

Data pack to support Signs
of Literacy project:

"Pattern recognition of
signatures and marks in
historical manuscripts as a
basis for sub-population
identification"

[#Occupationalsignatures](#)

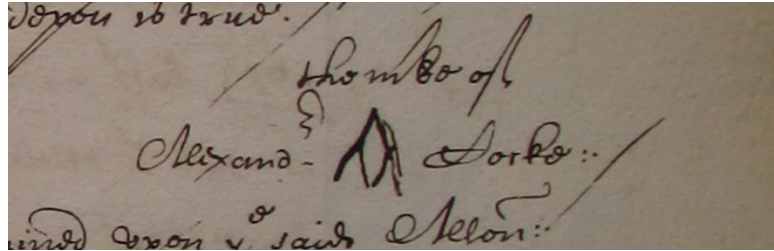
Wednesday, April 4th, 2018

4th edition

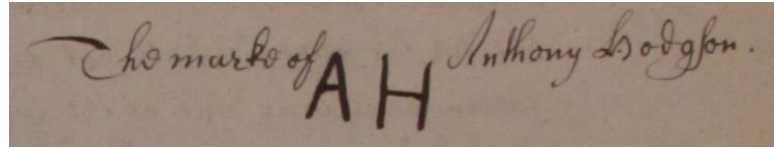
C17th alphabet of initials

Initials as marks – the initial “A” (Alexander, Anthony, Arthur, Adlington, Astin)

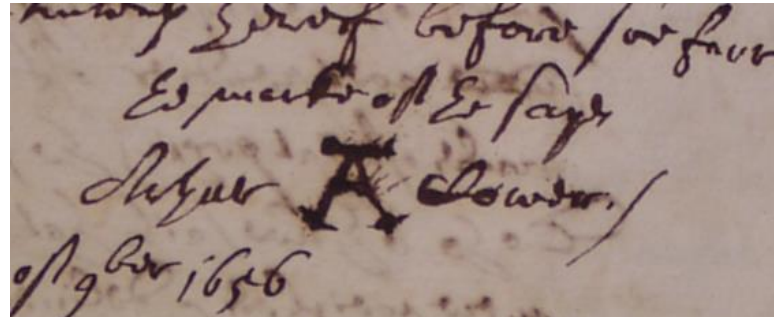
Alexander Cocke, fifty-two year old mariner, of Wapping in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, September 4th, 1654; self-described gunner of the *Margaret* ([HCA 13/70 f.117r](#))

A handwritten document in cursive script. The text includes "thombe of", "Alexand - A Cocke:", and "ind upon & said Nelson:". A large, stylized initial 'A' is written over the name "Alexand".

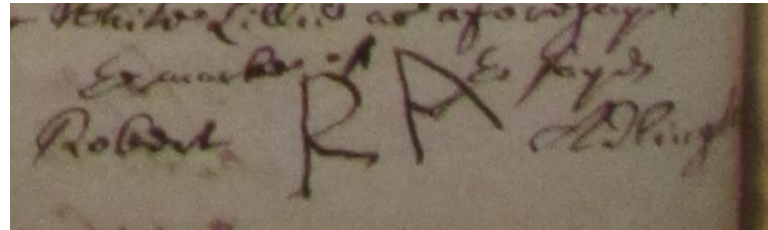
Anthony Hodgson, master of the Newcastle coal ship the *Margarett*, May 25, 1655 ([HCA 13/127 f.30r](#))

A handwritten document in cursive script. The text includes "The marks of" followed by a large, bold initial "AH", and then "Anthony Hodgson."

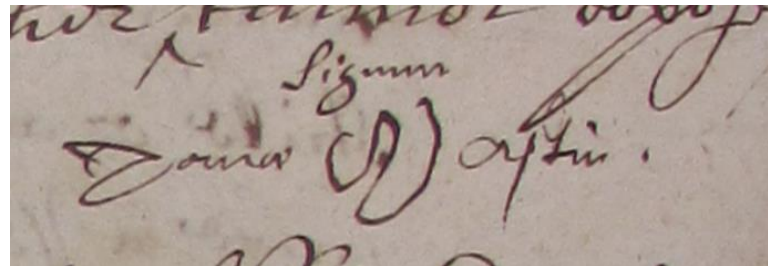
Arthur Cower, forty-seven year old anchor smith, of the parish of Saint Mary Magdalen Bermondsey, November 24th, 1656; "hee this deponent wrought as a Journey man with the arlate Walter Gough in the moneths of June July and August 1656" ([HCA 13/71 f.423v](#))

A handwritten document in cursive script. The text includes "Es marks of Es saye", "Arthur A Cower.", and "of 9 Nov 1656". A large, bold initial 'A' is written over the name "Arthur".

Robert Adlington, fifty year old lighterman, of the parish of Saint Peter ad Vincula in the Tower, London, May 16th, 1657; "being a lighterman and imployed by the sayd Mr ffernandez and Betts to fetch wines with his lighter severall dayes in the moneth of Aprill last from on board the sayd ship" ([HCA 13/72 f.32v](#))

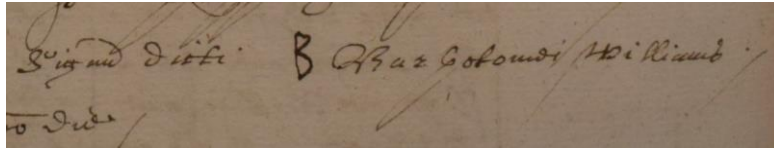
A handwritten document in cursive script. The text includes "Examinat", "Robert RA Adlington", and "Adlington". A large, bold initial "RA" is written over the name "Robert".

Thomas Astin, forty-six year old victualer, late one of the company of the *Mary*, of Poplar, April 27th, 1661 ([HCA 13/73 f.772v](#))

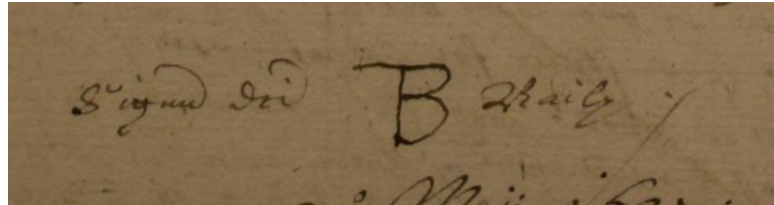
A handwritten document in cursive script. The text includes "Signum", "Thomas TA Astin.", and "Astin". A large, bold initial "TA" is written over the name "Thomas".

Initials as marks – the initial “B” (Bartholomewe, Baily, Bennett, Bartlet)

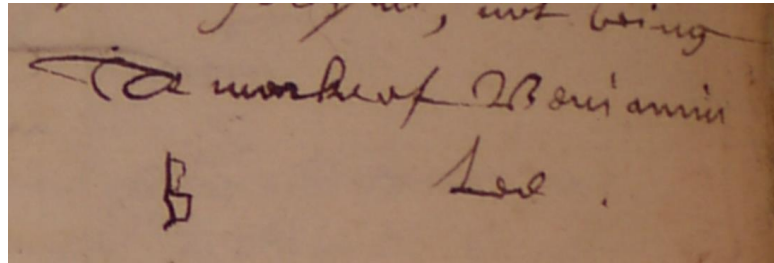
Bartholomewe Williams, twenty-five year old late boatswayne of the *Christian* of Weymouth, of Weeke, near Weymouth, Dorset, March 6th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.65v](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in brown ink on aged paper. The signature reads "Bartholomewe Williams" with a large, stylized initial "B" at the beginning. The text is written in a cursive script typical of the 17th century.

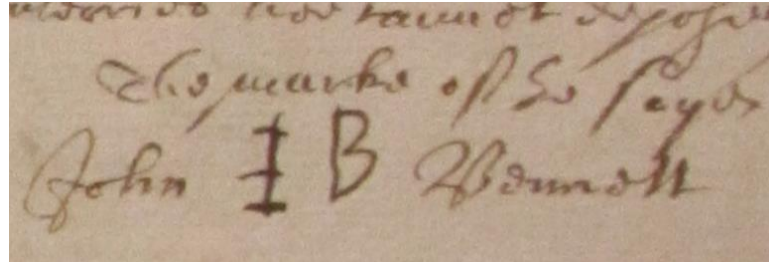
Thomas Baily, thirty-one year old waterman, of Saint Katherines precinct near the Tower of London, April 28th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.133v](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in brown ink on aged paper. The signature reads "Thomas Baily" with a large, stylized initial "B" at the beginning. The text is written in a cursive script typical of the 17th century.

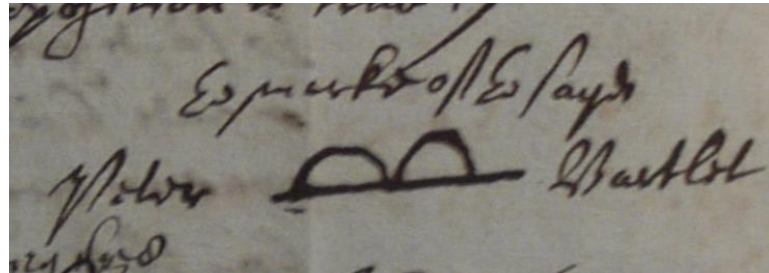
Benjamin Lee, thirty-two year old waterman, of Greenwich, August 21st, 1656 ([HCA 13/71 f.371r](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in brown ink on aged paper. The signature reads "Benjamin Lee" with a large, stylized initial "B" at the beginning. The text is written in a cursive script typical of the 17th century.

John Bennett, sixty year old mariner and steward of the *Elizabeth and Mary*, June 20th, 1657; "hee was steward of her that voyage and hath bin one of her company for these eleaven yeares last past" ([HCA 13/72 f.14v](#))

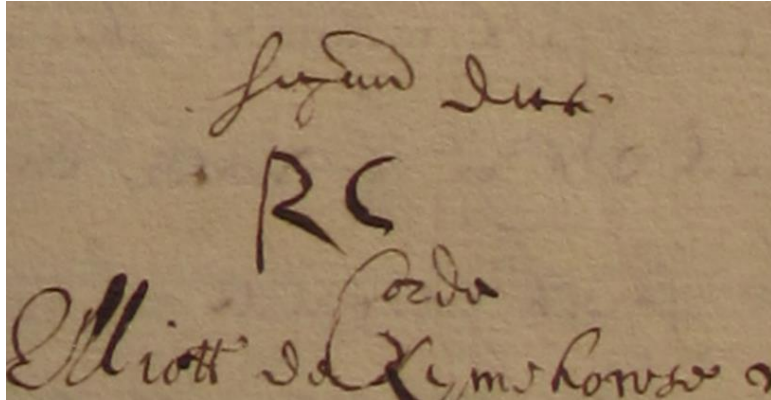
A close-up of a handwritten signature in brown ink on aged paper. The signature reads "John Bennett" with a large, stylized initial "B" at the beginning. The text is written in a cursive script typical of the 17th century.

Peter Bartlet, thirty-eight year old shipwright, of Ratcliff, Januuary 12th 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.5v](#))

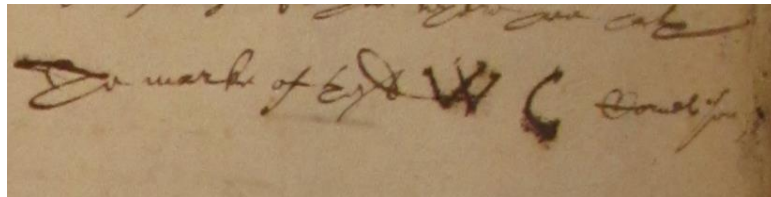
A close-up of a handwritten signature in brown ink on aged paper. The signature reads "Peter Bartlet" with a large, stylized initial "B" at the beginning. The text is written in a cursive script typical of the 17th century.

Initials as marks – the initial “C” (Corde, Cornelison, Comparr, Christopher, Clarke, Carrier)

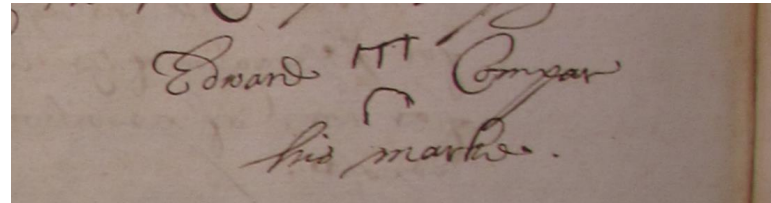
Richard Corde, twenty-eight year old cooper, of Kingstreet in Wapping, Middlesex, April 26th, 1650 ([HCA 13/63 f.75r](#))



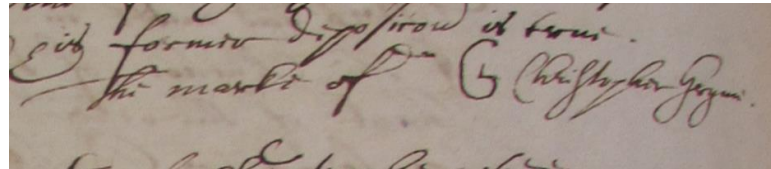
William Cornelison, forty-three year old mariner and master of the *Two Brothers* (formerly the *fffortune*), February 7th, 165; “hee this deponent is an English man borne at [?ffarX]ly neere Liverpoole in Lancashire, where hee lived till hee was about [?ten] yeares of age, and thence went and lived 5 yeares in Spaine, thence hee went into the Streights and [?setled] up and downe there about six yeares and then in other places, and hath used that employment as a sailor from port to port till hee came to settle in fflanders, where at Ostend and Dunquirke hee hath lived and kept house for these 11 yeares last. And saith his name in English is William Keeles, and that he was alwayes called by that name in England, but not abroad, the Spaniards calling him William Cornelia and the fflেমings Willemm Cornelison as nearest to his owne name and to their pronounciation, and that this deponents fathers name was Robert Keeles, and that his said father was always called by that name” ([HCA 13/68 f.494r](#))



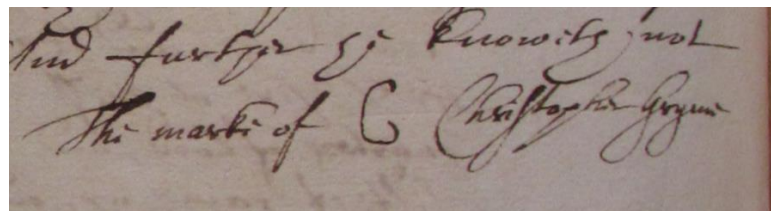
Edward Comparr, sixty year old, mariner and late pilot of the *Martha*, of East Greenwich, Kent, November 16th, 1654 ([HCA 13/70 f.109v](#))



