

A HIGH CONSTABLE'S REGISTER, 1681

THE register of Ambrose Barcroft of Noyna in Foulridge, gentleman, who was appointed high constable for the hundred of Blackburn in March 1681, is probably the only surviving detailed account of the work of a high constable, even presuming that other high constables made such a record, which is very doubtful. The volume, unbound, consists of sixty-four leaves, $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches by 6 inches, sixty of which are written on each side. The paper is watermarked with a crowned shield bearing a bugle-horn. It was found among the muniments at Browsholme Hall, Clitheroe, and thanks are due to Colonel R. G. Parker, D.S.O., J.P., for permission to publish it. The book, with other Barcroft papers, came to Browsholme through the marriage in 1816 of Edward Parker of Alkincoats and Ellen, only child of Ambrose William Barcroft of Noyna.

Ambrose Barcroft was the elder son of Thomas Barcroft and his wife Alice, daughter of John Hargreaves of Heyroyd, which Thomas was a descendant of the Barcrofts of Barcroft. From a younger brother of Thomas, one William, is descended Sir Joseph Barcroft, F.R.S., the Cambridge scientist. This William, a major in the Parliamentary army, went to Ireland in 1648, and settled at Ballylaking, Kings County. His first wife, with five children, was drowned when crossing to Ireland to join her husband. Ambrose was born in 1629 and married Martha, daughter of Sir Henry Thompson of Middlethorp, near York. As his memoranda book, also preserved among the Browsholme muniments, has it: "The eleaventh day of January 1691/2 between nine and ten of the clocke at night, my deare Wife departed this life, and was buried the fourteenth day in the chancell [of Colne church] neare the side of Mr. Townley's Quire. The Lord blesse, guide, comfort and help me! and make me ever mindfull of her virtues". They had one son, Thomas, born 1652, died 1732, who had sons Ambrose, John, Thomas, William and Robert. Ambrose Barcroft was a buyer of wool on a fairly large scale. An entry in his memoranda book for June 1692 states that "Rich. Boothman went for Lincolnshire this day to buy wooll for me, by whom I sent £150". Other entries show that between June and September in that year he had fifty-three packcloths of wool from Hemingby and Scamblesby. He was a business associate of John Denham with whom he had in 1692 when Denham died, "been in partnership and otherwise concerned in Trade with him about eight and thirty yeares. He was (as I believe) a very just and religious man".

The following extracts from his memoranda book tend to show that Ambrose Barcroft also was "a very just and religious man":

7 April 1689. James Hartley (my servant) brought his cow, which I am to keep a yeare for him. I asked 40s. and he spake of 30s., but I intend to take what I shall learne to be the compassse of moderation—and not otherwise.

6 April 1690. Amb. [his grandson] went to Mr. Christ. Smith at Colne Schoole. The Lord bless him.

7 May 1692. Removed from Noynoe to Colne to dwell there. The Lord Blesse, preserve and prosper us. Amen.

19 June 1692. Upon Mr. Hargreaves request I writt a letter this day to the Archbishop of Canterbury (but much against my minde in regard it is unfit, I conceive, for me to write to so greate a person, tho my ancient acquaintance and lesson-fellow at Colne schoole for severall yeares) humbly desiring his recommendation of Mr. James Hargreaves, vicar of Naffarton in Yorkshire, son of the said Mr. Hargreaves our minister . . . for the parsonage of Thuring.

[The above entry is interesting inasmuch as only tradition has hitherto supported the contention that Archbishop John Tillotson was educated at Colne.]

13 July 1692. It pleased the Lord to visit me with a most grievous fit of the stone and gravell, The Lord restore me to health, in thy owne good time.

9 January 1692/3. This day A.B. [his grandson Ambrose] began to learn with Mr. Hargreaves. The Lord give good success.

This, the last entry made by Ambrose Barcroft, is in a shaky handwriting and he died shortly afterwards, being buried at Colne, 24 June 1693. On 6 March following his son Thomas commenced to make entries. It is not unlikely that Ambrose died of stone, for in addition to the above entry of 13 July 1692, another of 8 October reads

"Mr. Edward Graves of Hemswoth, 6 miles beyond Wakefield, came to help me in reference to my distemper of stone and gravell, and staid with me to the 12th at noone. And he procured me by his medicines and manuall operations to void 12 or 13 stones, whereof 5 or 6 were large".

His grandson Ambrose emigrated to Solebury, Pennsylvania, and descendants still live in America.

The best account of the high constable and his duties is in *Minutes of Proceedings in Quarter Sessions*, by S. A. Peyton, Lincoln Record Society, Vol. 25, pp. xxxviii to xlv.

R. SHARPE FRANCE.

DEO AUSPICE

[p. 1] Upon Friday March 18, 1680[1] at the Sheriffs Table⁽¹⁾ in Lancaster in the Assize weeke, Mr. Andrew Dandy of Lostocke [Walton-le-Dale] and I were chosen High Constables for the Hundred of Blackburne for the ensuing yeare 1681.⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ An annual meeting of the justices of the peace held at the assizes to deal with matters which affected the county as a whole. Its minutes survive for 1628, 1629 and 1661 to 1693. Lancs. Record Office.

⁽²⁾ In most counties high constables held office until they were lawfully discharged at the pleasure of the bench, which meant service for a period often as long as eleven years. In Lancashire, however, it was not until the beginning of the nineteenth century that lengthy terms of office were the custom. The first instance so far found of the office's being held for more than one year is that of William Pearson of Walton and William Bulcock of Barcroft, who served for Blackburn Hundred in 1741 and 1742. Lawrence Ormerod of Greensnook in Rossendale served from 1784 to 1789, Webster Fishwick of Burnley 1809 to 1823, and Christopher Hindle of Lower Darwen, 1808 to 1844, all inclusive.

Wednesday March 30, 1681 Mr. Emor Rushton,⁽³⁾ th'one of the High Constables for the last yeare, served me with the Order made at the Sheriffs Table as aforesaid and gave me a Coppy thereof, being in these words following, *vizt*:

An Order to be observed and kept, made and agreed upon at a general meeting of his Majesties Justices of Peace and Quorum within the County of Lancaster at the Sheriffs Table there in the Assize weeke, to wit, upon Friday the eighteenth day of March, *Anno regni regii Caroli secundi, Angliae, etc, Annoque Domini 1681* It is ordered by this Table that Ambrose Barcroft of Foulridge, Gent., now elected and chosen to be one of the High-Constables within the Hundred of Blackburne, shall appear at the next Generall Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Preston after Easter next, then and there to take the Oath of High-Constable within the said Hundred for the next ensueing yeare, under the paine of Twenty pounds to be imposed and levied upon him making default herein.

Kenyon⁽⁴⁾.

[p. 2] Thursday Aprill 14, 1681, Mr. Dandy and I were sworne accordingly at the Quarter Sessions at Preston; first wee tooke the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy⁽⁵⁾ on our knees upon the chequer Table⁽⁶⁾, and after (standing up) the Oath of High Constable,⁽⁷⁾ each of us paying to Mr. Kenyon a shilling for his fee.

The same was delivered us by Mr. Townley of Royles [Nicholas Towneley of Royle in Burnley] clerke, the following Warrant (*vizt*).

Com. Lanc. These are to will and require you, and neverthesse in his Majesties name strictly to charge and command you and either of you that immediately upon receipt hereof, you issue forth your precepts to all and every the Graves, Petty Constables and Officers within the Hundred of Blackburne, commanding them and every one of them to be and personally appear before us and our fellow Justices of the Peace of this County at the house of Mrs. Elizabeth Chew in Whalley, widow, upon Thursday the twenty-eighth day of Aprill instant by ten of the clocke in the afternoon of the same day, and to returne unto us fair written in paper what sturdy vagrant and wandering persons have been apprehended within their severall Offices since the last private Sessions there holden, and what punishment hath been inflicted upon them, and at some night before the said Sessions they goe with privy search through their severall Offices, and if upon their said search they finde any wandring or sturdy beggars lodged that they bring them before us to the place aforesaid, to th'end they may be punished according to the forme of the Statute in such case made and provided; And that they likewise returne unto us faire written the names and surnames of all and every Alehousekeepers or such as take upon them to sell any Ale or beere within their severall Offices, commanding them and every of them to be and personally appear before us at the time and place aforesaid, furnished with sufficient sureties to renew their Lycenses for this next ensueing yeare, and that the said Graves [p. 3] Petty Constables and Officers bring with them out of their severall

⁽²⁾ Emor Rishton of Accrington.

⁽⁴⁾ Roger Kenyon of Peel in Little Hulton, clerk of the peace.

⁽⁵⁾ Required by 1 Eliz. c. 1 and 3 James I c 4.

⁽⁶⁾ The treasurer's table.

⁽⁷⁾ The oath taken is as follows: "You shall swear that you shall well and truly serve the office of High Constable within the Hundred of Blackburn within this County, where you shall execute the same according to your best skill, knowledge and wit in all things belonging to your office, and according to such Articles and other directions as shall be given you by this Court for this year ensueing, or for so long as you shall continue in the said office, so help you God." Lancs. Rec. Office. QJ1/2/9.

Offices four honest and discreet men, who may informe us who are fit to be lycensed and who suppressed; And further that they give warning and notice to all and every the Overseers of the Poore and Churchwardens within their severall Offices that they and every one of them likewise be and personally appeare before us at the place aforesaid upon Friday the 29th day of Aprill instant By ten of the clocke in the forenoon, bringing with them their accounts for the last yeare fair written in paper, seen and allowed under the hands of foure substantiall householders within their severall divisions, and returneing the names and surnames of eight honest, able and discreet householders within every parish, to th'end choice may be made of four of them to be Overseers of the Poore for this next ensuing yeare. And that the old Churchwardens and present Overseers of the Poore doe give an account of the name and quality of every person interred within their parishes of chappelryes within the space of twelve months now last past, and of such Certificates as same to their hands from the Vicar or Minister of the said parishes or chappelryes that the persons therein mentioned were interred contrary to the directions and true intent of an Act of Parliament entitled an Act for burying in Woollen [1666], and of their levying the penalty on the Offender according to the said Act, and also a true account of the disposall of the same, under the penalty of five pounds to be levied by distresse and sale of the goods and chattells of such Churchwardens and Overseers by warrant from any two Justices of Peace of this County, and that no account of any Overseer of the Poore shall be allowed untill they shall returne an account therein for the burials within their respective parishes or chappelryes. And see that you be then and there present to make returne of this our Warrant, and give an account of the Execution of the same. And hereof you, they, nor any of them are to faile, upon paine and perill that may fall thereon. Dated the 9th day of Aprill, *Anno regni regis Caroli secundi, nunc Angliae, etc. 33, annoque domini 1681.*

To the High-Constables of the Hundred of Blackburne, and either of them, these. There was the hands and seales of Thomas Braddyl [of Portfield in Whalley], Thomas Parker [of Browsholme, co. York], Nicholas Townley and Ralph Livesey [of Livesey].

[p. 4] Hereupon Mr. Dandy and I agreed to divide the Constable-shipp within the Hundred between us as follows:

	A.B. HIS SHARE	Fifteen. ⁽⁸⁾
Grave. ⁽⁹⁾	Accrington vetera ⁽¹⁰⁾	0 6 8
Grave.	Accrington nova ⁽¹¹⁾	0 17 6
	Altham	0 9 6
	Burnley	1 0 0
	Brearccliffe cum Extwistle	0 15 0
	Colne	1 0 8
	Chatburne	0 9 0
	Clidderow	1 13 8
	Cliviger	0 15 0
	Downham	0 16 0
	Foulridge	0 18 0
	Haslingden	0 9 0
	Hapton	0 16 0
	Huncote	0 8 2
Officer. ⁽⁹⁾	Heyhouses	0 1 6
Officer.	Ighenhilparke	0 7 6
	Mearley	0 5 8
	Mitton, Henthorne & Coldcoats	0 9 0

⁽⁸⁾ An ancient rate, originally fixed at a fifteenth of the annual value.

⁽⁹⁾ Alternative titles to *constable*.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Old Accrington.

⁽¹¹⁾ New Accrington.

