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Alcohol, Violence, and Disorder in Traditional Europe

A. Lynn Martin
Cover: *Corpo di Guardia*, a fresco by Colin in the Castello di Issogne, Val d'Aosta, ca. 1500, shows soldiers relaxing. In what could be a scene from a tavern, on the far left two men play backgammon, the two men to their right play a board game, a woman joins two other men for drinks, while on the far right one man attacks the sitting man with his sword, while the third uses his drinking cup to ward off the attack. Photograph by Ars Una, 1976, from the Archivio fotografico dell'Assessorato istruzione e cultura-Soprintendenza per i beni e le attività culturali. Used courtesy of the Regione Autonoma Valle d'Aosta.

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Contents

Figures and Tables ................................................................. vii
Acknowledgments ................................................................. ix
Chapter 1 The Problem of Alcohol and Violence ......................... 1
Chapter 2 The Condemnations of the Moralists ............................ 15
Chapter 3 The Consumption of Alcohol ..................................... 42
Chapter 4 Recreational Drinking ............................................ 80
Chapter 5 Disorder: Places ..................................................... 108
Chapter 6 Disorder: Persons ................................................... 133
Chapter 7 Violence ............................................................... 156
Chapter 8 Regulations .......................................................... 185
Chapter 9 Alcohol, Violence, and Disorder ............................... 215
Bibliography ................................................................. 224
About the Author ............................................................... 257
Index ................................................................. 259
Figures and Tables

Figures
Figure 1: Four men drinking at a fourteenth-century Italian tavern, from a Latin prose treatise on the vices by a member of the Cocharelli family of Genoa, composed for the instruction of his children and especially his son Giovanni, written before 1324. British Library, MS Additional 27695, fol. 14..............................28
Figure 2: Illustration for the month of September depicting the vintage, from *Compost et calendrier des bergers*. Paris, 1491.................. 59
Figure 3: Scene showing a woman with four male companions in a seventeenth-century English alehouse. Woodcut from *The Roxburghe Ballads*, English, seventeenth century ..........................100
Figure 4: A disorderly alehouse. Woodcut from *The Roxburghe Ballads*, English, seventeenth century .............................. 113
Figure 5: *Il est bien sage, il met de l’eau dans son vin*. Engraving by Jacques Lagniet (French, 1620–72), plate 14 of *Recueil des plus illustres proverbes*. Paris, 1657–63 ........................................120
Figure 6: A students’ drinking bout. Woodcut from *Directorium statuum, seu tribulatio seculi*. Strasbourg, ca. 1489 .............................. 143
Figure 7: A tavern brawl. Engraving from Tom Brown, *Amusements Serious and Comical*, English, seventeenth century ..............................157
Figure 8: A woman confronts her husband at an alehouse. Woodcut from *The Roxburghe Ballads*, English, seventeenth century ..........................165
Figure 9: Drawing of a fourteenth-century carved wood misericord from Ludlow Church, England. From Thomas Wright, *A History of Domestic Manners and Sentiments*. London, 1862. .................. 191

Tables
Table 3.1: Italy: Annual per capita consumption of wine. .................. 47
Table 3.2: Italy: Annual per capita consumption of wine in households.  48
Table 3.3: Italy: Annual per capita consumption of wine in contracts ....... 48
Table 3.4: Italy: Annual per capita rations of wine .......................... 49
Table 3.5: France: Annual per capita consumption of wine. ............... 55
| Table 3.6: France: Annual per capita consumption of wine in households. | 56 |
| Table 3.7: France: Annual per capita consumption of wine in contracts. | 56 |
| Table 3.8: France: Annual per capita rations of wine. | 57 |
| Table 3.9: England: Annual per capita consumption of ale/beer. | 67 |
| Table 3.10: England: Annual per capita consumption of ale/beer in households. | 68 |
| Table 3.11: England: Annual per capita consumption of ale/beer in contracts. | 69 |
| Table 3.12: England: Annual per capita rations of ale/beer. | 69 |
| Table 3.13: Italy: Peasants’ annual per capita consumption of wine. | 73 |
| Table 3.14: France: Peasants’ annual per capita consumption of wine. | 75 |
| Table 3.15: England: Peasants’ annual per capita consumption of ale/beer. | 77 |
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To end at the beginning, I dedicate this book to the memory of my parents, AA and MM.
About the Author

A.

Lynn Martin is an award-winning historian, a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, and a recipient of a Centenary Medal from the Australian government for his contribution to Australian society through history.

