

Transcription of BorBF/11/5, entry 21st April 1653

The town of Bedford. The Veiw of Frankpledge w[i]th
Court of the Maior, Bayliff[es] Burgesss and Coialtye¹ of the
said Town, there held on Thursday next after the Close of Easter, To
witt. The One and Twentieth day of Aprill in the yeare of our
Lord One thousand Six hundred Fiftye and Three. Before
Will[ia]m Faldo gentl[eman], Maior of the said towne, Edmond Wingate
esq[ui]r[e] deputie Recorder of the said towne, john Easton, Rob[er]t Bell,
John Grew and John Faldo, gentl[eman] Aldermen of the same towne
and John Crawley and Will[ia]m Lawrence, Bayliff[es] of the aforesaid towne.

The Enquest of Burgesss and Com[m]on Councill:

John Easton the y[ounge]r	Thomas Spencer
Rob[er]t Males	Thomas Gibbs
Will[ia]m Craft[es]	Thomas Pare
Samuel Gibbs the eld[e]r	John Flint theld[e]r
Richard Mightnall	George Hawkins
Thomas Craft[es]	Richard Wells
George Marget[es]	Edward Covington
James Good[es]	Simon Becket of the Rose

Who say upon their oaths That John Hancocke and Henrie Fitzhughe aldermen
ought to have appeared here at this View according to the Ordinance & Constituc[i]on
in that behalf and have made defalt Wherefore each of them hath forfeited to the
Towne chamber according to that Ord[inance] 2s.

Item: they say That Samuel Linford (sonne of John Linford a Burgesse of this

¹ Abbreviated word, perhaps of commonalty spelt commonialtye.

Towne) hath as an apprentice served his said Father by the space of Seaven yeares and thereby hath right to bee admitted of the Towne guild & Fellowship of Burgesss'. And that hee hath paid to the Chamb[er]lins according to the Const[ituci]on 14s And therupon the said Samuel came here in Court and desired to bee admitted accordinglie. And tooke his oath [et]c and was admitted.

Item: they say That John Poland hath as an app[re]ntice served Gasper Shuckborou[gh] a Burges of this towne by the space of Seaven yeares and hath thereby right to bee admitted of the towne guild and Fellowship of Burgess's. And that hee hath paid to the Chamb[er]lins according to the Const[ituci]on 14s. Wherupon the said John came now here in Court and craved to bee admitted accordinglie. And tooke his oath [et]c and was admitted.

Item: they say That Will[ia]m Page the y[oung]er hath as an apprentice served John Medborne, a Burgesse, by the space of Seaven yeares and therby hath right to bee admitted of the Towne guild and Fellowship of Burgess's. And that hee hath paid to the Chamb[er]lins according to the Constituc[i]on 14s. Wherupon now here in Court came the said Will[ia]m and craved to bee admitted accordinglie. And tooke his oath [et]c and was admitted.

Item: they say That Thomas Yarnton have served John Medborne (a Burges) by the space of Seaven yeares as an Apprentice and therby hath right to bee admitted of the towne guild and Fellowship of Burgess's. And that hee hath paid unto the Chamb[er]lins according to the Constituc[i]on] 14s. The w[hi]ch Thomas now came here in Court and craved admittance accordinglie. And hee tooke his oath [et]c and was admitted.

*Note in margin: But reduced to the degr[ee] of Freem[an] by the Com[missione]rs of **reglaio** 22nd Oct[ober] 14th Car.2¹.*

Item: they say That Humfrey Skelton hath served his brother, George Skelton

(a Burges) by the space of Seaven yeares after the manner of an Apprentice and therby hath right to bee admitted of the Towne guild and Fellowship of Burgesses.

And that hee hath paid unto the Chamb[er]lins according to the Const[ituci]on 14. Wherupon now here in Court came the said Humfrey and desired admittance accordinglie.

And tooke his oath [et]c and was admitted.

*Note in margin: But reduced to the degr[ee] of Freem[an] by the Com[missione]rs of **reglaio** 22nd Oct[ober] 14th Car.2¹.*

Item: they say That Edward Ekins hath after the manner of an Apprentice served John Symmes a Burges by the space of Seaven yeares and therefore hath right to bee admitted of the towne guild and Fellowship of Burgesss. And hath paid to the Chamb[er]lins according to the Constituc[i]on 14s. Wherupon now here in Court came the said Edward and prayed to bee admitted accordinglie. And tooke his oath and was admitted.