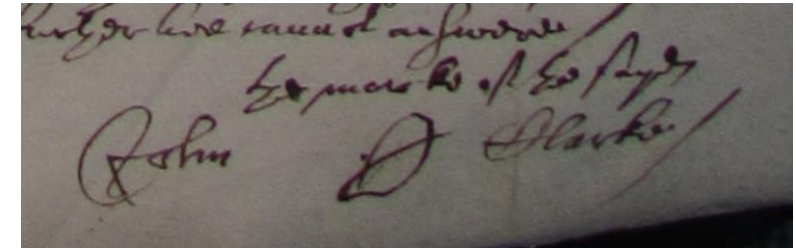
Christopher Gryne, twenty-seven year old mariner, of South Shields in the county of Durham, September 21st, 1655; on board the *Desire* at time of collision at Tinmouth with the *Sisters*, and probably a common mariner and one of her company ([HCA 13/70 f.481v](#))



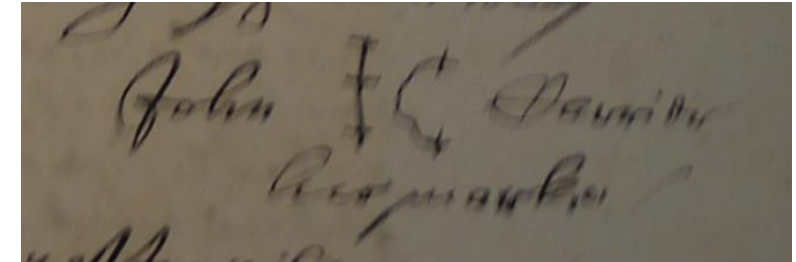
Christopher Gryne [as above], second marke, affixed below his answers to a set of interrogatories, September 21st, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.483v](#))



John Clarke, twenty-nine year old mariner and quarter master of the *ffreeman*, of the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, September 21st, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.512r](#))



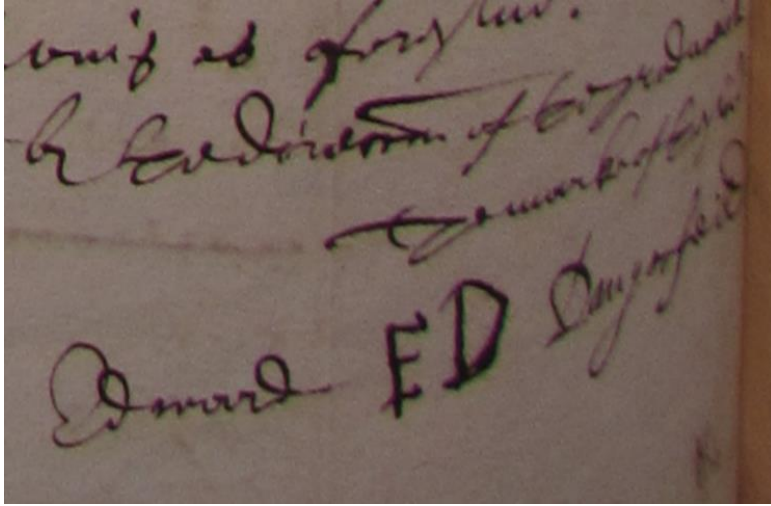
John Carrier, shipwright and late carpenter's mate of the *Lady ffrigot*, of Debtford, Kent, July 3rd, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.126r](#))



Initials as marks – the initial “D” (Dangerfield)

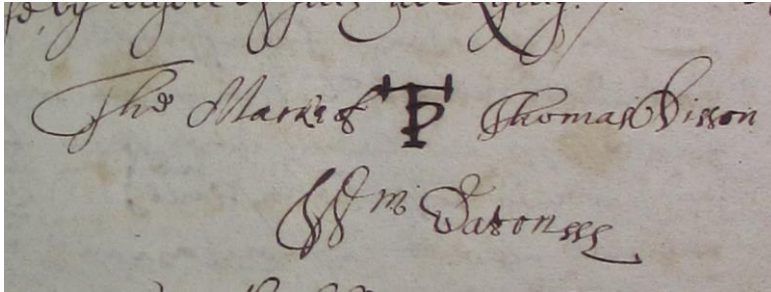
Edward Dangerfeild, fifty-six year old waterman, of the parish of Allhallowes Barking, London, February 13th, 1655

([HCA 13/70 f.226v](#))



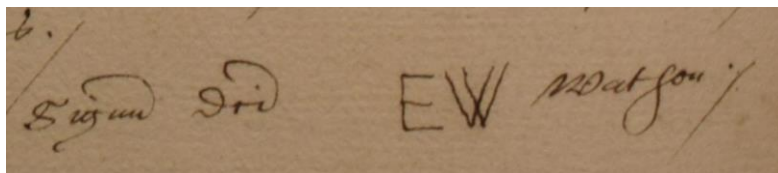
Thomas Dis[s]on, fifty year old shipwright of Rederiffe, and William Eaton, mariner, of Wapping, January 23rd, 1661

([HCA 13/73 f.770v](#))



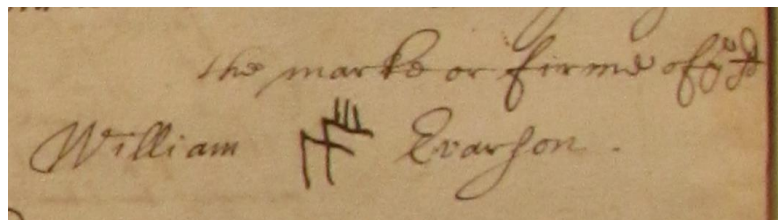
Initials as marks – the initial “E” (Edward, Evarson)

Edward Watson, thirty-five year old mariner, of ffeversham, Kent, May 17th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.163v](#))



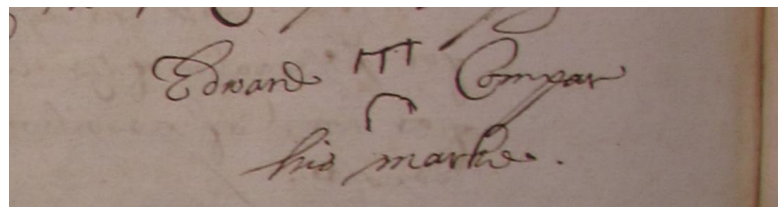
Handwritten signature of Edward Watson, showing the initials 'EW' and the name 'Watson'.

William Evarson, forty year old mariner, of Skadam, Holland, September 26th, 1653; “self-described as “one of the common mariners of the companie of the said ship the *Hart*” [of Skadam] ([HCA 13/68 f.3v](#))



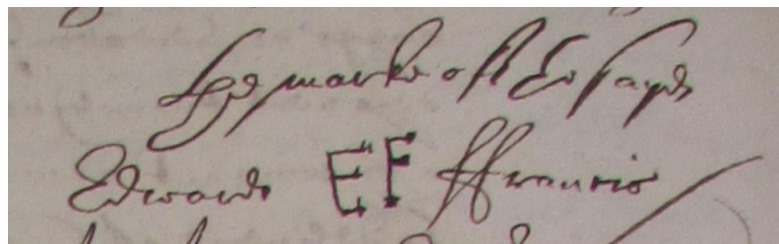
Handwritten signature of William Evarson, showing the initials 'WE' and the name 'Evarson'.

Edward Comparr, sixty year old, mariner and late pilot of the *Martha*, of East Greenwich, Kent, November 16th, 1654 ([HCA 13/70 f.109v](#))



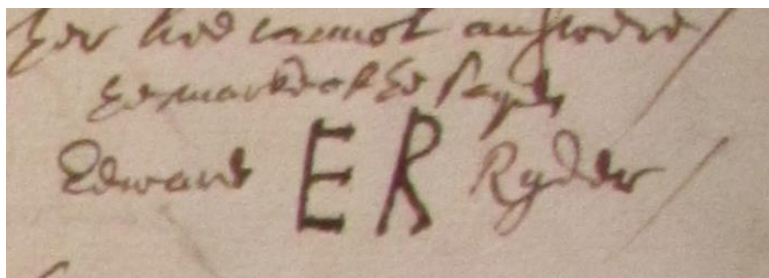
Handwritten signature of Edward Comparr, showing the initials 'EC' and the name 'Comparr'.

Edward ffrancis, citizen and merchantaylor of London, of the parish of Saint Olave in Southwarke, Jul. 31, 1655; self-described as a porter employed by the Commissioners for Prize Goods to deliver ginger from a warehouse at Ralphe Key ([HCA 13/70 f.450v](#))



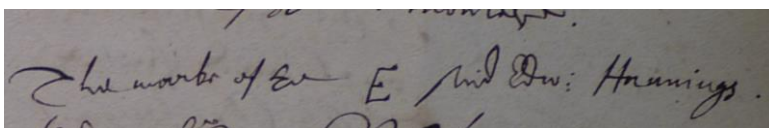
Handwritten signature of Edward Francis, showing the initials 'EF' and the name 'Francis'.

Edward Ryder, thirty-one year old long cutler, of Shadwell in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, June 6th, 1657 ([HCA 13/72 f.41v](#))



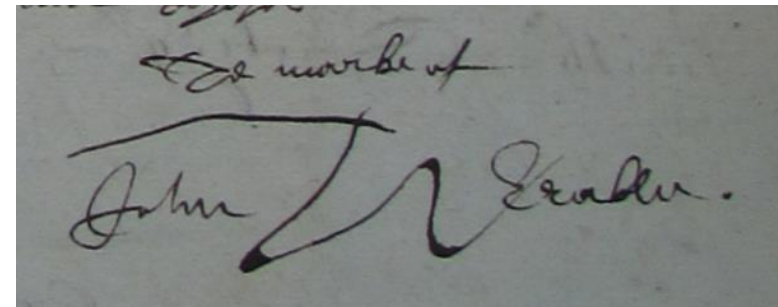
Handwritten signature of Edward Ryder, showing the initials 'ER' and the name 'Ryder'.

Edward Hannings, twenty-five year old mariner, of Stepney, March 21st, 1659; self-described gunner of the *ffrancis and John* ([HCA 13/73 f.97r](#))



Handwritten signature of Edward Hannings, showing the initials 'EH' and the name 'Hannings'.

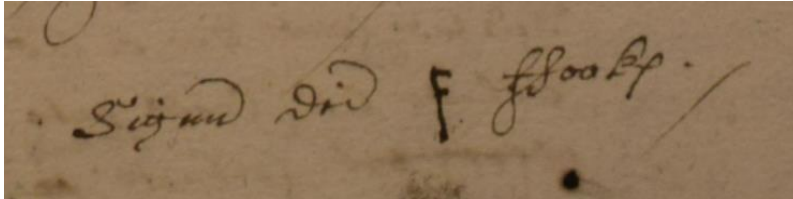
John Erable, thirty-five year old mariner, of Mornar near Rochell, France, March 30th, 1661 ([HCA 13/73 f.486r](#))



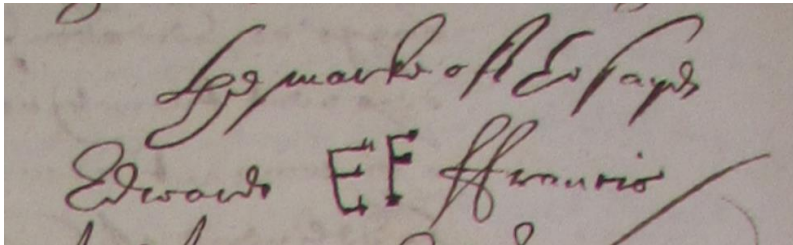
Handwritten signature of John Erable, showing the name 'John Erable'.

Initials as marks – the initial “F” (ffookes, ffrancis, & Henry Lowder)

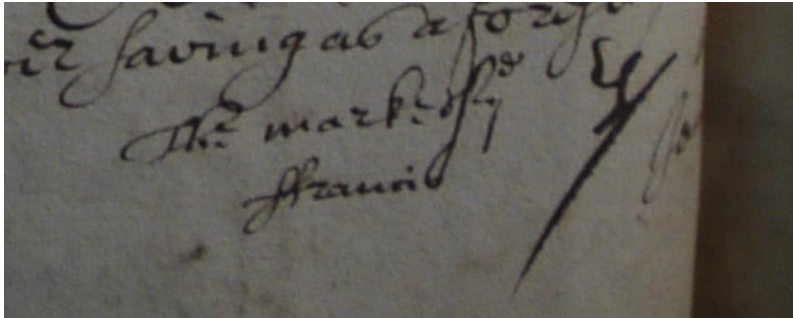
Jacob ffookes, twenty-five year old capenter, of Wapping Wall, Middlesex, May 8th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.141r](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature reads "Signe did f ffookes" with a large, stylized initial 'f'.

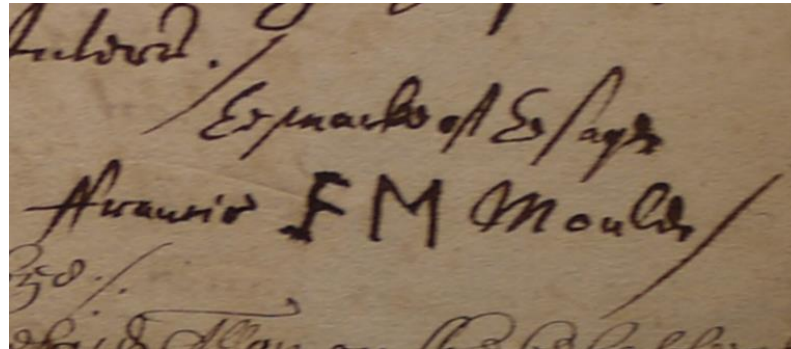
Edward ffrancis, citizen and merchantaylor of London, of the parish of Saint Olave in Southwarke, Jul. 31, 1655; self-described as a porter employed by the Commissioners for Prize Goods to deliver ginger from a warehouse at Ralphe Key ([HCA 13/70 f.450v](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature reads "ffrancis EF ffrancis" with a large, stylized initial 'EF'.

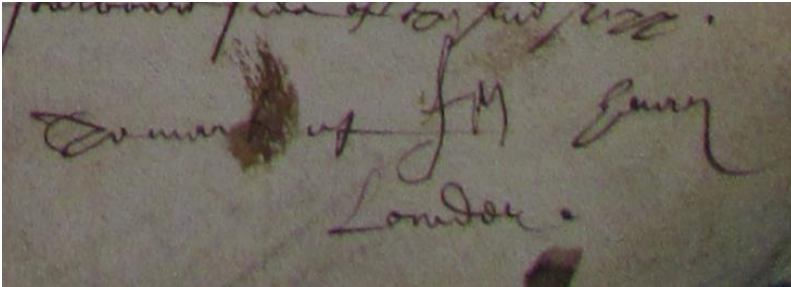
Francis Jennings, nineteen year old mariner, of Shadwell in parish of Stepney, Middlesex; Jan. 27, 1659; self-described “comon man” in the *Agreement*, when she came from Newcastle in Oct. 1658 in a great fleet of English colliers, bound for London, & collided with the *Abigai*, sinking the *Abigail* ([HCA 13/73 f.33v](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature reads "The mark of Francis" with a large, stylized initial 'F'.

ffrancis Mould, thirty-four year old mariner, of Poplar in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, March 7th, 1659; self-described formast man of the *Scipio*, 1649-1651, bound for Streights ([HCA 13/73 f.82r](#))

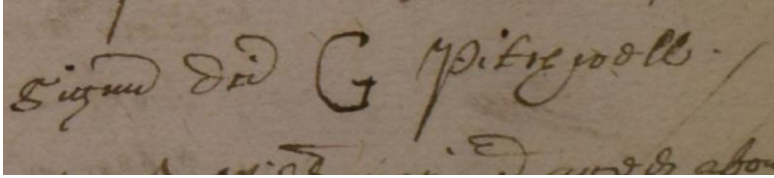
A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature reads "ffrancis FM Mould" with a large, stylized initial 'FM'.

