

ROMAN CATHOLICS IN FORMBY AND ALT CAR,
1705-1706.

THE following documents are among the Petitions to Quarter Sessions in the County Record Office :—

These for the Right Worshipfull Mr. Kenyon Esquire, Clarke of the Peace, deliver with care and speede.

Honoured Sir,

I have here sent youre Worship enclosed a List of all the children the popish preists have baptized, and of all the persons they have marryed, together with a petition to the Honourable Bench that the preists may be proceeded against with the utmost severity of the Law, and the houses that entertaine them. Youre good father always signalized his zeale against popery, and I question not but youre worship retains the same spirit of piety, zeale, and courage that were so visible in him. I desire that a course may be taken according to Law with Katherin Rymmer and John Gee for keeping prophane, disorderly, and irregular houses, both upon the Lords Day and att other times. I would have attended the sessions, but that I have a journey upon me into Yorkshire. And now with my humble service to your Worship and my prayers for a blessing upon your endeavoures I remaine, Sir, youre Worships most humble servant.

TIMOTHY ELLISONNE.¹

Aprill 9th, 1706.

The humble petition of Timothy Ellisonne, Minister of Formby and Altcar, to the Honourable Bench, her Majestys Justices of the Peace, att the Quarter Sessions holden att Ormskirke, sheweth, whereas the popish preists Tasborough², Fauster³, and Woofall⁴, make it theire business to propagate the popish Religion by preaching, baptizing, marrying, and instructing children in the catechisme composed by that wicked Conventicle of Trent (for a generall Councill it cannot be called). And knowing that popish principles are pernicious to protestant kingdomes and

¹ Curate of Formby 1702 to 1723, and of Altcar 1702 to 1717.

² Probably Henry Tasburgh, S.J.

³ Probably Richard Foster, S.J.

⁴ Probably Thomas Wolfall of Wolfall, who served at Alt Grange 1704 to 1720.

states I have thought it necessary to leave you a List of all the children the popish preists have baptized, and of all the persons they have marryed this yeare last past. And I desire they may [be] proceeded against according to Law.

May 19th, 1705

James the son of Cutbert Gore was baptized by Woofall the popish preist.

July 11th, 1705

Lawrence the son of Thomas Shirlaker was [baptized] by Woofall the popish preist.

July 19th, 1705

Mary the daughter of Mary Blundell was baptized by Woofall.

July 26th, 1705

Margarett the daughter of Thomas Scasbricke was baptized by Woofall.

July 29th, 1705

Elizabeth the daughter of Philip Casnalty was baptized by Woofall.

September 30th, 1705

Margarett the daughter of Edward Howarth was then baptized by Woofall.

November 23th, 1705

Marjarye the daughter of Edmund Blevin was then baptized by Woofall.

December 9th, 1705

Robert the son of Richard Speakman was then baptized by Fauster a popish preist.

Feb. 26th, 1705 or 6

Ann the daughter of John Williamson was then baptized by Fauster.

Popish Marriages.

May 23th, 1705

Richard Formby and Jennett Rannett were marryed by Woofall without banns published or Lycence procured.

July 9th, 1705

William Wharton and Alice Sutton were then married by Fauster, a popish preist, without either Banns published or Lycence procured.

July 22th, 1705

John Speakman and Grace Barton were married by a popish preist in Dalton without either Banns or Lycence.

September 6th, 1705

Robert Sutton of Aynsdale and his wife Brigett wer married in the Fild Country by a popish preist without either Banns or Lycence.

January 14th 1705 or 6

Mr. Richard Formbye and Mary Norrice of Altcar were married by Woofall without either Banns or Licence.

January 25th, 1705 or 6

Thomas Johnson and Margarett Yates were then married by Woofall without either Banns or Licence.

I desire the Honourable Bench to suppress Katharine Rymmer and John Gee for keeping irregular and disorderly houses, both upon the Lords Day and att other times.

John Rymmer entertaines the popish preists, they preach att his house. I have often reproved him for it, but he is obstinate and peremptory, and defys the Laws.

R. SHARPE FRANCE.