Born in Iowa, Professor Martin received his education at the University of Oregon and the University of Wisconsin before moving to Australia in 1973. In a previous incarnation as a historian, he specialized in the history of the Jesuits and his books included *Henry III and the Jesuit Politicians, The Jesuit Mind: The Mentality of an Elite in Early Modern France*, and *Plague? Jesuit Accounts of Epidemic Disease in the Sixteenth Century*, plus shorter pieces on Roman prostitutes, insanity in the sixteenth century, the Saint Bartholomew’s Day Massacre, the family, and papal policies during the wars of religion.

More recently he abandoned the Jesuits for drink and now specializes in the history of drinking in traditional Europe. This phase of his career has resulted in a book on *Alcohol, Sex, and Gender in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe* and articles on national reputations for drinking, the baptism of wine, unruly women, English alehouses, and the consumption of alcohol by the old and by the clergy.

In 1997 Professor Martin became founder and director of the University of Adelaide’s Research Centre for the History of Food and Drink, a position he held until 2004. As director, he was responsible for the establishment of the University’s Graduate Program in Gastronomy and was the program’s first managing director. He also edited with Barbara Santich two books that resulted from the Research Centre’s series of conferences and symposia, *Gastronomic Encounters* and *Culinary History*. Although retiring at the end of 2003, Professor Martin still keeps active as a visiting research fellow.
Index

Italic = figure; bold = table

A
Abbeys of Misrule, 87
An Account of the Societies for Reformation of Manners, 209
Adair, Richard, 111
aggression. See violence and disorder
Aix, 56, 57, 75
Alberti, Leon Battista, 45
alcoholism and alcohol dependency, 134, 154–55
ale and beer
brewing of, 62–63, 70–72
English consumption of, 61, 64–69, 67, 68, 69, 72–73, 75–77, 77, 216
English rations of, 65, 69–70
regulations regarding, 187, 189–93, 191
rise in popularity of, 78–79
See also alehouses and taverns
alehouses and taverns
and antisocial behavior, 219–20
brawls in, 156, 157, 158, 162–63
curfews on, 203–4
and disorder, 26, 78–79, 108–9, 112–19, 113, 120, 121–27, 130–31, 154, 165
in England, 87–91
in France, 85–87, 203
in Italy, 84–85, 116, 203
licensing of, 193–98, 216
moralists’ condemnation of, 3–4, 13, 15, 26–30, 28, 31, 32–33
and recreational drinking, 80, 84–91, 99, 100
regulations on clientele and behavior at, 198–203
regulations on holy days at, 204–5
religious and political dissidents in, 109, 127, 130, 131
as the “third place,” 84, 86, 87, 90, 108, 117–18, 121, 131–32, 142, 159, 216, 220
See also drinking establishments
“The Ale-Wife’s End,” 191
alewives, 63, 75–76, 123, 191, 222
Amusements Serious and Comical, 108–9, 157
annaliste school of history, 2
anthropologists, 1–2, 7
and dry versus wet drinking cultures, 78, 217
and fertility festivals, 93
and motives for drinking, 81, 155
and ritualized communal violence, 168, 169
and socialization, 82
antisocial behavior
alcohol linked to, 215, 219–20, 223
anthropological perspective on alcohol and, 1–2, 7
drinking alone as form of, 82
legislation governing, 9
Appennino Modenese, 73, 73
Arbury, 68
Arles, 56
Art of Good Husbandry, 39
Ashley, Francis, 159–60
assize of ale, 189–90
Aubrey, John, 40, 94–95, 163, 219
Auvergne, 57, 74
Avignon, 85–86, 105, 160, 189, 202

B
Bacchus, 20, 52, 61, 64, 109, 156, 221
Bacon, Francis, 212
Bacon, Nathaniel, 198
Barjols, 56
Barnes, Thomas G., 183
Beaune, 189
Bedfordshire, 77, 170–71
beer. See ale and beer
Beggars Act, 195, 202–3
Bennett, Judith M., 75, 101
Bercé, Yves-Marie, 170, 171
Best, Henry, 96, 101
bevanda, 46, 49, 50
Beverley, 104
the Bible, alcohol in, 15–16, 20
binge drinking, 3, 13, 40, 78, 94, 105, 106, 216, 217, 221
births and alcohol consumption, 80, 98–99, 106
Black Death, 20, 53–54, 67, 70, 74, 75–76, 84, 85–86
Blum, Jerome, 78, 155
Bodel, Jean, 121
Bologna, 27, 47, 47, 51, 65, 188, 206
Boorde, Andrew, 62
Bouc, 56
Boulogne, 68
Bordeaux, 58, 60, 72, 172
Brennan, Thomas, 151
bride ales, 100–101, 205–6
Brief Lives, 40
Brittany, 55, 74, 75, 98, 172, 218
Brive, 105
Bromyard, John, 35
Brown, Tom, 108–9
Brown, Thomas, 30
Bruegel, Peter, 9–10, 219
Brunelleschi, Filippo, 46
Burgundy, 57
Burke, Peter, 9, 10, 41
Bury, Edward, 25–26
Butler, Samuel, 31

