

Dictusque Hall tunc et ibidem judicialiter confessus est se recipere de prefata Joanna summam lviii^s monete Anglie. Unde domini monuerunt eundem ad solvendum et retradendum dicte Joanne seu eius parte dictam summam lviii^s citra eundem diem Februarii predictum, dicto Hall dissentiente.

Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Bathern contra Ludovicum Vaughan civitatis Gloucestrie. *Bathern appeared and, promoting the judges' office, gave in articles which the judges admitted. She then produced Vaughan to answer to these articles, and he was sworn, etc. She then asked that Vaughan should be required to enter bond of £40 that he would appear personally on 26 January and any other general court day. Vaughan alleged that he had been summoned to appear before the Council of the Marches of Wales on that day, so that he could not appear before the commissioners. The judges therefore ordered that he should give bond to appear at any general session of their court (26 January excepted) to hear definitive sentence, and that he should undergo examination before that day.*

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Officium dominorum contra Jenetham Morgan alias Phclipp de Llancauwe. The saide Jenette appered and was commaunded to appere heere this daie month to propose in wryting such cawse or matter as she can why she ought not to cohabite with her husbände. And monition to be geven to her husbände to be heere that daie.

Officium dominorum promotum per Willelmum Batt de Eastington contra Joannam Sheperde alias Batt eius uxorem.⁹⁶ The saide Joane appered and seemed not to be of perfect mynde and memorie; and being asked whether she was married to Batt, her husbände being then presente, she aunswered yea; and being asked where, aunswered at Estington; and being demaunded how manie yres she hath bene from him, and wherefore he went from her, she aunswered she cannot tell. And being asked whether her father had ever carnall knowledge of her bodie, she aunswered no. Whereupon the commissioners monyshed her to appeere heere the next courte and everie generall courte to be holden till a fynall order be taken herein, and they continewed this matter till the same daie.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Baron clericum rectorem de Sidington Marie. Kempe the messinger of this courte tooke an oath that he delivered the commissioners lettres to him. Whereupon he was preconized or called, and did not appeere; but his wyffe Agnes Baron appered and alleaged that her husbände ys not able to come, but tooke no oath. Wherefore the commissioners decreed an attachment against him to appeere on this daie fortnight, the xxvjth of Januarie, to aunswere to new articles preferred to this courte againste him. And the commissioners did onerate Henrie Manbye of Circester with an oath to depose the truthe to the saide articles etc, and they monished him to be examined before his departure, in the presence of the said Agnes.

Officium dominorum contra Edmundum Batt de Moreton Valence. The saide Edmund was enlarged (*until*) this daie. The saide Edmund appered, and being demaunded whether he can be contente to be a

⁹⁶ This case had begun before the Consistory Court, where it was already in progress on 28 June 1575. On 4 October 1575 the plaintiff secured a *significavit* against the defendant who had stood excommunicate for forty days (G.D.R. xxxvi—unpaginated).

trew subjecte and come to church, answered that he can be content to be a trew subjecte but not come to church. Whereupon the commissioners released the sureties of their bandes and commytted him to prison to the place from whence he came.

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Eisdem die et loco inter horas prima et tertia post meridiem eiusdem diei, coram reverendo patre domino Richardo Gloucestrie episcopo, Richardo Greene in legibus baccalaureo, Georgio Savage archidiacono Gloucestrie, et Thoma Perry, artium magistris, commissariis etc., in presentia Philippi Morgan registrarum etc.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Simondes de Longe Bridie in comitatu Dorset. The saide Symondes hath to appeere this daie and place by him selfe or his lawfull proctor for to receive an order etc. or else to bringe certificatt accordinge to an order heretofore taken etc. On which daie and place appered personallie one supposed to be called Dunsforde (one being asked his name, wolde not tell yt), and brought testimoniall from Mr. Hemerforde, which the commissioners perused but founde yt not to be accordinge to the meaninge of their order heretofore made. And they laide to the saide Dunsfordes charge the staieng or at least the searchinge of their messingers sent into Dorset shere. And he confessed that he searched the saide messingers (being sent thither from the commissioners) at my L. St. Johns howse; in the presence of John Willson, one of the messingers which he searched, alleaginge that the saide Dunsforde tooke from them their wrytinges and such other thinges and preceptes as they had in message to execute there, and offred to prove the same. Whereupon the commissioners commytted him to the common gaole of the countie of Gloucester, there to remayne close prisoners (*sic*) duringe their pleasures.

Officium dominorum contra Edwardum Arden et Aliciam Haynes de Mangersfelde, promotum per (*blank*) gardianum de Mangersfelde predicto. Comparuit personaliter dictus gardianus, and alleaged that the saide Edwarde and Alice did verie latelie enter the church of Mangersfeld, and there with yron barres, pickaxes and such other lyke tooles lid break downe a pew in the church there in the which Eliz. Springall, he wyffe of Thomas Springall, hath alwaies used to sitt, to the great disturbance of the parishe.⁹⁷ Whereupon the commissioners ordred that a lettre be sent to the saide Eliz. Springall to appeere heere the next courte to propose in wrytinge her interest in the saide seate; and they decreed an attachment againste the saide Edwarde Arden to appere the same daie; and they commaunded the saide Alice to appere here then also to see and heere an order taken aboute the same.

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Officium dominorum promotum per Monmowth contra Worrall. The commissioners at Monmowthes request did publishe the depositions of the wytnesses brought in on bothe sydes, and they decreed that the parties shall and maie have copies.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Dunsforde de Hooke in comitatu Dorset. The xiiiijth of Januarie in the yere of our Lorde God aforesaide, the reverend father Richarde, bushop of Gloucester, Laurence

⁹⁷ The charge on which this pair had originally been brought before the commissioners, on the preceding 19 May, had been bigamy (*Vide supra*, pp. 74-5).

Humffrey dean of the cathedrall church there, and Thomas Perry master of arte, commissioners, did sett their handes to a myttimus for the release of the saide Dunsforde, so that he did enter bande of Cth with John Gryllinge of Poorestocke to be bounde with him that he shall appeere heere the next courte being Thursdaie the ixth of Februarie, and to stande to the order of the commissioners.

Primo Februarii anno domini juxta computationem ecclesie Anglicane 1575, in quadam magna camera in domo honorandi viri domini Chandoes apud Coldartley,⁹⁸ ac coram eo et venerabilibus viris dominis Egidio Poole et Johanne Tracye militibus, commissariis regis, in presentia Philippi Morgan registrarii etc.

Officium dominorum promotum per Richardum Bridges armigerum contra Thomam Taylor clericum. Quibus die et loco domini commissarii ad petitionem dicti magistri Bridges decreverunt dictum Thomam Taylor vocandum fore personaliter se etc. aliquis viis et modis etc. ad comparandum apud Payneowyke die Martis viz. xiii^o die presentis mensis Februarii inter horas ix^{am} et xj^{am} ante meridiem eiusdem diei ad videndum et audiendum sententiam diffinitivam in hac causa ferri etc., cum intimacione quod sive venerit sive non commissarii intendunt procedere ad probacionem sentencie etc.

Die Lune xxvj^o die Februarii 1575, in superiore camera domini episcopi infra Le Lodge apud Payneswyke, coram reverendo patre Gloucestrie episcopo, domino Egidio Poole milite, Richardo Pate armigero, et Thoma Perry artium magistro, in presentia Johannis Jones notarii publici assumpti etc. propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii etc.⁹⁹

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Drewet et eius uxorem civitatis Gloucestrie. On which daie and place the commissioners decreed lettres to be sent to the mayor and sheriffes of the citie of Gloucester and the hedd men of the parishe of St. Nicholas in Gloucester where Drewett ys abydinge for to call the saide Drewett and his wyffe before them any daie and place betweene this and Sondaie next, and to examyne them why they will not have their chylde christened; and yf they or eyther of them shall not be conformable, then to commit them untill furdur order be taken for their enlargement etc., and to enter the howse and take the chylde and bringe yt to church on Sondaie next, and there the minister to christen yt, and the parentes to be there yf they will agree thereto.

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Die Jovis primo Martii anno domini cursu ecclesie Anglicane 1575, coram maiore civitatis Gloucestrie, Richardo Pates armigero, et Thoma Perry artium magistro, commissariis regis, in choro ecclesie cathedralis Gloucestrie, in presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii assumpti etc.

William Drewett and his wyffe appered and confessed that they had

⁹⁸ Coberley.

⁹⁹ This and the following entry of the session held on 1 March are inserted before the acts of the next "general" court on 9 February (*Infra*, p. 112). The writing remains unchanged from that of the preceding acts when Morgan was present. Jones acted as a notary and proctor in the Consistory from 1576. He became registrar in 1581 and held office until his death in 1630. He was mayor of Gloucester in 1597, 1618 and 1625, and member for the city in the parliament of 1604.

a man chylde borne heere in this citie iij weekes past and somewhat more, which she had then in her armes, and that yt ys not yet christened; and being asked why the chylde ys not christened accordinge to the order and appoyntment of the church of Englande, he answered that he hath not so much respect to the church of Englande as to the church of Christe. Whereupon they were demanded whether they wilbe contented to have their chylde christened in the parishe church of St. Nicholas in this citie by the minister there accordinge to the order of the church of Englande or by the vicar of the Trinitie being heere present: to the which they wolde in no wyse consent or agree. And being asked whether he know any in this dioces that he can be content shall christen his chylde, and he answered that he knoweth none in this dioces. And they being asked whether they will come to the common prair and ministracion of the sacramentes as yt ys now sett forth in the church of Englande, and they answered no. Whereupon the commissioners commaunded Kempe the messinger to carie him to the castle, there to remayne till he can fynde sureties to be bounde in xl^{li} that he and his wyffe shall appere before the privie counsell. They saide also that yf their chylde were taken from them by violence and christened that they wolde never receive yt againe nor take yt for their chylde any more.¹

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Die Jovis viz. ix^o Februarii 1575, in loco consistoriali Gloucestric, coram venerabilibus viris magistris Richardo Pate armigero et Thoma Perry, commissariis etc., in presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii etc.²

Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Payne contra Edwardum Hall de Barckley. The saide Hall was commaunded to paie lviii^s to the saide Joane at or before this daie. The saide Joane Payne appered and was readie to have received the money in case any had bene tendered, but Hall appered not.

Officium dominorum promotum per Morganum William contra Jenetham Phelipp de Llancawte. The said Jenett was commaunded to appere heere this daie and place to propose in wrytinge such cawse or matter as she can why she ought not to cohabite with her husbande.

Officium dominorum promotum per Willelmum Batt de Estington contra Joannam Sheperde alias Batt eius uxorem. She was commaunded to appere here this daie and place. At which time the saide William Batt appered personallie and did bringe in Maurice Holder, Thomas Fysher, Johannem Batt, Agnetem Batt et Agnetem Benbow for wyt-nesses upon articles by him alreadie into this courte exhibited, and desired to have them sworne, but he coulde not so have theim, for that Mr. Grene the Chauncelor wolde not come to the courte, so that there lacked a sufficient number of commissioners by reason of his absence.³

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Dunsforde de Hooke in comitatu Dorsett. The saide William ys bounde in C^{li} to appere this

¹ Cf. Further entry of proceedings against Drewett and his wife on this day (p. 114, *infra*).

² No orders could be given at this court in default of a quorum of three commissioners being present. *Vide infra*, Batt v. Sheperde.

³ No further entries concerning this case appear in G.D.R. xxxv; but in the court of the Metropolitanical Visitation commissioners on 22 June 1576 Batt's proctor produced a "composition" made in the matter before the "Royal Commissioners in the Marches of Wales" (G.D.R. xxxviii, 10).

daic and place. At which tyme the saide William appered personallie accordinge to the tenor of his bande, and delivered unto Mr. Pates a lettre sent from my L. St. John in Dorsett shere to the commissioners, which Mr. Pate caused openlie to be redd.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Drewett. Bounde in C^h to appere at the next courte followinge the expiration of viij weekes next after his enlargement. The saide Drewett was then and there present in courte and offred him selfe readie.⁴

Officium dominorum promotum per parochianos de Moreton Valence contra curatum ibidem. The parishners had certen wytnesses there readie to have theim sworne, but (*they*) were not because Mr. Grene wolde not come to the courte.

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Die Martis xiiij^o die mensis Februarii anno domini juxta cursum ecclesie Anglicane 1575, in ecclesia parochiali de Payneswyke Gloucestrie diocese, coram venerabilibus viris domino (*sic*) Egidio Poole et Johanne Tracye militibus, Richardo Grene in legibus baccalaureo, reverendi in Christo patris domini Richardi Gloucestrie episcopi etc. vicario etc., ac Thoma Perry artium magistro, ecclesie cathedralis Gloucestrie prebendario, commissariis regiis etc., in presentia Willelmi Meredith notarii publici in actorum scribam propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii per eosdem commissarios specialiter assumpti etc. judicialiter sedentibus.

