

**PRESENTATION MATTERS**  
**The Barcheston Tithe Dispute : TNA REQ 2/223/66**

This bundle is made up of twelve sheets; because the last document is actually the earliest in date apart from the earliest, the writ the sheets are presented here in chronological order, the reverse order of the bundle.

Throughout defendant has been abbreviated to defd't and complainant to compl't;  
DYK = Do you know; HYH= Have you heard, both formal questions. Line breaks are indicated by //

Associated documents are in REQ 2/121/32, below

11. To the Queen's most excellent Majesty : Complaint of Richard Hyckes.  
Signed T Jones, dated on verso vj August xxix Eliz.[1587] Hyll to appear within the  
Quindene of Michaelmas, penalty of £100, signed Thomas Seckford.
10. The demurrer of Robert Hyll to the insufficient bill of complaint of Richard  
Hyckes, signed W.Combe. Dated xj Octobris 29 Eliz. [1587]
9. The answer of Robert Hyll to the bill of complaint of Richard Hyckes, signed W  
Combe. Dated xxiiij die Octobris 29 Eliz. [1587]
8. Replication of Hyckes to the insufficient answer of Robert Hyll defendant, signed  
?Thomas Jones. Dated xxx die Octobr' 29 Eliz [1587]
7. Rejoynder of R Hyll defendant to the replication of Richard Hyckes, signed W.  
Combe. Dated 24 November 30 Eliz. [1587]
- 5, 6. Answers from deponents on behalf of Hyll.  
15th January 30 Eliz [1588]
- 3, 4. Answers from deponents on behalf of Hyckes (as in REQ 2/121/32)  
15th January 30 Eliz [1588]
2. Instructions to the named Commissioners  
22 November 30 Eliz [1587]
1. Interrogatories on behalf of Hyckes  
Dated on verso 22 Nov 30 Eliz [1587]

These inquiries are of interest for what they reveal about Barcheston rather than for the details of the case itself.

The dispute is a continuation of hearings begun in the Consistory Court of the Bishop of Worcester, see Deposition Books III (June 1581-1587) in Worcester Record Office

Further documents are at TNA REQ 2/121/32 below

## Sheet 11 [ The Complaint of Richard Hyckes]

Dated on verso vj Augusti xxix Eliz [1587]; the warrant to summon Hyll was signed by Thos Seckford.

To the Queene's most excellent  
Maiestie

In most humble manner complayninge sheweth your most excellent maiestie your highness your suppliant and trewe servaunte Richard Hicks // of Barcheston in the countie of Warwycke Yr Maj[esties] arras worker That whereas there has beene and as yet are diverse and sundrie accompts debts and demuandes // depending betweene your said servaunte and one Roberte Hyll clerke Parson of Barcheston aforesaid where by the said Hyll was and is// indebted to your said subiect and servaunte in divers sums of money amounting for the whole to the some of two hundred poundes or thereabouts as will// manifestlie appere upon the foote and sleeve remainder of the said accompte. But so yf it may please your most excellent maiestie That // the said Hyll fearing not the Lawes of God but intending and by subtile meanes going about to defraude your said suppliant of his said debt // about five yeares last past (as he remembereth) came unto your said servaunte and besoughte and earnestlye requested your said supplyante // that he wolde make him an acquittance for all such somes of money debtes dewties and demaundes as were then betwixt them. And further did // faythfullie protest and promise that the said acquittance sholde not tend to the dyscharge of the said debts But that notwithstandinge the Acquittance // he wolde paie and dischargd all such thinges as sholde be dewe to your servaunte upon the accompt and Reckoninge between them. And that also Your said servaunt and subiecte shold continewe the occupacon of the parsonage of Barcheston aforesaid during the time that he the said Hyll sholde remayne // incumbente there. Upon which said earnest request and promise And further upon the trust that your said supplyante reposed in the said Hyll // aswell by Reason of the familiaritie and greate acquaintance that was betwixt them as also in respecte of the profession and course of life that the said Hyll // had undertaken and misdobtinge nothing lesse in him than suche subiltie and ungodly dealinge as afterwards he used your said subiecte fulfilled // his Requeste and made the said Acquittance accordinglie. And now the said Hyll havinge by such indirecte subtile and sinister meanes and fraudulent // persuasions and entreaties as is aforesaid obteyned and procured and got of your said servaunte the said Acquittance Hyll denyed and as yet doth denie // to come to any accompte or reckoninge with your said subiecte or to paie the said somes of money by him dewe to your said suppliant or any part or parcel thereof contrarie to his promise assumption and protestacion and contrary to all Right Equitie and good Conscience so that thereby your said suppliant is barred from all Remedie and redresse by the strict ordinarie and usuall course of the comon (*sic*) Lawes of this Realme and is lyke // to be deprived of his right and dewe debts to his greate hinderance yf your highness accustomed goodness and clemencie be not to him in this behalfe // extended. In tender consideracion of all which premises may it please your highness most gracious excellencie to graunt to your Highness said servaunte your highness // most gracious Writt of Privie Seale to be directed to the said Roberte Hyll commanding him therby at a certain daye and under a certeyne playce // therein to be limited as well to be and personallie to appeare before your highness in your majestie highness court of Requestes then and howe to answeere to the // premises And that some indifferent

persons may be nominated and apoynted to here and determine the said accompte and Reckonings so that a finall ende // maybe had and taken in the premises accordinge to equitie and good conscience. And further to stande to and abide by such further order and direcon // given as by your excellency shalbe adjudged to stande with Justice equitie and good conscience And your said servaunte shall accordinge to his // bounden dewtie dayle praye for the health and prosperous estate of your majestie and for your highness long and happie raigne over us which god // of his infinite mercie graunte.

Signed Thos Owen

### **Sheet 10 The demurrer of Robert Hyll clerke defd't to the insufficient bill of Complaynt of Richard Hicks Compl't**

Top left xj die Oct' xxix Eliz [1587]

The said defendant by protestacion not confessing any mater in the said Bill to be true in manner and forme as in the said Bill they be // alledged sett forth devised and exhibited of malice to put this defd't to greate // troble and expenses without any just cause. For // answer saith thsaide Byll and the matters therein conteyned are altogether incertein and insufficient in the lawe to be answered unto // and matter nearlie determinable at the common lawes and not in this honourable courte for hit appeareth by the compl't his owne // shewing that consideracion of a generall release to be made by the compl't unto the defd't, the defd't did faithfullie promise // and assume to paie unto the said compl't all such thinges as should be dewe unto him by the accompte between the said compl't // and defd't, notwithstanding the said release supposed to be made. And the said compl't further in his said Byll // alledgeth that upon the said promise he made a generall release accordinge whereby the defd't is chargeable in his acion // upon the case and order of the common lawe to answer unto the compl't damage for breach of his promise if he made any // such as in truth he did not. And also the compl't sheweth that he did make unto the defd't a generall release and by that // acquitted him from all demandes to be made then after the date of the said Release. And yet sheweth that the defd't // did promise that the said Release should not touch to the dischargd of the demuandes between the compl't and the defd't // which as hit is verie unlikelie to be true so were the promys (yf any such were as in deede was not) voide in lawe and // repugnant to the said Release and acquittance. For all which causes and for divers other[s] apparent in the same Byll this // defd't doth demur in lawe of the said Byll and of the matters therin conteyned and doth demaunde Judgement of this // honorable Courte if he shalbe by order of the same compelled to make any other or further answer to the said // insufficient Byll. And most humbly praying to be dismissed out of this honorable Courte with his costs and charges // in that behalfe most wrongfullie susteyned.

