

Paper Reference(s) 9HI0/31
Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced

PAPER 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

**Option 31: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors,
1485–1603**

Tuesday 13 June 2023 – Morning

Source Booklet

**DO NOT RETURN THIS BOOKLET WITH
THE QUESTION PAPER.**

Source for use with Section A.

From letters written by Francois van der Delft to Charles V, the Holy Roman Emperor, in June, July and August 1549. Van der Delft was the Emperor's ambassador at the court of King Edward VI. Here he is reporting on events in England before and during Kett's rebellion, which started in Norfolk on 8 July 1549.

JUNE The peasants, who have risen in various places in England to pull down enclosures, are still not contented. Secretly, I have been informed that the Lord Protector told the Royal Council that the peasants' demands were fair and just. He said that the poor should retain their access to the common land because this had always been public property. He said that the rich should not seize it and add it to their possessions.

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JULY The revolt of the peasants has increased and spread to Norfolk. The rebels are complaining about the destruction of the people's rights by the nobles. They are destroying the enclosures and fish-ponds constructed by the noblemen. The rebels say that they have been forced to live on bread and water, having nowhere to graze their animals. The nobles used to rent out land, which gave the peasants the means of earning their livelihood.

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(continued on the next page)

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Source for use with Section A continued.

**Now the nobles keep all the land for themselves.
Some nobles own flocks of 30,000 sheep, others own
larger flocks.** 20

**There are over 8,000 rebels in Norfolk and their cause
has many sympathisers. They commit no violence
against any person and profess themselves willing
to obey the King and his laws. It is feared that unless
the peasants' grievances are quickly satisfied,
the townspeople will rise in revolt. They are also
complaining about the high price of food. The Royal
Council is in great confusion. Things are in a very bad
way here.** 25 30

**AUGUST The Royal Council is meeting often to
discuss how to deal with the evil rebellion of the
peasants, which is growing daily. The rebels in
Norfolk are demanding that all food should be sold at
reasonable prices. They demand also that their land
should be leased to them at the price it was during
King Henry VII's reign. The rebellion is at a critical
point. The peasants were victorious in an encounter
they had with the King's army led by the Marquis of
Northampton. The Marquis entered Norwich, where
there was a great gathering of rebels, but was forced
to retreat with all his men.** 35 40

Source for use with Section A continued.

He was unable to escape without losing several gentlemen killed, and eleven pieces of artillery. The rebels are holding out obstinately. They now hold a large number of gentlemen as prisoners. They intend to put these prisoners at the front of their ranks when they fight again.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Spain: June 1549', in Calendar of State Papers, Spain, Volume 9, 1547-1549, ed. Martin A S Hume and Royall Tyler (London, 1912)