C
Calvinism, 11, 12
Cambridgeshire, 77
Cambridge University, 17, 37, 87–88, 102, 129, 200
carnival, 9–10, 23, 80, 92–93, 96, 219, 221, 223
Carpentras, 54, 55
Cassian, John, 19
Castel of Helth, 61–62
Catherine of Siena, 42
Catholics
and disorder, 138, 145–46
and religious dissent, 128
and temperance, 16
Ceres, 61, 64, 70, 221
Certaldo, Paolo da, 27, 31, 35
Champier, Symphorien, 32
Charles I, 24, 200, 205, 207
Charles II, 147, 148
Chartres, John, 77
Châteaux de Custines, 57
Chaucer, Geoffrey, 22, 64, 82
Cheshire, 29, 175, 178, 197
Chiffouleau, Jacques, 160
children and alcoholic consumption, 65–66, 200
Chioggia, 188, 193
Christmas, 3, 80, 92, 96–97, 139
church ales, 18–19, 94–95, 101, 109, 183, 206–7
cider, 45, 52, 54, 61, 63–64, 74, 77
Ciompi, Revolt of the, 85
Clamanges, Nicolas de, 30, 31, 34–35
Clark, Peter, 88, 128, 130, 196, 218
class distinction, 39–40, 56, 110
clergy. See religious authorities
Cochearelli family, 28
Code of Hammurabi, 185
Cognac, 38
Coke, Edward, 212
Colchester, 195, 208
Collins, James B., 218
Combat between Carnival and Lent, 9, 41, 219
Common Good, 38–39
Compost et calendrier des bergers, 58, 59
Controlling Misbehavior in England, 1370–1600, 13
Conversini da Ravenna, Giovanni, 21
Corleone, 47
Cornaro, Luigi, 43
Country House Brewing in England, 1500–1900, 77
court records
distortions in, 158, 159
drunken disorderliness in, 134–37, 211, 213
interpreting, 109–11
Covent Gardens, 147–48, 173
Coventry, 29, 67, 67
Cromwell, Oliver, 149, 210
culture and drinking behavior, 14
curfew
and drinking establishments, 113, 114, 115, 116, 132, 200, 203
enforcement of, 150–51
violations of, 3, 9, 29, 84, 135, 144, 209, 218

D
Dante, 20–21
Davis, Robert C., 50
Deadly Danger of Drunkenness, 17, 25
Débat des hérauts d’armes de France et d’Angleterre, 53
Debate of the Carpenter’s Tools, 35–36
Defoe, Daniel, 34, 35–36, 38, 64
Dekker, Thomas, 25, 29, 136, 153
Delamare, Nicolas, 208–9
Description of England, 39–40, 63
“despair drinking,” 81, 155
devil’s church, alehouses as the, 26–29, 32–33
Devon, 62, 125, 147, 149, 207
Devonshire, 31, 37
D’Ewes, Simon, 106
diet and alcohol, 2, 3, 13, 53–54, 64–65, 106, 159, 187, 217
Dijon, 53, 105, 127, 163, 172, 177
Dion, Roger, 23, 30, 51, 72–73, 74
disorder
alcohol’s ambivalent role in, 13, 133, 154, 185, 216
in alehouses and taverns, 26, 78–79, 108–9, 112–19, 113, 120, 121–27, 130–31, 165
campaigns against, 11–12
among clergy, 138–39
court cases against, 134–42, 144–45
curfews and, 144, 150–51
defining and interpreting, 109–11
drinking establishments as centers of, 3–4, 158, 216
and government slander and sedition, 149–50
and poverty, 34–36
prostitution and, 8–9, 15, 31, 124, 127
on the Sabbath, 145–48, 155
and sacrilege, profanation, and blasphemy, 145–48, 155
among servants and apprentices, 142, 144–45, 155
and sexual misconduct, 136–38, 152–54
and theft and vandalism, 151–52
and verbal abuse, 139–40, 155
among youth, 141–45, 143
See also drunkenness; sexual disorder and misconduct; violence and disorder
Domesday Book, 189
Dorchester, 110, 146, 151, 153–54, 159–60, 164, 182
Dorset, 109, 111, 222
Doughty, Robert, 160
Downname, John, 32
Dreadful Character of a Drunkard, 17
Drinke and Welcome, 62
drinking establishments
and antisocial behavior, 219–20
and curfew, 4, 29, 113, 114, 115, 132, 200, 203
and disorder, 3–4, 13, 78–79, 108–9, 112–19, 113, 120, 130–32, 165, 216
disorderly clientele of, 26, 86, 121–27, 161–62
in England, 87–91
in France, 85–87, 116–17, 121, 123, 125, 127, 194–95
and gambling, 125–26, 202–3
in Italy, 84–85, 116, 193–94, 195
legislation governing, 4, 185, 187, 193–200
moralists’ condemnations of, 13, 29, 31, 32–33
music in, 88–89
and recreational drinking, 80, 84–91
regulations on clientele and behavior at, 198–203
regulations on hours of operation of, 203–5
religious and political dissidents and, 127–30, 131
and sexual activity, 124–25
students and, 87–88
See also alehouses and taverns
drunkenness
as a criminal offense in England, 209–12, 216
drunkenness, continued
defined, 21–22, 133
and disorder, 134–41, 154
economic effects of, 15, 34–39
English reputation for, 72
in France, 23, 30–31, 208–9, 213
as gluttony, 19–21, 39, 134
moralists’ condemnation of, 13–14, 21–29, 30–34, 38, 106, 185
and perception, 222
regulations against, 2, 4, 30–31, 209–12
in Shakespeare’s plays, 24
See also disorder
dry versus wet drinking cultures, 78, 217, 221
Dyetary of Helth, 62