*Note in margin: But reduced to degr[ee] of Freem[an] by the Com[missione]rs of **regl** 22nd Oct[ober] 14th Car.2¹.*

Item: they say That John Woodward hath served John Purney (a Burges) by the space of Seaven yeares after the manner of an Apprentice and thereby hath right to bee admitted of the Towne guild and Fellowshepp of Burgesses. And hath paid to the Chamb[er]lyns according to the Constituc[i]on 14s. Wherupon the said John Woodward came now in Court and craved to bee admitted accordinglie. And hee tooke his oath and was admitted.

*Note in margin: But reduced to degr[ee] of Freem[an] by the Com[missione]rs of **regl** 24th Oct[ober] 14th Car.21.*

Item: they say That Lewis Margets hath as an Apprentice served Seaven yeares

p[ar]tlie to his mother Dinah Margets, widdow, a Burges wife, and after her decease to his brother ???² Margets a Burges and therby hath right to bee admitted of the Towne guild and Fellowship of Burgesses. And that hee hath paid to the Chamb[er]lins according to the Const[ituci]on 14s. And now thereupon came the said Lewis in Court here And prayed to bee admitted accordingle. And tooke his oath [et]c and was admitted.

*Note in margin: But reduced to degr[ee] of Freem[an] by the Com[missione]rs of **reglaio** 22nd Oct[ober] 14th Car.21.*

Item: they say That Will[ia]m Austen hath as an appr[e]ntice served his brother one John Austen (a Burges) by the space of Seaven years and therby hath right to bee admitted of the towne guild and Fellowship of Burgesss. And that hee hath paid unto the Chamb[er]lins according to the Const[ituci]on 14s. Wherupon now here in Court came the said Will[ia]m and prayed to have admittance accordingle. And hee tooke his oath and was admitted.

*Note in margin: But reduced to degr[ee] of Freem[an] by the Com[missione]rs of **regl** 22nd Oct[ober] 14th Car.21.*

Item: they say That Thomas Harryson after the manner of an Apprentice hath by the space of Seaven yeares served p[ar]tlie to Thomas Pare and p[ar]tlie to Gasper Shuckborow Burgesss of this towne, and thereby hath right to bee admitted of the towne guild and Fellowship of Burgesss. And that hee hath paid to the Chamb[er]lins according to the Const[ituci]on 14s. And now thereupon the said Thomas Harryson came in Court and craved admittance accordingle. And hee tooke his oath [et]c and was admitted.

Item: they doe agree That for 6s 8d and a leathern Buckett or the value therof

² Left blank on the document

to bee paid to the towne chamber. Samuel Gibbs the yonger shalbee admitted of the guild and Fellowship of Burgesss. And the Maior, Aldermen and Bayliffes doe consent to it. And thereupon the said Samuel paid the said 6s 8d & allso ???³ unto the Chamb[er]lins. And tooke his oath [et]c and was admitted.

Item: they p[re]sent That Mr Rob[er]t Bell, alderman, did cancell a bond of p[ar]t of the p[ro]fites of the Corporac[i]on of this Burrough w[i]thout the consent of the Maior, Aldermen, Burgesss and Com[m]on Councell of the towne or the most p[ar]t of them Contrarie to 23 th[e] Const[ituci]on made in the Maioraltie of Mr Peeter Bamforth. Therefore hee hath forfeited to the towne chamber according to the said Const[ituci]on 10l.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Mr Will[ia]m Faldo now Maior hath given a pr[e]sent or guift of above the value of Fyve shillings out of the Chamber w[i]thout the consent of the Aldermen Burgesss and Com[m]on Councell or the most p[ar]t of them Contrarie to the 12 th[e] Constituc[i]on made in the Maioralty of Mr Peeter Bamforth. Wherefore hee hath forfeited to the town chamber according to the said Const[ituci]on 10l.

Item: they say That Thomas Margets gentl[eman] (eldest sonn of Thomas Margets, a late Burges deceased) hath right by his birth and his Fathers coppie to bee admitted of the town guild & Fellowship of Burgesss. *For his admission[n] see the C. of Ald[er]men 6th of Aug[ust] 1656.*

*Note in margin: But dislocated by the Com[missione]rs of **regl** 9th Oct[ober] 14th Car.21.*

Item: they pr[e]sent That Thomas West being none of the town guild but a stranger and foreynor to the lib[er]tyes and priviledges therof hath used and exercised the trade of a Blacksmith w[i]thin this towne Ag[ains]t the said lib[er]tyes and ag[ains]t the Ordyance &

³ Left blank on the document

Const[ituci]on in such case made. Wherefore hee forfeited to the towne chamb[e]r according to that Ord[inance] 3l 6s 8d.

