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PAYMENTS BY THE TOWN OF FAVERSHAM IN 1635-6,

EXTRACTED FROM THE CHAMBERLAINS' ACCOUNTS, AND
NOTES THEREON CHIEFLY FROM THE WARDMOTE BOOK.

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TOWN CLERK, FAVERSHAM.

PAYMENTS.

1635, <i>Dec.</i> 26. Adrian Cutler for his first quarter for keping of the town clear of beggars & rogues (<i>a</i>) .	7 6
Mr Owre for his charges when he went to London about the Ship cesse (<i>b</i>)	1 12 3
A messenger which came from Dover with a letter which did concern the names of all shipmen & also Crayers Barks & other vessels & also innholders vitlers hacknimen their names to be given in within 14 days	2 0
A messenger which came from Dover with a letter which did concern the sitting in a commission about Powles	2 0
6 warders at Valentine fair 4 of them warded 8 days & 2 of them warded 9 days	2 10 0
A messenger which brought a letter from Dover which did concern a cesse for the Bleane (<i>c</i>)	2 0
Goodman Richmond for blowing of the Brazen horn when Samuel Barrett died which Rich ^d Hammons boy killed	1 0
<i>Feb.</i> 25. A dinner at the Flower de luce (<i>d</i>) at which dinner the Mayor and the rest of the Jurats with other Gentlemen whom the Mayor did invite with some of the Commoners all to the number of 30 persons or thereabouts. This day was a Sessions day for the trial of William Bossell which killed Samuel Barrett	2 6 9

Mr Mayor for charges he was at when he went to London to the Lord Warden about the Ship cesse (b) .	6	7	6
1636, Mar. 25. A messenger sent from Dover with a proclamation which did concern the current going of farthings	1	0	
A messenger which came from Dover with 3 letters which did concern the binding of all sailors and hackneyemen and innholders in bond that they shall give in the names & surnames of all strangers as shall arrive within the liberties of the town & of what profession & religion they are	6	0	
April 2. A messenger which came from Dover with 3 letters and the effect of them was that no Englishman nor Scotsman nor frenchman should transport any gold or silver out of this kingdom	6	0	
April 3. A messenger which came from Dover & the effect of it was that the Officers of the Custom house should be examined what passengers have passed out of this town since July last past . . .	2	0	
April 8. Goodman Perker the sexton for this quarter for ringing of the Bell	10	0	
April 21. A messenger which came from Dover with 2 proclamations, the one did concern the curing of the Kings evil; the other was that all mariners which have withdrawn themselves from the Kings ships which were pressed in his Majestys service to repair again to Chatham upon pain of such penalty as shall follow upon them	2	0	
April 26. Mr Phillips for the weekly sermon (e) commonly called the lecture	10	0	0
May 12. A messenger which came from Dover with 3 proclamations, the first did concern the restraint of the consumption of coin bullion of this Realm and the deceitful making of gold and silver thread; the second was His Majestys pleasure touching orders to be observed for prevention of dispersing the Plague (f); the third was touching books first printed here and after reprinted beyond the Sea & imported hither	3	0	
May 25. A messenger which came from Dover with 3 proclamations & one letter, the first did concern the			

buying selling or publishing any foreign edition of a book; the second was for restraint of fishing upon His Majestys seas; the third was prohibiting the wearing buying or selling of counterfeit jewels	5	0
June 2. A messenger which came from Dover with 2 proclamations & one letter	4	0
June 17. A messenger which came from Dover with a warrant which did concern a day for a muster	2	0
June 24. Mr Phillips for preaching on the Benefactor's day (g) on Midlent Sunday	13	4
John Pakker for bread at the Lamas watch	4	6
Spent at the Lion at Ospringe by Mr Mayor & Mr Edwards sitting about prisoners	3	6
Oct. 26. A messenger which came from Dover with a proclamation which did concern Bartholomew fair.	1	0
A messenger which came from Dover with a proclamation concerning the return of the term	1	0
A poor ministers wife which came out of the Palatinate Country	3	4
A messenger which came from Dover with two proclamations which did chiefly concern clothworkers & also weights and measures	2	0
A messenger which came with a packet from the Kings bed chamber	8	0

NOTES.