E
Edgerton, Robert B., 6
Edgeworth, Roger, 31–32
Edward I, 203
Edward II, 99
Edward VI, 206
Elements of the Common Laws of England, 212
Elizabeth (Queen), 11, 68–69
Elyot, Thomas, 61
England
alcohol consumption in, 61–72, 67, 68, 69, 69–70, 216
alcohol consumption among peasants in, 72–73, 75–77, 77
beer and ale brewing in, 62–63, 70–71
drinking establishments in, 87–91, 125–26, 127, 155
drunkenness in, 72, 209–12, 213, 216
moralists in, 16–19, 24–27, 29–30, 32, 33–39
recreational drinking in, 92, 93, 94–96, 98–99, 100, 100–101, 102–3, 104, 105–6
regulations in, 29, 187, 189–93, 195–98, 204–5
water quality in, 42–43
England’s Bane, 25
English Protestants, 16–19, 25–26, 102, 128, 145–46, 221
Enjalbert, Henri, 58, 72
Epiphany, 92, 103
Ervy, 31
Exeter, 117
Essex
and disorder, 112, 115, 117, 118–19, 137, 149–50
and recreational drinking, 101
and regulations, 198, 208
and violence, 160–61, 171

F
Faenza, 194
Falkirk, Battle of, 171
Falstaff, Sir John, 24, 63. See also Shakespeare, William
Feast of the Assumption, 169
Feast of the Bottle, 93–94
Ferrara, 188, 206
Festival of the Twelve Marys, 92
festive drinking, 3, 80, 91–98, 168–70, 205, 216
Fichard, Johann, 212
Finsbury, 197
the “first place,” 84, 121–22, 131
Flandrin, Jean-Louis, 40–41, 60
Fleet Street Riots of 1628, 171
Fletcher, Anthony, 198, 201
Florence
alcohol consumption in, 45, 46–47, 47, 49, 49, 50
and disorder, 116, 122, 124, 125, 126
and moralists, 27, 37
and recreational drinking, 82, 85, 96, 104–5
and regulations, 9, 188, 189, 193, 201, 204
and violence, 162, 168, 173
Fontaine, Jean de la, 52
Fortescue, John, 42, 62
France
alcohol consumption in, 77–78, 216
disorder in, 116–117, 119, 120, 121, 123, 125, 127
drinking establishments in, 85–87
moralists in, 23–24, 25, 27–29, 32, 33–34, 36, 37, 38, 40–41, 52, 78
recreational drinking in, 91–92, 93, 95, 96, 97, 104, 105
regulations in, 30–31, 194–95, 203, 208–9, 213
rites of passage celebrations in, 98, 99, 100, 102, 103
temperance in, 60–61
wine consumption among peasants in, 74–75, 75
wine consumption in, 51–56, 55, 56, 60–61, 66
wine exports from, 58, 71, 189
wine production in, 54, 57–58, 59, 60–61
wine rations in, 55–56, 57
Francis I, 199
Franklin, Benjamin, 3
Fraternity of the Assumption, 104
French, Katherine, 94
Fuller, Thomas, 61
funerals and alcohol consumption, 98, 101–2

