

SUMMARY: The document below consists of an extract from the Acts of the Privy Council stating that on 1 November 1575 the Council ordered a further inquiry on behalf of the fence-master, Rocco Bonetti (d.1587), into the goods of his late wife, Ellen (nee Burbage), widow of Richard St. John. Bonetti is alluded to in Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* as 'the very butcher of a silk button'.

For the letter below see also Dasent, John Roche, ed., *Acts of the Privy Council of England*, New Series, Vol. IX (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1894), pp. 40-1 at:

[https://books.google.ca/books?id=Hlc0AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA41&lpg=PA41&dq=%22Rocco%22+%22Burbage%22&source=bl&ots=BsdP1JNKYh&sig=ygXS5vLvZn3pt7Q3MW4mnLovuB4&hl=en&sa=X&ei=72r\\_VMMyWNI7woATwmoLoDw&ved=0CDsQ6AEwBg#v=onepage&q=%22Rocco%22%20%22Burbage%22&f=false](https://books.google.ca/books?id=Hlc0AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA41&lpg=PA41&dq=%22Rocco%22+%22Burbage%22&source=bl&ots=BsdP1JNKYh&sig=ygXS5vLvZn3pt7Q3MW4mnLovuB4&hl=en&sa=X&ei=72r_VMMyWNI7woATwmoLoDw&ved=0CDsQ6AEwBg#v=onepage&q=%22Rocco%22%20%22Burbage%22&f=false).

For Rocco Bonetti, see the will of his brother-in-law, Robert Burbage (d.1575), TNA PROB 11/57/448, the allusion to him in the anonymous *News From Heaven And Hell*, and direct references to him or discussion of him in the following documents on this website:

Folger MS L.b.37; Folger MS L.b.352; Folger MS L.b.356; Folger MS L.b.357; Folger MS L.b.446; Loseley MS No. 1396; BL Cotton Caligula C/VI; BL Cotton Galba C/V, f. 37; BL Cotton Galba C/V, f. 39; BL Cotton Titus B/VII, f. 225; BL Lansdowne 830, f. 249; TNA PC 2/10, f. 358; TNA PC 2/12, ff. 261-2; TNA PC 2/12, ff. 261-2; TNA SP 12/175, f. 104; TNA SP 46/125, f. 130; TNA SP 52/31, f. 34; TNA SP 78/9, f. 90; SHC LM/COR/3/372; SHC LM/COR/3/382; SHC LM/COR/3/383; SHC LM/COR/3/384; SHC LM/COR/3/386; SHC LM/COR/3/387; SHC LM/COR/3/388; TNA PROB 11/62/182; and TNA PROB 11/98/226.

At Windsor, the first of November 1575

The Lord Treasurer  
 The Lord Admiral  
 The Lord Chamberlain  
 Th' Earl of Bedford  
 Th' Earl of Leicester  
 Mr Treasurer  
 Mr Comptroller  
 Both secretaries

A letter to the Master of the Rolls and Mr Doctor Wilson, whereas heretofore they have been written unto in the behalf of one Rocco Bonetti, who complaining that after the death of his wife his house and goods were seised and possessed by one Robert Burbage

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and John Vavasour, they, examining the matter, caused the said Vavasour to compound with the said Rocco, and giving respite to the said Burbage until some other time, they be required, forasmuch as the said Burbage died without making him any recompense, and that his goods came to the hands of one Mr Goring of Sussex who married the daughter of the said Burbage, to call the said Goring before them and to understand the state of the controversy touching the said goods, and to make such end between them, if they can, as may be agreeable to right, or else to inform their Lordships in whom they shall find default, that if further complaint be made they may proceed as the cause shall require.