

“And one of them slayne, but by whom … he Cannot judge”: The pirate depositions taken by Nathaniel Bacon (1576) at the Folger Shakespeare Library

Edited by Scott Bevill, Caroline Carpenter, Lauren Griffin, John Kuhn, James Lambert, Nate Probasco, Marten Stromberg¹

Cite as: “*And one of them slayne, but by whom … he Cannot judge*”: The pirate depositions taken by Nathaniel Bacon (1576) at the Folger Shakespeare Library, edited by Scott Bevill, Caroline Carpenter, Lauren Griffin, John Kuhn, James Lambert, Nate Probasco, Marten Stromberg (Folger Shakespeare Library, 2013) [shakespeare.folger.edu/other/transcriptions/L.d.669to675.pdf].

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Introduction

Folger MSS L.d.669-L.d.675 consists of eight depositions from a piracy case in southeastern England in August and September of 1576. Part of the Folger’s Bacon-Townshend collection, the depositions were produced in the early years of Nathaniel Bacon’s long career as a provincial JP in Norfolk. They describe the piratical actions of Captain Thomas Hubbard, sailing under the commission of Henry Carew and Mr. Cotton. The JPs sought a range of witnesses for depositions: sailors and crewmen on the pirate ship (including Edmund Dowsing, the ship’s cook); John Allen, a local merchant who had unwittingly supplied the pirates with beef; the Dutch crew of one of the seized ships; and a local man who had purchased goods from the pirates. These depositions trace the flow of goods and victuals into and out of the hands of the pirates, as well as information about where, how, and when Hubbard’s piracies occurred. The Bacon-Townshend also contains (though we do not include it here) correspondence relating to the case, including a letter from Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, to his son, advising him on taking the depositions and dealing with the informants (L.d.140), a letter from Hubbard himself (L.d.364), recognizances (L.d.886 and L.d.891) and letters between Nicholas Bacon, Nathaniel Bacon, and members of Privy Council (L.d.66, L.d.403-406, L.d.482-485, L.d.612).

Though piracy has been much discussed in Atlantic, anti-Spanish colonial contexts, the Hubbard depositions documents reveal a North Sea basin rife with the same imperial politics and roaring trade that have made the former topic so appealing to historians. Hubbard’s prizes included Scottish ships carrying iron pots, probably on one leg of the Scandinavian-Scottish iron trade route; Dutch fishing vessels working the herring stocks of the North Sea; and even a small, local English vessel. Even Hubbard’s crew was nationally mixed, though this was not necessarily unusual in the period: two of the depositions mention (probably pointedly, given the political situation in the 1570s) that the ship had two Spanish crewmen.

¹ Participants in Heather Wolfe’s 2012 Mellon Summer Institute in English Paleography, Huntington Library. Wolfe has made minor corrections and additions.

In addition to information about trade and the daily operations of provincial justice, the Hubbard depositions also offer a fascinating window into England's international political commitments in the 1570s. Hubbard's two biggest prizes were herring ships from Zeeland, a small but significant detail. A key, early player in the struggle for Dutch independence against the Spanish, the province had looked abroad for Protestant English support in the 1560s and 1570s. In the same year as the Hubbard piracy case, in fact, Zeeland and Holland would "elect" Elizabeth to be their ruler, an offer she rejected, fearing Spanish retribution and unwilling to actively underwrite a rebellion. Hubbard's case shows the close relationship between these international commitments and piracy prosecution in the 1570s. Piracy, as others have pointed out, was not a hard-and-fast distinction between lawful and unlawful trade practices, but rather a shifting, capacious designation that was frequently redefined as England's political commitments changed. The outcome of the Hubbard case provides particularly direct evidence of this: a later letter from Francis Walsingham (Folger L.d.612) tells us that the "Lords doe carrie them selves the more myldely in the punisshing" of the case because of Elizabeth's "present offence ageynst the Prince of Orange," an "offence" that had suddenly made anti-Dutch piracy look less criminal.

Rationale

We have produced a scholarly edition in order to provide a readable transcription for students and scholars interested in using the material for research purposes. We have also included a semi-diplomatic edition as an appendix, reproducing some of the features of the original for scholarly use. Placing the two transcriptions side by side serves as a paleographical learning exercise, demonstrating the pros and cons of the various methods of transcription.