Signed W Combe

### **Sheet 9 The Answer of Robert Hyll clearke defd't to the untrue Byll of Complaint of Richard Hicks complainant xxiiij die Octobr' a[nn]o r[egni] reginae Elizabethae xxix [1587]**

The said defd't sayeth as before he hath said that for the cause before alledged in the said Demurrer and for divers other causes in the saide Byll to be excepted against he ought // not by lawe to make any other or further answer unto the first Byll. Yett nevertheless yf this defd't shalbe for this tyme compelled to make any other or further Answer // then all advantages of exception to the contrarie and insufficiency of the said Byll of Complaint beinge unto him the said defd't nowe and at all tymes hereafter // ffor answer thereunto he this said defd't sayeth as followeth That as to the said sundrie accompts debts duties or demaundes amountinge to the some of two hundred // poundes or thereabouts depending between the said compl't and this defd't as in the said Bill is most untrulie alledged, he this defd't sayeth that to his // knowledge he oweth nothinge to the said compl't But contrarywise he the said compl't hath alwaies for the space of those thirteene or fourteene yeares at the least been in arrearage and in debte unto the said defd't and yet is in his debt at this daye and oweth money of some value to this defd't ffor part whereof he this // defd't hath sued the said compl't who very unconscionable dishonestlie and uniuertlie doth detain the same and yet very untruelie sclanderouslie and maliciouslie // doth exclaime of this defd't. Notwithstandinge this defd't sayeth that in the tyme of friendship and famylyartye which heretofore was betweene this defd't and // the said compl't some courtesies gyftes and tokens of good will did pass betweene the said compl't and this defd't before the Acquyttance in the said Byll mencioned which courtesies although this defd't (as he verelie thought) did sufficientlie recompense him the said compl't with the like benefits. Yett he this defd't // before the making of the said Acquyttance did will the said compl't that if the said compl't were not for all thinges fullie satisfied to his contentment // that then he should deduct and sett on somuch of the debts and somes of money which the said compl't did then owe unto this defd't as he the said // compl't should thinke well of in recompense of any the curteseyes and ffriendshipps which had passed betweene the said compl't and this defd't. But // the said compl't in regard of many and sundrie courtesies liberalities and benefyttes which he had received of this defd't did then refuse to demaunde or // take any further recompense or consideracon for those matters and confessed that he was greatlie indebted unto this defd't and that he [ xxxxxxxx ] // make this defd't a generall release or Acquittance of all manner of reckonings and demaundes whatsoever which thinge the said compl't then did, and sealed and // delivered the said Acquittance to this defd't accordingle as well he might, for that the said compl't had no accompt debte or demaunde to charge this defd't // withal to this defd'ts nowe remembrance other than this defd't hath all redie saide. And as to the supposed promises in the said Bill mentioned that // he the said defd't did proteste and promise that the saide acquittance should not tend to the discharge of the said defd't or that the defd't wolde paye // all such thinges as in the same Bill is untruelie alledged notwithstanding his acquittance. Or that the said compl't sholde continue the occupacion of the said // parsonage of Barcheston during the incumbencye of the said defd't, he this defd't sayeth that he never made him the said compl't any such promise to // this defd't his knowledge as in the said Byll is most untruelie surmised without that. That there are divers and sundrie accompts debts duties and // demaundes depending betweene the compl't and the defd't whereby the defd't is indebted to the said compl't in diverse somes of money amountinge // to the some of two hundred pounds or that any such matter will manifestlie appeare upon the foote or sleave remainder of the said accompte // to the privitie of this defd't as the compl't verie untruelie hath surmised. Or that the saide defd't, not fearing the lawes // of god, but myndinge and by subtyll meanes going about to defraud the saide compl't of any debts did by any indirect

meanes paye // any such Acquittance Or did faithfully protest and promise that the said Acquittance should not tend to the discharging of the saide // debts. But that notwithstandinge the said Acquittance he wolde paie and discharge all such things as should be due to the compl't // upon the accompt and reckoninge between them as the said compl't very impudently and maliciouslie and slanderouslie hath // faulslie suggested, ffor that (to this defd'ts remembrance) the said defd't did not owe unto the said compl't any suche // somes of money or was accomptant unto him any way or in anie meanes of reconing (*sic*) for the which the said compl't did not before the // makinge of the said Acquittance acknowledge himselfe fullie satisfied (as this defd't verelie thinketh). But on the contrarie yet the said compl't was and is in debte and accomptable unto this defd't And without that that other matter or thinge // in the said Bill matteriallie to be answered unto and before not sufficientlie confessed and avoided averred denied nor traversed as [some ?] // All which matters the said defd't is readie to aver as this honourable court shall awarde and prayeth to be dismissed with his costs and charges in his behalfe most wrongfullie susteyned.

Signed W. Combe

## **Sheet 8 The Replication of Richard Hicks Complainant to the Insufficient Answers of Richard Hyll, defendant**

xxx die Oct' Anno r.r. Elizabethae xxix [1587]

The said Compl't sayeth in all things as he before in the said Bill of Complaint hath saide and doth and will aver // iustifie and mayntayne the matters and materials pointes and thinges in his said Bill of Complaint meyntheyned to be true and iuste // in such manner and forme as they be in the said Bill sett downe and alleadged. And he the said compl't for further // replicacion saieth he the said compl't is not yet satisfified or paide off as for certein hangings of Tapestry for // one chamber neyther for the said defd't his dyett by the space of sixe or seven yeares nor for the dyett of a kinsman of the // said defd't for a long time neither yet did he the said defd't disburthen repair or otherwise satisfifie the said compl't // of or for his the great chardges expenses costes and advancement // of the said defd't into the parsonage of Barcheston (as in the said Bill of Complaint is at lardge sett down and // declared). Which severall somes and divers others which the said compl't can and will particularlie sett downe in // such sorte manner and forme as shall be thought convenient by this honourable courte. And this compl't for // further replicacion sayeth that by the apoyntment and order of the right reverend father in God the now Archbishop // of Canterburie fower gentlemen learned indifferente and conscionable by his grace to that end nominated and selected // [?? Had ] the hearing receaving and takynge of all Acomptes and demaundes whatsoever betweene the said compl't // and the said defd't at which time upon the foote of the reckoninge and accomptes between the said parties before the said fower gentlemen the said defd't after ranking and streyning of all the demaundes and dewties he cold devise // [?? Tied ] into the debt of the said compl't to the valewe of two hundred poundes or thereabouts (as is aforesaid) which this defd't // perceiving layd violent hands upon certeine writings noates and escrowles to the said compl't belonging and the same // by force did teare in peeces in the presence of the said fower gentlemen and divers others sufficient and of credite without // that that the said compl't hath allwayes for the space of these thirteene or fowerteene yeares at the leaste been in // arrearages and indebted to the said defd't or yet is in his debte at this daie or oweth moneye of some valewe // to this defd't or that for parte thereof he the defd't hath sued the said compl't or that he the said // compl't

