

DONCASTER 1457-1642

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Introduction

In *Yorkshire from AD 1000*, David Hey describes Doncaster as "... one of Yorkshire's best examples of a regional market centre, river port and thoroughfare town" (136). Being on the River Don and the Great North Road, Doncaster was accessible by both water and land so that it became a centre for trade and communications. The borough was governed by "a mayor, twelve aldermen and twenty-four common councillors." Its two annual fairs, two weekly markets, and large market place gave people good economic reasons to visit and enriched the town coffers. The growth of the wool market in particular made Doncaster a busy place, not only for those selling and buying fleeces, but also for innkeepers and alehouses, of which 135 were reported in 1631. Presumably the accessibility and prosperity of the town, along with a sense of civic pride, help to explain the predominance in the records of performance of two groups: local musicians and travelling players, "players" referring sometimes to actors, sometimes to musicians. Doncaster's records of performance, which range from 1457 to 1642 (the end of the period covered by REED) illustrate the various *kinds* of performance activity (musical, theatrical, customary, and ceremonial) and the various *kinds* of documents (personal, financial, legal, and administrative), that provide evidence of it.

The numbers at the top right of each entry (DN01, DN02, etc) correspond to the document descriptions that follow. Items marked with an asterisk (*) appear in the left margin of the documents. Letters in italics mark the extension of abbreviations used in the manuscripts. Square brackets ([...]) set off material that has been crossed through. Caret brackets (<...>) set off places where damage has resulted in the loss of material.

We are grateful to Dr. John Wasson and Dr. Barbara Palmer who did the early on-site work with most of these documents. For the notes on people involved in Ben Jonson's visit to Doncaster in 1618, we are indebted to *Ben Jonson's Walk to Scotland*, ed. James Loxley, Anna Groundwater, and Julie Sanders (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015).

Records

1457

Manorial Court Roll **DA: AB5/5/1 (DN01)**
mb 4 (4 October)

...

Electio ministrorum*

Alanus Pyper & Willelmus Pyper electi sunt in officio fistulorum vocatis Waytes ibidem hoc Anno qui receptiones sunt & Iuro &c

1540

Manorial Court Roll **DA: AB5/1/1 (DN02)**
f. 127 (27 October)

Robert palmer complenes hyme ayenest Rawfe Smyth & Iohn Dey In a pleynt of dett & askes of hyme —vij s. which they dyde promes to pay hyme for bryngyng furth of the fysher play¹ att the fest of Corpus christi In the xxxij^{ti} yere of the reigne of oure soueraigne lord kyng henry the viijth² & shuld haue beyne paid att the fest of the Natiuite of Seynt Iohn Baptist³ then next followyng and the seid Iohn Robert oft tymes hath requyred pament of the seid Iohn & Rawfe and as yett no pament can haue wherfore he askes for his costes & dameges of the same —ij s. iij d. & thus he brynges his sutt good & cetera.

¹the fysher play] *the pageant sponsored by the company of fishermen or fishmongers*

²the fest ... henry the viijth] *28 May 1541*

³the fest ... Seynt Iohn Baptist] *24 June 1541*

1548

Visitation Order **Sheffield City Archives: BFM 11(3)** **(DN03)**
f 3

...

Wakes*

Plow Monday*

Item forasmuch as dronkennes, Idlenes, brawles, dissen<..> & many other inconvenyences do chaunce betwene neigh<....> neygbour, by thassemblie of peple together at wakes & on ploughmundays, it is therfore ordered & enioynd, that hereafter the peple shall vse make or observe no mo su<..> Wakes¹ ploughmundays² or drawynges of the same,³ with ony<.> assemblie or rowte of peple or otherwise as hath ben<.> accustomed, vpon payne of forfytyng to the *kinges* highnes xl s for euery defalte, to be paid by the owner of the ploughe & householder wherunto the said plough is Drawne or Wakes is kep<..>

The names of*

the Visitours.*

Sir Iohn Markham

John hearne
Thomas Gargraue
Roger tonge
William Moreton
Edmund ffarley.

¹Wakes] *annual celebrations of the dedication of a chapel or parish church and of its patron*

²ploughmundays] *a celebration to mark the beginning of the plowing season, normally the first Monday after Twelfth Night (6 January)*

³drawynges of the same] *drawing or a plough; young men dragged a plough throughout a community while gathering donations for the parish*

1552

Rental Collectors' Account DA: AB6/1/1 (DN04)
f 3 (*Payments*)

... Et eis —ij s. solutis lusoribus Comitis Penbroke.¹ ...

¹Comitis Penbroke] *William Herbert, 1st earl of Pembroke (1506/7-1570)*

1554-5

Rental Collectors' Account DA: AB6/1/1 (DN04)

f 7v (*Payments*)

... Et de — xxvij s solutis pro togis Emptis A le Waytes ...

1555-6

Rental Collectors' Account DA: AB6/1/1 (DN04)
f 9v (*Payments*)

... Et de — vj s. datis in regardo A lez Waytes de yorke. ...

ff 10v-11

... Et eis —iiij s. Solutis Edwardo Thwaytes pro sawne bades¹ & residuis de lez Wayt Gowne ...

¹sawne bades] *'sewn beads'?*

1556-7

Rental Collectors' Account DA: AB6/1/1 (DN04)
f 12v (*Payments*)

... Et de —iiij s. solutis A lez Waytes de yorke & kynges Gester/...

f 13v

... Et eis —xxvj s. viij d. *pro togis emptis* A les Waytes/ ...

1557

Court Roll DA: AB5/1/2 (DN05)
f 176v (*16 September*)

Memorandum that I Ather hogeson of doncaster in the countie of yorke beyng the Wayete of ye seid towne toth¹ bynde me in iiij li. to oure sowfferaigne lorde and lady philipe the kynge & mare the quene that I Ather hogeson shall saue and kepe harmeles Richard hall mayre of doncaster at all tyme and tymes consarnynge l s. whyche the shalgeres² doth byrden hether hogeson that he shoulde haue Reseved in scotland to haue bene carred to thayre ffrendes in yorke shyre that thyn this Recallysas to be void & of non fact or els to stand in full Strynggh <..>³ vertu/

X⁴

¹ toth] *for* doth

² sholgeres] *for* soldiers

³ a word, *perhaps* or *or* and *has been cropt*

⁴ X] *Hogeson's mark*

1560

Rental Collectors' Account DA: AB6/1/2 DN06
f 5v (p 10) (*Payments*)

...Et —xl s. *pro toguas* a le waytes/...

f 6 (p 11)

...Et de xxvj s. viij d. *pro togis empt{is}* a le ~~wataes~~ waytes *pro hoc anno/ ...*

1562

Court Roll
f 92 (3 September)

DA: AB5/1/4 DN07

Markethsteyd & ffyshergait

...

Item presentant Arthurum hogeson non remanere infra villam quia *heberet officium le Wayt* infra Ciuitatis Eboraci¹ &c.

¹le Wayt infra Ciuitatis Eboraci] *between 1564 and 1581, Arthur Hodgson is rewarded several times as one of waits of the city of York; see York, ed. Alexandra F. Johnston and Margaret Rogerson, Records of Early English Drama (University of Toronto Press, 1979), pp. 347, 363, 381, 383, 389, 393, and 397.*

1568

Borough Courtiers DA: AB2/1/1 DN08
f 57v (Account rendered 21 December)

...Ac de --xxj s. *pro redditu quarundam terrarum nuper datum per Thomam Elys aldermanum defunctum ad op* erga sustentacione vnius ludi magistri....

1572

Court Book DA: AB5/1/5 DN09

[f 15] (30 March)

...

