

Ite	iiij shelves more one the same side some of the bookes in folio some in quarto and other smale bookes	x ^l iiij ^l x ^s	[£14 10]
In the Gallerye on the weste side of his lodgeinge			
Ite	x picketures hangeinge on the Easte side there	iiij ^l viij ^s viij ^d	[£3 7 8]
Ite	iiij picketures hangeinge on the southe end of the same gallerye	x ^s	[10]
Ite	iiij picketures hangeing on the weste end there	xiiij ^s iiiij ^d	[13 4]
Ite	x picketures hanging on the northe end of the same gallerye some smale & some greater	vj ^l vi ^s viii ^d	[£6 6 8]
Ite	viiij smale maps hangeing on the Easte side and iiiij tabels in frames on ye same side	xx ^s	[20]
Ite	j Geonaligne hangeing in a frame on the southe end there	v ^s	[5]
Ite	a table of the World	v ^s	[5]
Ite	ij smaler maps & iiiij greate maps hangeinge on the sowthe end and west side of the gallerye	xxxvj ^s viij ^d	[36 8]
Ite	iiij picketures more	xx ^s	[20]
Ite	certayne genealogyes hangeing in the lobby w th out frames	ij ^s	[2]
Ite	x maps hangeing in the hale	vj ^s viij ^d	[6 8]
Ite	iiij smale picketures hangeing there	ij ^s	[2]
Ite	a gilded lookeinge glasse and a standishe in the studye	x ^s	[10]
Ite	a bracelet of Corall and silver	ij ^s	[2]
[/]			
Ite	an Iron cheste	xl ^s	[40]
Ite	a tronke w th certayne linnan in it	xxx ^s	[30]
Ite	a little box		
Ite	iiij wrought Cussians in ye gallerye	xl ^s	[40]
Ite	a crosbowe w th arrowes and vj holdberes w th other smale trifels in a in a cobbard in the gallerye	xxx ^s	[30]
Ite	a wrought cheyre in the gallerye and ij lowe stooles imbroydered w th silver	xl ^s	[40]
In the little chamber by the gallerye			
Ite	a cheste w th a scarlet gowne and a hode	vj ^l	[£6]
Ite	a cheste w th iiij sugerloves in it in a little roome out of the hale towards ye gallerye	xxx ^s	[30]
In the Parlor			
Ite	ix Pictures	xlv ^s	[45]

Ite	ij lowe stooles	iijs	[3]
In the studye next to y ^e parlor			
Ite	a cheste w th plate in it	100 ^{li}	[£100]
Ite	ij Cellers to put glases in, a deske w th gloves in it and other things China dishes bottels of rose water w th all other things in that study	vi ^{li} xiijs ^s iiij ^d	[£6 13 4]
In his bedchamber			
Ite	a Cubbard wth drawinge boxes w th certaine linnan in it	v ^l	[£5]
Ite	an habet and hode of scarlet and ij surpluses	v ^l	[£5]
Ite	ij lowe stooles	iijs ^s	[3]
Ite	a warming pann [/]	ij ^s vi ^d	[2 6]
Ite	ij ruggs & ij blanckets	xlij vj	[42 6]
Ite	a close stoole	ij ^s	[2]
Ite	a clocke w th a larume	v ^l	[£5]
Ite	v gownes ij Cassocks wth other wearinge apparrell	xx ^l	[£20]
Ite	ij Armors & ij bowes & Arrowes	iiij ^{li}	[£4]
Ite	ij tronkes	xx ^s	[20]

S m 279^l 3^s
276^l 16^s

This is an impressive list: almost £80 in books; a gallery for pictures, maps, and genealogical charts; weapons; fine clothes and cushions; chinaware and glasses; £100 in plate; even an alarm clock ('a clocke wth a larume') for the bedroom. The total value of goods here is high, the revised for the list being £276 16 , and Ryves's will confirms that he was wealthy—he held all sorts of interests in land, including some good fishing on the Cherwell, and he specified cash gifts to all the fellows, scholars, and chaplains in college, as well as considerable pay-outs to family members, including £200 to his brother Thomas, the lawyer. His will also throws some light on what happened—or at least was supposed to happen—to several of the possessions listed above. His folios were to be given to the college library within the month, although his 'great Bible in folio' was to go to his nephew John Croke, also a fellow of the college. His silver basin and ewer went to the subwarden of Winchester College, various gilt bowls to his brothers. As for certain of his weapons and pictures:

Item I giue vnto the saied Colledge my twoe halberd s which ar trymmed with velvett to be placed with the rest of their warlike provision and my greate Curtayne of Arras which hangeth in the parloure of the wardens lodging there to contynewe and the pictures of Christe carrying his Crosse and likewise the pictures of owre Founder and of the Fowdner of Magdalen Colledge, to remayne still in the Wardens gallerye.

Compare all of this with the dead poet Reinolds: he made do with a little set of books not quite worth £3, a pair of bowling balls, one ring, and a wardrobe of clothes worth only 16 shillings. His total goods: £11 4 8 . His warden's total goods: £276 16 . Such is the lot of the young academic on the south side of the quad! Such the riches of his warden to the west!