verie unconscionable dishonestie and uniuertie doth deteyne the same or yet verie untrewlie [ ? sclanderouslie ] // and maliciouslie doth exclaime of this defd't as in the said Answer is most untrewlie alleaged and declared. And // without that that this defd't before the makinge of the said Acquittance did will the said compl't that yf the // said compl't were not for all thinges fullie satisfied to his contentment that then he sholde deduct and sett on so much of the // debts and somes of money which the said compl't did then owe unto this defd't as he the said compl't sholde thinke // well of in recompense of anie the curtesies and friendship which had passed betweene the said complainant and this defd't . // Or that the said compl't in regard of manie and sundrie curtesies liberalities and benefites which he had received of this // defd't did then refuse to demaunde or take anie further recompence or consideracon for those matters or confessed that he was // greatlie indebted unto this defd't or that he never intended to demaunde any further consideration at the handes of the // said defd't for any suche thinges. And without that also that anie other matter or matters thing or thinges in the // said Answer conteyned and not in the Replicacion sufficientlie replied unto or otherwise sufficientlie answered or // denied confessed and avoided is trewe All which matters this compl't is readie to aver and prove as this // honourable courte shall awarde and prayeth as before in his said Bill of Complaint he hath prayed.

Signed Thos Jones

## **Sheet 7 The Rejoynder of Robert Hyll defd't to the Replicacion of Richard Hicks complainant**

Top lh corner xxiiij die Novembr' a r.r.Elizabethae xxix [1587]

The said defd't sayeth in all things as before in his said Answer to the said Byll of Complaynt he hath saide, and doth and will aver iustifie and mayntayne the saide matters and all matteriall/ poyntes and things in his said Answer contained to be true and iuste in such sorte manner and forme as they are in the said answer sett downe and alleaged. And the said defd't for Reioynder // sayeth that he the said defd't is not indebted to the said complainant for any hangings of tapesterie or for his owne diet or the diet of his kinsman or for any charges expenses costes or travail of the said // compl't in preferring or advancynge him this defendant to the parsonage of Barcheston. But that the saide compl't for all such thinges hath ben and is fullie satisfied contented and paied as well by // receaving takinge and enioyinge all the fruytes and profittes of the said parsonage of Barcheston by the space of ten or elleaven yeares as also by divers and sundrie benefits gyftes and curtesies of // the said defd't wherewith the said compl't about sixe yeares past being then moved thereunto in iustice and equitie of conscience hath acknowledged and confessed himselfe fullie satisfied // and paid. And by an acquittance of the complainant his owne hand, the said complainant hath clerelie released acquitted and discharged the defd't thereof which this defd't will directlie and // apparentlie prove and make manifeste as this honorable courte shall awarde. And further this defd't sayeth that about the yeare of Our Lord God one thousand five hundred and seventie two the // said compl't was an earnest suitor unto him the said defd't to come from the Universitie of Oxon' to teach the said complainant his children and schollers and the children or schollers of the said complainant // his frendes some tymes to the number of seaven sometime to the number of fower schollers, all which schollers or the most parte of them this defd't did teach and instructe privatlie in the said defd'ts owne house to the greate trouble travaill and hinderance of the said defd't his profession and preferment otherwise by the space of sixe or seaven yeares together during which

tyme the said defendant and his // servant or boye to wayte on him had their dyett with the said children and schollers at the said compl't his house, at the earnest suite and request of the said compl't. And the said defd't had not at any // tyme any other consideracion or recompense (of the said compl't or his saide frendes) for that his said great troble travail and hinderance by teachinge the said schollers at the saide tyme savinge // onlie his owne and his servaunts diet and three small peeces of course tapesterie which tapesterie the said complainant did as frelie bestowe upon the defd't as he this defd't did likewise bestowe // upon the compl't a peece of plate of silver and gylte with other curtesies counter vaylable to the said Tapesterie. And whereas the said compl't alledged that by the apoyntment of the right // reverend father in god the nowe Archbishopp of Canterburie fower gentlemen had the hearinge receavinge and taking of all accomptes and demaundes whatsoever betweene the said compl't // and the saide defd't and that at that tyme uppon the fote of the said reconinge (*sic*) and accomptes betweene the said parties before the said fower gentlemen, the said defd't after packinge and streyninge of all the demaundes and duties he coude devise, fell into the debt of the said compl't two hundred poundes or thereabouts. The said defd't thereunto sayeth // that about Bartholomewtid this twelvemonth as this defd't remembereth (which was about three years after the sealinge and deliveringe of the said Acquittance in the Byll of Complaynt mencioned) the most reverend father in god the said Archbishopp of Canterbury (at the suite of the said compl't) willed the said defd't to put the hearinge of the greeffe of the saide // compl't to certen frendes of both sides, whereunto this defd't not for any cause of debt or accompte wherewith the said defd't could then iustlie be charged but only for duties sake and reverence to the motion // of so honourable a personage did then yelde. So as the matter was then committed to the hearinge of fower gentlemen. About which tyme the said compl't demaunded of the saide defd't thirteene poundes by the yeare // for his diet by the space of nyne yeares and a half which amounteth to one hundred three and twentie poundes ten shillings and for the diet of the said defd't his servaunt for nyne yeares and a half ten poundes // by yeare which amounteth to four score fyfteene poundes. But when the said gentlemen understood that the said complainant had holden and enjoyed all the tythes and proffittes of the said parsonage of Barcheston // being worth fiftie poundes a yeare or thereabouts in consideracion onlie of eighteene poundes a yeare and the defd't his diet for the space of ten or eleven yeares And that the said compl't // wolde nowe most unconscionable extort and pull back agayne from the said defd't (onlie for his diet and the diet of his servaunt) twentie three poundes by yere which is five poundes a yere more // than the said defd't received for all the fruites and proffittes of his said parsonage being worth fiftie poundes a year or thereabouts They the said fower gentmen (*sic*) hearing so unconscionable demaundes of the said compl't // and seeing the said compl't so urgent and hotte in urgynge the suit, and that without reason and conscience did then leave of and cease from any hearinge or explayninge of the matter, not allowing or ratifyinge // or setting downe any such accompt or reconinge as the said compl't untruelie alledged. But contrariwise the saide fower gentlemen or some of them did signifie unto the said most reverend father in god the saide // Archbishopp of Cant' the unreasonable and unconscionable demaundes of the said compl't. And further the said defd' saith that the said complainant doth very uniustlie and unfairlie and uncosncionable charge // the said defd't with any such accompte or reconinge for his diet which may partelie appeare by that which one Thomas Adkins brother in law to the said compl't with the privitie and consent of the said compl't as // yt is to be presumed hath alledged and articulated in the Court of Audience of the said reverend father the Archbishopp his