Item ye greate inquest gevethe warninge yt no man vse to walke in ye stretes with gytterons,¹ nor anye other way or means after nyne of ye clocke in y eveninge withoute they have a lawfull busynes, in payne of euerye suche offender to forfette for euerye tyme so offendinge iij s. iiij d.
and his bodye to pryson at mr mayres pleasure.

¹gytterons] *a gittern or cithern, a sort of guitar*

1574

Borough Courtiers DA: AB2/1/1 DN08
f 80 (18 July) (Extraordinary Charges)

...

Item paid the xviiijth day of Iulye to my lord Mounegle¹ men for playing in the Church
x s.

...

(2 August)

...

Item paid the ij of august to *sir henry lees men*² which dyd not playe v s.
Item paid to my lord of laciteress men³ for playing in the Churche xx s.

¹lord Mounegle] *William Stanley, 2nd Lord Monteagle (1528-1581)*

²sir henry lees men] *the players of Sir Henry Lee, the queen's Champion (1533-1611)*

³my lord of laciteress men] *the players of Robert Dudley, 1st earl of Leicester (1532-1588)*

1575

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08

f 81 (*Account rendered 30 December*) (*Alderman's Charges*)

...

Item geuen to the quens maiestes men¹ whan they came into the countrey xx s.

...

¹the quens maiestes men] *players of Queen Elizabeth I (1533-1603)*

1576-7

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08

f 82 (*Account rendered 30 December*)

...

Item paid to my lord montegles men being players ij s. vj d.

...

1577

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08

f 83 (*Account rendered 30 December*)

...

Item paid the xvijth of Iuly to my lord of comerland¹ musicions ij s. iiij d.
Item paid the viijth of august to my lord montegle players ij s. iiij d

...

¹my lord of comerland] *George Clifford, 3rd earl of Cumberland (1558-1605)*

1578

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 102v (*Discharges*)

...
Item to my lord darces players & musycions xiiij s. iiij d.
...

¹my lord darces] *John Darcy, 2nd Baron Darcy (1534 -1602)*

f 103 (*Expenses at "mawdlayns" fair*¹)

...
Item for taking downe the may polles viij d.
...

¹"mawdlayns" fair] 22 July?

f 104v (*Extraordinary charges*)

...
Item paid to my lord of (*blank*) men the xxviiij^{to} of october xiiij s. iiij d.
...

f 104v

...
Item paid to the waites for their gowns xxvj s. viij d.
Item paid to my lord Darcys players the xxvj^{to} of December x s.
...

1580

Court Book **DA: AB5/1/7** DN10
f 60 (*27 April*) (*Fines*)

...
Item quod Georgius Hoode pipat in domo suo nocte et heberet ille pubes simull in nocte
ideo in materia xij d.
...

1582

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 88 (*Account rendered 4 January*)

...
Item paid to my lord of worseteres¹ players ij s.

...

Item paid to my lord of hunsden² players x s.

...

¹my lord of worseteres] *William Somerset, 3rd earl of Worcester (c. 1527-1589)*

²my lord of hunsden] *Henry Carey, 1st Baron Hunsden (1526-1596)*

1582

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
ff 47v-48 (8 June) (*Guild composition*)

...

11.*

Item, yt ye said Company of Glovers shall at all times heerafter when they shall be comanded by the Maior in his name, or in ye name of his debuty for the time being, of their owne *proper costes & Charges*, bring forth their pagiant | of Corpus Christi play¹ in good order, & after such manner as they have beene accustomed to doe heretofore, & for default thereof to forfeit & pay to ye vse of the said Maior & Comunalty of ye said towne forty shillings to be levied of ye goodes & Chattells of ye Wardens of ye same Company./

...

¹ Corpus Christi play] *If these injunctions resulted in a performance of this pageant and the others noted below, Doncaster's Corpus Christi play would be the last one to survive the Elizabethan campaign to suppress them. However, if these injunctions are "true coppie[s]" of earlier documents, as other items in the list of orders are explicitly identified, then these records may provide evidence of shows that were actually performed at some earlier date.*

1582

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 54 (8 June) (*Guild composition*)

...

11.*

Item, yt the said Company of Weyvers Walkers & Shermen shall at all times heerafter when they shall be Comaunded by the Maior in his name, or in the name of his deputie for the time being, of their owne *proper Costs & Charges*, bring forth their two severall pagiants of Corpus Christi play in good order, & after such manner as they have beene accustomed heeretofore to doe, And for default thereof to forfeit to pay to the vse of the Maior & Comunaltie of the said Towne — xl s./ to be levied of the goodes & Chattells of the Wardens of the said Company for the time being, to be levied as aforesaid/

...

1582

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 286 (8 June) (Guild composition)

...

13*

pagiante of corpus christi play to be produced at mr maiors request*

Item that the said Company of shoemakers shall at all times heereafter when they shall be Comaunded by the Maior in his name, or his deputie for the time being, of their owne proper cost & Charges, bring forth their pagiant of Corpus Christi play in good order, & after such manner as they have been accustomed heeretofore to doe, & for default thereof, to forfeitt & pay to the vse of the Maior and Cominaltie of the said Towne xl s. to be levied of the goodes & Chattells of the said Wardens of the said Company for the time being by distresse as aforesaid./

...

f 114v (8 December) (Payments)

...

Item paid to the waites of the Town the 8 of december xl s.

...

1585

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 38v* (10 December) (Council decision)

<.>he waites*

The xth day of december 1585/

The day abousayd it was agreed by mr maiour his brethren & the Counsell of the town concernyng the Common waites that they shalbe ffour in companye and to be parteners in all Respectes bothe wailes & dueties and to allowe xiiij s. iiij d. for a coyt¹ to the fourthe mane and that the said waites shall begyne ther watche ymediatlye after the quens maiesties watche dothe leave and so to contynue vntill ^{ffastens even²} the xxth day of februarye And also it is agreed that the said waites shall play about the town euery nyght between eight & neyn of the clock as they do in other <..> places

And ffurther it was agreed that the said waites shall not Receyve at any wedding for their waiges aboue two shillinges eight pence³ and to devid the sam Indifferently amonges them

These was agreed in the presence of these whose names are vnder written

Thomas vsher then being maior	Robert pettye	Iohn Carlyll
ffrancis Copley esquier	Thomas Clark	Iohn parker
Richard Thwartes alderman	Robert Issett	nycholas hall
Robert birkes alderman	Thomas howdon	Roger williamson
ffrancis mapples alderman	Iohn ward	
william blenkinsope alderman	Iohn sweting	

Richard marshall alderman
georg nedd

Thomas heges

...

¹coyt] *coat?*

²ffastens even] *Fastren's Eve or Shrove Tuesday*

³eight pence] *scribe has added eight to right margin and pence to left*

1587

Parish Register **DA: P1/1/C1** DN11
f 32 (15 November) (*Burials*)

15*

...

Richarde Hood musission

...

1588/89

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 121 (27 February)

...

Item the said Mr Copley¹ did harbour in his howse agaynst the lawe & in contempte of the said maiors comaundement & offyce A mynstrell who the maior had latelie before y^t punyshed for his Rogyshe behavouyr & had geven hym comaundemente to departe this towne to the place of his dwellinge.

...

¹ Mr Copley] *probably the Francis Copley, esquire, who endorsed the 1585 order regarding the town waits. He was a central figure in a dispute about the mayoralty in 1590. The council elected William Harrison, who had the support of Lord Darcy, but the burgesses of Doncaster, with backing from the Earl of Shrewsbury, elected Copley, who was neither an alderman nor a member of the common council. See also the reference to Mrs. Copley in 1618 (below).*

1592

Parish Register **DA: P1/1/C1** DN11
f 36v (14 July) (*Burials*)

...

14*
Michaell hardye one of the Waites

...

1592

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 449v (17 August) (*Apprenticeship Agreement*)

...

