

A Charlbury Mercer's Shop, 1623

By D. G. VAISEY

THE author of a recent book on the history of retailing in Britain has complained that although the number of shopkeepers was increasing in the provinces throughout the 17th century, little is yet known about them because of the scarcity of direct documentary records. Evidence gleaned from diaries, letters, and account books is useful but it is almost always evidence from the point of view of the purchaser rather than from that of the retailer.¹ One type of document, however, which often does give a very good picture of the inside of a 17th-century shop is the probate inventory, and from such inventories, when they were made by conscientious appraisers with an eye for detail, is obtained a livelier picture than from almost any other source. All too often, unfortunately, the appraisers were either too idle or without the technical knowledge to compile a complete list of the stock in trade of a recently deceased relative or friend, and in such cases they were apt merely to give a gross valuation for all the contents of the shop and to leave it at that. The resulting inventory is, to those whose interest lies in the contents of the shop, very disappointing.² Where, however, the appraisers had the skill and the inclination to record each item with its quantity and price, they furnished the economic and the social historian with a document of great interest. Such is the case in the inventory printed here.

Thomas Harris, mercer of Charlbury, died in 1632 and was buried in the churchyard there on 23 March.³ He died without leaving a will, and thus on 2 April two of his friends, who sign themselves Thomas Woodward and Brocke Witny, listed and valued the 'wares in the shoop & in the wares house, & goods in the house', a necessary step in the process of the administration of the deceased's effects by his widow, Margaret. The inventory which they produced, together with administratrix's account, was put into the consistory court of the Bishop of Oxford on 15 September 1632. Both

¹ Dorothy Davis, *A History of Shopping* (1966), 147, 149.

² See for example the inventory of Robert Bridges, mercer of Kidlington, of 1581, in *Household and Farm Inventories in Oxfordshire, 1550-1590*, ed. M. A. Havinden (1965), 125; or that of James Yngkersell, mercer of Southwell, of 1560, in *Nottinghamshire Household Inventories*, ed. P. A. Kennedy (Thoroton Soc. Record Series xxii, 1963), 66.

³ Bodleian MS. D.D. Par. Charlbury b.1, fol. 34v.

documents remain with the records of that court now deposited in the Bodleian Library.⁴

The mercer, though strictly speaking a dealer solely in silks, had during the 16th century and especially in country districts, developed into much more of a general dealer in all sorts of cloth, household articles, and grocery ware.⁵ The miscellaneous nature of a country mercer's stock is well illustrated by Harris's inventory. Most country shops in the 17th century were run by men whose main concern was with agriculture. Harris, however, seems to have been a trader pure and simple: no articles of husbandry are mentioned, and the appraisers merely listed the meagre contents of the rest of the house, which probably consisted of one or two rooms only, before moving into the shop. Once there they listed every item of stock, giving the quantity and the price and differentiating between the various types of any one commodity. Starting with the cloths, ribbons, laces, and threads, they worked their way through glassware and stationery, foods and spices, to sweets and tobacco, candles and nails, gunpowder and shot, mousetraps and shoehorns, brimstone and treacle, aniseed and arsenic, and all kinds of oddments. They finished up with the large items such as the barrel of tar, and with the tools and furniture of his trade—the scales, the pestle and mortar, and the boxes and shelves in the shop. Amongst this catalogue of haberdashery, grocery, and general merchandise, perhaps one of the more unexpected items is that covered in the entry: '11 primmers 2s. 8d.' While it is not certain, it is probable that these were primers, the elementary books from which the local children would have learnt to read.⁶ Foodstuffs in the shop were almost wholly limited to dry goods and spices. This may have been because all the more perishable items had been cleared from the establishment before the appraisers arrived; but a more likely explanation is that Harris simply did not stock perishable foods. The 'red herrings & sprates' which are listed would have been smoked and dried and capable of being retained in stock for a considerable time. Country shopkeepers in general had not yet supplanted home production or the local market as the main source of daily food, and thus Harris's edible stock was restricted to commodities which could not be produced locally.

The account of the administratrix is also printed here, for it illustrates

⁴ MS. Wills Oxon. 297/5/47.

⁵ For a detailed inventory of a 16th-century mercer see that of John Farbeck of Durham in 1597. *Wills and Inventories from the Registry at Durham*, ii, ed. W. Greenwell (Surtees Soc. xxxviii, 1860), 281.