(a) *Keeping the Town clear of beggars and rogues.*

At a Common Council, 3 Nov. 1623:—

"It is thought fit and requisite and so is ordered at this present wardmote by the Maior, Juratts and Commonaltie above named, That there shalbe appoynted yerelie by the Maior of this Towne for the tyme beinge fower warders to warde weekelie at suche daies and howers as the Maior shall from tyme to tyme appoynte, for the kepinge out and apprehendinge of Rogues and Wandring people, and that the saide Warders shalbe allowed yerelie out of the Chamber for theire paines the somme of fiftie shillings, to be paid them quarterlie viz^t at the feasts of the Nativitie of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the Annunciation of our Ladie, St John the Baptist and St Michael Tharchangell by even and equall porcions. The first payment thereof to begynne at the Feast of the Nativitie

of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, next after the date of this present Wardmote. And that the Maior for the tyme beinge shall have power at all tymes to alter and change the saide Warders uppon their negligent and unssertoage, and to place and appoynt newe in their Rowmes or in the Rowme of anie of them at his pleasure."

At a Common Council, 24 June 1630 :—

"It is thought fitt and requisite that the fower warders heretofore chosen and appoynted to loke unto and examyn suche as shall come into the Towne this daungerous tyme of Infection shalbe now discharged of suche their service. And onlie one to be appoynted by Mr Maior for that service from henceforthe till further cause shall appeare."

At a Common Council, 13 Dec. 1630 :—

"It is ordered at this Warmouth that Thomas Sparrowe and Adrian Iselye shall watche in convenient places in this Towne for all vagrants rogues and beggers that shall offer to come into this Towne, and to carrie them presentlie to the Maior or commyt them to the Cage to be ordred accordinge to the lawe. And they for their paines to be paid by the Chamberlaynes monthlie after the rate of xxx^s a yere to eche of them."

(b) *Ship cesse.*

At a Common Council, 17 Nov. 1635 :—

"Whereas Mr Mayor hathe latelie received letters from the Maior of Dover for the some of c^{li} by hym assessed uppon this Towne towards the charge of a Shipp for his Majestys service, by virtue of His Majesties Writt, Together with a warrant for the assessinge and raiseinge the saide c^{li} uppon the severall Inhabitants heere, Now forasmuche as we doe conceive the said c^{li} to be to great a proporcion for us alone to beare, the wholl charge laide uppon Dover with his members and lymes, beinge but 330^{li} which is to be distributed and borne by xi severall Townes and lymes It is now thought fitt and requisite, that our honourable Lord Warden should be made acquainted thereof his favour and helpe therein craved for some abatement of that to great a burthen as allso for the rightinge of some mistakeinges in the Kinges writt, toucheing uppon the Liberties of the Ports, if it may be obteyned, for the doinge whereof, this house dothe now intreate and request Mr Maior and Mr Boys Owre with all convenient speede to repaire unto our honourable Lord Warden, to crave his helpe in the premisses, and theare charges to be borne by the Chamber. And it is allso thought

fitt and now ordred that a letter shalbe now presentlie sent unto the Maior of Dover to request him to forbeare and respite us untill our resolution and answer from our noble Lord Warden."

(c) *Cesse for the Blean.*

At a Common Council on 1 April 1633 :—

"It is ordered at this present Warmouth that there shallbe a generall Sesse uppon all the Inhabitants of this Towne beinge of any abillity to paie to raise the somme of fortye poundes ymposed uppon this Towne towards the repayinge of the Highwaye at Boughton Blean, which Sesse is now here presently made and agreed on by this wholl assemblie haveinge thereunto set their handes, which Sesse is to be collected and gathered undelayedly."

At a Common Council on 10 Oct. 1637 :—

"It is ordered at this Warmouth, That a Sesse shalbe indelaiedlye made on the Inhabitants of this Towne, that are of anie abilitie, for the raysinge of the somme of xx^{li} towards the repaireinge of the Blean waie which was the proportion set uppon this Towne, This Sesse to be forthwith made, by M^r Caslocke and M^r Ore Juratts and George Moorton and Francis Winsor Commoners, and to be speedilie collected by John Fearne and Tho. Knowler and they to have a warrant under the Maiors seale, for the gatheringe thereof, and when it is collected by them then to be delivered to M^r Maior to be foorthwith sent to Sir John Manwoodd. And that in the meanetyme a letter shalbe sent to Sir John Manwode to certefie hym that the monie shalbe indelayedly sent unto hym."

