

FOOD RIOTS DEFINITION: (9/3/04) In all my counting of riots, I count as one riot/incident = (“dramatic unity”) – one crowd’s acts in contiguous areas within one week. See *The Politics of Provisions* (Ashgate, 2010), p. 16.

Fuller Source titles (and Abbreviations) are given in the Bibliography, posted elsewhere on my Riots website.

Second Century (1650-1739) in *The Politics of Provisions* (Ch. 3) begins here

Riots are classified and counted by the crowds’ primary action as follows: **Categories:** T = Food Transport Interception; M = Marketplace “Regulation”; R = Raid/attack Mill or Grain Storage; C= March into Country to pressure Farmers; O/U Other or Unspecified. Abbreviations in the table are generally formed by dropping vowels.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Rioters & Riot Category</i>	<i>Their Actions</i>	<i>Forces of Order</i>	<i>Their Actions</i>	<i>Court Sentences</i>	<i>Relief Measures</i>
Dec 1662	Weymouth, Do	500 women ¹ T	re (export) Xpt ² +change in Offcl pol fav expt, Hi Ps				
Mar 1663	Wareham, Do	T	re Xpt ³				
May 1663	Christchurch, Ha	T	re Xpt ⁴				
Feb 1663	Southampton, Ha	T	re Xpt ⁵				
1670?	3 grain riots ⁶	O, O, O					
1674	Stratford on Avon Wks	T	sluices broken to pvt corn barges move ⁷				
1675	Sheffield	apprentices M	rioting over marketing practices ⁸				

¹ Thirsk, *Agrarian History of England and Wales*, [AHEW] vol 5.2, p 329; Please cf. abbreviations in Bibliography, posted on website.

² Andrew Charlesworth, [CA] *An Atlas of Rural Protest in Britain 1548–1900* (1983), [p.] 80 -- Max Beloff, , *Public Order and Popular Disturbances 1660–1714* (1938) says Sherborne, corrected by Charlesworth [CA].

³ CA, 80

⁴ CA, 80

⁵ CA, 80

⁶ CA, 80

⁷ Beloff 59-60

⁸ J.A. Sharpe, *Early Modern England*, 2d ed., p- 233. ‘Ye wild asse, is still the lion’s prey, soe doth ye rich feed on ye poor each day’

Jun 1681 1690	Reading, Be Falmouth, Co	R tinnern T	attck Corn dealer board ship, seize salt ¹⁰	Myr	refuses to assist ⁹	
H Yr 1693(16) 1692, Nov	Colchester, Esx	T	people begin to mutiny agt Dutch factors coming up to buy corn ¹¹	Myr	quieted them	
1693, Spr? Feb 4 1693	Colchester, Esx Worcester, WO	T T	R-Assy agt Xpts ¹² to Fr Bristol factors come to buy corn - Raises P -> "mutiny" ¹³	Mags	arrest 12 - to gaol	
[Feb 1693} & Apr. 22 Apr 30 1693 Sat active for 5 days ¹⁵	[several parts] Bridgenorth, Sh Worcester, WO	T, T, T rabble" T	"mutiny"- csd by factors buying up grt Qs of corn - raises P ¹⁴ a- arrival of factors to buy corn, bacon, cheese, butter to export -- to Fr ¹⁶ ; carried away all the grain from the market ¹⁷ Szd it attck factors & barges; also seize cash & coat ¹⁸ c-rescue-break jail, asslt Cs, plunder granary, Sz grn tobe Xptd - rescue 6 rioters from prison, beat the mags, broke houses open, carried away the corn ¹⁹	Myr	b-disperse Rrs; arrests d- summons militia MYR: orders all the freemen to appear in arms to keep order; Govt orders Cmsn of Oyer & Term to try rioters ²⁰	SC apptd - re riots in Wo, Shrops, Herefs - June: 4 sent to death (2 for murder =?) - reprvd for 18 days ²¹ Miller 53 says 3 condemned to death,
c May 1 (Sun)	4 mi away					
e May 11	1 mi away					

⁹ Beloff 60

¹⁰ CA, 82

¹¹ N. Luttrell, *A Brief Historical Relation of State Affairs from September 1678 to April 1714* (1857), ii 629; Beloff 60

¹² Beloff 60 Rumors of corn to France *Fr < J. Miller, *Cities Divided*, 53

¹³ Luttrell iii 29

¹⁴ Luttrell iii 32; M.D.G. Wanklyn, 'The Bridgnorth Food Riots of 1693/4', 99-102.