Memorandum that the daye and yeare Abovesaid Henry Tomson sonne of Thomas Tomson of Pontfret hath comed before Iohn Hardye nowe Maior of doncaster & doth confesse & knowledge hym selfe to be the Apprentice & *servant* of Iohn Todd of Doncaster aforesaid musycyan & with hym to dwell for all the yeares in his Indenture mencyned & yet to come & expyer accordinge to the forme & effect of the said Indenture & *which* said Indenture doth beare dayt the xxiiith day of Iune in the xxxjth yeare of hir *maiestes* reigne ~~1589~~ & is to *serve* his said *master* for Tenn yeares frome the daye of the dayt of the sayd Indenture as in the same amongst other thinges at large appearyth And further that at his fyrst agremente & conclusyon of his said *service* his sayd *master* Iohn Todd did geve hym Tenn pence the *which* he did accepte of for the better byndinge & *performaunce* of his said Tearme of yeares/

per me William Hudson clericus maior Burgi praeddicti

1594

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 143v (20 August) (*Council decision*)

...

At the Common Councill holden there the daye & yeare abovesaid yt was agreyd by the maior *Aldermen* & common councell yt whose names are hearvnder wrytten that Roberte gryce nowe one of the waytes of this towne shalbe displaced frome the said office & place by Reason yt he hath sued out hir *maiestes* writt out of the kinges benche to bynde william Clarke to the peace of this towne to the peace there & also one william Battye his *servant* & never demanded the same at the handes or mr maior or any other hir *maiestes* Iustices of peace within this Towne to their great discredit & disgrace And vpon *Complainte* therof maid to mr Edward Stanhoppe Esquyer one of his *maiestes* honorable councell in the North *partes* & Recorder of this Borowghe he was sent for before mr maior mr Stanhope mr harryson and mr vsher hir *maiestes* Iustices of peace & moved to staye his former *warrantes* for the peace & he showld have the *parties* bownd eyther heare or at Yorke to the same effect the *which* he did vtterlie denye in the *presence* of all the said Iustices whervpon yt was then thought good that the Common councell showld be called together the daye & yeare abovesaid who did fully agre yt he showld be displaced as ys aforesaid The names of ym yt weare then & there *present* & agreynge thervnto

Iasper Iustice maior	mr storthes	Thomas Cottan
Thomas Harryson Alderman	Thomas Clarke	Thomas Heighe
Thomas Vsher Alderman	Roberte Pettye	Roberte Barwicke
Thomas Whyte Alderman	ffrancys Barwicke	William marshall
Roberte Issott Alderman	William Hunsley	Iohn Clarke
Leonard Huscroft Alderman	Hughe Cawke	ffrancys Richmond
Thomas ffullwell--		
present & disagreynge thervnto		
Thomas Wilbore &		
Edmnd Baytman		
...		

1595

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
 f 144v (*Account rendered 20 December*) (*Chamberlain's account*)

... & to the waytes xl s. ...

1600

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
 f 167v (*Account rendered 1 August*) (*Mayor's account*)

...
 and ffor money laid down to players, wyne & Suger xxj s. iiij d.

1608

Chamberlain's account **DA: AB6/2/155** DN12
 f [1] (*19 June*)

...
 Item given to ^{both} <.>ye¹ Lord dudleys² players by mr maiores Appointment Iune 19 x s.

¹superscribed word seems to be both, but worm holes hamper its legibility; a letter on the line is illegibly smudged

²Lord dudleys] Thomas Dudley of Yanwath Hall, Westmorland (birth date unknown, died before 1623)

f [2v] (*26 October*)

...
Item given to the Lord Shandoys¹ players by mr maiors appointment - xxvjth x s.
...

f [3] (3 December)

...
Item paid the waytes for their wages/3/ iiiij li.
...

¹ Lord Shandoys] *Grey Brydges, 5th Baron Chandos of Sudeley (ca. 1580-1621)*

1608-9

Chamberlain's account DA: AB6/2/155 DN12
f [3v] (March)

...
Item given to the lord Ogles¹ players by mr maiors appointment v s.
...

¹lord Ogles] *presumably the late Cuthbert, 7th Baron Ogle (1540-1597). He died in 1597 without male issue, and the baronetcy remained vacant from that time until 3 December 1628, when his daughter Catherine (ca. 1568-1629) became 8th Barness Ogle*

1613-14 TNA, Kew: STAC 8/113/3 DN13

Bill of Complaint in Bevett et al v. Cooke¹
mb 3

To the Kinges moste excellent Maiestie

In moste humble wyse Complayninge sheweth vnto Your most excellent Maiestie your Maiesties true faithfull and Obedient Subiecte Bryan Cooke of Doncaster in your highnes County of yourke gentleman That whereas your Majesties said subiecte for the space of twentie yeares now last past hath bene and as yett is an inhabitant and dweller within the said Towne of doncaster dueringe all *which* tyme your said subiecte hath liveid honestlie and behaved him selfe in his Conversacion as well amongst his Neighboures in the said Towne of doncaster As also amongst all other sortes of your Maiesties loveinge Subiectes thereaboutes in A verye honest peaceable & orderlie Course of liveinge without slaunderinge greiveinge or detracteinge from the Creditt Reputacon or good name of his neighboures or any other of your Maiesties subiectes and wiithout vseinge or Comyttinge any lewde dealinge tyranny or oppression to any person or persons and without stealinge or purloyninge the plate or other goodes of any person or persones whatsoever and without Comittinge any deobolicall Acte or giveinge any wise offence to anye person or persones whatsoever But by his paynefull and honest Course of life hath by the blessinge of

God attained to A good estate in landes and goodes And *your* said Subiecte further sheweth vnto *your* highenes That for the space of diueres yeares ^{nowe} last past there hath bene A longe Conceived and vndeserved mallice moste wrongfullie and secretlie nourrished and inwardlie Conceived and borne against *your* subiecte without any manner of Iust Cause by Thomas Bevett of Southkirby in the County of yorke gentleman Oryginall Bellamy of lancote grainge in the said County gentleman Humfrey Clemett Thomas Peate and Edward Gressame of Staynefurth Musicians Thomas Harrison ^{Iohn Harrison} Thomas Hill and Abrahame Chambers of Pontefracte Musicians *Christofer* Huscroft of Smeaton yeoman Thomas Key of doncaster in *your* highnes said County of yorke and Raphe Bird and Iames Byrd of Tuyworth² Musicians and Iohn Still of the same in the County of Nottingham Inholder and diueres other *persones* as yett vnknowne vnto *your* Maiesties said subiecte whose names *your* said Subiecte humblie prayeth that he maye have libertye to incerte into this Bill when theye shalbe knowne With such before named *persones* and all the rest of the said vnknowne *persones* have for A longe tyme much maligned *your* subiectes good estate and prosperity and ^{and} by all that tyme vnlawefullie Combyned plotted practised Conspired and Confederated together as much as they Could in A moste malicious dispitfull disgracefull & infamous manner vtterlie to defame and discreditt him *your* said subiecte and to publish the same as much as by any wayes or meanes they could to ye said suppliant his greatest disgrace shame and Reproche in the world and to drawe in question and to overthrowe and take awaye his life and estate if theye could And *your* said Subiecte further sheweth vnto *your* Maiestie that the said Thomas Bevitt and all the rest of the said before named *persones* together with the said vnknowne *persones* still *prosecuteinge* there said Mallice and wicked plott against *your* said subiecte did moste wickedlie and vnlawefullie to the great discreditt shame and Reproch of *your* said subiecte vnlawefullie Conspire Conclude and agree amongst them that A false and scandelous Libell Ryme and Ballett should be made and Contrived of and against *your* said Subiecte and that the same Libell Ryme and ballett should be published and devulged both publiquellie and privatelie in the said Towne of doncaster where *your* said Subiecte then dwelt and yett doth dwell and gett his liveinge and in other places as well in the County of Yorke as in other Countyes and places adioyeninge where it might moste discreditt *your* said subiecte and make him Odious and infamous to the world and more speciallie to the inhabitantes of the said Towne of doncaster and the townes neare therevnto and all other places and townes within the said County of Yorke and wheresoever *your* subiecte hath occasion to Converse or Come or be knowne Wherevpon to the end and purpose to effect this there most vnlawefull vilde³ wicked & shamefull plott Conspiracyes Confedracyes and practises Theye the said Thomas Bevett and the rest of the said before named *persones* together with the said vnknowne *persones* in or about the Monethes of November december Ianuary and ffebruary now last past and in the eleaventh yeare of *your* Maiesties Raigne over this Realme of England and diueres tymes before and since the same monethes and since *your* Maiesties last generall & free pardon with the Consent previty and procurement of the rest of the said Confedrators vnlawefullie and vntruelie ~~fraye~~ fraye forge devise Contrive and make and procure to be devised and made A false and slaunderous libell Ryme and ballett of and against *your* said subiecte to the greate shame discreditt and vtter disgrace of *your* said subiecte The matter & principall and cheifest Contentes whereof (amongst diueres other thinges) is Conteyned in A schedule or writeinge annexed to this *your* said subiectes Bill of Complaynte as by the said Libell Ryme or Ballett wherevnto *your* said subiecte refferreth himself maye more