⁶ John Farbeck had the following in stock: 'ix Prymmars, ix Horne-bookes, ii Salm bookes, vii Accydecies, xxx A. B. Cies, 8s.'; *ibid.* In 1613 a mercer's shop in Ormskirk, Lancs., contained 'One dozen and a halfe of primes, 4s. 6d.; 2 dozen and 8 Absies, 16d.; 5 Greeke grammars at 10d., 4s. 2d.; 4 Terrences at 10d., 3s. 4d.; 2 Fables and one Tullis Office, 2s.; 6 Axedences, 18d.; 9 Sentences pueriles at 22d.; 4 Catoes at 3d., 12d.; One Salter & one Latten booke & 2 horne bookes, 2s.'. 'The Sankeys, Mercers, of Ormskirk, Part I—1613', *Lancashire Record Office Report for 1965*, 37.

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not only the costs involved in getting a grant of administration but also the twin problems of all shopkeepers: the obtaining of credit, and the difficulty of collecting debts. The widow asked to be allowed to charge over ten guineas worth of bad debts to her husband's estate; and yet, if the two documents give a true picture of the state of Harris's business at his death, all his movable goods and stock in trade were already pledged to pay off his creditors. His biggest debt was to a Woodstock man, but it is interesting to notice that he owed money to London suppliers, and that he had used the credit facilities of the Grasshopper Exchange in Lombard Street. It is possible, therefore, to get some idea from this account of how a trader of Harris's calibre was financed in the first half of the 17th century.

In transcribing the documents the original spelling has been retained, though punctuation and capitalization have been modernized. Roman numerals have been converted to arabic, and 'ye' converted to 'the'. The word 'Item' with which almost every entry in the inventory begins has been omitted. The letters 'u' and 'v' have been standardized to accord with modern practice, as have 'i' and 'j'. The contraction 'li' has been converted to '£' or 'lb.' where appropriate; 'C' has been converted to 'cwt.', and 'm' to 'thousandweight'. All the various abbreviations for 'dozen' are rendered as 'doz.' and those for 'quarter' as 'qtr.', otherwise conventional contractions have been extended save for those cases where the extension is not obvious.

THE INVENTORY

	£	s.	d.
His apparrell	3	0	0
In reddy mony	4	5	0
One fether bed & on flocke bed and 2 fether bousters & 2 fether pillowes	4	0	0
2 peare of blancketes and one covered	1	6	8
5 peare of hemppen sheetes, one doz. & halfe of napkins and a tabell cloth & 2 lb. offlexen hurdes	1	6	8
4 coffers and one truncke		13	4
The bras and pewter	1	10	0
One iron pot & one spit, one pere of bellows & a pear of andirons & a pear of tonges & a frying pan with the linkes over the fier		12	0
2 tabells & 2 frames, one forme & one joined stoole, 4 drinke barrels & one bedstid		13	4
One dowe kiver & one hampper, with all other lumber and implementes about the house		3	0
One littell nagg		13	4
	£18	3	4

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The wares in the shopp heere after expressed, viz:

	£	s.	d.
14 els $\frac{3}{4}$ of right hollan at 2s. 4d.	1	: 14	: 5
10 els $\frac{1}{4}$ of F. hollon at 4s.	2	: 1	: 0
11 els $\frac{1}{4}$ of hollon at 21d.	1	: 0	: 7
9 els $\frac{3}{4}$ of hollon at 22d.		19	: 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 els & halfe qtr. of sleaze ⁷ at 13d.		6	: 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
5 els of cambrick at 4s. 6d.	1	: 2	: 6
1 ell $\frac{3}{4}$ of cambrick at 3s.		5	: 3
4 els $\frac{3}{4}$ of cambrick at 5s.	1	: 3	: 9
8 yardes & $\frac{1}{2}$ of lane at 22d. per yeard		14	: 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
5 yardes $\frac{3}{4}$ of F. lane at 3s.		17	: 3
13 yardes of calico at 14d.		15	: 2
2 yardes & $\frac{1}{2}$ of calico at 14d.		2	: 11
4 yardes $\frac{3}{4}$ of calico at 9d.		3	: 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 yardes $\frac{3}{4}$ of calico at 11d.		6	: 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 yeard & $\frac{1}{2}$ calico at 14d.		1	: 9
8 yardes & $\frac{1}{4}$ of calico at 8d.		5	: 6
17 els of wtt. osenbriges ⁸ at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	13	: 3	$\frac{1}{2}$
4 remnantes of hollon & ossenbriges		3	: 2
7 yardes & halfe qtr. of sackcloth at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		4	: 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
14 yardes $\frac{3}{4}$ of sackcloth at 8d. per yeard		9	: 10
8 els $\frac{1}{2}$ of canves at 13d.		9	: 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
10 els $\frac{1}{2}$ of canves at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		8	: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
13 els & $\frac{1}{2}$ of canves at 14d.		15	: 2
6 els $\frac{3}{4}$ of canves at 10d.		5	: 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
18 els $\frac{3}{4}$ of canves at 8d.		12	: 6
13 els & $\frac{1}{2}$ of canves at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		14	: 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 els & $\frac{1}{2}$ of canves at 13d.		2	: 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 ell & $\frac{1}{2}$ of canves at 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		1	: 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 els of canves at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		1	: 7
15 els & $\frac{1}{2}$ of canves at 4d.		5	: 2
19 els & $\frac{1}{4}$ of inder lins ⁹ at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		7	: 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
9 els & $\frac{1}{2}$ of inder lins at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		2	: 9
4 remnantes at			4
10 yardes & $\frac{1}{2}$ of narrow blue at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		7	: 5
22 yardes & $\frac{1}{2}$ of narrow blue at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	14	: 0	
7 yardes $\frac{3}{4}$ of broad blue at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		7	: 5
4 yardes & $\frac{1}{2}$ of broad blue at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		4	: 8
1 remnant of blue at 11d.			11
Remnantes of cullerd fustin	12	: 0	
10 yardes of cullerd fustin at 10d.		8	: 4
10 yardes & $\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{2}$ qtr. of russet janes ¹⁰ at 8d.		7	: 1

