BAGENDON ARTICLE

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I. Transcription of the Petition and Order of 24th December 1646 (TNA: SP23/123/238 Committee for Compounding with Delinquents 1st Series No.63 1646-56) *Footnote 21*

To the hon[ble] the Committee for Composicons
at Goldsmiths hall
The humble peticon of S[r] James Thynne

Sheweth
That his underwoods in the Manno[r] of Bagingdon w[th]in the County of Gloucester are solde by the Com[ttee] of y[e] County unto one of the Sequestrato[rs] for about 45[li], whereof but vi[li] is paid for which Manno[r] hee hath compounded for.
That hee hath also compounded for *[*about *intercalated]* 300[li] in arrere out of the Manno[r] of Cheddar which lately was in controversy betweene his Mother & him, but now belongs unto him, and due before the Articles of Exester.

The *pet[r]* praieth That in regard the said Underwoods are not felled growing upon the Manno[r] of Bagtngdon for w[ch] hee hath compounded that payinge the money for w[ch] they are solde for hee may enioy the same. And that yo[u] would bee pleased to write yo[r] letter to that purpose unto the said Com[ttee]
and withall that the said Com[ttee] may assist him in recovering of y[e] said money in the hands of his Tenants & others. And hee shall pray &
James Thynne

1646 It is orderd that A letter be sent
Decr 24 to the Comyttee of Gloster that
noe ~~be~~ woods be felled or disposed
of that were not felled before
the 24th of July laste and if any
~~pte of~~ mony be now by the Commytee sent
S[r] James Thin he is to pay it back

[Sideways position across right side]
That S[r] James may have the Underwoods paying y[e] ~~Al~~ full some for wch they are sold by y[e] Cm[tee] being not yet cut. And ht they would helpe him in y[e] recovery of ye 300[li] in arreare out of y[e] Manno[r] of Chedder.

II. Transcription of the Copy of 18th June 1653 of returns for Sir James Thynne (TNA: SP23/123/255 Committee for Compounding with Delinquents 1st Series No.63 1646-56) *Footnote 32*

County of Gloucester

S$^{r.}$ James Thynne Knight
his estate was ordered to be Sequestred 4th September 1644
9 Sept. 1644: a particular of his Rents at Badgington) £ s d
was returned in at Parliament) 15 15 01

A Living at Badginton which lately fell to him
y^{e} value not returned in

Alsoe some Lands at Buckland w^{ch} were returned in being Collected together wth the Lands of S^{r} Henry ffrederick Thynne & Cannot be distinguished.

By Letters of Suspencon from Goldsmithes Hall it appeares that he hath Compounded for his Lands according to a particular thereof then by him delivered in

County of Somersett
S$^{r.}$ James Thynne of Longleate in y^{e} County of Wilts Kn^{t} Sequestered y^{e} 4 of Aug^{t} 1645. For being in Armes against y^{e} Parliam^{t}.

	£	s	d	
his old rents in Walton per anm	49	07	02	Lay under
and in hand in Walton per anm	35	10	00	Sequestration
old rents in East horrington	15	00	00	untill y^{e} of
old rents in Cheddor	30	09	00	December 1646
and in hand in Cheddor	277	00	00	discharged
old rents in ffroome per anm	38	03	02	December 1646 by
land in ffroome in hand	85	00	00	order from Goldsmithes halle

The above written is a true Coppie of what is returned concerning S$^{r.}$ James Thynne in y^{e} duplicates from y^{e} Late Comittee for Seq*uestrat^{ions}* for y^{e} Counties of Gloucester and [Wilts *erased*] Somersett
Also I finde in y^{e} duplicate from y^{e} Late Comittee for Sequestrat^{ion} Westminster S$^{r.}$ James Thynne menconed to be Sequestered between Lady day & Midsumer 1643: and discharged decemb. 24 1646: by Order of y^{e} Comittee of Goldsmithes hall.
June: 18th: 1653 R. Sherwyn Aud