planelie appeare And *your* said subiecte further sheweth vnto *your* highnes that after the said Thomas Bevett and the rest of the said before named *persons* together with the said vnknowne *persones* had by such plott Conspiracy and practise as aforesaid contrived and made and caused to be Contrived and made the said vntrue libell Ryme or Ballett against *your* said subiecte Theye the said Conspirers in further execution of their plott and Conspiracy did read singe and publish and Cause to be redd sunge and published the same infamous and odious libell libellouslie and slanderouslie against *your* said subiecte in manye and sundry places and to diueres and sundry *persones* and especiallie att publike meetinges of people as well within the said Towne of doncaster as alsoe in diueres other townes and places within *your* *Maiesties* said Countyes of Yorke and Nottinghame and other places out of the said Countyes to the great shame Reproche and discreditt of *your* *Maiesties* said subiecte and the said Thomas Bevett and the other Conspiratours did for the further disgrace and shame of *your* subiecte openlie declare and publish and Cause to be published the same libell and the matter thereofe to be against *your* said subiecte and that all the slaunders Aspersiones and disgracefull Tearmes and woordes therein Conteyned Concerned *your* subiecte and were intended and ment of and against him and yett moreover if it maye please *your* excellent *Maiestie* to the further shame and discreditt of *your* said subiecte the said Thomas Bevett and the rest of the said before named *persones* together with the said vnknowne *persones* not soe Contented did in further execution of their said Mallice plott & Conspiracy make and deliver and Cause to be made and delivered diueres and sundry Copyes of the said Libell Rymes or Ballettes to diueres and sundry *persones* and did nomynate interprete & publish *your* said subiecte to be the person of whome the same Libell was made and Contrived and intended and therewithall did scoffe att & deryde *your* said subiecte as a person infamous and odious & discredited vtterlie and especiallie the said Thomas Bevett Oryginall Bellamy John Still *Christofer* Huscroft and the rest of the said before named *persons* by singeing & other publishinge thereofe did make the same knowen Within doncaster aforesaid and in diueres other townes and places wiihin the said Countyes of yorke and Nottinghame and other Countyes adioyninge where *your* said ~~said~~ subiecte all his life tyme hath and yett inhabiteth and Converseth to the publike scandall shame and discreditt of *your* said subiecte and to the great disturbance of *your* *Maiesties* peace and to the great offence of manye other *persons* of *your* *Maiesties* subiectes And moreover if it maye please *your* highnes after the said Thomas Bevett and the rest of the said before named *persones* together with the said vnknvne *persons* had soe done theye did Iustifie and mayneteyne the same Libell and the matters therein Conteyned and the publike singeing and publishinge and procureinge of the singeing & publishinge thereofe and deliverynge of Copyes of the same and the said Thomas Bevett and Oryginall Bellamy and other the said Confederates did interpret expound and publish these woordes followeing and menconed in the said Libell That is to saye (the devell of doncaster and earth pottes he doth disdayne and stoole his neighbours plate) to be made ment and intended of *your* said subiecte and of noe other person and that *your* said subiecte was the person that is therein named to be the devell of doncaster and did steale his neighbours plate By meanes whereof *your* said subiecte hath bene vniustlie drawn into suspicion of evill life and Conversacion and to have Comitted sondry great and haynous offences against *your* *Maiestie* and *your* highnes lawes to *your* said subiectes damage of five hundreth poundes att the least All *which* said vnlawefull plottes Conspiracyes practises Combynacons makeinge syngeing and publishinge abroade and

deliveringe of Copyes of vnlawefull and disgracefull libells Rymes and Ballettes mysdemeanours offences and abuses before menconed are Contrary and Repugnant to diveres and sondrye your Maiesties wholsome and necessarye lawes & statutes Ordynances laudable Customes and vsages of this your highnes Realme of England and give greate encouragement to other like evill disposed persones to doe & Comytt the like offences if these mysdemeanours be not worthilie punished and were and have bene Comitted and done since your highnes last generall and free pardon and are not pardoned and are⁴ Contrarye to the lawes and statutes of this your highnes Realme of England and the peaceable and quiett goverment of your Maiesties subiectes and doe deserve moste severe punishment to the feare and terrour of other your Maiesties subiectes whoe other wyse might be thereby encouraged to Comytt the like offences if these shold escape vnpunished and for that all such Conspiracyes practises offences and mysdemeanours are & ought principallie to be Redressed & punished in your Maiesties moste honorable Court of Starr chamber Maye it therefore please your moste excellent Maiestie the premisses Considered to grant vnto your said Subiecte your Maiesties most gracious writt & writtes of Subpena to be directed vnto the said Thomas Bevett Oryginall Bellamy Humfrey Clement Thomas Peate Edward Gressame Raphe Bird Iames Bird Thomas Harrison ^{Thomas kay John Harrison} Thomas Hill Iohn Harrison Abrahame Chambers John Still Christofer Huscrofte and to the said other persones when their names shalbe knowen which your subiecte prayeth⁵ maye be herein then incerted Comaundinge them and everye of them att a Certen daye and vnder a certen payne therein to be lymitted to be and personallie appeare before the lordes of your highnes moste honorable privy Counsell in your highnes Court of Starr chamber then and there to Answer the premisses and vpon there appearance to stand vnto and abide such end & order here in as to your highnes Counsell shalbe thought fitt & Convenyent and your said subiecte shall accordinge to his moste bounden dewty praye to god for your highnes in all health & happines longe to Raigne over vs /

Iacksone

<.... >

Thomas Cook

¹ Bevett et al v. Cooke] *Brian Cooke (1570-1653), of Wheaton, was elected one of the capital burgesses in 1617 and within the next seven years served as an alderman, chamberlain, and mayor of Doncaster. We do not know exactly what prompted the dispute in question, but he had been charged with similarly predatory lending in 1610; see Cooke v. Shepperde, National Archives, Kew, C2/Jsl/C25/10. Except for Original Bellamy little is known about the defendants in this case. Bellamy, of Lambcote Grange, in Stainton parish, is party to several cases. In Bellamy v. Fretwell in 1618 (STAC 8/7/17) two defendants accuse him of initiating his complaint in order to "releeve his desperate and decayed estate." Perhaps his financial need prompted him to borrow money from Brian Cooke, a loan that occasioned the libellous verses in this record.*

