

Little Hinton
orders to perform
penance in Church
dated 1713



Transcribed from the original document held by WSHC, Chippenham

Original reference: 2082/33

Enjoynes -----	By the Authority	To the Reverend
of the -----	Reverend	Mr John Smith
Cornelius -----	Yeate Archdeacon	Vicar of Bishopston
of Wilts		at Hinton Pva

James and Martha Clarke now of Hinton having lately committed ante nuptial fornication are Enjoyned to Come into the parish Church of Hinton on some convenient Sunday at your discretion at ye beginning of morning prayer having White Sheets [?placuging] about them from the shoulders downwards and presently after the reading the Epistle and Gospell shall make the Confession following saying after you with a loud voyce (viz)

I James and I Martha Clarke, doe here before allmightly God, and you the Congregation present, openly acknowledge and confesse, that we have highly offended his Divine Majesty, and evill example to the neighbours, in committing the sin of fornication, before our late intermarriage, and having a son borne in few weekes after; for which our grevous offence, Wee are right heartily sorry, and do unfeignedly repent thereof and doe desire God to forgive us, and doe promise never to commit the like offence againe: The which wee may the better performe, wee desire you to say with us the Lords prayer... Our ffather

And of the performance hereof they are to certifie under your hand unto us at Sarum at or before the last day of this instant September dates under the Seale of our office this first day of September 1713