III Leases on the lives of the tenants granted by Gyles Dowle in 1650, 1653, 1655, 1656, 1660 and 1661(2) *Footnote 43*

22nd June 1650: Giles Dowle grants lease of Jeff's Cottage aka Eldridges to Alice Eldridge widow for life and after to Elias Hide for 99 years if Hide and Katherine Turner or either of them so long live. Rent 5/- LA: *NMR 2018*

10 October 1653: Gyles Dowle to Henry Birt junior and Thomas Birt sons of Henry Birt senior of Baunton, of Burrows Mead (half an acre and 20 sheep pasture) on death of Henry senior. The estate was bought by Gyles Dowle of John Howe and afterwards leased by him to the Birts. Value £1. Rent 1/-. Fine £6. Heriot none. LA: *NMR 2019*.

13 June 1656:New lease in reversion of Hills to Walter Hill after Nicholas Marchant. LA: *NMR 2021*.

1st May 1660: Giles Dowle grants property in tenure of Alice Eldridge to her for life and after to John Tombs cordwainer commencing on death of Eldridge and Hyde for 99 years if John Tombs and Richard Coates so long live. Rent 5/. LA: *NMR 2024*.

19 January 1661: Gyles Dowle to William Jeffs and wife Elizabeth of small tenement (built on part of orchard of John Marshall gent) and other lands for lives of William, Elizabeth and daughter Elizabeth. Value £3. Rent 2/- and one couple of capons. Fine £6-10-0. LA: *NMR 2145*.

17 April 1661: Giles Dowle to William Coates the younger on reversion on life of William Coates and son William aet 8. Hitchman and Mary dead. 'This was taken by Mr Dowle of John Howe Esquire and afterwards sold by him to William Coates. LA: *NMR 2119*.

IV Tenancies granted by Sir James in the 1650's *Footnote 44*

1 10 August 1654: Lease and counterpart. Dwelling house. Sir James Thynne to Richard Foster senior; rent 3s.4d. LA: *NMR 2020*.

30th March 1655 Sir James to Gyles Dowle: Parsloes, etc lately held by copy of court roll by James Biddle of Bagendon to hold for 99 years on lives of Gyles and daughters Elizabeth and Susanna. Rent £1-3-4. LA: *NMR 2022*

V. Bagendon Parish Register – top of page 22 *Footnote 62*

March xxxi Anno 1644
Witnes these Presents That Charles
Robson rector of Bagenden the day
and yeare above written publiquely
in the Parochiall Congregation read
The Articles of Religion establisht
Anno Dni 1562. and declared his
full Assent and Consent to the whole
contents thereof as most agreable

to the Holy Scriptures and the word
of God

In the presence of

Gyles Dowle

Richard Eycott

James Bidle B his mke

Humfy Bridges B his mke

W^m^ Chandler W his mke

VI. Zachary Grey: *An Impartial Examination of Mr. Daniel Neal's History,* (1652 Vol. IV, App. pp. 24-7 *Footnote 69*

No. XI.

* SIR

THOUGH my absence (it may be) hath worne out the Remembrance of any former Acquaintance, yet heareing of your Care and Paynes to collect and publish weekly Intelligence for general Satisfaction, be pleased to accept this Addition to your Intelligence.
From *Barbadoes* you may be ascerteyn'd thus, that the Governour directed a Commission dated the last of *November* 1652, directed to *Richard Higgins,* Esq*;* together with *Joseph Pickeringe,* Major *Richard Bayly,* Capteyne *Richard Gay,* Capteyne *Thomas Maycock,* and *John Parris* Esqs; Justices of the Peace to kepe and hould a privy Sessions for the Leeward Parts of *Babados* in Pursuance of whiche Commission ths Warrant was sent furth.