In 1979, A. Hassell Smith, Gillian Baker, and R.W. Kenny included transcriptions of the depositions in volume 1 of *The papers of Nathaniel Bacon of Stiffkey*, published by the Norfolk Record Society. These transcriptions were made with an emphasis on the actions of Bacon rather than on the specific language of the depositions and the marks, shape, size, and appearance of the manuscripts. We have completed a new transcription in order to highlight the ways in which the depositions fit into Norfolk history, maritime history, and especially scribal practices of the time. We hope you enjoy reading these transcriptions as much as we enjoyed making them.

Provenance

The documents in our series, L.d.669 through L.d.675, are part of the Bacon-Townshend Papers of the Folger Shakespeare Library. They were acquired in 1925 from Frank Marcham, a London rare book and manuscript dealer. Marcham had acquired them via a Sotheby's auction in 1924 and, possibly, a separate, earlier Hodgson & Co. auction. The collection initially was the result of the marriage of Sir Nathaniel Bacon's daughter, Lady Anne, to Sir John Townshend. The collection then passed to their son, Roger Townshend, and remained substantially intact at Raynham Hall (Norfolk) until two large auctions at Sotheby's in 1911 and 1924. For additional information, see: <http://findingaids.folger.edu/dfoabacontownshend.xml#acqinfo>

Editorial Note

This edition consists of eight depositions, some written on single leaves and others on bifolia, depending on the length of the testimony. Only two of the depositions are endorsed, but the folds

and the endorsement on L.d.674, “*the copies of the examinacions sent vnto the Counsell,*” suggest that they were bundled together at one time, with L.d.674 on top.

This lightly normalized edition is based on a series of peer-reviewed semi-diplomatic transcriptions, which we have included in the appendix. Where possible, we have decided to retain original spelling and capitalization while modernizing letterforms (such as *ff* to *F*), adopting the modern usage of *u* and *v*, standardizing *i* and *j*, and adjusting the *y* thorn to the modern *th*. Roman numerals have been silently adjusted to the Arabic equivalents. Crossed out sections of the text have been moved to footnotes while inserted portions of the text have been silently lowered. Unfamiliar words and placenames are footnoted. The depositions are arranged in chronological (and call number) order.

The semi-diplomatic transcriptions in the appendix follow the Folger house style, maintaining lineation, with silently lowered superscript letters and italicized supplied letters in expanded abbreviations.

The depositions

August 29, 1576: The Testimony of Roger and Henry Carew

29th of August.

A Tyrannous manner of Dealings. That I did not use my self like A gentleman, that he² was as good a gentleman as I, that he would spend fyve hundred poundes in the Cause, and doubted not but that he would fynde as good frindes as I, and that a sort of gentlemen had got this honestly with their travell.³

Ralph Shelton

Nathaniel Bacon

Carews brother-in-law to Sir Rafe. The shippes had not come into Blackney,⁴ but by the procurement of Roger Carew, and this he openly affirmed. Hobbart's entertainment by sitting at his bord, by bringing presentes of heringes, by feasting his men, and thei making a purse to feast Hubbart. Henry Carewes offer to custome a last⁵ of Hering for Sir Christofer.⁶

The repair of these men being driven from Blackney and Cley by warraunties⁷ to Holt and ther to keap in companies. no warraunties to be sent out, but the offendors had intelligens of them.

f. If ther were not untrewthes certefied, let me be uncosined.⁸ He wold try all the freindes he had in Ingland, rather than he wold be thus overcrowed⁹ by a puney.¹⁰

s. That he was mad but a pack saddell¹¹ for Mr Drury was first sent unto and he refused.¹²

September 3, 1576: The Deposition of John Copleston

The Examinacion of John Copston gent, one of the Cumpanie of Hubbartes ship taken the 3rd of September 1576.

Inprimis this Examinante saieth that he hath continewed since the sixt of Julye last past in the Shipp wherof Hubbarte was Captaine

² I

³ trade

⁴ Town on north coast of Norfolk, just to the east of Stiffkey

⁵ A commercial denomination of weight, capacity or quantity, usually 1-2 tonnes (OED).