¹⁵ Miller, *Cities Divided*, 2007 - p53- (from Luttrell & PC etc.)

¹⁶ Beloff 61; Luttrell iii-91; A. Wood, *The Life and Times of Anthony Wood ... 1632-1695* (1891-1900), iii 422 -- depressed cloth ind (see VCH Wores, ii 290-95

¹⁷ Miller 53

¹⁸ Beloff 75

¹⁹ Miller 53

²⁰ Miller 53

²¹ Beloff 62 -- Wood iii 425

			e - plunder anr granary - at a mill			retrieved for a fortnight;not clear if exactd.
29 Apr 93 F	Oxford, OX	poore M	clamoring - red P from 9s to 6/2 ²²			
6 May 1693 F	Oxford, OX	poore women M	clamor at Hi Ps - pelt mealmen, bakers, etc ²³	Myr	repaired to the guildhall, sent for and quieted them	
2 May 93(lr)	Shrewsbury, Sh	300, l. by Evans	assd at mkt cross - proclaimd that carrying corn out of the k-dom would cause famine, and they ought to hinder it ²⁴	Myr	b szd Rl	
3 May c		T	c- rescud him frm prisn "on the like account" as Shrewsbury ²⁵			
?May 93	Lyme, DO	T				
? May 1693	Weymouth, Do ²⁶	O				
6 May 1693	Bridgenorth, Sh Wolverhampton, St	T	attack on load of corn being sent to inhabt of W - says for him as baker ²⁷			
July 1693	Wallingford, Be	O	"notorious riot" ²⁸			
Oct 1693	Northampton, NH	the"populacy"> T	>forced the mags to actfirmly agt E & Fst, and the price of corn fell ²⁹ Grt dealers had bot up grt Qs of corn, sending it away -- people overturned their carts, cut open their sacks -- whereby corn sold			

NOTE: The riots followed a royal proclamation agt the export of grain. Millr 53

²² Wood iii 421

²³ Wood iii 422 -- Cf VCH Oxford - ii 199

²⁴ Luttrell iii 88; Wood iii 421; Miller 53

²⁵ Luttrell iii 88

²⁶ Beloff 62 (PC 2) – Miller 53

²⁷ Beloff 62 (Assizes 5/13 - Shrops!); M.D.G. Wanklyn, 'The Bridgnorth Food Riots of 1693/4' (1993), 99-102

²⁸ CSPD 1693-4 235

²⁹ Miller- 53

³⁰ Luttrell iii 213

11 Nov 93	Northampton	"mobile" grt no of women	at 5s/ bu next mkt ³⁰ corn wagons fr which sacks seized thrown into river on sevl mkt days ³¹ ; women into mkt w/ knives in girdles to force red Ps ³² 'to force corn at their own rates' ³³	Jan - Nhsh mags order Assize of Brd in every mkt town ³⁴
		T, T M		
Nov 93	Wellingboro, NH	T	"like disorders" as Ntn ³⁵	
Nov 93	Daventry, NH	T	"like disorders" as Ntn ³⁶	
1 Nov 93	Banbury, OX	the mob	Szd wagon of corn passing thru town; ripped bags, szd corn - ³⁷ "as it was carrying away by ingrossers , saying they were resolved to put the law in execution since the magistrates neglected it" ³⁸	
		T		
Nov 93	Chipping Norton, Ox	T	"the like" as Banbury ³⁹	
Nov 93	Charlbury, Ox	T	as Banbury ⁴⁰	
Dec19 93	Wycombe, Bu	common people O	tumults occ by dearnesse of corn ⁴¹	
Dec19 93	Marlow, Bu	common people	tumults occ by dearnesse of	

³¹ Beloff 64 (QS Mich 93); Miller 53

³² *Calendar State Papers Domestic [CSPD]* 1693 397

³³ Miller 53

³⁴ Beloff 64

³⁵ CSPD 1693 397

³⁶ CSPD 1693 397

³⁷ CSPD 1693 397; (Banbury)

³⁸ Wood iii 434

³⁹ CSPD 1693 397 - "care will be taken to prevent these riots, and punish the offenders there, who do it more out of lazy pilfering habits than from real want"; and Wood iii 434