grace since Easter last past against the said defd't to this effect viz that he the // said  
 defd't about the yeare of our Lord one thousande five hundred and seaventie and two  
 did devise and sett the parsonage of Barcheston unto the said compl't for eighteene  
 poundes a year and the defd't // his table the saide parsonage being worth fyfftie  
 poundes or fortie poundes a year malliciouslie devisinge therby and intending to  
 object and alledge simony against the said defd't for devysinge the // said parsonage  
 unto the said compl't at an under value which thinge the said Court of Audience as  
 articulated and presented against the said defd't by which Articles this honorable  
 courte may see the // badd and malicious dealings used and practised to discredit and  
 vex the defd't. And where the said compl't sayeth that the said defd't did laye violent  
 hands upon certen writings notes and [escroles] // of the said compl't and the same did  
 teare in peeces in the presence of the said fower gentlemen the said defd't sayeth that  
 he never layde any violent hands upon any notes writings or escroles // of the said  
 compl't neyther did he teare any of them But contrariwise the same defd't sayeth that  
 when Mr Dr Lewes (one of the fower said gentlemen) did pull out of his bosome //  
 certen books and wrytynys of the said defd't and layd them upon the table before him  
 to redeliver the same writings unto the said defd't of whom he had received them the  
 said compl't // did verie dishonestlie snatch and take upp the said writings belonging  
 to the said defd't and the same did detayne and kepe until he was (with a sharpe  
 rebuke and great threateninge // of the said gentlemen) caused to restore the same unto  
 the same defd't, without that that any other matter or things in the said Bill or  
 Replicacion mencioned and not before // supplemented answered avoided confessed  
 traversed or denyed is true in manner and forme as the compl't hath alledged all  
 which matter the said defd't is redde to aver as // this honorable courte shall awarde  
 and prayeth as before in his said answer he hath prayed.  
 Signed W. Combe

## **Sheets 5 & 6, Depositions of witnesses for Hyll taken 15 January 30 Eliz [1588]**

Sheet headed Depositions of witnesses for the parte and behalfe of Robert Hyll defd't  
 against Richard Hicks compl't taken at Shipston on Stower in County of Worcester  
 the xvth day of January 30 a.r.r.Eliz [1588] by the Grace of God etc by Anker Brent,  
 Robert Wyncott and Edward Tomlyns by virtue of the Queen's commission.

The answers are essentially the same as those Sheet 1 in REQ 2/121/32 (below) with  
 the addition here of William Weeley and John Tustian whose replies are not exactly  
 the same as before.

**Wm Weeley** before examined on the parte of the plaintiff And now examined on the  
 parte of the defd't to the xjth interrogatory deposeth and sayeth that he esteemeth the  
 dyett of the defd't to be worthy by his estimacion during the tyme of his theyre  
 lodginge by the weeke at least 3s iiijd because he hath heard that certain gentlemens  
 sonnes then bordinge there with this compl't did paye weekly ijs iiijd And further to  
 this interrogatory he cannot saie.

John Thornett  
 Richard Palmer of Compton Scorfylde



Richard Hall of Utlicott

Robert Kynton

John Tustian – some differences and also his age, said to be lx years

**John Tustian** replies to the iijrd interrogatory that he was not present at the sealing of such acquittance as was mentioned in the sayd interrogatory but sayeth that he hath heard the compl't did say that the defd't did offer him an acquittance with blankes to be sealed by the said compl't but he the said compl't said that he thought the acquittance not sufficient for the sayd defd't. And then made one with his owne hande And to the 4<sup>th</sup> interrogatory he never heard the defd't say he should continue in the occupacion of the parsonage of Barcheston notwithstandinge the acquittance made by the compl't

**Sheet 6** : answers much as before of

**Thomas Pettifer**

**Richard Umfreys of Willington**

**Robert Hill**<sup>1</sup>

Signed Anker Brent and Robert Wyncott

**Sheets 3, 4 Depositions of witnesses sworn** and examined on the parte and behalfe of Richard// Hyckes complaynante against Robert Hyll defendant taken at Shipston on Stour Co Worcester the xvth daie of Januarie in the xxxth year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the Grace of God Defender of the Faith by Anker Brent, Robert Wyncott and Edward Tomlyns, gent, by virtue of a commission and unto Edward Archpole or to any three of them directed

Essentially these are the same answers as are at Sheet 2 in REQ 2/121/32 to the interrogatories on the first page of that bundle. Richard Palmer and Richard Hall's answers are not in this sequence.

The deponents were called in this order

Wm Weeley, Thomas Weeley, John Tustian, Simon Tustian, John Whitley, Thomas Atkyns of Tydmington, and both pages were signed by Anker Brent, Robert Wyncott and Edward Tomlyns

Signature of Robert Pettifer, notary public, with a note to say he was present

## **Sheet 2 The appointment of the commissioners**

The Queen's 'letter to Edward Tomlyns, Edward Archpole, Robert Wincot, 22 Nov 30 Eliz. [1587]

Trustie and well beloved we grete you well And send unto yourselves certain // interrogatories to be mynystered to the witnesses on the parte and behalf of Richard Hicks compl't// againste Robert Hyll defendant whereupon we trusting in your

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<sup>1</sup> His relationship to the cleric Robert Hyll is unknown.

proved wisdom learninge and // indifferences we will and desire you that by  
 thauthoritie hereof [afore ] your said name all //such witnesses and proves as by  
 either of the said parties shalbe nominated unto you then do dueley and substantially  
 examine them the said witnesses by trewe oaths in due forme of lawe // sworne not  
 only upon the content of the said Articles (here ) inclosed but also upon all/ such  
 other Articles which by either of the said parties shalbe exhibited unto you  
 endeavouring your//selves by all meanes possible to search and try out the verities of  
 the premises by your said examinacion //And thereupon dueley to certifie us and our  
 Counsaill by your wrytyngs under your seales // in our Court of Requests at  
 Westminster in the octaves of St Hilary next comynge of the // very true deposicions  
 of the said witnesses like as ye shall fynde by your said examinacions// To the intent  
 that we by thadvise of our said Counsaill may do further therein as the case //  
 rightfully shall require Not failing hereof as ye tender our pleasure and the  
 advancement of Justice. Given under our Privie Seale at our manor of Richmond //the  
 xxijth daye of November in the xxxth yere of our Reigne.

