

Instructions Concerning Lecturers and Ministers (1629)

Charles I

Transcript

British Library, Additional MS 22959, ff. 40r–40v

40r

1630

[*Left margin:* Apr.] At the Generall of Swafham we receiued Articles Thus Directions for the Ministers & churchwardens of the seuerall Parishes of the Archdeaconry of Norff[olk].

1. His Majesties declaratio[n] published *Anno Domini* 1628 before the Articles of Religion for settling all questions in difference must be strictly obserued. [*Left margin:* Articles.]

2 Speciall care must be had concerning Lecturers in euery parish for whom these directions ensuing are to be obserued.

1 In all parishes the afternoon sermons must be turned into catechising by question & answer, where & whensoever there is no great cause apparent to breake this ancient & profitable order.

2 Euery Lecturer shall read Diuine seruice, according to the Liturgie printed by authority in his surplice & hood before the Lecture.

3 Where any Lecture is set up in a Market towne the same shall be read by a Company of graue & Orthodox Diuines neere adjoyning in the same Diocesse & they are to preach in gownes & not in cloakes as many use to doe.

If a Corporatio[n] doe mainteine a single Lecturer he must not be suffered to preach till he professe his willingnes to take upon him a liuing with cure of soules within that Incorporatio[n]; & he must actually take such benefice or Cure so soone as it shall be fairely procured for him.

3 The Ministers & Churchw[arden] in euery parish or one of them, are at these Generals & at euery Gen[eral] hereafter to certifie in their verdicts the Christian names & surnames of euery Lecturer in their Parish & the place where he preacheth together with his quality & degree.

4 They are in like manner to certifie the names of such men as being not qualified by lawe doe keepe Chaplens in their houses.

5 They are further to certifie the names of all such as absent themselues from or are negligent in comming to Diuine seruice aswell prayers as Catechisings & sermons.

40v

6. The Min[ister] & Churchw[arden]s of euery parish successiuelly are to keepe a seuerall copie of these instructions by them whereby they may be the better informed of their duty; & the said copies are to be shewed at euery Generall when they shall present all such persons as haue disobeyed these instructions, that according to his Majesties pleasure such as doe conforme may be encouraged & such as are refractory may be punished.

These Articles thus receiued in one halfe sheete, printed we knowe not where, seeme to come from the king, in what sorte we knowe not; only this is knowne that they want the ordinary ratificatio[n] By the King

Other manuscript witnesses

- British Library, Additional MS 29975, ff. 119r–120v
- British Library, Additional MS 44848, ff. 194r–195v
- British Library, Hargrave MS 311, ff. 209r–209v
- British Library, Sloane MS 1775, ff. 74r–75r
- British Library, Additional MS 72418, ff. 1r–2v
- Bodleian Library, MS Ashmole 1153, item 6, 60–61
- Bodleian Library, MS Carte 77, ff. 435r–436x
- Bodleian Library, MS Rawlinson C 674, ff. 66v–67v
- Bodleian Library, MS Tanner 114, f. 158r
- Bodleian Library, MS Tanner 71, ff. 28r–29r
- Bodleian Library, MS Tanner 82, ff. 261r–262v
- Cambridge University Library, Additional MS 27, ff. 88r–v
- Huntington Library, Hastings Correspondence Box 13, HA 1346
- Huntington Library, Stowe Temple Religious Box, item 10
- Lambeth Palace Library, MS 943, ff. 103–104
- The National Archives, SP 15/42, /88 [ff.140r–141r]
- The National Archives, SP 16/153, /100 I. [f.186r]
- The National Archives, SP 16/153, /101 [ff.187r–v]
- The National Archives, SP 16/153, ff. 102 [ff.189r–190r]
- The National Archives, SP 16/153, /103 [ff.191r–v]
- The National Archives, SP 16/36, /88 [ff.140r–141r]

Seventeenth-century print exemplars

- *Scrinia Sacra* (1654) [Wing S2110], p. –

Modern print exemplars

- John Rushworth, *Historical Collections* (London, 1721), vol. 2, pp. 30–31

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<https://mpese.ac.uk/t/CharlesInstructionsLecturers1629v1.html>