⁷ Sleazy holland, a thin or flimsy fabric.

⁸ Osnaburg, a kind of coarse linen originally made at Osnabruck.

⁹ Probably hinderland, a cloth imported from the continent.

¹⁰ Jeans, a twilled cotton cloth.

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	£	s.	d.
6 yardes & $\frac{1}{4}$ of wtt. homes ¹¹ at 10d.		5	: 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 yardes & $\frac{1}{2}$ of greene see ¹² at 20d.		5	: 5
8 yardes & $\frac{3}{4}$ of greene see at 2s. 4d.	1	: 0	: 5
6 yardes of buckrom at 8d.		4	: 0
5 peare of larg boddis at 2s. pear		10	: 0
6 peare of smalle boddis at 16d.		8	: 0
1 doz. of red leather		5	: 6
6 peare of stockings at 22d. pere		11	: 0
3 brushes at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		2	: 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
8 yardes of F. ribing at 3d. yeard		2	: 0
14 yardes of ribing at 3d. yeard		3	: 6
7 doz. & 2 yardes of ribing at 3d.	1	: 1	: 6
4 doz. of ribing at 2s. doz.		8	: 0
6 doz. & 5 yardes of ribing at 18d. doz.		9	: 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 doz. & 8 yardes of ribing at 2s. doz.		13	: 4
5 doz. 2 yardes of ribing at 18d. doz.		7	: 9
8 doz. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of ribing at 15d. doz.		10	: 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
11 yardes of ribing at 3d. yeard		2	: 9
6 doz. 5 yards of ribing at 15d.		8	: 0
9 doz. 3 yardes of ribing at 14d. doz.		10	: 9
10 yardes of lace			10
10 doz. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of loopelace at 14d. doz.		12	: 3
11 doz. & 11 yardes of loope lace at 14d.		13	: 9
12 doz. of cotten ribin at 12d. doz.		12	: 0
5 doz. & 5 yardes of cotten ribing		5	: 0
18 doz. of statute ¹³ at 7d. doz.		10	: 6
10 doz. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of statute lace at 7d. doz.		6	: 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
5 doz. of statute lace at 7d. doz.		2	: 11
4 doz. of statute lace at 7d. doz.		2	: 4
2 doz. & 2 yardes of statute binding		2	: 2
18 yardes of wtt. filliting at 12d. doz.		1	: 6
8 combe brushes at 4d.			4
2 lb. of packthrid		1	: 0
10 littell brushes with searing candels, all is			4
7 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of whallbone at 5d.		3	: 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 doz. of can brushes			7
2 moustrapes			4
2 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of packthrid at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		1	: 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 mousetrap & 3 shuing hornes			3 $\frac{1}{2}$
5 doz. & 1 yeard of statute lace at 7d. doz.		3	: 0
6 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of flex at 10d. lb.		5	: 5
2 lb. & $\frac{3}{4}$ of wex 12d. lb., & 16d. in wtt. cappaper		4	: 1
22 bandgrases ¹⁴			7

¹¹ Holmes or Ulmes, a fustian made originally at Ulm in Germany.