Henry Lowder, twenty-one year old sailor, of Horsey Downe, March 1st 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.690r](#))

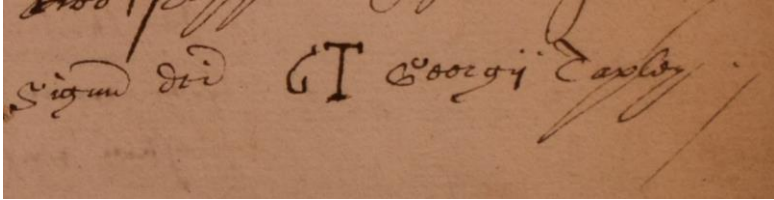
A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature reads "Henry Lowder" with a large, stylized initial 'H'.

Initials as marks – the initial “G” (George)

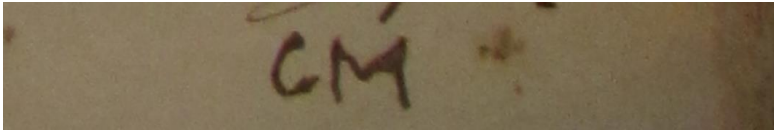
George Pitchwell, thirty-four year old mariner, of Wapping, Middlesex, March 18th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.81r](#))

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged, slightly discolored paper. The signature reads "Signum dei G Pitchwell." The initial "G" is large and prominent, followed by the name "Pitchwell" in a cursive script. The word "Signum dei" is written in a smaller, more formal hand to the left of the initial.

George Tapley, forty-two year old mariner, of East Smithfield in the parish of Saint Botolph Algate, London, June 21st, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.229r](#))

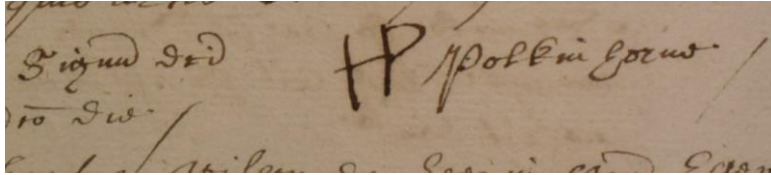
A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature reads "Signum dei GT Georgij Tapley." The initials "GT" are written in a large, bold, blocky hand, followed by the name "Georgij Tapley" in a cursive script. The word "Signum dei" is written to the left of the initials.

George Morsed, thirty-five year old sailor, of Milbrooke, near Plymouth, Devon: self-described quarter master of the *Welfare*, April 13th, 1654 ([HCA 13/68 f.504r](#))

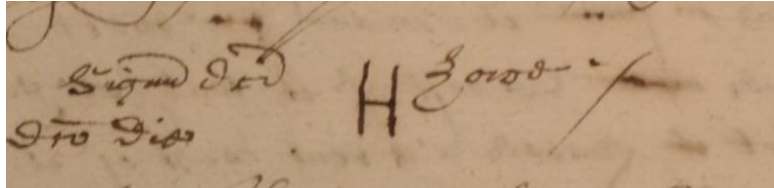
A close-up photograph of handwritten initials in dark ink on aged paper. The initials "CM" are written in a large, bold, blocky hand. The letter "C" is slightly larger than the "M".

Initials as marks – the initial “H” (Henry, Howe, Hart, Hodgson, Higgs)

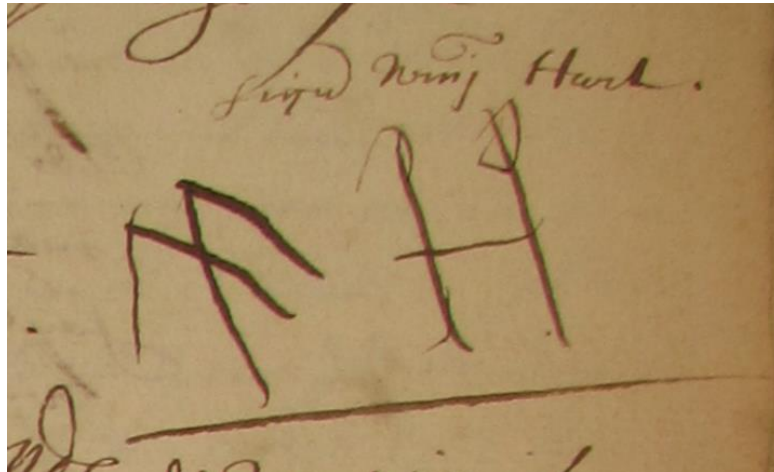
Henry Polkinhorne, forty-six year old mariner, of Wapping, Middlesex, March 15th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.77v](#))

A handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is "Henry Polkinhorne" written in a cursive script. To the left of the signature, the words "Signed" and "to Sir" are partially visible. The initials "HP" are written in a large, bold, stylized font above the signature.

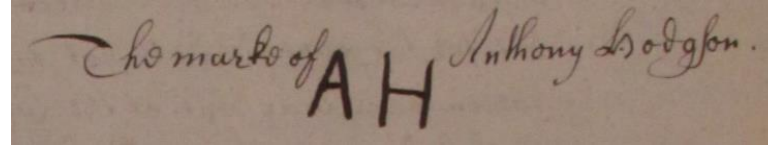
Alexander Howe, thirty-five year old mariner, of Horsey Downe, Surrey, May 3rd, 1637; self-described as one of the quarter masters of the *Little Neptune* on voyage to New England and the Canaries ([HCA 13/53 f.136v](#))

A handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is "Alexander Howe" written in a cursive script. To the left of the signature, the words "Signed" and "to Sir" are partially visible. The initials "AH" are written in a large, bold, stylized font above the signature.

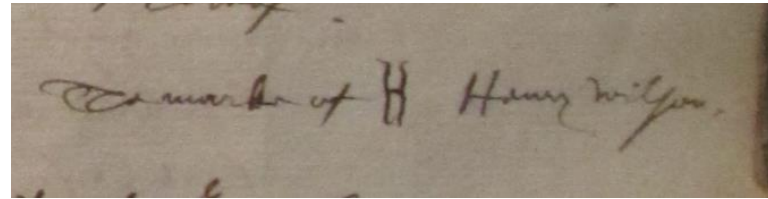
William Hart, forty-eight year old mariner, of Wapping in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, May 7th, 1650 ([HCA 13/63 f.153r](#))

A handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is "William Hart" written in a cursive script. To the left of the signature, the words "Signed" and "to Sir" are partially visible. The initials "WH" are written in a large, bold, stylized font above the signature.

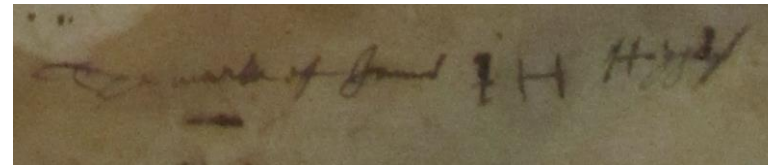
Anthony Hodgson, master of the Newcastle coal ship the *Margarett*, May 25, 1655 ([HCA 13/127 f.30r](#))

A handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is "Anthony Hodgson" written in a cursive script. To the left of the signature, the words "The marks of" are partially visible. The initials "AH" are written in a large, bold, stylized font above the signature.

Henry Wilson, forty year old labourer, of Greenwich, June 9th, 1657; "hee by times for these seaven yeeres hath used to worke as a labourer upon the said [ballast] wharfe ([HCA 13/72 f.42r](#))

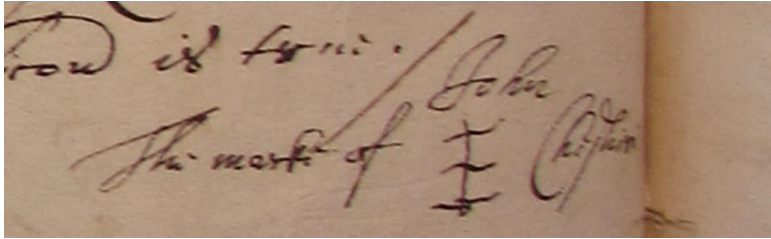
A handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is "Henry Wilson" written in a cursive script. To the left of the signature, the words "The marks of" are partially visible. The initials "HW" are written in a large, bold, stylized font above the signature.

James Higgs, forty-five year old woodmonger, of the parish of Saint Botolph Billingsgate, London, September 28th, 1657 ([HCA 13/72 f.122r](#))

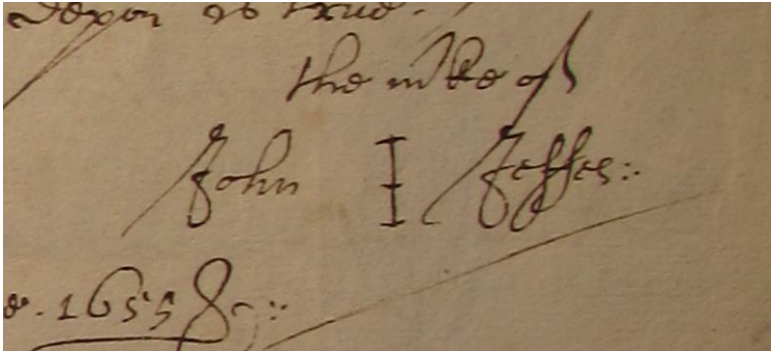
A handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is "James Higgs" written in a cursive script. To the left of the signature, the words "The marks of" are partially visible. The initials "JH" are written in a large, bold, stylized font above the signature.

Initials as marks – the initial “J” (John, Jeffes, James, Jones, Johannes)

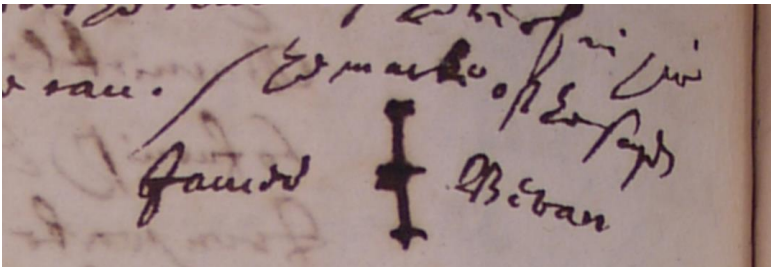
John Cheshire, twenty-eight year old nailor, of Rederith, Surrey, June 19th, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.385v](#))

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'John Cheshire', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

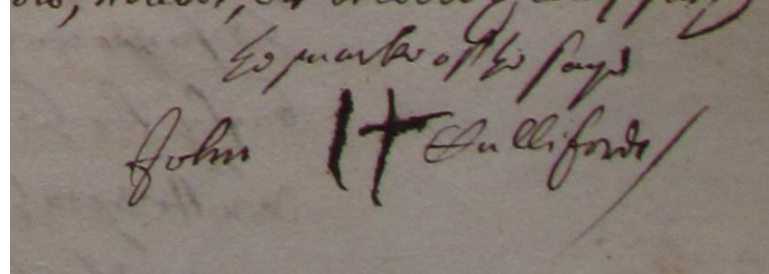
John Jeffes, twenty-one year old blockmaker, of Rederith, Surrey, June 16th, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.375r](#))

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'John Jeffes', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

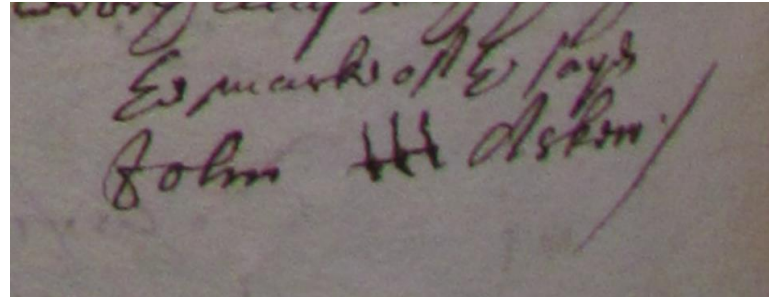
James Bevan, twenty-two year old anchor smith, of Shadwell in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, November 19th, 1656 ([HCA 13/71 f.420v](#))

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'James Bevan', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

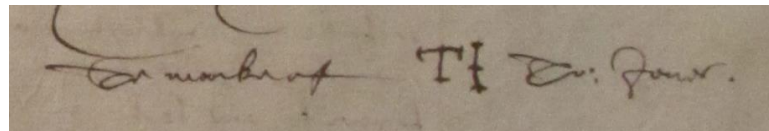
John Cullyford [b. ca. 1572], eighty-three year old fisherman, of ffaversham, Kent, “where hee hath lived for these fower or five and fiftie yeares last past, borne at Upper Lyme in the county of Devon”, October 15th, 1655; an oyster fisherman; “hee cannot write nor reade written hand but hath seene writings and heard them read” ([HCA 13/70 f.538r](#))

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'John Cullyford', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

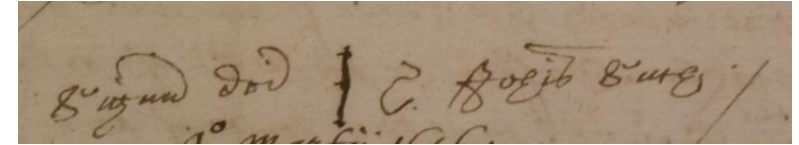
John Askew, fifty-nine year old fisherman, of ffeversham, Kent, October 15th, 1655; an oyster fisherman; “hee saith hee can neither write nor reade” ([HCA 13/70 f.539v](#))

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'John Askew', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

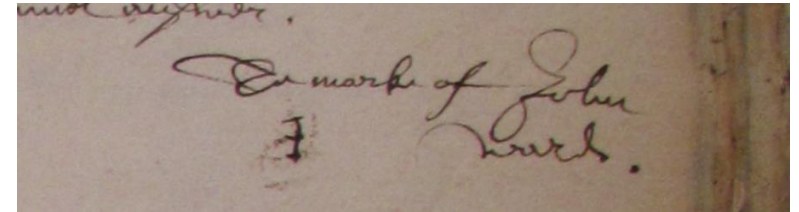
Thomas Jones, fifty year old lighterman, of Wapping Wall, June 1st, 1657; “hee hath for these seaventeene or eightene yeares last used the occupation of a lighterman in the River of Thames, and hath bin frequently employed in the taking up of ballast therein” ([HCA 13/72 f.34r](#))

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'Thomas Jones', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

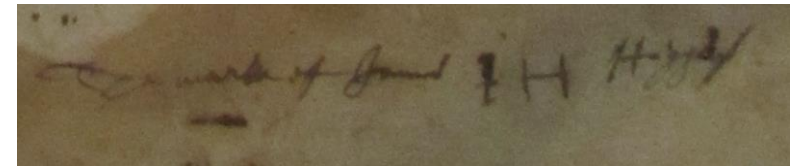
Johannes Such, twenty-four year old servant of cooper Henrici Laycocke of the parish of All Hallows Stayninge, London, March 8th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.69v](#))

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'Johannes Such', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

John Ward, thirty-two year old watch maker, of Shadwell, Middlesex, October 27th, 1655; self-described prize officer waiter on the Crosse of Jerusalem from August 10th 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.631r](#))

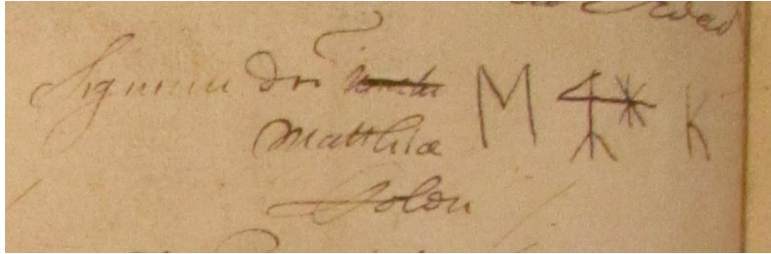
A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'John Ward', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

James Higgs, forty-five year old woodmonger, of the parish of Saint Botolph Billingsgate, London, September 28th, 1657 ([HCA 13/72 f.122r](#))

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely 'James Higgs', with a large, stylized initial 'J' that incorporates a crossbar.

