

**Examination of Mary Marcham by Nathaniel Bacon, 1598 December 6:  
manuscript signed with Marcham's mark, Papers of the Bacon-Townshend  
family of Stiffkey, Norfolk. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online  
(EMMO). MS L.d.705, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

leaf 1 recto

The exam of Mary ~~Barker~~<sup>Marcham</sup> taken before  
Nathaniell Bacon Esq<sup>r</sup> the vi<sup>th</sup> of December 1598  
She sayth that sone after Michaellmas laste she was  
brought on horsback out of Cambridgesheire, from Iohn  
Marcham her fathers house to Wallsingham ther to serue  
her Cosin Fraunc{is} Read{es} Wife.

She sayth that her beinge w<sup>th</sup> childe was not knowne  
eyther to her father or mother or any other in his house  
at her cominge from thence, neyther did she her selfe  
then certainly knowe it.

She sayth that she hath bene gotten w<sup>th</sup> childe wherw<sup>th</sup>  
she is now bigge, by one M<sup>r</sup> Iohn Edward{es} dwelling  
in the psonage at Burwell, whome she served a  
yeare & a halfe, and came from him at Michaellmas  
laste.

She sayth that at her cominge from M<sup>r</sup> Edward{es} house  
she did so little suspect her being w<sup>th</sup> childe, as she did  
neyther tell the said Edward{es} her Master or any other  
in his house therof, before her cominge from thence.

She sayth that some what after Easter laste she was  
firste inticed, and then yelded to her Master so as he  
had the vse of her bodye, and so many times after, and  
continued the same vntill w<sup>th</sup>in two dayes before her  
cominge awaye

She sayth y<sup>t</sup> not longe before her cominge from her master  
he did aske her whether she were w<sup>th</sup> childe, and she  
toulde him she coulde not tell, and he did allso aske  
her whether she were sure to any man, and she aunswered  
no

She sayth y<sup>t</sup> she hath bene pswaded hence at Wallsingham  
by one Mosley a servant of M<sup>r</sup> Edward{es} to Chardge one  
Roger Gardener dwelling at Wisbich w<sup>th</sup> begettinge  
her w<sup>th</sup> childe, w<sup>ch</sup> she refused to doe.

She sayth allso y<sup>t</sup> one Widget the saide Edward{es} man, was  
sent by his master to her who toulde her that his master  
woulde come over him selfe and take order for her.

She sayth y<sup>t</sup> her <sup>^said</sup> Master <sup>^Mr Edwards</sup> neuer gaue her any thinge more  
then her wages.

She sayth and allso offereth to depose the same, that no man  
had ever y<sup>e</sup> vse of her bodye at any time, except the  
said M<sup>r</sup> Edward{es} her master

She sayth y<sup>t</sup> <sup>^in</sup> this sommer paste she was asked by M<sup>r</sup> Banyarde the  
minister of Burwell whome she had served before how she  
did like M<sup>r</sup> Edward{es} service, and she aunswered, Well, saving y<sup>t</sup> she  
could not be in quiet for her master

The marke of Mary Marcham. M

Na: Bacon

**leaf 1 verso || leaf 2 recto**

**leaf 2 verso**

The Exam of Mary Marcham