	Marsden	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	9
	Padiam	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	10	4
	Pendleton	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	7	0
Grave.	Pendle	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6	8
Grave.	Rossendale	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	12	6
	Read	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	8	2
	Symonstone	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	9	0
	Twiston	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	5	4
Grave.	Trawden	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	15	0
	Worston	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	9	6
	Worsthorne	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	10	0
								£23	13	1

MR. DANDY'S SHARE								Fifteen					
Aighton, Bayley and Chaigley								1	18	0
	Billington	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	18	4
	Blackburne	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4
	Bolderston	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	6	0
	Chipping	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	8	0
	Church	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	8	0
	Clayton in le Dale	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	8	0
	Clayton supra Moores	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	6	0
	Curedale	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	11	6
	Dutton	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	15	0
	Harwood magna	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	0
	Harwood parva	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	7	0
	Livesey	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	18	0
	Mellor cum Ecclesall	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	12	0
	Nether Darwin	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	10	4
	Over Darwin	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	14	0
	Pleasington	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	11	0
	Ribchester cum Dilworth	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	15	0
	Rishton	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	12	0
	Samblesbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	4
	Saysbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	6	0
	Thornley cum Wheatley	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	17	6
	Whalley	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	5	0
	Whilpshire cum Dinkley	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	12	0
	Wiswall	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	9	0
	Witton	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	6	6
	Walton	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	17	4
	Bolland	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	12	8
	Osbadelston	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	4	8
	Oswaldtwistle	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	12	0
								£23	8	6			
								£23	13	1			
								£47	1	7			

[p. 5] Upon my coming home from Preston I issued forth precepts (in pursuance of the said Warrant) to the Officers of the 29 Constableshippis within my owne division, in these words following, (vizt.)

Com. Lanc.

By vertue of a Warrant under the hands and seales of four of his Majesties Justices of the peace for this County to us directed, These are to will and require

you . . . [then proceeding as in the Justices' Warrant] . . . [p. 6] . . . until they shall returne an account therein of the burialls within their respective parishes or chappelries. And hereof you are not to faile upon paine and perill that may fall thereon. Dated the 18th day of Aprill, *Anno Domini* 1681.

To the Constable (Grave or
Officer as the case was) of . . .

Andrew Dandy } High
Ambrose Barcroft } Constables.

The 28th and 29th day of Aprill 1681 the private Sessions was holden at Whalley, where were present Mr. Townley, Mr. Braddyll, Mr. Parker, Mr. Livesay, and Mr. Wilkinson [Christopher Wilkinson of Waddow, co. York]. I attended both days (tho' the later day upon a particular account, being discharged the night before by the Court), my partner, Mr. Dandy was not there, being gone to London. The Petty Constables appeared and made returnes (in pursuance of the precepts) to the satisfaction of the Court (namely to every particular branch of the precept, as that no sturdy vagrant or wandering persons had been apprehended within their Office since the last private [p. 7] Sessions, that they had gone with the private search and had found no sturdy, etc. persons lodged—that they had warned all Alehousekeepers within their Office to appeare and bring 4 sufficient persons, to renew their Lycenses, withall givinge in the names and surnames of all the Alehousekeepers—that they had warned 4 sufficient men to give information who are fit to be Lycensed and who suppressed. And that they had given notice to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poore to appeare and give their accounts, etc. The Alehousekeepers some of them appeared, but more of them made use of the Constables to take Lycenses for them, which cost 2s. 6d a Lycense, the Constable and any other person serveing for sureties. Some would take no Lycenses, and such the Constables were order'd to warne to brew no more, under the penaltie of 20s. the month—and if they did brew notwithstanding, then the Constables were charged to present them at the next Quarter Sessions. Some alledged lately Lycensed, pleading they ought not to renew till the years end from the date of their last Lycense, but these they caused to produce their said Lycenses, by which it appeareinge they were but licensed till the next day for Lycensing (which was this day) they were forced take new lycenses or be suppressed. Some few appeared that had been charged to give information who are fit to be continued and who suppressed, but this sort was not much inquir'd for, and so commonly the Constable and perhaps some other person (if the questions happened to be moved) gave answer that they knew of none that kept disorderly houses. The Overseers of the Poore gave in their accounts, none of which (that I remember) were much excepted against. The Churchwardens were concerned with the Overseers as to the account of buriall, especially of such as he had been contrary to the Act. New Overseers of the Poore were chosen, the Justices Order cost 1s. which was paid by the present Overseer and to be paid by the new Overseer which is to be allowed him in his accounts next year.

[p. 8] Aprill 14th 1681. The following Warrant was likewise delivered us at Preston, *vizt.*

Lanc. Sess. By vertue of an Order to me granted from his Majesties Justices of Peace and Quorum at the General Sessions of Peace holden at Lancaster the twelvth day of Aprill instant, wherein I am continued and appointed Collector and Distributor of the moneys raised out of the County for the reliefe of the poore Prisoners in his Majesties Goale and Castle of Lancaster, These are therefore by vertue of the said Order to will and require you to collect, levy and gather within your Hundred of Blackburne the summe of four pounds six shillings and eight pence, being charged upon the said Hundred according to the Statute in that case made and provided, soe that you make undelayed payment thereof unto me at my house in Lancaster upon Saturday the fourth day of June next coming, that I may pay the same according to Order. See you faile not as you will answer the contrary and avoid further trouble. Given under my hand the fourteenth day of Aprill, *Annoque Domini* 1681.

To the High Constables of the
Hundred of Blackburne.

Henry Johnes.⁽¹²⁾
Collector.

Note I have the Originall Warrant, and Mr. Dandy a Coppy.

The 28th Aprill 1681 at the aforesaid private Sessions at Whalley, a Role for the repair of Ribchester bridge was delivered me. I sent the original Role to Mr. Dandy by Jona. Trueman, and took a Coppy of it for my selfe. The Role was in these words, *vizt.*

To all people to whom this present Role Indented shall come to be seen, read, heard or understood, Wee the Kings Majesties Justices of Peace and Quorum within the County Palatine of Lancaster whose names [p. 9] are subscribed send greeting. Forasmuch as at and in an open and Generall Quarter Sessions of the Peace holden by adjournment at Preston the fourteenth day of Aprill in the three and thirtieth yeare of our most gracious Sovereaigne Lord Charles the second, by the grace of God over England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, etc., by the Oaths of twelve good and lawfull men of the said County, it was presented and found that the publicke and common bridge called Ribchester bridge, lyeing over the River of the Rible in the Kings Highway within the Townes of Clayton and Dutton in the said County, and leading betwixt the Market Townes of Lancaster and Rachdall within the said County, is very ruinous and in great decay for want of repair, so that the Subjects of our Sovereaigne Lord the King, over and beyond the said bridge with their horses, Carts and Carriages, without great danger of their lives and losse of their goods, cannot passe, and that it is not knowne what City, Towne, Vill, Hamlet, person certaine, body corporate or politicke ought of right to repair and amend the same. And whereas hertofore it was agreed that the Inhabitants of every Hundred in the said County shall severally uphold and repair the bridges in the same Hundred (the three great bridges called Lancaster bridge, Rible bridge and Crosford bridge onely excepted, which three great bridges are to be repaired by the Inhabitants of the whole County). Therefore know yee that wee the said Justices, for the repairing, re-edifying and amending of the said bridge called Ribchester bridge, by force of and according to a Statute made in the two and twentieth year of the Raigne of the late King of famous memory, King Henry the Eight, haveing called before us and others his Majesties Justices of Peace and Quorum in the said County, the Constables of the Townes hereafter mentioned, and two of the Inhabitants of the severall Parishes hereafter mentioned, have ordered and allowed five Fifteens, being the summe of Two Hundred thirty five pounds seaven shillings eleaven pence, to be collected and gathered within the Hundred of Blackburne, and by these presents tax and assesse upon the severall [p. 10] Inhabitants within the said Hundred the severall summes of money herein hereafter imposed upon them, to be paid,

⁽¹²⁾ Of Lancaster.

employed and converted for and towards the repairing, re-edifying and fully amending of the said bridge called Ribchester bridge; and also wee the said Justices doe by these presents nominate and appoint the present High Constables of the Hundred of Blackburne to be Collectors to collect, levy and gather the said severall summes hereafter taxed and assessed as aforesaid, and doe also by these presents name and appoint Mr. William Crombocke of Clerkhill Treasurer of the said moneys, and Mr. Abraham Townley [of Dutton], Mr. Lancelot Bolton [of Salesbury: high constable in 1661], John Entwistle and Robert Read [of Aighton: high constable in 1683], Supervisors of the same bridge, to see the same fully repaired, re-edifying and amended with the said moneys, willing and commanding the said Collectors to pay into the hands of the said Treasurer the said summes of money so collected by them as aforesaid, who is to disburse and lay out the same according as the Justices resideing within the said Hundred, or any two of them, shall direct and appoint.

Blackburn	5 16 11		
Mearley	1 8 5		
Altham	2 7 8	[p. 11]	Clayton-supra-Moores 1 10 1
Downham	4 0 3		Nether Darwin .. 2 11 9
Clitherow	8 8 9		Thornley cum Wheatley 4 7 9
Chatburne	2 5 2		Rishton 3 0 2
Worsthorne	2 7 8		Foulrigg 4 10 3
Church	2 0 2		Mellor cum Eccleshall 3 0 1
Cliviger	3 15 2		Marsden 5 9 0
Haslingden	2 5 2		Over Darwin .. 3 10 2
Osbaldeston	1 3 6		Wilpshire cum Dinkley 2 0 2
Balderston	1 10 1		Clayton-in-le-Dale .. 3 0 1
Curedale	2 17 7		Wiswall 2 5 2
Symondstone	2 5 2		Colne 5 3 7
Harwood parva	1 15 2		Worston 2 10 2
Pendleton magna			Dutton 3 15 2
and parva	1 15 2		Mitton, Henthorne and
Hapton	4 0 3		Coldcoates 2 5 2
Burnley	5 0 4		Read 2 1 0
Padiam	2 11 10		Ribchester 8 15 6
Plesington	2 15 2		Witton 1 12 6
Samsbury	10 7 2		Twiston 1 6 9
Livesay cum			Whalley 1 5 1
Tockholes	4 10 3		Walton-le-Dale .. 9 7 2
Oswaldtwistle	3 0 3		Bolland 3 3 6
Aighton, Bayly and			Pendle 16 14 2
Chaigley	9 10 6		Ighenhilpark 1 17 7
Sailsbury	1 10 2		Heyhouses 0 7 7
Huncoate	2 1 0		Trawden 3 15 2
Chipping	7 0 5		Rossendale 18 3 6
Briercliffe cum			Accrington vetera .. 1 13 6
Extwistle	3 15 2		Accrington nova .. 4 7 9
Harwood magna	5 15 4		
Billington	4 11 11		

In witness whereof wee the said Justices whose names are subscribed have hereunto set our hands and seales in an open and generall Quarter Sessions of the Peace held at Preston the 14th day of Aprill, *Anno regni regis Caroli secundi Angliae, etc.* 33, *Annoque Domine* 1681.

This was subscribed and sealed by Nic. Townley, Tho. Braddyll, Tho. Parker, Ralph Livesay.

Memorandum that I proportioned to the 20 Constableships in my Division their share of the 4^l 6^s 8^d mentioned in the aforesaid

Warrant (in page 8) for the poor prisoners in Lancaster Castle as follows:—

Accrington vetera	..	0	7½	Heyhouses	..	..	1	0¾
Accrington nova	..	1	7¾	Ighenhilpark	..	..	0	8½
Altham .. ..	..	0	10¾	Mearley	..	..	0	6½
Burnley .. ..	..	1	10½	Mitton, Henthorn	..	..	0	10¾
Brearccliffe cum Extwistle	1	9		Marsden	..	..	2	0¾
Colne .. ..	..	1	11¼	Padiam .. ..	..	..	0	11¼
Chatburne	..	0	10¼	Pendleton	..	..	0	8
Clidderow	..	3	2	Pendle .. ..	..	..	6	3
Cliviger .. ..	..	1	5	Rosendale	..	..	6	9¾
Downham	..	1	6	Read .. ..	..	..	0	9½
Foulridge	..	1	8¼	Symondston	..	..	0	10¼
Haslingden	..	0	10¼	Twiston .. ..	..	..	0	6
Hapton .. ..	..	1	6	Trawden	..	..	1	5
Hencote	..	0	9¼	Worston	..	..	0	10¾
				Worsthorne	..	..	0	11¼

[p. 12] In pursuance of the said Warrant for the poore prisoners, and of the said Role for Ribchester bridge, I issued out Warrants to the 29 Constabeshippes within my Division, in these words:

Com. Lanc. Whereas by an Order of his Majesties Justices of the Peace and Quorum at the Generall Sessions of the Peace holden at Lancaster the twelfth day of Aprille last past the summe of four pounds six shillings eight pence is charged upon the Hundred of Blackburne for the reliefe of the poore prisoners in his Majesties Goale and Castle of Lancaster, These are therefore by vertue of the said Order to will and require you to collect, levy and gather within your Office the summe of [blank] being your proportionable part of the said summe of 4^l 6^s 8^d, and that you make undelayed payment thereof to us or th'one of us at the house of Jonathan Tillotson [alehousekeeper] in Colne upon Wednesday the twenty fift of May instandy by ten of the clocke in the forenoon. (Note I appointed 14 Constables to pay at James Emots in Padiam the 26th)—Whereas also by a Role Indented granted under the hands and seales of four of his Majesties Justices of the Peace and Quorum for this County at the Generall Sessions of the Peace holden at Preston the fourteenth day of Aprill last past the summe of Two hundred thirty five pounds seven shillings eleven pence is ordered to be raised within the Hundred of Blackburne for the repairing of Ribchester bridge, whereof wee are appointed Collectors. These are by vertue of the said Role to Will and require you to collect, levy and gather within your Office the summe of [blank] being charged upon the same by the said Role, and to make undelayed payment thereof to us or th'one of us at the time and place aforesaid. See you faile not as you will answer the contrary and avoid further trouble.