¹² Say, a fine cloth like serge.

¹³ Sic. Presumably statute lace.

¹⁴ Probably bongrases, a sort of small cloth sunshade worn by women on the front of the bonnet.

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	£	s.	d.
1 remnant of quiles			7
22 lb. of steele hempe at $9\frac{1}{2}d.$	17	:	5
10 lb. of gunpouder	10	:	0
13 lb. of gunpouder	13	:	0
14 lb. of corke at $3d.$ per lb.	3	:	6
3 doz. & 9 blacke potes ¹⁵ at $12d.$ doz.	3	:	9
17 leather gearddels at $5s.$ doz.	6	:	5
20 viales glases at $10d.$ a doz.	1	:	$3\frac{1}{2}$
15 greate judges ¹⁶ at $8d.$ per judg	10	:	0
14 greene glases at $8d.$ doz.			9
21 venis glases at $4s. 6d.$ doz.	7	:	$10\frac{1}{2}$
11 smalle venis glases at $18d.$ doz.	1	:	4
5 blue pootes at $7d.$ peece	2	:	11
1 doz. of judges at $3s.$	3	:	0
28 lb. of figes at $2d.$ a lb.	4	:	8
2 doz. of canes at $2s.$ doz.	4	:	0
4 singell judges at $2d.$ peece			8
21 peeces of ycarthen wares	1	:	9
6 doz. & 9 bales at $3d.$ doz.	1	:	8
1 gallant of sweete oyle at	3	:	4
24 lb. of treakell at $3\frac{1}{2}d.$	7	:	0
2 grosse of silke pyntes ¹⁷ at $4s.$	8	:	0
1 remnant of band pyntes	3	:	4
2 grose of thrid pyntes at $2s. 6d.$ grose	5	:	0
18 doz. of thrid pyntes at $15d.$ gros	1	:	$7\frac{1}{2}$
3 gallans of aquavity at $2s. 8d.$ gal.	8	:	0
$\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. & 24 lb. of shot	6	:	6
$\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. of resens at $18s.$ cwt.	13	:	6
1 barrill of currans at $15s.$	15	:	0
3 qtr. & 18 lb. of currans at $28s.$ cwt.	1	:	5
$\frac{1}{4}$ & 21 lb. of resens sun at $32s.$ cwt.	14	:	0
21 lb. of pruens at $10s.$ cwt.	1	:	10
4 oz. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of saffron $2s. 6d.$ oz.	11	:	3
1 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of pepper at $18d.$ lb.	2	:	3
1 reame of browne paper	2	:	0
4 lb. of finnicreeke ¹⁸ at $3d.$ lb.	1	:	0
1 lb. $\frac{3}{4}$ of sinimon at $3s. 6d.$ lb.	6	:	0
$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of middell mace at $8s. 6d.$ lb.	2	:	$1\frac{1}{2}$
3 oz. of large mace at $9d.$ oz.	2	:	3
$\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. & 13 lb. of resens sun at $32s.$ cwt.	11	:	9
1 lb. & $\frac{1}{4}$ of dry clovess at $10s. 6d.$ lb.	13	:	1
6 lb. of gum at $10d.$	5	:	0
7 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of brimstone at $3\frac{1}{2}d.$	2	:	$0\frac{1}{2}$

¹⁵ Black pots, black jacks or beer mugs.

¹⁶ Jugs.

¹⁷ Points, tagged laces or cords of twisted yarn, silk, or leather for fastening clothing.

¹⁸ Fenugreek.

