Couerdalo et mihi in hisce controuersiis[?] negotium facessebat, ità ut illius nos taederet. Erat verbocissimus. Cum Iuellus et alii docti viri mei inuisendi gratia in Aulam venissent, is statim de hisce rebus cum illis agere caepit, nec finem loquitandi facere potuit.

<sup>1</sup> MS. in the University Library, Cambridge, Press-mark Ee. 2. 34 (23).

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Nunc etiam in Aula Reginae mansitat. Et Reginae in bella est cantor ipse capella. Hec est illius conditio. Hanc quoque conditionem ferè propter tales opiniones ante paucos annos amisit. Sic enim dux Norfolciae cum viueret mihi narrabat. Palinodiam quoque *tamen* temporis cecinit, ut ex eodem duce audiui. Hactenus de Cochaeo. Non est respondendum stulto secundum stulticiam suam. vt doleo...<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> MS. in the University Library, Cambridge, Press-mark, Ee. 2. 34 (20).

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## III

DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PURITAN PLUMBERS'  
HALL CONGREGATION AND TO THE SEPARATIST  
"PRIUYE CHURCHE" OF RICHARD FITZ, WHICH  
"SECEDED" FROM IT

[A List of the members of the Plumbers' Hall congregation  
taken prisoner on March 4, 1567/8.]<sup>1</sup>

Parsons fownde to gether within the *parishe* of  
S<sup>t</sup> martens in the felde in the howse of Iames  
Tynne gooldsmythe the forthe daye of marche  
1567 as here after Followethe &c

1	Lawrence Ryppleye dwellinge at Allgate	.
2	Wylliam yonge dwellinge in Temesstrete	..
3	margarette Sawyer of temestrete	..
4	Elizabethhe [?] Langtone at Algate	.
5	Androw [?] Waterhowse at Dowgate	...
6	Wylliam Tomlyne at Charterhowse Lane	::
7	Alis Appletaste in Sowthewarke	:::
8	Markes Golddinge in Smythfylde	:::
9	Wylliam Collingham in Dysstafe Lane	7
10	Roger Nycolls of S <sup>t</sup> martens in the fylde	8
11	Thomas Ludburte in Lyttell wodstrete	9
12	Myghell Bowyer in marke Lane	10
13	Bryane wylles in Charterhowse lane	::

<sup>1</sup> S. P., Dom., Eliz., Vol. 46 (No. 46). This valuable document was discovered several years ago by Dr F. J. Powicke, and the substance of its contents is given in his "Lists of the early Separatists", in the "Transactions" of the Congregational Historical Society, Vol. I, pp. 141–3. As the original document is much worn, a verbatim copy has now been made.

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14	Annys Smythe at Crypplegate	11
15	Rowland Sclyforde at London stone	12
16	Ione Evanes in Holborne	13
17	Ione Edwardes at aldermaneburye	14
18	Randall partridge in olde fyshe strete	15
19	Thom[a]s Bowllande in temestrete	..
20	william whighte at S <sup>t</sup> Iones Strete [?]	16
21	Iohn Kynge at yslyngtone	17
22	Iohn Smythe at Dysstafe Lane	7
23	Robart Tod [?] in Dysstafe Lane	7
24	Thomas Hancoke in Aldersegate strete	18
25	Iames Irelande in Cheker allye in Sowthwark	::
26	Edwarde Burdbye and his wyfe at S <sup>t</sup> gyles at ludgate	19
27	Elizabethhe Langtone in Swethen Lane	20
28	Elizabethhe Phennyxe at S <sup>t</sup> marye overies	21
29	Rob[e]rte Bonde and his wyfe at S <sup>t</sup> gyles at ludgate	19
30	Samuell Rodggers in Smythefelde [?]	:::
31	Symonde goldinge in Smythefelde [?]	:::
32	Wylliam Nyxson at quenehive [ <i>sic</i> ]	22
33	margerye Vennye in Bred strette	23
34	mawdelyne Vennye in Bred strete	23
35	Richard morecrofte and his wyfe in Aldersgat strete	18
36	Iohn Iohnsone in Bushopesgate strete	24.
37	Iohn Leonarde and his wyfe in holborne	13
38	Annys wrighte in Barmeseye strete	25
39	Alis Hassellwode in pater noster Rooe	26
40	Annys Lyttelcoate at Hoggesdone	27
41	Alis Vanes in the Tower	28
42	Ellyne Buggburte in hartestrete	29
43	Iohn Boulte [Boulton ?] in S <sup>t</sup> martens	30
44	Annys Rowles in Holborne	—13
45	Anne Phyllipes at S <sup>t</sup> Thomas apostels	42
46	margarette Stockes in aldersgate [?] strete	18
47	George wayddye in flyt [?] strette [?]	31
48	Thomas Harysone at [illegible words]	23
49	Iames Andertone in Dysstafe lane	7
50	Annys Staltone in Cornwell	32
51	Annys Lacye in aldersegate strete	18