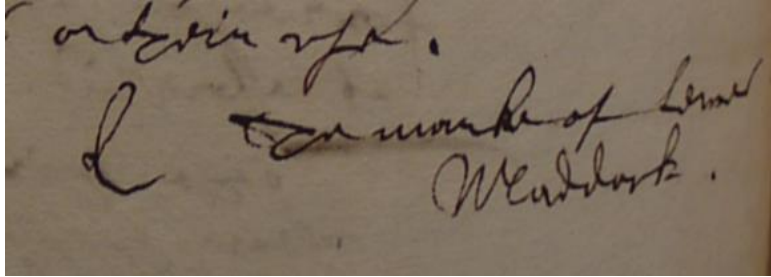
Initials as marks – the initial “K” (Colen/Kolen)

Mathias Colen [alt. Kolen], thirty year old mariner, of Bruges, Flanders, October 1st, 1666 ([HCA 13/76 f.35v](#))

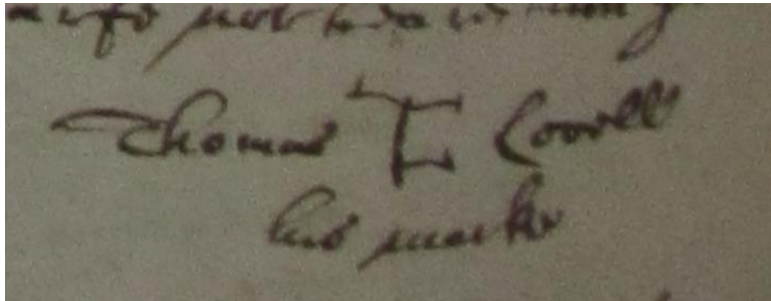


Initials as marks – the initial “L” (Lewes, Louell, Lucas)

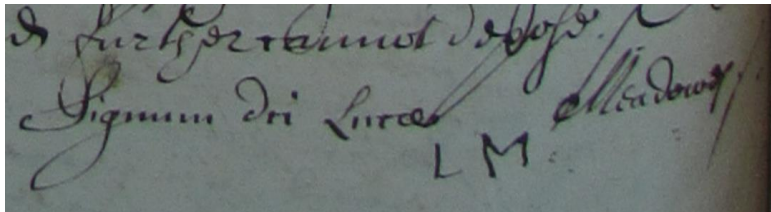
Lewes Maddock, forty year old mariner, of Limehous, Middlesex, December 2nd, 1656; self-described as one of the company of the *Justice* of Dover, which went on a voyage to Guinea & Barbados ([HCA 13/71 f.438v](#))



Thomas Louell, fifty-three year old waterman, of the precinct of Saint Katherine neere the Tower of London, January 12th, 1658 ([HCA 13/72 f.212v](#))

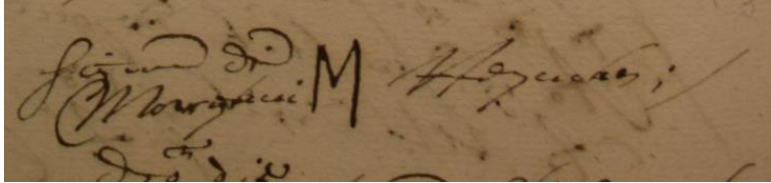


Lucas Meadows, thirty three year old waterman, of Southwarke, December 3rd, 1660 ([HCA 13/73 f.569v](#))

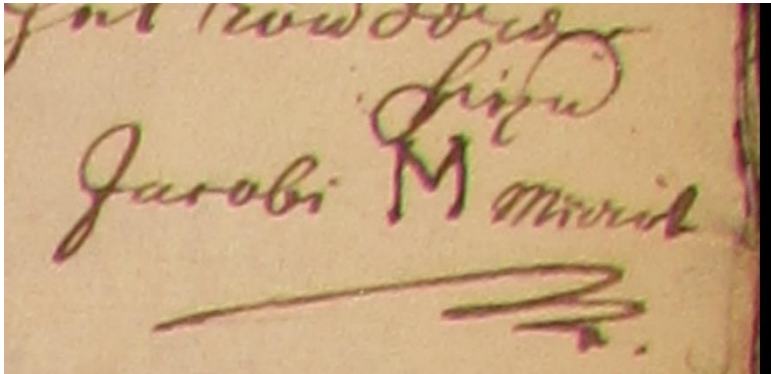


Initials as marks – the initial “M” (Morgan, Merrit, Morsed, Makkettuer, Mould, Mathias)

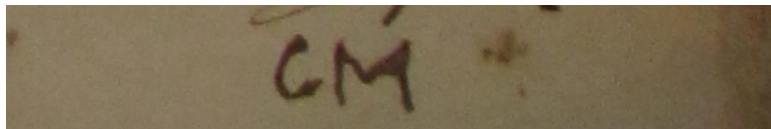
Morgan Heyman, eighteen year old mariner, of Weymouth, Dorset, May 3rd, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.151v](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is 'Morgan Heyman' with a large, stylized initial 'M' at the beginning.

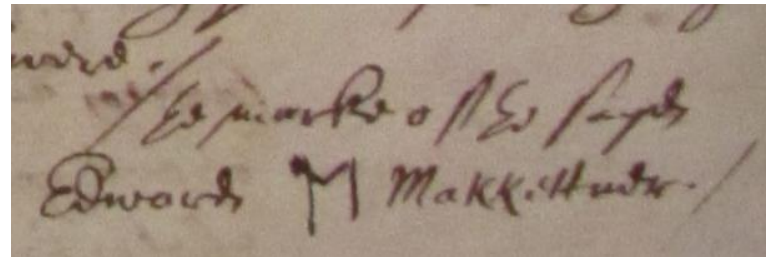
Jacob Merrit, forty-two year old waterman (“aquarius”), of Lymehouse in the parish of Atepney, Middlesex, April 3rd, 1650 ([HCA 13/63 f.24r](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is 'Jacob Merrit' with a large, stylized initial 'M' at the beginning.

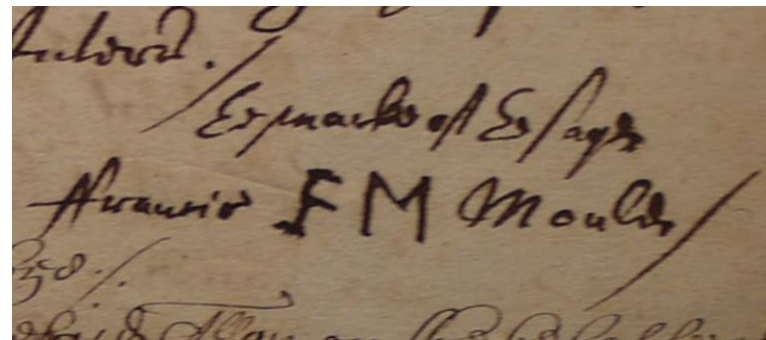
George Morsed, thirty-five year old sailor, of Milbrooke, near Plymouth, Devon: self-described quarter master of the *Welfare*, April 13th, 1654 ([HCA 13/68 f.504r](#))

A close-up of handwritten initials 'GM' in dark ink on aged paper.

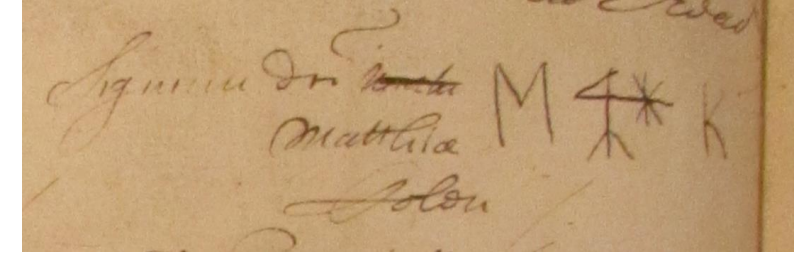
Edward Makkettuer, fifty-three year old lighterman, of Wapping in the parish of Stepney, June 4th, 1657; “hee hath bin a lighterman belonging to the River of Thames and accustomed to take up and carry ballast there for fowerteene yeares last past and saith and hath bin a mariner for many yeares before that and and lived neere the Thames, and thereby bin acquainted {with} the customs concerning the takeing up of ballast in the sayd River” ([HCA 13/72 f.40v](#))

A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is 'Edward Makkettuer' with a large, stylized initial 'M' at the beginning.

Ffrancis Mould, thirty-four year old mariner, of Poplar in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, March 7th, 1659; self-described formast man of the *Scipio*, 1649-1651, bound for Streights ([HCA 13/73 f.82r](#))

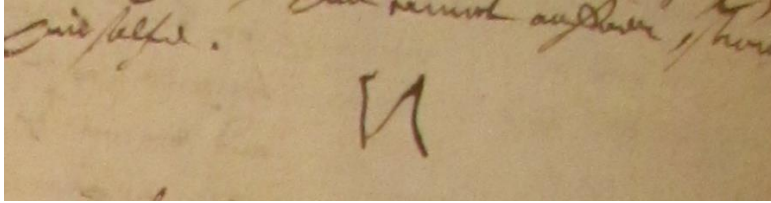
A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is 'Francis Mould' with a large, stylized initial 'M' at the beginning.

Mathias Colen [alt. Kolen], thirty year old mariner, of Bruges, Flanders, October 1st, 1666 ([HCA 13/76 f.35v](#))

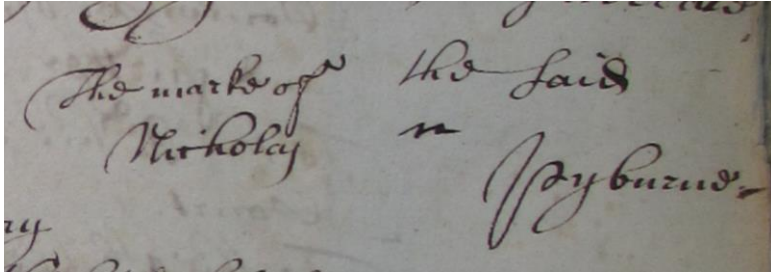
A close-up of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is 'Mathias Colen' with a large, stylized initial 'M' at the beginning.

Initials as marks – the initial “N” (Nicholas)

Nicholas Hutton, forty-eight year old waterman, of the parish of Saint Olave in the Borough of Southwarke, February 4th, 1654 ([HCA 13/68 f.488r](#))

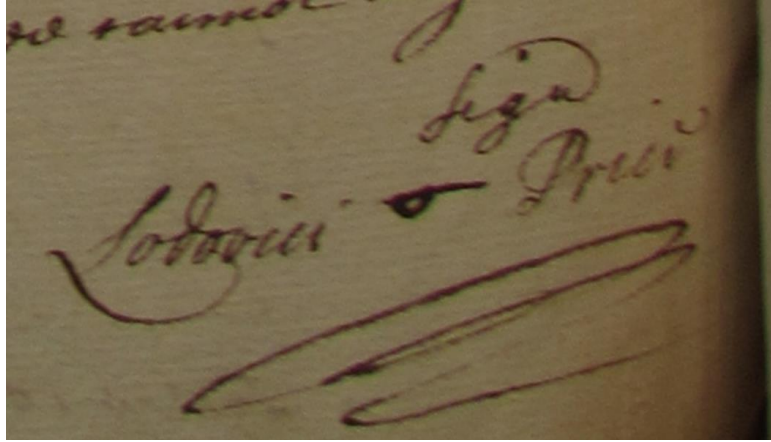


Nicholas Pyburne, twenty-two year old ropemaker, living in Schoolehouse Lane, Ratcliffe, November 15th, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.408r](#))

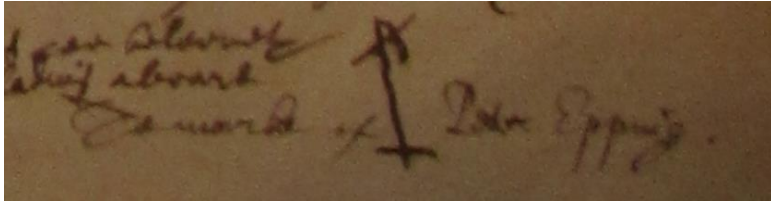


Initials as marks – the initial “P” (Peter, Pearson)

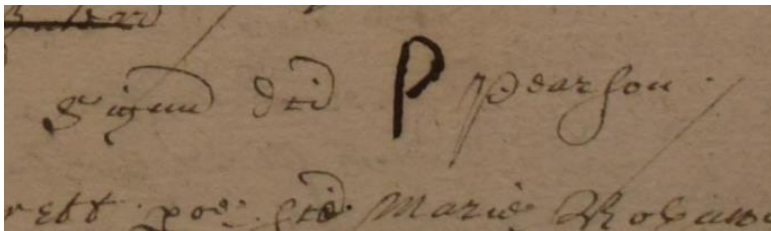
Lewis Price, fifty year old seaman, of the parish of Saint Mary Magdalene Bermondsey, Borough of Southwarke, May 4th, 1650; self-described quarter master of the *Pearcy* ([HCA 13/63 f.128v](#))

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged, slightly discolored paper. The signature is written in a cursive script and reads "Lewis Price". The letters are fluidly connected, with a large, sweeping 'L' and a 'P' that has a long, horizontal tail.

