

NOTICES

OF

Norwich Brewers' Marks and Trade Regulations.

COMMUNICATED BY

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THE regulations of ancient corporate bodies for the government of traders are, under all circumstances, of considerable historical interest; for this reason, that they afford contributions not only towards a general history of social science, but they exhibit at the same time the care entertained by our forefathers that the community should be supplied with the best commodities; that the poor should be especially protected from frauds; and that, as far as possible, morality should be induced and enforced.

Scarcely a trade was exempt from these regulations, some of which were attended by espionage so peculiar and strict, as to lead us to wonder why public opinion, although in those days admittedly weak, was not so far aroused as, by its own voice, to free the community from some of the petty, if not the heavier, restrictions.

The present communication has especial reference to the customs and regulations made by the authorities of the city of Norwich, for the license and government of brewers, innholders, and persons who held "tippling houses," these last being objects of the most constant and careful interference. For the elucidation of this subject, some addition to the




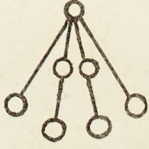


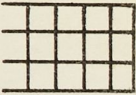

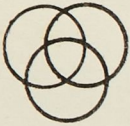
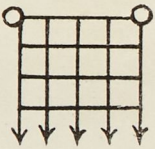



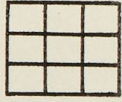


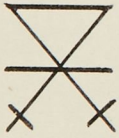
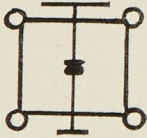

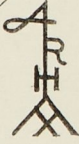
knowledge already existing with reference to those curious symbols of ancient mercantile occupations — Merchants' Marks — has been obtained.

Brewers, we discover, had especial symbols of their own, which they registered when licensed to follow their occupations; and it is also found that these marks were borne by successive followers of the same trade, until the business of succeeding firms became extinguished by the death or retirement of the last of a long line of brewers, and then only did the particular symbol fall into disuse.

From the year 1606 down to 1725, no less than fifty separate marks have been found in use in the city of Norwich; some of them being borne, as symbolical of a particular brewhouse, by eight or nine persons who followed each other in one and the same occupation. These marks were noted in a variety of documents belonging to the corporation, once preserved in their muniment-room. They appeared, for instance, in a "Brewer's Book," or the book of the "Clarke of the Market," and in books recording the proceedings of city courts and assemblies.

The indefatigable Kirkpatrick had observed them, although it may be inferred they did not seem to him to possess that significance and importance which they appear to present historically to ourselves. Nevertheless, Kirkpatrick was fully alive to the fact that they were at least curious, taking care to collect them with assiduity and carefulness, and to record the names of the holders, with delineations of the marks themselves in his own manuscripts.

As the assumption of these marks appears to have been as much a subject of regulation as the other matters arising out of the statutes and bye-laws of the city, and as, undoubtedly, the marks themselves are curious and interesting, we illustrate some of them in the annexed plates, and give the names of the brewers who adopted them, with the dates of admission.

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<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p> 	<p>19</p> 	<p>20</p> 

REFERENCES TO THE PLATES.