(d) *Flower de luce.*

This inn is referred to in the well-known play of "Arden of Faversham," act 1, scene 1. The play, which adheres strictly to the historical account of Arden's murder, mentions Adam Fowle as the landlord of this inn, and makes him one of the persons of the drama. He was made a Freeman of Faversham in 1546, a Commoner in 1548, and in 1550 he occupied the Abbey Porter's Gatehouse and garden at rent of 40s. per annum.

(e) *The Weekly Sermon.*

William Saker, Jurat of Faversham, by will dated 16 May 1594, gave to the Mayor, Jurats, and Commonalty £5 yearly to be employed by them to the use of a lecture to be read and preached in the church of the town for ever.

At a Wardmote on 8 July 1622 an order was made for a yearly payment to Mr. John Phillipps the Vicar of Faversham, towards his labour and pains in keeping and maintaining the weekly Saturday Lecture there, of £15 over and above the £5 payable by Mr. Saker's will.

(f) *The Plague.*

The plague infection began in Faversham in May 1636, and lasted until November; 78 persons during that time were marked in the Burial Register as having died of that disease.

At a Common Council on 12 May 1630 :—

"Whereas we are geven to understand that the daungerous and infectious sicknes of the plague is begunne and dispersed into manie townes and villages of this Kingdome and within this Countie of Kent and geves great cause of feare of cominge allso into this Towne, and therefore in all discretion, we are to use the best meanes we can, both to God and by all owtward instrumentall meanes as shalbe fittinge. It is therefore thought fitt and requisite, and so is ordred at this present wardmote, That there shalbe forthwith chosen and appoynted by Mr Maior and the Juratts three Warders to loke unto and examyn all comers into the Towne and kepe out suche as come from any place infected, and the said warders to have suche convenient wages as they can agree for.

"And that all common dunghills in and aboute the Towne to be undelaiedlie carried awaie to some place out of the Towne, and no more to be made in or neere the Towne.

"And that one woman shalbe appoynted to searche all suche as dye, and to have for the wakes 11^s a weeke.

"The Boatenmen to be carefull what passengers or goods they bringe from London.

"The victuallers not to receive any strangers into their houses without order from the Maior or some of the Jurats.

"That no trades men shall enterteyne any Jornymen into their houses without the consent of the Maior or some of the Jurats.

"And it is ordred that everye delinquent in any of the premisses and orders above mencioned shall paye for everye tyme they therein offend x^s to the use of the poore, and suffer ymprisonment at the discretion of Mr Maior."

At a Common Council on 23 Jan. 1636-7 :—

“ It is ordered and agreed at this Wardmote, that the monie arising of the Corne for the poore for the last yeere, shalbe allowed to M^r Maior towards the charge of the reliefe of such as were infected with the plague.”

(g) *Benefactors' Day.*

Thomas Arden, the subject of the play of “ Arden of Faversham,” by will dated 20 Dec. 1550 gave property to the Corporation for the relief of the poor of Faversham, and directed them yearly on the day of his burial to cause in Faversham Church a solemn sermon of the Scripture to be made by a preacher of Christchurch in Canterbury, or some other well-learned man, and he to have for his labour for every such sermon 5s., reciting in his sermon Arderne's name, the cause of that sermon, and also reciting his said gift to the intent other good men may the rather be provoked to give the like.

At a Common Council on 3 Oct. 1628 an Order was made reciting benefactions of John Cole, Queen Elizabeth, Henry Hatche, Thomas Arderne, Thomas Stransham, William Saker, Robert Stone, and Thomas Menfield to the Town, that thenceforth for ever there should be yearly on Middle Lent Sunday a Sermon preached by the Minister of Faversham for the time being, wherein mention should be always made of the therein mentioned benefactors and charitable donations, in thankful remembrance thereof and for the encouraging and inciting of others to the Christian and forward imitation of those so well disposed benefactors, for which Sermon the Minister was to receive 8s. 4d., and on the day after the Sermon 26s. 8d. was to be distributed in bread to such poor people as were present at the Sermon, the bread being first set and placed in some public convenient place in the Church.

The sermon was continued annually until 1847 or later, and was preceded by “ the bidding of prayers ” containing the benefactors' names, etc. During “ the bidding ” the congregation remained standing.