Peter Epping, forty-six year old mariner, of Embden, December 7th, 1653 ([HCA 13/68 f.222r](#))

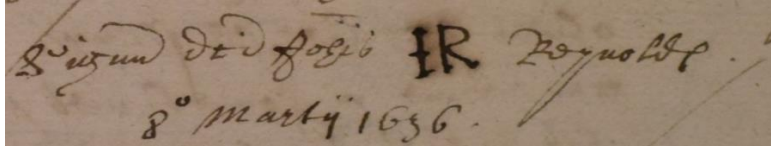
A photograph of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is written in a cursive script and reads "Peter Epping". The letters are fluidly connected, with a large, sweeping 'P' and a 'P' that has a long, horizontal tail.

Francis Pearson, sixty year old corne meater, of the parish of Saint Botolph Algate, London, May 5th, 1637 ([HCA 13/70 f.375r](#))

A photograph of a handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is written in a cursive script and reads "Francis Pearson". The letters are fluidly connected, with a large, sweeping 'P' and a 'P' that has a long, horizontal tail.

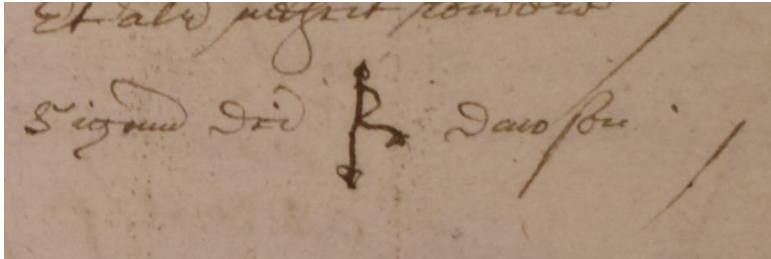
Initials as marks – the initial “R” (Reynolds, Robert, Richard, Ryder)

John Reynolds, thirty-six year old mariner, of Weymouth, Dorset, March 6th, 1637; self described master of the *Christian* of Weymouth, returning from Saint Lucar to London with cargo of oranges & lemons ([HCA 13/53 f.67r](#))



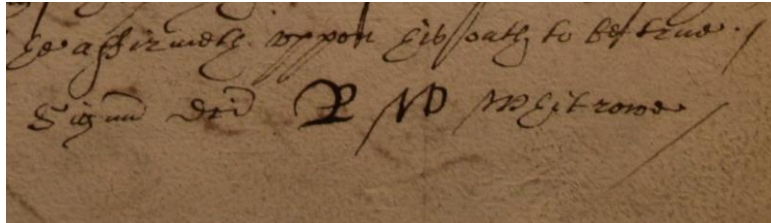
Handwritten signature of John Reynolds, with initials **IR** and the date 8th March 1636.

Robert Dawson, forty-four year old waterman, of the parish of Saint Salvatoris in the borough of Southwarke, March 17th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.81r](#))



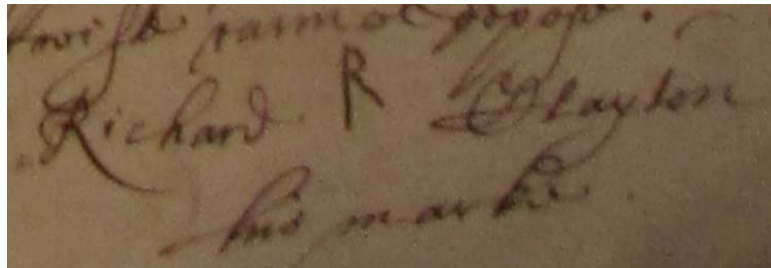
Handwritten signature of Robert Dawson, featuring a stylized initial **R**.

Richard Whitrowe, thirty-four year old suger baker, of Wappinge, Middlesex, June 6th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.200r](#))



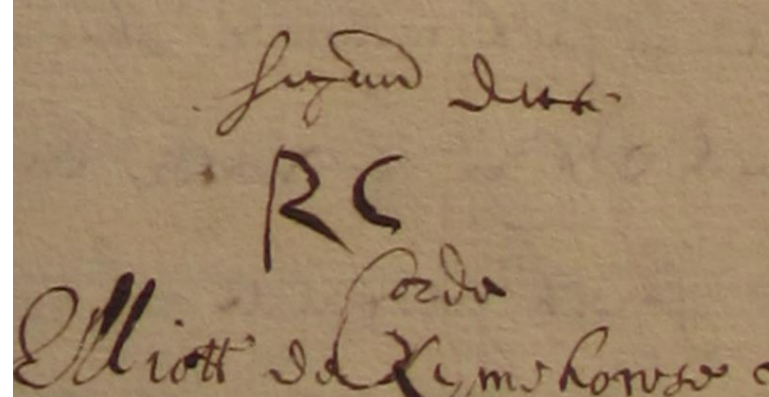
Handwritten signature of Richard Whitrowe, with initials **RW**.

Richard Clayton, thirty-five year old mariner and late cooke of the *Harry Bonadventure*, September 26th, 1653 ([HCA 13/68 f.145r](#))



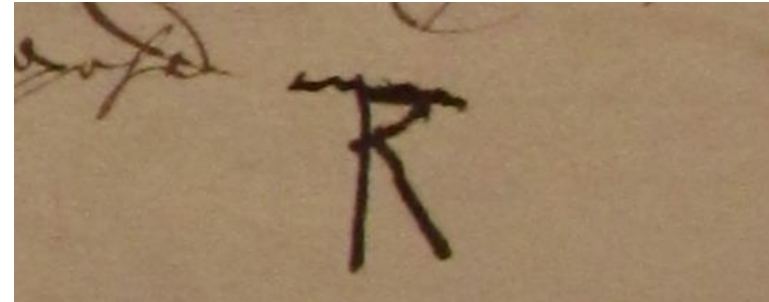
Handwritten signature of Richard Clayton, with initials **R** and the name Richard.

Richard Corde, twenty-eight year old cooper, of Kingstreet in Wapping, Middlesex, April 26th, 1650 ([HCA 13/63 f.75r](#))



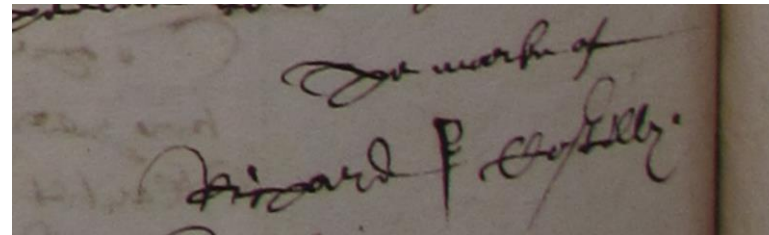
Handwritten signature of Richard Corde, with initials **RC** and the name Corde.

Thomas Rowe, sixty-one year old water man, of Horsey Downe, February 3rd, 1655 ([HCA 13/68 f.487v](#))



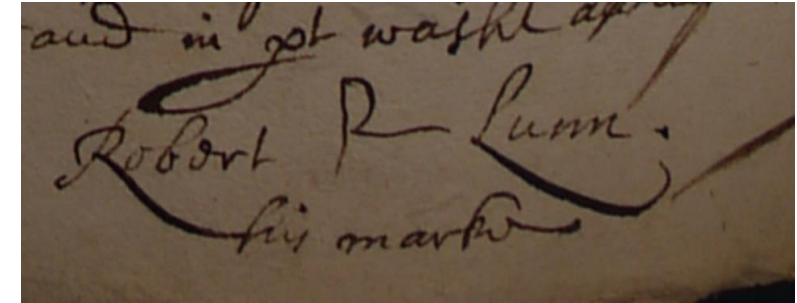
Handwritten signature of Thomas Rowe, featuring a large stylized initial **R**.

Richard Costilly, twenty-five year old mariner, of Galloway, Ireland, November 15th, 1654 ([HCA 13/70 f.106v](#))



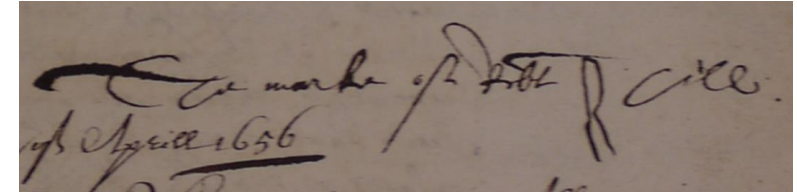
Handwritten signature of Richard Costilly, with initials **RC**.

Robert Lunn, forty-three year old mariner and late gunner of the *Susan and Ann*, March 22nd, 1656 ([HCA 13/71 f.122v](#))



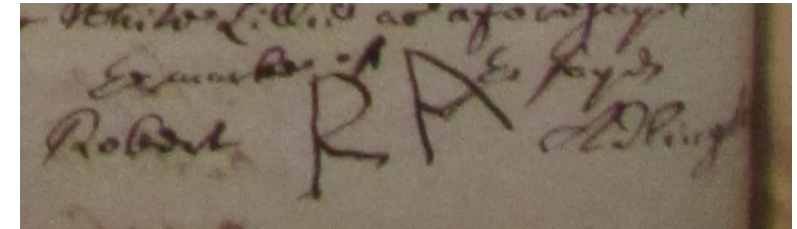
Handwritten signature of Robert Lunn, with initials **RL** and the name Lunn.

Robert Hill, twenty-eight year old butcher, of Wapping, April 30th, 2018 ([HCA 13/71 f.183r](#))



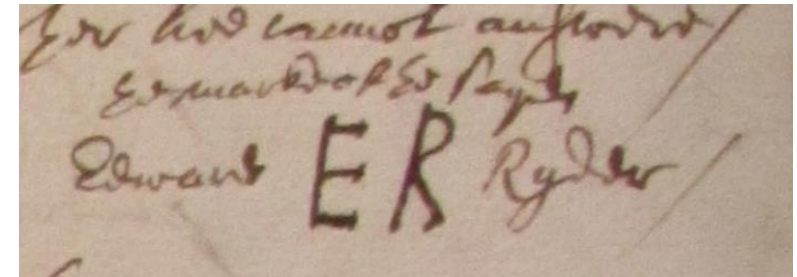
Handwritten signature of Robert Hill, with initials **RH**.

Robert Adlington, fifty year old lighterman, of the parish of Saint Peter ad Vincula in the Tower, London, May 16th, 1657; “being a lighterman and imployed by the sayd Mr ffernandez and Betts to fetch wines with his lighter severall dayes in the moneth of Aprill last from on board the sayd ship” ([HCA 13/72 f.32v](#))



Handwritten signature of Robert Adlington, with initials **RA**.

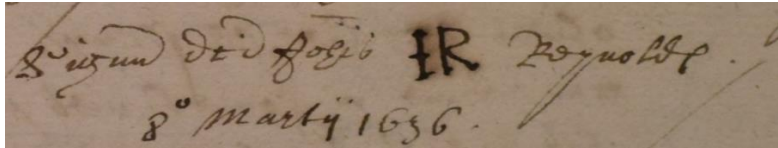
Edward Ryder, thirty-one year old long cutler, of Shadwell in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, June 6th, 1657 ([HCA 13/72 f.41v](#))



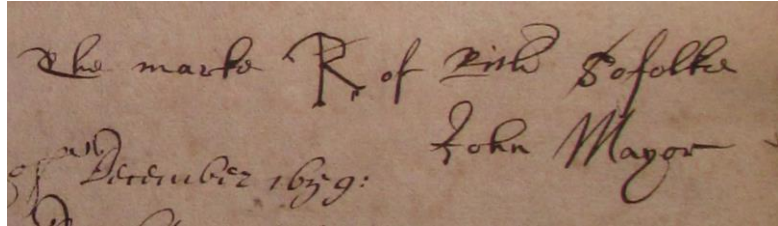
Handwritten signature of Edward Ryder, with initials **ER** and the name Ryder.

Initials as markes – the initial “R” (Reynolds, Richard) [PART TWO]

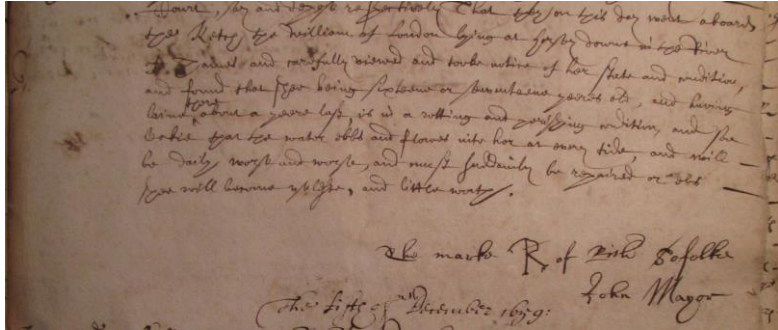
John Reynolds, thirty-six year old mariner, of Weymouth, Dorset, March 6th, 1637; self described master of the *Christian* of Weymouth, returning from Saint Lucar to London with cargo of oranges & lemons ([HCA 13/53 f.67r](#))



Richard Suffolke, forty-six year old mariner, of the parish of Saint Olaves in Southwarke, & John Mayer, thirty-three year old shipwright, of the same parish, December 1st, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.749r](#))

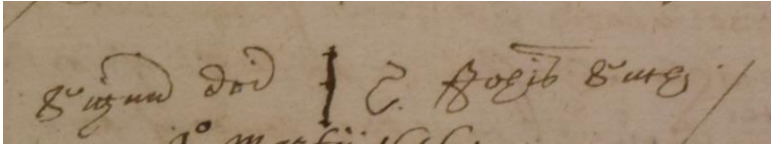


Richard Suffolke, forty-six year old mariner, of the parish of Saint Olaves in Southwarke, & John Mayer, thirty-three year old shipwright, of the same parish, December 1st, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.749r](#))

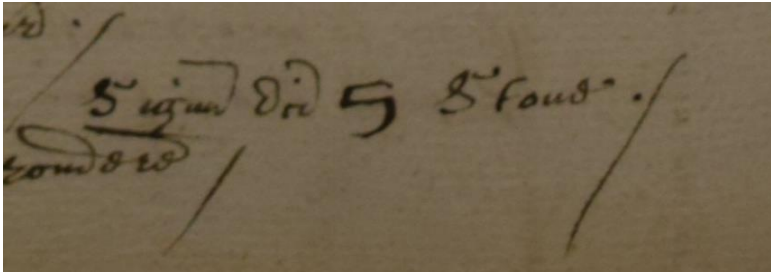


Initials as marks – the initial “S” (Such, Stone, Symmes, Samuel, Stoll, Selwen)