In the last issue we also encountered Thomas Ryves, the lawyer and the political player of the family, as a writer too: amongst other works, he published studies on ships and maritime affairs from the Ark of Noah to the Fall of Constantinople in 1453. The first two installments of his study of ancient shipping came out in 1629 and 1633, and in that latter year he also became briefly involved in the sorry tale of Thomas Lydiat (1572-1646), one of the most technically brilliant of the New College scholars of the period.⁴ Lydiat had resigned his fellowship in 1603, as he was unwilling to pursue a higher degree in divinity (he said his memory and eloquence were not up to it), but the college kept an eye on this quondam fellow as one of the few scholars the college had generated with a genuinely international reputation.⁵ Lydiat was a chronologist and an astronomer, and he fell into controversy with some of the scholarly Atlases of the age, including Joseph Justus Scaliger and Johannes Kepler. Lydiat was the inventor of what was known as the 'Lydiatean' or 'Octodesexcentenary Period', a span of 592 solar years, and a chronological unit that he believed was a more versatile and better-calculated measure than Scaliger's famous 'Julian Period' of 7,980 years. Scaliger was exceptionally rude about Lydiat as a result, but the English and the Oxonians were proud of their man, and Robert Plot devoted several pages of his *Philosophical Description of the County of Durham* (1677) to Lydiat and his chronological accomplishments; Plot had even acquired some of Lydiat's manuscript calculations. Plot

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In 1633 Thomas Ryves wrote to Lydiat, enclosing money—five pounds, not a trivial sum—and telling him not to spend it on books. Lydiat preserved the letter amongst his papers, which are today gathered in the Bodleian as MS Bodley 313:⁸

m^r Lydiatt I herewith send yow fiue pou ds: with charge that yow spend it not vpo bookes, butt upo y^e cherishing of y^r poore bodie: and withall I send yow newes, that the King and my L: of Canterburie, haue taken knowlege of [your] worth and poore estate. and some course will speedilie be take for y^r enlargeme t. soe I co mitt yow to goe and rest

5 Dece b: 1633

yr verie louing Fre d
T. Riues

Ryves was at this point advocate-general and also master of requests extraordinary to Charles I, and so was well placed to relay such promises, but there is nothing to suggest that his gift of £5 was anything other than a personal gift—the two men had after all overlapped together at New College for around five years. Poor Lydiat was released, and eventually died in 1646, possibly as a result of being beaten up by soldiers, which is rather apposite for the next section.

A sketch of Bruno Ryves's life was provided in the last issue, but to recap briefly: Bruno became a clerk at New College in 1610, took his B.A. in 1616, and then migrated to Magdalen where he took his M.A. (1619), and eventually his B.D. (1632) and his D.D. (1639). He was a convinced Laudian, and a Royalist when war broke out; indeed, he joined the Royalist army. His main claim to fame, then as now, was his civil war journalism, for he was the sole author of the periodical (The rustic Mercury). As Joad Raymond explains in :

The first issue of was published on 20 May 1643; it appeared irregularly for twenty-one issues, the last on 16 March 1644. Printed in Oxford this royalist newsbook detailed the murders, robberies, plunderings, and other outrages suffered by the king's subjects, and the sacrileges committed upon the cathedral churches of England by parliamentary troops. It was reprinted as a single volume (not concealing its periodical origins, and probably using the newsbook as the copy text) in 1646, and was reprinted in 1647, in 1648 (as), 1685, and 1723. The collected editions were published with a fine engraved frontispiece featuring ten scenes from the civil wars.

It is the 1685 collected edition of this vivid, very readable, and hopelessly biased newsbook that we have recently purchased for the library.⁹ Below I present a very slightly abridged text of one complete newsletter, the one detailing the desecration of Winchester Cathedral by roundhead soldiers. It is one of the great accounts of civil war iconoclasm: watch out

⁸ Bodleian Library, MS Bodl. 313, fol. 45r.

⁹

in particular for the soldiers smashing the stained-glass windows¹⁰ with the exhumed bones of England's ancient kings – and then riding out into the streets of Winchester, dressed in looted surplices and bearing before them twisted organ-pipes, parodies of chivalrous knights. Before launching into his catalogue of atrocities, however, Ryves is careful to offer a historical briefing on Wykeham and his See. Indeed, this is excellent journalism: horrified indignation with educational asides.

Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

III.

The Rebels defying God in his own House: their Sacrilege, in stealing Church Plate and

the next day delivered up to their power, did not only take away the Restraint which was upon them, but encouraged them, without check, or controul to rob, and defile, both God and all good men. Wednesday therefore and Wednesday night being spent in Plundering the City, and Close, on Thursday Morning between nine, and ten of the Clock, (hours set apart for better employments, and therefore purposely in probability, chosen by them, being resolved to prophane every thing that was Canonical) they violently break open the Cathedral Church, and being entred, to let in the Tyde, they presently open the great West doors, where the Barbarous Soldiers stood ready, nay greedy to rob God, and pollute his Temple. The doors being open, as if they meant to invade God himself, as well as his possession, they enter the Church with Colours flying, their Drums beating, their Matches fired, and that all might have their part in so horrid an attempt, some of their Troops of Horse also accompanied them in their march, and rode up through the body of the Church, and Quire, until they came to the Altar, there they begin their work, they rudely pluck down the Table break the Rail: 0 gfterwards carrying it to an Ale -house, they set it on fire, in t hat fire burnt the Books of Common-Prayer, 0 gTJ49(a)-3(II)-51(th)12(e)7(

preserve them from rude, and prophane hands) he caused to be placed on the top of a Wall, of exquisite workmanship, built by him, to inclose the Presbytery: there, never to be removed (as a man might think) but by the last Trump, did rest the bones of many Kings and Queens, as of Alfredus, Edwardus Senior, Eadredus the Brother of Athelstane, Edwinus, Canutus, Hardecanutus, Emma the Mother, and Edward the Confessor her Son, Kiniglissus the first founder of the Cathedral of Winchester, Egbert who abolishing the Heptarchy of the Saxons, was the first English Monarch, William Rufus and divers others: with