⁴⁰ Wood iii 434

⁴¹ Luttrell iii 240

Jan 1694	Bridgenorth, Sh	O T	corn ⁴² Sz barge, tow it back to town, sze corn ⁴³	new Wanklyn article	
1694(8) Jun 18	Northampton, NH – sevl riots (N) in & near Nhntn	the mob R	Sz sevl loads of corn and abuse the owners; break into inn in N. sz 2 loads of corn, knocked down mags; carried off corn - bec Xpt=>hiPs ⁴⁴	Myr, mags, Pls	oppose -- 2K, 60-70 W
Jun 94	Stamford, Li & some Or places	R	“like disorders” as Northmptn. ⁴⁵		
July 1694	Northampton, NH	R	Agt forestalling - sze Forestaller's meal wagon ⁴⁶ Buckby the forestaller (“trantor”) hanged himself		Some of rioters whipt, gently at QS
1695(5) Oct	Suffolk	T, T	mobs dest corn wagons and steal corn ⁴⁷		
Dec 1695	Suff-Essex borders	T	serious attacks on corn wagons ⁴⁸		
1697?	Wrexham/Erthi g?	T	Dists - mob threatens to kill Badgers who bought corn-raised ps ⁴⁹	justices	order constables to take arrest those who buy to sell again
1698 Sept	Brentford, Mx	M	forestallers beaten out of Br. mkt		Proc agt engrossing and an order agt grain Xpt Jan 1699 Parlt bans Xpt for a yr ⁵⁰

⁴² Luttrell iii 240

⁴³ Wanklyn, ‘The Bridgnorth Food Riots of 1693/4’, 99-102

⁴⁴ "They do this under a pretence that corn is made dear by buying up great quantities and sending it beyond sea, when in truth it is rather to satisfy an idle and thievish humour the mob is at present possessed withal, out of which they must be well whipped." (a newsletter CSP W&M 1694 vol 6, 263 [checked in original) Miller 54 [had errant citation of cspd source]

⁴⁵ CSP W&M 1694 vi, 263

⁴⁶ C. Markham et al, *Records of the Borough of Northampton*, 1898, ii 65 - Buckby the forestaller (Trantor) hanged himself

⁴⁷ S. & B. Webb, *History of English Local Government: The Parish and the County*, 488n.

⁴⁸ Beloff 65

⁴⁹ A.L.Cust Wherry, *Chronicles of Erthig on the Dyke* (1914), i 131

⁵⁰ Miller, *Cities Divided* 54

1699 Shrove Tuesday	Norwich	T	stopped carts, took sacks or [sic] corn and malt ⁵¹	Myr	was informed but took no action	
1700 Mar 1701	Truro Co Nottingham	R O	attck corn-dealer's stores ⁵²	alderman	appeases riotous mob by distrib an unwilling dealers corn ⁵³	
1709	Colchester Ex	over 200 R	threw stones, dirt at grain dealer ⁵⁴			
1709(7) May	Coggeshall, etc Essex	mobs of 00s of women T	march, threaten to shoot Lo corn dealers who make it dear ⁵⁵			
1709	Wrexham- Chester, N.Wales	T	Trans- dealers buying corn for France threatened ⁵⁶			
21 May 1709	Bristol, SO (reports of large Xpts to contl army)	Kingswood colliers 400 T	armed with cudgels , demand cheap bread - p-lrers irritated by shipts to Fr and Sp.-----malcmson Miller: <u>brk open sevl warehouses</u> ; ignore mags order; appeased by corp offer;; rescue impsnd rioters; council-hse Ws brokn ⁵⁷	mags	offer lower wheat P, call mila 7 vol-cits, arrest; some colliers wounded;; when bakers strike, they permit country bakersd in 58 arrest rioters - rescued	City corp buys grain to resell to poor at a loss
1 Oct 1709	Kingston, Sy	T	corn factor buying corn for Xptn & foreigners almost mobbed ⁵⁹			

⁵¹ Miller, *Cities Divided* [CD] p 54

⁵² Beloff 67

⁵³ Beloff 67

⁵⁴ Millr CD 54

⁵⁵ Beloff 68 -- Coggeshall had TU 1688-90.

⁵⁶ CA, p 82 = R.B. Rose, 'Eighteenth-century Price Riots,' 1961 p 281; K.L. Gruffydd, 'The Vale of Clwyd Corn Riots of 1740', 1975-6) p 36;

Wherry [Cust] (1914) p 131.