1. Hen. Woodes, 10th April, 1606, before Mr. Joshua Cully, Maior, with consent of Rob. Stehen and Edmund Hardye, Wardens; then to Hen. Wood, 1632; Nich. Helwys, 1667;¹ N. Helwys, 1701;² G. Gobbet, 1716; and John Boyce, 1725.
2. John Daniel, 1606, eod. die, &c. Joseph Daniel, 1636.
3. John Norman, 1606.
4. Richd. Wrench, 23rd July, 1614.
5. John Evered, 1615. E. Fiske, 1619. Ambrose Crane, 1626. Edmd. Cawson, 1631.
6. Nichols. Ellyet, 1615. Thomas Hill, 1620. Henry Harbottle, 1635.
7. Henry Nuttall, 1616.
8. William Royle, 1616.
9. Stephen Osborne, 1616. Francis Callow, 1627. Will. Gedge, 1630. John Smyth, 1632. Will. Lesly, 1633. Mat. Thompson, 1637. Jas. Tompson, 1658. Pet. Barrett, 1666. Mat. Heaslop, 1703.
10. John Sporle, 1616. Judeth Peckover, 1657. Simon Bowde, 1653. John Danny, 1684.
11. John Norforth, 1616. Rogr. Ramzey, 1624.³
12. James Carver, 1617. Andrew Wade, 1626.
13. Francis Whiting, 1617. Charles Green, 1620.
14. John Croshold, 1618.⁴ John Croshold, Junr., 1649. Nich. Helwys, 1654. Will. Helwys, 1658.⁵ Rob. Baldwin, 1689. Brown & Co., 1717.
15. Thos. Alby, 1618. Ric. Robinson, 1624.
16. Matthew Sotherton, 1619.⁶
17. Thos. Barber, 1619. Jno. Barber, 1643. Will. Drake, 1645. W. Blyth, 1700. Will. Blyth, 1724.
18. Nic. Copping, 1620. Edwd. Coppen, 1659.
19. Titus Otes, 1621. Geo. Tory, 1624.
20. Robt. Holmes, 1624. Fras. English, 1662.

¹ Sheriff, 1667; Mayor, 1684.² Mayor, 1713.³ Mayor, 1610.⁴ Sheriff, 1638.⁵ Mayor, 1683.⁶ Sheriff, 1637.







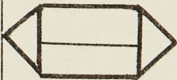


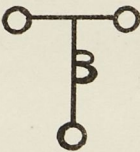
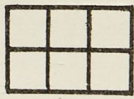


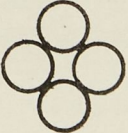
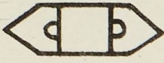


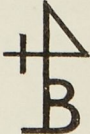


21. Rob. Rayners, 1624. Geo. Thurlow, 1630. Will. Buttris, 1648.
Will. Woller, 1649.
22. Will. Humerston, Junr., 1625. Ad. Brickham of St. Lawrence,
1674. Jos. Parker, 1687.
23. Mat. Sotherton, 1626. Antho. Peston, 1651.
24. Nic. Stocking, 1630.
25. Thomas Chickering, 1635.
26. Clem. Shephard, 1645. Clem. Baston, 1687. T. Bensley, 1700.
T. Bensley, 1706. Ben. Goose, 1708. Mary Marker and
Thos. Marker, 1713.
27. Robt. Mayhe, 1647. Sam. Tooley, 1653. Jno. Harvey, 1654.
W. Greenwood of Trowse, 1655.
28. Peter Copping, 1651.
29. Robt. Jyny, 1653.
30. Thos. Benye, 1656. Robt. Bene, 1674.⁷ T. Newton, 1710.
31. Theod. Duckett, 1659. Tho. Copping, 1665. Nich. Copping,
1673. Jno. Copping, 1698. W. Gywnne, 1704.
32. Jas. Yeomans, 1662. Edmd. Barnard, 1671.
33. Thos. Chickringe, Junr., 1667.
34. R. W., 1668. Robt. Craffe, 1691. Pet. Harrold, 1718.
35. Thos. F., 1669. John Tompson, 1679.
36. Thos. Seaman, 1670.⁸ Pet. Seaman, 1693.⁹ Jos. Burton, 1716.
Jos. Burton, 1719.
37. Aug. Curtis, 1675. Jas. Martin, 1708.
38. John Brook, 1678. John Brook, Junr., 1698. Dan. Copland,
1706.
39. Richd. Barnes, 1682. Jno. Hunton, 1688. Edmund Hunton,
1714.¹⁰
40. Jer. Tompson, 1697. Jas. Tompson, 1710.

⁷ Mayor, 1710. He gave the branch, and paved the altar of St. Martin's Coslany with black and white marble.