BARBADOES ff.
By the Leeward Justices at their Quarter Sessions.
Whereas by an Act of Parlyament in the Commonwelth of *England*, whereof this Island is a Member, the Bookes of Common Prayer are abolished, and the Use of them prohibited, whose Effects to make a dumbe and lasie Ministery hath been answerable to what could be expected from their idolatrous

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*Dr. *Wmiam's MS.* Collections, Vol. 8. No. 61. An Original.

Originall (the same Spirrit of God which discovereth our Wants, theacheth us alsoe to make known our Necessities.)

Now forasmuche as the said Act enjoyneth all Magistrates to call in the said Bookes of Common Prayer (it being a Branche in all Commissions, in many Particulars exprest, and in all necessarily imply'd, whiche flowe from the Authority of Parlyament) what wee doe hearein is in pusuance of that Dutye which lyes upon us, and that Trust reposed in us (having hitherto out of Indulgence complied with the Peoples Weaknesses) but now well hopeing that the Mindes of all good People are well settled, and their Eyes opened to see the *Christian* Lybertye they nowe enjoy, and what Tyranny and Slavery they are freed from, (the Sun shine of the Gospel breaking forth, it's high Time for the Mistes of Superstition to vanish away) wee doe therefore in the Name of the Keepers of the Libertie of *England,* by Authority of Parliament the supreame Authority of the Nation, *Will* and *Command* you to bringe in* your Booke of Common Prayer to us at our next Privey Sessions held at the new Churche commonlye called *All Sayntes,* the 18th of this Instant *November*, and not for the future to make use of the same, under the Penalty of the saide Acte, and your Contempte of the Authority of Parliament. And you are to publish this Order in the Parishe Churche upon the next Lord's Day, that all good People may take Notice of it, and hereof faile not at your Peril. Given under our Hands this 11th Day of *November* 1652.

Richard Higgins
Joseph Pickeringe.
Richard Bayly.
Richard Gay.
Thomas Maycock.
John Parris.

To Mr. *Charles Robson.*

Which was published in all the Parishes of *Lucies, Peters,* and *All Saints,* and *Andrewes,* and outward conformity yielded by all but Mr *Charles Robson*, Parson *of All Saints*, a canonicall Creature, formerly a Prebendary of *Salisbury*, infamous heare also for his Zeale to corrupt and disturbe the Mindes of otherwise peaceably affected People. His last Prank follows, for this *Diana* will not downe without Opposition. Upon the said 18th Day of *November,* when the Court did demande his

* The Author of the Appendix to the third Part of Friendly Debate, p.79. says. "You may hear an Accusation against a Minister (as that Historian tells us there was upon his own knowledge) "merely for useing the *Gloria Patri,* tho' in all Things else, conformed to the *Directory.*

Booke of Common Prayer, the said *Robson* did peremptorily refuse to deliver it, and affirmed, that he would reade it, and dispute it, and offered a Paper: The Court answered, they sate not there to dispute, but see the Authority of Parliament obeyed, the said *Robson* encourageinge the People now to stand to it or never. Then the Court commanded him to the Marshall's Custody, but unexpectedly the foresaid Major *Bayly,* (formerly Lieftenant *Baily,* taken prisoner by Sir *George Ayscue* before the Island was surrendred) whose Courtesie together with his own Preferment did beget in him a fayre and hopeful Complyance to the Authority of Parliament; but how soon will the Structure fall, if the Foundation be not firme, while such Priestes have such an Influence upon the People, they leave such a Tincture, that to change their Hearts is as difficult as our Negroes Skins, the said *Baily* dismember'd himself from the Court, and joined with the distemper'd Multitude, wheare many hundreds were gathered together, and rescued the said *Robson* from the Marshall, animating the People to a Mutinous Opposition, did then publish that he was sorry that he had subscibed the foresaid Warrant, and said it was the foolishest Act that ever he did, which Words gave suche Encouragement, that presently Swords, Canes, and Cudgels were upp, and a dangerous Disturbance made, which blasted and suppressed such Proceedings of the said Sessions The Court, for their own sakes, to prevent further Danger, did therefore adjourne and dismisse the Multitude. The Governour upon notice committs the Disturbers, and orders that Indictments may be drawn against them to answer theyre Actions at the next Generall Sessions, and the Court to goe on and finish their Proceedings, which was done accordingly.