Officium dominorum promotum per discretum virum Richardum Bridges armigerum contra Thomam Taylor clericum rectorem pretensum ecclesiarum parochialium de Hampton Monalium et North Cerney, Gloucestrie diocese. *Taylor was due to appear to hear sentence in the case. Philip Pricharde, curate of North Cerney, certified public citation of Taylor, but he did not appear and was pronounced contumacious. Chancellor Grene thereupon read and pronounced sentence of*

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deprivation against Taylor, and this was signed by the commissioners. Bridges asked for copies of the sentence, and called on Francis Kettleby gentleman, Philip Pricharde clerk, Thomas Payne of Uley, Thomas Kempe of Gloucester and others present to bear witness of the act.

Die Jovis primo Martii 1575, in choro ecclesie cathedralis Gloucestrie, coram domino maiore civitatis Gloucestrie, Richardo Pate et Thoma Perrie, commissariis etc., in presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii etc. assumpti etc. propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii etc.

In which daie and place the commissioners decreed a commaundement to be sent by them to the keeper of the castle of the countie of Gloucester to commaunde him for to bringe aswell Drewett and his wyffe as all other that were in his custodie for religion before the reverend father in God Richarde busshopp of Gloucester, Mr. Thomas Perry and William Shingleton at any daie and place by theim for to be appoynted, and that he shall release and sett as many of theim at libertie as wilbe bounde to appere before the privie counsell etc. accordinge to

⁴ *Vide supra*, pp. 110-11, for acts concerning Drewett on 26 February and 1 March 1575/6.

the tenor of their honorable lettres to them directed, there to aunswere etc.⁵

On which daie the saied commissioners decreed a lettre to be sent to the keeper of the castle for to bringe Drewett, Phelps, Whytinge and all others that are in the castle prisoners at their commaundement before the reverend father in God Richarde bushop of Gloucester, Thomas Perry and William Shingleton,⁶ her majesties commissioners, by vertew of a lettre sent from the privie counsell; and that yf they should enter bande to appeere before her majesties saide privie counsell, then he to sett so manye of them as shoulde enter the same bande at libertie; if not, they to retorne to prison againe. And they set their handes to (*the same*).

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Die Veneris xxii^o viz. die mensis Martii anno domini juxta cursum et computationem ecclesie Anglicane 1575, in loco consistoriali ecclesie cathedralis sancte et individue Trinitatis civitatis Gloucestric, coram reverendo in Christo patre domino Richardo Gloucestric episcopo, Richardo Grene in legibus baccalaureo eiusdem reverendi patris vicario in spiritualibus generali etc., Richardo Pate armigero, ac Thoma Perry artium magistro, commissariis regiis etc., in presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii etc. assumpti etc.

Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Payne contra Edwardum Hall de Barkley. The saide parties appered and saied that they were agreed. Whereupon the commissioners asked of Hall what the agreement ys. He aunswered that he wolde marie her so that they (*sic*) frendes can agree. And Payne was asked whether she had received lvij^s accordinge to the monicion geven to Hall; and she aunswered she received yt on Mondaie was sevenight. And the commissioners did swere Hall to aunswere truelie to such questions as they shoulde aske him etc.; and being asked whether he ever talked with any other woman touchinge mariage, and he aunswered that he had talked with one (*blank*) Stratford, a mayde of Farmecoate, but that there ys no contracte betwene them. And the commissioners asked them both whether they be free from all other and can be contente to contracte them selves together; they aunswered yea, so that their frendes can agree. And afterwarde the commissioners commaunded them both to appere heere the next courte to heere a fynall sentence or decree geven in this matter, unles the marriage be concluded betwene them before that tyme. And they appoynted the next courte to be the Thursdaie in Easter week, the xxvjth of April next.

On which daie and place the commissioners decreed new lettres and

⁵ Cf. Earlier entry of proceedings against Drewett and his wife on this day (p. 111, *supra*). The Privy Council had required the Bishop of London on 22 February to examine a group of puritans sent up from Gloucester. On 11 March it was reported that only one had conformed and the remaining six were referred to the Archbishop and the ecclesiastical commissioners. (*Acts of the Privy Council*, ix, pp. 88, 95).

⁶ Shingleton, who was a prebendary of Gloucester, was a regular surrogate in the Consistory Court and in that of the Archbishop's Visitors, 1576-7. In May 1577 he was commissioned as a Visitor himself to deal with business outstanding from the 1576 presentments (Lambeth Reg. Grindal, f. 110^v). This and the entry of 26 March 1576 (*infra*, p. 117) are the only references to his being a royal commissioner.

attachments against those parties that were commaunded to appere the last courte which was discontinued,⁷ by reason whereof their apparaunces were lost, in manner and forme as they were heretofore decreed.

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Parochiani de Moreton Valence contra Johannem Daie curatum ibidem. Mr. Evans producted Robert Parker of Standishe and Nicholas Hawlinge of Whetenhurste for wytnesses upon articles remayninge in this courte touching the saide Mr. Daies abuses; whome the commissioners did onerate with an oath for to aunswere trulie at the tyme of their examination etc., and they commaunded them to be examined before they departe; in the presence of Mr. Laurence, proctor for Daie, dissentinge and protestinge to use lawfull remedie againste the saide wytnesses and their saiences etc. And furder, at Mr. Evans petition, the judges did publishe the wytnesses brought in on his behalfe, and did decree copies to the parties, so that these wytnesses be firste examined; in the presence of Mr. Laurence dissentinge. And yt was by them decreed the wytnesses (*were*) not to be examined touching the buttes for that yt ys [*matter*] in comon law; Mr. Evans dissentinge.

Die Sabbati xxiii^o Martii 1575, coram reverendo patre Gloucestrie episcopo, Richardo Pate armigero, Richardo Grene in legibus bacca-laureo eiusdem reverendi patris vicario in spiritualibus generali, Georgio Savage archidiacono Gloucestrie, et Thoma Perie prebendario ecclesie cathedralis Gloucestrie, commissariis regis ad causas ecclesiasticas etc., in loco consistoriali Gloucestrie etc., in presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii principalis specialiter assumpti etc.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Drewett. On which daie and place the saide Drewett, holdinge his chylde in his armes, and his wyffe with hym, appered personallie. And he beinge demaunded and asked whether his chylde be christened, aunswere yt ys not. And being furder asked whether he wolde be contented to have his chylde christened accordinge to the order and law of the realme of Englande sett forthe by publike auctoritie accordinge to the booke of common praier now used and allowed, and whether he will deliver yt to the mydwyffe, he aunswere that he will not. Whereupon they commaunded the mydwyffe to take the chylde of him, and she laied her handes on yt to have received yt, but Drewett wolde not suffer her to have yt out of his armes, saicng that he will not deliver yt to be polluted. Whereupon the commissioners forewarned hym that they intende to commytte him to one prison and his wyffe to another, wysHINGE and commaunding him to deliver his chylde to his wyffe to remayne with her that she maie geve yt sucke in prison. And he saide he wolde carie yt with hym to prison and not deliver yt to his wyffe. And the acte which was speedd the first of this present Marche⁸ in this churche touching the saide Drewett was openlie redd; and the saide Drewett affirmed the same to be trew. Furder

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the commissioners commaunded Sir David Walter clerk then present to

⁷ 9 February, when there was no quorum owing to Chancellor Grene's absence (*Vide supra*, p. 112).

⁸ *Supra*, pp. 111, 114.

requyre the chyld of the saide Drewett, and to receive yt and to goe and christen yt; but he aunswered that the father of the chyld ought to requyre him for to christen yt. The commissioners furder asked the saide Drewett whether there be any bushop, preacher, reader or any wryter now allowed in the churche of Englande that he can be contente shalbe judge betwene hym and one that shall be by them appoynted to dispute with hym; and he aunswered that the worde of God shalbe judge, and that he cannot nor will not be contented with any other. The commissioners requyred him once agayne and commaunded him to deliver his chyld out of his armes unto his wyffe that she maie use yt and geve yt sucke, but he wold not, saieng he knew no cawse why he shoulde. And they commaunded him thryse to doe the like, but he wolde not in any case. The commissioners commaunded the church wardens of St. Nicholas in this citie where the saide chyld was borne, being present, in the quenes majesties name by vertew of her highness commission etc. for to take the chyld from him and to deliver yt to the mother then standinge by; but Drewett wolde not lett yt goe out of his armes, saieng that he hath the quenes majesties hande to warrante that he doth. Whereupon they commytted him prisoner to Ayles Gate within this citie of Gloucester, and his wyff to the keeper of the castle, being here presente.

xxvj^o Martii 1575 (*sic*). The commissioners, viz. Mr. Pate, Mr. Perry and Mr. Chauncelor, decreed that a release shoulde be made for Drewettes release from Ayles Gate and his wyffe from the castle; and commaundement sent to the sheriffes of Gloucester to deliver hym to Kempe the officer of this courte, and he to keepe him in safe custodie or carie him to the castle, there to staie untill he shoulde enter bande before the reverend father Richarde bushop of Gloucester, Thomas Pery and William Shingleton, her majesties commissioners, by vertew of a lettre sent from the privie counsell, for to appere before her majesties saide privie counsell; and upon entrance of the saide bande to be sett at libertie.

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Die Jovis xxix^o Martii 1576, in ecclesia parochiali de Tewxburie, Gloucestrie diocese, coram venerabile viro domino Johanne Tracie milite, Richardo Grene in legibus baccalaureo, et Thoma Perrie, commissariis regiis inter alios ad causas ecclesiasticas etc., in presentia mei Johannis Jones propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii principalis specialiter assumpti etc.

Officium dominorum promotum per Willelmum Hodges et Thomam Cole juniorem de Tewxburie Gloucestrie diocese contra Johannem Walker curatum de Tewxburie et Editham Plummer de eodem. On which daie and place appered personallie Thomas Cole, and wrote with his owne hande in the originall acte as followeth: I, Thomas Cole, am to approve that Edith Plummer ys a whore, and that with Mr. Walker. And the saide William Hodges wrote with his owne hande as followeth: And I, William Hodges, affirme the same to be trew (meaninge the saide Coles accusation), and am to approve the same; in the presence of the saide defendantes denyeng the premisses to be trew. Whereupon the saide promoters producted William Brayforde, Anne his wyffe, Laurence Hurlocke clerke, Gyles Tovyce, Richarde Felde, Robert Grene, Richarde Kynnarde, William Coxo, William Trygge, Thomas Bradley, Roger Rogerson, Richarde Chesshere, Elizabeth Mason, Elinor Cole, Elizabeth Dennyng, Margaret Morrrys, Thomas Kynnersley and

Robert Hone for wytnesses: whome the commissioners at their petition onerated with an oath to depose the trueth etc., and commaunded to be examined before their departure; in the presence of the saide Walker dissentinge and protestinge to speake against theyr deposicions and persons at tyme and place convenient. And the commissioners proceeded to the examination of them immediatlie. And the saide William Brayforde and Anne his wyffe and James his sonne (who was not examined because he was somewhat younge) preferred to the commissioners three severall bills conteyninge in effecte, as they saied, such thinges as they had to saie touchinge the foresaide accusations, which by vertew of their oathes they saied were trew; and they were furder examined as appereth by their examinations. Which examination ended, the commissioners sealed the deposicions of the wytnesses and all other bills and exhibittes on eyther syde preferred, with their severall seales, and tooke the deposicions of the wytnesses from the register, and Sir John Tracey tooke them and saied he wolde keepe them.

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Die Jovis xix^o Aprilis 1576, in palacio episcopali Gloucestrie vulgariter dicto Le Wyncarde, coram reverendo patre Gloucestrie episcopo, Thoma Powell legum doctore, eiusdem reverendi patris vicario in spiritualibus generali moderno,⁹ et Thoma Perry artium magistro, prebendariis etc., in presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii principalis etc. assumpti etc.

On which daie and place appered personallie William Drewett, William Phelps and Thomas Jerratt, prisoners at their commaundement. And the commissioners, understandinge that Drewett had entred bande to appere before the privie counsell, did decree him to be released; and Mr. Perry delivered him ^{vs} towards his charges. But the saide Phelps and Jerrarde (*sic*) wolde in no wyse enter bande as he had done unles their charges might be paied, nor yet be conformable in matters of religion. Whether (*sic*) they committed them to Ayles Gate, there to remaine duringe pleasure etc.

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Die Jovis xxvj^o viz. die mensis Aprilis anno domini 1576, in loco consistoriali ecclesie cathedralis sancte et individue Trinitatis civitatis Gloucestrie, coram reverendo in Christo patre domino Richardo Gloucestrie episcopo, Thoma Powell legum doctore, eiusdem reverendi patris vicario in spiritualibus generali, Richardo Grene in legibus baccalaureo, et Thoma Perrie prebendario in ecclesia cathedrali Gloucestrie predicta, in presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii principalis etc. per commissarios predictos specialiter assumpti.

