

## Deddington Blues 1753

*Jackson's Oxford Journal* was launched by William Jackson at a time when the first contested general election in Oxfordshire in 44 years was keenly anticipated. He saw an opportunity of presenting the views of both sides, the 'Old Interest' Tories and the 'New Interest' Whigs, in a neutral manner. The first edition published on 5 May 1753 carried the banner "News, Boys, News! Election News."

The Oxfordshire election of 1754 has been described as "probably the most notorious English county election of the 18th century".<sup>1</sup> There was no secret ballot, and bribery and intimidation were rife. It was depicted in Hogarth's famous series of paintings, '*The Humours of an Election*'.<sup>2</sup>

The first reference to Deddington in the newspaper is in an advertisement in 1753 referring to a piece of verse entitled "The Dedington Blues, Or, The RUMP Rumped" in a satirical political publication called 'The Election Magazine; OR, The *Oxfordfhire* REGISTER'.

On the face of it the verses appear to have little to do with Deddington, but they lampoon all four candidates and the most effective Whig campaigner, Lady Susan Keck. The candidates were Viscount Wenman (Tory), Sir James Dashwood B.<sup>†</sup> (Tory), Viscount Parker (Whig) and Sir Edward Turner B.<sup>†</sup> (Whig).

**25 August 1753**

**Advertisement. Cost of publication 1s.**

The Election Magazine;

OR,

The *Oxfordfhire* REGISTER.

Being a compleat Collection of all the Pieces in *Profe*

and *Verfe* lately publifhed, in Favour of the

OLD and NEW INTEREST;

And not inferted in any other Collection.

Together with *federal* very CURIOUS and INTERESTING

ORIGINALS *never before Printed.*

Contents (x 21) include:

V. The Deddington Blues; or the Rump Rumped.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1754\\_British\\_general\\_election\\_\(Oxfordshire\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1754_British_general_election_(Oxfordshire))

<sup>2</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humours\\_of\\_an\\_Election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humours_of_an_Election)

Advertisement repeated 15 times between 25 August 1753 and 9 March 1754.

**The Dedington Blues,  
Or, The RUMP Rumped.**

YE Sons of Old Oxford be merry and fmg,  
Let *Wenman* and *Dafhwood* in Echos ftill ring,  
And fspread round the County this good piece of News,  
That the Rumpers were rump'd by the *Dedington  
Blues.* *Sing Tantarara True Blue, &c.*

A Vifit of Whigs Lady--- did decree,  
To a Town that was honeft, and hearty, and free;  
Where, to fhew its Regard to old Whigs and old S---  
The Rumpers were rump'd by the *Dedington Blues.*  
*Sing Tantarara &c.*

On April the *firft* it was ever a Rule,  
To fend on an Errand the foft *April Fool*,  
But now for that purpofe the *Second* we'll choofe,  
When the Rumpers were rump'd by the *Dedington  
Blues* *Sing Tantarara, &c.*

Then *T-----r* the fteady, and TONY the Wife,  
Came laden with Promifes, Speeches and Lies,  
The honeft Freeholders in hopes to amufe;  
But the Rumpers were rump'd by the *Dedington Blues.*  
*Sing Tantarara, &c.*

When firft they march'd in they look'd valiant and ftout,  
But feem'd mighty fmall before they march'd out;  
They feem'd mighty small - and how could they chufe,  
For these Rumpers were rump'd by the *Dedington  
Blues.* *Sing Tantarara, &c.*

Sir *E-----d* appear'd in a terrible Fright,  
Poor TONY as one that wou'd get nothing by't,  
And *P-----r* like one that had nothing to lofe,  
When the Rumpers were rump'd by the *Dedington  
Blues.* *Sing Tantarara, &c.*

There fancified Jonathan prick'd up his Ears,  
With Looks that betray'd his *Predeftinate* Fears,  
On a *Beef-Eaters* Place he did nothing but mufe,  
Whilft the Rumpers were rump'd by the *Dedington*  
*Blues*. *Sing Tantarara, &c.*

O Jonathan, Jonathan, govern thy Grief,  
The worft come to worft, you may eat *your own Beef*;  
Keep your knife and your Steel; the Halbert refufe,  
Now the Rumpers are rump'd by the *Dedington Blues*.  
*Sing Tantarara knock down, knock down.*

When a *Female*\* you *whipp'd* in pretty dumb fhow,  
What JUSTICE you painted twas eafy to know;  
His *Worship* fuch Difcipline knew how to ufe,  
Long before he was rump'd by the *Dedington Blues*.  
*Sing Tantarara Lafh all, Lafh all, &c.*

'Twas right we muft own when the *Rump hung on A--fe*  
To flog it in fhrewd emblematical Farce,  
A *Scourge* it deferves, and to give it its dues,  
It fhall ftill be well jerk'd by the *Dedington Blues*.  
*Sing Tantarara whip Rump, whip Rump, &c.*

Now join my brave *Dedington Boys*, in the Song,  
To Honour be true, and in Honefty strong,  
And ftill, tho' it croffes a Penfioners Views,  
May the Rumpers be rump'd by the *Dedington Blues*.  
*Sing Tantarara down Rump, down Rump, &c.*

In full flowing Bumpers our Glaffes we'll fill,  
And drink a good Health to our Friend *on the Hill*,<sup>‡</sup>  
His Health in a Bumper let no one Refufe,  
For the Rumpers were rump'd by the *Dedington Blues*.  
*Sing Tantarara True Blue, True Blue, &c.*

‡ *Aynhoe on the Hill.*

\* Alluding to a Piece of Mummery, exhibited (as it is faid)  
for an Emblem of *Popery*; but which, from its more obvious  
Conformity to a late ever-memorable Tranfaction, was by a  
great Majority of the Spectators quite mifapprehended.

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=njp.32101037602420&view=1up&seq=38&q1=Blues>