Whence observe how these Prelaticall Crewe with Serpentine Suttlety winde themselves into the Affection, and soe ensnare their blindfoulded Followers, of which Sorte our Island is supplyed, the Conquest and Submission are both imperfect, till a *Gospel Ministry* be settled to whome the People (whiche are plyable, and apt to receive Impres- * to a Gospel Submission, I intende the Publication [here]of should be as an Allarum to stir up true zealous Ministers of the Gospel to come over for our Supply, Wheare they may be assured boath of Countenance and Encouragement. That I leave theire Duty and our Necessity close to their Consciences. Sir, I have my Assurance that your pious Affections render you propitious to our Desires, I make you a Patron of our Requests, and rest

Your Friend and Servant,

R. Higgins

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* ^ defect.

Sir, If Providence bring any to you upon our Accompt, I shall at my coming up to *London* repay to you.

From *Plymoth* this 21st of *January* upon my now arrivall from *Barbadoes*.

The Post stays.

To the Worshipfull *Henry Scobill,* Esq; Cler. Parlymt.

VII. Triers Admission of Edward Fletcher dated 4th May 1757

[Lambeth Palace Library: COMM III 7 p.17] *Footnote 77*

49 Bagendon R in Com Glouc[r]	Edward ffletcher Clerk Admitted the 4th day of May 1657 to the R of Bagendon in the County of Glouc[r] Upon a pres: exhibited the same day from his highnes the Lord Protector under the great seal of England And Certificates from W[m] Beale of Stow in ye wold Anth: Palmer James fforbs W[m.] Tray Tho: Jenings

VIII. Narrative of Edward Fletcher in Petition to the Council of State (1658)

[TNA: SP18/183 ff.209-210 [*one and two third pages and scrap. The note on the third scrap page is in the same darker writing as the insertion on the first page.* Dated 18th November 1658 per calendar.] *Footnote 80*

A Narritive of the several abuses of severall men of the Parish of Badginton in the County of Gloucester against
Edward ffletcher Minister of that place.

1st When I came there to demand possession of the Meeting place that I might performe the duty of my calling I shewed severall of the parish my Du Authority under his late Highnesse broad Seale testifyed by the Commissioners for approbacon of Ministers under the Seale of their office. Att wch tyme Mr James Doule, Richard Eycott Churchwarden and Mr Broad their pretended Minister [*added at side in different hand* who was ejected out of Rencombe but 2 miles thence] very much sleighted my Authority, saying I was noe Minister & should not come there. And the said Mr Eyckett further said that what I shewed was but a pretended thing. And although I waighted for the space of Three weekes or

more with much patience yett they would not suferr mee to come in the meeting howse neither could I gett any of the Commissioners or Magistrates to assist mee in giving mee possession Because they conceived the Law would not beare them out in soe doing. Whereupon I was faine to open the Doore my selfe.

2dly After I had possession of the place the ffirst Lords day I was very much disturbed by the uncivill carriages of some of Mr Broads Sonnes the pretended Minister, and others who made a noyse rapping att the windowes when I was in prayer. Att wch tyme alsoe one threwe a great Stone in att the windowe neare the pulpitt where I was on purpose to hitt mee.