Officium dominorum contra Elizabetham Smythe viduam de Nympsfelde in comitatu Gloucestrie et Willelmum Mabbett eius famulum, promotum per Walterum Bower clericum rectorem ibidem. Pro injectione violentes manus in clericum. Comparuit dictus Walterus Bower clericus et allegavit se tradidisse litteras dominorum judicantium eidem Eliz. Smythe, factaque publica preconizacione dicte Eliz., non comparente, domini decreverunt attachiamentum etc. quod dominus episcopus decrevit non extrahendum citra proximam.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Twyninge et Aliciam Horwood

⁹ Powell succeeded Grene as Chancellor in this month.

viduam de Payneswyke in comitatu Gloucestrie.¹⁰ Comparuerunt personaliter dicti Johannes et Alicia, ac submittentess se correctioni dominorum judicantium fassi sunt crimen objectum. Unde domini judicantes predicti eodem die in clausura magna ex parte occidentali injunxerunt eis penitentiam sequentem, viz. That on Sondaie next they shall come into their parishe church of Payneswyke at the end of the seconde lesson with whyte sheetes aboute them and a whyte sticke in eyther of their handes, and there to stande directlie before the place where the parson, vicar or minister there shall reade his service, and to declare to the people their follie together, and that they are hartelie sorie therefore, and to desire God to forgeve them, and the people to praie to God with them for forgevenes for them. And to doe the verie like penaunce in the parishe church of Strowde on Sondaie next come sevenight. And to certifie of the doinge hereof under the handes of the minister, churchwardens and ij of the sydesmen of eyther of the saide parishes at the next courte.

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Officium dominorum contra Edwardum Arden et Aliciam Haynes de Mangersfelde. The messinger Kempe confessed that he had attached the saide Edwarde but had taken no bande for his apparaunce. Whereupon the commissioners decreed a new attachment for him. Afterwardes the same daie before the saide commissioners in the cloyster at Gloucester appered the saide Edwarde, and saied that the saide Alice was runne from him with another, and that he wolde never come more at her. Whereupon the commissioners decreed and ordred that he shoulde enter bande of Cⁱⁱ to the quenes majesties use never to come (at) or use the saide Alice Haynes companie unles it were in church and open markett.

Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Payne contra Edwardum Hall de Barckley. They were both commaunded to appere here this daie and place to receive an order. The saide Edwarde Hall appered and a lettre was delivered to the commissioners from Jo. Payne. Whereon the commissioners asked Hall whether he be made suer to the saide Joane. He answered no. And the saide Joane was preconized but appered not. Wherefore the commissioners decreed out attachment for her apparaunce at the next courte. And they commaunded the saide Edwarde to appere heere then also, being the xth of Maie next, to see and heere a finall order made between them.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Smythe de Tetburie, promotum per (blank). Kempe the messinger confessed that he had attached him but had taken no bande for his apparaunce; but Thomas Blysse, Sir Gyles Pooles man, had geven his worde for him to appeere at this tyme.

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Officium dominorum contra Johannem Baron clericum rectorem de Sidington.¹¹ The saide Baron appered personalie and submitted him

¹⁰ Twyninge was presented at the Metropolitan Visitation of this year for incontinence with Alice "Horropp"; but when the case was on the visitors' agenda in November-December it was reported to have been dealt with by the Royal Commissioners (G.D.R. xl—Stonchouse Deanery).

¹¹ Baron had been charged before the Consistory Court with failure to subscribe to the Articles under the act 13 Eliz. c. 12 as long ago as September 1573 (G.D.R. xxvii, 799 seqq.). His case had first come before the Royal

selfe to the correction of this courte. Whereupon the commissioners commaunded him to attende and to take with him an order in wrytinge for to doe in the churche at Circester on Sondaie come sevenight at service tyme. And afterwarde yt was ordered that he shall goe into the churche at Circester on some Sondaie to be assigned unto him by the bearer hereof at service tyme; and there standinge before the priest at the gospel tyme to declare openlie to the people that whereas he hath affirmed, mainteyned and spoken divers wordes tendinge to the dispraise and infamie of Mr. Stanton, Mr. Mowyar, Mr. Kyrke and Mr. Alder, preachers, and that the tenne commaundementes were but ceremonies of law, and that he had said masse and did trust to lye to sayc masse againe, and that the gospel ys not the worde of God but doctrine of the churche, he ys hartelic sorie that he hath ever so affirmed or reported, and doth recant and revoke his saide wordes, desiringe all that he hath offended in that behalfe to forgeve him and to praie to God for him, and that he will never offende in the like hereafter.

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Die Jovis decimo viz. die mensis Maii anno domini 1576, coram reverendo in Christo patre Richardo Gloucestrie episcopo, Thoma Powell legum doctore, eiusdem reverendi patris vicario in spiritualibus generali, Richardo Pate armigero, et Richardo Grene in legibus baccalaureo, commissariis regis inter alios legitime deputatos (*sic*), in presentia Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii principalis etc. in actorum scribam assumpti.

Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Payne contra Edwardum Hall de Barckley. On which daie and place the saide Joane and Edwarde appered personallie. In whose presence the commissioners commaunded aswell the articles in this matter on the behalfe of the saide Joane preferred into this courte as the deposicions of the wytnesses examined upon them and all other exhibitos or other thinges done in this cause to be redd. Which being advisedlie considered of by the commissioners, they commaunded the parties to attende and appeere heere betwene ij and iij of the clocke this daie to heere finall sentence geven in this matter. At which howre the saide parties appered personallie, and the saide Joane did desyre to have sentence geven and justice done, in the presence of the saide Edwarde desyring justice. Whereupon the commissioners decreed sentence to be geven, but staid the gevinge or reedinge of yt till the next courte, which shalbe this daie sevenight the xvijth of Maie. And they commaunded them to appeere heere the same daie to heere and see yt redd and geven in wrytinge: in the presence of the saide Joane, who promised to consent and agree to the gevinge of the saide sentence at the next courte, whether she appere then or no.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Smyth de Tetburie, promotum per Katherinam Jones de Gloucester. Kempe the messenger or the officer of this courte confessed that Smythe was with him to daie. Whereupon the commissioners upon deliberate heering and considera-

Commissioners on 14 April 1575, and orders had been given for his arrest on 30 July (*Vide supra*, pp. 69, 77, 79, 86, 90). On 11 July 1579, however, a case against Ann Harsolde of Siddington was dismissed because Baron (described as "clericus gallus"), who had promoted it, had fled the country (G.D.R. xliv, f. 1r).

tion of this matter commaunded him to bringe forthe Smythe before them at iij of the clocke this afternoone or before, upon paine of xl^s. And they decreed him to be committed untill he shoulde paie the same. At which howre the said Smythe appered personallie. And the commissioners decreed that he shoulde enter bande of

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xx^{li} to the quenes majesties use that he the saide Smythe shall appeere personallie before the right worshipfull Mr. D. Powell, chauncelor to the bushop of Gloucester, on Tusedaie next being the xvth of this presente Maie, for to aunswere to the saide Katherine in a cause of matrimonic; and furdur that he shall appeere before the saide Mr. D. Powell every general courte daie by him to be holden touchinge the saide matter untill a finall sentence or decree be geven by the saide Mr. D. Powell in the same.

Officium dominorum contra Elizabetham Smythe viduam de Nymphelde et Thomam Mabbett eius famulum, promotum per rectorem ibidem. For beatinge the parson etc. Promise made for the saide Elizabeth Smythes appaurance. At which daie she appered not, nor her saide servaunte. Whereupon an attachment was decreed againste them for their appaurance the next courte. And afterwarde in the afternone the commissioners at the humble request of one Mr. Cheney and for . . . speciaall causes them movinge, they did decree the saide attachment not to be taken out before the next courte . . . shall then make faithe that she shalbe at London at the time . . . sewte, that then she shall have furdur daie, the premisses notwithstandinge.¹²

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Persons et Agnetem Coxe de Rodmarton. For begettinge the saide Agnes with chylde, and contractinge him selfe to her and to one Margarett Lustie. On which daie and place the saide Persons appered personallie and confessed that he had contracted him selfe to the saide Agnes Coxe and gotten her with chylde and that he will marie her; and furdur that he had talked with the saide Margarett Lustie of mariage to be had with her. Whereupon the commissioners ordered that he shall enter bande of xl^{li} to the quenes majesties use to appeere before the commissioners every generall courte to be holden by them touchinge him till the end of this matter, and that he shall stande to the order of the commissioners; and lettres to be sent to the women in the meane space to appeere heere the next courte to see what they have to saie for them selves againste him in the saide matter. And he was commaunded to appeere heere the same daie also, being the xvijth of the present Maie.

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Officium dominorum promotum per parochianos de Moreton Valence contra Daie curatum ibidem. Mr. Evans, proctor for the parishioners, did desire lettres to be sent to Daie the curate to appeere the next courte to see sentence geven in this matter, which the commissioners at his petition did decree.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Twyninge et Aliciam Horwood de Paynswyke. Ad certificandum de peractione penitencie.

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Die Jovis xvij^o viz. die mensis Maii anno domini 1576, in loco con-

¹² Entry partly faded and illegible.

istoriali Gloucestrie, coram venerabilibus viris magistris Thoma Powell legum doctore, reverendi in Christo patris et domini domini (sic) Richardi permissione divina Gloucestrie episcopi vicario in spiritualibus generali, Richardo Pate armigero, et Thoma Perry in artibus magistro, prebendario in ecclesia cathedrali Gloucestrie predicta, commissariis regis etc., in presentia Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registarii principalis in horum actorum scribam specialiter assumpti.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Persons. On which daie and place appered Agnes Coxe and Margaret Lustie, and alleged that cyther of them ys contracted to the saide Persons. But the saide Persons being present denyed that he ys contracted to the saide Margaret Lustie. Whereupon the commissioners upon consideration of this matter did decree that he the saide Persons shall enter bande of xli^{li} to her majesties use that he shall appeere before the chauncelor to the bushop of Gloucester or any other that shall use the jurisdiction of the dioces of Gloucester at the next courte by them to be holden,¹³ and so from courte to courte till a fynall ende be taken touchinge the same, to aunswere to the saide parties in causes of matrimonic; and that he shall not frequent the companie of the saide Agnes Coxe before the saide final order be taken there, unlesse yt be amongst companie in churche or open markt; and also that he shall not departe this dioces to dwell before the saide order be taken with him.

Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Payne contra Edwardum Hall de Barckley. On which daie and place the saide Hall appered, and one Christofer Hathwey of Barckley who brought a lettre sent (as he saide) by the saide Joane Payne to the commissioners. And being asked who delivered him the lettre, he saide that Joane Payne delivered yt him in the presence of one Legg in this respondentes howse. Whereupon they commaunded him to attende till the courte were done. And the commissioners, havinge considered advisedlie of the merites of this cause and the prooffes alreadie made, did reade and geve a sentence diffinitive in wrytinge in this matter, wherein they pronounced the saide Edward Hall and Joane Payne to be lawfull man and wyffe, and

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other things as in the saide sentence at large ys conteyned. To the which sentence the saide commissioners sett their handes: in the presence of the saide Hall desiring justice and appealingge from the saide sentence to the quenes most excellent person etc., and protestinge to use all other waies and meanes provyded by law for redresse of the same. And they decreed that Hall before his departure shoulde enter bande with a sufficient suretie to appere heere on Thursdaie the xixth of June to heere furder order taken with hym: which because he refused to doe, the commissioners decreed him to be sent to the castle, there to staie till he shoulde so finde sureties. And they sett their handes to a mittimus for him, which was delivered to Kempe, and Hall was sent by him with yt to the castle.¹⁴

¹³ The Archbishop's Commissioners for the Metropolitan Visitation took over the diocesan jurisdiction and held court on 22 June 1576, when Persons duly appeared before them (G.D.R. xxxviii, 12).

¹⁴ Edward Hall and Joan Payne were presented before the Archbishop's Visitors for incontinence this year, but both failed to appear before the Visitors' primary court (undated) and were excommunicated (G.D.R. xl—Dursley deanery).

Officium dominorum promotum per parochianos de Moreton Valence contra magistrum Daic curatum ibidem. The commissioners in consideration that they are informed credible that Mr. Daic had knowledge of the lettre decreed for his apparaunce, and not appered, did decree an attachment for his apparaunce againste the next courte; and at the humble request of the parishioners decreed a lettre to be sent to Daic the curate aforesaide to permitte theim quietlie in the meane space to make and use buttes in the place within or by the moundes of the churchyarde of Moreton as they had heretofore done, without any disturbance or resistance on his parte, untill the gevinge of a fynall sentence betwene theim in this matter. And they decreed that informacions in the meane space be geven to Mr. D. Powell touchinge this matter, and he to informe the rest his colleeages of the state of the matter at or before the same daie.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Twyninge et Aliciam Horwood de Payneswyke. The commissioners for certen speciall considerations did fyne the saide Alice at xl^s and the saide John at xx^s to be levyed of theim before the next courte by Mr. D. Powell to the quenes majesties use. And that the minister at Payneswyke shall at service tyme some Sondaie before Whytsontyde declare the premisses openlie in the churche to the people there assembled;

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and that the saide offence ys not cloked for bryberie, but that they are so fyned as a punishment for their saide great offence.¹⁵

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Smythe de Tetburie. The commissioners declared that their meaning was the last courte that Smythe shoulde enter bande to appeere heere this daie and every generall courte to be holden untill order shoulde be taken for his punishment for his offence commytted; and therefore they decreed a new attachment for him againste the next courte.