Dated the fourth day of May, *Anno Domini* 1681.
To the Constable of

A.D. } High
A.B. } Constables.

[p. 13] Tuesday May 10th of May 1681 I received from Capt. Grenehalgh a Warrant in these words following, *vizt.*:

Com. Lanc. By vertue of a Warrant unto me directed from the Right Honourable Earle of Derby, Lord Lieutenant of the County aforesaid, These are in the name of our Sovereigne Lord the King strictly to charge and command you to send out your Warrants to all Petty Constables within your Hundred of Blackburne, requiring them to give notice to the severall persons herein men-

tioned that they respectively send their Troopes to be trained and exercised at Bury the thirteenth and fourteenth instant, and to performe the like duty upon the three and twentieth and four and twentieth instant, and to appeare at the Generall Muster at Blackburne the thirteenth day of June next, and that they be completely armed and then furnished with a serviceable horse and four days pay, and pay for the Muster Master for one yeare, a quarter of a pound of powder, and a quarter of a pound of Ball. Herein you are not to faile. Given under my hand and seale the 5th day of May, *Anno Domini* 1681.

Tho. Grenehalgh
also his Seale.

Mr. Walmsley of Dunkinhal	1.
Mr. Holden of Holden	1.
Mr. Townley of Townley	1.
Mr. Townley of Royle	1.
Sir Edm. Ashton of Whalley	2.
Lord Duke of Albermarle	1.
Mrs. Fleetwood	1.
Mr. Braddyll	1.
Mr. Shuttleworth of Gawthropp	2.
Mr. Starky of Huntroide	1.
Mr. Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston	1.

To the High Constables of the Hundred of Blackburne, who is to give notice to John Whittaccar of Cloughbanks to appeare at the time and place aforesaide.

[p. 14] In pursuance of the said Warrant I have notice to Mr. Townley of Townley, to Mr. Townley of Royle, to Mr. Shuttleworth of Gawthropp, to Mr. Holden of Holden, and sent a precept to the Constable of Clitherow to give notice to the Duke of Albemarle his Troopes to appear, etc. I gave notice also to John Whittaccar the Trumpeter. I sent the Originall Warrant (having taken a Coppy of it for my own use) to Mr. Dandy by my servant Jonathan Robinson, and by him likewise sent a Warrant to the Constable of Whalley (tho' that was in Mr. Dandy's Division) to give notice to Sir Edmond Asheton and Mr. Braddyll, etc.

I writt two letters to Mr. Dandy upon the occasion of sending him the said Warrant, which were as follows:

Noynoe. May 10th 1681

Brother Dandy, I dispatch the inclosed towards you with all the speed I can, having onely taken a Coppy of it since it came to my hands, which was about 10 a clocke this day, tho you see by the date its 5 days old. I suppose these following are within your Division (namely) Mr. Walmsley, Mr. Holden, Sir Edmond Ashton, Mrs. Fleetwood, Mr. Braddyll, and Mr. Osbaldeston, but whether this Whittaccar is within your or my Division I know not. I pray enquire diligently, and in case he is within yours, let notice be given him to appeare. I intend to goe or send to the respective Gentlemens houses, which I take to be the surer and speedier course, than to send Warrants to the Petty Constables—you may doe as you judge best. In all hast I rest.

I writt also the following letter upon the same occasion:

[p. 15]

Noynoe. May 10th 1681.

Brother Dandy, Since I writt and sealed the inclosed I have been disappointed of a messenger, where I was too confident to be fitted, and so after the losse of some houres, have made choice of this Boy. Yet this delay hath turned to your advantage, for seeing it is in the Bearers road, I have sent him a Warrant to the Constable of Whalley to give notice to Sir Edmond Ashton and Mr. Braddyll to send in etc. as per order from Mr. Grenehalgh; so now you have

only Mrs. Fleetwood, Mr. Osbaldeston, Mr. Walmesley and Mr. Holden, to whom I doubt not you will be carefull to give notice. In more than hast, I rest.

May 11th 1681, I received by the said Jonathan Robinson at his returne a Role for the repair of Walton Copp and Ribble bridge, with a letter from Mr. R. Pollard (who manageth this busines for Mr. Dandy during his absence at London), which letter is in these words:

Mr. Barcroft, Yesternight came to my hands (in Mr. Dandy's absence) a Role for repair of Walton Copp and Ribble bridge, a true Copy of which I have sent you, being thereunto perswaded by the Overseers of the worke, from whom I received it, otherwise I should have sent you the Role itselfe. I appointed the 2nd June for the receipt of the money for Ribchester bridge, and shall use the same for the Copp. By your Boy I have dispatched Warrants to Dunkinshall, Mrs. Fleetwood, and John Whittaccer, whom I imagine is the Trumpeter and lives in Altham. Mr. Holden, tho he lives in your Division, shall receive notice in due time. A Warrant came to my hands for giving notice to soldiers in Clitherow, Mearley, etc. within your Division, to appeare at [p. 16] Blackburne, which I have dispatched because I could not send to you in convenient time. Since Mr. Dandy's departure Warrants have come to my hands almost every day which I have been much troubled to dispatch in time, Sir, your faithfull friend and servant, R. Pollard.

The said Role as follows:

To all Christian people to whom this present Role indented shall come to be seen, heard, read or understood, Wee the Kings Majesties Justices of the Peace and Quorum within the County Palatine of Lancaster whose names are subscribed send greeting. Forasmuch as at this present Sessions by the Oaths of twelve good and lawfull men of this County it was presented and found that the King's Highway lying within Walton in le Dale in the County of Lancaster commonly called Walton Copp, containeing an hundred Roods and more, leading betwixt the Market Townes and Wigan [*sic*], in the said County, is in great decay, broken and washed away, so that the Subjects of our Sovereigne Lord the King cannot passe through the same by themselves, or with their horses, goods, carts and carriages, without great danger of their lives and goods, and that the Inhabitants of the said County Palatine of Lancaster ought to repair the same so often as need requires. And whereas at the Sherriffs Table held at Lancaster in the last Assizes weeke the Justices there present being acquainted with the decays of the said Copp and Ribble bridge, did recommend the same to the Justices of the Peace at this Quarter Sessions, to order the decays of the said Copp and of Ribble bridge to be presented, and to allow a reasonable summe of [p. 17] money for the repair thereof, and to nominate and appoint such Supervisors and Treasurers as they should thinke fit and necessary. And know wee that wee the said Justices, for the fully repairing and amending of the said bridge and Copp, have allowed the summe of 400^l, and that the same shall be proportioned and taxed according to the usuall rates upon each Hundred in this County, and wee the said Justices doe by these presents tax and asseesse the summe of 72^l, together with the charges of this Role, upon the Inhabitants of the severall Townships hereafter named, within the Hundred of Blackburne, being their proportionable part of the 400^l to such summes of money as are hereafter severally imposed upon their heads, and wee the same Justices doe name and appoint Edward Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, esq., Treasurer of the said moneys, and doe also by these presents name and appoint Doctor Richard Kewerden [the antiquary], Andrew Dandy and Geoffrey Roby, both of Walton in le Dale, gents., Supervisors of the said way and bridge, who are to see the same way and bridge well and sufficiently repaired and amended in such manner and forme as the Justices within the Hundred of Blackburne, together with the said Mr. Osbaldeston and Christopher Parker of Bradkirke, Esq. one of his Majesties Justices of Peace of this County, or any two of them, shall direct, set out and appoint, and the said Justices, together with the said Mr. Osbaldeston, or at least two of them, are desired to meet from time to time and direct the said Overseers

in what manner the same shall be repaired, and the said Justices doe by these presents name and appoint the present High-Constables of the Hundred of Blackburne Collectors, who are hereby required forthwith upon receipt hereof to collect, levy and gather the said severall summes of money hereafter mentioned and taxed as aforesaid, and make undelayed payment hereof unto the said Treasurer before named without delay.

[p. 18] Blackburne	1 16 1	Aighton, Bayley	
Mearley	0 8 10	and Chaidgley ..	2 18 8
Altham	0 14 8	Salisbury	0 9 3
Downham	1 4 9	Huncoate	0 12 7
Clitherow	2 12 0	Chipping	2 3 4
Chatburne	0 14 0	Brearccliffe cum	
Worsthorne	0 14 8	Extwistle	1 3 3
Church	0 12 5	Harwood magna ..	1 15 6
Cliviger	1 3 2	Billington	1 8 5
Haslingeden	0 14 0	Clayton supra moores	0 9 3
Osbaldeston	0 7 8	Nether Darwen ..	0 16 0
Balderston	0 9 3	Thornley cum Wheatley	1 7 0
Cuerdale	0 17 8	Rishton	0 18 5
Symondston	0 14 0	Foulridge	1 7 10
Harwood parva	0 10 10	Mellor cum Eccleshill	0 18 5
Pendleton magna		Marsden	1 13 7
and parva	0 10 10	Over Darwen	1 1 7
Hapton	1 4 9	Wilpshire cum Dinkley	0 12 5
Burnley	1 10 10	Clayton in le Dale	0 18 5
Padiam	0 16 0	Wiswall	0 14 0
Pleasington	0 17 0	Colne	1 12 0
Samblesbury	3 3 8	Worston	0 15 5
Livesay cum		Dutton	1 3 2
Tockholes	1 7 10	Mitton, Henthorne and	
Oswaltdwistle	0 18 5	Coldcoate	0 14 0
Ribchester cum		Read	0 12 7
Dilworth	2 14 2	Heyhouses	0 2 4
Twiston	0 8 3	Trawden	1 3 3
Whalley	0 7 7	Rossendale	5 12 4
Walton in le Dale ..	2 17 7	Witton [p. 19] ..	0 10 0
Bolland	0 19 7	Accrington vetera ..	0 10 3
Pendle	5 2 0	Accrington nova ..	1 7 1
Ighenhilparke	0 11 7		

In witness whereof wee the said Justices have hereunto putt our hands and seales in open Sessions of the Peace holden at Preston 14 die Aprilie, Anno regni regis Caroli Secundi, Angliae, etc., xxxiii, Annoque Domini 1681.

The precepts I issued out in pursuance of this Role to the 29 Constableshippis within my Division were as follows:

Com. Lanc. By vertue of a Role indented granted under the hands and seales of four of His Majesties Justices of Peace and Quorum for this County in open Sessions of the Peace holden at Preston the fourteenth day of Aprill last past, by which the summe of seaventy two pounds, together with the charges of the said Role, is ordered to be raised within the Hundreds of Blackburne for the repair of Walton Copp and Ribble bridge, whereof wee are appointed Collectors. These are to will and require you to collect, levy and gather within your office the summe of [blank] being charged upon the same by the said Role, and to make payment thereof to us or th'one of us at the house of Jonathan Tillotson in Colne upon Thursday the second day of June next, by ten of the clocke in the afternoon. See you faile not.

Dated the twelvth day of May, Anno Domini 1681.

To the Constable of

A.D. } High
A.B. } Constables.

[p. 20] Friday the 13th May 1681. I received the following Warrant.