G
gambling, 125–26, 176–78, 202–3
Gammer Gurtons Needle, 82
Gardanne, 57, 75
Garden of Eden, 16
Gascoigne, George, 18, 19, 24
Gauvard, Claude, 110, 115, 159, 160
gender. See manhood, notions of; patriarchal ideology; women
Genoa, 28, 47, 48
Germany, 212
Gin Lane, 64
Given, James Buchanan, 160
Glascow, Edward, 211
Gloucestershire, 61, 115
gluttony, 19–21, 30, 39, 134, 206
God’s Sword Drawn against Drunkards, 17
Goodman of Paris, 27, 134, 135
Gouberville, Gilles de, 74, 82, 222
Gough, Richard, 140, 141, 173
Grande Rebeyne, La, 32
Greban, Arnould, 82
Greene, Robert, 121, 126
Gregory the Great, 19
Griffiths, Paul, 103
Grosso, Nanni, 46
guilds, 83, 90, 103, 104
Gunpowder Treason Day, 171
Gusfield, Joseph, 223

H
Hammer, Carl I., 161
Hampshire, 77, 130
Hanawalt, Barbara, 10, 159, 160
Handlyng Synne, 20
Harrell, Stevan, 7
Harrison, William, 39–40, 63
Heath, Dwight B., 82, 219–20
“help-ale,” 83
Henry IV (Shakespeare’s), 63
Henry IV, 23, 36
Henry VII, 195
Henry VIII, 63, 64, 119, 149, 202
Hertfordshire, 61, 64, 77, 122, 139, 177
History of Myddle, 140, 173
Hoccleve, Thomas, 140
homosexual activity, 116, 201
honor and violence, 8, 127, 162, 163, 172–74, 179, 180–81, 182–83, 183–84, 219
Hooker, Richard, 102, 212
Hornby, William, 178
Howell, Cicely, 73
Howell, James, 63
Hutton, Ronald, 91

I
industrialization and alcoholic consumption, 2
Industrious Smith, 183
inns, 88. See also drinking establishments
Ipswich, 199–200
Ireland, 70, 104, 137, 221
Italy
alcohol consumption in, 41, 44–51, 78, 216
drinking establishments in, 84–85, 116, 124, 125, 126, 193–94, 195, 203
moralists in, 23, 26–28, 28, 29, 30, 37, 40, 51
recreational drinking in, 85, 92–93, 96, 97, 104, 105
regulations in, 208, 213
social disorder in, 9
wine consumption in, 43, 46–48, 47, 48, 50–51, 54, 73, 73
wine production in, 49–50, 57, 60
wine rations in, 49
James I, 24, 41, 196, 205, 207
jeu de Saint Nicholas, Le, 121
Jevon, Thomas, 163–64
John the Good (king), 189
Josselin, Ralph, 66

Keep the Widow Waking, 153
Kent
and disorder, 112, 113–14, 121, 125, 130, 134, 135
and regulations, 196–97, 207
and violence, 160, 171
Kentish Town, 197
Kett’s Rebellion, 170
King, Gregory, 67
Kümin, Beat, 13

La Chesnaye, Nicolas de, 23
Laffemas, Barthélémy de (Bernard), 23, 23n33, 31, 36
Lagniet, Jacques, 119, 120
Lambarde, William, 38
Lancashire, 63, 90, 111, 132, 197, 200–201, 204–5, 211
Lang, Alan R., 8, 216–17
Langland, William, 20, 22
Languedoc, 60, 74, 75
Lanturelu, revolt of, 172
La Peyrousse, 182
Lascombes, André, 78–79

Laws of the Ecclesiastical Polity, 212
legislation
antisocial behavior and, 9
on children and drinking, 200
on drinking establishments, 37, 195–207
on drunkenness in France, 30–31
on gambling, 202–3
on servants and apprentices, 200–201
See also regulations, government
Lent, 9–10, 28, 41, 52, 92, 93, 204, 219, 223
Leo X, Pope, 105
Letter Books (of London), 187, 204
Levine, Harry G., 16
Libourne, 152, 161
Libro di buoni costumi, 45
Licensing Act of 1552, 29, 195, 196, 197–98
Licensing Act of 1604, 37, 186, 196, 199
Lille, 87, 93, 105, 163, 201
Lincolnshire, 77, 166
Liverpool, 106
Locatelli, Sebastiano, 45, 50, 60–61
Locke, John, 72
London
alcohol consumption in, 3, 42–43, 62, 63, 64–65, 67, 68, 69–70, 70–71, 77, 78
and moralists, 25, 29
and recreational drinking, 90, 92, 93, 94, 95, 98–99, 105, 106
and regulations, 187–88, 190–91, 200, 201, 203, 204, 209
and violence, 10, 12, 156, 158, 159, 160, 167, 169, 171, 172, 177
London Spy, 88–89
Lord of Misrule, 92
Lorraine, 60, 74
Lot, 16
Louis IX, 52
Louis XIV, 194, 208
Lowe, Roger, 63, 89, 90–91, 132, 200–201
Lyon, 32, 55, 55, 105, 175, 198–99