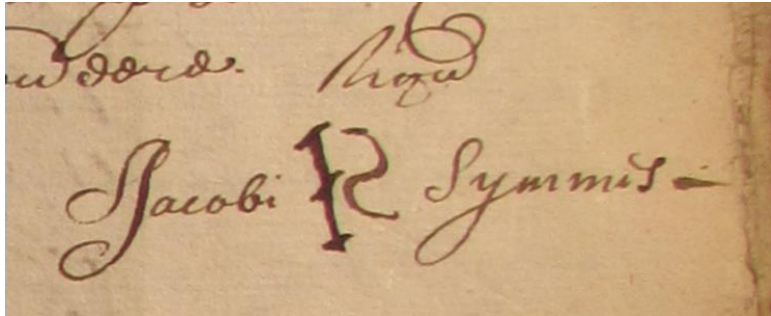
Johannes Such, twenty-four year old servant of cooper Henrici Laycocke of the parish of All Hallows Stayninge, London, March 8th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.69v](#))



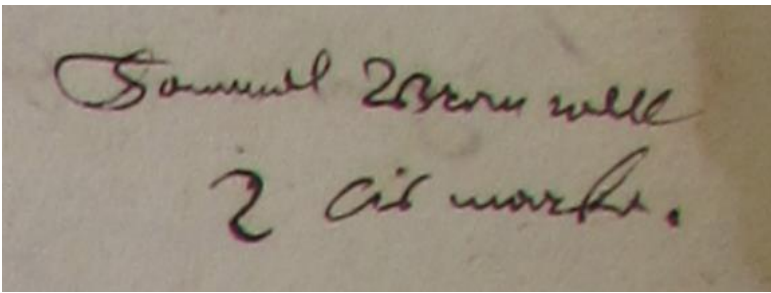
Thomas Stone, sixty-seven year old cordwainer, of Saint George in Southwarke, March 15th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.75v](#))



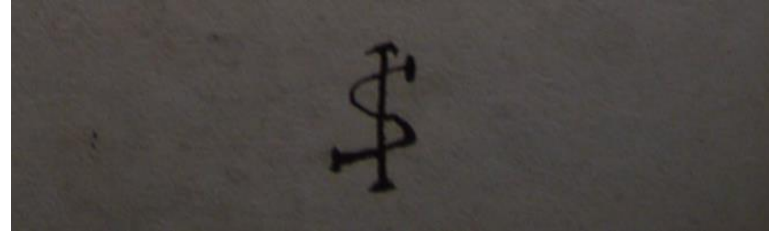
Jacob Symmes, thirty-nine year old waterman (“aquarius”), of Lymehouse in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex ([HCA 13/63 f.26r](#))



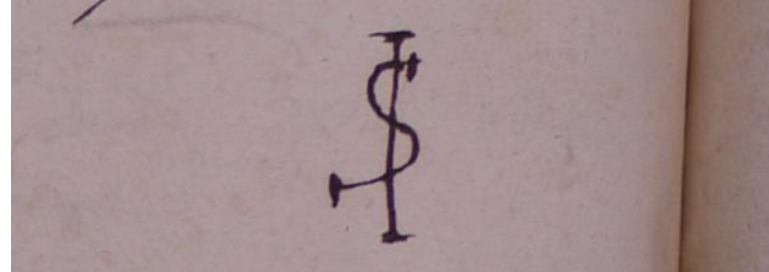
Samuel Bromwell, twenty-four year old mariner, of Ipswich, Suffolke, September 6th, 1654 ([HCA 13/70 f.121r](#))



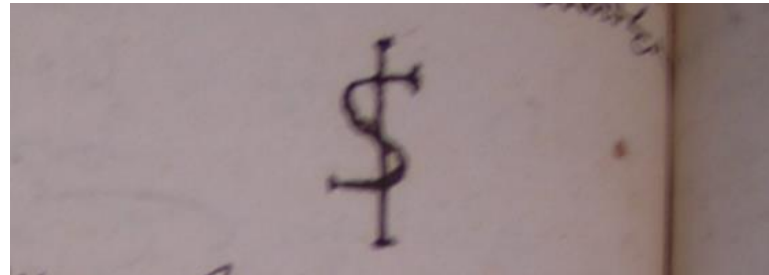
Joachim Stoll, thirty-six year old mariner and boatswain of the *Santa Maria*, of Stralsund, Pomerania, March 17th, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.155v](#))



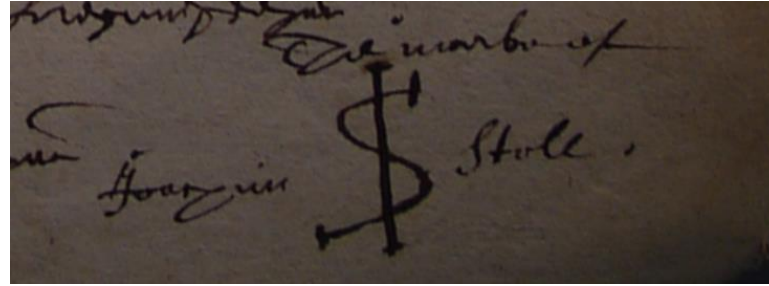
Joachim Stoll, thirty-six year old mariner and boatswain of the *Santa Maria*, of Stralsund, Pomerania, March 18th, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.156v](#))



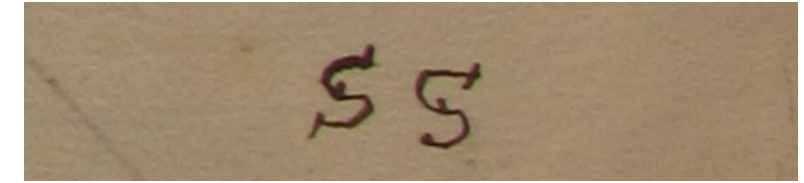
Joachim Stoll, thirty-six year old mariner and boatswain of the *Santa Maria*, of Stralsund, Pomerania, March 18th, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.157v](#))



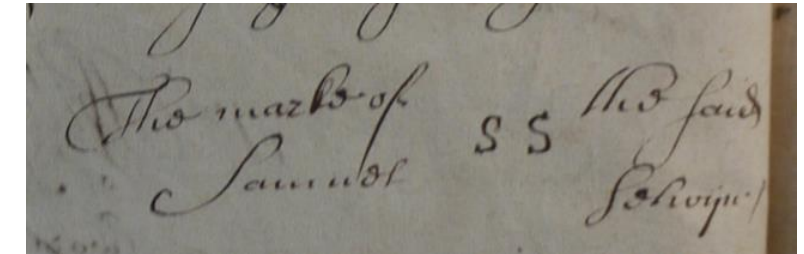
Joachim Stoll, thirty-six year old mariner and boatswain of the *Santa Maria*, of Stralsund, Pomerania, March 23rd, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.158r](#))



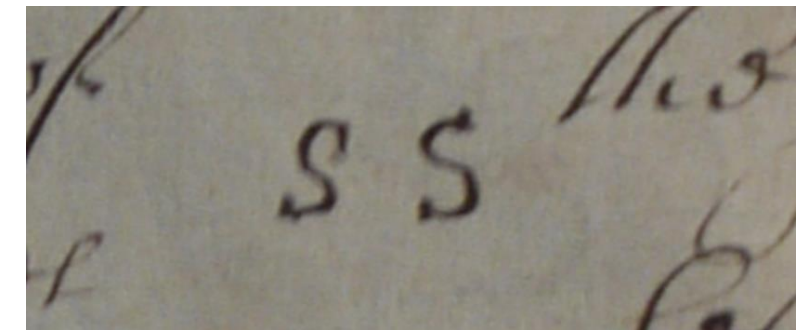
Samuel Selwen, forty year old browne baker, of Wapping in the parish of Stepney, August 1st, 1650 ([HCA 13/63 f.344v](#))



Samuel Selwyn, forty-nine year old baker, of Wapping, February 22nd, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.36v](#))

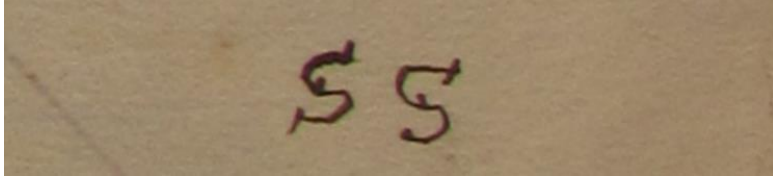


Samuel Selwyn, forty-nine year old baker, of Wapping, February 22nd, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.36v](#))

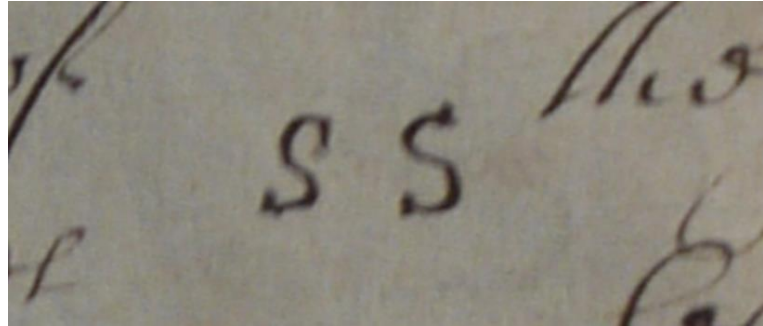


The initials “S S” for Samuel Selwyn, brown baker or baker of Wapping, nine years apart, 1650 & 1659 – observe the small changes in terminal points, simpler, cleaner “S S” in later version

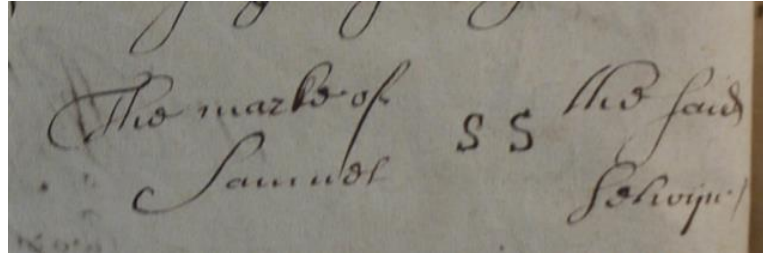
Samuel Selwen, forty year old browne baker, of Wapping in the parish of Stepney, August 1st, 1650 ([HCA 13/63 f.344v](#))



Samuel Selwyn, forty-nine year old baker, of Wapping, February 22nd, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.36v](#))

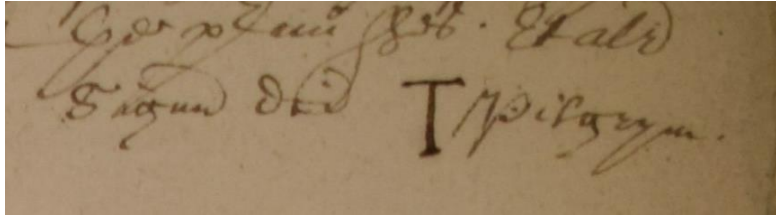


Samuel Selwyn, forty-nine year old baker, of Wapping, February 22nd, 1659 ([HCA 13/73 f.36v](#))

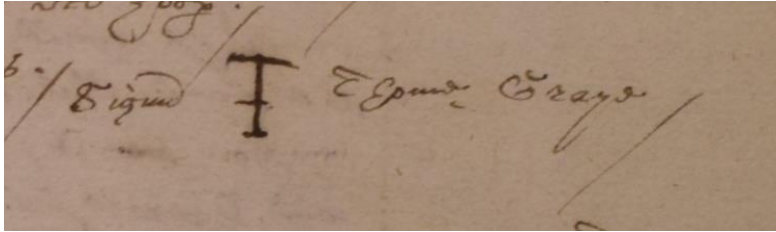


Initials as marks – the initial “T” (Thomas, Tapley, Turner)

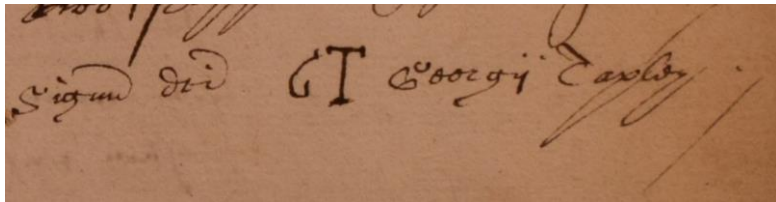
Thomas Pilgrim, twenty-two year old pilot (“navigator”), of Wapping, Middlesex, March 10th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.72r](#))C



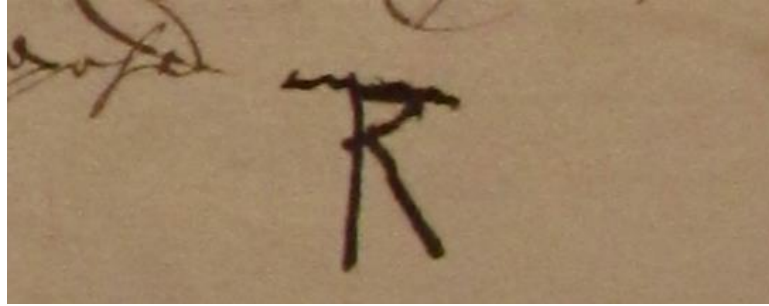
Thomas Gray, ca. March 21st, 1637; self-described mariner ([HCA 13/53 f.80r](#))



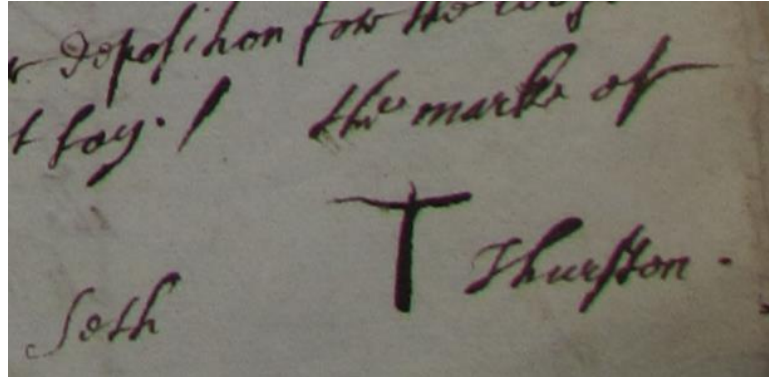
George Tapley, forty-two year old mariner, of East Smithfield in the parish of Saint Botolph Algate, London, June 21st, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.229r](#))



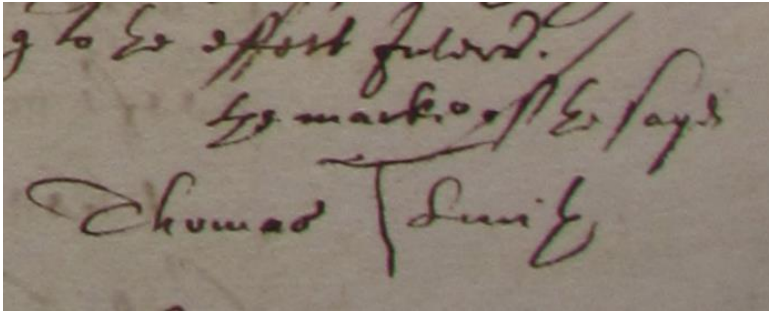
Thomas Rowe, sixty-one year old water man, of Horsey Downe, February 3rd, 1655 ([HCA 13/68 f.487v](#))