Com. Lanc. These are (in his Majesties name) straitly to charge and command you and either of you immediatly upon receipt hereof, to issue out your severall precepts to the severall Graves and Petty Constables within your respective Division, thereby requiring them and every of them that they be and personally appeare before us at the house of Mr. Benjamin Whalley in Chippin upon Thursday the twenty third day of June next by ten of the clocke in the afternoon of the same day, then and there to give us an account in writing under their hands, how their watch and ward hath been kept and their monthly searches made, what wandering persons have been apprehended since our last private Sessions, and how punished. And you are likewise required to cause the said Graves and Petty Constables to give notices to the severall unlicensed Alehousekeepers within their respective Lyberties and Constableries to be and appeare us at the time and place aforesaid, to shew cause why the severall summes of twenty shillings apiece should not be levied upon them respectively for selling of Ale or Beere without Lycense for one month last past, contrary to the Forme of the Statute in that case made and provided. And that they likewise give notice to the severall Overseers of the Poore within their severall Parishes that they be and personally appeare before us at the time and place aforesaid, to give us an account of how their poore are provided for, what Stocks of money are in their hands to employ and set them on worke, and what poore children are at present fit to be put forth as Parish Apprentices, with the names of such persons as are fit to receive them, and that [p. 21] they give us an account of all other matters and things belonging to their office. And you yourselves are to be then and there present to give us an account of the due execution hereof. Whereof you are not to faile. Given under our hands and seales at Sailsbury this 11th day of May *Anno regni regis Caroli secundi nunc Angliae, etc. Annoque Domini 1681.*

Tho. Braddyll, Tho. Parker, Ralph Livesay, Chr. Wilkinson, to Mr. Andrew Dandy and Mr. Ambrose Barcroft, Chiefe Constables within the Hundred of Blackburne, and to either of them, these,

I sent a copy of this Warrant to Mr. Dandy inclosed in a Letter superscribed to him, but addressed to Mr. Pollard, who manageth business in Mr. Dandy's absence. The said letter was as follows:

Noynoe, May 14th 1681.

Mr. Pollard, Yours I received by my Boy with a Copy of the Role for Ribble bridge, etc. I shall endeavour to get in the money for Ribchester Bridge and for this, about the time you mention, and then Mr. Dandy and I shall concert the time and method for paying it to the respective Treasurers. Yesterday I received a Warrant, whereof the inclosed is a perfect Copy. Wee have time enough for issuing out the precepts, and therefore I shall wait the opportunity (for its conveyance to you) of some of my Neighbours going to Preston, which I hope will be within few days. You write that Warrants have come to your hands every day almost since Mr. Dandy's departure. I presume they were such as did not concerne me, otherwise I hope you would have dispatcht them to me, as I have ever been carefull, and still shall be [p. 22] to send to Mr. Dandy (and in due time) whatever he is concerned in; else wee should be disabled to the discharge of our Office (to our discredit and danger), for you know that generally (if not always) one Warrant or Role (not Duplicate) is issued and sent to whether of us they can more conveniently, and then leave it to us to send to our Fellow. Sir, you would give me some ease if you would please to informe me what those Warrants were, or (at least) whether I was concerned in them or not. My humble service to Madam Dandy, so I rest, Sir, your affectionate friend and servant, A.B.

Sir, I direct this to you in regard (I presume) Mr. Dandy is not come home; I had commends from him by my last letter from London. Pray give my service to him at his returne. The Boy tells me he did your business at Dunkinshall and to the Trumpeter.

The precepts I issued out in pursuance of the last mentioned Warrant to the 29 Constables, etc. within my Division were in these words, *vizt.*

Com. Lanc. By vertue of a Warrant under the hands and seales of four of his Majesties Justices of Peace for this County to us directed, These are to require you to appear before the said Justices at the house . . . [and so as on p. 20] . . . [p.23] belonging to their Office.

Whereof you are not to faile. Dated the twenty fift day of May, *Anno Domini* 1681.

To the Constables of

A.D. } High
A.B. } Constables.

I received a letter from Mr. Pollard in answer to mine of 14th instant hereinbefore inserted. His letter is as follows:

Mr. Barcroft, In answer to yours dated the 14th instant, received yesternight with a Warrant inclosed, these are to persuade you not to doubt if any Warrant come to our hands wherein you are concerned but you shall have them carefully sent you in convenient time, unlesse it be such wherein you are [p. 24] but little concerned, and which wee can with more ease assuredly disperse than send to you, which I judge can be none other but such as concerne soldiers goeing forth, of which sort was the Warrants you desire to heare of, *vizt.* A Warrant from Capt. Nowell of which I spoke in my last, 2 from Capt. Rigby for giving notice to the Duke of Albemarle, Mr. Townley of the Carr Hall, Mr. Rishton of Antley, and others, to send forth their troopers twice, and one from Capt. Aytough, with the Roles, all which came within 10 days after Mr. Dandy's departure, whom wee expect in Walton upon the 28th instant. Your service to Mr. Dandy shall be presented by your faithfull servant (whose care pray doubt not).

Ri. Pollard.

June 1, 1681, I received the Coppy of a Warrant hereunder written, with the subjoynd letter from Mr. Pollard, *vizt.*

Parcel. Libert. Ducat. Lanc. Com. Sess. By vertue of Authoritie to me given by his Majesties Letters Patente under the Seales of his Dutchy and County Pallatine of Lancaster for the Office of Clarke of the Market for the whole Pallatine of Lancaster, and in and through every part and parcell thereof, You are hereby willed and required on his Majesties behalfe to disperse these severall inclosed Warrants to their severall respective persons and places, as you tender his Majesties service, and will answer the contempt at your perill. Dated the 20th of May in the 33 year of his Majesties Raigne that now is, *Annoque Domini*, 1681.

(signed) Henry Marsden.

[p. 25] Mr. Pollard's letter was as follows:

Sir, This is a Coppy of a Warrant to the High Constables directed, which I received this day, and what Warrants belongs to your Division I have taken out and hereinclosed sent you with the first conveniency, but I finde not any Warrant for Cliviger, which you may write if you think fit. This all at present from your faithfully servant, R. Pollard.

Preston, May the 28th, 1681.

Note, I sent all the said Warrants the same day and the next to the respective Constables.

Tuesday night, June 7th, 1681. I received the following Warrant by a Messenger of Anthony Bauldwain's of Burnley:

Lanc. Sess. Forasmuch as information upon oath hath been given before me, Thomas Braddyll, Esq., one of his Majesties Justices of the Peace and Quorum for the County aforesaid of certaine grand misdemeanours comitted by John Sagar of Coleclough within Habergham Eaves in the said County, yeoman, George Hargreaves and Ralph Pollard, both of Hapton in the said County of Lancaster, husbandmen. These are therefore to will and require you, and never-

theless in his Majesties name straitly to charge and command you and either of you, that you or th'one of you attache the bodies of them the said John Sagar, George Hargreaves and Ralph Pollard, and thereupon to bring them before me to Portfield upon Thursday next being the ninth day of this instant June, by ten of the clocke in the afternoon, then and there to answer the premises, and to be further dealt with according to Law. And hereof faile not due execution, as you will answer the contrary at your perill. Given under my hand and seale at Portfield aforesaid the sixth day of June, *Anno Regni Regis Domini [p. 26] nostri Caroli Secundi, Angliae, etc. Tricesimo tertio, Annoque Domini 1681.*

To the High Constables of the Hundred of Blackburne, or to either of them.

Tho. Braddyll.

The difference that was between the said Anth. Bauldwaine and the said persons (all of whom I served with this Warrant) was composed at Padiam as wee were going to Portfeild—but Mr. Braddyll was displeas'd that they were not brought before him to satisfie the law for the misdemeanours, so farr as they were criminall, and for false reports some of them had cast upon him (Mr. Bradyll) as to his busines.

The 12th June 1681 I received this letter from Mr. Dandy:

My Loveing Brother Mr. Ambrose Barcroft, Sir, at my returne I have found as you said to honest Mr. Denham, no want of imploy. Now as concerning the 4^l odd money for Lancaster payable to Mr. Johnes, his sone lives with Mr. Piggott [George Piggott, an attorney] of this towne, whom I have gotten to write to his father, but have no answer as yet, so that if you have not convey'd the money to him, I will next Saturday pay it to his son. I hope to see you at our meeting at Chipping. I have no more but my deare love and service to your good selfe and Bedfellow tho unknowne. And I am your loveing Brother, Andrew Dandy.

Preston, June 11, 1681.

My kind love to all my friends and acquaintances your way.

To which I returned this answer:

Noynoe, June 14, 1681.

Bro. Dandy, I received yours of 11th instant, and am very glad to know you are well come home and in good health. It is about 3 weeks agoe that I paid 4^l 6^s 8^d to Mr. Robert Trueman [of Alkincoats in Colne] my Neighbour, who undertook [p. 27] to cause the value be forthwith paid by a Customer of his in Lancaster to Mr. Johnes. I also sent a Receipt by Mr. Trueman's conveyance for Mr. Johnes to signe upon payment of the money. Mr. Trueman assures me he doubts not but that the money is paid, and that he shall have notice of it, together with the receipt tomorrow, so you need proceed no farther with Mr. Johnes his son. I purpose, God willing, to be at Chipping the 23rd instant, where I hope shall have the honour to kisse your hand. Meanwhile with my humble service to Mrs. Dandy, I send these and remaine (Sir) your affectionate friend and servant,

Ambrose Barcroft.

Note the said 4^l 6^s 8^d was paid the 4th day of June 1681 (the very day it was payable by Mr. Johnes his precept in page 8) by Mr. Thomas Green a Draper of Lancaster to Mr. Johnes, and a Receipt taken for it, which I have in my hands.

The 23rd day of June the before mentioned Sessions were held at Chipping where the Constables (generally) appeareing and making returns or presentments pursuant to our said precepts, they were (generally) accepted by the Justices (Mr. Braddyll and Mr. Parker) and there was little other busines of moment.

The said returns or presentments were generally to this effect, or in some parts otherwise if the case required it, *vizt.*:

According to a precept from the High Constables of the Hundred of Blackburne to me (or us, if two) directed, I the Constable (or wee, if two) of, etc. doe make this returne, as follows:

1. Watch and Ward hath been duely kept, and monthly searches made, but no wandering persons have been apprehended within my Office since the last private Sessions.
2. I have given notice to all unlicensed Alehousekeepers within my Office to appeare and shew cause, etc. (according to the words of the precept) or (if the case was so) there are no unlicensed Alehousekeepers within my Office.

[p. 28] I have also given notice to the Overseers of the Poore to appeare at these Sessions to give an account how the poore are provided for, what Stock of money are in their hands to imploy and set them on worke, what Parish Apprentices have been by them put forth, what poore children are at present fit to be put forth, and who are fit to receive them. N.N. Constable of etc.

The returnes which the Overseers of the Poore did make were generally to this effect, *vizt.*:

June 23rd, 1681.

The poore within my (or our) Office (or Parish) are sufficiently provided for by money taxed upon the Inhabitants for their reliefe. Wee have no other Stock of money to imploy or set them on worke. No Parish Apprentices have been as yet by us put forth; there are few poore children at present fit to be put forth as Parish Apprentices, and there are few at present fit to receive such.

N.N.—I.I. Overseers of the Poore for the Parish of, etc.

Att the said Sessions the said Justices issued out a Warrant to attach the body of Richard Birtwistle, Constable of Burnley cum Habbergham Eaves, and him to bring, etc. for making a false returne at the said Sessions (which was, he returned no unlicensed Alehousekeepers within his Office, and there were severall unlicensed). I served this Warrant and had him before Mr. Townley who being to meet Mr. Braddyll that day at Padiam discharged me of him, and took his word to appeare before them there.