⁶ This note is in Nathaniel Bacon's hand.

⁷ Formal or official sanction (for a course of action, etc.); authorization. = WARRANT *n.*¹7. Now rare (OED).

⁸ Not deceitful or fraudulent. See also *cozen*: to cheat by fraud or deceit; to induce by deception (OED).

⁹ "To crow or exult over; to triumph over" (OED).

¹⁰ An inferior person (OED).

¹¹ A saddle adapted to support a pack for transportation by a pack animal.

¹² A note on the verso of this leaf in Bacon's hand describes these as "wordes spoken."

Item he saieth that duringe his beinge in the Shipp ther were thre prises taken the first wherof was a hoy¹³ which Mr. Baker of Lynn Claimed to be his And this Hoy was taken overward Stiffky haven¹⁴ within the sight of land And the other two were the burses.¹⁵

Item this Examinante saieth that Hubbart compounded with Mr Baker for the restitution of the hoy, and gave him, as he hath hard 20 pounds.

Item this Examinante saieth howe the two burses were taken in the North seas towarde the Costes of Holland.

Item he saieth how there was about 9 or 10 of the Duche men at¹⁶ the least hurte and one of them slaine, but by whom that one was slain it Could not be judged.

Item he saieth that¹⁷ after the takinge of the burses they stayenge a little at Skarborowgh so Came along the Cost unto Blakney haven.

Item he saieth howe the determinacion of the Cumpanie was after the sale of the fishe and the Burses to have set the Fleminges on land but they forbeare the doinges thereof before, lest upon the Coming of them on land, they beinge without money, should not have ben able to have traveled to any place.

Item this Examinante saieth that this goinge unto the Seas by Hubbart and his Companie was under the commission granted under Mr Henrie Carew and one Mr Cotton.

Item he saieth howe upon the division of their Shares, Hubbart as Captaine reserved the one halve of the Commodite of the prises, and the other halve was devideed amonges the Cumpanie, And this man, having two shares, his porcion came to fyvetye shillinges

Item he saieth how after the laieing up of Mr Carew his shipp, but thre or fower of his men whom he knewe, Cam into their shipp of Hubbartes

Item he saieth that there was two¹⁸ bases¹⁹ to his remembrance brought oute of Mr Carews shipp into the other shipp of Hubbart.

Item he saieth howe one of the Spaniardes had fyvety shillings for his portion and the other Spaniard doth loke for a much greater portion at Hubbartes hands.

¹³ A small coastal vessel, usually used for fishing off larger ships, also used to carry people and goods a short distance (OED).

¹⁴ Town on north coast in Norfolk.

¹⁵ Most likely small boats, commonly called for their shape like a purse or bowled sack.

¹⁶ ef

¹⁷ a

¹⁸ a

¹⁹ pases

Item he saith howe that there was taken in at Grymesby²⁰ for the victulinge of ther ship two tunne of bere.

Item he saith how by the Fleminges report ther should be in the one Burse three and twenty last of heringes, and in the other 27 last but what quantitie of barreld fish he knoweth not

Item this Examinante saith that the officers of the Ship were theis Thomas Hubbart Captaine one Toley leiftenante one Golicke Master / one Davie Gwyne, quarter maister one Clarke and the whole number was about 42 persons.

Jhon Copelston

September 3, 1576: The Deposition of John Allen

The Examinacion of John Allen of the towne of Blakney, taken before Raphe Shelton and Nath. Bacon, esquiers the 3^d of September .1576.

Item this Examinante confesseth howe he sold unto Mr Carewe the yonger about 16 stone²¹ of befe, which he knoweth not howe it was Conveyed into the shipp.

September 3, 1576: The Deposition of Edmund Dowsing

The examinacion of Edmunde Dowsinge, Cooke of the Shippe of war, whereof Hubbart was Captayne, taken before Raphe Shelton and Nathanaell Bacon esq. of the 3rd of September Anno 1576.

Inprimis this Examinante saith that he hathe Continewed by the space of 7 wekes last past in Hubbartes Shippe. During which tyme ther was taken by hubbart and his Companie three prises, the first wherof was A Hoy which Mr Baker of Lynne²² claimed to be owner of, And the other two were the two Flemishe Burses.