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	£	s.	d.
2 lb. of horspice ¹⁹ at 6d. lb.		1	: 0
$\frac{3}{4}$ of lb. of long pepper at 3s. lb.		2	: 3
1 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of anniseedes at 7d.			10 $\frac{1}{2}$
5 lb. of graines at 2d. lb.			10
1 lb. $\frac{3}{4}$ of large ginger at 11d. a lb.		1	: 7
2 lb. of nutmegs at 5s. lb.		10	: 0
10 oz. of sinimon at 3s. 6d. lb.		2	: 2
5 lb. $\frac{3}{4}$ of anniseedes at 7d. lb.		3	: 4
5 lb. of carraway seedes at 4d.		1	: 8
1 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of indico at 4s. 6d. lb.		6	: 9
3 lb. $\frac{3}{4}$ of horsspice at 6d. lb.		1	: 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
11 lb. of red leade at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.		2	: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of vardigrease at 2s. 8d. lb.		4	: 0
6 peare of woole cardes at 8d. pear		4	: 0
3 peckell potes & a remnant of yearth wares, all is		1	: 0
$\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of browne sugar candy at 17d. per lb.		1	: 1
1 barrill of greene coppis	1	: 0	: 0
4 butes of blacke thrid at 3s.		12	: 0
In remnantes of blacke thrid		2	: 0
1 remnant of quilles			6
$\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. of rosson at 11s. cwt.		8	: 9
1 doz. of leather sticht silke gerdels at 4d. peece		4	: 0
1 doz. of children's geardels at		1	: 6
14 gearddels at 3s. doz.		3	: 6
7 men's geardels at 3d. per ger'		1	: 9
8 bed cordes at 8d. per peece		5	: 4
6 smalle long cordes at 6d. peece		3	: 0
1 thousandweight of 6d. nailes		3	: 6
9 doz. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of tobaco pipes		1	: 4
9 smalle lines at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. peece		1	: 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
14 lines at 2d. per lin		2	: 4
22 smalle cordes at 8d. doz.		1	: 2
6 cwt. of 8d. nailes at 4s. 8d. thousandweight		3	: 0
1 musterd mill		1	: 8
5 bushell of wtt. salt at 2s. 8d. per bushell		13	: 4
Red herrings & sprates		1	: 8
$\frac{1}{2}$ a thousandweight of 10d. nailes at 6s. thousandweight		3	: 0
1 furkin of sope		14	: 0
1 remnant of sope		5	: 0
16 lb. of candels at 4d. the lb.		5	: 4
5 cwt. of clout nailes at 3s. 8d. thousandweight		1	: 8
3 peare of brissell brushes & $\frac{1}{2}$ at 5d. peare		1	: 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 long brissels brushes at 6d. peece		1	: 0
1 heath brush			8

¹⁹ Horse spice, a mixture of spices.

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	£	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ qtr. of Coventry thrid ²⁰ at 3s. lb.		1	: 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 lb. $\frac{3}{4}$ of cullerd thrid at 20d. lb.		2	: 11
9 doz. of gartring in the roule at 15d. doz.		11	: 3
9 doz. of narrow gartring in the roule at 9d. the doz.		6	: 9
9 pocket inkhornes at 2s. doz.		1	: 6
6 doz. of cullerd inkell, ²¹ all is		1	: 4
1 lb. & $\frac{1}{4}$ of red wex			8
5 doz. & 8 peare of cardes at 2s. doz.		11	: 4
2 doz. & 9 peare of cardes at 12d. the doz.		2	: 9
13 doz. & 3 yeardes of inkell, all is		2	: 6
2 grose of thrid buttens		10	: 8
1 grose & $\frac{1}{2}$ of thrid buttens at 3s. grose		4	: 6
14 bunches of heare buttens		2	: 4
2 halfe doz. of pins		6	: 9
2 packetes of pins		2	: 6
1 remnant of pins		4	: 2
11 primmers		2	: 8
6 peare of garter at 2d. peare		1	: 0
7 long buttens for clockes		2	: 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 thousandweight of bl' hockes iues ²²		1	: 6
1 reame of wtt. paper		4	: 0
8 pear of garters at 6d. peare		4	: 0
10 small peare of garters		1	: 4
12 remnantes of binding		1	: 0
1 peece of greene caddowes ²³		1	: 6
1 remnant of wtt. filliting			10
1 passell of F. cullerd thrid		3	: 4
1 lb. of bl' thrid & cullerd thrid		1	: 10
6 oz. of bond combes at 5s. 6d. lb.		2	: 2
2 oz. of hard wax			4
Hookes & iues for briches		1	: 6
1 lb. of F. thrid		9	: 0
4 oz. & halfe of F. thrid at 13s. 4d. lb.		3	: 9
4 oz. of F. thrid at 4s. 8d. lb.		1	: 2
4 oz. of wtt. browne thrid at 4s. lb.		1	: 0
28 doz. of wtt. inkell at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. doz.		5	: 10
5 peece of inkell at 7d. peece		2	: 11
$\frac{3}{4}$ of wtt. browne thrid at 3s. 4d. lb.		2	: 6
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of wtt. browne thrid at 4s. lb.		2	: 0
3 lb. of browne thrid at 20d. lb.		5	: 0
1 box of needdels & dice		1	: 8
2 parssels of browne paper & a remnant of wtt.		2	: 0
1 box of combes with a remnant of combes		2	: 6

²⁰ Coventry blue thread, used for embroidery.