[p. 29] By vertue of the aforementioned Warrant from Mr. Johnes (page 8) there was to be paid for reliefe of poore prisoners in

Lancaster Goale, summe	4 6 8
By the said Role for repair of Ribchester bridge the summe of	235 7 11
By the said Role for repair of Walton Cop and Rible bridge the summe	72 0 0
	311 14 7

(besides charge of the said Roles)

Of these my share was as underwrit		Mr. Dandy's share
For the prisoners	2 3 8½	2 2 11½
For Ribchester bridge	118 5 5	117 2 6
For Walton Cop, etc.	36 3 6	35 16 6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£156 12 7½	£155 1 11½

but for the mutuall convenience of Mr. Dandy and my selfe, he paid to Mr. Osbaldestone my share for Walton Cop, being 36. 3. 6, and I paid the value to Mr. Crombocke for him, so that our payments were really and *bona fide* as follows:

I paid for the prisoners as above	2 3 8½	
To Mr. Crombocke June 24th '81	130 0 0	Mr. Dandy 2 2 11½
To ditto June 30th 1681	16 0 2	to Mr. Osbaldeston the 28th of June 72 0 0
To ditto more, of which the Inhabitants of Cliderow doe refuse to pay	8 8 9	To Mr. Crombocke June the 30th 80 19 0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£156 12 7½	£155 1 11½

Note a Receipt was given by Mr. Osbaldeston upon the backside of the Role for Walton Copp for the summe of £72 12s. 5d. (in both our names) the said 12s. 5d. being for charges of the Role—the Receipt dated 28th June, 1681. Also Mr. Crombock June 30th 1681 gave a Receipt (in both our names) upon the backside of the Role for Ribchester bridge, for the sum of 235^l 7^s 11^d in full payment and discharge of and for the said Role, excepting the summe of 8^l 8^s 9^d charged upon the Inhabitants of Cliderow by the said Role, which they refuse to pay upon pretence that because they doe maintain severall bridges upon their owne charge they are therefore exempted from paying towards the charge of Hundred bridges. Now both the Roles remaine in Mr. Dandy's hands, I haveing Coppies onely.

Note also that Mr. Crombocke would not receive of us for the charge of the Role for Ribchester bridge—but refers us to Mr. Kenyon, Clerke of the Peace.

[p. 30] The precept and Articles for the Summer Assizes which I issued and sent to the severall Constables within my Division were as follows:

Com. Lanc. These are in his Majesties name to charge and command you to be and personally to appeare before us or th'one of us at the house of Jonathan Tillotson in Colne, upon Wednesday the twenty seaventh day of July instant, by ten of the clocke in the aforenoon, then and there to make true presentment fair written in parchment under your hand, of the matters and things contained in all and every the Articles here underwritten. Faile not herein at your perill. Given under our hands the sixth day of July, *Anno Domini*, 1681.

1. Imprimis. What Felonies have been committed within your Office since the last Assizes, what pursuit hath been made after the Felons, and what default of pursuit hath been, by whom, and when.
2. Item. If Watch and Ward hath been duely kept within your Office, and what vagrant, idle or suspected persons have been apprehended, and how punished.
3. Item. What peacebreakers you have within your office, and who are the common disturbers thereof.
4. Item. What Recusants, or other persons, remaine within your Office, that doe not come to the Church according to the Laws, what be their names, and whose Tenants they be.
5. Item. What decayed houses of Husbandry are within your Office, when decayed, and by whom.
6. Item. What ground is there within your Office, that having been tilled, is now turned from tillage to pasture, by whom, and when.
7. Item. What Alehousekeepers have you within your Office, who they are, who are unlicensed, and whether such as are lycensed doe observe the Articles prescribed unto them. [p. 31]
8. Item. Whether you have any Ingrossers, Forestallers or Regrators within your Office, and who they be.
9. Item. Whether the impotent poore are provided for, and who are faulty in reparation of the Highways within your Office.
10. Item. Whether there be any within your Office that use any false weights, or measures, any that make malt to sell of Corne not being of their owne tylth or rent corne, not being lycensed thereunto according to the Statute in that case made and provided, and who they be.

To the Constable (or etc.) of etc.

Andrew Dandy } High
Amb. Barcroft } Constables.

It is the opinion of some persons that the High Constables need not issue precepts to the petty Constables to make presentments at the Quarter Sessions, but that they the said Petty Constables ought to doe it *ex officio*. Others say that the High Constables ought *ex officio* (for wee have no Warrants from the Justices of Peace to doe it) to issue such precepts to the Petty Constables, which I taking to be the safer course to doe, did issue precepts to the Constables, *etc.* within my Division (save to the Constable of Clidderhow, for that they never appear at Sessions) as follows:

Com. Lanc. These are in his Majesties name to charge and command you to be and personally to appear at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Preston upon Thursday the fourteenth day of July instant, by ten of the clock in the aforenoon, and then and there to make true presentment in writing under your hand what misdemeanours have been comitted within your Office since the last Quarter Sessions; how your Watch and Ward have been kept, what wandering persons have been apprehended and how punished, what Recusants you have within your Office, and what be their names; what unlicensed Alehousekeepers you have, and who they are; and of all other matters and things belonging to your Office. Faile not at your peril. Dated the sixt day of July. *Anno Domini* 1681.

To the Constable, etc.

Andrew Dandy } High
Amb. Barcroft } Constables.

[p. 32] Note my Fellow Mr. Dandy did not issue any precepts, and yet the Constables appeared and made presentments. For I find that no High Constables heretofore have used to issue any (or very rarely) the Petty Constables making presentments (as aforesaid) *ex officio*.

The presentments the Petty Constables doe make (having no precepts sent them to make returnes upon) are for the most part as follows, *vizt.*:

July 14th, 1681. I have no presentments to make of any thing done or happened within my Office since the last Quarter Sessions.

N. N. Constable of, etc.

If precepts be issued out to the Petty Constables from the High Constables, then the Petty Constables doe make returnes at the Quarter Sessions upon and according to the severall heads or Articles contained in the said precepts, in such manner as they doe in their Articles presented at the Assizes, which (god willing) shall hereafter be shewed.

July 20th, 1681. I received a Warrant in these words following, *vizt.*:

Com. Lanc. These are in the name of our Sovereign Lord the King strictly to require and command you immediately after your receipt hereof, to issue out your precepts to all and every the Graves and Petty Constables within the Upper Division of the Hundred of Blackburne, thereby commanding them to be and personally to appeare before us at the house of John Slater in Burnley, Innekeeper, upon Tuesday the second day of August next by ten of the clocke in the afternoon of the same day, and then and there true presentments make of all offences and misdemeanours comitted or done within their respective Liberties since their last presentments, and of what Rogues and Vagabonds have been apprehended and how punished; and the said Constables are to summon all such persons as brew or sell Ale or Beer without Licence within their said Liberties to appeare before us at the place and time aforesaid, to shew cause if they can why they ought not to pay twenty shillings a Month for taking upon them to brew and sell Ale or Beer as aforesaid—and returne a particular List of their names and surnames to the end they may be punished as the Act of Parliament in that case doth direct; and also the night before the said day the said Graves and Constables are to make private and diligent Search within their said Liberties for the apprehending of wandering Rogues, Idle and Sturdy Beggars, and if any such they finde, they are to bring them before us to receive such punishment as the Law in that case doth appoint. And you are also to require the said Graves and Constables that if there by any woman that hath borne any Bastard children within their said Liberties not yet filiated, that they summon the said woman to appeare before us at the place aforesaid with their children and midwife or two other women who were present at the time of their delivery, to the end they may duely filiate the same according to law; and the said Graves and Constables are to give notice unto the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poore within their severall Liberties to appeare before us at the said time and place to give an account how their poore are provided for, and place such children as Apprentices whose parents are not able to maintaine them, and place such children as Apprentices whose parents are not able to maintaine them, and returne a List of their names and of such men as are fit to receive them, and herein you are not to faile. Dated the 19th day of July.

Anno Domini 1681.

To Mr. Ambrose Barcroft, one of the
Chiefe Constables for the Hundred
of Blackburne.

There were the hands
and seales of
Nic. Townley.
Tho. Braddyll.
Tho. Parker.
Ralph Livesey.

The precepts I issued out to the Constables were as follows:

[p. 34] *Com. Lanc.* By vertue of a Warrant under the hands and seales of four of his Majesties Justices of Peace and Quorum for this County to us directed, These

are to require you to appeare before the said Justices at the house of John Slater in Burnley upon Tuesday . . . [and so as on pp. 32 and 33]. . . .

Dated the 20th day of July 1681.

To the Constables of

Andrew Dandy } High
Ambrose Barcroft } Constables.

[p. 35] The returns which the Constables doe make in answer to the Articles for the Assizes (incerted in page 30th) are for the most part as follows:

Foulridge.

July 27th, 1681.

A true presentment made by me Thomas Wood, Constable of the Towne aforesaid in answer to severall Articles under the hands of the High Constables of the Hundred of Blackburne to me directed, as follows:

1. That no Felonies have been committed within my Office to my knowledge since the last Assizes.
2. That Watch and Ward hath been duely kept and that no Vagrant, idle or suspected persons have been apprehended within my Office.
3. That there is not any peacebreakers or common disturbers thereof within my Office.
4. That there are not any Recusants or other persons to my knowledge that doe not come to Church according to the Laws in that case made and provided. (Note if there be any Recusants or Quakers, etc. then they incert their names and Tenants they be).
5. That there is not any decayed houses of Husbandry within my office.
6. That there hath not any grounds been turned from Tillage to pasture within my Office.
7. The Alehousekeepers within my Office are (here name them all)—whereof such (here they name them) are unlicensed (if there be any unlicensed) and to my knowledge they keep the Articles prescribed them.
8. That there are not any Ingrossers, Forestallers, or Regrators to my knowledge within my office.
9. That the impotent poore are sufficiently provided for, and that the Highways are in good repaire within my office.
10. That there is not any person or persons within my Office that to my knowledge use any false weights or measures, or that make any Malt to sell contrary to the Statute in that case made and provided.

By me (here he subscribes his name)

Constable as aforesaid.

[p. 36] Tuesday, August 2nd, 1681. A private Sessions was holden at Burnely where were present Mr. Townley, Mr. Braddyll, Mr. Parker and Mr. Livesey, and the Constables within my Division onely being summoned, they made appearance accordingly, and in pursuance of the precept in page 30th made particular returnes to the severall heades or Articles in the precept, onely some of them made returnes in reference to the poore, *etc.*, which did not belong to them to doe, but to the Churchwardens and Overseers whom they summoned to appeare, and they generally did appeare and gave account as to the particulars they were charged with, but they were chiefly urged to give in the names of all children from 7 to 14 years of age that begged or had reliefe from the Parish, that they might be put forth Apprentices, and of the names of all persons fit to receive apprentices—and when none of them were provided with such returnes they caused severall to goe forth (as those of Colne Parish and some others) and to bethink themselves of some—which they did, and accordingly some Apprentices were put forth.

August 10th, 1681. The Assizes at Lancaster began, the Judges being Judge Dolben [Sir William Dolben] and Judge Gregory [Sir William Gregory]. The next day in the afternoon after Sermon they went into the *Nisi Prius* end (Note they came the night before into the Crown end and had their Commissions read) whereafter the Justices of Peace and Coroners, the High Constables were called, and wee for Blackburne Hundred the first. The next day (being Friday the third day of the Assizes) wee for Blackburne Hundred, having all the Petty Constables presentments written in parchment (save Cliderow which makes no presentment) and filed, and our names endorsed on the outermost, did deliver them to the Grand Jury, who freely received them, Sir [blank] Standish [Sir Richard Standish, first baronet] of Duxbury being foreman, and Mr. Townley of Royle the second, and this was all wee had to doe at the Assizes in reference to our Office.

[p. 37] August 19th 1681 I received a letter from Mr. Dandy with the Copy of a Role therein—The letter was in these words, *vizt.*:

Brother Barcroft, I have sent a true Copy of the Role, Mr. Bradyll's hand is wanting but I will get it as speedily as possibly I can. Mr. Crombocke was saying wee must needs lay downe the moneys, it would be wanted, but I thinke wee shall have trouble enough in gathering it, and alsoe we shall have more moneys to gather, I doubt, in our time for this Robbery⁽¹³⁾ I have not more, but should gladly have kisst your hand at parting at Lancaster, but you got slipt out of towne and left me untill 7 a'clocke of the night to get the Role—mine and wife's love and service to your selfe and Bedfellow, I am, Sir, your loving younger brother and servant,

Andrew Dandy.

Lostocke, August 16, 1681.