*Monogram R E Oseley [??]*

Signatures of Edward Tomlynys and Robert Wincott. Archpole seems to drop out

**Sheet 1 Interrogatories to be administered on behalf of Robert Hyll,  
 Defendant,** against Richard Hyckes plaintiff Dated on verso 22 Nov 30 Eliz [1587]

1. Imprimis whether do you know both the said parties pltf and the defd't and how long have you soe known them ?
2. Item Do You Know or Have You Heard that Richard Hicke the nowe complainant did paie the defd't the first fruits for the parsonage of Barcheston and that he disbursed divers other chardges at and for the presentation and induction of the said defd't into the said parsonage ? And that the said pltf promised the said defd't a dispensation to use and serve in his two benefices.
3. Item whether DYK or HYH that the said compl't did at his owne charges provide meate and drinke for the said defd't and his man. And meat with corne for two geldings Or how longe he soe kept them.
4. Item whether DYK or HYH that the said compl't did deliver a suite of hangings and divers other goodes unto the said defdt yea or noe. And of what value are they ?
5. Item whether DYK or HYH that the said defd't is indebted to the said compl't in diverse sums of money or to what valewe and by whom have you so heard it ?
6. Item whether DYK or HYH of an acquittance made by the pltf to the defd't ?
7. Item whether DYK or HYH that the said defd't did promise that notwithstanding the said acquittance he wold discharge all matters betwixt him the said defd't and the said compl't. And that the said acquittance should not tende to the discharge of any debtes reckonings or accompts betwixt them.

8. Item whether DYK or HYH that the said defd't did faithfully proteste and promise that the said compl't should continue the occupacion of the said parsonage of Barcheston during the time that he the said defd't should remain incumbente there.

9. Item whether DYK or HYH that the defd't hath or doth denie to paye such sums of moneye as by him are due to the said complt ?

10. Item whether DYK or HYH of any accompte or demand of any deth dewties or demands nowe dependinge betweene the said compl't and the said defd't or what do you knowe or can you saie thereinto or concerning the ketching or tearing of any bills or wrytyngs thereof.

Four signatories : Anker Brent  
Robert Wincot  
John Bishopp  
Gilbert [Backhowse] clerk

*Dated verso xxij die Novembris anno r r Elizabethae xxx [1587]*

## **TNA REQ 2/131/32**

Sheet 1 Depositions on the part of Robert Hyll, 15 January 30 Eliz [1588]

Sheet 2 Depositions of witnesses 15 January 30 Eliz [1588]

Sheet 3 Interrogatories to be ministered on the parte and behalfe of Robert Hyll clerk defendant against Richard Hyckes plaintiff

These inquiries are of interest for what they reveal about Barcheston rather than for the details of the case itself.

The dispute is a continuation of hearings begun in the Consistory Court of the Bishop of Worcester, see Deposition Books III (June 1581-1587) in Worcester Record Office

Further documents are at TNA REQ 2/223/66 also on this site

**Sheet 1 Depositions on the part of Robert Hyll, Clerk**, defendant, taken at Shipston on Stower in the county of Worcester on the xvth day of Januarie a.r.r. Elizabeth tricesimo [1588] by Anker Brent, gent, Robert Winkott and Edward Tomlyns gent by virtue of a commission of Her Majesty's Court of Requests

Annotated top left : Testes ex parte Roberti Hyll def iurat et examinat

**John Thornett of Wyllington** in the county of Warwick, day labourer, of the age of threescore yeares and ten or thereabouts sworn and examined sayeth that he hath knowen/ the plt'f and defd't for fifteene or sixteene yeares. To the seconde

interrogatory this deponent sayeth that he knoweth the parsonage of Barcheston /because because he hath dwelled in that parish four and forty yeares. To the second interrogatory he sayeth that there are in the field of Willington in the parish and titheable place of Barcheston four and twenty yardlands besides the glebe in the said field/ which is nineteen landes of arrable ground besides the glebe and the yardland in Barcheston field which are as many yard lands as he hath often heard as are in Willington field. And further this deponent sayeth that he knoweth a yard land and a half in Willington field is now sett and lett with the crop growing upon the same/ and to be so left at the end of four years for £10 by the yeare. And further he sayeth that he esteemeth the tythe of any one yard/ land in Willington to be worth yearly and so was for six yeares last past 23s 4d for he himself wolde give so much for it. And concerning the/ whole profit of the parsonage of Barcheston he cannot depose, but sayeth that the tithes of Willington in the said parish are worth yearly £30 and so were for ten years.

**Robert Kynton of Honington** in the county of Warwick, husbandman, aged 58, sworn/ and examined saieth that he hath knowen the plt'f and def'd't about sixteen yeares now last past To the second interrogatory he saieth that / he knoweth the parsonage of Barcheston for he lived in that parish of Barcheston 16 years and esteemth the tythe of every one yard/ land one with another with the privye tithe to be worth and hath been worth any tyme these past seaven yeares four and twenty shillings ./ Some parishioners in Honington do pay 24s for the tythe of a yard land the privy tithe excepted which privy tythe he esteemeth is worth 6s for every yard land. And he esteemeth the whole profit of the parsonage of Barcheston to be worth is £40 a year./

**Richard Humfries, of Willington** in the county of Warwick, husbandman, aged 60, sworn and examined deposeth that he knoweth the plt'f and def'd't about twelve or thirteene years last past. To the 2nd interrogatory he knoweth the parsonage / of Barcheston and saieth that there are in the parish of Barcheston 48 yardlands, viz 24 in Willington fild and 24 in Barcheston fild besydes the glebe land which is 2 yardlands as he hath heard by old men of the parish. And further he saieth that he hath heard that one Richard // Persons of the parish of Brayles saie this daie that the tithe of a yardland in that parish due to the parson there was sett for 18s besides the tythe due to the / vicar which was sett at 8s. And he beleveth yt to be true. And further saieth that he knoweth one and a half yard land within the filde of / Willington with the crop in the ground and so to be left at the end of four years was sett and lett at £10 yearly before all the tythe thereof. And he esteemeth the tithe of every yard land in that parish to be well worth 20s per year.

**Thomas Pettifer, clerk parson of Cherrington** in the county of Gloucs, aged four and thirye or thereabouts (see also Lane's will, tutor to Edw Sheldon) sworn and examined deposeth to the 6th interrogatory that / the def'd't did teach certain children and youths which tabled in the complainant's house, whereas four of them as he remembereth were the complainant's children And that he/ the said defd't did teach all or some of them for the space of four or five yeares while this examinant was the curate under the defendant and knoweth not / whether the def'd't had any satisfaction for yt.