3dly This Richard Eyckett went about the Middle of the weeke afterwards and forewarned the parishioners not to heare mee and told them the next Lords day Mr. Broad their Minister should preach accordingly the Lords day after the Ringing of the Bell for service, the said Mr Doule, Mr Eyckett and Mr Broad with others of the parish came into the meeting place and desired Mr Broad to read service to them, threatening him that Rang the Bell to put him out of his place. Att wch tyme I came and went upp in the pulpitt and finding him reading I staid till hee had ended and then began to call upon the name of God in prayer. Att wch tyme the said Mr Broad named a psalme and Sang it with the rest of the parish, all the while I was in prayer, and when they had ended, I named a Text and as I was explaining it the said Mr Brown named a Chapter & read it aloud. Att the same time the said Richard Eyckett bidd mee come downe & said I was noe Minister, and one swore a great oath pull him downe. att which time I came downe leaving them and went to my howse and after they had ended their Service Mr Eyckett & Mr Broad sate on horsebacke some space of tyme faceing my howse as I conceive by way of contempt & coming a gaine in the Afternoone finding the doores Lockt the said Eyckett brake the windowe or caused it to bee broke & put in one to the meeting place who opened the Back doore & lett them in, & being convicted of these miscarriages before Captn Crofts & Mr Bates who had appointed to heare the buisnesse were comitted to prison but they made light of it and promised to secure the Constable, in case hee would not carry them to prison upon wch they attempted all meanes to obtaine their liberty, but could not. And then they made friends to

mee to gett their sensure taken off, promising mee that they would not Act any more against mee, The which for peace sake I was willing to grant them, and upon my request to the Magistrates obtained to have it Suspended in case they did not Act against mee yett notwithstanding all my Lenity and patience toward them they have since though more secrettly, used all meanes to putt mee out of the place, espetially since the decease of his late Highnesse. Using this saying, now his freind is dead wee will have him out, upon which Account I am served with a Writt called a quare impedit pretending a new patron on purpose to weary mee out of the place with Law Suites, my selfe being not able to wager Law with them by reason of the weaknesse of my Estate.

My humble request therefore is that his Highnesse and this most hono^{ble} Councell will bee
gratiously pleased to consider of my troubled Condicon and affoard mee such releife as in yo$^{r.}$ godlly wisdome you shall judge most meete and convenien for mee.

And I shall bee ever bound to pray &c

Edward ffletcher

All so the said M^{r} Jams Dowle & his 3 Sonns are of malignant Spirits beinge Enemis to the power of Godlines who have with held his tyths from me and discoridged others sainge to one that he wold goe to the Divell bef[ore] he paid me another of his Sonns Reviled others for hearing me with Reprochfull words thretning of them: & dizcoridging pore men from doing my work so that I was faine to gett men from Gloster to help me in with my harvest to my grett damadg: a third of them Specking against that Revrent man M^{r} fforbs pastor of the Church at Gloc[ester] saied it was pitie that he & his Company were not whiped out of towne.

Edward ffletcher

IX. Henry Jessey *The Lords loud call to England* (1660)

Footnote 88

[p.13]

A RELATION Of the Imprisonings, Plunderings, and Barbarous Inhumanity and Cruelty, that hath lately been practised towards several Ministers of the Gospel, and other peaceable people, in WALES, *Lincolnshire, Glocestershire*, and other places: Especially since the Late Remnant of the Long Parliament, by their Outing of many, prepared a COFFIN for themselves and others.
With the USES to bee made thereof by the Sufferers, and by others.

[pp.17-24]
From Glocestershire, writ April 3. 1660. Part of the First letter.
Now I shall acquaint you with the face of things in these parts, which is thus: The most eminent Cavaliers imbittered persecutors in the County, ride about armed with sword and Pistols, pretending to bee of a Troop. The last week they rid madly about to disarm the *Fanaticks, and all the Pastors of Congregational* Churches, and *officers* that had formerly served the *Parliament,* especially the *Rump (as they call it)* together with all Church Members, whether Souldiers or not, they rudely ransacked for Arms, as Captain *Crofts,* Mr. *Palmer* of Borton, Mr. *Helme* of Winchcombe, and many others.....
They drink the *Kings health* stoutly, and rage against any that have the face of Godliness. And not only *souldiers,* but the *people* who had long obscured their malice to the people of God, are now confident, and act barbarously. *Take two late examples.* One was of Mr. *Warren* a minister in the County, who upon the ejection of a Malignant (as then that Denomination was given men) was put into the Parsonage of *Rencome:* Upon this new incouragament the said ejected Minister (one Mr. *Broade)* brake in with a Company of rude companions into the Parsonage house; Penned up Mr. *Warren* and his wife and family into an Upper roome; so distressing and afflicting the poor man, night and Day, making a noise with *Hoboyes,* so that *hee Died in the place;* His blood will cry.