Item this Examinante saith howe the Hoye of Mr Baker's was taken about two miles distant from the mouthe of Blakney Haven. And so sone as she was taken, she was Caryed into Burnham haven, which is about 7 miles distant from Blakney. And from thenc, was brought agayne into Blakney haven, where hubbart growing to Composition with Mr Baker. She was ther restored, and into Mr Baker's handes. And touching the two Burses, they were taken in the north Seas.

Item this examinante saith how ther was about 14 of the duche men hurte and one of them slayne, but by whom that one was slain, he Cannot judge.

²⁰ Brimsby, a fishing port in Lincolnshire.

²¹ Unit of measurement, varying anywhere from 8 to 24 pounds (OED).

²² Sea port town in Norfolk, also known as King's Lynn.

Item this Examinante saieth at the first porte they entered into, after the takinge of this Burses, was Grymesby²³ roode. And from thenc they wer brought into Blakney haven.

Item this Examinante saieth howe the Captaine and his Companie was determined to have ransomed the Fleminges accordinge to their commission if they had Caried them into Flanders.

Item this examinante saieth how this goinge forth of hubbart and his Companie was under the Commission graunted unto Mr Henry Carewe.

Item this Examinante saieth howe upon the division of their shares, Mr Henry Carew, as owner, And Hubbart, as Captain, had for their porcions the one halve of the Commoditie of the prises. And that such Sale as was made, was don by hubbart. And he brought worde unto the rest of their Companie at what prises he Could sell them. And bringinge unto the Ship 150 pounds and told them and howe that was all that he Could gett for one of the prises. And put it unto their election either to take that, or otherwise to Carie awaye that one prise of theirs and sell it where they would. And upon this, the Companie agreed and that Summe of money was devided amonges them. And this man, havinge for his parte two shares And a Halve received three pounds, two shillings, 6 pence.

Item this examinante saieth howe after the laienge upp of Mr Carews shipp, 12 of his men Cam into their shipp. And ther was brought into their shipp at the same tyme, which Came out of Mr Carew his shipp, thre Bases²⁴ tenn²⁵ facon²⁶ shot, and a barell of powder, and one bale of wylefyer²⁷, and also one pyke²⁸ of wylefire.²⁹ And he was one of them that helped to fetche theis thinges into Hubbart, his shipp.

Item he saieth howe the two Spaniardes had for their Shares, the one of them being the Chirurgionn as much as the lefтенante. The other but two Shares and a halve.

Item This Examinante saieth howe before the takinge of Mr Bakers hoye onward of this Cost to the Seaward without keminge³⁰ of land, they toke from two Skottes about 33 pottes of iron, and they toke also from Another Skott certeine Candle, and two Roules of Canves, and a flasket³¹ of hattes. And some of these thinges, they passed awey for victuels, and the other were Conveied and gyven awaye in sundry places as they Came a land.

Item he saeth howe the most of their befe for their victuals they had from one Allen of Blakney, and they had also of ther bere and breade from one Litle of Cley.

²³ Grymbey

²⁴ Very small cannon (OED).

²⁵ and

²⁶ Light cannon (OED).

²⁷ ef wy with a p

²⁸ “A pointed or peaked stack, often conically shaped” of wheat, flour, oats, etc. (OED).

²⁹ “Wildfire,” highly flammable substances, easily ignited (OED).

³⁰ Kenning, the range of sight (OED).

³¹ “A long shallow basket” (Samuel Johnson).

Item he saeth howe they reported in the shipp that there was, in one of the Burses, 27 last of herynges, and in the other 25 last. But what quantitie of barrel fishe ther was in them both, he Can not Certainly tell.

September 4, 1576: The Deposition of Jon Bartholmew

The Examinacion of Jon Bartholmew of Cley taken the 4th of September 1576

Item this Examinante Confesseth the buyinge of sixe yron pottes of Captane hubbart and paid 20d. a pece for them. And theis he bought of him before the bringinge in of the last two prises.