To the 9th interrogatory this deponent saith that he verilie thinketh that the Def'd't never made annie / promise or grant of the parsonage of Barcheston unto the

Complainant for he this deponent saith he hath seen a letter under the Plaintiff's hand dated / in October one thousand five hundred and fourscore and two wherein the said Complainant doth write unto the said Def<sup>d</sup>'t and said these words or the / words to like effect "you will say yowe made no bargaine with me concerninge the parsonage though you did not with me but you did with some other to my use" meaning / as this deponent believeth one Mr Childe who writing his letter for the Complainant which this deponent hath seene doth therein flatly denie any surh promise made to him or conference / had thereabout with the said Def<sup>d</sup>'t.

**Robert Hill of Barcheston** in the county of Warwick, yeoman, of the age of two and twenty or thereabouts<sup>2</sup> sworn and / examined deposeth and saith to the 1st interrog that he hath known both plt'f and defd't these nyne years or thereabouts.

To the 5th interrogatory he saith that about half a year last past the defd't recovered of the compl't by law six and twentye pounds and odd money by reason of a bill of debt dated about twelve years ago.

To the 6th interrogatory this deponent saith that about seven or eight years last past this deponent was sent by the Def<sup>d</sup>'t with certain money, 4 or 5 £ as / he recalls, to the complainant, for this deponent's table there had and that the said complainant did then say 'I marvel why your uncle will send me any money for your table considering I am so much indebted to him as I am'. And further this deponent saith that the said defendant did teach two of the children of the said complainant that yeare when this deponent did table there and knoweth not what he had for the same. And he saith further that the defendant did bestow on Pltf a fair gilte / silver salt

To the seventh interrogatory this deponent saith that the complainant as he well knoweth had the occupation and benefit of the parsonage of Barcheston for the space of four years after this deponent came thither and as this deponent hath heard for 7 years before his coming thither'.

**Thomas Ferriman, Bachelor of Divinity parson of Harvington**, in the county of Worcester of the age of one and/ fortie being sworn and examined

To the 12th interrogatory he sayeth that he was one of them that were nominated by / my Lord his grace the Abp of Canterbury to heare the controversie between the complainant and the defendant and was chosen on behalf of Mr Hyll the defendant and was present at the reckoning and setting down of certain accounts between the parties but whether Def<sup>d</sup>'t did sette downe all demands or not he / cannot certainly tell. And he saith that the defd't and complainant did disagree touching demaunds. And so they brake of. But he supposeth that the def<sup>d</sup>'t did / in the end sett down all his demands.

To the 13th interrogatory this deponent sayeth that the defd't did offer to take from Mr Dr Lewes certain writings as he remembereth, saying they were his. And whether they did belong to the plaintiff he DNK neither doth he know what writings they were, nor did he see them torn. Neither doth he think it had been prejudicial to the P'l't'f if anie had been torn.

Mr Ferriman being asked whose demands amounted to the greater sum said he thought that in the ende the defendant's demaundes as he remembereth did amount to a greater sum than the complainants.

Signed Edward Tomlyns

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<sup>2</sup> His relationship to the cleric Robert Hyll is unknown.

And I know the premises are true and agreeable to th'originall depositions set downe by my selfe being the deff'd's clerk at this examination Raffe Petifer

**Sheet 2 Depositions of witnesses** taken in Shipston on Stower in the County of Worces' the xvth day of Januarie anno regni reginae Elizabeth tricesimo [1588] before Anker Brent Robert Winkott and Edward Tomlyns gent by vertue of a commission from her majesties Corte of requests between Richard Hicks plt'f and Robert Hyll clerk defd't

Annotated top left hand Testes ex parte Hickes iurat et examinat' [the witnesses sworn and examined on behalf of Hyckes

**William Weelie of Shipston on Stower** in the county of Worces' arrasworker of the age of one and thirty yeares or thereabouts sworn and examined to the first interrogatory deposeth and / sayeth that he knoweth the said plaintiff and defd't and hath knowen them by the space of fyfteene yeares or thereabouts. To the second interrogatory he deposeth that he hath credibilie heard say that the said Richard Hicke // did pay the defd't first fruits for the parsonage of Barcheston And that this deponent doth knowe that the said plt'f hath disbursed divers other payments as tenths and subsidies divers payments whereof were// paid by this deponent by the commandement of the said plt'f. To the third interrogatory this deponent sayeth that he doth well know that the said compl't did at his owne charge provide meat and drinke for the // said defd't for his man and meat with corne for two geldings about the space of eight or nyne yeares together. And he sayeth that he was a servant in the said house the same tyme and therefore doth the // better know yt. To the fourth interrogatory this deponent saith that the said defd't had of the said compl't a suit of hangings of arris werke called fullege worth in value about twelve pounds. // And that he had the same about tenne years last past. To the fyveth this deponent can say nothing. To the sixth he sayeth that he heard that his Mr the compl't hath made an acquittance to the defd't but to what // effect he knoweth not. To the seaventh interrogatory this deponent can say nothing. To the eighth interrogatory this deponent saith that he hath heard one John Tustian and others saie that the defd't should // say he would never take the parsonage of Barcheston from the said compl't. To the ninth interrogatory he cannot depose anything. To the tenth this deponent sayeth that he hath often times heard say // that the defd't should snatch and teare certain writings of the said compl't about one year last past and more to this interrogatory he cannot depose. And the said William Weelie being examined // on the eleventh and xiiijth interrogatories ministered on behalf of the defd't. To the xjth he sayeth that he esteemeth the diet of the defd't during his being with the compl't was worth wieklie three shillings and four pence at the least for he hath heard that certain gents sonnes then bording there with the said compl't did pay weekly iij s iiijd further to this interrogatory he cannot depose. To the xiiijth he saith he heard the defd't took the writings from the compl't this deponents Mr.

**Thomas Weelie of Shipston on Stower** in the County of Worcess' of the age of thirty years or thereabouts // sworn and examined the day and yeare above written deposeth and saith to the first interrogatory that he hath knowen the plt'f and the defd't about fyfteene yeres together last past. To the second he deposeth that he // hath heard by divers about twelve or thirteene yeares last past that the plt'f had paid the

first fruits of the Barcheston for Mr Hyll the defd't. To the rest of this interrogatory he knoweth nothing. To the // thirde he this deponent saieth that the said compl't did at his owne charge provide meat and drinke for the said defd't and for his man And meat with corne for two geldings for the space of nyne yeares together. // To the fourth interrogatory this deponent saieth that the defd't had of the compl't a suite of hangings for a chamber worth as he thinketh about four shillings an ell about xiiij yeares ago. And further he sayeth // that the said compl't did yearlie paie unto the said defd't for the parsonage of Barcheston eighteene poundes as he now remembereth about eight or nyne years together. To the fyvth, vjth, vijth, viijth, ixth and xth this deponent cannot depose.

