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Staffordshire

COLLECTIONS

FOR A

HISTORY

OF

STAFFORDSHIRE

EDITED BY

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

VOLUME XIV.

1893.

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Staffordshire County Studies

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The William Salt Archaeological Society.

1893.

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RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

I.—That the Society be called the “WILLIAM SALT ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.”

II.—The leading object of the Society shall be the editing and printing of original documents relating to the County of Stafford, to which, however, may be added papers selected by an Editorial Committee, illustrative of the same, or coming under any of the eight following heads:—

- (a) Abstracts of the Monastic Chartularies, and of Ancient Family Deeds, with the names of witnesses and fac-similes of seals; Genealogies of Nobility and Gentry (accompanied by proofs), Heraldic Visitations, and other papers touching the general history and descent of properties and families.
- (b) Printing and editing of the Public Records relating to the County, including the Exchequer or Fine Rolls, the Assize Rolls, Fine Rolls, Inquisitions, Perambulations of Forests, Subsidy Rolls, and Assessments, &c., &c.
- (c) History of Parishes and of Manors, and of Manorial Customs and Tenures, illustrated by Copies of, or reference to, original grants.
- (d) Church Notes hitherto unpublished, such as Ecclesiastical Surveys, Extracts from Episcopal and Parish Registers, Copies of Epitaphs, and Description of Monuments and Ecclesiastical Buildings, Abstracts or Copies of Wills, &c.
- (e) Notices of British and Roman Remains and Roads and Buildings, and the Antiquities generally of the District.
- (f) Autograph Letters and other documents relating to the Civil War.
- (g) Notices of distinguished Worthies, Broadsides, Election Squibs, &c.
- (h) Correspondence, in which enquiries may be made and answered, on any of the above subjects, and miscellaneous information, including corrections of errors.

III.—The general affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council of ten, of whom five shall be trustees of the William Salt Library, and nominated by them, from time to time, and five shall be elected at an Annual Meeting of the Subscribers. The Council shall be empowered to delegate, if they see fit, the selection of the papers to be printed, to an Editorial Committee. Of the Council, three shall be a quorum, and in case of equality of votes, their Chairman shall have a casting vote.

IV.—The Officers of the Society shall be a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Auditor, to be appointed by the Council. These Offices shall be honorary, but the Council shall have power to appoint an Assistant Secretary to be paid at the discretion of the Council, as the nature of his duties may warrant.

V.—The Subscription shall be One Guinea annually, to be paid in advance, upon the first of January in each year, and such annual payment shall entitle each Subscriber to the volume issued for the year of such subscription. Any Subscriber shall be permitted to withdraw from the Society by giving notice of his intention three months before the termination of any year of Subscription.

N.B.—To save trouble, it is recommended that the Members of the Society pay their subscriptions to the Society's bankers by revocable order upon their own bankers, a printed form for which may be obtained from the Assistant Secretary.

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

GENERAL MEETING, 17TH OCTOBER, 1893.

The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the William Salt Library, Stafford, on the 17th October, 1893, the Right Hon. the Lord Wrottesley in the Chair. The other members present were: the Ven. Archdeacon Lane, Major-General Edmund Manningham Buller, the Rev. F. P. Parker, the Rev. E. Salt, Mr. T. W. Phillips, of Heybridge, Mr. William Brough, Mr. William Fowler Carter, Mr. W. H. Duignan, of Rushall, Mr. Eagleton, Mr. W. Morgan, Mr. T. Naylor, Mr. F. Perry, of Dunston, Mr. James Tildesley, and Major-General the Hon. George Wrottesley, the Honorary Secretary.

After some preliminary remarks from the Chair, the Report of the Editorial Committee was read by the Honorary Secretary, as follows:—

REPORT OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1892-93.

The Editorial Committee have to report that Volume XIII of the Collections for the History of Staffordshire was issued to the Subscribers in May of this year, and that nearly two-thirds of Volume XIV has been printed. Its contents will consist of the *Coram Rege* Rolls, or Records of the King's Bench of the reign of Edward III and the first five years of Richard II, together with an account of the military service performed by Staffordshire tenants during the reign of Richard II. These have been abstracted from the original Rolls by Major-General Wrottesley. Part II will contain the commencement of a History of Weston-under-Lizard, by Canon Bridgeman.

As regards the question of the Lichfield Wills, we have to report that the concluding part of Series IV, A.D. 1562-1624, has been issued to the Subscribers, and the final payment to the Record Society appears in the accounts of this year. For the following Series, viz., from 1624-1652, we have the

names of thirty-six Subscribers. This Series, together with the Peculiars, has been printed and is ready for distribution, but on the receipt of the following letter from the Secretary of the British Record Society, it was considered advisable to suspend the issue of them till the Subscribers should have an opportunity of deciding whether they will take the Index in addition or not.

The Secretary writes as follows:—

TO MAJOR-GENERAL WROTTESLEY.

45, Weymouth Street, W.

30th August, 1893.

“DEAR SIR,

On receiving your letter of the 21st inst., I instructed our agent to forward thirty-six copies of the remaining sheets of the Calendar of Lichfield Wills, as you directed, but he tells me that the end of the Calendar and the beginning of the Index are on the same sheet, which would have to be divided in order to supply the former only. Of course this can easily be done, but it occurs to me that it might be more satisfactory not to divide any, until we know how many of the thirty-six Subscribers of the William Salt Society would like to take the Index as well. The Index is the most important part of the book, and perhaps the majority of the thirty-six would take it. The Index will be completed next December and will run to ten sheets or thereabouts. Our usual price to our own Subscribers is 8*s.* a sheet for our publications, but I am sure our Council would consider 5*s.* for this Index a fair amount to ask, under the circumstances, from your Subscribers. I should be glad to know what you think of this suggestion. The price I have named is that which we are asking also from members of the Shropshire Archæological Society.