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Die Jovis xxj^o viz. die mensis Junii 1576, in loco consistoriali Gloucestrie, coram reverendo patre domino Richardo Gloucestrie episcopo, Thoma Powell legum doctore, eius vicario in spiritualibus generali, Richardo Pate armigero, et Richardo Greene in legibus baccalaureo, commissariis regiis inter alios etc., in presentia Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii principalis etc. specialiter assumpti in actorum scribam.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Horne et Elizabetham Nicholls de Byssesley. Ipse impregnavit eam.¹⁶ Jo. Lewys¹⁷ made faithe that he delivered the lettre directed to theim to the saide Horne. Whereupon he was preconized, and because he appered not the commissioners decreed him to be attached againste the next courte.

¹⁵ Cf. the charges of wholesale bribery brought against Chancellor Powell in 1579 (*Church Quarterly Review*, cxxviii (1939), 106-10).

¹⁶ Horne and Nicholls had failed to appear before the Consistory Court to answer to this charge on 26 March 1575 and subsequently (G.D.R. xxxi, 461 *seqq.*).

¹⁷ One of the Consistory Court apparitors. He was presented before the Archbishop's Visitors this year by Newnham parish for taking bribes: "for recevinge money of Robert Wyllmotes and . . . takinge a vyrkin for a brybe to winck at Alice Bounde" (G.D.R. xl—Forest deanery).

Officium dominorum contra Richardum Killocke de Upton. For receivinge the saide Elizabeth into his house. The saide Killocke appered, and he was commaunded to enter bande of xlii to her majesties use to appeere at the next courte when Horne shoulde come in.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Percyvall et Joannam Boxe de Tetburie.¹⁸ Ipse impregnavit eam. Jo. Lewys retulit eum abiise ex hac diocesa.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Olyver de Stowe et Annam Greene. Ipse impregnavit eam. The saide Oliver apperinge confessed the crime; and being asked whether he can be content to marie her and make the saide Anne Greene amendes that waie, aunswered yes, simplie without any condicion before all the courte. Whereupon the commissioners commaunded him to marie the saide Anne before the xxjth (sic) of Auguste next, and to certifie the doinge thereof the next courte after to be holden heere under the handes of the curate and churchwardens of the parishe where they shalbe maried.

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Officium dominorum contra Thomam Woodwarde de Twynge, promotum per Elizabetham Stake de eodem. Ipse impregnavit eam. The parties appered both personallie; and after debatinge of the matter the commissioners commaunded Woodwarde to enter bande of xlii to the quenes use to appeere heere the next courte and every other courte till an ende shoulde be taken in this matter. And they onerate the saide Elizabeth with an oath to aunswere trulic to such thinges as she shoulde be examined of at the tyme of her examination, and commaunded her to be examined before her departure.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Webley de Brockworth et eius concubinam et Walterum eius fratrem de Flaxley. The saide Thomas appered and was commaunded to appeere at the next courte by Mr. D. Powell sittinge judicallie, and his brothers apperaunce respected also till that daie.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Hayle de Westbury. The saide Hayle appered, and the commissioners upon sight of an acte that he shewed, perceavinge the matter to depende before Mr. Chauncelor, dismissed him to be ordered there as yt ys begon.¹⁹

Officium dominorum contra Richardum Gyles et Joannam Hellow eius concubinam. Impregnavit eam. The saide Gyles appered and confessed the crime and that he hath a wyffe alyve, and that he hath made satisfaction to her that he gott with chylde. But the commissioners havinge considered this matter did flyne him at xx nobles to be paide to the quenes use. But afterwardes they were content that he shoulde paie iiij markes in hande and iiij nobles at the next courte:

¹⁸ Percyvall had been cited, with one Elizabeth Bislye, to appear before the Consistory Court on an incontinence charge on 20 January 1573/4, and this case was still unconcluded in May 1575 (G.D.R. xxxi, 102, 213, 453, 504). Evidently he returned to the diocese later, as a paper pinned into the Consistory Court act book under date 23 April 1577 reads: "I pray you remember . . . that John Percyvall of Tedburie be not signified for that he is ready to be absolved" (G.D.R. xxxvi—unpaginated).

¹⁹ Hayle, accused of getting Joan Higges with child, had failed in purgation before the Consistory Court on 9 May 1576, and had been given further term in which to purge himself (G.D.R. xxxvii, f. 138).

which he paid, and Mr. Doctor Powell hath received yt.²⁰ And he the said Gyles and one Mr. Blomart promised to paie the said xxvjs viij^d at the next courte.

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Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Payne contra Edwardum Hall de Barckley. Kempe the messinger alleaged that the saide Edwarde Hall the younger being committed to his charge brake from him, and that as he followed to have taken him Christofer Hathwey and Edwarde Hall thelder hys father of Barckley were like to have slayne him and reskewed the saide Edwarde from him. Whereupon the commissioners decreed an attachment to be directed to the maior, baylics etc. to attache every of them on paine of Clⁱ to appeere the next courte after their apprehension to aunswere to the premisses.

Officium dominorum promotum per parochianos de Moreton Valence contra Daie curatum ibidem.²¹ On which daie and place her majesties sayd commissioners uppon deliberate hearinge of this matter, for unitie sake and to avoyd furder troubles and inconveniences that were like to ensue, with consent of both parties then present did order and decree as followeth, viz. That the sayd John Daye curate of Moreton Valence aforesayd and Mr. James Fowler farmer to the prebendarie of Moreton aforesayd, being personalie present, shall permitt the parishioners of Moreton Valence aforesayd to have, use and sett butts in the place where they heretofore used to stande in or by the church yarde there time out of minde as they were wont to have before, untill the title of the grounde be tried.²² And that the parishioners aforesayd, whereof divers were present, in consideration that the sayd John Daie promised this court that neyther he, his wife, his children, nor anie other by his or theyr procurement should interrupte them in the use of their said buttes, shall permitt and suffer the sayd John Daie quietlie to hold, occupie and enjoye the one halfe of his garden which standeth betweene his house and the churchyarde, to be sett out and allotted by the churchwardens and fower honest men of the same parishe to be indiferentlie nominated on eyther parte, untill the title of the foresaid grounde where the buttes stande be tried. Yt was further ordered and decreed that, uppon prooffe to be made in this courte by two witnesses that the said John Daie, his wife, children or anie of them, or any other by their procurement, shall disturbe or interrupte the said parishioners or any of them in the use of the said buttes, that then he the said John Daie shall loose the whole benefitte

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of his garden, and the same, by order from this courte first to be had, altogether to be pulled upp. To which order and decree the parties aforesaid condiscended, consented and agreed.

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Die Jovis quinto Julii 1576, in loco consistoriali Gloucestrie, coram reverendo patre domino Richardo Gloucestrie episcopo, Thoma Powell eius cancellario, et Thoma Perry artium magistro etc., commissariis, in

²⁰ One of the charges against Powell in 1579 concerned "fines due to her majestie out of the commission court received and spent by D. Powell" (*Church Quarterly Review*, cxxviii (1939), 105).

²¹ This entry is in a different hand from the preceding ones.

²² Cf. p. 110 *supra*, where this is said to be matter for common law.

presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii publici propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii principalis etc. in actorum scribam assumpti.

Officium dominorum contra Richardum (*sic*) Horne et Elizabetham Nicholls de Strowde.²³ For gettinge her with chylde. The said Horne appered and confessed his faulte and submitted him selfe to the correction of this courte. Whereupon the commissioners did order and decree that on Saterdaie next he shall doe penaunce, with a whyte sheete aboute him as other penitentes use to doc, in the markett heere at Gloucester between xij and one of the clocke, and there he publicquie to confesse his faulte; and doe the like penaunce at the markett at Strowde the next markett daie, and also in the churche there on Sondaie next, and to confesse his faulte every of those daies and to desire the people to praie to God with him for forgevenes; and to certifie the next courte after of the doinge of this penaunce.

Officium dominorum contra Richardum Kilocke de Upton. For receavinge the foresaide Elizabeth into his house. He was bounde in xliⁱⁱ to the queens majesties use for to appeere. On which daie and place he was called and publicquie preconized divers and sondrie tymes, but came not into courte nor appered accordinge to his bande. His bande decreed afterwarde to be cancelled.

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Officium dominorum promotum per Elizabeth Stake contra Thomam Woodwarde de Twyninge. The said parties appered personallie, and the saide Woodwarde saide that he wolde prove that some others have had carnall knowledge of the saide Elizabeth, and that he can and will prove the same the next courte; which the commissioners assigned him to doe, or else to paie her charges.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Webley de Brockworth. The saide Webley appered and confessed his faulte with one Joane Marten, and submitted him selfe to the correction of this courte, saing that he ment to have married her and that she ranne awaie with another man whereby he was prevented. Whereupon the commissioners upon consideration of the premisses commaunded him to paie to the churchwardens of Brockworth xiiij^s iijij^d on Sondaie next to be distributed by them to the poore; and (*they*) to certifie under their handes of the (*receipt*) thereof the next courte.

Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Payne de Barckley contra Edwardum Hall. Christofer Hathwey was brought into courte by the constables of Barckley, and Kempe the messenger made faithe that he the saide Hathwey reskewed Edwarde Hall the younger from him by Barckley when he and the constables of Barckley were about to take him. And the constables being present affirmed that as they wayted to take the saide Hall, when the messenger mett them, the saide Hathwey was with him with a staff etc. Whereon he was committed to the castle, there to staie till the next courte.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Welshe de Badgeworthe, promotum per Agnetem Edwardes. The commissioners, being informed that the saide Welshe notwithstandinge his precontracte with the saide Agnes intending (*sic*) for to marie with one Grenewaies daughter of Cheltnam, decreed him to be inhibited publicquie in the churche, and the vicar of Badgeworthe also not to marie him, etc.

²³ "Bysseley" struck through.

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Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Reynoldes contra Jacobum Rose de Stowe.²⁴ The saide parties appered, and the saide Rose confessed that he was and ys contracted to the saide Joane, but yt was upon promises and condicions to be performed by one Mr. Wytney. Whereupon the commissioners decreed and commaunded him for to enter bande of xliⁱⁱ to her majesties use to appeere heere from courte to courte untill a finall ende be taken in the matter.

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Die Jovis xij^o die Julii 1576, in loco consistoriali Gloucestrie, coram venerabilibus viris magistris Thoma Powell legum doctore, Richardo Pate armigero, et Thoma Perrie in artibus magistro, prebendario in ecclesia cathedrali Gloucestrie, commissariis regiiis inter alios etc., in presentia Johannis Jones notarii publici etc. in actorum scribam assumpti etc.

Officium dominorum contra Richardum Kilocke de Upton. Comparuit dictus Kilocke and did make faithe that he knew not of the laste courte . . . decreed by the commissioners that he shall declare in his parishe churche his faulte in recaving her into his howse etc., and thereupon his bande to be delivered.²⁵

Officium dominorum promotum per Stake contra Woodwarde. Woodwarde hath to prove his allegation. Comparuit personaliter dictus Woodwarde et produxit Margeriam Edgeoke in testem quam domini ad eius petitionem juramento onerarunt et monuerunt ad subendum examen citra recessum, et ulterius ad petitionem dicti Woodwarde allegantis Johannem Holihedd esse necessarium testem ad probandum contenta in allegatis ex parte sua etc. decreverunt cum compellendum fore erga proximam ad testificandum, et domini injunxerunt ei ad purgandum se sexta manu honestorum vicinorum suorum in proxima.

Officium dominorum promotum per Joannam Reynoldes contra Jacobum Rose de Stowe. Bounde in xliⁱⁱ to appeere. On which daie and place the saide Rose was preconized or called severall tymes for to appeere to save his bande, but he appered not.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Hyett de Mynsterworthe.²⁶ On which daie and place the saide Hyett appered and alleaged that they are agreed. Whereupon he was commaunded to appeere the next courte to certife of the agreement what yt ys.

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Officium dominorum contra Valentinum Walker de Oldburie.²⁷ On which daie yt was ordred that he shall enter bande of xliⁱⁱ to the quenes use that he shall not keep companie with Joane Baylie otherwyse than in churche and open markett.

²⁴ Rose had been cited before the Consistory Court for incontinence with Reynoldes on 5 September 1573, and had then confessed to the offence having been committed two years earlier (G.D.R. xxxi, 40).

²⁵ Entry partly faded and illegible.

²⁶ The case against Hyett before the Royal Commissioners was apparently one of breach of promise. In this same month the Archbishop's Visitors were trying in vain to secure his appearance in their court to answer a charge of incontinence (G.D.R. xxxviii, 29, 37).

²⁷ Walker was presented at the Metropolitan Visitation this year for incontinence with Joan "Baylife", and was ordered to show a copy of the Royal Commissioners' act in this matter (G.D.R. xl—Dursley deanery).

Die Sabbati iiii^o die mensis Augusti 1576, in ecclesia cathedrali Gloucestrie locoque consistoriali ibidem, coram venerabilibus viris magistris Jacobo Morse maiore civitatis Gloucestrie, Thoma Powell legum doctore, vicario generali reverendi patris Gloucestrie episcopi, Richardo Grene in legibus baccalaureo, et Thoma Pirrie in artibus magistro, commissariis regiis inter alios etc., in presentia Philippi Morgan registrarrii etc.

