

The Diary of George Lloyd (1642–1718)

Published here for the first time, the diary of George Lloyd (1642–1718) presents a richly detailed account of the everyday life of an unremarkable man during two phases of his life: his attempt, between 1675 and 1678, to establish himself as a schoolmaster in Colchester; and the twilight of his career as a Customs officer at the Port of London in 1711–1712. Virtually unknown to scholarship, Lloyd's diary is not a record of notable events, political upheavals, or religious controversies. Rather, it is a uniquely quotidian text consisting of regular daily entries documenting the activities and experiences of an individual far removed from – and largely unconcerned with – the great events of history. This diary will be an invaluable resource for scholars studying many aspects of early modern English social and cultural history, including sociality, fashion, religious observance, courtship, food and drink, and working life.

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