

**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 examination of Mary ~~Barker~~ Marcham taken before  
Nathaniel Bacon Esquire the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 1598  
She saith that soon after Michaelmas last she was  
brought on horseback out of Cambridgeshire, from John  
Marcham her father's house to Walsingham there to serve  
her cousin Francis Reade's Wife.

She saith that her being with child was not known  
either to her father or mother or any other in his house  
at her coming from thence, neither did she herself  
then certainly know it.

She saith that she hath been gotten with child wherewith  
she is now big, by one Mr John Edwards dwelling  
in the parsonage at Burwell, whom she served a  
year & a half, and came from him at Michaelmas  
last.

She saith that at her coming from Mr Edwards' house  
she did so little suspect her being with child, as she did  
neither tell the said Edwards her Master or any other  
in his house thereof, before her coming from thence.

She saith that some what after Easter last she was  
first enticed, and then yielded to her Master so as he  
had the use of her body, and so many times after, and  
continued the same until with two days before her  
coming away

She saith that not long before her coming from her master  
he did ask her whether she were with child, and she  
told him she could not tell, and he did also ask  
her whether she were sure to any man, and she answered  
no

She saith that she hath been persuaded hence at Walsingham  
by one Mosley a servant of Mr Edwards to Charge one  
Roger Gardner dwelling at Wisbech with begetting  
her with child, which she refused to do.

She saith also that one Widget the said Edwards' man, was  
sent by his master to her who told her that his master  
would come over himself and take order for her.

She saith that her said Master Mr Edwards never gave her any thing more than her wages.

She saith and also offereth to depose the same, that no man had ever the use of her body at any time, except the said Mr Edwards her master

She saith that in this summer past she was asked by Mr Banyarde the minister of Burwell whom she had served before how she did like Mr Edwards' service, and she answered, Well, saving that she could not be in quiet for her master

The mark of Mary Marcham. M

Nathaniel Bacon

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

**leaf 2 verso**

The Examination of Mary Marcham