The said Role was as follows:

To all people to whom this present Role Indented shall come to be seen, read, heard or understood. Wee the King's Majesties Justices of the Peace and Quorum within the County of Lancaster whose names are subscribed, send greeting. Foreasmuch as this Court is truly informed that a common and publicke bridge in Darwen is lately fallen downe called Darwen bridge, which is to the prejudice of all his Majesties Leige people and good subjects of the Kingdome, who by reason of their businesse are to passe that way. And also that another common and publicke bridge lying in Colne in the said County called Primit bridge is in great decay for want of reparation. And whereas heretofore it was agreed that the Inhabitants of every Hundred shall severally uphold and repaire the bridges in the same Hundred (the three great bridges called Lancaster bridge, Ribble bridge and Crosford bridge onely excepted) which three great bridges last above mentioned are to be repaired by the Inhabitants of the whole County. Therefore know yee that wee the said Justices [p. 38] for the repairing, re-edifyinge and amending of the said two bridges called Darwen bridge and Primit bridge, by vertue of the Statute made in the two and twentieth yeare of the Raigne of the late King Henry the eighth, have ordered and allowed that the summe of Ninety foure pounds three shillings and two pence to bee collected and gathered within the Hundred of Blackburne, and wee the said Justices doe also by these presents tax and asseesse the said Summe, together with the charges of this Role, upon the Inhabitants of the severall townes and places hereafter mentioned to such summes of money as is hereafter severally imposed upon their heads. And wee the said Justices doe also by these presents name and appoint the present High Constables Collectors, who are hereby required to collect, levy

⁽¹³⁾ See *below*, [p. 59].

and gather the said moneys by distresse and sale of goods, and to make undelayed payment thereof to Mr. William Crombocke of Clarkhill, who wee appoint receiver of the said moneys, and whom together with Henry Walton of Marsden and Lawrence Riddyhalgh of the same, are appointed Supervisors of the said bridges, and are to see the said bridges to be therewith fully repaired, re-edified and amended

Blackburne	2 7 7	Symonstone	0 18 3
Mearley	0 11 6	Harwood Parva ..	0 14 3
Altham	0 19 2	Pendleton, Magna &	
Downham	1 13 6	Parva	0 14 3
Clitherow	3 7 10	Hapton	1 13 6
Chatburne	0 18 3	Burnley	2 0 9
Worsthorne	0 19 2	Padiam	1 1 0
Church	0 16 4	Pleasington	1 2 5
Cliviger	1 10 7	[p. 39] Samblesbury ..	4 4 3
Haslingden	0 18 3	Livesay cum Tockholes	1 16 8
Osbaldeston	0 19 6	Oswaltwisle	1 4 5
Balderston	0 12 2	Aigh: Bay: & Chaidgley	3 17 6
Curedale	1 3 4	Salisbury	0 12 2
Pendle	6 15 10	Huncoate	0 16 6
Bolland	1 5 10	Rossendale	7 7 10
Ighenhilparke ..	0 15 3	Accrington vetera ..	[blank]
Heyhouses	0 3 0	Accrington nova ..	1 15 0
Trawden	1 10 0	Whilpshire cum Dinkley	0 16 4
Chipping	2 17 1	Clayton le Dale ..	1 4 5
Brearcliffe cum Extwisle	1 10 7	Wiswall	0 18 3
Harwood Magna ..	2 6 10	Colne	[blank]
Billington	1 18 2	Worston	1 0 0
Clayton supra Moores	0 12 2	Dutton	1 10 7
Nether Darwen ..	1 1 0	Mitton, Henth: & Cold:	0 18 3
Thornley cum Wheatley	1 15 0	Read	0 16 6
Rishton	1 4 5	Ribchester cum Dilworth	3 10 0
Foulridge	1 16 8	Witton	0 12 0
Mellor cum Eccleshill	1 4 5	Twiston	0 10 9
Marsden	2 4 4	Whalley	0 9 8
Over Darwen	1 8 6	Walton in le Dale ..	3 16 1

In witness whereof wee the said Justices have hereunto put our hands and seales in open Sessions of the Peace holden at Preston the 14th day of July in the 33rd year of the Raigne of our most gracious Sovereigne Lord King Charles the second over England, etc. and in the year of our Lord 1681.

Nicholas Townley.

Tho. Parker.

Ralph Livesey.

My answer to Mr. Dandy's letter in page 37 was as follows:

Noynoe, Aug. 22, 1681.

Bro. Dandy, I have yours with a Copy of the Role—you write that its a true Copy and so I suppose it is, being in Mr. Pollards hand, who is very careful but [p. 40] I finde two errors in it within my Division—*vizt.* Accrington vetera is charged but 11s 8d—whereas it should have been 13s 4d (besides 2d or 3d towards charges of the Role) that towne being 6s 8d a Fifteene. Also Colne is charged but 1l. 13s. 4d, and being 1l. 0. 8d at a Fifteen, it should be 2l. 1s. 4d, besides somewhat towards charges of the Role. I desire you will be pleased to review the Role, and let me know per first oppertunity if you finde these 2 Townes charged as in the Cobby you sent me; and if you finde them so, it will be requisit (I suppose) to give Mr. Roe [Henry Rowe, deputy clerk of the peace] an account of it, and get him to rectifie it speedily: for as wee ought to receive from every towne what is their due to pay, so its fit the Role should be made answerable for our Warrant. It may not be amisse if you examine the severall charges within your Division, if you have not already done it. I presume

Mr. Crombrocke did but jest. I am onely sorry that your stay in Lancaster deprived Mrs. Dandy too long of your sweet company; otherwise its but a small part of the greater trouble I have been put to hitherto; however after Mr. Roe had done his part in the Role Mr. Townleys Clerk would have got the rest perfected had you desired it. All hearty respects from me and mine to you and yours. I rest, Sir, your affectionate Brother and servant.

I desire you would either send me the Role or get Mr. Pollard to give me againe the respective charges upon the townes in my Division.

Amb. Barcroft.

The precepts issued forth to the Petty Constables in pursuance of the Role was as follows:

[As on p. 19, *mutatis mutandis*]

[p. 41] Memorandum. Soon after the last Assizes at Lancaster a Warrant from Judge Gregory (but in the King's name) directed to all Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffes, Constables, etc. within this County, was brought to me from John Blakey of Botthouse [in Colne], to take the bodies of Wm. Veevers of Marsden, Daniell Lacoche of Colne, Bryan Hardy and John Slater of Burnley, and them bring before some Justices, etc. to be bound with sufficient Suerties to appear at next Assizes at Lancaster to answer the King of certain trespasses, contempts and offences whereof they stand indicted. Accordingly I served Wm. Veevers, at whose request I allowed him a day or 2 time to dispatch some business at home, and gave the Warrant to the Constable of Marsden, with charge to goe with him before some Justices of Peace, which he intending to doe, Veevers went with him to Mr. Marsden, and was there bound, I served Dan: Lacoche who was bound by Mr. Townley, and then the Warrant was given to the said Blakey to be carried to the Constable of Burnley, who was to serve with the same the said Bryan Hardy and John Slater, which he (doubtless) did, and they are bound accordingly.

[p. 42] Monday, August 29th 1681. I received the following letter from Mr. Pollard in answer to mine of 22nd instant to Mr. Dandy, as follows:

Mr. Barcroft, Mr. Dandy received yours this day, and being sent for to the burying a Relation 20 miles distant from Walton, had not time to write himselfe, but sent for me, and wee compared Accrington vetera with the Role, and finde it charged with 11s 8d and Colne with 11 13s 4d, according to the Cobby was sent you. I have sent you the charge of all the townes in your division truly examined lest there should be any more mistakes in the rest. Mr. Dandy had sent you the Role, but there is other mistakes therein, about which hee intends to speake to Mr. Roe, truely the Role is interlined with seaven Townes of which Accrington vetera is one. This all save the service of your humble servant R. Pollard.

Walton, Aug. 27th 1681.

Mr. Roe was chid for interlineing and botching the Role at Lancaster by the Justices.

Memorandum. In this letter Mr. Pollard writ againe the charge upon every towne within my division being the very same with the

Copy of the Role before sent me by Mr. Dandy, inserted on pages 38 and 39.

Noynoe, Sept. 21th 1681

Brother Dandy, Two townes within my division, Worston and Worsthorne, being charged by the last Role as they were by the former, the same dispute is arisen between them as was before; and for anything I know may be brought to the next Lancaster Sessions, where it can be determined by no other Rule than the booke of Rates in Mr. Roe's or Mr. Kenyon's hands. It will be necessary therefore in my opinion, that Mr. Roe [p. 43] doe bring his booke of Rates to the next Quarter Sessions, for his owne vindication and the satisfaction of the Court; to which end it is the errand of these lines to request you will write to Mr. Roe in the meane time (you haveing the convenience of sending to him with more certainty than I can) and (acquainting him herewith) desire him to bring the Originall booke of Rates to the next Quarter Sessions. Perhaps I may give you the trouble of a visit at Lostock the night before that day, but of this I am not certaine, and therefore I pray let it not disquiet your minde too much in the meane time. My humble service to your vertuous consort, and to Mr. Pollard, and please accept the same yourself, from, Sir, your affectionate friend and servant

Amb. Barcroft.

The 6th Oct. 1681. the Quarter Sessions were held at Preston, where Mr. Dandy and I attended, but no particular duty was required of us. The Constables generally appearing made presentments after the usuall manner.

The 10th of Oct. 1681 I received a precept from Mr. Townley in the words following, *vizt.*:

Com. Lanc. You are hereby required to give timely notice and Warneing unto Thomas Bancroft, Henry Acronley and John Barret, all of Foulridge, that they be and personally appeare before me and my Fellow Justice of the Peace at the house of John Hamerton in Padyam upon Friday next by ten of the clocke in th'aforenoon, to give true information of all such Conventicles or unlawful Assemblies as they know of or have been held or kept within their Lyberty within three months last past, and not to faile.

Dated the 10th day of October, *Anno Domini* 1681.

To Mr. Ambrose Barcroft
at his house, these

Nic. Townley.

[p. 44] The 19th Oct. '81. I paid by Mr. Townley of Royle's Order to Henry Walton and Lawrence Reddyhalgh, the summe of ten pounds for repair of Primmit bridge, and tooke their Receipt for it as received of Mr. Wm. Crombocke by my hands, which Receipt I delivered to Mr. Crombocke the 3rd November, at which time he gave me a Receipt in full for the whole money granted by the before-inserted Role for repair of Darwen bridge and Primit bridge, *vizt.* 94^l 3^s 2^d.

The 29th Oct. 1681. Mr. John Edleston writ me that Mr. Crombocke appointed me to pay him the remainder of the money in my hands for repair of the said bridges upon the 3rd of November at Whalley, and I not knowing that Mr. Dandy had paid any of the Money raised within his Division, gave him notice by letter sent by my servant Jonathan Robinson, of Mr. Crombock's said appointment, but Mr. Dandy returned answer by letter of 2d November that by order from Mr. Braddyll he had paid to Mr. Abraham

Townley 47^l 9^s—so that 3d November '81 I paid to Mr. Crombocke 33.6.4 which with the said 10^l paid to Henry Walton and Law. Riddyhalgh—and 3.7.10 charged upon Clitherow by the Role, which they refuse to pay, makes 46.14.2, and that added to Mr. Dandy's said payment makes up the whole summe charged by the Role for repair of the said bridges, *vizt.* 94.3.2, and accordingly Mr. Crombocke gave me a Receipt of full for the said summe of 94^l 3^s 2^d.

Note that Mr. Dandy's above-mentioned payment is more than 2 Fifteens in the Townes within his Division, and my payment if lesse,—but wee having the Role to pay for, wee shall concert that at our next meeting—

I writ to Mr. Dandy the following letter:

Colne, November, 9th, 1861.