⁵⁷ Miller CD 54

⁵⁸ J. Latimer, *Annals of Bristol* (c. 1900), ii 78-9; R. Malcolmson, [UP] "'A Set of Ungovernable People": (1980), 116

⁵⁹ Luttrell vi 494

1709 (fall?)	Tewkesbury[Gl ?]	crowd of 400 T	T- Sz corn off boat for Bristol ⁶⁰		
Fall 1709 = 3	Northampton, Northamptonshire	T, T, T	stopping corn wagons and removing contents ⁶¹ <u>series of battles</u> crowd vs mags & grain dealers (newspapers had attacked dealers) – Broke open houses, defied mags, threatened myrs house & town gaol; Merchts had set up 'by-mkt' outside town ⁶²		Govt orders myr to prevent Forestlling & regrating, and do utmost to bring Ps down.
Dec 1712	Redbridge, nr Soton, HA	mob T	besieges warehouses , threaten factor - re corn to be exprtd ⁶³	PIs	seem to approve
Autm 1726- W 1727-8, Spr '28	Cornwall	Tinners O	Repeated riots ⁶⁴	15 th & 16 th Ft	
1727	Falmouth Co	T	attck ship of salt ⁶⁵		
1727-8	Penzance Co ⁶⁶	R			Sir Jn St Aubyn advances £ to the tinners "a suffct sum of money to prevent them from starving and from the necessity of plundering their nbrs" ⁶⁷

⁶⁰ Miller CD 55

⁶¹ Beloff 69n

⁶² Miller CD 55

⁶³ Beloff 70

⁶⁴ J.A. Houlding, *Fit for Service: The Training of the British Army, 1715–1795* (1981) 67, citing WO 5/27 48-316, and WO 5/28 pp 3-255

⁶⁵ CA 82

⁶⁶ CA 82

⁶⁷ W.C. Borlase, *Hist Sketch of the Tin Trade in Cornwall* (1874), quoted in J. Rule, 'The Labouring Miner in Cornwall,' (PhD. Diss, 1981), 127.

1727 ca. Nov 7?	Padstow, Co	500 tinnerns T	took corn dest for Xptn ⁶⁸		
1727, Nov 9-10	Gweege, Co (Gweek?)	tinnerns T	same as Padstow ⁶⁹		
1727, Nov 14 T	Falmouth, CO	a 1000 tinnerns, armed w/ clubbs R	threaten invasion ⁷⁰ a. insulted the town, BE, plund. sevl cellars or granaries of corn ⁷¹ b. filled sts, crying "Corn we came for and corn we will have" & merchts have no lic to expt to enemies -- search warehouses; took 2000 Bu corn, 100 Bu salt fr cellar; gave away corn or esold it **	Myr & Corp - ask govt for trps ⁷² b. Cmdr of Pendennis garrison - Invalids 30;	26 miners to Launceston jail ⁷³ b. w/ merchts [corp??] made them retreat but cdnt force them OT, - read RA Proc; B/ fire threat = not wise to fire on them
Nov 14 W		b. 2-3000 on horses, w/ clubbs; meaner sort in town are sympath			
1727, Nov 24	Truro, Co? Tregony vic, Co	tinnerns R	To Parson Grant's, min of Ruan - accus of holding corn for P rise - they took it ⁷⁴		
1727 ca Nov 20	Padstow, Co.	tinnerns R	carried off malt ⁷⁵		
1727, Nov 25 Sa	Parr, nr Fowey, St Austell Co	Tinnerns R	carried off oats ⁷⁶ - increasing in numbers & insolence - joined by Or parts		4 cos of soldiers marched over from Xtr ⁷⁷

⁶⁸ *Northampton Mercury* [NM] 11-27-27 Dates are American style, e.g., here: Nov. 27, 1727.

⁶⁹ NM 11-27-27

⁷⁰ CA 82

⁷¹ NM 11-27-27; State Papers (Public Record Office) [SP] 36/4/ 22-23 John Pye, Myr & Corp. to D Newcastle, Nov. 16, 1727 ** significant calculus of peace - re fire threat - pleas for export ban; threaten burn town and kill everyone- town decided no resistance Rule, Diss, -- 127; poor of town won't help FO[Forces of Order] -- symp -- perhaps fear (Rule, Diss, 126-7) -- like C.A. Bouton: riot creates communities of interest]; trps -- ; scarcity cried as rioters' justif; NOTE: 1737 -- John Pye of Falmouth merch [MYR in 1727!!] warned by Truro merch -- that he had heard you had bought up lge quant of corn lately - raised price so much -- tinnerns vow to gather and visit you. -88

⁷² Series of Lrs SP 36/4, 6, 7 -- Nov, Dec May June -- intimidation by tinnerns; grateful for trps - to be under mags orders, wont use but w/ caution; later say too many trps - burden - remove

⁷³ NM 11-27-27 - for ruckus over exptn to foreign parts.