Item this Examinante also Confesseth that at suche tyme as he bought theis pottes, hubbart did offer him Certeine hattes also to buye, but he bought not any of those hattes of hym.

by me John bartylmewe³²

September 4, 1576: The Deposition of Edward Kewerson, Anthony Adrason, Abraham Ananite and Anthony Aranson

The Examinacion of Edward Kewerson, Anthonie Adrason, Abraham Ananite, and Antonie Aranson, beinge fouer duchemen, beinge all men of one of the Burses, the 4th of September 1576.

Inprimis theis Examinantes affirme how that ther were 36 persons in both their burses, And that ther were 7 of them hurt and one slaine.

Item they saie how that after the Cominge of their shipps into Blakney haven, they were for the most parte kept vnder bord. And seldom that they were not suffered to come a loft.

Item they affirme that the owners of the two burses and of the goodes therin be men of Bruers haven in Seland.³³

Item they affirme how ther was in the bigger burse 28 last of heringe, and in the other about 26 last. And ther was also A last & d.³⁴ of bareld fishe in them both.

Item they affirme how that ther were 50 nettes in the smaler burse and about 55 in the greater.
Nathn: Bacon Thomas Jener

Item one of the owners affirmeth how Toley, the leiftenante, delivered 20 shillings towards the chardges of them.

[Endorsed] the copies of the examinacions sent unto the Counsell

³² The subscription and signature are in John Bartholomew's hand.

³³ Zeeland, one of the western provinces in the Netherlands.

³⁴ A last and a half.

September 5, 1576: The Deposition of Jasper Browne³⁵

The Examinacion of Jasper Browne Servant unto Toley the leiftenant of hubbartes shipp
the 5th of September.

Item this Examinante saieth howe the Gunner and the Botesune and a nother to his
knowledge of Cam owt of Mr Carew shipp when she was laid upp unto hubbartes shipp

Item he saeth how ther were A three bases and A ball of wyld fyer brout owt of Mr Carew shipp
into hubbartes shipp

September 6, 1576: The Deposition of Edward Nicholson

The Examinacion of Edward Nicholson gent. one of Hubbart Cumpanie taken the 6th of
September 1576.

Inprimis this Examinante saieth howe he hath ben in the Shipp of Hubbartes from the
first settinge forth³⁶ this Sumer, which was owt of Grymesby Haven.

Item this Examinante saieth how that three prises was taken: the first whereof was a hoy,
which Mr. Baker of Lynne Claimed to be his, and the other two were the two flemish
burses.

Item this Examinante saieth how the hoye was taken about 3 miles from the mouthe of Blakney
haven, and after the takinge of hir was Caried first to Burnham haven, and from thenc againe to
Blakney haven.

Item he saieth that his goinge vnto the sea with Hubbart and his Cumpanie was
vnder the Commission graunted vnto Mr Henry Carewe.

[mark of examinant]

³⁵ A smudged false start on the verso reads: "With rev."

³⁶ ~~ef hir~~

Appendix: Semi-diplomatic transcriptions

Folger Shakespeare Library MS L.d.669

Testimony of Roger and Henry Carew, in the Thomas Hubbard piracy case, overseen by Nathaniel Bacon and Ralph Shelton, [1576] August 29

Physical description: Single leaf. Signed by Ralph Shelton and Nathaniel Bacon; second paragraph in Bacon's hand. Link to digital image: <http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/a841j4>

endorsement on verso

wordes spoken /

deposition

xxixth of Augустe

A Tyrannous manner of Dealings / That I did
not vse my self like A gentleman / that I he
was as good A gentleman as I / that he
would spend fyve hundred poundes in the
Cause / And Doubtedt not but that
he would fynde as good frindes as I
And that a sort of gentlemen had got this
honestly with their trade travell

Raphe Shelton

Natha: Bacon

Carews br: in Law to Sir Rafe

the shippes had not come into Blackney, but by *the procurment* of
Roger Carew, & this he openly affirmed.