²¹ Inkle, a kind of linen tape.

²² Hooks and eyes.

²³ Caddow, a rough woollen cloth.

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	£	s.	d.
2 doz. & 11 knivess and sheathes at 2d. peece		5	: 10
2 doz. of sheath			5
2 lb. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of quicksilver at 2s. 2d.		5	: 3
2 oz. of blacke woosted ²⁴			7
8 oz. of cullerd woosted at 6d. oz.		4	: 0
2 lb. of cullerd silke at 20s. lb.	2	: 0	: 0
6 oz. of black silke at 18d. oz.		9	: 0
9 doz. of thrid laci at 3d. doz.		2	: 3
1 remnant of lether & thrid laci			2
1 lb. of masticke		8	: 0
3 grose & 1 doz. of silke buttens at 18d. a grose		4	: 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 lb. of wtt. arssnick at 10d.			10
1 lb. $\frac{1}{4}$ of powder suger at 14d. lb.		1	: 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
40 lb. of wtt. starch at 36s. cwt.	13	: 4	
2 oz. of wormseede ²⁵			8
1 thousandweight of sparrobilles ²⁶			5
Remnantes of nailles	2	: 0	
3 lb. of blue starch 9d. lb.	2	: 3	
For small boxes			4
5 pear of band strings & looce buttens			9
11 weemen's thimbels at 16d.	1	: 4	
4 doz. of men's thimbels at 6d. doz.	2	: 0	
1 spice mortar 16 lb. $\frac{3}{4}$, at 7d. lb. com to	9	: 9	
3 peare of scalles	5	: 0	
1 pestell			4
Sheelfes & boxes & chestes, all is	1	: 0	: 0
1 gallan of sallet oyle		3	: 6
1 hogshhead of red viniger	1	: 0	: 0
1 cwt. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of hopes at 56s. cwt.	4	: 4	: 0
3 cwt. & $\frac{1}{2}$ of pitch at 11s. cwt.	1	: 16	: 0
1 barrill of tar & a remnant of tar	1	: 0	: 0
1 barrill of vargis ²⁷		6	: 0
4 lb. of tobacco at 20d. per lb.		6	: 8
The wares in the shoop & in the wares house, & goodes in the house com to the just som of	96	: 15 ²⁸	: 11
The deet boocke coms to the som of	12	: 18	: 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ qtr.
The hole sum of all is the just sum of	£109	: 14 ²⁹	: 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ qtr.

²⁴ The yarn rather than the fabric, sold by the oz.

²⁵ Wormseed, a mixture of herbs used against tapeworms.

²⁶ Sparrowbills, a variety of nail.

²⁷ Verjuice, acid juice of crab-apples used mainly in cooking.

²⁸ Recte 16s.

²⁹ Recte 15s.

D. G. VAISEY

THE ADMINISTRATRIX'S ACCOUNT

[She charges herself with £109 14s. 10½ qtr. d., the sum total of the inventory, out of which she begs allowance for the following sums which she has disbursed:]

	£	s.	d.
Whereas the debt booke is prized at £12 11s. 8½ qtr. d., this accomptant hath received but 40s. thereof and hath noe meanes or hopes by lawe or any other waye to recover any more of the said debts, and therefore shee craveth allowance for the remainder, beinge	10	11	10½ qtr.
His funerall expences	2	16	0
The chardge for severall meetings of freinds to praysse the goods and to cast upp the shopp- bookes, and severall small debtes owinge by the deceased	1	8	4
The chardge of the administracion, thee fees of the courte, my owne chardge and my suretyes that weere bounde	1	7	0
Paid to Mr. Clempson of London	3	0	0
Paid to Mr. Henry Dawson for a debt owinge unto him	10	10	0
Paid to Mr. Edmund Hiorne of Woodstock	53	0	0
Paid upon bonde due to John Hiorne of Tewe	5	0	0
To Mr. Ralph Childe of the Grassechopper in London, mercer	4	13	5
To Mr. John Shorte of London	7	8	6
To Mr. Thorpe of London, grocer	9	1	6
Paid to Edward Hinde of Chip Norton		7	6
Paid to John Hastings of Chalbury	1	0	0
For the drawing of the inventaries & ingrossinge the same		5	0
For passage this account [<i>and other charges about the court</i>]	1	13	8
	<hr/> £112 : 1 : 7½ qtr. ³⁰ <hr/>		

³⁰ Recte £112 2s. 9½ qtr. d.