

Bruce, J. (ed.) *Calendar of state papers, domestic series, of the reign of Charles I 1625-[1649]*. London : Longman, 1858-97. 941 STA (DOM)

112. Petition of the inhabitants of Thornaby, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, to the Commissioners of both kingdoms. Petitioners live nigh Stockton Castle in the Bishopric of Durham, whereof Captain James Levingstone is now Governor, and have had their meadows eaten up with his horses betwixt Lady Day and May Day last, which amounted formerly to 60%. per annum, and is petitioners' chief maintenance in winter ; the captain saying further he would take the meadow grass of the said ground when ready and carry it over to the castle, as in part he hath done.

they got the meadow into hay and were carting it home when the Governor sent his quarter-master with soldiers commanding petitioners to carry it to the river side, where all the hay is detained till he be satisfied, his demand. He usually distrains petitioners' goods upon the said grounds and keeps them till they be almost starved, and will not render them but upon payment. The soldiers take and kill their goods at pleasure without satisfaction, have broken a windmill nigh the town, and draw their swords upon petitioners when in a peaceable manner they have desired to pass their garrison.

This book is a later printed version of the large collection of letters, reports, petitions, orders and so on put together by government ministers during the reign of Charles I. They offer a glimpse into how the country was run, what sort of decisions were made by those in charge, and what was happening to ordinary people.

This extract is dated 18th July 1643.

What are the main complaints about Captain Levingstone?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____