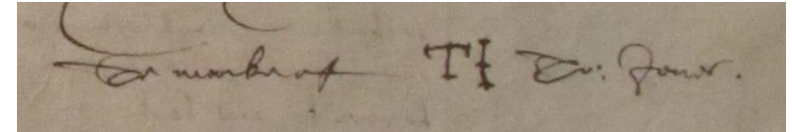
Seth Thurston, twenty year old ffisherman, of Wivenho, Essex, January 4th, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.659r](#))



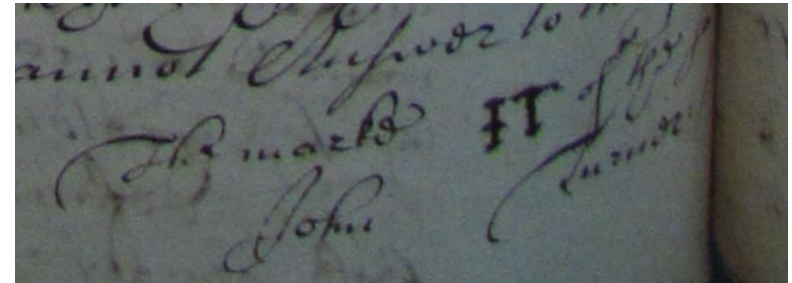
Thomas Smith, twenty-two year old butcher, of the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, December 10th, 1655; “his deponent being then servant to the sayd Richard Hamond did helpe to deliver on board the sayd shippes boate to the company of the sayd shipp the Sisters for the use and provision of the sayd shipp and her company” ([HCA 13/70 f.700v](#))



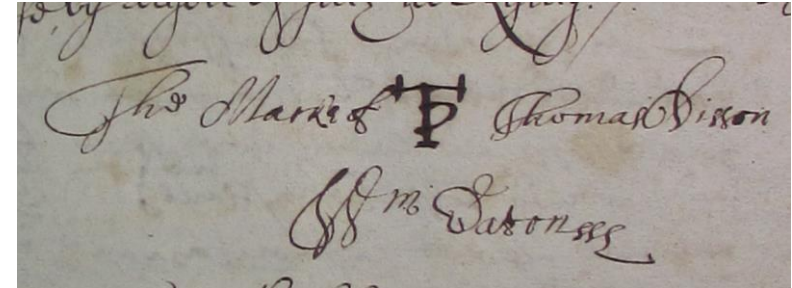
Thomas Jones, fifty year old lighterman, of Wapping Wall, June 1st, 1657; “hee hath for these seaventeene or eighteene yeares last used the occupation of a lighterman in the River of Thames, and hath bin frequently employed in the taking up of ballast therein” ([HCA 13/72 f.34r](#))



John Turner, forty-one year old shipwright & carpenter of the *Mary Rose*, of Ipswich; Nov. 30 1659; in the *Mary Rose*, when she collided with the *John* of Ipswich, both laden with coals, whilst coming out of Tinmouth with many other coal ships ([HCA 13/73 f.419v](#))



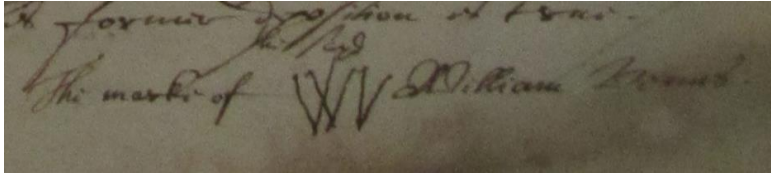
Thomas Dis[s]on, fifty year old shipwright of Rederiffe, and William Eaton, mariner, of Wapping, January 23rd, 1661 ([HCA 13/73 f.770v](#))



Initials as marks – the initial “V” (Venus)

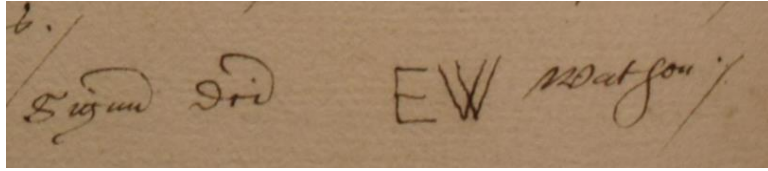
William Venus, forty-two year old ship wright, of the parish of
Saint Mary Magdalene Bermondsey, August 27th, 1657

([HCA 13/72 f.89r](#))

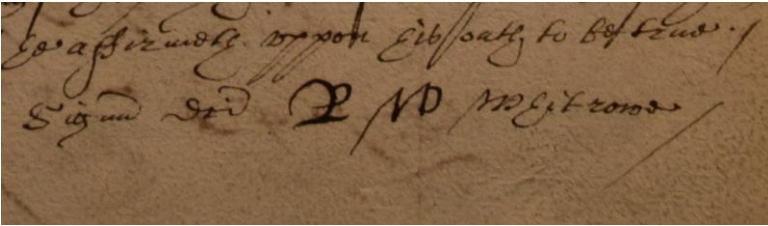


Initials as marks – the initial “W” (Watson, Whitrowe, William, Weaver) [PART ONE]

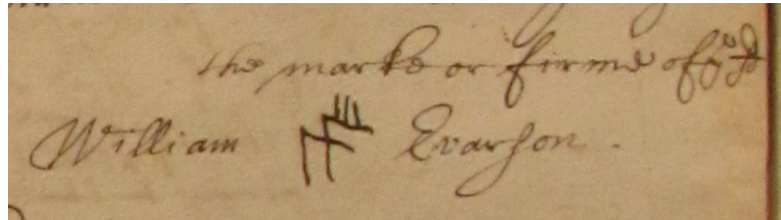
Edward Watson, thirty-five year old mariner, of ffeversham, Kent, May 17th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.163v](#))



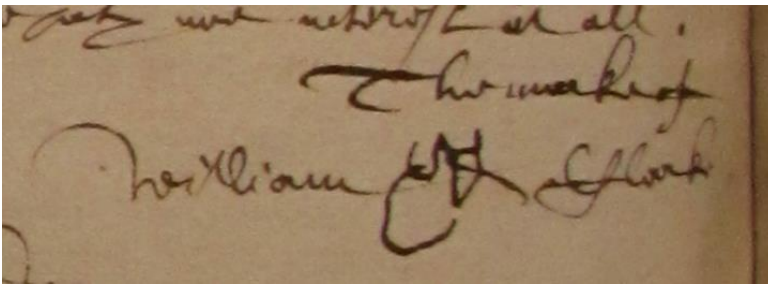
Richard Whitrowe, thirty-four year old suger baker, of Wappinge, Middlesex, June 6th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.200r](#))



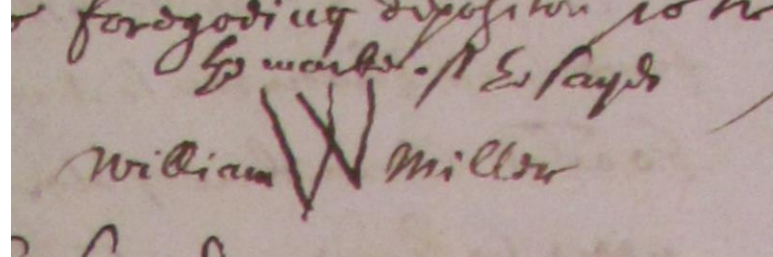
William Evanson, forty year old mariner, of Skadam, Holland, September 26th, 1653; “self-described as “one of the common mariners of the companie of the said ship the *Hart*” [of Skadam] ([HCA 13/68 f.3v](#))



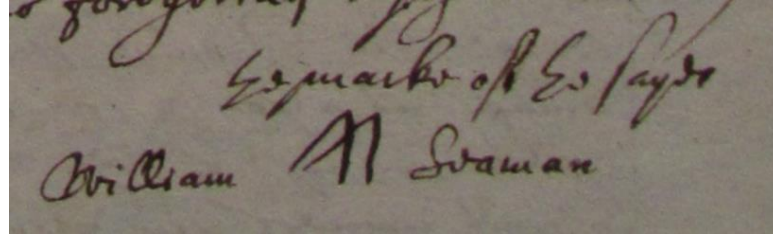
William Clarke, twenty-nine year old souldier of Colonell [?Ingoldsteins] regiment, February 6th, 1654 ([HCA 13/68 f.488v](#))



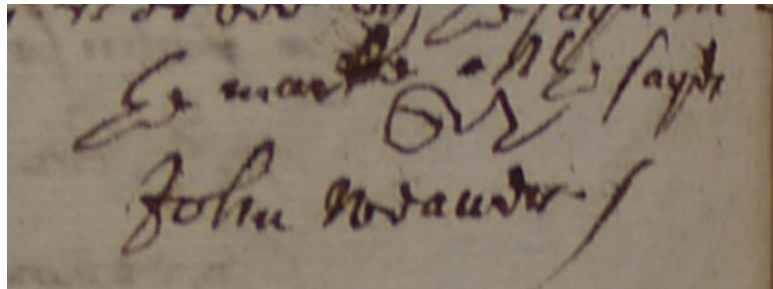
William Miller, forty-two year old fisherman, of Greenwich, Kent, December 2nd, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.664v](#))



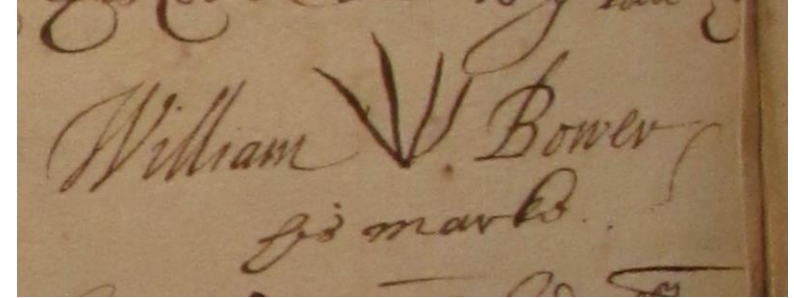
William Seaman, twenty-eight year old fisherman, of Greenwich, Kent, December 2nd, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.665r](#))



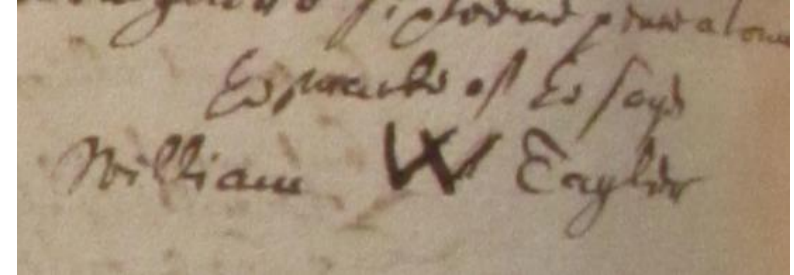
John Weaver, twenty-two year old lighterman, of the parish of Saint Olave Southwark, November 19th, 1656 ([HCA 13/70 f.690v](#))



William Bower, forty-two year old labourer in the shipyard of Mr Pett shipwright, of Ratcliffe, November 21st, 1654; “this deponent who hath for theis ten yeares bene a constant labourer in the sayd yard”([HCA 13/72 f.42r](#))

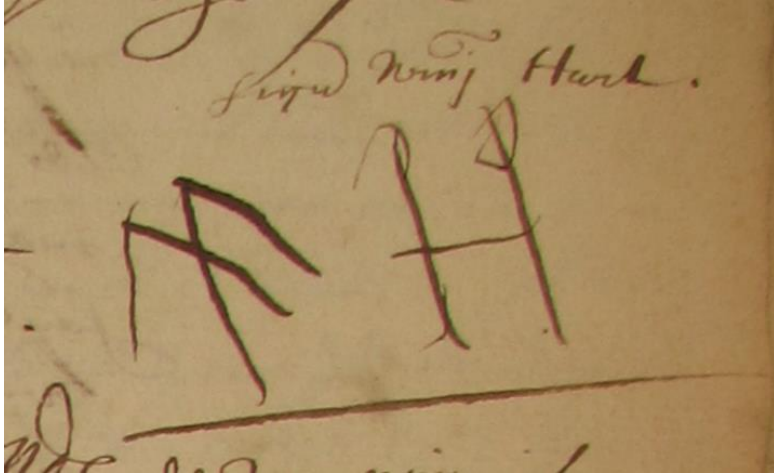


William Tayler, sixty year old lighterman, of Wapping in the parish of Saint Mary Matsellon alias Whitechappell, Middlesex, January 15th, 1658; “a lighterman by trade and hath bin for these thirty yeares last past or more employed in ballasting of shippis” ([HCA 13/72 f.229v](#))



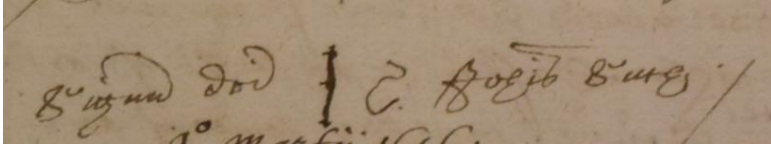
Initials as marks – the initial “W” (William) [PART TWO]

William Hart, forty-eight year old mariner, of Wapping in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, May 7th, 1650 ([HCA 13/63 f.153r](#))

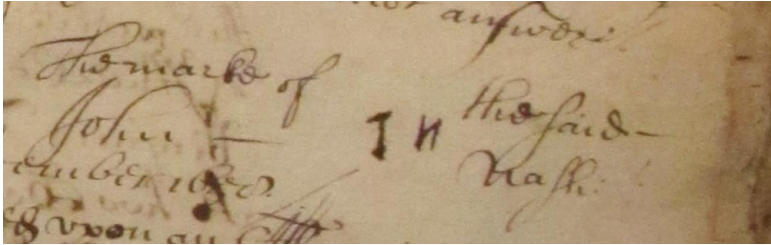


Different types of more complex marke – mirror image initials (“S”; “N”, “L”); 90 degree rotated initial (“E”); upside down initials (“W”); 90 degree rotated initials (“EC”), pseudo initials

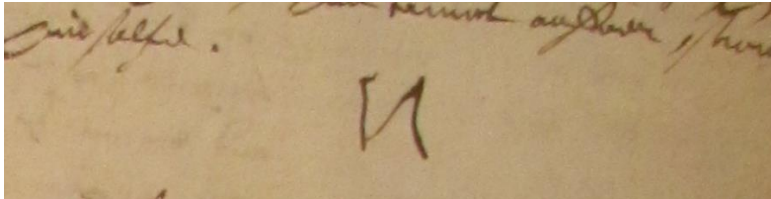
Johannes Such, twenty-four year old servant of cooper Henrici Laycocke of the parish of All Hallows Stayninge, London, March 8th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.69v](#))