**John Tustian of Barcheston** in the County of Warr' shepherd of the age of threescore yeares and more sworn and examined on the first // interrogatory saieth that he hath knowen the plt'f twenty years and the defd't about xiiij years. To the second interrogatory this deponent saith that he hathe oft times heard say that the said compl't did //pay the defd'ts first fruits for the parsonage of Barcheston And to the rest of this interrogatory this deponent knoweth nothing. To the third Interrogatory this deponent deposeth and saieth that so long tyme //after as this deponent did know the said defd't and during the tyme that the said compl't did hold and enjoy the parsonage of Barcheston and tythes of Willington so longe did the said compl't provide meat and drink // for the said defd't for his man and for his kinsman about two or three years and meat with corne for two geldings during so long as he did enjoy the said parsonage. To the fourth and fyveth interrogatories this deponent saith he hath heard that the said defd't had certain hangings of the said compl't. And that the said defd't was indebted unto the said compl't for his man's bord and his two geldings keepinge for about / nyne or ten years. And for his owne table he thinketh that the compl't had allowance out of the parsonage of Barcheston. To the vjth interrogatory he sayeth that he hath heard there was an acquittance sealed but he was not at the sealinge thereof neither doth he knowe the entent thereof but he saith he knoweth that the compl't wold never have sealed the said acquittance but to have enjoyed the parsonage which // was afterward taken from him. To the seaventh he can depose nothing. To the eighth interrogatory this deponent deposeth and saith that about sixe years last past this deponent did heare // the said defd't saie at the building of the new barne at Barcheston when this defd't deponent did say unto the defd't these words viz Mr Hyll the tithes of Willington will come heare shortlie // to this barne whereupon the said Mr Hyll did say that he wold never take the tythes of Willington from Richard Hicks calling him his oster while he had a daie to lyve, but // said Shipston market should be his barne And this deponent's sonne should be his cater. To the ixth and xth he cannot saie anie thinge. And the said John Tustian beinge // examined upon the third and fourth interrogatories on the behalfe of the defd't. To the third interrogatory he saith that he was not present at the sealing or delivering of any acquittance specified in the interrogatory // but he saith that he hath heard the compl't say that the defd't did offer an acquittance with blanks to be sealed by the said compl't but he the said compl't said he thought that acquittance // then not sufficient for the defd't and therefore made him one of his owne and took yt to the him the defd't. To the fourth he saieth that he never heard the defd't saie that the complainant should // continew in the occupation of the parsonage of Barcheston notwithstanding the acquittance made by the compl't.

**John Whitley of Barcheston** in the county of Warr' yeoman of the age of fyfthe yeares or thereabouts sworn and examined to the first interrogatory deposeth and saieth that he hath knowen the plt'f and defd't about xij yeares or more To the second he deposeth and saieth that // he hath heard the said compl't saie about five years past that he had paid the defd'ts first fruits for the parsonage of Barcheston and that he had disbursed divers other charges for the presentation // and induction of the said defd't into the said parsonage. And that he went in messages from the said compl't to the said defd't divers tymes when the said defd't and this deponent talking thereof he did not // deny the same but said the parsonage of Barcheston had paid yt. To the thirde he said he was dwelling in the compl'ts house the last yeare that he enjoyed the parsonage of Barcheston // in which year the said defd't had no gelding there kept by the said compl't but before he heard saie the defd't had two geldings kept there. To the fourth and fifth he knowwethe // nothings but he hath heard the same to be true by the report of the said compl't. To the vjth and vijth he knoweth nothing. To the viijth interrogatory this deponent saieth // that he hath heard the defd't say both in his backside and in his barne that he wold never take the parsonage from the said compl't. To the ixth and xth he knoweth nothing.

**Simon Tustian of Barcheston** in the county of Warr' shepherd of the age of thirty years or upward sworn and examined deposeth that he hath knowen the plt'f and defd't about xij years. To // the seconde interratory this deponent knoweth nothing. To the third interrogatory this deponent saieth that he did knowe that the said compl't did at his owne charge provide meat and drinke for the said // defd't and his man and meat and corne for two geldings but how long he knoweth not. To the ivth and vth and vijth and vijth interrogatories this deponent knoweth nothing. To the viijth this deponent sayeth that // about vj or seaven yeares last past the said defd't said to this deponent and his father that he would never take the parsonage of Barcheston from the said compl't. To the ixth and xth he cannot // depose.

**Thomas Atkins of Tydmington**, husbandman, of the age of fortye years or thereabouts sworn and examined to the first interrogatory deposeth and// sayeth that he hath knowen the compl't and the defd't about xvj years. To the second interrogatory this deponent sayeth that he hath heard the said compl't divers tymes say that he hath paid the defd't // first fruits for the parsonage of Barcheston. And that he disbursed divers other charges about the said parsonage for his presentation and induction and more to the interrogatories he cannot // dipose. To the third interrogatory he deposeth and saieth that the said compl't did at his owne charge provide meat and drink for the said defd't and for his man and for certain strangers coming and going to the said defd't and meat and corne for two geldings nyne years. To the iiijth interrogatory he knoweth nothing. To the vth he deposeth and sayeth that he hath heard // of the complainant and others that the defd't is indebted to the said compl't two hundred poundes and upwards. To the vjth and vijth interrogatories this deponent saieth that he hath divers tymes heard // it said as well by the compl't as by divers others that the said compl't did seale and deliver to the said defd't an acquittance upon this condicion that the said compl't might enioy the // parsonage of Barcheston in such sorte as he did before enjoy the same. And further to the saide interrogatories he cannot depose. To the viijth interrogatory this deponent saieth that about five yeres // now last past he the said defd't tolde him this deponent that the said compl't should have again the parsonage towarde the bringing up of the children for he said he did // hope he should be able to lyve without Barcheston. And more to this



interrogatory he cannot depose. To the ixth interrogatory this deponent sayeth that he hath heard of the complainant John Whitley and William Alforde say that the defd't hath and doth denie to pay to the compl't such somes of money as are due and payable by the said defd't to the said compl't. To the xth and xjth interrogatories he knoweth nothing.