Item: they p[re]sent That Will[ia]m Fell being not of the Guild of this towne but a Foreynor and stranger to the lib[er]tyes and priviledges therof did use and exercise the trade of a barber w[i]thin the said towne Ag[ains]t the said lib[er]tyes and ag[ains]t the Ord[inance] & Const[ituci]on in the case made. Wherefore hee hath forf[eite]d to the town Chamber according to the said C[onstituci]on 3l 6s 8d.

Item: they p[re]sent That Henrie Hewitt being not of the towne guild but a stranger & foreynor to the lib[er]tyes and priviledges of the said towne did use and exercise the trade of a Collar maker w[i]thin the said town Ag[ains]t the said lib[er]tyes and ag[ains]t the Ord[inance] & Const[ituci]on in the case made. Wherefore hee hath forf[eite]d to the Chamb[e]r according the said Ord[inance] 3l 6s 8d.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Will[ia]m Joy being none of the town guild but a Foreynor & stranger to the lib[er]tyes & priviledges therof did use & exercise the trade of a baker w[i]thin the said towne Ag[ains]t the said lib[er]tyes and ag[ains]t the Ord[inance] or Const[ituci]on in such case made. Wherefore hee hath forfeited to the Chamb[e]r according to the said Ord[inance] 3l 6s 8d.

Item: they pr[e]sent That John Bartram being not of the said towne did use & exercise the trade of a **taylor**⁴ w[i]thin this towne Ag[ains]t the lib[er]tyes and priviledges of the said towne & ag[ains]t the Ord[inance] & Constituc[i]on in the case made. Wherefore hee hath forfeited to the Towne chamber according to the said Ord[inance] 3l 6s 8d.

Item: they choose:

⁴ Smudging here, so not fully legible

For Feildsmen

For the North side: Simon Becket the y[ounge]r, Rob[er]t Fitzhughe, Will[ia]m Lavender theld[e]r

For the South side: Thomas Beamont, Thomas Burling *For his taking the oath of his office* See the C[ouncil] of pleas 6th of Julie A[nn]o D[omino] 1653

For Flesh searchers: John Flint theld[e]r, Edward Flint the y[oung]er

For Ale tasters

For the North side: Henrie Ritch, Rich[ar]d Cooper

For the South side: John Bacon, Bartholomew **Enterdews**⁵. *For his taking the oath of his office* See the C[ouncil] of pleas 27th of Julie A[nn]o D[omino] 1653

For Wood searchers

For the North side: Anthonie Harrington, John Symmes

For the South side: Henrie Hewitt, Richard Buckle

For Bucket keepers

For the North side: Will[ia]m Fenn, Edward Weale

For the South side: Clement Burr ridge, John Willson

The Constables Enquest

Hugh Stringar

Thomas Battison

John Sheriff

Oliver Day

Will[ia]m Leeds

Thomas Noakes

Rich[ar]d Gale

Will[ia]m Church

Rob[er]t Wale

Rich[ar]d Buckle

⁵ Or Enterdeios. Strange surname.

