

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS—No. I.

[The following mandate of the Bishop of Norwich, in reference to schoolmasters and recusants, in compliance with an order of Privy Council, temp. Queen Elizabeth, is extracted from a volume of miscellaneous papers preserved in the Court of the Archdeacon of Sudbury, at Bury St. Edmund's.]

Sudburye :

After my hartye commendacions. Wheare I latelye receyved lettres from my Lorde of London, and there wthall certeyne articles recomended by L.L. and other of her ma^{ties} most honorable-Privye Counsel vnto my L. grace of Canterburie, and am required wth all care and diligence to put the same in execution, in w^{ch} sayde articles emonge other things it is required that a generall examinacion be taken by the bisshoppes in the province of Cant' of all scholemasters, as well publicke as private, that suche as be vnsounde be removed accordinge to the statute in that behalfe provided. And that inquirye be made how the children of recusants be brought vpp. And how manye wthin theyr severall dioces, as well recusantes as others, have theyr children beyonde the seas. And also lyke inquirye be made of suche ministers as are fownde to be insufficient and of slaunderous lyfe be removed. These therefore are to will and require you to have diligent care heareof, and that forthwth you cause to be cited by yo^r apparitors all scholemaisters, aswell suche as teache publicklye as privatelye, wthin the Archedeaconrye of Sudburye, that they and everye of them doe make theyr personall appearance before me or my chauncello^r in the consistorye wthin the cathedrall church of Norw^{ch} on Wensdaye, viz. the xijth daye of ffebruarye next, then and there to vndergoe examinacion as is required, and that you certifye vs of theyr names and citinge accordinglye, and that you do wth all convenient spede you may make inquirye how the children of recusantes be brought vpp, and of theyrs and others children beyonde the seas. And further that you call vnto you suche moderators of the exercise wthin every dennarye by vs latelye appoynted, and you and they together, vppon due examinacion and trial, do make certificate thereof, as of other the premisses, vnto me or my chauncello^r before the tenthe daye of Marche nexte ensuinge, that we maye therevppon directe o^r farther proceedings as apperteyneth. And heareof fayle you not as you will aunswear the contrarye at yo^r perill, and so I committe you to the tuition of thalmyghtye. From my palace the vjth of Januarye, A^o 1583.

Yo^r lovinge frinde,

EDMUND NORWICH.