MacAndrew, Craig, 6
Macfarlane, Alan, 10, 10n27
Machyn, Henry, 64, 94, 98–99, 100
Maguin, Martine, 74
Mainbressy, 169
Manchester, 200, 209
manhood, notions of, 145, 162, 176, 183–84, 220
The Man in the Moon, 22
Mannyng, Robert, 20
Maréchal de Vivonne, 105
marriage and alcohol consumption, 3, 80, 81, 98, 99–101, 100, 106, 206
Marseille, 75, 181
Maximus, Valerius, 32
May Day festivals, 80, 93–94, 170, 205
Mazzi, Maria Serena, 162
McIntosh, Marjorie Keniston, 12
mead, 45, 52, 61, 64
medicinal role of alcohol consumption, 65–66
Mercuri, Scipione, 23
Metz, 54, 55
mezzo vino, 49–50, 60, 71, 77–78, 96, 192, 217
Middleton, Thomas, 136
Midland Revolt of 1607, 170–71
Milton, John, 105
Modena, 47, 128
Montaigne, Michel de, 50, 51, 61
Montaldo, 48
Montanari, Massimo, 73
Monte Cassino, 202
Montepulciano, 194, 202
Montpellier, 52, 83, 103
moralists
 moderation and, 13
 and beer’s rise in popularity, 78–79
 and class bias, 39–40
 condemnation of drunkenness and drinking establishments by, 3–4, 13–14, 21–30, 106, 154, 185, 216
 on drunkenness and sin, 30–34
 and economic disorder, 34–39
 cultural perceptions among, 41
 and desecration of the Sabbath, 33–34, 111–12
 in France, 23–24, 25, 27–29, 32, 33–34, 36, 37, 38, 40–41, 52, 78
 and published attacks on drunkenness, 16–19
 and government regulations, 186–87, 213–14
 in Italy, 23, 26–28, 28, 29, 30, 37, 40, 51
 and sexual activity, 31–32, 37, 40
Morgan, Ellis, 156, 158
Moryson, Fynes, 50, 60
Murol, 56, 57
mystère de la passion, Le, 82
mystère de la résurrection, Le, 30, 35

N
Nancy, 189
Nantes, 38, 54, 55, 116, 129, 146, 170
Narbonne, 57
Nash, Ogden, 1, 223
Natural History of Wiltshire, 94–95
Netherlands, 62
Nevers, 53
Noah, 16, 21
Norfolk, 76, 151, 160, 198, 211, 213
Normandy, 52, 74, 167–68
Northamptonshire, 25, 90, 119, 133, 159, 160
Northumberland, 65, 68, 70, 119
Norwich, 30, 70, 116
A Notable Discovery of Cozenage, 126
Nottingham, 29, 139, 188
Nottinghamshire, 95–96

O
Order of Temperance, 43
Orléans, 105, 178
Orvieto, 85, 125, 188
Othello, 24
Oxford University, 87–88, 141–42, 161, 171, 180–81, 190, 200