Bro: Dandy, If I had knowne that you had paid the money, or that Mr. Braddill had order'd you pay it, I should have been far from giving you or myselve the trouble of sending about it; but Mr. Eddleston (Mr. Braddills [p. 45] Clarke) writ me that Mr. Crombocke appointed the 3d instant for the payment and (saith he) he makes no doubt but you will get Mr. Dandy notice, which intimation (as I understood it) laid an Obligation upon me, to give you the account I did; so you see, if you had had your double diligence about you at your Fair, and answer'd my former letter by some of our Neighbours, the trouble of sending a Messenger had been prevented. However, I acquainted Mr. Braddill and Mr. Crombocke that you writ me you had paid 47^l 9^s to Mr. Abraham Townley, which they being satisfied with, I then paid to Mr. Crombocke (with the 3.7.10 the Inhabitants of Clitheroe refuse to pay) 46.14.2, which with that you paid makes 94.3.2 the summe charged for repair of the bridges, and I took a Receipt (in both our names) in full accordingly. And now Sir I conceive the matter stands thus between us—the Role chargeth upon the Townes within your Division 48.1.4, and you having paid 47.9.0, there rests in your hands 12^s 4^d. The townes in my Division are charged with 47.11.6, of which I have paid 46.14.2, so there rests in my hands 17^s 4^d. If then I pay you (when wee meet) 2^s 6^d, there will be 14^s 10^d in your hands, and also the same summe in mine. And then wee may pay equally to the charge of the Role for which I am informed Mr. Roe expects 1^l 6^s 8^d in regard it is for 2 bridges; but I intend to inquire of some of my Neighbours who have been High Constables if the like case happened in their time, and if so, then what they paid for such Role—meane while I take it 1^l 6^s 8^d is extraordinary. Sir I have the Receipt for the money paid for reliefe of Prisoners in Lancaster Castle, and for that paid for repair of Darwen and Primit bridges; you have the Receipts for that paid for Ribchester bridge and for Walton Copp—I thinke it was not amisse that I give you Coppys of the Receipts I have, with attestation under my hand [p. 46] that the Originalls are in my keeping, whereof those are true Coppys, and you may likewise give me Coppys of those you have, and attest in like manner, that the Originalls rest with you, whereof those are true Coppys. This I confesse is not greatly materiall, but will suite your double diligence exactly. In earnest, it may be of some satisfaction to us, if of no farther use in the future—which you will acknowledge when I have told you that there is an Order forth to call to account some former High Constables and Supervisors for the dispose pf money. If you agree hereto, wee may doe it at our next meeting. In case this finde you in Preston when you are busied about your interest affairs, you will chide me in your thoughts that I have been so tedious herein, and therefore I will abruptly end, ever remaineing Sir, your affectionate friend and brother, Amb. Barcroft.

My humble service to Mrs. Dandy with my thanks for your kindness to my Boy.

Monday November 14th, 1681, I served George Aspden, Constable of Padiam, with a Warrant dated November 10th, 1681, granted by

Mr. Townley upon the Oath of John Holland of Padiam for security of the peace etc. And he entered into Recognizance with Sureties to appeare at the next Quarter Sessions to be holden at Preston etc.⁽¹⁴⁾

About the fourteenth day of December 1681, I received a Warrant under the hand and seale of Tho. Holden Esq. [of Toad Hall, Haslingden] for a private Sessions to be holden at Haslingden the 23th instant, in pursuance whereof when all (or neare all) my precepts were written and ready to be sent to all the Constables within my Division [p. 47] I received an Order from Mr. Holden by a letter from Mr. Tho. Grantham, not to proceed upon the said Warrant—and at the same time (namely) inclosed in Mr. Grantham's letter, I received another Warrant from Mr. Holden—as follows:

Lanc. Sess. These are in his Majesties name straitly to charge and command you that you give notice and warneing to all Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poore and Supervisors for the Highways for the last yeare, that they and every of them appeare before his Majesties Justices of the Peace at a private Sessions to be holden at the house of Henry Rawsthorne in Haslingden on Friday the three and twentieth day of this instant December, by ten a clocke in the morning, and to bring their accounts, fairly written of what moneys they have collected and disbursed in their respective Offices. And also their accounts are first to be examined and allowed of by the present Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poore and Supervisors of the Highways in case they have nothing to object (unlesse the same to be examined and allowed already). And you are likewise to cause diligent privy search to be made before the said Sessions for the apprehending of all vagabonds and wandering rogues, and to bring them before his Majesties Justices of the Peace at the place aforesaid, and cause them presentments to be made of all disorderly Alehouses, and of such as are unlicensed, and of all idle persons such as are fit to serve as Laborers, and poore children fit to be put out as Apprentices, and of all your highways and bridges out of repaire, and if Hue and Cry have been duely made after robbers and felons, and Watch and Ward duely kept, and what persons amongst you are not qualified keep any Greyhounds, gunnes or setting dogs, and the abuses of any in false weights and measures, To the end the severall offenders herein may be proceeded against and punished according to Law. Herein faile not at your peril, And that you be personally there to give an account of the Execution of this Warrant. Given under my hand and seale the thirteenth day of December in the yeare of our Lord God, 1681.

Tho. Holden.

[p. 48] To Mr. Ambrose Barcroft, High Constable of the Hundred of Blackburne.

You are to issue out your Warrants to the Townships and Graveshipps hereafter mentioned, vizt. Accrington vetera, Accrington nova, Huncoate, Altham, Clayton, Oswaldtwisle, Haslingden, Rossendale and Hapton.

I issued precepts to the Officers of the said nine places containing all the particulars in the aforesaid Warrant, who appeared and made presentments accordingly. I also attended there, where was the said Mr. Holden and Mr. Greenhalgh; the High Sheriffe Mr. Rawsthorne [Lawrence Rawstorne of New Hall in Tottington] also accompanied them.

⁽¹⁴⁾ He is not referred to in the Sessions Order Book or Indictment Book, but the Recognizance in which he is described as "blacksmith" is among the Sessions Records. Lancs. Rec. Office.

About the same time that I received the aforesaid Warrant there came to my hands Precepts to the Constables etc. within my Division from Henry Marsden, Esq. (sent by Mr. Seth Mort) which I sent forthwith to all the said Constables, etc.

The 12th January, 1681/2 the Quarter Sessions were held at Preston where Mr. Dandy and I appeared, but no particular duty was required of us, the Petty Constables appearing and making presentments as usually. The 13th January, 1681/2 I paid to Mr. Henry Roe 1^l 6^s 8^d and took him a Receipt for 1^l 6^s 8^d (he abateing 2d) in Mr. Dandy's name and my owne, as in full payment for 2 Roles, *vizt.*, that for Ribchester bridge and the other for Darwen and Primit bridges, he (Mr. Roe) acknowledging that Mr. Osbaldeston had paid him for all the County for that for Walton Copp and Rible bridge—wee haveing paid to Mr. Osbaldeston what was charged for the charge of our Role, being about 12 or 13s.

[p. 49] Jan. [blank] 1681/2 I writ the following letter to Mr. Dandy:

Bro. Dandy, The account between us, as to the money resting in our hands upon the Role, and what is paid for them, I conceive standeth thus, *vizt.*, In my hands upon the Role for Ribchester bridge 6^s 11^d—upon that for Darwen and Primit bridges 17^s 4^d is 1.4.3. In your hands upon the said former Role 6^s 4^d, and upon the (as you say but) 2^s 4^d is in uour hands 8^s 8^d. The whole in both hands is 1^l 12^s 11^d, and I haveing paid to Mr. Rowe 1^l 6^s 6^d (the Receipt is for 1^l 6^s 8^d but he abated 2d) there remains 6^s 5^d more than is paid; so that you ought (I conceive) to pay me 5^s 5^½^d and then you will have 3^s 2^½^d—and I shall (then) have just the same summe. If upon examination you finde it thus, its well; but if you think there is any mistake, I desire you will observe it to me, that wee may put an end to that business without stop or doubting) when we meet at Blackburne. I suppose you will have received ere this comes to your hands, the Order touching the House of Correction, and that for returns of Freeholders names, both which, or Copsy of them, I desire you send me by this bearer—as also what you heare of the Execution for the Robbery money. Mr. Seed was speaking to me, just as I was coming out of Towne, not to make the returnes of the Freeholders in the Petty Constables loose papers (as it seems hath been done) but to transcribe them fairly in a booke. Now I have been thinking it might be best to doe it in a parchment Role, and then he may fix yours and mine together, and so have those of the whole Hundred of Blackburne in the same Role. I wish you would speake to him of this, and let me have his answer. Hearty respects to your selfe and good Mrs. Dandy is the rest at this time from, Sir, your affectionate Brother and Servant.

Ambrose Barcroft.

Jan: 18th 1681/2 I received the following letter:

Bro. Barcroft, Immediately after your going out of town I received the inclosed Warrant which is sent you as speedily as possible after receipt by your loving Brother, Andrew Dandy, Jan: 14th. 1681.

[p. 50] Lanc. Sess. Lawrence Rawsthorne, Esq., Sherriffe of the County aforesaid, To the High Constables for the Hundred of Blackburne, Greeting. These are in his Majesties name strictly to require and command you that with all diligence, speed and care, you truely (without any omissions) make or cause to be made a Callander (fairly written in paper) of all and singular persons, as well Knights, Esquires, Gentlemen or other persons within your said Hundred, who have lands or tenements within the said County to the cleare yearly value of foure pounds or upwards, together with their additions and places of abode, and which of them are convicted of Recusancy or supposed to be Papists or Quakers, with an account of their reall and true reputed values of their severall Estates,

so that every person may serve as Jurors, according to their ability and capacity. And that you make returne hereof, together with the said Callander to my Office in Preston on the fifteenth day of February next. Whereof faile not at your perill. Given under the seale of my Office the tenth day of January, *Anno Regni Regis Caroli secundi Angliae, etc. xxxiii.*

The Precepts that I issued and sent to the Constables etc. within my were as followeth, *vizt*:

Com. Lanc. By vertue of an Order under the hand and seale of Lawrence Rawstorne, Esq., Sheriffe of the County aforesaid, these are strictly to require and command you that with all diligence, speed and care . . . [as the Warrant] . . . [pl 51] ability and capacity. And that you make returne of the said Callandar to us or th'one of us at the house of Jonathan Tillotson in Colne upon Monday the sixt day of February next by ten of the clocke in the afternoon. Whereof faile not at your perill. Given under our hands the 19th day of January, *Anno Domini 1681.*
to the etc.

A.D. } High
A.B. } Constables.

Hereupon all the Constables, except the Graves of Accrington vetera and of Accrington nova, made returnes in loose papers, which I keep, and did returne to the Sherriffe (*per* Mr. Dandy) a Callendar in 4 halfe sheets of paper (tacked together at the upper ends with a parchment thong) as follows:

Com. Lanc. A Callendar of all the persons within the Constableshippes herein hereafter mentioned in the Hundred of Blackburne who have lands or Tenements within the said County to the clere yearly value of four pounds or upwards, etc. that were returned to the Constables, Graves and Officers of the respective Townes and places to the High Constables of the said Hundred and sixt day of February, *Anno Domini 1681.*

		£s. per ann.
Accrington vetera	William Shaw	[blank]
Accrington nova	Edw. Rishton of Antley, gent.	4
	Miles Lonsdale of Highryley, gent.	4
Altham.	The Constables makes returne that there is no persons within his Office who have hands or Tenements of the cleare yearly [value] of foure pounds.	
Burnley.	Nicholas Townley of Royle, Esq.	40
	Robert Haddocke of Fezantford, gent.	20
[p. 52]	John Ingham of Fullidge, gent.	20
	Richard Townley of Townley, esq.	100
	Nicholas Townley of Clifton, gent.	20
	John Habergham of Habergham, gent.	20
	Nicholas Whittaker of Healey, yeoman.	5
	John Whittaker of Micklehirst, yeoman.	10
	Anthony Bouldwaine of Burnley, yeoman	10
	John Sagar of Coleclough, yeoman	10
	Nicholas Whittaker of Micklehirst, yeoman.	10
	Miles Lonsdale, of Oakeneaves, yeoman.	10
	Bernard Barcroft of Habergham, yeo.	5
	John Jackson of Haworth Fould, yeoman.	5
	John Foulds of Dancer House, yeoman.	10

