

EDITOR'S NOTE

In preparing these documents I have adhered in general to the recommendations of the 'Report on editing historical manuscripts', published in the first volume of the *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research*. Words deleted in the manuscript, but still legible, are italicized in the text, with the exception of minor scribal corrections which are omitted. Reconstructions about which there is no reasonable doubt are placed in square brackets; and hypothetical reconstructions are placed in square brackets and italicized. The loss of a single word by omission or destruction is indicated by the use of empty square brackets, while lacunae of uncertain length are marked by dots. If an ascertainable number of words is lost, this is noted. All other doubts or imperfections are similarly noted, and the format of the original documents in respect of marginal headings and subdivisions has been preserved. The punctuation has been modernized only to the minimum extent necessary for comprehension, and the capitalization of the manuscripts has been preserved except for the uniform use of capital letters at the beginning of sentences.

In dating I have adopted the convenient if somewhat illogical practice of beginning the year on January 1st, but otherwise adhering to the old style. Thus an English document of 12th February 1598 would appear dated 12th February 1599, not 22nd February 1599, as would be the case with a translation to the new style. As the documents in this collection are all English, this seemed to be the most satisfactory method of avoiding confusion.