⁷⁴ NM 12-4

⁷⁵ NM 12-4-27, which notes that corn plentiful, price OK, emplyment fine, exc success in rioting makes neglect their work

⁷⁶ NM 12-4-27

⁷⁷ NM 12-4-27

1727 early Dec	Co	tinners O	up again - but retreated on report that crew of Balndford man of war ashore to oppose them ⁷⁸			
1727	Menai Sts, N Wales	T	block Expt ⁷⁹			
1727	do	do T	do			
cJan 15 1728	Cornwall	tinners O	go to JPs house ass at night with arms threaten his life, burn his house(?) to initimidate for gaoling comrades ⁸⁰			
Late Apr 1728	Truro,Redruth, Co	tinners CM	Ps of Wht & Barly up, Ts go & oblige faremrs to sell at lowr ps ⁸¹			
May 10, 1728	Flushing, nr Falmouth, Co	100 tinners CM	searching for corn - scouts tell them to avoid Falmouth ⁸²	Soldiers	prepare with cannons	Imptn of corn on same basis as Bristol?
c. Feb 8, 1728	Finby nr Bristol, So	colliers of Finby T	Sze vessel of corn and threw master overboard ⁸³			
c. Ap 10-12, 1728	Halifax WR	Consid no of Countrymen in arms T	Szd grt Qnt of corn dest for for exptn, and carried it clear off ⁸⁴			
c. Ap 10-12, 1728	Rochdale, La	Consid no of Countrymen in arms T	Szd grt Qnt of corn dest for for exptn, and carried it clear off ⁸⁵			

⁷⁸ NM 12-11-27

⁷⁹ CA 82

⁸⁰ NM 1-22-28

⁸¹ NM 5-13-28

⁸² NM 5-20-28

⁸³ NM 2-19-28

⁸⁴ NM 4-22-28

⁸⁵ NM 4-22-28

1729 - Mar	Parr, nr St Austell, Co	tinnners ⁸⁶ , take Constable T	stop Xpts - reqst corn-refused - BE cellar ⁸⁷		arr	Constable Exctd - hung in chains-warning; total 4 exctd
1729 Apr	Padstow, Co	Tinnners T	nearly took ship of corn ⁸⁸	Custom Offcers, Inhabts		
1729 Apr	St Ives, Co	tinnners from Redruth ⁸⁹ O		Twnspeople - armed	repulse with fire – R-leader K; *v interesting denoument - see Rule notes	
1737 May	Salisbury	populace T	stop export by cutting sacks etc ⁹⁰			
1737 May	Winchester	populace T	stop export by cutting sacks etc ⁹¹			
1737 Sept 19	Penryn, Co	tinnners 100 R	marching to Falmouth ⁹² , BE cellar, asslt Tpop; driven off; 2d attck: broke into warehouses of Claudius Guide and Szd corn, and other corn cellars "where they herd the corn was taking in for exportn" ⁹³	Twnpop, armed	replused them - fired W sevl	
Spr, OCT '37	Cornish twns	Tinnners O		11 th & 16 th Ft ⁹⁴		
1738, 1740 to next census	Modbury Dvn	T	3x plunder ships	trps ⁹⁵		

⁸⁶ CA 82

⁸⁷ Rule, 'Some Social Aspects of the Cornish Industrial Revolution', in Burt 90; Rule, Diss 128 - re excns

⁸⁸ *British Spy or Derby Postman*, Apr. 17, 1729

⁸⁹ CA 82; Rule, Diss 128

⁹⁰ *Gentleman's Magazine* [GM] May 1737 p 315

⁹¹ GM May 1737 p 315

⁹² CA 82

⁹³ Rule, Diss 131; GM Oct 1737 636.

⁹⁴ Houlding *Fit* 67, citing WO 5/ 32, 33, 34

⁹⁵ Houlding *Fit* 67 citing 5/33-48,91; 5/34-85-6 275

The sources I have used to construct my 'census' of food riots for this 'century' are listed in the Footnotes, with fuller citations in the Bibliography for *The Politics of Provisions*, posted on this website.