Hobbartes entertainment, by sitting at his bord, by bringing
presentes of heringes, by feasting his men & *thei* making a
purse to feast Hubbart

Henry Carewes offer to custome a last of Hering
for Sir Christofer

the repair of these men being driven from Blackney &
Cley ^{by warraunties} to Holt, & ther to keap in companies.
no warraunties to be sent out, but *the* offendors had
intelligens of them.

f. If ther were not vntrewthes certefied, let me be uncosined
he wold try all *the* freindes he had in Ingland, rather than
he wold be thus overcrowed by a puney
s: *that* he was mad but a pack saddell for Mr. Drury
was first sent vnto & he refused./.

Folger Shakespeare Library MS L.d.670

Deposition of John Copleston in the Hubbard piracy case overseen by Nathaniel Bacon and Ralph Shelton, 1576 September 3

Physical description: Bifolium, no endorsement. Link to digital image:

<http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/5b3in8>

leaf 1r

The Examinacion of Iohn Copston gent
one of the Cumpanie of hubbartes shippe
taken the ijth of September
/1576.

Inprimis this Examinante saieth that he hath
Continewed since the sixt of Julye ^last past^ in the
Shipp wherof Hubbarte was Captaine

Item he saieth that duringe his beinge in
the Shipp ther were thre prises taken
the first wherof was A hoy which mr Baker
of Lynn Claimed to be his And this
Hoy was taken ouerward Stiffky haven
within the sight of land And the other
two were the burses.

Item this Examinante saieth that Hubbart
Compounded with Mr Baker for the restitution
of the hoy, and gave him as he hath hard
xx li.

Item this Examinant saieth howe the two burses
were taken in the North seas towardes
the Costes of Holland

Item he saieth howe there was about ix or x
of the duche men of at the least hurte and
one of them slaine, but by whom that
one was slaine it Could not be iudged.

Item he saieth a that after the takinge of
the burses they stayenge a little at Skarborowgh
and so Cam alonge the Cost vnto Blakney
haven

Item he saith howe the determinacion of
the Cumpanie was after the sale of
the fishe and Burses to have set the

leaf 1v

ffleminges on land but they forbear
 the doinges thereof before, lest vpon the
 Cominge of them on land they beinge without
 money should not have ben able to have
 traveled to any place.

Item this Examinante saieth that this goinge
 vnto the Seas by Hubbart and his Companie
 was vnder the Commission graunted vnto
 Mr Henrie Carew and one Mr Cotton.

Item he saieth howe vpon the divison of their
 Shares Hubbart as Captaine reserved
 the one halve of the Commodite of the
 prises, and the other halve was devided
 amonges the Cumpanie, And this man
 havinge two shares his porcion Came
 to fyvetye shillinges

Item he saieth howe after the laienge vp
 of Mr Carew his shipp, but thre or fower
 of his men € whome he knewe, Cam
 into their shipp of hubbartes

Item he saieth that ther was a two ~~pases~~
 Bases to his remembrance brought ovte of
 Mr Carews shipp into the other shipp
 of hubbart

Item he saieth howe one of the Spaniardes
 had fyvety shillinges for his porcion
 And the other Spaniard doth loke for
 a much greater porcion at Hubbartes handes

Item he saieth howe that ther was taken
 in at Grymesby for the victulinge of ther
 Shipp two tunne of bere

leaf 2r

Item he saieth howe by the ffleminges report ther
 should be in the one Burse three and twenty
 last of heringes and in the other xxvij last
 but what quantitie of barrelsd fishe he knoweth
 not

Item this examinante saieth that the officers of the
Shipp were theis Thomas Hubbart Captaine
one Toley leiftenante one Golicke Master / one Davie
Gwyne quarter maister one Clarke and the
whole number was about xlj^{ty} persons

Ihon Copelston

L.d.671

Deposition of John Allen in the Hubbard piracy case overseen by Nathaniel Bacon and Ralph Shelton, 1576 September 3

Physical description: One leaf, no endorsement. Link to digital image:

<http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/0j049r>

The Examinacion of Iohn Allen
of the towne of Blakney taken
before Raphe Shelton and
Nath. Bacon esquiers the
ij^d of September .1576.