Officium dominorum contra Baldwinum Johnson clericum de Getinge, promotum per Johannem Paine de eodem. The parties personallie apperhing and the matter objected unto Johnson as by informacion in court appereth, he confessith certaine wordes to be spoken but not in such order as they are alleged, for first he saith that he spake the wordes orderlic as they are sett downe in the boke of communion.²⁸ And because it appereth that bothe parties be frendes and loviers, and insufficientt proffe made, and (*the cause*) thought to be promoted of malice than for any good matter worthy of reformacion, and for that that if proffe were made sufficientlie

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it is supposed to be within the cumpasse of the last parson²⁹ and not to be h(e)ard: therefore bothe parties be dismissed with monicion that the said Payne shall receive the communion at the handes of the said Johnson betwene this and the feast of St. Michaell tharchangell next cumminge, and the said Johnson to geve notice unto the said Payne what daye he dothe intend the communion to minister.

Officium dominorum contra Richardum Corke de Salperton in comitatu Gloucestrie. For beatinge of the minister and for playenge of unlawfull games in the church yeard. The partie appered and deniedd the beatinge of the minister, but confessed that he played at boules in the churche yeard uppon a Sundaye with the said minister. Whereuppon it is ordered that the said minister be called by precepte against the next courte and serche informer of this matter whereby the truthe may be knowen; and in the meane time the said Cork maye depart untill a newe monicion be given him.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Davis de Stowe, promotum per Aliciam Russell uxorem Walteri Russell de eodem. Obligatur ad comparandum istis die et loco. Quo die comparuit dictus Davis cui domini objecerunt informacionem contra eum per dictam Aliciam datam, quam dictus Davis expresse negavit. Unde domini continuarunt causam hanc usque in proximam viz. iii^{ium} diem Octobris proximum.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Hardinge de Holirode Amney in comitatu Gloucestrie, promotum per Mariam Collins. Quo die preconizatus erat dictus Hardinge, non comparuit; in presentia Kempe facientis fidem

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se diligenter quesivisse eum etc., latitavit quominus apprehendi non

²⁸ For the offensive words allegedly spoken to Paine by Johnson, *vide supra*, p. 96, n. 90.

²⁹ *Sic*: an error for "pardon". "An Act of the Queen's Majesty's most free and general pardon" was passed in this year (18 Eliz. c. 24—*Statutes of the Realm*, iv, i, pp. 652-5).

potuit etc. Unde domini decreverunt eum capiendum fore per scapulas ac sub salva custodia remanere donec fidejusserit domine regine in C^h pro sua comparicione coram predictis commissariis vel aliis suis collegiis instanto die post suam apprehensionem si juridicus fuerit alioquin proximo die juridico extunc sequente in loco consistoriali Gloucestric, et a dicto loco non recedat donec licenciatius fuerit.

Officium dominorum contra Robertum Longe de Aston, promotum per gardianos ibidem, necnon contra Johannem Davis de eodem. The parties appered and confessed that the churche goodes they had, beinge trashe of no great valure, the which they bought of certaine commissioners who as they thinke had sufficient auctoritie to sell the same, and payed therefore to the said commissioners vj^s viij^d. And because the churchwardens did not appeere to prosequut their sute and no good matter provid against the said parties, they are dismissed.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Hide civitatis Gloucestric, promotum per Isabellam eius uxorem. Ad comparendum istis die et loco dictus Hide habet. Quo die personaliter comparuit ipse Hide, in cuius presentia dicta Isabella dedit articulos quos petiit admitti; ad cuius petitionem domini admiserunt quatenus de jure. Deinde produxit dictum Hide partem principalem presentem in judicio super predictis articulis, ad cuius petitionem domini ad eius petitionem juramento onerarunt et monuerunt eum ad subendum eius examen citra proximam.

Officium dominorum contra Woodward, promotum per Stake. Ad purgandum se vj^{ta} manu honestorum vicinorum suorum dictus Woodward habet istis die et loco. In which daye and place he appered personally and produced for his compurgators

p. 140.

William Lincecom minister, John More, Humfrey Bingley, Thomas Rudge, Robert Anthonie and Roger Davis, whom he desired to be admitted, in presence of the said Stake acceptinge (*sic*) against the said Lincecom for that he is infamous, and against the said Rudge for that he married the aunt of the said Woodward: by meanes wherof he fayled in his purgacion. Notwithstandinge the said commissioners uppon speciall causes them movinge decreed that he do make his purgacion with vj honest men of his neighbours the second court daye next after Michaclmas next, in presence of the said Stake dissentinge.

Officium dominorum contra Jacobum Rose de Stowe, promotum per Joannam Reynoldes. The partie bound to appere. Quo die preconizatus erat dictus Rose, non comparuit. Domini pronunciarunt eum contumacem ac in pena etc. continuarunt hoc negocium usque in proximam.

Officium dominorum contra Stephanum Francom, promotum per Helenoram Webbe. Preconizatus erat dictus Francom, non comparuit. Domini decreverunt eum capiendum fore per scapulas ac sub salva custodia remanere donec fidejusserit in xlth ad usum domine regine pro sua comparicione instanto die post arrestum si juridicus fuerit alioquin proximo die juridico et extunc sequente.

Officium dominorum contra Christoferum Nelme de Flaxley. Obligatur ad comparendum istis die et loco dictus Nelme habet (*sic*). The partie appered. Yt is decreed that he shall do suche penaunce as was enjoyned him to do by Mr. Grene then chauncellor in suche places as by the regesters boke under him maye appere; and to certifie thereof the court next after his penaunce don to be holden by the com-

missioners or any three of them.³⁰

p. 141.

Officium dominorum contra Richardum Horne de Strode in comitatu Gloucestrie. Obligatur ad comparandum istis die et loco et ad certificandum super peractione penitentie. Quo die preconizatus erat dictus Horne, non comparuit etc, Domini pronunciarunt eum contumacem ac in pena etc.

Christopher Hathway prisoner in the comon gayle by the commaundement of the commissioners for reskewing of Hall: yt is decreed that he shall be released out of prison.

Die Lune tercii die Septembris 1576, coram magistris Richardo Pate armigero, Thoma Powell legum doctore, et Thoma Pirrie artium magistro, commissariis etc., in presentia Philippi Morgan registrarii etc.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Hide civitatis Gloucestrie, promotum per Izabellam Hide eius uxorem. Which daie and place personallie appered the said Hide in presence of the said Izabell, and uppon deliberat heringe of the controversies which was betwene them and findinge no reconciliacion like to ensue, the disorder was so greate, and that seperacion the one from the other for a time was most requisit and necessarie for the avoydinge of further inconveniaunces that might followe, yt was therefore thought good by the said commissioners that the same William and Izabell do lyve the one from the other and not to cohabitt together (except they bothe in the meane time do reconcile them selves) untill Paulme Sundaye next ensuinge. And it is ordered that the same William shall enter into band with sufficient suerties to the quenes use on (*sic*) xliⁱⁱ to yelde and paye unto the same Izabell towards her findinge for every weeke ij^s

p. 142.

betwixt this and that daye beinge Palme Sundaye the (*blank*) of the month of (*blank*) next cuminge; during which time he shall honestlie and quietlie behave himself toward the said Izabell so as she maye quietlie goo aboutes her affaires and busines without any molestation or lett of the same William or other by his meanes or procurement; and that the same ij^s be paid unto Mr. Richard Coxo, nowe one of the sheriffes of the cite of Gloucester, brother in lawe to the said Izabell.

The same daye Christofer Nelme of Flaxley in the countie of Gloucester personallie appered before the said commissioners, and accordinge to their order presented a certificatt of his penance being don accordingle, as by faithe made thereuppon by John Lewis apparator and John Page did appere. Whereuppon the same Nelme was dismissed and his bande remayninge in recorde to be cancelled etc.

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Quarto die mensis Octobris 1576, in ecclesia cathedrali Gloucestrie

³⁰ Nelme had been ordered penance by the Chancellor on 25 January 1575/6, but did not perform it and was therefore excommunicated on 8 February (G.D.R. xxxvii, ff. 99^v, 109). The Commissioners' order brought him to heel, however, and on 30 August 1576 he certified his obedience to the Chancellor's order before the Archbishop's Visitors who had by then taken over the diocesan jurisdiction (Entered in the Consistory Court act book, G.D.R. xxxvii, f. 109). Certificate of obedience was made to the Royal Commissioners on 3 September (*Infra*, p. 142).

locoque consistoriali ibidem, coram venerabilibus viris magistris Thoma Powell legum doctore, Richardo Pate armigero, et Thoma Pirrie in artibus magistro, commissariis regii etc., in presentia Philippi Morgan registrarii etc.

Officium dominorum contra Stephanum Francome, promotum per Helenoram Webbe. Obligatur ad comparendum istis die et loco. Quibus die et loco preconizatus erat dictus Francome ac non comparentem domini pronunciarunt eum contumacem ac in pena sue contumacie decreverunt tam dictus Francom quam Wattes (*sic*) fidejusserint.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Mynett. (*No entry.*)

xxvii^o Augusti 1581. Memorandum that Mr. Huntley brother of William Huntley alleaged before Mr. Perry that Elizabeth Huntley the pretensed wief of the said William Iyveth incontinentlie, by reason whereof he wold be dyvorsed from her, and desired to have an attachment against her for that as he saith she is fugitive and ecclesiasticall lawes canne take noe holde of her. Whereuppon an attachment was decreed.

pp. 144-6 (Blank.)

p. 147.

Die Veneris vj^o die mensis Octobris anno domini 1577, in loco consistoriali Gloucestrie, coram magistris Thoma Powell legum doctore, Richardo Pate armigero, et Thoma Piry in artibus magistro, commissariis regii etc., in presentia Philippi Morgan registrarii etc.

Officium dominorum promotum per White et Taylor contra a Gwillim. The commissioners continued this matter untill the next court for that one of the principall parties was so sicke that he could not be present this daye and place to here the ende made.

Iidem promotores contra Johannem Birde. Similiter.

Iidem promotores contra Thomam Baker. Similiter.

Iidem promotores contra Richardum Baker. Similiter.

Officium dominorum contra Richardum Smith, promotum per Woodward. Ad purgandum se 4 manu dictus Smith habet. Which daye and place the said Smithe personallie appered and desired of the said commissioners that he might have councell. Whereuppon the said commissioners assumed Mr. Toby Sanford his proctor,³¹ who produced Thomas Powell vicar of Sodburie, John Savage curatt of Stone, William Preston, Alexander Boram and Henry Lloid, clarkes, for his compurgators, and desired the purgacion to be admitted: in presence of Mr. Rosingrave³² alleginge the same purgacion not to be admitted, and exhibited certaine articles which the said commissioners at his petition admitted, and at his like petition assigned him to prove the same the next court daye etc. Then the said Rosingrave produced Joane Baker as witness uppon the said articles, at whose (*petition*)

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the said commissioners gave her an othe justlye and trulie to answer them and monished her to be examined before the next court daye: in presence of Mr. Sanford dissentinge etc. and havinge to minister inter-

³¹ Proctor in the Consistory Court from September 1576, and Awfild's successor as master of the Cathedral School.

³² Deputy-registrar of the Consistory Court from 1563, proctor from 1570.

rogatories any time before her examinacion. Then the said Rosingrave exhibited iij severall lettres in parte of proffe, which were admitted in presence of the said Sanford dissentinge etc. Afterward the said commissioners uppon petition of the said Rosingrave decreed lettres for the personall apparaunce of John Lawrence who is thought to be a fitt witnes in this matter, beinge required and will not com etc., uppon payne of contempt to appere the next courte daye to testifie the truethe and his knowledge uppon the said articles. Yt is further ordered by the said commissioners that at what time the said Smithe shall make his purgacion to bringe two of his compurgators dwelling within v myles compasse of the parishe where he dwellith.

Officium dominorum contra Carolum Rufford, promotum per Johannem Mason. Obligatur ad comparandum istis die et loco. Quo die dictus Rufford comparuit. Domini continuarunt hoc negocium usque in horam 2^{am} post meridiem istius diei in domo habitacionis magistri doctoris Powell etc.

Officium dominorum contra Davidum Rice clericum. Obligatur ad comparandum isto die. The partie appered, and the heringe of the matter continued untill ij a clocke in the after none this daye, monished to attend uppon the said commissioners and not to departe without licence etc.

Similiter pro Roberto Westmecott.

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Officium dominorum contra Johannem Atkins et Richardum Atkins de Upton. To answeere to their contempt committed in that the one of them beinge cunstable, having an attachement graunted out of this court directed to all cunstables etc. to apprehend and attache one William Heyward of Upton, which was unto him delivered so to do, and by vertu therof required by Botley an officer³³ by whom the said attachement was sent, as by faithe by him made in court apperethe, who refused to execute the same; and the other for rescuinge the said Heyward. Wherefore lettres of attachementes are decried (*sic*) against the said Atkins and Atkins, and by vertu therof to apprehend them and under saffe custody to detayne them untill they enter into bandes in xliij a peace to make their personall apparaunces before the said commissioners or other their colleagues, to answer to their said contempt committed, iij daies next after the taking of the said band, if they happen to sitt in court, or else at their next sittinge, and not to depart without licence, etc.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Skynner de Stowe. Obligatur ad comparandum isto die. Quo die comparuit dictus Skinner, et domini monuerunt eum ad comparandum coram eis post prandium in domo magistri Powell etc.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Dauser et Margeriam Charington.³⁴ For incest, the said Margerie beinge the naturall sister of the mother of Dauser. The parties appered, and (*were*) committed to the officer to kepe in saffe custody and to bringe them before the said commissioners in the after none.