George Skelton

Will[ia]m Loveledge

Simon Lewis

Who pr[e]sent upon their oaths That John Spencer (2s 6d) of St Pauls parish, Rich[ar]d Chicheley (2s 6d), Will[ia]m Millward the y[ounge]r (18d), John Medborne (3s), Nicholas Hawkins (2s 6d), Samuel Mightnall (2s), Dorothy Cockman (2s), Mr Rawkins (2s), John Smith (2s), The widdow Riseley (2s), Mr Parker (3s), Will[ia]m Page (2s), Thomas Feild (2s), John Craftes (2s), Simon Becket of the Rose (3s), Will[ia]m Haynes (2s), Rich[ar]d Gale (2s), The widdow Gale (12d), The widdow Becket (12d), Rob[er]t Davyson (12d), Thomas Craftes (2s 6d), Thomas Parkes (12d), Edward Oliff (2s), Will[ia]m Fardell (18d), Rob[er]t Turrold (12d), Peeter Linford (2s), The widdow Tausley (6d), The widdow Everett (18d), Francis Peare (12d), George Harryson (12d), Thomas Simpson (12d), John Monnford (12d), Rich[ar]d Neale (12d), Steven Combe (12d), Edward Heward (2s), John Tinsley (12d), Will[ia]m Trewlove (18d), Hugh Nottingham (6d) Roger Mannyng (6d), Thomas Netherwood (18d), Henrie Larum (2s), John Carter (6d), Mr Simon Beckett (3s), Rich[ar]d Fisher (2s), John Warner (12d), Edward Symmes (12d), Will[ia]m Ridge (6d), Edward Flint the yonger (2s), Rich[ar]d Flint theld[e]r (2s), Will[ia]m Berry (6d), Edward Hawkins (2s), John Reynoldes al[ia]s Burnwood (12d), John Harryson (3s), Rich[ar]d Norton (3s), John Willson (2s 6d), Rich[ar]d Tomlyn (6d), Walter Seby(12d), James Bull (6d), John Sheriff (12d), Benjamyn Chambers (12d), The widdow Fryar (12d), Thomas Spencer (12d), James Chambers (6d), Edward Hinde (2d), The widdow Evans (6d), ???⁶ Clarke (12d), being com[m]on Innkeep[er]s and alehouskeep[er]s, did breake the assise by selling lesse than a full ale quart of the best beere for a penny. Therefore each of them is am[er]ced as appears &c [et centera].

⁶ A bit blurred, hard to make out

Item: they pr[e]sent That Will[ia]m Lawrence gentl[eman] one of the Bayliffes of this towne, Mr John Walker of St Pauls p[ar]ish, Marke Gascoigne of St Maryes p[ar]ish, John Craftes one of the serg[an]tes, John Spencer one of the serg[an]tes at mace, Mr Rob[er]t Bell and George Margetes did fish in the Com[m]on Ryver w[i]th netes called casting netes, the meshes wherof were of an unlawfull assise Contrarie to the Statute in that behalf. Wherefore they each of them hath forfeited to the Lordes of the Leete according to the said St[atute] 20s.

Item: they pr[e]sent That John Medborne (3s), and Mr Bartlett (6d), have lett the com[m]on streete ag[ains]t their dwelling houses to lye unrepaired. Wherefore each of them is am[er]ced as app[ear]s [et]c.

Item: they pr[e]sent That John Gale hath laid muck in the com[m]on lane called Mill Lane to the annoyance of passengers [et]c. Wherefore hee is am[er]ced 6d.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Rob[er]t Browne (6d), Thomas Smith (4d) and Henrie Shephard (2s 6d), have annoyed the com[m]on streetes w[i]th their sinkes. Wherefore each of them is am[er]ced as appears.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Lewes Margetes hath stopped up the com[m]on lane leading to the water of Owze. Wherefore hee is am[er]ced 5s.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Will[ia]m Becket hath encombred a com[m]on way leading to the water of Owze. Wherefore hee is am[er]ced 5s.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Dr Banester (5s) and Mr Stot (6d) have annoyed the com[m]on lane by laying a muckhill therin. Wherefore each of them is am[er]c[ed] as app[ear]s.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Dr Banester (12d), Mr Paradine (2s), Lewis Margetes (12d), Mr Stott (12d), Mr John Faldo (12d), Mr Rob[er]t Bell (12d) & Mr Rob[er]t Little (12d) have annoyed

the com[m]on water of Owze each of them w[i]th his Jakes house or privye wherefore each of them is am[er]ced as app[ear]s [et]c.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Edward Cockman hath annoyed the Com[m]on water of Owze. Wherefore hee is am[er]ced 10s.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Mr R[o]b[er]t Bell keepeth an unlawfull bushel w[hi]ch is not assized nor sealed and hath used it in admeasuring. Wherefore hee is am[er]c[ed] 6s 8d.

Item: they pr[e]sent That Will[ia]m Millward, John Spencer & Mr Parker have annoyed the Com[m]on water of Owze w[i]th their Jakes or privy houses. Wherefore each of them is am[er]ced 12d.

Affir[m]ors⁷ sworne: Thomas Pare, James Goodes, Hugh Stringar, Rob[er]t Wale

Signed: Will[ia]m Scott, stew[ar]d

⁷ A good guess.