² Tuyworth] *Tudworth, in north Nottinghamshire*

³ vilde] *variant form of vile*

⁴are] *followed by two loops to fill the white space at the end of the line*

⁵prayeth] *followed by a smudged or blotted letter*

Appendix to the Bill of Complaint in Bevett et al v. Cooke

mb 2

In gryslye Plutoes Cell
Where Sarbarues¹ do wake
And Radamanthus dwell
and furious whippes doe shake
Devills on deceased men praye
but he I singe of here
Waistes lyvinge wyghtes awaye
the Divill of Doncaster

The feines² infarnall all
were angells once I knowe
But throughe their pride did fall
from heaven to hell belowe
ffrom heaven this never fell
nor ever will come there
But was Creat in hell
donne, divill of Doncaster

No catist³ paice Can houlde
with this great Alcamiste
Who turnes time into goulde
and silver when he liste
ffrom yeares moneths weekes and daies
he extracts mettle pure
*parasselciones*⁴ all yelde praise
to the devill of Doncaster

By mortgage, bills and bondes
like Conduite pypes he drawes
ffrom men their goodes & landes
into his grypinge Clawes
Money by monethe or weeke
paye double vse before
You maye here, if you seeke
the devill of Doncaster

That vse before hande tayne
he vnto others lettes
Which breedes new vse agayne
& that newe Coyne begettes
Like wheate amongst the Chaffe
With sounde Coyne rotten ware
Is commonlye putt of
by the devill of Doncaster

Like as the Vulture feedes
on damned Tytons⁵ brest
So by his cruell deedes
poore people be opprest
Whilest any bloud remaynes
this house leache will not sture
Blood suckinge still sustaynes
this devill of Doncaster

Suche Cruell Crocodyles
seeminge Compassionate
With fayned teares & Wyles
draw fooles vnto the baite
Then like Cheribdis⁶ gulfe
men & meanes they devoure
Not hells mouthe gapethe halfe
like the devell of Doncaster

Breake your bonde but a daye
a minit or an hower
Straighte you become a praye
vnto this tyrantes power
Briarus⁷ hundred handes
bryanus⁸ passethe fayre
A thowsande lymed wandes
settes the devill of Doncaster

Eche where he baites for fishe
touche but his silver hooke
fforthwith youar made a dishe
vnto this raveninge Cooke
No dogge doth byte so sore
as dothe an vsurer
No devill deludethe more
then the devill of Doncaster

Not winged Mercurye⁹
with his Conveniente fyne
Can matche in theverye
this nimble devill of myne
Bookes close he can Convey
throughe a stronge studye doore
Doore, boltes, and barrs obey
this devell of Doncaster

Beinge once to entertayne
some worthy prelet ate
Earthe pottes he dothe disdayne
and stole his neighbours plate
But by Chance beinge spyde
from thence he flitted farre
And ever since hathe plaide
the devill of Doncaster

With thefte he did begyn
with Cheatinge he procedes
To shorte his daies of sinne
growe apace hempen weedes
And all yonge gentlemen
that houldes your lyvinge deare
Before you bleede take heed
of the devill of Doncaster

¹Sarbarues] *Cerberus, the many headed dog that guards the gates to the underworld*

²feines] *fiends*

³catist] *for caitiff*

⁴parasselciones] *Paracelsians, followers of Paracelsus, a Swiss physician, astrologer, and alchemist (ca. 1493-1541)*

⁵Tytons] *Prometheus, punished by Zeus for stealing fire from heaven; the Titan was chained to a rock where an eagle devoured his liver, which grew back every day*

⁶Cheribdis] *Charybdis, a sea monster or powerful whirlpool in the strait of Messina off the coast of Sicily*

⁷Briarus] *one of three mythological characters with 100 arms and 50 heads who aided Zeus in his battle with the Titans*

⁸bryanus] *Brian, setting up the rest of the name of the target of the poem, 'cooke' in the next stanza*

⁹Mercurye] *god of commerce, financial gain, trickery, and thievery*

Answer of Defendant in Bevett et al v. Cooke

mb 1

< > no die maij <cto>

< iac> obi Rex

The Answer of Thomas Kaye one of the defendantes to the bill of Compleint of Briann Cooke Complainant

The said defendant by protestacion not acknowledging any thinge or matter Conteyned in the said Bill of Complaint Wherewith he is Chardged to be true in such sorte Manner and forme as the same be in the said Bill of Complainte alleadged. But he thinketh that the matters and thinges in the said bill Conteyned are invented and Incerted by the Complainante to vexe molest and troble and putt to greate Chardges and to Scandalize the

good name and fame of this defendante and to make this defendante to be accompted reported and thought to be A libeller and maker of libells, And nowe and at all tymes hereafter all advantages of exceptions to the incerteyneties and insufficiencies of the said bill of *Complainte* to him this defendante reserved and saved The said defendante answereth and saith that to the making or procuring to be made or publishinge the said libell or Rime to the said bill Annexed and to all or any of the said offences and misdemeynors Conteyned in the said bill of *Complainte* or in the said libell or rime to the said bill annexed in such sorte mannor & forme as they are expressed and sett forth he is not of them¹ or any of them Guiltie And therefore humbly prayeth to be dismissed this honorable Courte with his reasonable Costes and expences in this Cause wrongefully had and susteyned

Edward Fayerclough.

¹them] followed by a letter, smudged or crossed through

1614-15

Chamberlain's account **DA: AB6/2/156** DN14
f [3v] (18-21 December)

...
dec*
paid to 3 of the waite for their wages iij li.
...

1615

Chamberlain's account **DA: AB6/2/156** DN 14
f [7]

...
Item paid to the Quenes players¹ at mr Maiors² appointment xx s.
...

f [8] (*After 29 September*)

...
Item bestowed of the Quenes Players x s.
...

¹the Quenes players] *the players of Queen Anne (1574-1619), consort of King James I*

²mr Maiors] *William Armitage*

1615-16

Chamberlain's account **DA: AB6/2/157** DN15
p 10 (28 October)

...

Paid more to Mr Armitage vpon a noote that he had disbursed for
mony bestowed to the queenes plaers & to the queenes Children of
the Reuels to the Earle of dorsets¹ plaers the Earle of Sussex² plaers & v li. ix s. vj d.
for Carreinge iij prisners to yorke Castle and for mony paid to Thomas
Stockes & other mony he þ laid out about the milnes as doth appeare
by anoote from him

...

p 12 (25 November)

...

Paid to ~~three~~ ^{fower} of the Wates for their yeares Wages iij li. xv s.

...

p 16 (March)

...

Paid to Henry Iackson for mendinge the seate at maypoule xij d.

...

¹Earle of dorsets] *Richard Sackville, 3rd earl of Dorset (1589-1624)*

²Earle of Sussex] *Robert Radcliffe, 5th earl of Sussex (1573-1629)*

1617

Borough Courtiers

DA: AB2/1/1

DN08

f 68*

...

17*

there shalbe ~~fower~~ waites*

Item it is ordered and agreed by the Maior Aldermen and Capitall Bourgresses that there
shalbe in this towne fower Common Waytes and all of them to be parteners in all vayles
and duties, And that they shall from henceforth have yearely allowed them of this
Corporacion ^{^iij li. vj s.} Toward buying them Liverye Cootes of Stannell,¹ and that they shall
yearely provyde and weare their Cootes orderly euery Saboth and ffestiuall daye, And that
they nor any of them shall goe out of the towne either in Christmas or any other tyme
about three dayes without lycence firste obteyned of the Maior. And that they and euery of
them shall beginne their Watche the Mundaye after Michaellmas daye euery yeare, And
continew the same vntill Shrouetuisdaye following vpon payne to forfeit for any the
offences for euery tyme x s., And that they shall not directly nor Indirectly Guide and
Conducte Strangers from house to house to playe at mens houses. Provided if they
misdemeane theme selves in any respecte. Towards the Maior Aldermen and Burgesses
that they shall lose their Whole Wages.