⁸ Sheriff, 1679. Benefactor to the parish of St. Benedict's. * See Blomefield, Vol. IV. p. 427.

⁹ Sheriff, 1699; Mayor, 1707. Knighted, and lived in St. Gregory's. See Blomefield, Vol. IV. p. 286.

¹⁰ Sheriff, 1717; Mayor, 1723.

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It is singular that the mark No. 19 is ascribed to a brewer bearing a very notorious name—that of Titus Otes, —reminding us of the ignominious life of one who so long kept this kingdom in a state of alarm and indignation.

The history of the real Titus Otes, (or Oates) is very obscure, and there are periods of his life when neither his residence nor occupation can be traced. I have been at some pains, therefore, in endeavouring to collect all the information I could obtain respecting the Otes family; and I feel much indebted to the Rev. James Bulwer, for the following extracts from the Registers of the parish of Marsham, in which once resided a family named Oates, among whom Titus appears to have been a family name. Negative evidence is often as useful for historical purposes as affirmative, and in this case the first kind of testimony is particularly valuable, as shewing incontestibly, that neither the Titus Otes of Marsham, nor the Titus Otes assuming the brewer's mark in 1621 in Norwich, could be the plotter of the time of Charles the Second and James, although he might possibly be a descendant.

Mr. Bulwer's extracts are as follows:—

- “1581. Timotheus Otes filius Samuelis Otes Cler: baptizatus fuit Novembri xxvij.
1583. Tit^s Oates was baptized y^e same daie, i. e. xxvj of January.
1585. Rob^t Otes was baptised the xij daie of Februarie.
1588. Doritie Otes was baptized the vij daye of September.
1599. Elizabeth Oates widdow was buried the xij of January.
[I take this person to be the relict of Samuel Otes, who must have died between 1588 and 1599, for the next entry stands thus]—
1601. Samuell Otes, cler, began this yeare being the first yeare of his coming to Marsham.
1608. Samuell Otes, clerk, parson of Marsham, and Anne

Dix of Heavingham, both single p'sons, were married att Heavingham, November the third day.

1614. John the sonne of Samuel Otes, clerk, and Anne his wife, was borne April 13, being Wednesday, about and was baptized upon Palm Sunday, viz. April xvijth.

1616. Anne

1619. Margaret

1622. Richard

1627. Robert

} All entered with the same particularity.

1635. John Otes and his family appear at this time, and continue for some years, but I find no Christian name of Titus among them."

Mr. Bulwer then observes, "A glance at the date of the birth of the member rejoicing in the name of Titus, will at once shew the impossibility of his being the miscreant of historical notoriety: he lived nearly a century too soon; but it is highly probable that this *Titus*, as well as your brewer, was among his descendants. The Oates of history was a clergyman in full orders when, in conjunction with Dr. Tongue, he appeared before the public in September, 1678. In May, 1685, seven years afterwards, he was brought to various trials for libel and perjury; convicted, stript of his canonical habit, heavily fined, sentenced to stand in the pillory at different places and times, and in every year of his life! The periodical literature of the day, were it searched, must, one would think, furnish some particulars of his birth and parentage to be relied on. You will see from the extracts that Blomefield's notice of the family is incorrect." (Vol. VI. 8vo. p. 289.)

But to return to the Brewers' Marks. By an examination of these, I perceive that, although some of them have reference to the trade of brewing, such as that numbered 16 in the illustrative plate, yet most are fanciful in their outline; while

numbers 20 and 38 take the form of what are more especially known as "Merchants' Marks." No. 20, I may presume to have been "invented" by Robert Holmes,* as the initials of his name may be seen in the central stem. But it is to be remarked that Francis English, who took this mark in 1662, still allowed the same letters to remain. This is also the case with the other example, No. 39, which shews the initials of Richard Barnes, who was succeeded in this mark by the Hunttons, John and Edmund; but no attempt appears to have been made by them to displace H. B., and adapt letters connected with their own name.