Another was one Mr. *Fletcher* a Godly man (who lately came out *of New England)* being put into a vacant place by Authority; a rude Cavaleer in the Parish, came in upon him in his house, beat him, and used him very inhumanly; threatned to cut off his head with a Bill, which one of them carried. At last, after much vile carriage, one took his *Coat,* and *Carpet* off his Table, and marched with them in the streets, on the top of a Bill: so that the poor man and his Family are fled for their lives. *This is the beginning of sorrows.* It would make a flinty heart melt, to hear and see the Blasphemies and abuses acted by this revived Generation; Oh that God would appear! for it is high time for him to appear for the Salvation of *Zion,* The Enemy

rageeth in the Sanctuary, and all who love Christ, are appointed as sheep for the slaughter; What humblings, what strong Cryes, what wrestlings with God, do these thing bespeak at our hands! Surely God hath mingled a perverse spirit in the midst of us, and (hath for our backslidings) caused the enemy to hate his people. Wee are sold for nought, and they that rule over us oppress us very sore; Judgement is already begun at the house of God; Oh that the Bowells of our God were once again moved; Oh that his repentings were kindled together. Oh that the salvation of God were come out of *Zion!*
April 3. 1660.
From a poor Mourner in Zion.

Part of a second Letter from Gloucestershire 18, of the second Month,1660.

Dear Sir,
I Have here under my hand, given you these Particulars.
First, ...
Secondly, *I shall give you the Names of some of the Ministers abused.*
First, Mr. *Warren,* Minister of *Rencombe,* in the County of *Glocester,* was the person who died through the rude, and inhumane usage of one *Broad,* an ejected person, and a wretched crew, who broke in upon him, and did unto him as in the said Paper is mentioned: the said Mr. *Warren* laid his death to their charge, as justly hee might.
Secondly, One Mr. *Fletcher, Minister at Badgington,* in the County of *Glocester, who* (as in that Paper) *was beaten by one of his neighbours, coming in upon him in his house,* with Bills, threatning to cut off his head; and had his Goods taken by him, violently out of his house; flourishing a Carpet of his upon the top of a Bill, along the streets, who with his wife and family, are fled for their lives, who yet notwithstanding, was perswaded to come to preach at the said place on Lords day sennight, where soon after hee came, was again sorely abused (by one Mr. *D.* a Cavalier) on the place, in the face of others.
Thirdly .....
Sir your unworthy Brother,
Glocestershire 18. of the
2d. Month, 1660.
C.H.

Part of another of Letter from that County, the 28*th. of the second Month. April 1660.*

IN answer to yours received this morning, First, As to Mr. *Warren,* whether his death was occasioned by Mr. *B.* rude carriage towards him, Mr. *Doleswelth* (as I am informed, a Lawyer, and now a Parliament-man for *Tukesbury)* is to

canvass this business. Your self, or Mr. &c. may enquire more of this Gentleman.
Secondly, As to Mr. *Fletcher,* that several abuses were offered, its most certain. I shall desire him to give them under his own hand
Thirdly.....

A true Declaration of the uncivil speeches and carriages of Mr. I.D. *Son of Mr.*I.D. *of* B. *in the County of* Glocester*, against* Edward Fletcher *minister of the same place in the presence of my servant maid and one Mr.* R. E. *of the same Parish; which was as followeth.*
[Mr. I.D son of Mr. I.D. of B. is Mr. Job Dowle son of Mr. James Dowle of Bagendon. Mr. R.E is Mr. Richard Eycott. Mr. B. is Mr. Samuel Broad.]