1618

Borough Courtiers **DA: AB2/1/1** DN08
f 255v (23 March) (*Apprenticeship Agreement*)

...

Memorandum yt Anne Roodd daughter of Iohn Rodd by the consent of dorritty Rod her mother hath bound her self an apprentyce & Servant with ffranci<s>¹ Locker of doncaster musition to serve him And his wyfe after the manner <of> an apprentice and servant for and duringe the tearme of Seaven yeare<s> the ffirste daye of Maye laste ffrom then next ffollowinge ffullye to be donn<e> ffynissed and ended duringe all *which* tearme & tyme of Seaven yeares the sayd Rodd ys to be kept by the ffrauncis Locker with meat drinke lodginge ~~and~~ sufficient apparell for one of her Cawlinge.

per me Daniell Powell
Seriant at mace

...

¹ffranci<s>] *the last letter and the following corruptions noted are lost in the gutter*

1618

Ben Jonson's Foot Voyage **Chester Record Office: CR 469** DN17
f 8a-8b (8 Aug)

...

That night after supper wee sett one towards Donckester, Conducted thether by Mr Richardson and his two sonnes, Mr Wright that marryed his kinswoman, and the Mr of the Crowne¹ with a bagg pipe playing before vs.

Wee Came at one of the Clock at night to the Hind to Mr *Caruers*,² an Alderman and a Iustice of peace, *which* Mrs *Louet*³ his neigbour tooke very greivously, because shee lookd to have hadd, having beene by other gentlemen spoaken to before and will^d to prepare for *our* entertaynment.

The next morning one Sir *Thomas Blan*⁴ hearing of my gossips being there desired his acquayntance whom my gossip invited to dinner *with an othere gentleman with him.*

After dinner my gossip went to vizit Sir *William Anstrudder*⁵ who had invited him to dinner etc|

There wee found a long table full of gentlemen and Ladies, and Came tyme enough to the banckett In the meane tyme Came riding in Coach my Lord of Buckleugh,⁶ who made very much of my Gossipp Among the rest there was a Iustice of peace with whom my *gossip* made good sporte./

Here we dranck at Robin Hoods well.⁷/

That night with much adoe to get away Wee Came to Skelbrooke to Mrs *Copleys*⁸ where shee and the gentleman hir sonne gave vs great wellcome, being sent to before by the Countesse of Shrewsberry⁹ to that purpose

...

¹the Crowne] *one of Bawtry's major inns*

²Mr *Caruers*] *William Carver, innholder (of The Hind), burgess, and alderman at the time of Jonson's visit*

³Mrs *Louet*] *Elizabeth Levett, widow of Richard, a Doncaster alderman*

⁴Sir *Thomas Blan*] *Sir Thomas Bland, of Kippax Park, north of Castleford*

⁵Sir *William Anstrudder*] *William Anstruther of Anstruther, Fife, one of King James I's courtiers*

⁶my Lord of Buckleugh] *Walter Scott, 2nd Lord Buccleuch*

⁷Robin Hoods well] *a well on the side of the great north road (the A1) near Skelbrooke*

⁸Mrs *Copleys*] *Jane Copley, widow of John, whose eldest son later became recorder for Doncaster and Pontefract*

⁹Countesse of Shrewsberry] *Joan Ogle, widow of Edward Talbot, 8th earl of Shrewsbury*

1620

Mayor's poor accounts DA: AB6/5/1 DN18
f 3 (22 May)

...

Item to the kinges players the 22 of May xx s.

...

f 3v (18 June)

...

Item the 18 of Iune to the Lady Elizabeth players xiiij s. iiij d.

...

f 4 (22 July)

Item the same day <.....>

Reuells <.....>¹

the same day to them that playd the Actiue trickes having the kinges priuie seale
v s.

...

¹*second half of both lines torn away*

(28 July)

...

The same day to the Ringers at my Lord Archbushopps¹ being in dancaster ij s. vj
d.

...

(20 August)

...
Item the 20 of August to the kinges players xiiij s.
iiij d.

...

¹my Lord Archbushopps] *Tobias Matthew, Archbishop of York from 1606 to 1628*

1621

Parish Register **DA: P1/1/C1** DN11
f 72v* *(10 November) (Burials)*

...

10*
Iohn Lacie Musicion

...

1622

Parish Register **DA: P1/1/A1** DN19
f 83v *(2 June) (Baptisms)*

Iune 2*
Roberte sonne of Iohn Lacie Musicion deceased

...

1624-5

Mayor's account **DA: AB6/5/4** DN20
f 1v *(20 January)*

...

Item giuen to the kinges players the xxth of Ianuarij xx s.

...

1627

Chamberlain's account DA: AB6/2/160 DN21

p 4 (14 June)

...

14*

paid to mr Bradshawe¹ & his Company the Kinges players vpon Mr Maiors² warrant x s.

...

(31 July)

...

31:*

paid to mr Kempton³ & his Company of players vpon Mr Maiors note x s.

...

p 6 (17 October) (Rossington Court)

...

17:*

given to the musick by mr maiors appoyntment v s.

...

(26 October)

...

26:*

paid to mr Kempton & his Company of players vpon mr Maiors warrant x s.

...

(30 November)

...

30:*

paid to the waytes for their yeares wages in toto iiij li.

...

p 7 (24 December)

...

24:*

paid to mr Swinerton⁵ & his Company of players vpon mr Maiors⁶ warrant xiiij s.
iiij d.

...

¹mr Bradshawe] *Richard Bradshaw, possibly a member of Sir Edward Dudley's men, who appear in the records in 1595 and 1602, or possibly a different Richard Bradshaw travelling and performing in the 1630s. Bradshaw is not included in any of the lists of members of the King's men.*

²mr Kempton] *Robert Kimpton/Kempston seems to have been one of the leaders of the Children of the King's Revels company*

³Mr Maiors] *Dionis Wade, mayor 1626-1627*

⁴mr Swinerton] *Thomas Swinnerton, probably at this time still a member of the late Queen Anne's company, but he was not listed in the licence for that company dated 7 June 1628*

⁶mr Maiors] *Thomas Clarke, mayor 1627-1628*

1629-30

Chamberlain's account DA: AB6/2/161 DN22

p 2 (24 April)

...

24*

paid to Mr Parrie¹ one of the kings plaers² by Mr Wabster³ apointment as apeareth by his note
xx s.

...

p 10 (11 November)

...

11*

paid to ffrancis Ward for mending the suer at Robart Palmer house noake and about the mapoull and for stoufe for it
vj s. vj d.

...

p 11 (30 November)

...

30*

paid to the Wheats theare wadges
iiij li.

...

p 13 (9 January)

...

9*

paid to me lorde of Darbie⁴ saruants by Mr maior apointement as apeareth by his note
x s.

...

p 14 (19 February)

...

19*

Geuene to Dishley⁵ and his companie by Mr maior apointment as apeareth by his note
x s.

...

¹Mr Parrie] *William Perry, who, with Richard Weeks, was licensed to lead "'his Majestie's sworn servantes ... of the Red Bull company'" (Gerald Eades Bentley, The Jacobean and Caroline Stage: Dramatic Companies and Players, vol 2 [Oxford: Clarendon, 1941], p. 530), appears frequently in provincial records of travelling players.*

²the kings plaers] *players of King Charles I (1600-1649)*

³ Mr Wabster] *Peter Webster, mayor*

⁴lorde of Darbie] *William Stanley (1561-1642), 6th earl of Derby*

⁵Dishley] *leader of a company of players identified as, but only in 1609/10, Lord Edward Dudley's men. Given its several performances at Gawthorpe Hall, Lancashire, the company may have been a local troupe.*

1631-2

Mayor's account **DA: AB6/5/7** DN23
p 9 (6 February)

...