³³ One of the Consistory Court apparitors.

³⁴ This case had begun in the Consistory Court on 10 July 1577 (G.D.R. xxxvii, f. 185^v).

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Officium dominorum contra Humfridum Keball, promotum per Aliciam Nocke. The said Alice is to purpose (*sic*) the matter in due forme what she hath to alleage against the said Keball the next court daye, and the said Keball to prove what he can against her for his discharge the said daye; and he to putt in band of xliⁱⁱ to the quenes majesties use the same daye to appere and to answer to her complainte, and not to departe without licence, and his apparaunce to make from court day to court day untill the controversie be ended.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Hide. In which daye David Williams made faithe that he lawfully monished the said Hide uppon precept out of this court personally to appere before the said commissioners this daye, houre and place. Factaque preconizacione ipsius Hide, non comparuit etc., domini pronunciarunt eum contumacem ac in pena contumacie sue huius decreverunt eum capiendum fore per scapulas etc. sub salvo etc. donec etc.

The said daye and place personallie appered William Priddy and (*blank*) Chapman remaying presoners in the castell as puritanes at the commaundement of the quenes majesties commissioners for causes ecclesiasticall. And for that they and eyther of them do mislike with the arrogant deling of Ralf Meysey, one of their faction, namynge himself a busshopp and other his disorders,³⁵ the said commissioners, as havinge hope of their

p. 151.

conformitie hereafter decreed them and eyther of them to be sett at libertie and so to be enlarged untill further complaint etc., and discharged the keepers man beinge in court of the said presoners.

Die predicto ac coram dictis commissariis in domo mancionis predicti Thome Powell, inter horas 2 et 3 post meridiem eiusdem diei, in presentia predicti registrarii etc.

Officium dominorum contra Carolum Rufford, promotum per Johannem Mason. The partie (*sic*) appered; and uppon conference had betwene them of agreement like to be, the said commissioners thought good to contynewe this matter untill the next court and monished them then to appeare.

Officium dominorum contra Davidum Rice clericum. Monished to attend and not to depart without licence. Yt is ordered that this matter be continued untill the next court, and then to appere, uppon consideracion of an agreement to be had betwene the parishiners and him. Which agreement the said Rice is to informe this court of (if any be); if not, he is monished to answer the matter proposed against him.

Officium dominorum contra Robertum Westmecot. Similiter.

p. 152.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Dauser et Margeriam Charington. Monished to appere. Uppon whose apparaunce the commissioners demaunded of them whether they had had carnall knowledge together and committed the horrible sinne of incest. They confessed the facte, the said Margerie beinge the naturall sister of the mother of the said Dauser. Whereuppon the said commissioners decreed their

³⁵ *Vide infra*, p. 152a (*Note pinned into the act book*).

penaunce, viz. That presentlie they should be committed to the sheriffes presons within the citie of Gloucester, there to remayne untill Saterdaye cum sevenight, in which daye they to com furthe and to have papers sett on their hedes written in great lettres, viz. uppon her hed written, For carnall copulation with her naturall sisters sonne; uppon his hedd, For carnall copulation with his naturall mothers sister; and to stand therewith uppon the ledde joyning to the highe crosse of Gloucester, and there to remayne bare foted, bare leggedd and bare hedded, with a whitt shete about eyther of them, havinge their face open and to-wardes the people, from xj of the clocke until ij of the same daye; and from thens to ward againe from whens they com, untill the morowe after being Sundaye they shalbe brought to the cathedral church of Gloucester, and there in like sort to stand before the pulpitt uppon a hie forme for the purpose provided duringe the time of the sermond; and from thens to prison againe untill the next Sundaye followinge, in which daye

p. 153.

they shall in like order stand in the parishe church of Huckelcott in the mydle of the church before the pulpitt uppon sum hie forme from the beginning of the latenye unto thend of service; and then to pryson againe from whens they com, there to remayne untill the next Sundaye after, in which daye to stand in like order in the parishe church of Winson; and to certifie of their said penaunce don under the hand writtinge of the parson, vicar or curatt of the said parishe churches the next courte daye to be kept by the said commissioners next after the last daye of penaunce done; being monished personally bothe then to appere and not to depart without licens etc. And this in part of their penaunce etc.; and to receive further direction for the residue of their said penaunce the said daye.

p. 152a.³⁶

Yf it shall please your worshippes, these are to let your worshippes understand: The man Meysy married in the castle of Gloucester, his name is Grainge, dwellinge in Frampton, he married with one good wife Hill as they terme her, Mother Hills dawhter. This I am certified of a truthe, but not of their selves but of one of them which were discharged this day before your worshippes.

Fiat apprehensus pro dicto Grainge. Let this attachement be made.

p. 152b.³⁷

For carnal copulation with her natural sisters sonne. For carnal copulation with his natural mothers sister.

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Domini assignarunt proximum diem juridicum diem Martis viz. xxix Octobris nunc instantem.

³⁶ This slip of paper, pinned into the act book, refers to Ralph Meysey, the puritan "bishop" mentioned in the note concerning Priddy and Chapman (*Vide supra*, pp. 150-1).

³⁷ *Vide supra*, pp. 152-3: Office v. Daunser and Charington. This slip of paper was perhaps prepared to instruct the gaoler on the preparation of the larger "papers" to be worn by the offenders at their penance.

Officium dominorum contra (*blank*) Bentley.³⁸ The partie appered and denied the fact that he never (*sic*) knewe the bodies of his ij maides. And it is ordered that he shall bring before the said commissioners the said maides and Keble who he saith committed the fact.

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Proces decreed for any that Keball shall geve notice of.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Skyunner de Stowe. Skinner appered, and being demaunded whether he left the child with the plaintiff, confessed the same and that the said child had divers sores in her body. The said commissioners, for causes them moving, respected this matter untill the morowe in the afternoone by ij of the clocke, and then the said partie to appere, and committed him to John Lane the sergiaunt who undertoke to bringe him in before them.

Die Sabbati, viz. xij^o Octobris 1577, in domo habitacionis magistri Powell, coram magistris Powell, Pate et Pirye, commissariis predictis, in presentia predicti registrarii.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Bentleye civitatis Gloucestrie. The said commissioners ordered that the same Bentleye shall enter into band to the quenes majesties use in xliⁱⁱ to appere personally the next court, viz. the xxixth of this October, and not to depart without licence etc.

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Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Keble. Yt is ordered that he shall enter into band to our soveraigne ladye the quene in xliⁱⁱ with one suertie sufficient to appere the next commission daye and not to depart without licence etc. The said Keble confessed the facte as by his examinacion appered.

Officium dominorum contra Aliciam Newman³⁹ et Agnetem Hickes. The said parties confessinge their facte and lewd lief as maye appere by examinacion, the said commissioners remitted the cause to Mr. Doctor Powell, chancelor, and he to have the punishment of them.

xliij^o die Octobris 1577, in domo magistri Thome Powell legum doctoris etc., coram eo ac magistris Richardo Pate armigero necnon Thoma Parye in artibus magistro, commissariis regiis etc., in presentia predicti registrarii etc.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Sampson. The partie appered, and finding him culpable and confessing that he had lewdely behaved himself with Martha Saman, as by his examinacion appereth, yt is therefore ordered that he shalbe committed to the custody of Robert

³⁸ Reference of this case to the Royal Commissioners was reported in the Consistory Court on 8 October (G.D.R. xxxvii, f. 180^v). On 25 June 1575 Bentley had been excommunicated for non-appearance before the Consistory Court on charges of failure to attend church and disturbing service. He was said to have laid a complaint with Thomas Perry that the parishioners "did use to talke and walke and ringe bells at servece tyme". A letter from Perry to the curate, in which he "wished reformacion", had provoked a disturbance in which "the hole multitude was in an uprore" (G.D.R. xxxi, 511; xxxvii, ff. 5^v, 16^v-17^v). He was in trouble again, for incontinence, before the Archbishop's Visitors when he failed purgation on 1 December 1576 (G.D.R. xxxviii, 230).

³⁹ Newman had been excommunicated by the Consistory Court for failure to answer a charge of not receiving communion, 25 June 1575 (G.D.R. xxxi, 511).

Draper,⁴⁰ mesanger of this court, untill suche time as he shall bring sufficient suerties to be bounde to the queenes majestics use, in suche

p. 156.

forme as Mr. Doctor Powell and Mr. Pirye shall thinke good, to appere from court daye to court daye untill there be a finall order taken by this courte; and the same band in forme aforesaid to be taken tomorowe being the xvth of this October in the forenoone of the said daye: otherwise to be committed to suche preson as the said Mr. Doctor Powell and Mr. Pirye shall thinke best during their pleasure etc.

Die Martis xxix^o viz. die Octobris 1577, coram reverendo in Christo patre etc. Richardo permissione divina episcopo Gloucestrie, Thoma Powell legum doctore, et Thoma Perie sacre theologie baccalaureo, commissariis regiis, in ecclesia cathedrali Gloucestrie loco consistoriali ibidem, in presentia mei Tobie Sanford in artibus magistri propter absentiam Philippi Morgan registrarii principalis specialiter in actorum scribam assumpti.

The commissioners appointed the next courte daie the xxvth of Novembre next etc.

Officium dominorum promotum per Whyte et Taylor contra a Gwyllim. Ad audiendum decretum dominorum. Facta preconizacione, non comparuit a Gwyllim. Unde domini pronunciarunt eum contumacem et in pena huius contumacie sue continuarunt causam in statu quo est in proximam, and have assigned Monday next betwene ix and xj of the clocke in the forenone for Mr. D. Powell and Mr. Perie to take informacion in the matter.

Idem promotores contra Johannem Byrd. Similiter per omnia nisi quod comparuit personaliter Byrd.

Idem promotores contra Thomam Baker. Similiter. Comparuit Baker.

Idem promotores contra Richardum Baker. Similiter.

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Officium dominorum contra Richardum Smyth clericum, promotum per Wodward. Examinata est Baker testis producta. Habet Wodward ad probandum articulos. Comparuit personaliter Smyth. Et Johannes Laurence clericus, per litteras in proxima curia decretas vocatus ut testis in hac causa necessarius, juramento oneratus est de fideliter deponendo super articulis contra Smyth ex parte Wodward exhibitis atque etiam ad deponendum super veritate litterarum alias per ipsum ad hanc curiam missarum, monitusque est quod non recedat citra examinationem. Deinde dictus Wodward produxit Willelmum Downe vicarium de Arlingham et quendam Johannem Wilie de Camme in testes in hac causa, quos ad eius petitionem domini admiserunt ac eosdem ad eius similem petitionem juramento onerarunt de fideliter respondendo articulis supradictis, monitique sunt ad subendum examen citra proximam.

Officium dominorum contra Davidum Rice clericum, promotum per Robertum Butler clericum. Ad informandum de concordia (si quod facta inter partes) Rice habet, aliter ad respondendum materie pro-

⁴⁰ Draper, an apparitor of the Consistory Court, was one of the witnesses against Chancellor Powell at his trial in 1579, when he admitted to being a medium through whom some of Powell's corrupt transactions were conducted. He became apparitor-general of the diocese in 1577. (*Church Quarterly Review*, cxxviii (1939), p. 108).

posite. Comparuit personaliter dictus Rice, in cuius presentia domini assignarunt dicto Butler ad probandum articulos in proxima.

Officium dominorum promotum per eundem Butler contra Robertum Westmecott. Similiter.

Prenominatus David Rice clericus recognovit se debere domine regine nostre Elizabethæ Dei gratia Angliæ, Franciæ et Hiberniæ, fidei defensorique, quadraginta libras bonæ et legalis monete Angliæ solendas dicta domine regine nostre, hereditibus et successoribus suis etc. The condicion of this recognisaunce is sutch that if thaforenamed Robert Butler doe and shall from courte daie to courte daie personallie appeare before the said commissioners or their colleges⁴¹ whensoever they shall happen to sytt in commission untill a finall order be taken by the said commissioners in the matter promoted against him; and further if the said Robert shall doe, fulfill, execute, performe and accomplish the said finall (*order*) by the said commissioners to be taken and made in the cause aforesaid; that then etc.

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Officium dominorum contra Johannem Atkyns et Richardum Atkyns de Upton. In emanato attachiamento. Domini continuarunt dictum attachiamentum in proximam.

