Edward Jorden Encyclopedia Article

Edward Jorden

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Edward Jorden

1569-1632

English physician who wrote "A Briefe Discourse of a Disease Called the Suffocation of the Mother," in which he valiantly defended 14-year-old Mary Glover, accused of witchcraft. Jorden wrote that her fits, actions, and "passions of the body" were not because of the devil but because of her uterus and the problems that women had because of "womanhood." Unfortunately the judges did not accept his explanations.