Item given the vjth of februarie to the kings players x s.

...

1632

Mayor's account **DA: AB6/5/7** DN23

f 6 (10 August)

...

Item given to the kinges Maiesties players the xth of August x s.

...

(12 September)

...

Item given the xijth of September to dishley & his companie that they showld not play in the townne v s.

...

1632-3

Chamberlain's accounts DA: AB6/2/162 DN24
f 2 (19-30 April)

...
paid to his Maiestes servantes of the Revells as apeares by a note x s.
...

f 3v (15 July)

...
15:*
paid to Mr Perry & his Compayny of players by Mr Maiors¹ appointment x s.
...

¹Mr Maiors] *William Squire*

1632-3

Mayor's/Chamberlain's account DA: AB6/2/162 DN24
f 4v (27 October)

...
27:*
...
paid to Robert Trimyngham for a post setting in the Scoole howse vnder a somertree
ij s. ij d.
..

f 5 (26 November)

...
26:*
paid to the waytes for their yeares wages iiij li.
...

f 5v (22 December)

...
22:*
...
paid to the waytes for playing to the Scollers v s.
...
paid to the queenes players¹ by mr maiors² apoyntment x s.
...

f 6 (19 February)

...
19:*

...
paid more to hym² to give to a company of players as apeares by the same note
vj s.

paid more to mr maior bestowed vpon my Lord Carlingforth³ servantes by the same note
x s.

...

(March)

...
paid to his maiestes players by mr maiors appoyntment vpon his note x s.

...

¹ queenes players] *players of Queen Henrietta (1609-1669), consort of King Charles I*

²hym] *Clerk of the Market, as noted in the preceding payment*

³Lord Carlingforth] *Barnham Smith, 1st Viscount Carlingford, son of Sir Robert Smith, high sheriff of Yorkshire.*

1633

Parish Register **DA: P1/1/C1** DN11
f 84v (16 September) (*Burials*)

...
16 Michaell Rollingson musicon

...

1636-7

Chamberlain's account **DA: AB6/2/163** DN25
[p] 6 (11 July)

...
paid mr meares by mr maior¹ & the Ioustises² appoyntment for the playe at Chrisenmas by
the scollers 02-00-00

...

[p] 12 (26 October)

...
26:*

geven to his maiesties players vppon mr maiors note 00-06-08

...

[p] 14 (5 December)

...

paid william Lacoocke & his ffellowes for theare yeares wages 04-00-00

[p] 17 (5 February)

...

5:*

geven to my lorde of Darbyes players as by mr maiors note appears ~~00-06-08~~ 00-06-08

...

(20 February)

...

paid mr meares for the comodie acted by the scollers as by mr m^a iors warrant appears
02-/
...

¹mr maior] *Peter Webster, mayor*

²the Ioustises] *the Justices*

1638-9

Recognizances

DA: AB5/2/68

DN26

f 1 (14 March)

...

Burgus doncaster Comiti Eboraci xiiij^o die Marcij Anno Regini Regis. Caroli Anglie parte
xiiij^o 1638

Edwardum Meriwether de dancaster Musitian *recognitio* se debere dicti domini
Regis Leuandum parte x li.

Charolum Stockes yoman et William Leycoke de eadem Musition vterque *recognitio*
debere parto v li.

The Condicion of this recognizance is such that if the aboue bounden Edward Meriwether
be and personally appeare before Mr Maior Mr Recorder and other his Maiesties Iustices of
the peace at the next Sessions of peace before them to be houlden for the Burrough
afforesaid at the Guildhall there And in the Meane tyme keepe the peace agenst all his
Maiesties Liege people and especially agenist William Blith and not departe without
Lycence that then parte or else parte

Captio et Cognotio Coram

William Elison Maior

ld pro procl¹

¹Id pro procl] in a later or different hand

1639

Borough Courtiers (Book 3)

DA: AB/2/1/3 DN27

p 73* (17 May)

Memorandum that it is agreed and Concluded by the Maior Aldermen and Capital Burgesses whose names are hereunder subscribed that In consideracion the Corporacion is now much Indebted, and so not able to continewe so Large Contrabucions and pensions as formerly therefore, they are agreed that the Lectures pension for the present shalbe xxv li. per annum, daniell Powell per Annum xl s., The Waites per annum xx s. a peece, the beadles xl s. per annum a peece and to give ouer begging or els be discharged. Brigges for keeping the Clocke to be paid by the Churchwardens, Newyeares giftes to be Wholy taken awaye, the Clarkes for Ringing the bell at six and eight of the Clocke to be paid by the Churchwardens, the Iudges Charges vi li. vj s. viij d. <.....> tyme to be alowed as formerly videlicet xiiij per annum Mr Recorder at the Courte of Trialls ij s. vi d. euery tyme and likewise ij s. vj d. for his expences at euery Sessions

(signed) William Ellison	(signed) William Ephiulle	(signed) Henrey Rylad
maior	(signed) Donis wade	(signed) thomas Lee
(signed) Iohn Stockes	(signed) R Roisten	
(signed) Robert Palmer	(signed) Richard Bradforth	(signed) William Holmes
(signed) William Lerellekin	(signed) Richard horne	(signed) Iohn Armitage
(signed) Robert Hamlinge	(signed) Samuell Stanclife	(signed) Iohanis Mawhood
(signed) Thomas Latham	(signed) Iohn Holmes	(signed) Edward shepperd
(signed) Matthew Smith		(signed) Rolf Isple

1640

Chamberlain's account

DA: AB6/2/164 DN28

f 4 (4 November)

...
4

pd given to his maiesties Trumpetters par order from Mr Maior as par his note appears
00 15 00

...

f 4v (25 November)

...
paid the Thwaites their wages 03 00 00

...

1640-1

Recognizances
mb 1 (5 March)

DA: AB5/2/69 DN29

Nouerint vniversi per presentes nos Petrum Leykocke de dancaster in Comitatu Eboraci Musiction Samuell Blith de eadem Mercer et William Leykocke de dancaster *predicti* Musiction teneri et firmiter obligari Willelmo holmes Nunc Maior villo dancastrie in Quadraginta libris bone et legalis monete Anglie soluendis eidem Willelmo aut certo atturnato *executoribus administratibus sive assignatibus* suis Ad quam quidem solucionem bene et fideliter faciendam obligamus nos et Quemlibet nostrum per se pro toto et in solidum heredes executores et administratores nostros firmiter per prentes Sigiles nostris Sigillat date Quinto die Marcij Anno Regni Regis Caroli Anglie &c xvjt^o1640

The Condicion of this obligacion is such that whereas the abouebounden Peter Leykocke is Admitted with his Wife and family by Mr Maior and the Corporacion of dancaster) to live dwell and Inhabitt within the said Corporacion, If therefore the said Peter Leykocke his wife Children and famely shalbe no way nor any waye Chardgeable to the said Corporacion. but that the said Corporacion shalbe from tyme to tyme saved harmeles losslesst and Indempnified from all Manner of Chardges that may arrise by Reason of the said Peter Leykocke his wife Children and famely Coming to inhabit here Then this obligacion to be void otherwise to remeyne in full force and vertue

Sealed and deliuered in the presence of

<t1>(signed) William: Leuett (signed) Richard Willerton (signed) Thomas Kaye.
<t2>(signed) Peter Leacocke (signed) Samuell Blyth: / (signed) William Leacocke

1642

Chamberlain's account DRO AB6/2/165 DN30
f 2 (21 June)

...