Another singular piece of information derived from these Brewers' Marks, is, that I find them used as late as the year 1725. The mark No. 1, John Boyce, was first borne by Henry Woodes in 1606, and, after him, by five successive brewers, ending with this John Boyce in 1725.

It is evident that the regulations and circumstances governing the use of Merchants' and, indeed, Trade Marks generally, are at present very imperfectly known, leaving a wide field of research still open to those who desire further information.

In the city of Norwich I find an unusual number of these mercantile insignia assumed by traders. The list, so amply illustrated by Mr. Ewing in the third volume of the Papers of our Society, is of itself a considerable contribution to the history of the subject, while the Brewers' Marks now contributed carry that history much further; for I find, not only that the brewers were "admitted with their marks," but that the same marks passed into the possession of their successors; that no adaptation was made, but that they were held in all their integrity, and so continued to be used until within one hundred and thirty years of our own time.

* Robert Holmes had a brewery and malting-office in the hamlet of Eaton. His initials, with the date 1643, still remain on the door of the Lion Inn. He was Sheriff, 1646.

It has hitherto been considered singular by those persons who have made the study of Merchants' Marks an object of attention, that those containing letters, or apparent letters, had no reference to the names of persons who bore them. The explanation may perhaps now be found in the presumption, that, like Brewers' Marks, they descended from one merchant to another, and though they might contain the initials of the person originally bearing them, yet they were seldom changed to indicate the name of the new possessor.

The following extracts, taken from the "BREWERS' BOOK," relate to the government of all brewers' houses and tipping houses, fully bearing out the opinion previously expressed as regards the strictness of the laws by which such places were regulated.

The Enquirie for Brewers according to ye Booke of ye Clarke of ye Markett, and is taken out of his Booke.

Item. to be enquired of all Ale brewers, whether they brewe their Ale of anie maner of fustie, dustie, or weaveled Mawlte, mixed or mingled with any hoppes, Roson, Chalke, or any other noisome or unwholesome corn or liquor.

And .y^t they make noe rawe Ale, or long roping Ale, keeping their Ale fixed, yt is to say, Twelve pence highning and twelve pence lowning in a quarter of Mawlt. For when ye maie buy a quart^o of Mault for two shillings, then ye may sell a gallon of y^e best Ale for an halfepeny; three shillings, three farthings; Foure shillings, foure farthings; five shillings, five farthings; vj^{s.}, six farthings; vij^{s.}, seaven farthings; viij^{s.}, eight farthings; ix^{s.}, and so forth and no further.

And also yt they send for ye Ale taster before they put any of ye said Ale to sale, to prove whether it be sale worthie

or not. And to sell with measures keeping y^e full contents, viz.. Every Kynderkin of Ale to conteyne xvj Gallons, every barrell to conteyne xxxii Gallons, and every Firkin to conteyne viij Gallons with the mere.

And to sell a quart of ye best Ale for an halfe peny, with measures true sized & sealed according to ye King's standard, and doing ye contrarie to be punished.

For Beere brewers in ye Clarke of the Market's Booke.

Item. to be enquired of Beere brewers whether they brew good & wholesome beere for man's body, not made with fustie, dustie, or weaveled Mault, or putt in any filthie or uncleane vessell, or mixed or mingled with any Salt, Rosen, or Chalke, or with any other noisome or unwholesome thing.

. But to put therein good & sweet hoppes, &c., & to boyle therewith a good & wholesome liquor. And that their vessells keepe the full contents, that is to say, every Vessell of a Barrell to containe xxxvj Gallons, & every Kynderkyn to conteyne xvij gallons, & every Firkin to conteyne ix gallons with ye mere. Or else to forfeit for every Barrell otherwise put to sale, six shillings & eight pence, and for every Kynderkyn, three shillings & foure pence, for every Firkin, Two shillings, & for every lesse Vessell, Twelve pence, & for every vessell above a Barrell to forfeit ten shillings.