Officium dominorum promotum contra Humfredum Keball per Aliciam Nocke. Habet Nocke ad proponendum in scriptis. Obligatus est Keball ad comparendum. Quo personaliter comparente, domini continuarunt causam in statu quo est in proximam.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Hyde, promotum per Isabelam Hyde eius uxorem. Obligatus est Hyde ad comparendum. Quem personaliter comparentem domini monuerunt ad dandum cautionem 40^{li} cum uno sufficiente fidejussore quod comparebit proximo die jurisdictionis et sic deindeque de die in diem usque ad sententiam definitivam etc. And that he shall geve to the maintenaunce of the said Isabell his wife ij^s wickely betwene this and the next courte daie.

Officium dominorum contra Dauser et Cherington. Ad certificandum de peracta poenitentia. Domini ob certas causas distulerunt hanc certificationem in proximam. And have decreed bandes of xl^{li} to be taken of the said Dauser, with one sufficient suretie to be bound with him, that he shall personallie appear the next court daie before her majesties said commissioners.

Officium dominorum contra Johannem Bentley de civitate Gloucestræ. Obligatus est Bentley ad comparendum istis die et loco. Domini receperunt hanc causam in proximam in adventum magistri Pates.

Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Keble. Similiter.

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Officium dominorum contra Willelmum Sampson. Obligatus est Sampson etc. Comparuit personaliter dictus Sampson, et domini continuarunt hoc negotium in proximam. And the said commissioners further ordered that new bandes with more sufficient sureties shold be taken of the said Sampson bycause the sureties already taken are not thought sufficient; and untill he performe this order he is committed to Gyles Hilling. Afterward the said commissioners in the dwelling house of Mr. D. Powell within the precinct of the cathedrall church of Gloucester aforesaid were contented that he shold departe upon the bandes already

⁴¹ Collegues.

put in untill the next courte daie, when he is to performe the former order of the said commissioners.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Smyth de Tedburie ad promotionem Katherine Jones. Domini ad petitionem dicte Jones decreverunt Smyth attachiandum in proximam.

vij^o die Novembris anno domini 1581, in loco consistoriali ecclesie cathedralis Gloucestric, inter horas primo et 3^a post meridiem, coram venerabilibus viris magistris Richardo Pate armigero et Thoma Perry etc., commissariis etc., presente me Roberto Petifer notario etc.⁴²

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Greise. The which daie and place he appeared. Mr. Mills exhibited certen articles against him, which he denied. It was ordered that he should enter into bandes with suerties in xliⁱⁱ to her majesties use that he should appere before them or their colleges⁴³ on Monday bcinge the xjth daie of December next, and then to bringe in lettres testimoniall of his behaviour at Cowberley and exhibite the licence of Dr. Humfrey etc. And he was inhibited to preach untill he hath obteyned sufficient licence etc.

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Die Lune undecimo die mensis Decembris anno domini millesimo quingentesimo octogesimo primo, in loco consistoriali ecclesie cathedralis Gloucestric, inter horas ix^{am} et xj^{am} ante meridiem eiusdem diei, coram venerabilibus viris magistris Richardo Pate armigero, Richardo Grene in legibus baccalaureo, et Thoma Perry sacre theologie baccalaureo, regis commissariis inter alios ad causas ecclesiasticas etc., in presentia mei Roberti Petifer notarii etc.

Officium dominorum contra Richardum Turbill de Newent. Suspected of papistry.⁴⁴ At which daie and place appeared personallie the said Turbill, to whom the saide commissioners objected that he did write a certein booke which was exhibited and delivered unto the commissioners but he (seinge the saide booke) answered that he did not write yt, but he saide that he consented to the makinge of a parte of the saide booke. Then Mr. Drue, vicar of Newent, exhibited unto the said commissioners; a booke conteyninge two sheetes of paper written and subscribed, as he saide, by the saide Turbill, who (the booke being shewed unto him) confessed that he did write yt and subscribed his name thereunto, which booke the saide Mr. Perry kept. Then the said commissioners continued this cause untill one of the clock in the after noone of the same daie, and from one to foure, betwene which houres the saide Turbill appeared; and the saide commissioners decreed that the saide Turbill should be kept in warde untill he enter into bande in xliⁱⁱ to her majesties use with sufficient suerties that he shall personallie appeare before the saide commissioners or their colleges in the place above specified the xvijth daie of January next; and he was monished to do his endeavour to find the minister that did write (as he saide) the booke first abovemenconed. And immediatelie after the foresaide commissioners decreed that the saide Turbill alone should enter into bande in 6 markes (for that he could not

⁴² Apparently no quorum.

⁴³ Colleagues.

⁴⁴ Four years earlier, in 1577, Turbill had appeared before the Consistory Court on a charge that he "discommendeth the marriage of priestes and saith their chyldren be not legitimate", and he had then been referred to the Royal Commissioners (G.D.R. xliiii, f. 108).

gett sureties presentlie) to bringe before Mr. Pates or Mr. Perry afore-
saide, at or before Wednesday being the xxth of this December, t(w)o
such sureties as the abovenamed Mr. Richard Grene shall certify unto
his colleeages to be sufficient; and that they shalbe bounde with him
the saide Turbill in xlth to her majesties use that he shall appeare per-
sonallie before the saide commissioners or their colleeages the foresaide
xviith daie of January in the consistory place etc. and not to departe
without licence etc. And it was ordered that a precept should be sent
for the constables of Newent, viz. Richarde Allen and Thomas Bower,
to appeare that daie to aunswere concerninge their contempt for lettinge
goe Richard Corser, a supposed minister, being apprehended; and also
that the bailieffs of Newent be comaunded to bringe in the bande where-
in Turbill stood bounde for his first apparaunce.

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Officium dominorum contra Thomam Greise. On which daie also
Bartholmew Mills clerk exhibited unto the said commissioners the depo-
sitions of certein witnesses examined by thofficiall of Doctor Sprinte⁴⁵
etc. by vertue of lettres of commission sent unto the saide D. Sprinte
from her majesties commissioners, together with his certificate and the
saide lettres. Afterwarde Greise appeared personallie; who (being de-
maunded by the saide commissioners where his licence to preach was)
confessed that he had none, but preached without licence. He confessed
quod omnis veritas non est liganda, and that he baptised a child since
he was inhibited. The saide Greise also exhibited lettres testimoniall
concerninge his behaviour at Cowberley from Richarde Gotheridge and
John Abington there dwelling. The foresaide Mills produced Roberte
Wythers, vicar of Cricklade in the dioces of Salisbury, and John Brooke,
master of arte, parson of Elkston, for witnesses concerninge the
counterfeytinge of the L. bishopp of Salisburies licence to preach, whom
the said commissioners did onerate with an othe to depose and testifie
their knowledge in that respect. The saide Greise beinge presente ex-
cepted against the saide John Brooke for that (as he saide) he doth
it of malice. Then the saide Withers, beinge in open court examined,
uppon his oath deposed that he sawe a licence that the saide Greise had,
unto the which was subscribed the name of the L. bishop of Salisbury,
havinge noe seale unto it; and further saide that one Randall Aston,
vicar of Latton in the dioces of Sarum, told him that the saide Greise
declared unto the saide Aston that he himself had counterfeyted the
saide licence. And also the saide Withers deposed that a lettre presented
by the saide Mills to the saide commissioners was subscribed by him
and the saide Aston. The saide Brooke, beinge examined also in open
courte, saied that he did see a licence graunted (as the saide Greise saide)
by the L. bishop of Sarum unto the saide Greise, which licence had not
anie seale unto yt, but the saide bishops name was subscribed unto yt;
and further saied that he (supposinge the saide licence to be counter-
feited) shewed it to the L. Chandos, who sent for the saide Greise to
thend he might punishe him, but he the saide Greise escaped. Then
the saide Mills produced, concerninge the profe of counterfeytinge of a
lettre of his owne by the saide Greise, Humfrey Parker clerk, curate of
Strowde, and Leonarde Prestwood, scholemaster of Painswick. He pro-

⁴⁵ John Sprinte, S.T.P., Archdeacon of Wiltshire from February, 1577/8. He was also Dean of Bristol from February 1579/1 (*Le Neve, Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae* (1854), I, p. 223; II, p. 631).

duced also, to prove the sclander specified in the seconde article exhibited by him, William Tomkins and William Evans of the parishe of Bisley. He produced also, to prove cosonage committed by the saide Greise, James Thomas, vicar of Paynswick aforesaide. He produced also one Edwarde White of Brinckworth in the county of Wilts. All which witnesses the saide commissioners admitted and onerated with an oath (to) testify

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their knowledge in that they shalbe examined uppon, and monished them to come to be examined in thafter noone. Then the saide commissioners continued this cause untill one of the clocke and from one to foure in thafter noone of the same daie. Betwixt which houres the saide Greise appeared personallie and exhibited unto the commissioners lettres testimoniall from the universitie in Oxforde touchinge his behaviour there,⁴⁶ unto the which lettres were subscribed the names of Doctor Humfrey⁴⁷ and D. Kennall,⁴⁸ Richarde Harris, principall of Brasenose Colledge,⁴⁹ William Doobes, Henry Manislee and Thomas Cooke. Then beinge (*present*) Sir John Warde and Roberte Draper of this citie of Gloucester, who signified unto the commissioners that one Mr. Knowers told them and willed them to signify unto the saide commissioners that all the names subscribed as aforesaide unto the saide lettres were counterfeited savinge D. Humfreis and Doctor Kennalls. Whereuppon it was decreed by the saide commissioners that two lettres should be sent to Oxforde, thone to the vice chauncelor of the universitie and the other to the principall of Brasenose Colledge, to request them to certify whether the saide testimoniall be true. And the saide Greise (beinge demanded who wrott the saide lettres testimoniall and who sealed them) aunswered and saied that one Mr. Coles man, a lawier dwellinge by the bucherrew⁵⁰ in Oxforde did write them, and that D. Kennall did putt his seale thereto.

The foresaide Greise also alleaged that the late L. bishop of Gloucester⁵¹ had a book with a black cover wherein he noted those that he ordered.⁵² Whereuppon the saide commissioners had the same booke (*sic*), decreed that the saide (*sic*) Mr. Handes⁵³ should be monished to exhibit the same booke unto them.

Edwarde White of Brinckworth aforesaide presented unto the saide commissioners a certificate from the parishioners there concerninge the misdemeanores of the foresaide Greise duringe his abode there, whereunto (as the saide White uppon his oath ministered unto him deposed) John White, parson there, William Beale thelder, constable there, Jeffrey Pinnell, John Sherer, Edmund Wallis, James Skull and George Jones, mentioned under the saide certificate, did subscribe thereunto their owne names, and John Skull and William Beale the younger did sub-

⁴⁶ There is no record of Greise being matriculated as a member of the university.

⁴⁷ Lawrence Humfrey: Regius Professor of Divinity, 1560; President of Magdalen, 1561; Vice-Chancellor, 1571-6. He became also Dean of Gloucester in 1571, and as such was a member of the Commission.

⁴⁸ John Kennall: Archdeacon of Oxford, 1561; Vice-Chancellor, 1564-7.

⁴⁹ Principal of Brasenose, 1574-95.

⁵⁰ Bocardo?

⁵¹ Bishop Cheyney. He died in 1579.

⁵² Ordained.

⁵³ Registrar of Gloucester diocese, 1570-c.1581.

scribe their markes. The foresaide Greise notwithstanding denied that it was their deed. Whereuppon it was decreed that a lettre should be sent to Sir John Davers⁵⁴ to request him to examine those that are thereunto subscribed whether they consented thereunto, and to certify the commissioners or their colleeages. The saide White further exhibited a

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sheete of paper conteyninge the confession of one Elizabeth White, and he uppon his saide oathe deposed that he did heare the saide Elizabeth confesse those wordes as are therein written.

The foresaide Mills exhibited a lettre written by one John Rice a notary, directed unto Mr. Perry aforesaide, wherein is specified that Greise was expelled the county of Dorset and Wilts for his evell demanures and imprisoned for counterfeitinge a lettre from the Earle of Bedforde to Mr. D. White etc. And under the saide Rices lettre one Thomas Whitfild, officiall unto Mr. Doctor Sprinte,⁵⁵ certifieth that D. Sprinte did discharge the saide Greise of his jurisdiction for his evell behaviour etc.

Mr. Mills alsoe exhibited a lettre from Mr. Temple of Bristoll directed unto the commissioners. He further exhibited a lettre subscribed by Roberte Tut and George Ludlowe and directed to the said commissioners, touchinge the evell behaviour of the said Greise, as in the same lettre appeareth.

The foresaide John Brooke exhibited unto the saide commissioners a lettre subscribed by the L. Chandos and directed unto them. He also presented to the commissioners a lettre sent unto him from D. Sprinte.

The commissioners decreed that all the exhibitcs should be kept in recorde and to be exhibited at the next sittinge and from time to time etc.; and that the bande wherein Hopson and Hymede stood bounde with the foresaide Greise should be redelivered. And they also decreed that the saide Greise should be kept in warde untill he enter into bande in xliⁱⁱ to her majesties use with sufficient sureties to appeare the xviiijth daie of Januarie next in that place before them or their colleeages etc. Untill which daie between ix and xj in the forenoone they continued all causes (*sic*).