Item this examinante confesseth howe he
sold vnto Mr Carewe the yonger about
xvj stone of befe which he knoweth
not howe it was Conveyed into the shipp

L.d.672

Deposition of Edmund Dowsing in the Hubbard piracy case overseen by Nathaniel Bacon and Ralph Shelton, 1576 September 3

Physical description: Bifolium, no endorsement. Link to digital image:
<http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/b3b1sw>

Leaf 1r

The examinacion of Edmunde Dowsinge
 Cooke of the Shippe of warrr whereof
 Hubbart was Captayne taken before
 Raphe Shelton and Nathanaell Bacon
 esq. the ij^{de} of September Anno 1576

Inprimis this Examinante saieth that he hathe Continewed
 by the space of vij wekes ^{last past} in Hubbartes Shippe
 duringe which tyme ther was taken by hubbart
 and his Companie three prises / the first wherof
 was A Hoy which Mr. Baker of Lynne claimed
 to be owner of. And the other two were the two
 fflemishe Burses

Item this Examinante saieth howe the Hoye of Mr. Bakers
 was taken about two miles distant from the mouthe of
 Blakney Haven And so sone as she was taken she
 was Caryed into Burnham haven which is about vij
 miles distant from Blakney / And from thenc
 was brought agayne into Blakney haven, where
 hubbart growinge to Composition with Mr. Baker
 she was ther restored t into Mr. Bakers handes
 And touching the two Burses they were taken
 in the North Seas

Item this examinante ^{saieth} howe ther was about xiiij^{ten} of the
 duche men hurte and one of them slayne but by
 whom that one was slaine he Cannot iudge

Item this Examinante saieth at the first porte they entered
 into, after the takinge of this Burses was **Grymesby**
 Grymesby roode And from thenc they wer brought
 into Blakney haven

Item this Examinante saieth howe the Captaine and his
 Companie was determined to have ransomed the
 ffleminges accordinge to their Commission yf they
 had Caried them into fflanders

Leaf 1v

Item this examinante saieth how this goinge forth
of hubbart and his Companie was vnder the
Commission graunted vnto Mr. Henry Carewe

Item this Examinante saieth howe vpon the division
of their shares Mr. Henry Carew as owner
And Hubbart, as Captaine had for their
porcions the one halve of the Commoditie of
the prises And that such Sale as was
made was don by hubbart & he brought
worde vnto the rest of their Companie at
what prises he Could sell them. And
bringinge vnto the Shipp A. C. and l^{li}
told them t howe that was all that he
Could gett for one of the prises. And put
it vnto their election either to take that
or otherwise to Carie awaye that one
prise of theirs and sell ^it where they
would And vpon this the Companie
agreed and that Summe of money was
devided amonges them And this man
havinge for his parte two shares And a
halve received three poundes two shillinges
vj^d

Item this examinante saieth howe after the laienge
vpp of Mr. Carews shipp xij of his men
Cam into their shipp And ther was brought
into their shipp at the same tyme which
Cam owt of Mr. Carew his shipp thre Bases
and tenn facon shott, And A barell of powder
And one bale ~~of wy with a p~~ of wyle fyre
and also one pyke of wyle fyre And he
was one of them that helped to fetche theis
thinges into hubbart his shipp

Leaf 2r

Item he saieth howe the two Spaniardes had for
their Shares, the one of them beinge the
Chirurgion as much as the leiftenante, the other
but two Shares and a halve

Item this Examinante saieth howe before the takinge
of Mr. Bakers hoye ouerward of this Cost to
the Seaward without keminge of land, they
toke from A two Skottes about xxxij pottes of iron

And they toke also from Another Skott Certeine
Candle and two Roules of Canves and a flasket
of hattes And ^{some of theis} *theis thinges* they passed awey
for victuels and the other were Conveied and
gyven awaye in sundry places as they Came
a land.

Item he saeth howe the most of their befe for
their victuels they had from one Allen
of Blakney And they had also of ther bere
and breade from one Litle of Cley

Item he saeth howe they reported in the shipp
that ther was in one of the Burs[e]s xxvij
last of herynges And in the other xxv
last. but what quantitie of barrel fishe
ther was in them both he Can not
Certainly tell

[the beginning of a mark or signature?]

L.d.673

**Deposition of John Bartholomew in the Hubbard piracy case overseen by Nathaniel Bacon
and Ralph Shelton, 1576 September 4**

Physical description: One leaf, no endorsement. Signed in a different hand by the examinant.