P
Papon, Jean, 209, 212
Paris
 alcohol consumption in, 52, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60
 and disorder, 116, 119, 121, 122, 123, 126, 127, 129, 141, 150, 151, 152
 and moralists, 27, 31
 and recreational drinking, 86, 87, 105
 and regulations, 189, 195, 199, 202, 203, 207, 209
 and violence, 163, 166, 174, 176, 177
Paris, University of, 87, 180
parish churches
 church ales and, 18–19, 94–95, 101, 109, 183, 206–7
 as the “third place,” 84
 patriarchal ideology, 136, 155, 164, 166, 167, 179
Patrone, Anna Maria Nada, 47
Pavia, 48, 48
peasants
and alcohol consumption, 42, 72–78, 73, 75, 77
and recreational drinking, 77–78, 80–81, 85, 92, 95–96, 102
Peasants’ Revolt of 1381, 10, 129, 171–72
Penitential of Cummean, 19–20
Pepys, Samuel, 81–82, 89, 173
Périgueux, 172
perry, 45, 52, 61, 63–64
Petrarch, 21
Piedmont, 48–49, 73
Pini, Antonio Ivan, 44–45
piquette, 60, 71, 72, 74–75, 77–78, 217
Pisa, 47–48, 48
Pisan, Christine de, 35, 41
Platter, Felix, 103, 123
Plow Monday, 92
Poland, 221
Pont-Saint-Pierre, 161
Poor Robin’s Almanac, 96–97
Proffet, Nicholas, 25, 40
Protestants. See English Protestants
poverty and alcohol consumption, 37–38
prostitution, 8–9, 15, 31, 124, 127
puritanism, rise of, 11–12, 26, 30, 204–5, 207, 213–14. See also moralists
Quaife, G. R., 152
R
R.T., 39
rape, 5, 10, 167, 168, 218
Rabelais, François, 72
Rawlidge, Richard, 84, 108, 219
recreational drinking
alehouses and taverns as venue for, 3–4, 80, 84–91
and binge drinking, 106, 216, 217
and carnival, 9–10, 23, 80, 92–93, 96, 219, 221, 223
as celebration and jollification, 81–82
to celebrate local and national events, 103–4, 105–6
and church ales, 94–95
festive occasions and, 3, 80, 91–98, 106
and guilds, 83, 90, 103, 104
among religious associations, 104–5
and rites of passage, 3, 80, 81, 98–103, 100, 106
among peasants, 80–81, 85, 92, 95–96, 102, 105
and reconciliation rituals, 83, 86
and socialization, 6–7, 81, 82–83, 84
among students, 87–88
and violence, 4, 168–70, 216
among women, 82, 201
Recueil des plus illustres proverbs, 119, 120
Reformation, 207
regulations, government, 13–14
against church ales, 206–7
complex history of, 185–86
and consumer protection, 187–93, 213
on drinking establishments, 193–205, 216, 217
and drunkenness, 207–12
and festive occasions, 205–7
in France, 189–90, 192
in Italy, 188–89, 192
and the Sabbath, 112–13, 114–15, 118–19, 145
and sexual activity, 93
See also legislation
Reims, 174, 189
religious and political dissidents, 127–30
religious associations, 104–5
religious authorities, 41, 63, 138–39, 204–7, 209, 210. See also moralists
the Renaissance, 21, 43, 46, 79
the Restoration, 25, 29–30, 149, 207
Richard II, 202
Rigbie, Joseph, 36–37
Rise and Fall of Merry England: Ritual Year, 1400–1700, 91
rites of passage, 3, 80, 98–103, 106
Robin Hood, 176
Rocquigny, 169
Rome, 47, 85, 188–89, 202
Rouen, 31, 38, 86, 172, 198
Roxburghe Ballads, 100, 113, 165, 165–166
Royal army ale/beer rations, 69–70
royalists, 130, 148–49
Royal navy ale/beer rations, 69–70
Royal Proclamation of 1618, 198
Rubys, Claude de, 32, 108, 219
Ruff, Julius R., 13

S
S.T., 38–39
sack, 63, 89, 106, 148, 169, 176
Saint. See also St.
Saint-Emillon, 38
Saint-Omer, 104
Saint-Pierre-de-Bèze, 57
Saint-Sever, 168
saint’s days, 80
Saint Monday, 38
Sambrook, Pamela, 77
San Bernardino of Siena, 27–28, 33
Satan, 18, 26, 32, 118
Scarlatti, Filippo, 23
Schellinks, William, 169
Scourge of Drunkenness, 17
Scrivener, Matthew, 25–26
Seaver, Paul, 110, 115
Second Part of Cony-Catching, 121
sexual activity
   cultural relationship between alcohol and, 1, 220
   and moralists’ condemnations, 31–32, 37, 40
   and recreational drinking, 93
sexual disorder and misconduct
   in drinking establishments, 5, 117, 119, 124–25, 127
   among clergy, 138
   among men, 137, 153–54
   among women, 136–37, 145, 152–53
   and young adult males, 218, 219
See also violence and disorder
Shakespeare, William, 24, 63, 222
Sharp, Buchanan, 130
Sharpe, J.A., 160–61
Shepard, Alexandra, 110, 145
Shrewsbury, 63, 130
Shrove Monday, 93
Sicily, 49, 73
Siena, 45, 47, 188, 193, 194, 200, 201
Skelton, John, 119
socialization, 6–7, 81, 82–83, 84
Societies for Reformation of Manners, 209, 210
Sodom and Gomorrah, 20
Somerset, 82, 124, 126, 147, 152, 153, 175, 181, 183, 207
Southwark, 29, 124, 149–50, 165, 197
St. See also Saint
St. Amant, 74, 75
St. Bernard of Clairvaux, 20
St. Bonnet, 56
St. David’s Day, 169
St. Germain des Prés, 57
St. John Chrysostom, 20
St. Paul, 16, 21, 31–32, 42
St. Scholastica’s Day riot, 180–81
St. Vincent, 80, 97
statistics
   interpreting, 110
   types of, 43–44
   on violence and drinking, 159
Stockton, Owen, 89
Stow, John, 24, 95
Stratford, 148
Stubbes, Phillip, 18–19, 21, 24
students
   and drinking culture, 17, 37, 102
   drunk and disorderly behavior among, 141–42, 143
   regulations and, 200
See also Cambridge University; Oxford University
Suffolk, 68
“Suffolk Harvest-Home Song,” 76
Survey of London, 24
Sussex, 37, 68, 76, 147