Brearcliffe cum Extwisle.	John Parker of Extwisle, esq. John Parker of Holdenclough, yeoman. Lawrence Brearcliffe of Burwaynes, yeoman.	200 4 8
Colne	John Blakey of Colne, yeoman. Robert Hargreaves of Greenfield, yeoman. Robert Hammond of Crawshay, gent. Robert Trueman of Alkincoats, yeoman. Henry Shaw of Langrode, gent. Christopher Smith of Edge, yeoman. James Blakey of Lanehead.	20 10 40 30 20 20 10
Chatburne.	The Constable makes returne that there are no persons within his Office who have lands or Tenements of the cleare yearly value of fourre pounds.	
Clidderoe.	The Constable makes no returne.	
Cliviger.	Peter Ormerode of Ormerode, gent. Oliver Ormerode of Foxstones, yeoman. John Hartley of Grimeshaw, yeoman Tho. Whittaker of Houme, yeoman.	20 5 5 20
Downham [p. 53]	John Bulcocke of Ravensholme, yeoman.	20
Foulridge.	Ambrose Barcroft of Noynoe, yeoman. Thomas Barcroft of Noynoe, yeoman. James Smith of Acronley, yeoman. Roger Hartley of Reedimore, yeoman. John Fairbanke of Ballhouse, yeoman. John Holgate of Foulridge, yeoman. Robert Hartley of Foulridge, yeoman. John Hargreaves of Hey, yeoman. Henry Pollard of Hey, yeoman. Henry Acronley of Hey, yeoman. John Barret of Hey, yeoman. Alexander Hartley of Foulridge, yeoman. John Spencer of Foulridge, yeoman. Rich. Hargreaves of Foulridge. (a Quaker). Rich. Hargreaves of Mosse. Henry Bolton of Mossehouse, yeoman.	40 10 30 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 4 4 4 6 4 4
Haslingden.	Robert Holden of Holden, esq. Thomas Holden of Toad Hall, esq. Richard Duerden of Hudhey, yeoman. Henry Romsbottom of Lane, yeoman. John Coup of Howne, yeoman.	40 40 20 10 10
Hapton	Richard Rodwell of Hapton, yeoman.	5
Huncoate.	Tho. Birtwisle of Huncoat, gent. (a Papist) Joseph Birtwistle of Huncoat, gent. (a Papist).	10 10
Heyhouses.	The Officer makes returne that there are no persons within his Office who have lands or Tenements of the cleare yearly value of four pounds.	
Ighenhilparke. [p. 54]	Likewise.	
Mearley	William Appleton, gent. Peers Clough of Mearley, gent.	40 10

Mitton, Henthorn and Coldcotes.	Robert Holt of Little Mitton, gent.	40
	Robert Walmsley of Coldcotes, gent.	40
Marsden.	Henry Malham of Reideford, gent.	20
	Lawr: Hargreaves of Swinden.	10
	John Halstead of Swinden	12
	Lawr: Riddyhalgh of Holehouse.	10
	John Holegate of Hillend.	8
	Jeffrey Shackleton of Foxclough.	9
	William Sagar of Catloe.	20
	Robt: Dodshon of Southfield.	6
	Tho: Leigh of Southfield.	10
	James Emmot of Southfield.	10
	Lawr. Mancknowles of Tannhouse.	20
	Henry Walton of Marsden.	30
	John Leigh of Barkerhouse.	6
	John Riddyhalgh of Scofield.	12
	John Kippax of Marsden.	8
	John Farrar of Edgend.	10
	John Spencer of Lomashaw.	9
Padiam.	Francis Webster of Hargrave, yeoman.	20
	George Pollard of Stockbridge, yeoman.	10
	Bernard Parker of Copthirst, yeoman.	10
	John Halstead of Padiam, yeoman.	5
	Thomas Robinson of Craggs, yeoman.	5
	John Starky of Padiam, yeoman.	5
Pendleton.	[p. 55] The Constable makes returne that there are no persons within his Office who have lands or Tenements to the cleare yearly value of four pounds.	
Rossendale.	The Grave makes returne that there are no persons within his Office that have Freehold Estates in Land and Tenements of the yearly value of foure pounds, and that George Haworth of Rawentsall, yeoman (a Quaker) hath an estate in Coppinghold lands to the value of 4l.	
Pendle.	Peirs Starkey of Pendle Hall, gent.	60
	Henry West of Riedley, gent.	20
	Edmund Stevenson of Old Laund, gent.	40.10
	James Hargreaves of Barrowford.	40.10
	Christopher Hartley of same.	30
	Ellis Nutter of Riedley.	30
	John Nutter of Waterside.	20
	John Moore of Greenhead, gent.	40
	John Crombocke of Newlaund, gent.	40
	John Cronkshaw of Hollins.	20
	John Hargreaves of Higham (Doctor.)	10
	Christopher Bulcocke of Whitehough.	20
	James Bulcocke of Roughleigh.	40
	John Sutcliffe of Pasture.	16
	Henry Robinson of Carr.	50
	Henry Parker of Wheatley Lane.	10
	Nich: Syveson of Lane.	8
	Rich: Bulcocke of Foothouse Yate.	30
	Rich: Vareley of Upperhouses.	15
	Christopher Hartley of same.	15
	John Bulcocke of Barrowford.	14
	Christopher Smith of Fulshawhead.	8
	John Vareley of Rigilling.	14
	Nich: Grimeshaw of Fence.	7
	Robert Mitchell of same.	8

[p. 56]	Tho: Vareley of Barley Booth	9
	Robert Bulcocke of Brownhill.	16
	George Sutcliffe of Pludhole.	5
	James Hargreaves of Stone Edge, gent.	7
	Tho: Townley of same.	12
	James Hartley of Blackow.	10
	Joseph Driver of same.	6
Read.	Roger Nowell of Readhall, esq.	40
	John Holker, yeoman.	10
Symonstone.	Miles Whittaker of Symonstone, gent.	20
	John Roberts of Symonstone, yeoman.	20
	John Cockshut of Symonstone, yeoman.	20
	Nicholas Whitaker of [blank] yeoman.	5
Twiston.	James Starkey of Twiston, gent.	30
Trawden.	Nicholas Cunliffe of Wicoller, gent.	30
	James Hartley of Wanlesse, yeoman.	20
	James Foulds of Trawden, yeoman.	20
Worsthorne.	John Townley of Hirstwood, esq.	40
	John Halstead of Rawley, gent.	20
	Christopher Jackson of Worsthorne, yeoman.	10
	John Hitchin of [blank] yeoman.	6
	John Toune of [blank] yeoman.	5
	George Coulsen of [blank] yeoman.	5
Worston.	Richard John of Worston, yeoman	5

[p. 57] About 9th or 10th of February 1681/2 I writ the following letter to Mr. Dandy:

Bro: Dandy, After I had writ my last to you which you say was not fully dated, I received yours with the Sherriff's order—and after that the other for Tho: Anderton. Since that againe yours of 25th Jan: came to my hands, with Coppys of both of them in Mr. Pollards hand, so that I have many thanks to returne to both you and him for your care therein. Yet I am sorry you gave your selves the trouble, but indeed I did not apprehend you would have done so, in regard you did not like at any time before, otherwise I should have given you notice of receipt of them by the first opportunity.

Herewith I send you a Callendar of persons Estates according to the Constables returnes to me, which I pray deliver to the Undersheriffs according to the Order; it is in such forme as I apprehend by Mr. Seeds discourse he did desire it should be, please let me know how it is accepted. In the precepts I issued to the Constables I pursued the words of the Sheriffs Order exactly, and yet in my opinion severall of them have not made suiteable returnes, although I did not onely explaine to them the sence of the Order (as I understand it) but did much presse them to returne qualified Copyholders as well as Freeholders, etc. With kind salutes to your selfe, Mrs. Dandy and Mr. Pollard, I end and rest, Sir, your affectionate Brother and Servant.

Amb. Barcroft.

I send you also the Sheriffs Order because wee are required to make returne thereof into the Office—yet perhaps it will not be demanded of you.

I received a Warrant for a Private Sessions at Blackburne about the 21th day of February 1681/2 where the Constables of my Division

made good appearance and presentments—the Warrant from the Justices to us, and mine to the Constables, being of the usuall nature, and so not material to be transcribed here.

Soon after I received a Warrant from Mr. Greenhalgh (among the papers) dated 14th February 1681, for a Private Sessions for certaine Towns at Haslingden—I issued Warrants to those Officers, who appeared and made presentments—I also attended at the said Sessions as likewise at the above mentioned at Blackburne.

[p. 58] Soon after the Sessions at Blackburne I received a Role dated the 12th day of Jan: 1681 (among the papers) for raising 65^l (together with the charges of this Role) within the Hundred of Blackburne, to be paid to Mr. Abraham Townley of Dulton and Robert Read of Aighton; which wee collected and paid accordingly as per their Receipts.

I received also an Order of the Quarter Sessions dated 12th day of Jan: 1681, commanding to collect etc. ten pounds sixteen shillings within the Hundred for the Stipend and Wages of Tho: Anderton, Governor of the House of Correction. I have collected 5^l 8^s 6^d and Mr. Dandy 5^l 7^s 6^d, and paid to Tho: Anderton and have his Receipt among the papers.

I received a Warrant from Mr. Ralph Egerton dated the 24th day of March 1681 requireing us to collect *etc.* within the Hundred the fourth part of one months Assessment after the rate and according to the directions contained in the Acts of Parliament for ordering the Forces in the severall Counties of this Kingdome. The Warrant expressed no summe, but wee found that it was to be proportioned according to an Act of Parliament charging 70,000^l *per mensem* upon the Kingdome, this Countys share wherof is 933^l 6^s 8^d—and Blackburne Hundred share (according to the Soldiers Lay by which all or most summes are proportioned in this County) 42^l—my share thereof 21^l 2^s, Mr. Dandy's 20^l 18^s, and accordingly both he and I did collect within our respective Divisions. But it proved (as Mr. Braddyll afterwards told me) that at a generall meetinge of the Deputy Lieutenants of this County it was agreed that this Hundred (and I suppose all the Hundreds) should be taxed at the just middle summe between the Soldiers Lay⁽¹⁵⁾ and the Oxelay⁽¹⁶⁾—and this Hundred at the Soldiers Lay being (as I said) 42^l, and by the Oxelay 38^l 10^s (at the charge of the said summe of 233^l 6^s 8^d [sic] upon the County) this Hundreds charge is 40^l 5^s—which summe Mr. Egerton (Treasurer of that money) accepted, and Mr. Dandy paying both mine and his owne to him at Preston he took a Receipt in both our names for the whole—a Coppy wherof he promiseth to send me which shall [p. 59] be put with the Receipts among the papers. But Note that now Mr. Dandy and I have each of us 17^s 6^d in our hands, which (God willing) wee shall pay to the succeeding High-

⁽¹⁵⁾ Based upon 43 Eliz. c. 3, for relief of sick, hurt and maimed soldiers and sailors.

⁽¹⁶⁾ Used for provision of oxen for the royal household.

constables, who may (then) charge so much lesse (vizt. 35^s) at the next charge for the Militia, namely they ought to charge 38^l 10^s 00^d upon the Hundred. Note also that of the said 40^l 5^s I paid (by Mr. Dandy) 20^l 4^s 4^d and Mr. Dandy 20l.0s.8d—and that I paid Mr. Dandy 20l of mine by Edmond Waterhouse—and the remainder (and more) he did owe me.

Received a Warrant under the hands and seales of Mr. Townley, Mr. Braddill and Mr. Livesay (its among the papers) dated the 6th day of Aprill, 1682, commanding us to collect, *etc.*, within the Hundred of Blackburne the summe of 367^l 12^s 8^d, which was by the said Warrant charged upon every towne, being just eight Fifteens—the Townes within my Division comeing to 189.4.8. and Mr. Dandys to 187.8.0. The said summe was charged upon this Hundred for reimburseing the Receivers of Harth Money (Sleigh and Pulford) who were robbed some time since neare Walton in this Hundred, and had Judgment and a Verdict for recovery of the same within the said Hundred. I collected mine and carryed it to Preston wherby Order of Mr. Townley of Royle and Mr. Livesay upon the Bench in open Quarter Sessions the 27th Aprill, 1682 (there being no other Justices of this Hundred then in the Court) wee were appointed to pay to Mr. William Lemon [five times mayor of Preston] the Under-sherriffe 367^l, which wee did accordingly (that is) each of us (Mr. Dandy and I) paid 183^l 10^s, and each of us have Mr. Lemon's receipt for our summs, mine being with the Receipts among the papers. Note I now have 5.14.8 in my hands, and Mr. Dandy hath 3^l 18^s, which wee are appointed to keep till the Justices call for it.

[p. 60] I omitted to insert in its due place that some convenient time before the Assizes at Lancaster the 23 March 1681 [2] issued precepts to the Constables of my Division with Articles to make presentment upon, which they did, and I delivered them to the Grand Jury. Att the Sheriffs Table the 27th day of March 1682 I returned for choice of High Constable within my Division Mr. Nich: Duxbury of Heyhouses, Mr. John Roberts of Symonstone, and Mr. Anthony Bauldaine of Burnley, and Mr. Duxbery was chosen, for whom I had an Order and served him with it some time after, and he, with Mr. Joseph Sharples of Blackburne were sworne at the Quarter Sessions the 27th Aprill, 1682.

Note, Mr. Dandy and I paid Mr. Row at the Assizes 36s 4d (each about $\frac{1}{2}$) for the second Role for Ribchester bridge—Mr. Dandy hath his Receipt for it of my writeing.