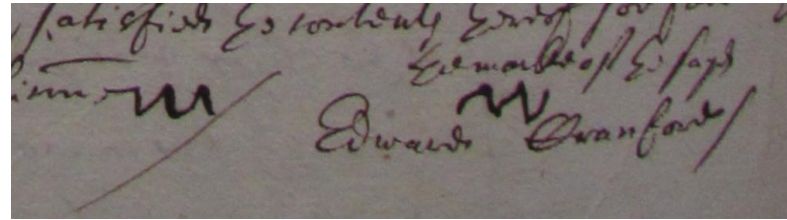
John Nash, thirty-seven year old mariner, of Saint Katherins, November 26th, 1658 ([HCA 13/72 f.633r](#))



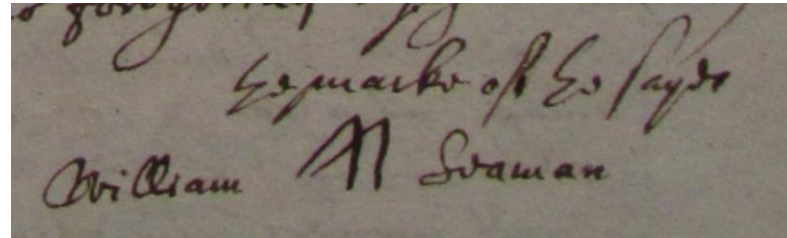
Nicholas Hutton, forty-eight year old waterman, of the parish of Saint Olave in the Borough of Southwarke, February 4th, 1654 ([HCA 13/68 f.488r](#))



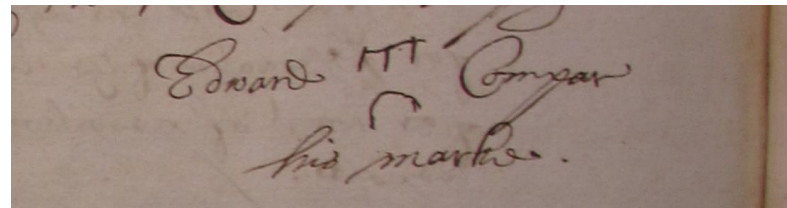
Edward Cranford, forty-four year old coale heaver or porter, of the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, Dec. 15, 1656; employed as a labourer with fifteen other men to unload coals from the *Imployment* moored near Execution Dock, Wapping, into lighters for fixed rate of 12 s per man ([HCA 13/70 f.555v](#))



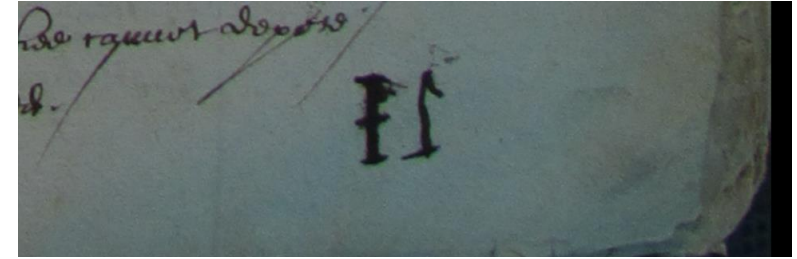
William Seaman, twenty-eight year old fisherman, of Greenwich, Kent, December 2nd, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.665r](#))



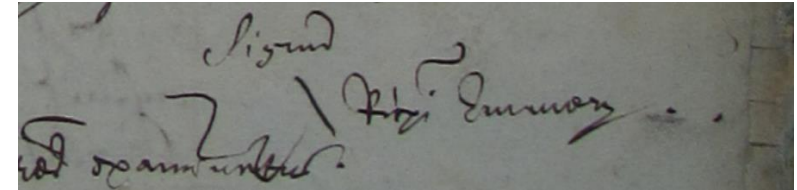
Edward Comparr, sixty year old, mariner and late pilot of the *Martha*, of East Greenwich, Kent, November 16th, 1654 ([HCA 13/70 f.109v](#))



John Lowers, twenty-six year old mariner, of Masterland, Norway, May 1st, 1654 ([HCA 13/70 f.140r](#))

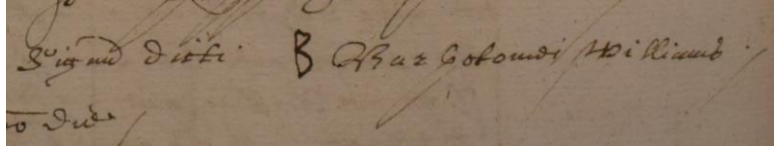


Richard Emmery, twenty-one year old mariner of Leigh, Essex, October 3rd, 1660 ([HCA 13/73 f.569r](#))

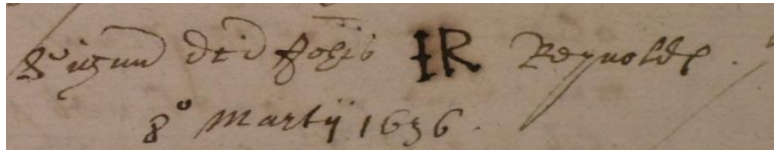


Different types of more complex marke – single initials, double initials, mirror image initials, pseudo initials – mariners, fishermen, watermen, fishermen, stuffe weavers, coopers, gunners

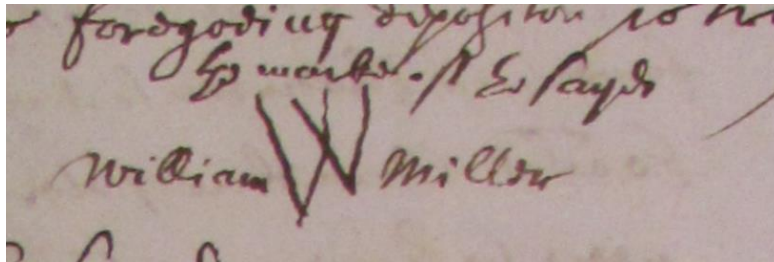
Bartholomewe Williams, twenty-five year old late boatswayne of the *Christian* of Weymouth, of Weeke, near Weymouth, Dorset, March 6th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.65v](#))



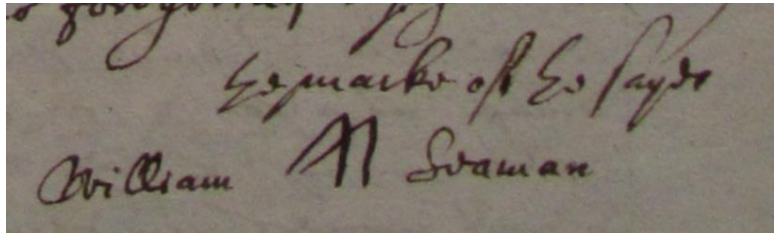
John Reynolds, thirty-six year old mariner, of Weymouth, Dorset, March 6th, 1637; self described master of the *Christian* of Weymouth, returning from Saint Lucar to London with cargo of oranges & lemons ([HCA 13/53 f.67r](#))



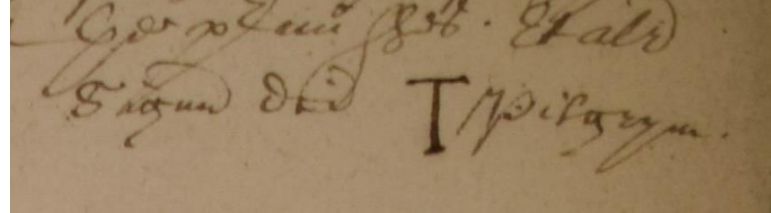
William Miller, forty-two year old fisherman, of Greenwich, Kent, December 2nd, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.664v](#))



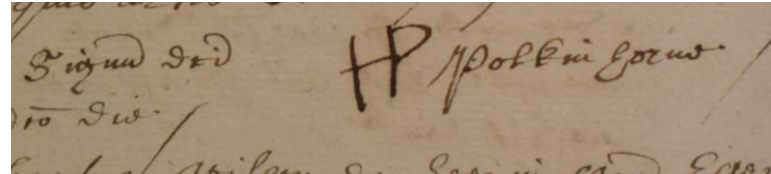
William Seaman, twenty-eight year old fisherman, of Greenwich, Kent, December 2nd, 1655 ([HCA 13/70 f.665r](#))



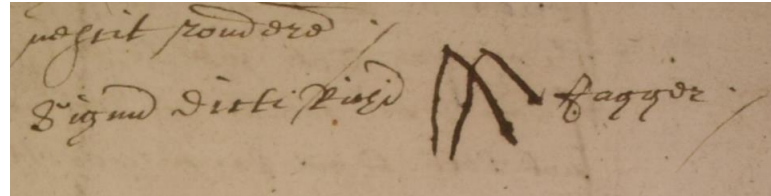
Thomas Pilgrim, twenty-two year old pilot ("navigator"), of Wapping, Middlesex, March 10th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.72r](#))



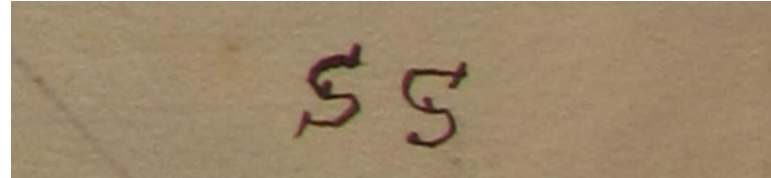
Henry Polkinhorne, forty-six year old mariner, of Wapping, Middlesex, March 15th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.77v](#))



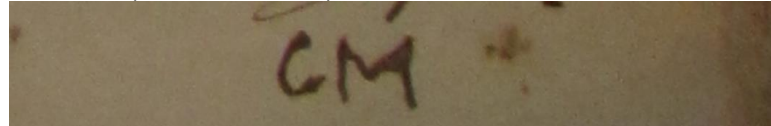
Richard Jagger, fifty year old stuffe weaver, of Stepney, Middlesex, March 15th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.78v](#))



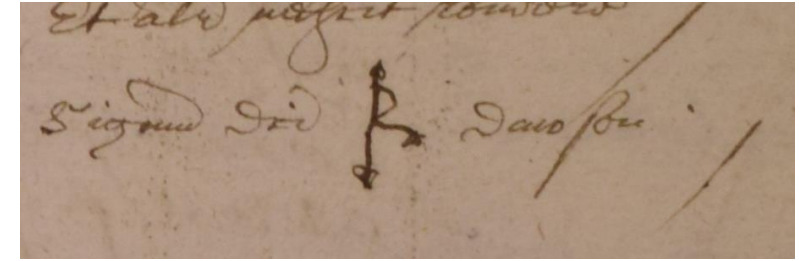
Samuel Selwen, forty year old browne baker, of Wapping in the parish of Stepney, August 1st, 1650 ([HCA 13/63 f.344v](#))



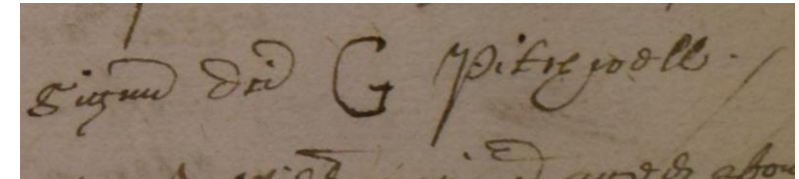
George Morsed, thirty-five year old sailor, of Milbrooke, near Plymouth, Devon: self-described quarter master of the *Welfare*, April 13th, 1654 ([HCA 13/68 f.504r](#))



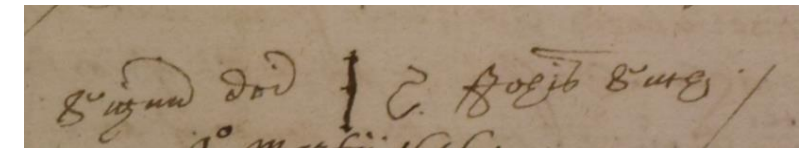
Robert Dawson, forty-four year old waterman, of the parish of Saint Salvatoris in the borough of Southwarke, March 17th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.81r](#))



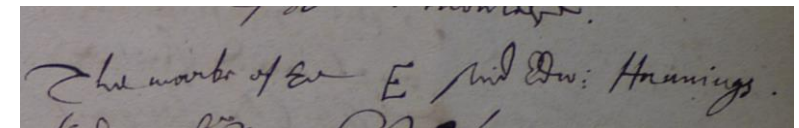
George Pitchwell, thirty-four year old mariner, of Wapping, Middlesex, March 18th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.81r](#))



Johannes Such, twenty-four year old servant of cooper Henrici Laycocke of the parish of All Hallowes Stayninge, London, March 8th, 1637 ([HCA 13/53 f.69v](#))

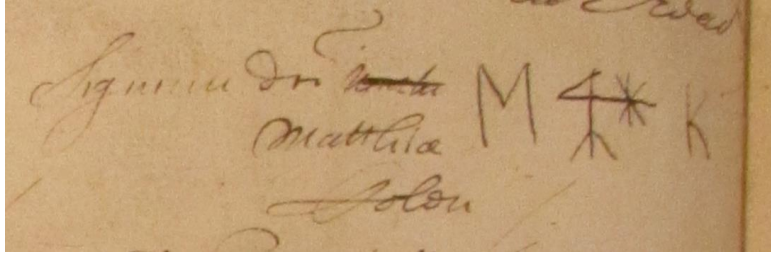


Edward Hannings, twenty-five year old mariner, of Stepney, March 21st, 1659; self-described gunner of the *ffrancis and John* ([HCA 13/73 f.97r](#))



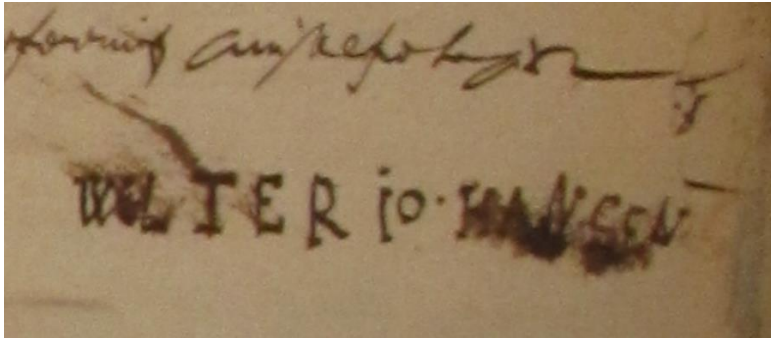
A pseudo signature – combination of initials (“M, K”) and merchant’s marke

Mathias Colen [alt. Kolen], thirty year old mariner, of Bruges, Flanders, October 1st, 1666 ([HCA 13/76 f.35v](#))



Initials as signatures

WOL · TER · lo · HAN · SEN or Wolter Johansen (rendered by the English notary as Walter Johnson), a forty-four year old mariner of Lubeck, master of the *White Swann*, November 15th, 1653 ([HCA 13/68 f.231r](#))



WOL · TER · lo · HAN · SEN or Wolter Johansen (rendered by the English notary as Walter Johnson), a forty-four year old mariner of Lubeck, master of the *White Swann*, December 8th, 1653 ([HCA 13/68 f.239v](#))