21*

Given to the Princes Trumpeters par Mr Maiors appointment 00 05 00

...

(26 June)

26.*

...

Given to j of the kings players par Mr Maiors appointment 00 10 00

...

f 4v (24 November)

...

24.*

paid the waites their wages

04 00 00

...

Document Descriptions

DN01

Court Roll

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 5/5/1/;1454-1509; Latin; vellum; 15 mbs; various sizes, mb 4 being 320mm x 265mm; fair condition although faded; the rolls are now bound in board and cloth.

DN02

Court Roll

Doncaster, DRO, AB5/1/1; 1520-42; Latin and English; paper; 131 folios; varying sizes, fol 127 being 150mm x 100mm; modern board and cloth binding of what were once loose rolls and fragments; repaired and in fair condition.

DN03

Visitation Order

Sheffield, SRO, Bacon Frank MS BFM 11 (3); 1548; English; paper; 4 fols; 300mm x 210mm; repaired but right margin badly damaged so that part of words are missing. While the beginning of the document indicates that these are instructions from King Edward VI to the clergy and laity of the Deanery of Doncaster, the names of the six visitors at the end of the document suggest some kind of visitation.

DN04

Rental Collector's Account Book

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/1/1; 1551-60; Latin; paper; 30 fols; 300mm c 220mm; poor condition but repaired; no cover; most leaves fragmentary.

DN05

Court Roll

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 5/1/2; 1543-59; Latin and English; paper and parchment; 225 mbs; varying sizes, mb 176 being 305mm x 205mm; fair condition; repaired and bound in modern board and cloth cover.

DN06

Rental Collector's Account

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/1/2; 1560; Latin; paper; 11 fols; 320 x 210mm; fair condition; lacks a cover; numbered by the scribe 1-11; last 5 fols blank.

DN07

Court Roll

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 5/1/3; 1559-69; Latin; paper; 302 fols; 310mm x 210mm; fair condition, repaired and bound in board and cloth; leaves numbered by folio in pencil. Title on spine: "Count Rolls, 1-11 Eliz. Vol IV."

DN08

Courtiers' Book

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 2/1/1; 1567-1685; English and Latin; paper; ii + 451 + 1 fols; 380 mm x 250mm; heavily repaired; some leaves fragmentary; originally bound as a blank book by M. Lob at Paul's Cross, London in 1567; now bound in board and leather with brass clasps and corners; numbered in pencil by folio; some original numbers remain but do not correspond to the modern numbering.

DN09

Court Book

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 5/1/5; 1572-73; Latin and English; paper; 98 fols; 312mm x 218mm; fair condition with marginal damage; vellum cover taken from a rubricated MS; fols 17-91 numbered 1-74 by the scribe; f 1v, 5v-7v, 11v, 20v, 29r-v, 47v, 58v, 70v, 80v, and last 8 fols blank.

DN10

Court Book

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 5/1/7; 1579-83; Latin; paper; 287 fols; 305mm x 210mm; board and cloth bound collection of court papers; title on spine indicates that they were originally rolls: "Court Rolls, 21-25 Eliz. Vol. V; repaired; fair condition.

DN11

Parish Register

Doncaster, DRO, P1/1/C1; 1557-1684; English; vellum; v + 157 + v fols; 400mm x 260mm; fair condition; repaired, the bank leaves at the front and back being paper; vellum pieces of the register pasted onto cut out paper leaves; board and ivory leather cover. Title on the cover: "Register of Burials 1557-1684. St. George Doncaster."

DN12

Chamberlain's Account

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/155; 1608-9; English; paper; 6 fols; 405mm x 155mm; fair condition; no cover; last 2 leaves blank.

new DN 13

STAC 8

Bevett et al v. Cooke

Kew, National Archives, STAC 8/113/3; 1613-14; English and some Latin; vellum; 3 membranes; written on one side only; generally good condition. Relevant items include:

mb 1: May [1614?]; English and Latin in heading; 225mm x 252mm (128mm x 229mm); good condition, except for the tear in the top left corner that results damage to the date; no endorsements. Contains the sworn answer of Thomas Kaye.

mb 2: nd; English; 356mm x 216mm (284mm x 179mm); stained along left side; tears at top left corner; no endorsements. Contains the allegedly libellous verses.

mb 3: 1614; English; 324mm x 602mm (296mm x 570mm); generally good condition; no endorsements. Contains the Bill of Complaint of Brian Cooke.

new DN14

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/156; 1614-15; English; paper; 14 fols; 415mm x 155mm; no cover; some damage; leaves formerly pinned together at top with a pin.

new DN15

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/157; 1615-16; English; paper; i + 11 fols; 405mm x 155mm; no cover; leaves stitched together into a booklet; numbered by pages 1-13; first folio blank; fair condition.

new DN16

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/159; 1617-18; English; paper; i + 14 + i fols; 400mm x 150mm; numbered by pages by the scribe 1-21, remainder blank and not numbered; sewn together into a booklet; fair condition, but some mouse damage in upper corners.

new DN 17

Chester, CRO, CR 469; 1618; English; paper; iv + 27 + i fols; 202mm x 155mm; originally unpaginated and unfoliated and bound by stitching along the fold; unbound for conservation in 2012, when the volume was rebound and foliated with pages in the wrong order.

new DN18

Mayor's Poor Accounts

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/5/1; 1619-20; English; paper; 6 fols; 410mm x 155mm; unbound, leaves pinned together with straight pins; some damage; unrepaired at time of inspection.

new DN19

Parish Register

Doncaster, DRO, P1/1/A1; 1557-1697; English; parchment; 182 fols; 330mm x 185mm; fair condition although board and leather binding is poor condition; fols not numbered. Title on the cover: "Baptisms 1557-1697".

new DN20

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/5/4; 1622-25; English; paper; 2 fols; 390mm x 150mm; poor condition, not repaired when viewed; fol 2 virtually destroyed; while most of the document is a miscellany of bills for 1622, there is also a fragment of a mayor's account for 1624-25.

new DN21

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/160; 1627-28; English paper; 7 fols; 390mm x 150mm; paper cover; fair condition; numbered by page by the scribe 1-8, the remainder blank; leaves formerly sewn but stitching now gone.

new DN22

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/161; 1629-30; English; paper; 8 fols; 390mm x 150mm; poor condition; not repaired when examined; numbered by pages 1-14; last leaf blank and not numbered.

new DN23

Mayor's Poor Accounts

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/5/7; 1631-32; English; paper; 6 fols; 395mm x 140mm; leaves stitched together with string; poor condition; unrepaired at time of inspection; no cover; first 4 leaves contain payments to poor people passing through Doncaster, the last 2 mayor's expenses for the year.

new DN24

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/162; 1632-33; English; paper; 12 fols; 400mm x 150mm; good condition; no cover.

new DN25

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/163; 1636-37; English; paper; 14 fols; 290mm x 150 mm; paper cover; very poor condition; unrepaired at time of inspection.

new DN26

Recognizances

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 5/2/68; 1638-39; Latin and English; 1 fol; 200mm x 155mm; good condition.

new DN27

Courtiers Book 3

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 2/1/3; 1625-1759; English and Latin; 870 pp numbered by page in a 17th-century hand; 415mm x 290mm; some marginal damage, but well preserved and repaired; rebound in board and leather with brass fittings like Book I.

new DN28

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/164; 1640-41; English; paper; 6 fols; 405mm x 155mm; poor condition; no cover; leaves stitched together with string.

new DN29

Recognizances

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 5/2/69; 1641; Latin and English; 1 fol; 310mm x 200mm; good condition, with three seals attached.

new DN30

Doncaster, DRO, AB. 6/2/165; 1642-43; English; paper; 12 fols; 400mm x 150mm; fair condition with some marginal damage; sewn together with string.