Then follow Extracts of Statutes, &c., viz.

Statute 23, H. 8. That no Brewer shall henceforth occupie ye misterie or craft of coupers, nor make any Barrells, &c., wherein they shall put their Beer or Ale: penalty 3^s. 4^d. for every vessell.

Every vessell to be made of seasonable wood & markd with ye Coupers mark, ye contents of every Vessell for Beer

or Ale (as above said or more). Coupers not to inhance ye prices of Vessells, but keepe this Rate on forfeit of 3^s. 4^d. for every Vessell defective or enhanced, viz., Barrell for Beer, ix^d. Kynderkyn, v^d. Ferkyn, iij^d. Ale Barrell, xvj^d. Kynderkyn, ix^d. Ferkyn, v^d. Brewers not [to] put Beer or Ale to sale, but in Barrells, &c., conteyning as above said.

And to sell at such prices as affixed by ye Justices of ye Peace of ye County, or Maior, Sheriffs, or other head officers of City, Borough, & Town Corporate, under forfeiture of as above under Beere brewers, out [of] Clark of Marketts Book, half to ye King, and $\frac{1}{2}$ to him who will sue.

The Maior in Cities to be Guadger & to have ye profits.

Every Brewer may keep in his house one or 2 serv^{ts} Coopers to hoope & amend his Barrells. Such as do minish ye Vessell to lose for every Vessell, iij^s. iij^d., & ye Vessell to be brent.

Every Ale Brewer may reteyne in his service one p'son as couper, to bind, hoop, & pinn his Master's Ale Vessells, but not otherwise to use making of Vessells as a Couper, whilst in ye service of anie Ale brewer.

7 Eliz.

In ye Book ye time yt Mr. Tho. Sotherton was Maior.

No Inholder or Tippler of Ale or Beer shall brew anie Ale or Beer within their Mansion Houses, upon paine of everie Brewe, 5^{lb}. to be levied by ye Maior's officer by waie of Distresse: $\frac{1}{3}$ to ye Maior, $\frac{1}{3}$ Cōialtie, & $\frac{1}{3}$ Presentor.

8 Eliz.—for confirmation.

Item. yt no Comon Brewer, Baker, Dyer, or Calender, inhabiting within ye Citie of Norwich, shall burne any Wood in exercising of their occupations any yeare between ye feasts of Crouchmas & Hallowmas, upon paine of forfeiture of x^{lbs}. for every default, except ye Callenders L'end.

1532.

In ye Booke C., ye clij peage, Mr. Littleprow, Maior.

Item. no person within ye said precinct shall set up anie Brewery of Ale or Beer for Sale without licence of ye Maior, & ye Wardens of ye Trade. penalty xl^s. for eÿy Brue, 1 pt to the Maior, 1 part to ye cōialtie, & the 3rd to ye presentor. And none to tipple but Citizens sworne.

Item. fol. cliij. No common Victualler, Baker, Bruer of Ale or Beer, Oatmeale maker, or Inkeeper, shall buy any Grayne within ye Cittie brought to be sold in ye market, uppon paine of ye losse of value thereof, 1 part to ye Maior, another part to repācon of ye Corn market, & ye 3^d to ye presenter.

Assembly. 6 June, 1608.

Ye former Act made 2 April, 1582, 24 Eliz., confirmed. Ye Penalties to be levied by Distresse by ye Maior's Officers, or by committing to Prison till paid.

Assemb. 6 March, 1617. 15 Jacobi.

A new Law for recovering Penalties,—viz., by Distresse by ye Maior's officer, or by Action of Debt, Bill or Playnt in ye Chamberlain's name in ye Guildhall Court, wherein no essoyn, &c., who shall recover ye ordinarie cost of sute. All sums recovered (costs deducted) & all sums paid in submission shall be divided into 2 equal pts, 1 pt to ye Hanip^r for ye Poor & for repairing ye Walls & Bridges, and ye other part to the Informer.