T
Taillevent, 53
taverns. See alehouses and taverns; drinking establishments
taxation and alcohol, 43, 106–7
Taylor, John, 38, 62, 106, 211
temperance, 16, 42–43, 60–61
theologians, 19–21, 23, 30, 207
“throwing the stone,” 86–87
Timothy, 20, 42,
Toul, 56, 57
Toulouse, 55
Touraine, 161
Tours, 55
Traité de la Police, 208–9
Treatise against Drunkenness, 25
Trets, 57
“The Tunnyng of Elynour Rummyng,” 119
Turin, 47, 48, 49, 55
Tuscany, 49
Tusser, Thomas, 95
Twain, Mark, 43

V
vagabonds
as disorderly clientele, 26, 86, 109, 113, 115, 121–22, 127, 132, 161–62, 220
drinking establishments as the “first place” for, 121, 131
moralist condemnations of, 3, 37–38
regulations regarding, 196, 198, 199
and social disorder, 8, 11, 145
Vannes, 172
Venice
alcohol consumption in, 46, 48, 49, 50
and disorder, 148
and recreational drinking, 92, 100, 124, 128
and regulations, 193–94, 201, 202, 208
and violence, 156, 178
Vernines, 57, 74, 75
Verona, 92
Vic, 56
violence and disorder, 156–84
alcohol’s link to, 4, 5–14, 10n27, 159–60, 185, 215–23
alehouse and tavern keepers and, 179–82
class rivalry and, 178–79
conflicting loyalties and, 162, 163
court records pertaining to, 158, 159
domestic disputes and, 164–67, 165
family feuds and, 175
festive celebrations and, 167–72
gambling and, 176–78
honor and, 8, 127, 162, 163, 172–75, 179, 180–81, 182–83, 184, 219
men as the “host” in, 218–19
the observer in, 222–23
and patriarchal authority, 163–64, 166
and rape, 5, 10, 167, 168, 218
recreational drinking and, 168–70, 216
as ritualized and communal, 168, 169
and rivalries, 175–76
and sexual misconduct, 5, 117, 119, 124–25, 127
society as macroenvironment in, 220–22
statistics on, 159–61, 216
and women, 90–91
and young adult males, 5, 40, 79, 218–19
and youth, 116–18
See also disorder; sexual disorder and misconduct
Volterra, 47

W
Wall, Alison, 10
Ward, Ned, 88
Ward, Samuel, 17–18, 19, 24
A Warning to Drunkards, 17, 89
Warwickshire
ale and beer consumption in, 77
disorder in, 112, 113, 114, 117, 121, 134, 135
recreational drinking in, 88
and regulations, 196–97, 211
and violence, 160
water, 42–43
weddings. See marriage and alcohol consumption
Westminster, 25, 70, 111, 123–24, 150, 166, 197
Weyer, Johann, 33
Wheatcroft, Leonard, 99
William (king), 210
Wiltshire, 127, 147
wine
  biblical ambivalence toward, 15–16, 20
  English clergy and, 63
  English imports of, 71
  in France, 52–53, 55–56, 57–58, 57, 59
  in Italy, 44–45, 49
  peasant consumption of, 72–75, 75
  regulations on, 187–89, 192, 194–95
  understated statistics regarding, 43
wine fountains, 105
Wiseman, Richard, 156
Wiseman’s Book of Martyrs, 156
witchcraft, 33
Woe to Drunkards, 17
Wood, Anthony à, 89, 141–42
women
  alcohol consumption among, 44
  as disorderly alehouse keepers, 119, 120
  and drinking establishments, 86, 90–91, 132, 201
  drunk and disorderly behavior among, 127, 135–37, 139–40, 141, 145, 152–53, 155
  and honor, 184
  moralists’ condemnations of, 40
  recreational drinking among, 82, 99, 201
  violence toward, 5, 10, 167, 168, 218
See also patriarchal ideology
Worcester, 29, 69
Worcestshire, 61, 151, 164
Wrightson, Keith, 112, 115
Wycliff, John, 35

Y
York, 130, 138, 190, 204, 205
Yorkshire, 101, 179