Link to digital image: <http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/5yg677>

The Examinacion of Ion Bartholmew
of Cley taken the iiijth of September
1576

Item this Examinante Confesseth the buyinge
of sixe yron pottes of Captane hubbart
and paid xx^d a pece for them, And
theis he bought of him before the
bringinge in of the last two prises

Item this Examinante also Confesseth
that at suche tyme as he bought
theis pottes hubbart did offer him
Certeine hattes also to buye, but
he bought not any of those hattes
of hym

by me John bartylmewe

L.d.674

Deposition of Edward Kewerson, Anthony Adrason, Abraham Ananite and Anthony Aranson in the Hubbard piracy case overseen by Nathaniel Bacon and Thomas Jenner, 1576 September 4

Physical description: One leaf; endorsed on verso. Link to digital image:
<http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/61mc25>

endorsement

the copies of *the examina-*
 cions sent vnto *the*
 Counsell

deposition

The Examinacion of ~~fower duche men~~
 Edward Kewerson Anthonie
 Adrason Abraham Ananite
 and Antonie Aranson beinge
 fower duchemen beinge all
 men of one of the Burses
 the iiiijth of September
 1576

In primis theis Examinantes affirme how *that ther*
 were xxxvj persons in both their burses
 And that ther were viij of them hurt
 and one slaine

Item they saie how that after *their* ^{the} Cominge
 of their shippes into Blakney haven
 they were for the most parte kept
 vnder board. And *seldom* ^{that they were not} suffered
 to Come a loft

Item they affirme that the owners
 of the two burses of and of the goodes
 therin be 4 men of Bruers haven in
 Seland

Item they affirme how ther was
 in the bigger burse xxvij last
 of heringe and in the other about
 xxvj last And ther was also
 A last ^{&d.} of bareld fishe in them
 both

Item they affirme hov [sic] that ther were

l^{ty} nettes in the smaler burse
and about lv. in the greater

Natha: Bacon Thomas Jener

leaf 1v

Item one of the owners affirmeth how Toley
the leiftenante deliuered xxs. towardes
~~all their~~ the Chardges of them

L.d.675 (1)**Deposition of Edward Nicholson overseen by Nathaniel Bacon and Ralph Shelton, 1576**
September 6

Physical description: Leaf 1r of a bifolium; L.d.675 (2) is copied on leaf 2r of the same bifolium.
No endorsement. Link to digital image: <http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/751y06>

The Examinacion of Edward
Nicholson gent one of Hubbart
Cumpanie taken the vjth of September
1576.

Inprimis this Examinante saieth howe he hath
ben in the Shipp of Hubbartes from the
first settinge forth ^{^o f hir} this Sumer which was
owt of Grymesby Haven

Item this Examinante saieth how *that* three pris[e]s
was taken the first whereof was a hoy
which Mr Baker of Lynne Claimed to be his
and the other two were the two flemish
burs[e]s

Item this examinante saieth how the hoye was
taken about iij miles from the mouthe of
Blakney haven and after the takinge
of hir was Caried first to Burnham
haven and from thenc againe to Blakney
haven

Item he saieth that his goinge vnto the
sea with hubbart and his Cumpanie was
vnder the Commission graunted vnto Mr
Henry Carewe.

[mark or initials of Nicholson]

L.d.675 (2)**Deposition of Jasper Browne overseen by Nathaniel Bacon and Ralph Shelton, [1576]**
September 5

Physical description: Leaf 2r of a bifolium; L.d.675 (1) is copied on leaf 1r of the same bifolium. No endorsement. On leaf 2v, "With rev" is written on the top edge and smudged out. Link to digital image: <http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/751y06>

The Examinacion of Jasper Browne
Servant vnto Toley the
leiftenant of hubbartes shipp
the vth of September.

Item this Examinante saieth howe the Gunner
and the Botesune and a nother to his
knowledge of Cam owt of Mr Carew shipp
when she was laid vpp vnto hubbartes shipp

Item he saeth how ther were A three
bas[e]s and A ball of wyld fyer brout
owt of Mr Carew shipp into hubbartes
shipp