FEbruary 23. 1659. I the said *Edward Fletcher,* having sent for the said *Mr. E.* to come to mee, that hee might pay mee some mony that was due to mee from him, for the time past, which was three pound; I being in my house the said Mr. *E.* came in, and *J. D.* with him, and having demanded my mony of Mr *E.* hee said, hee would pay mee no more, but expected all the monies hee had paid mee formerly for his Tithes. Upon which the said *J. D.* drew forth a Receipt hee had of mee for monies I had received for his Tithes, and said, *Yee Rogue, pay mee my mony, otherwise I will have it out of thy hide;* and thereupon took hold on a silk scarf that was about my neck, and tore it, and struck me on the face with his fist, and kickt mee on the belly with his foot, saying, *Yee Rogue, yee Dogg, the times are turned, and I will have yee out;* and thereupon laid hold on my Coat, and tore it, with pulling of mee to have mee forth of my house, and with saving my self, my hat fell off, and he took a stick that was in his hand, and struck mee on the bare head; and took my Carpet off the Table, and my Coat, and carried them forth, and as I followed him out of the Parlour into the Hall, hee took a hedge-bill, and held it up, and said, *Yee Rogue, I could finde in my heart to cut off thy head,* saying, *Hee would have my blood, and I should bee hanged within four and twenty hours, and that hee would lay all level;* and thereupon went forth, and pulled up my hedge, and other wood, to the quantity of half a load, and a great Gate that was to my yard, and carried it away, and made a Bonefire of it, reviling mee as hee carried it away, and calling on mee in a blasphemous manner; *Where is thy spirit now*? *yee Rogue, yee Jesuitical Dogg?* and also abused my Maid in the street, at the same time, holding up a great stick (that hee pulled forth of the hedge) over her, calling her *Whore,* and commanding her to *kneel down, and confess where shee had been.*

Febr. 25. Being newly come from *Glocester,* as I was standing at my door within my Court, the said *J.D.* came in the street, and gave mee the like base terms, asking mee *what I did there?* and said, *If I did not run away I should bee hanged, and that hee would not give a half-penny for my life, bidding mee to go to* Rencome, *and see what was done there,* meaning to Mr. *Warren* the Minister, by Mr. *B.* and his company.

April 1. 1660. Being the Lords day, in the afternoon, sending my Maid to ring the Bell for the Sermon, the said *J.D.* would not suffer my servant to open the door, saying, *That if shee opened the door, hee would have the Key from her,* if hee could; upon which I sent to the Church-warden to come and assist mee, but hee refusing, the Exercise was put by at that time.

April the eighth day. Being the Lords day after, in the morning I came, with some of another Parish, who came to hear, and going into the *Belfrey,* the Rope being taken away from the *Bell,* I desired one that was present, to go up in the Tower, and toll the Bell, to give the Parish notice; and when hee tolled the Bell, the said *J.D.* came into the Meeting-place, where I was, and asked *who tolled the Bell?* upon which I answered, that it was one that I had appointed, upon which hee called mee *Rogue,* and said, *I had nothing to do there,* and laid hands on mee, *violently*, thrusting mee, and punching me forth, saying, *I should not stay there,* and so continued thrusting mee, and punching of mee, until I was in the street; and then because one asked him, *Why he abused mee so, that did him no wrong?* hee struck him on the face, and fought with him: and after came to me, who *prayed* him *to bee quiet,* and struck mee three or four blows on the neck and head with his fist. The same day I sending one to lock the Meeting-house door, this *J.D.* with his Father, wrested the key by force out of his hand that was sent, threatning him; and since, have in my absence, broke into the dwelling-house, and keeps mee forth, so that I am fain to bee in *Glocester* for my safety. All this is true; given under my hand the 28th. of *April. 1660*.
Edward Fletcher