

Examination of William Purcell, 27/12/1642, 1641 Depositions, Trinity College Dublin. MS 813, fols 096r-097v:

<http://1641.tcd.ie/index.php/deposition/?depID=813096r076> . Accessed 27 March 2021.

The following additional information is given at: <https://1641dep.abdn.ac.uk/items/show/35879.html>

Deponent Fullname: William Purcell

Deponent Gender: Male

Deponent Occupation: Soldier

Deponent County of Residence: Kildare

Mentioned Non-Deponent Fullnames: Arthur Loftus, Stephn Hinckley, Mark ffrend, Lord Calfeild, Thomas Plant, Edward Shoole, Captaine Scurlock, Mr Eustace, Mrs Eustace

Mentioned Non-Deponent Roles: Mentioned, Mentioned, Mentioned, Mentioned, Victim, Victim, Rebel, Confederate, Confederate

The Examination of William Purcell taken the xxviith day of December 1642 Before mee Sir Robert Meredith knight one of his Maiesties Justices of the Peace for the Countie of Kildare & Chancellour of his Maiesties Court of Exchequer By direction of the Maiesties ~~mōst hōnōrāb~~ right honorable the Lord Justices & Councill.

Who beeing sworne & Examined saith that vpon Tuesdaie last past was seavenight hee this Examinant together with about seaven men more belonging to Sir Arthur Loftus his Companie, set out from the Naas to a place some fiue miles distant from thence, called the Siluer Hills, a mile beyound Ballymore, to see if they could bring a waie such Castle belonging to the Rebels as they vnderstood to bee there which they accordingleie did But vpon their returne thenc{e} with the aforesaid Cattle comeing by Dowdingston two Miles distant from the Naas & within Pistoll shot of the said Towne they espied a Companie of Horsemen which hee this Examinant perceiueing, hee (together with Stephn Hinckley & Mark ffrend two of those who came in company with him this Examinant & the rest from the Naas as aforesaid) hastned the faster on

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before But Thomas Plant Edward Shoole the Trumpeter of Sir Arthur Loftus his Companie & the rest of the Companie would not bee perswaded they were Rebels & soe held on their vsuall pace keepeing still with the Cattle they brought along with them till vpon a sudden hee the said Plant & the rest with him were soe besett with the Rebels as they could by noe meanes possible saue themselues by flight, And this Examinant together with the aforesaid Stephne Hinckley & Mark ffrend, imediatelie therevpon allighted

from their horses & betooke themselves to a bogge soe as certaine of the Rebels who pursued them likewise, perceiueing they could not come neare him this Examinant & the other two, with their horse left the pursuite of them & by that meanes hee this Examinant, & the said Hinckley & friend got safe to the Naas. And this Examinant alsoe saith that hee (haueing past the aforesaid Bogge) stood vpon a Hill where hee looked back & saw one of the said Rebels strik him the said Plant vpon his cheeke with a sword as alsoe another of the said Rebels strike the aforesaid Edward Shoole with a Pike, And further saith that

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the parties who soe set vpon him this Examinant & the rest were Captaine Scurlock and his Companie as this Examinant afterwards vnderstood which said Captaine had the same daie taken two of the Lord Calfeilds Souldiers whom hee this Examinant well knew & saw amongst them And this Examinant likewise saith that about foure daies after they the said Plant & the rest were taken by the Rebels as aforesaid, Sir Arthur Loftus his Seriant together with about nine Souldiers in his Companie, (of which number hee this Examinant was one) went towards Dowdingston aforesaid of purpose to see if they could meete with any of the said Captaine Scurlocks men, who they vnderstood kept constantlie thereabouts And vpon their approach to the said Towne haueing surprised one of their Scoutes hee told them there were three or foure of the said Scurlocks Souldiers in the house of Mr Eustace in the said Towne, vnto which place when hee the said Seriant came, & makeing some enquiry after them, there were three or foure of his the said Scurlocks Companie perceiued to haue gott out of the backside of the said house

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who though they the said Seriant and the rest made pursuite after them yet they gott ~~the~~ from them notwithstanding Wherevpon the said Seriant & the rest returning back to the said Mr Eustace his house & questioning Mrs Eustace how she durst entertaine Rebels, some of the Souldiers begining to take some thing from her, she the said Mrs Eustace swore a great oath wishing Captaine Scurlock were there att that present And lastlie this Exam{inant} saith that the aforesaid Mr Eustace his house is a constant receptacle for the Rebels soe as the Souldiers of the Naas can by noe meanes passe that waie without much danger

Rob Meredith

Robert Meredith