All Wardens of Companies to cause this Clause to be inserted in their Books.

No doubt, other traders, as well as brewers and keepers of tipping houses, were regulated by corresponding laws.

Indeed, there can be no doubt this was so, as may be seen from the following extracts from the BOOKS OF THE CORPORATE ASSEMBLY. The notification respecting yeast is curious and singular.

8th of Edward IV.

The Maior of this Cite comaundith on y^e Kynges bihalve y^t alle mañ of Brewers y^t shall brewe to sale w^tyⁿne this Cite kepe y^e assise accordyng to y^e Statute & uppon peyne ordeyned. And wheras berme, otherwise clepid goddis good, w^toute tyme of mynde hath frely be goven or delyved for brede, whete, malte, egges, or other honest rewarde to y^e value only of a ferthyng at y^e uttermost & noon warned, bicause it cometh of y^e grete grace of God. Certeyn psones of this Cite callyng them selfe coñon brewers, for their singler lucre & avayle, have nowe newly bigonne to take money for their seid goddisgood, for y^e leest parte therof be it never so litle & insufficient to s^ve y^e payer therfore an halfpeny or a peny, & ferthermore exalting y^e p^{re}ce of y^e s^d Goddisgood at their p^{er} wille ageyns y^e olde & laudable custome of alle Englonde, & spally of this Cite, to grete hurte & slaunder of y^e same Cite. Wherefore y^t is ordeyned & p^{ro}vided, That no mañ of brewer of this Cite shall from this tyme foorth take of eny psones for lyveryng, gevyng or grauntyng of y^e s^d goddisgood in money nor other rewarde above y^e value of a ferthyng. He shall for no malice feyned ne sought colour warne ne restreyne y^e s^d goddisgood to eny psones y^t wille honestly & lefully aske it & paye therfore y^e value of a ferthyng, their owen use p^{er}sonally s^{er}ved only, excepte uppon peyne of forfeitur of iij^s. iiij^d. as often as eny of them do contrary, fforseñ alwaye y^t this ordynaunce streche not to eny olde custom bitwix y^e s^d Brewers & y^e Bakers resonably hadde and used.

4th & 5th of Philip and Mary.

No Berebruer to brewe nor sell to any typpeler or other pson any Beyer called doble doble bere, but only too sorts of bere; viz. best bere and small bere, uppon forf. of y^e bere & cask.

Congr. 2 Eliz.

No Typler of Ale and bere to receyve any pson into ther howses to drynke but to retayle it out to such as shall fetch it, uppon forfet every time of 3s. 4d.; $\frac{1}{2}$ to the taker & $\frac{1}{2}$ to the Citty. The offend^r by the Mayor to be imprisoned till paid. And this act to be in force till next assembly. As also this, viz. That no Brewer shall brewe any malte of any Typlers or Inkepars but such as they shall buy of them, and to be brewn only to the pp [proper] use of the brewer on forfet^e every time of 10s.

Cur. 4 Eliz.

Inkepers—Mr. Nich. Norgate, Mr. Rich. Hedd, Hen: Greenwode, Xpofer Barret, &c. *Ale Brewers*—Edward Pye, &c., in all 8; & *Beerbrewers*, Tho. Debney, John Marsham, Ambrose Nutting, &c., in all 11 mentioned.

Cong. 7 Eliz.

Brewers petition against Inholders and Typlers of Ale & bere brewing y^e same w^tin their howses, &c., wch was enacted.

9th of Eliz.

Ordeyned y^t there shall be no tipling nor utteryng of Dooble bere & ale. But the brewers may sell it out at their dores so as they sell 3 pyntes therof for a peny. N.B. afterwards y^e Brewers abusyng this liberty were ordered to brew no more Dooble Bere or Ale; but repealed both in August next aft.

Cong. ven. 4 Novemb. 28 Eliz.

