

LANCASHIRE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE IN 1583

IT has long been thought that the earliest surviving record of the Lancashire Quarter Sessions is the Sessions Roll of 1590 printed by Professor James Tait in *Lancashire Quarter Sessions Records*, Chetham Society, N.S., 77. There has recently come to light, however, in the County Record Office, a Recognizance Book covering the Sessions from Michaelmas 1583 to Michaelmas 1584 inclusive. The most important feature of this book is that it gives the names of the justices who sat at each meeting. Forty names appear, and although we cannot assume that this is a complete list of those who were on the commission at the time, nevertheless it is thought that the names are worthy of being printed. Only the names appear in the Recognizance Book, the identifications are mine; and initial letters are used to indicate the towns—Lancaster, Preston, Wigan, Ormskirk, and Manchester—where the sessions were held.

- Anderton, Christopher, of Lostock.—W, 7 Oct. 1583. M, 9 Oct. 1583. W, 20 Jan. 1583-4. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 15 Jul. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Assheton, Edmund,¹ of Ashton-under-Lyne.—M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 15 Jul. 1584.
- Assheton, James, of Chadderton.—M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 6 May 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Assheton, Ralph, of Great Lever.—M, 6 May 1584.
- Assheton, Richard, of Middleton.—M, 9 Oct. 1583. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 15 Jul. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Banastre, Nicholas, of Altham.—P, 15 Jan. 1583-4.
- Bold, Richard, of Bold.—O, 4 May 1584. O, 13 Jul. 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584.
- Braddyll, Richard,² of Brockhole.—L, 13 Jan. 1583-4. L, 27 Apr. 1584. P, 29 Apr. 1584.
- Bradley, John, of Bradley.—L, 30 Sep. 1583. L, 27 Apr. 1584. L, 6 Jul. 1584.

¹ Second son of John Assheton of Ashton-under-Lyne.

² Second son of John Braddyll of Brockhole.

- Bradley, Thomas, of Silverdale.—L, 30 Sep. 1583. L, 13 Jan. 1583-4. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. L, 5 Oct. 1584. W, 12 Oct. 1584.
- Brereton, Richard, of Worsley.—M, 9 Oct. 1583. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 6 May 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Butler, Edward, of Bewsey.—O, 13 Jul. 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584. W, 12 Oct. 1584.
- Byron, Sir John, of Clayton.—M, 9 Oct. 1583. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 6 May 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584.
- Chester, William Chaderton, Bishop of.—M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 6 May 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Dalton, Roger, of Lancaster.—L, 5 Oct. 1584.
- Derby, Henry, Earl of.—O, 13 Jul. 1584. W, 12 Oct. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Eccleston, Thomas, of Eccleston.—P, 15 Jan. 1583-4. P, 29 Apr. 1584. P, 7 Oct. 1584.
- Farington, William, of Worden.—P, 2 Oct. 1583. M, 7 Oct. 1583. W, 10 Jan. 1583-4.¹ P, 8 Jul. 1584. W, 12 Oct. 1584.
- Fleetwood, John,² of Penwortham.—L, 30 Sep. 1583. P, 2 Oct. 1583. W, 7 Oct. 1583. M, 9 Oct. 1583. L, 13 Jan. 1583-4. P, 15 Jan. 1583-4. W, 20 Jan. 1583-4. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. W, 10 Jan. 1583-4. L, 27 Apr. 1584. P, 29 Apr. 1584. O, 4 May, 1584. M, 6 May 1584. L, 6 Jul. 1584. P, 8 Jul. 1584. O, 13 Jul. 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584.
- Gerard, William, of Ince-in-Makerfield.—W, 7 Oct. 1583.
- Halsall, Edward, of Halsall.—W, 7 Oct. 1583. O, 4 May 1584. O, 13 Jul. 1584. W, 12 Oct. 1584.
- Hesketh, Sir Thomas, of Rufford.—W, 10 Jan. 1583-4.
- Holland, Richard, of Denton.—M, 6 May 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Holt, Charles, of Stubley.—M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 15 Jul. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Holt, Francis, of Grislehurst.—M, 9 Oct. 1583. M, 6 May 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.

¹ This was a private session.

² John Fleetwood's name is entered first at every session at which he attended, except when Lord Derby or Lord Strange was present. The most probable reason is that he was chairman.

- Hopwood, Edmund, of Hopwood.—M, 9 Oct. 1583. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 6 May 1584.
- Hurleston, Randle, of Harleton.¹—W, 10 Jan. 1583-4.
- Langton, Robert, of Hindley.—W, 7 Oct. 1583. W, 20 Jan. 1583-4. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. W, 10 Jan. 1583-4. P, 8 Jul. 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584.
- Molyneux, Richard, of Sefton, senior.²—W, 7 Oct. 1583. O, 4 May, 1584. O, 13 Jul. 1584. W, 12 Oct. 1584.
- Molyneux, Richard, of Sefton, junior.³—W, 20 Jan. 1583-4. O, 4 May 1584. O, 13 Jul. 1584. M; 15 Jul. 1584.
- Preston, Christopher, of Holker.—L, 30 Sep. 1583. L, 13 Jan. 1583-4. L, 27 Apr. 1584. L, 5 Oct. 1584.
- Preston, Thomas, of Furness Abbey.—L, 6 Jul. 1584. L, 5 Oct. 1584.
- Radcliffe, Sir John, of Ordsall.—W, 7 Oct. 1583. M, 9 Oct. 1583. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. P, 8 Jul. 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584. W, 12 Oct. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Rigby, Alexander, of Wigan.—P, 2 Oct. 1583. W, 7 Oct. 1583. P, 15 Jan. 1583-4. W, 20 Jan. 1583-4. W, 10 Jan. 1583-4. P, 29 Apr. 1584. O, 4 May 1584. M, 6 May 1584. P, 8 Jul. 1584. O, 13 Jul. 1584. M, 15 Jul. 1584. P, 7 Oct. 1584. W, 12 Oct. 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.
- Scarisbrick, Edward, of Scarisbrick.—P, 2 Oct. 1583. W, 7 Oct. 1583. O, 4 May, 1584. O, 13 Jul. 1584.
- Shireburne, Sir Richard, of Stoneyhurst.—P, 2 Oct. 1583. P, 15 Jan. 1583-4. P, 29 Apr. 1584. P, 8 Jul. 1584. P, 7 Oct. 1584.
- Strange, Ferdinando, Lord.—W, 10 Jan. 1583-4.
- Tunstall, Francis, of Thurland Castle.—L, 5 Oct. 1584.
- Tyldesley, Edward, of Morleys.—L, 30 Sep. 1583. W, 7 Oct. 1583. M, 9 Oct. 1583. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 15 Jul. 1584. P, 7 Oct. 1584.
- Worsley, Robert, of Booths.—M, 9 Oct. 1583. M, 22 Jan. 1583-4. M, 6 May 1584. M, 14 Oct. 1584.

R. SHARPE FRANCE.

¹ This identification is not certain.² Afterwards first baronet.³ Son of the above, later first viscount.