**Richard Palmer and Richard Hall**, both of the age of fiftie yeares or thereabouts [cf REQ 2/223/66] sworn and examined sayeth thus to the tenth interrogatory deposeth // that by the appointment of his lord grace the Archbishop of Canterbury they were sworn with others to hear the controversie between Richard Hicks and Robert Hyll on the 18th day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand fyve hundred and eighty-six. Upon the unfolding of the causes on both sides grew to the setting downe of the particular sums of money which were demanded by Richard Hyckes which sums of money amounted to five hundred three score and twelve pounds four shillings (£572 4s) and likewise Mr Hylls demandes grew to three // hundred four score and seaven pounds four shillings ( £387 4s) upon which accompte brought in there grew some words of coller which brake off the whole matter Whereupon these deponents made motion that every man should have his booke which bookes were in the hand of Dr Lewes who made some stay thereof notwithstanding some persuasion made unto him was content to deliver // the same books And having the same books readie to deliver Mr Hyll did most violentlie and unreverentlie catch at the same book as though he would have pulled them all in peeces and as // they verilie thought did brake part of them. And further to this interrogatory they cannot say. And the said Richard Palmer and Richard Hill <sup>3</sup>being examined of the xijth and xijth interrogatories ministered on the behalfe of the defd't. To the xijth interrogatory they say they were two of them nominated by my L his Grace of Cant' to the effect specified in this interrogatory and were chosen on the // behalf of the compl't. And were present at the setting downe of certain reckonings on both parts. But whether or not the Def'd't did sett down all his demands or not they cannot say but say that // the defendant was willed by them to put down all and afterwards did declare and cause to be set down certain demands which did amount to three hundred fourscore and seaven poundes four shillings; And to their remembrance // the said defd't said there was all and they these deponents say they took yt to be all. To the xijth interrogatory they say the defd't did not take awaie anie writing that did belong unto the // Complainant, but did snatch at writings being in Mr Dr Lewes hands. Some they say were letters sent from the defd't to the complainant and other bills of accompte between them. And they say // the defd't did teare some of them but cannot say how many were torn. Further they cannot depose.

Signed Edward Tomlyns

And I writing for the defendant was present at the examination of the witnesses and did sett downe their sayings and know the premises are true. Signed by Robert Petifer, notarius publicus

**Sheet 3 Interrogatories to be ministered on the parte and behalfe of Robert Hyll clerk defendant against Richard Hyckes plaintiff**

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<sup>3</sup> His relationship to the cleric Robert Hyll is unknown.

1. Inprimis do you know the said defd't and the compl't yes or noe
2. Do you know the parish parsonage of Barcheston yes or noe. And how many yardland is in the parish of Barcheston. What and how manie yardlands called Glebe land do belong to the parsonage of Barcheston and what is a yardland their worth to be when it is sett and lett and what in other places next adjoining. And what is the whole parsonage and profitt thereto belonging worth yearlie to be sett and lett as you doe knowe or do verilie believe.
3. Do you know or were you present when the plt'f did make seale subscribe and deliver unto the def'd't a generall release or acquittance or whether were you called thereto as a witness and whether did you subscribe your name or mark thereto. Was it made absolute or with condicion.
4. Did you hear the defd't at the sealing and delivering the acquittance or before protest and promise that the said acquittance should not tend to the dischargde of debt and reckoninge then between the plt'f and the defd't. And that notwithstanding the acquittance the defd't would pay and dischargde all such thinges as should be due to the pltf upon an accompt, yea or noe. Who else besides yourself was present at the making sealing and delivering of the said release or acquittance and where and when was yt made and sealed and dd. And whether did you then heare the said defd't say that the said compl't should continue the occupacion of the parsonage aforesaid or when and where was the compl't present and upon what occasion did the defd't use such words.
5. Do you know or have you credibilie heard that the plt'f hath continuallie or for the most parte of xiiij or xiiij yeares been in debt to the defd't. And yf you have then for what cause was the said debt. And how longe sithence hath the plt'f bene out of the debt of the def'd't.
6. Do you know or have you credibilie heard of any some or somes of money sent of the defd't to the compl't. Who carried the said money and when and how much was yt and for what. And whether did the compl't receive the said money yea or noe. What was his answer. And whether hath not the said defd't taught certein children of the compl't and other his friends by his meanes not having anie thinge for his payment [inserted line and how manie and how long] or what had he for yt and what gift or other curtesies hath the defd't given and bestowed on the compl't.
7. What benefit advantage and commoditie hath the pltf received or had by the defd't as you do knowe or have hearde. Name them and declare. Have not you heard the compl't declare and acknowledge the same or what can you say or declare why you should thinke that the defd't doth not owe to the compl't any sumes of money or did not make any such promise as in the thirde article is mencioned.
8. Whether you have at any time heard the compl't affirme and saie that the said defd't had made a promise or graunt of the parsonage of Barcheston unto Mr Childe to the use of the said compl't during the tyme that the defd't should be incumbent their yea or noe.

9. Whether did the def't at any tyme make anie promise or graunt unto you or to any other to your knowledge of the parsonage of Barcheston to the use of the complainant. Yf he did to whom upon what consideration and for what [ ??sum ] and when and where was the graunt so made who was present thereat or what reasons can you show and do make you to thinke that the defd't hath not made anie promise that Hick the compl't should occupie and enjoy the parsonage of Barcheston.

10. Whether did you at anie tyme deny that there was anie such promise or graunt made unto you of the parsonage of Barcheston by the defendant to the use of the complainant and also wright your letters unto the compl't or otherwise subscribing a letter in your owne hande denyinge that said promise or graunt absolutelie. And whether is this the letter that you subscribed with your owne hande yea or noe.

11. Item howe longe had the defend't his diet with the compl't. What do you esteeme his diet was worth yearlie. And whether hath not the said defd't paied or allowed unto the said compl't for the same.

12. Do you know that gent (sic) were nominated by my L.his Grace of Canterbury to heare and receave accompte between the compl't and the defd't, who were they and whether were you one and for which of them or were you present at the giving of anie accompte, did the defendant sett downe all his demaunds or no, how do you know yt did the gent end the matter or did the compl't and defd't disagree touching their demaunds and so break off[f] or not. Where and when were the accompts received And to what some did they amount unto as you remember.

13. Yf the defd't did violentlie take anie writinge or scrolls which did belong to the compl't, declare from whom he did take them. What writings were they And whether he did teare them in peeces, how manie writings were so torne and where and who were then present, and what prejudice had the compl't by the tearing of the said writings ?

**The case was finally dismissed TNA REQ 1/15, f.22 30  
April 30 Elizabeth [1588]**

Uppon the hearing and fill debating of the matter in variance depending in the Queen's Majesty's court of Requests between Richard Hicks of Barcheston in the Co of Warwick Complainant and one Robert Hill clerk parson of Barcheston defendant concerning in effecte the demande of divers somes of money amounting in thole to the somme of two hundred pounds or thereabouts wherein the said Complainant by his Bill of Complaint alledged that the defendant was and is indebted unto him the said plaintiff as upon the foote and remainder of severall accomptes heretofore made between the said parties may appear which said severall somes the said defendant nowe refuseth to satisfy and pay unto the complainant for that he the same defendant hath of late at the hand of the plaintiff obtained an Acquittance by colour whereof he pretendeth the said debt to be discharged although the same defendant at the ensealing of the same Acquittance did protest and promise that the same should not tend to the

discharge of the said debt as by the said plaintiff in his said Bill of Complaint more fully is alledged: fforasmuch as the said complainant hath failed to make any good or sufficient proof of the materiall poyntes or allegacons of his said Bill or of the promise. Therefore yt is now by the Queen's Majesty's Counsaill of this Court ordered that the same matter shal be from henceforth cleerely dismissed out of this said court for ever and the defendant licensed to departe at his libertie *sine die*.

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