An Act against Ynnes and Ordynary Tables, receiving & harbouring evill disposed persons who spend there day & night eating, drynkyng, and gaming, to y^e high displeasure of God & evill example of others. Whereas in the mean tyme the pore wyves, children, & famylyes of such evill psons doo suffer mucche penury, wanting competent sustenance are & are likly dayly more & more to becom greatly burdenous & chardgeable to this Wurshippfull Citie. The chief & pryncypall cause of w^{ch} enormytyes did first grow by reason of Alehouses or tipling Howses y^e Nursses of such ydle & evill disposed psons.

Ordeyned y^t no man shall take upon hym to keepe any Ynne or Ordynary Table for Guests before he be a freeman of the Citie, & be lycensed so to do by y^e Maior & 2 Aldⁿ of y^e Ward. And y^t they shall suffer no unlawfull gamys, &c.

Cong. 28 Jan^v. 29 Eliz.

Ordeyned y^t there shall be no Tipling nor uttering of *Dooble bere & ale*.

But y^e brewers may sell it out at their dores, so as they sell 3 pyntes therof for a penye.

N.B. afterwards y^e Brewers abusyng this Lib^{ty} were orderd to brew no more Dooble Bere or Ale.

But repealed both in August next after

Cur. 11 Oct. 1615.

The Brewers pmised not to sell Beer by retail directly or indirectly after y^e same be tunned up, but onely at y^e fats side (as hath been heretofore used) for one year next.

Cur. 25 June, 1621.

Agreed y^t there shall be no more Alehouses lycenced this present yeare than for Trowse 1 none; S. Conesford 1 2ⁱⁱ; N. Conesf. 1 1ⁱⁱⁱ; Ber st. 3 4^{vii}; Lakenham 1 none; Eaton 1 1ⁱ;

St. Stephen's ³ 2ⁱⁱⁱ; St. Peters ³ 2ⁱⁱⁱ; St. Giles 1 none; Mid-
Wymer ³ 2^{iiij}; W. Wymer ² 3^v; E. Wymer ⁴ 5^{viii}; Coslany
³ 2^{iiij}; Colgate ² 3^{vi}; & Fybrig ³ 5^{ix}.

Cur. 3 July, 1621.

Y^e names of each licenced accordingly set down as marked
in small figures above, and none other to be allowed: in all 30.

Cur. 22 July, 1622.

No more alehouses to be licenced than above in lesser
figures: in all 55.

Cur. 24 July, 1628.

Moved y^t y^e Alehousekeeps shall sell no less than three
full alepints of y^e best beer for a peñy. And a full ale quart
for a halfepeñy, by reason of y^e plenty and cheapnes of malt,
upon consideration of y^e Statutes 25 Edw. 6, 1 Jacobi, because
y^e price of Beer being now 5^s. 4^d. y^e Barelle of y^e best, so as
y^e Alehousekeep shall gaine 3 shill in a barrell.

Opinion of y^e judges y^t in case of unlicenced Tiplers, if
y^e Husband cannot be taken or be imprisoned or whipped,
the wife or Serv^t continuing the offence may be punished.

For erecting of Innes The Lord Chief Justice was [of]
opinion y^t y^e new erection of them is unlawfull, But Mr.
Justice Harvy did affirm y^t yt had been ruled y^t if a man
did erect an Inn & so furnish it as it was able to receive &
lodge a Justice Itinerant & his retinue, yt was justifiable.
But they were both resolute that if an Innkeep doth enter-
tein neighbors tipling in their houses, or sell Beer out of
doors, then out of doubt they are to be reputed Tiplers.

Cur. 12 Jan^v. 1628-9.

A law to be offerd that Bruers shall have no remedy for
recovery of money for beer dđ [delivd] to any unlycenced
Tipler, nor for Beer dđ above y^e price. And for seising of

Beer dd above y^e price. And y^t Brewers drawing Beer after it be Tonned up may be taken to be within y^e laws of 5 E. 6 & 3^d of K. Charles.