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Duodecimo die mensis Decembris anno domini 1581, in loco consistoriali ecclesie cathedralis Gloucestric, inter horas ix^{am} and xj^{am} ante meridiem eiusdem diei, coram venerabilibus viris magistris Richardo Pate armigero, Richardo Greene in legibus baccalaureo, et Thoma Perry sacre theologie baccalaureo, regii commissariis inter alios ad causas ecclesiasticas etc., in presentia mei Roberti Petiferi notarii etc.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Greise. At which daie and place he appeared personallie. And the matter by sufficient witnesses proved, by himself confessed, and by the saide commissioners deliberatly hearde and considered, the saide commissioners decreed and ordered that the saide Greise should be committed unto warde in the castle of the county of Gloucester, and there to remayne untill the next

⁵⁴ Or Danvers, of Dauntsey, Wilts. He was later a member of the Council in the Marches.

⁵⁵ *Vide supra*, *p. 161*.

sermon that is to be preached in the cathedrall church of Gloucester aforesaide after Sunday next; at the beginninge of which sermon he shalbe brought by the officer in his usuall apparell thither, and there before the pulpitt on a forme he shall stande duringe all the sermon; and after that the sermon shalbe ended, he shall read such a submission as shalbe sent unto him from the saide commissioners. And then he shall goe unto the saide prison againe untill Tuesday next after Christmas Day next; on which Tuesday he shalbe brought by thofficer to Strowde, and at morninge praier the same day he shalbe brought to the parishe church there, and there stay in some place before the pulpitt where he may be best seene of the people; and during all the sermon he shall stande up on some seat neare the pulpitt, and after the sermon he shall reade such a submission as shalbe sent unto him from the saide commissioners, and shall aske forgevenesse of Mr. Bartholmew Mills and Mr. Parker, curate of Strowde. And on the morrow after, beinge Wednesday, he shalbe brought to Cowberley, and shall come to the church there at the beginning of morninge praier, and there stay, stande and reade in all respectes as he is to doe at Strowde, and shall aske forgevenes at Mr. Brookes handes. And he shall certify of doynge thorder at Strowde under Mr. Mills, Mr. Parkers, Mr. Fremes, Mr. Wattes and the churchwardens (*hands*) there; and he shall certify of the doynge of yt at Cowberley under Mr. Brookes hande, the churchwardens and two of the substantiall men of that parishe. And further the saide commissioners did inhibite him the saide Greise to preach, teach scole, minister nor reade devine service within the dioces of Gloucester or Bristoll or in anie other place within the compasse of their commission. And also the saide commissioners ordered and decreed that the saide Bartholmew Mills should be

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presente at Strowde when the saide Greise fulfilleth thorder and he shall make some collacion or exhortacion there that tyme. And likewise that Mr. Brooke shalbe presente at Cowberley and make a collacion or exhortacion there on the Wednesday at morninge praier. And it was ordered that the copy of the proceedinges be delivered to Mr. Brooke and Mr. Mills gratuito, and that a warrant be sent to Robert Hyndon (?), the constable of Strowde, and Mr. Parker, curate there, for to serch for all such bookes as the saide Greise hath latelie had in his keepinge.

Vicesimo novo die mensis Decembris anno domini juxta cursum ecclesie Anglicane 1581, coram magistris Richardo Pate armigero et Thoma Perry sacre theologie baccalaureo, commissariis regis etc., inter horas 2^{am} et iii^{jam} post meridiem eiusdem diei, presente me notario etc.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Greise predictum. The saide Greise appeared personallie, and brought and exhibited a certificate that he fulfilled the order enjoyned to him at Strowde under Mr. Mills, Mr. Fremes, Humfrey Parkers, Richarde Wattes, John Wattes and John Warrens handes, and exhibited another that he did yt at Cowberley under Mr. Brookes, John Whitinge and John Sharps handes. And beinge demaunded how manie children he hath baptised and how manie he hath married together, he aunswered that he never married anie partie, neither baptised at anie time more then one child which he baptised at Strowde on a Saterdag about a moneth last past. It was ordered, by the consent of Mr. Smith maior,

being absent,⁵⁶ that the saide Greise should be committed to the castle to be kept as a close prisoner untill they or their collages shall enlarge him. Then they contynued this cause untill to morrow betwene the houres of one and two in thafter noone, and proroged the place unto the Toulsey chamber.

Penultimo die mensis Decembris anno domini predicto, inter horas primam et secundam post meridiem, in cubiculo superiore apud Le Toulsey civitatis Gloucestrie, coram magistris Thoma Smith maiore eiusdem civitatis, Richardo Pate armigero, et Thoma Perry etc., commissariis regiis etc., presente me prefato notario etc.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Greise predictum. At which daie and place appeared the saide Greise. And the saide commissioners ordered and decreed that the saide Greise alone should enter into bande in xlth to her majesties use that within two daies after the date thereof he shall departe

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out of this dioces of Gloucester; and that he shall not preach, minister, reade devine service, nor use or exercise anie ecclesiasticall function, nor teach anie private or publique schole within this dioces or the dioces of Bristol; and that hereafter he shall not enter into the dioces of Bristol, nor returne againe into this dioces but as a passenger when he shall have just cause of travell thorough the saide dioces, and upon such cause of travell he shall not stay or continue above the space of two daies together at anie one tyme of such travell or passage. Into which bande the said Greise did enter and was bounde presentlie there.

Thomas Greise. Shortly after, within a monethe, upon informacion that the saide Thomas Greise had, notwithstanding all the premisses, publicly preached in divers churches within the dioces, the commissioners sent out a new warrant to attache him, by vertue whereof he was brought before them, and they commytted him to the castle, there to continew untill they should take order for his enlargement.

Die Jovis xiiij^o die mensis Junii (*anno*) domini 1582, coram reverendo patre domino Johanne Gloucestrie episcopo,⁵⁷ Richardo Pates armigero, Willelmo Blacklech in legibus baccalaureo, vicario in spiritualibus generali dicti reverendi patris etc.,⁵⁸ Thoma Perry sacre theologie baccalaureo, commissariis regiis etc., in loco consistoriali Gloucestrie etc., in presentia mei Johannis Jones notarii publici deputati Roberti Say registrarii etc. judicialiter sedentibus etc.

Officium dominorum contra Thomam Greise. He appered and confessed that he had preached in divers churches within the diocese sithence the saide bande was taken of him. Whereon he was sent back with his keeper to remayne prisoner in the castle till they shall further consider of the matter.

pp. 167-70.

(*Blank*)

⁵⁶ This was necessary since the two commissioners present in court did not constitute a quorum.

⁵⁷ John Bullingham became bishop of Gloucester in 1581.

⁵⁸ William Blackleach became chancellor of the diocese in November 1581. He was dismissed from office in 1600, after resisting for many years the attempts of the bishop to remove him on account of his corrupt practices.

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Witnesses examined uppon interr(ogatories) for the assaut and affraye made within the cittie of Gloucester betwene Mr. Richard Arnold esquier and Mr. William Huntley gent.

Jacobus Thomkins, parochie sancti Nichole civitatis Gloucestric, smith ac civis eiusdem civitatis, ubi moram traxit per spacium xxⁱⁱ annorum aut circiter, etatis xxxvij annorum, libere conditionis, testis juratus et examinatus in vim sui juramenti, deponit ut sequitur: That the Tewsdaye beinge the xth of August this deponent, happeninge to be in his shopp scituatt and beinge in the said parishe of St. Nicholas aboutes his affaires, did se Mr. Richard Arnold com downe streat to this deponentes house for such affaires (as) he had to talke with this deponentes wief for the sendin of certaine stufte to his house. And after him followed his man with a horse in his hande, and as he leaded the horse in his hande he sawe Mr. Huntley and Mr. Arnold servaunt comon together. But what wordes passed betwene them this d(eponent) knowith not, but incontinent he sawe Mr. Arnoldes man depart from the said Huntley (and) tied the horse to this deponentes travis and so b(etoak?) himself to his sworde and buckler. And wh(en) his master sawe that, he went towards his man, and asked him what he ment thereby and what was the matter. And then his man answered that Huntley said that he hath called you knave and skipjacke, and that you would n(ot) answeere him, and nowe he calleth me knave and saithe that he will have to deal with . . .⁶⁰

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Then Mr. Arnold commaunded his man that he shuld not drawe his sword, but kepe the peace. And immediatlie hereuppon Mr. Arnold, makinge towards Mr. Huntley as it semed to this deponent to talke with him, havinge a rapier by his side, his boy profered his sworde and buckler unto him, which he refused to take, and willed him to stande under this deponentes penthouse with the same untill he came unto him. Then Mr. Arnold, proceedinge towards Huntley standinge by Mistress Mesingers dore, said to the said Huntley, What is the matter that you do thus quarrell with my man? Marye, said Huntley, I am gladd I have thee here. Then said Mr. Arnold, I would talke with thee. Whereuppon said Mr. Huntley, By Godes woundes, I will not trust thee: if thowe come any nerer, thowe shalt come on thyne owne perill. And whiles he spake these wordes he drewe his dager. And immediatlie Huntleis servaunt, waytinge upon his master with a sworde and buckler, drewe also his sworde. And there uppon Mr. Arnold drewe his rapier, and so Mr. Huntley drewe his sword like wyse. And an other of Mr. Huntleis servauntes came out of Mistress Mesingers house with a coalestaffe. And then Mr. Arnold(s) man came with his sword drawn and so buckeled together. But who gave the first blowe this deponent knoweth not, because this deponent in the meane time went into his house for a clubbe to depart the affraye. And further he saith that he sawe not Mr. Arnold stricke any blowe, et aliter nescit.

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Et quoad Hall ac Bager, they cam bothe to the same affraye with

⁵⁹ pp. 171-74 are entered in reverse.

⁶⁰ Sentence unfinished.

their swordes and daggers redye drawn, to what intent this deponent knoweth not.

And further saithe that sumwhat after the beginninge of the said affraye one Thomas Morgan of Newent cam runninge into this deponents house and toke out of the shoppe a staffe, and came as this deponent thinketh to depart the affraye. And further saithe that after thende of the said affraye and the parties parted a sunder and quietnes had, this deponent did see the said Bager, Morgan and William Hill goinge towards St. Nicholas church in the said cittie. And so after some communicacion had betwene the said parties, they drew their weapons againe and so made a newe affraye, where the said Morgan was hurt by the said Bager cumminge behinde him with a pricke into his side, and so wounded him. Et aliter nescit deponere, savinge that this deponent saithe that he sawe the said Hill hould his dager in his hande as thoughte he would throwe the same at the said Morgan. And whiles the said Morgan did watch to escape the dager, the said Bager wounded the said Morgan as before it is deposed by this deponent. Et aliter nescit.

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Ralf Karver, smithe, the servaunt of James Thomkins of the parishe of St. Nicholas within the cittie of Gloucester, of the age of xx^{ti} yeares or there aboutes, borne in the parishe of Roude in the countie of Willts, where he hath made his abode all the daies of his lyfe savinge in Gloucester with the said Thomkins the space of three quarters of a yere now last paste, sworne and examyned, saith: Ad primum interrogatum nescit deponere. Ad 2 et 3 nescit deponere. Ad quartum dicit, That Mr. William Huntley was chiefe doer in gevinge occasion of the affraye; for this deponent, beinge in his masters shoppe over against the place where the affray was made, the day of the quenes majesties departure owte of Gloucester, did see Mr. Huntley common and tawlke with Edmonde, Mr. Richard Arnolds servaunt, havinge his masters horse in his hande; but what the comunycacion was this deponent doth not knowe, for that he hard yt not; but he saith the saide Huntley seemed to be angrie; and there with the said Edmond departed from the said Huntley.

APPENDIX A

*Record of sessions attended by individual commissioners.**

Thomas Perry	66 sessions
Chancellor Grene	54 "
Richard Pate	35 "
Bishop Cheyney	26 "
John Angell	23 "
Chancellor Powell	15 "
Archdeacon Savage	9 "
Sir John Tracy	9 "
Sir Giles Poole	9 "
Lord Chandos	7 "
Sir Richard Berkeley	6 "
Henry Poole	4 "
Mayors of Gloucester (collectively)	4 "
Dean Humphrey	2 "
Sir Nicholas Pointz	1 "
Richard Bayneham	1 "

* The list does not include Bishop Bullingham and Chancellor Blackleach whose only recorded appearances were in connection with the isolated session of June 1582.

APPENDIX B

*Summary of the cases recorded in the commissioners' act book**

I. LAITY.

Moral offences	40
Recusancy	38
Contempt of court	17
Attacks on clergy	5
Rioting (all in one affray)	5
Desertion	4
Breach of promise	4
Church goods	3
Defamation	2
Divorce and separation	2
Baptismal offences	2
Church decays	2
Disturbing divine service	2
Non-payment of curate	1
Unlawful games	1
Destruction of a pew	1
Forgery	1
Rights of burial	1
Cases in which subject not stated	39†

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Evil life	5
Forgery of muniments	2
Failure to subscribe to the Articles of 1562	2
Unlicensed preaching	1
Popery	1
Service offences	1
Ground rights on church land	1
Refusal to wear surplice	1
Baptismal irregularities	1
Decay of chancel and church property	1
Illegal tenure of benefice	1
Slander	1
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* In some cases individual defendants were charged with more than one offence.

† Probably mainly moral offences.

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