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0521019885 - The Representative of the People?: Voters and Voting in England under the  
Early Stuarts

Derek Hirst

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# The Representative of the People?

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DEREK HIRST

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Frontmatter

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*For my parents*

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Early Stuarts

Derek Hirst

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Contents

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Acknowledgements	<i>page</i> ix
Abbreviations and notes	xi
1 Introduction	I
<i>The context</i>	I
<i>Electoral beginnings</i>	12
PART I: THE ELECTORATE	
2 The county electorate	29
<i>The forty-shilling freeholder</i>	29
<i>Other tenures and uncertainties</i>	34
3 The borough franchise disputes	44
<i>The pressures in the towns</i>	44
<i>Gentry intervention</i>	61
4 The support of the House of Commons	65
<i>The fear of influence</i>	65
<i>Parliament-men and the politics of the franchise</i>	75
5 The urban voters	90
<i>The corporation franchises</i>	91
<i>The freeman franchises</i>	92
<i>The burgage-tenure franchises</i>	97
<i>Scot and lot</i>	98
<i>Residence</i>	99
<i>Almsmen</i>	100
<i>Conclusion: totals</i>	104
PART II: ELECTIONS	
6 Control and independence in voting	109
<i>Influence</i>	112
<i>Voting behaviour</i>	122
7 The electorate and politics	132
<i>The political impact of the wider franchises</i>	132
<i>Politics in elections</i>	137

Cambridge University Press

0521019885 - The Representative of the People?: Voters and Voting in England under the  
Early Stuarts

Derek Hirst

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## CONTENTS

viii

## PART III: AFTER THE ELECTION

8	Local benefits, and taxes	157
	<i>The local role of the parliament-man</i>	158
	<i>The question of taxes</i>	166
9	Accountability and national politics	178
	<i>Reports</i>	178
	<i>The quest for support, 1640–2</i>	181
10	Conclusion	191
<i>Appendices</i>		
I	Constituencies experiencing franchise disputes 1604–41	195
II	Case studies of disputes	197
	1 <i>Chester</i>	197
	2 <i>Chippenham</i>	198
	3 <i>Colchester</i>	199
	4 <i>Dover</i>	201
	5 <i>Exeter</i>	203
	6 <i>Newcastle-under-Lyme</i>	204
	7 <i>Oxford</i>	205
	8 <i>Salisbury</i>	206
	9 <i>Sandwich</i>	207
	10 <i>Tewkesbury</i>	209
	11 <i>Warwick</i>	210
III	The borough franchises in 1641	213
IV	Contested elections	216
V	Numbers of voters	223
VI	Voting and occupations in Hertford	227
VII	The provisions of bills to regulate elections	229
VIII	The arguments for a wider franchise	232
	Notes	237
	Bibliography	283
	Index	299

Cambridge University Press

0521019885 - The Representative of the People?: Voters and Voting in England under the Early Stuarts

Derek Hirst

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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The number of notes and appendices to this book will indicate that it began its life as a Ph.D. thesis, and while they had to be retained in order to support what could be a rather contentious case, it is hoped that the scale of the problem discussed will lessen their deterrent effect to the general reader. The research for that thesis was financed by a research studentship from the Department of Education and Science and the Master and Fellows of Gonville and Caius College, and latterly by a Research Fellowship from the Master and Fellows of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. To all of these bodies, and particularly the last, in whose pleasant company this book was written, I am indebted.

It is often suggested that any product of academic research is a co-operative enterprise: this can be nowhere more true than of work which attempts to study aspects both of parliamentary politics and local developments through the country, as this one does. Because the scope of the enquiry is so broad, a deep investigation is precluded, and the consequence is that authorities on particular fields are drawn by the kindness of their hearts to set right some of the more egregious errors. The debts incurred in the compilation of this work are too many to acknowledge in full here, and it is hoped that the notes provide some redress for this omission. I am happy, however, to be able to thank those to whom my obligations are greatest.

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0521019885 - The Representative of the People?: Voters and Voting in England under the Early Stuarts

Derek Hirst

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

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Cambridge University Press

0521019885 - The Representative of the People?: Voters and Voting in England under the Early Stuarts

Derek Hirst

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Abbreviations and notes

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A.O.	Archive Office.
A.P.C.	<i>Acts of the Privy Council.</i>
B.M.	British Museum classmark.
Bodl.	Bodleian Library, Oxford, classmark.
C.D. 1621.	<i>Commons Debates in 1621</i> , ed. W. Notestein, F. H. Relf and H. Simpson (New Haven, 1935).
C.J.	<i>Journals of the House of Commons.</i>
C.S.P.D.	<i>Calendar of State Papers, Domestic.</i>
C.U.L.	Cambridge University Library classmark.
D'Ewes (C).	<i>The Journal of Sir Simonds D'Ewes from the first recess of the Long Parliament to the withdrawal of King Charles from London</i> , ed. W. H. Coates (New Haven, 1942).
D'Ewes (N).	<i>The Journal of Sir Simonds D'Ewes from the beginning of the Long Parliament to the trial of the Earl of Strafford</i> , ed. W. Notestein (New Haven, 1923).
E.H.R.	<i>English Historical Review.</i>
Harvard	Houghton Library, Harvard, classmark.
H.M.C.	<i>Historical Manuscripts Commission, Report.</i>
M.A.	Unpublished M.A. thesis.
N.N.R.O.	Norfolk and Norwich Record Office.
N.R.O.	Northamptonshire Record Office.
Ph.D.	Unpublished Ph.D. thesis.
P.R.O.	Public Record Office classmark.
R.O.	Record Office.
U.L.	University Library.
V.C.H.	<i>Victoria County History.</i>

Contemporary abbreviations have been expanded throughout, although spelling and punctuation have been retained.

Dates are given in Old Style, although the year is taken as beginning on 1 January.

The place of all 17th-century publications is London, unless otherwise stated.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

‘... we are the Representative of the people of England.’

- Thomas Hobbes, describing Parliament’s justification of its decision to fortify Hull against the King in 1642. *Behemoth*, ed. F. Tonnies (London, 1969), 120.

‘... in Parliament, ... the Lords and Commons represent the whole Kingdome.’

‘The vertue of representation hath beene denied to the Commons, ... and so that great Priviledges [sic] of all Priviledges, that unmoveable Basis of all honour and power, whereby the House of Commons claimes the entire rite of all the Gentry and Commonalty of England, has beene attempted to bee shaken and disturbed.’

- Henry Parker, *Observations upon some of his Majesties late Answers and Expresses* (1642), 9, 15.

‘... both Houses of Parliament containing all the Peeres, and representing all the Commons, of England.’

- *A Remonstrance or Declaration of Parliament* (1642) B.M., E148/23, p.2.

‘... this House representing the whole Body Politicke of this Kingdome.’

- *Mr St John his Speech in Parliament ... Concerning the Charge of Treason then exhibited to the Bishops* (1641), 1–2.