Cur. &c., Ad Assiās apd Newhall Ct., 21 July 1634.

The Ald. remonstrated that there have been great pains lately taken to reduce the Alehouses of this City to a small number. But what shall be done with the Houses newly converted to *Inns*, whereof there are multitudes within these few years, and are now the greatest drinking schools in the city.

The opinion of S^r Rob^t. Heath, Knt., L^d Chief Justice of Co^m Pleas, is y^t no Inn can be erected without licence of y^e King or y^e Justice of Assise. And Mr. Justice Barklay said that if a man might erect an Inn it must be in a fitting place, & where there are not ancient Inns sufficient to entertain strangers. And that if any Inkeeps shall suffer drinkers in his house, or sell beer to be drunk out of his house, he shall be punished as an Alehouse Keep.

Brewers' Assembly Book, 30 July, 1657.

The Brewers agreed by reason of 2^s. 6^d. Excise p Barrell, that they will not sell any strong beer to any Alehouse Keeper under 12s. p Barrell of Beer & excise.

28 Aug., 1657.

Agreed y^t y^e Alehouse Keeps, &c., may sell 1 Wine Quart of strong beer for 1^d.

15 Aug., 1657.

By reason of 2^s. 6^d. p Barrel Excise on strong, and 6^d. on small beer, agreed not to sell under 10^s. p Barrell from 15 Jan^y next, and 2^s. 6^d. for y^e Excise: also to take y^e 6^d. p Barrell Excise for small.

Articles of Brewers made 16th Nov^r. 1649, not to take away other's customers, &c. Other Articles made 7 Jan^y, 1668.

3 sorts of beer of different prices, viz. 4s., 6s., & 10s. p Barrel besides Excise.

Here end the extracts. To these may be added a singular Petition with reference to the excise of two shillings and sixpence per barrel. The date of this Petition is most probably 1661.

TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
 THE
 COMMONS OF ENGLAND

In PARLIAMENT Assembled.

*The Humble Petition of the Beer-Brewers and others of the
 City of NORWICH,*

SHEWETH,

THAT they hoped, together with their desired King, to have been restored to their ancient Rights and Liberties, and to have been eased of those heavy illegal Burthens under which they have long groaned, especially the Excise that alien Yoke which *England* was not accustomed unto, under which they have spent many yeares of servitude, not onely by the great imposition of 2s. 6d. upon a barrell, but by having their houses continually exposed to Searchers and Gagers both day and night, or else inforced to make such unreasonable Compositions at the pleasure of their Task-Masters, as many have already consumed their Estates, & are all much impaired thereby: but finding it now settled by

a LAW exchanged for his Majesties Inheritance, and one of the choicest Flowers in his Crown, the Court of Wards: And that upon so unreasonable termes as your Honours know, which lay so great a burthen upon the Brewers, and the poor who take their Beer of them, as the Brewers must either waste their Estates, or give over their Trades, which inforceth us to be Sutors for a salve from whence we received our hurt.

Humbly praying, that the Excise, that espurious brood of the Bond-woman may be cast out, and not be hereditary to Englands Free-born Subjects, nor left as a scarr upon the loyall, to perpetuate the memory of that Rebellion which was hatched by others, otherwise rich men in Corporate Townes will brew themselves, and the imposition upon a barrell is so high, that the Drawer cannot live: so that the Brewer must be inforced to give over, His Majesties Revenue will be diminished, Tillage discouraged by the abate of the price of Corn, and your Petitioners and the poor onely left in bondage, when all others are set at liberty. And they shall ever pray, &c.

It would be an important contribution to local history, if the rules and regulations of other traders could be gathered and elucidated by some Member of our Society, whose researches have been more especially directed to matters connected with the history of our ancient and most interesting City. I trust to be able, at a future period, to add further exemplifications of this exceedingly curious subject from my own collections.