“Yours very faithfully,

“EDWIN HOLTHOUSE.”

It would be advisable therefore that the Subscribers to the new Series should notify to the Secretary whether they intend to take the Index before the close of this year, and it is proposed to issue a circular to them to this effect.

The Committee take this opportunity of alluding to the great loss which the Society has sustained by the death of Mr. Mazzinghi, who had held the post of Assistant Secretary since the foundation of the Society in 1879. His classical attainments and antiquarian tastes rendered him of essential

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EXTRACTS FROM THE PLEA ROLLS OF
THE REIGN OF EDWARD III.

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL ROLLS IN THE
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE.

BY
MAJOR-GENERAL THE HON. GEORGE WROTTESLEY.

STAFFORDSHIRE ARCHIVES

EXTRACTS FROM THE PLEA ROLLS,
TEMP. E. III.

CORAM REGE ROLL. EASTER, 1 E. III (*apud Ebor*).

Staff. John de Mynar sued William le Byker, Chaplain, Nicholas de Tymmor, and William Rendeste for taking his goods and chattels from Blakenhale, *vi et armis*, to the value of £40. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain, and produce them on the Quindene of Holy Trinity. *m. 37, dorso.*

Salop. A writ of *fieri facias* was issued against the lands and chattels of John de Chetwynde, knight, for a debt of £40 owing to John Cokeyn, of Assheburne. *m. 37, dorso.*

Staff. Felicia, formerly wife of John de Pycheford, appealed in person William de Stafford the elder, James de Stafford, and John, William, and Walter his brothers, John, son of John Bozoun, Robert de Greseleye and Roger and Edmund his brothers, David de Pullesdon, Richard de Pycheford, Stephen de Bromleye, Thomas, son of Adam de Bruynton, Adam de Burgo, John, son of Richard de Bruynton and Roger his brother, John, son of Henry de Heywode, and Richard his brother, Ralph Chopcock, John, son of Simon le Taillour, of Gnosale, Thomas Fox, Robert de Hanchirque, William, son of John le Fevre of Eyton, John del Canke, John de Ferson, Robert de Hughcesdon, Henry de Bysshebury, and William, the Vikerson of Berkeswiche, for the death of John de Pycheforde, formerly her husband. And the Sheriff returned that the defendants, with the exception of Henry de Bysshebury, could not be found. He was therefore ordered to put them into *exigent*, and if they did not appear to outlaw them, and if they appeared, to produce them *coram Rege* on the Morrow of All Souls. And as regarded Henry de Bisshebury, the Sheriff returned that he had taken him and detained him in prison, and that he was afflicted with such infirmity he could not be conveyed in any way, "*quod nullo modo potest curari.*" And upon this Felicia, who was present in court, testified that Henry de Bysshebury, who was named in the appeal, and Henry de Bysshebury the Sheriff of Staffordshire, was one and the same person. The coroners of the county were therefore ordered to attach the said Henry by his body and to produce him on the same date as the other defendants. *m. 19, dorso.*

CORAM REGE. TRINITY, 1 E. III.

Staff. Nicholas de Hungerford sued in person Thomas de Furnivalle the younger for taking his goods and chattels from Strongeshull (Stramshall), *vi et armis*, to the value of £50. Thomas did not appear, and the Sheriff

¹ The Court was at York.

returned the writ reached him too late. He was therefore ordered to attach him for the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 4, dorso.*

Staff. Hugh de Florence, parson of the church of Sheil, Isabella, formerly wife of Thomas de Rydeware, and Gilbert Henry, the executors of the will of Thomas de Rydeware sued Walter, son of Thomas de Rydeware, for forcibly taking six horses, eight oxen, and forty pigs, which had belonged to the said Thomas, and worth 10 marks, and other goods and chattels to the value of 10 marks belonging to the said Thomas, and which were in the custody of the said executors. Walter did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him on the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 43.*

Staff. William de Shaldeford by William Meverel, his attorney, sued William Coyne, John de Wyverstone, William Knyght, and William de Kerswale for breaking, *vi et armis*, into his houses at Halfhide, and reaping and taking his corn, and taking timber from his houses to the value of 100s. The defendant did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce them at a month from Michaelmas. *m. 66, dorso.*

Staff. Richard Giffyn of Great Wyrleye, sued Robert de Esynnton, Roger, son of William de Penne, and Nicholas de Sewalle for beating, wounding, and ill-treating him at Esynnton. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain Robert and Roger who had found sureties, and to arrest Nicholas and produce them *coram Rege* at a month from Michaelmas. *m. 54, dorso.*

CORAM REGE. MICH, 1 E. III.

Staff. A mandate was sent to the Sheriff that whereas Edward, late King of England, the King's father, with the assent of Magister Richard de Clebury, who held the custody of the forest of Kynefare for term of his life by a grant of King Edward, the King's grandfather, had granted to his faithful and beloved John de Vaux the custody of the said forest and manor for his life, in exchange for the Hundred of Bradeford in co. Salop, which the said John held for life by a grant of the King's father, and which with the assent of the said John had been granted by the King's father to the said Richard; and the said John had petitioned the King that whereas he had been indicted for the death of Thomas Murdak and lawfully acquitted of the same and all his lands and tenements and goods and chattels had been taken into the late King's hands, and the custody of the said forest and manor had been taken from him to his great cost and damage; the King wishing to do what was just, and understanding that Henry Hillary now held the custody of the forest and manor; the Sheriff was to summon the said Henry for the Octaves of St. Hillary to show cause why the said John should not have again the custody of the said forest and manor. *m. 8.*

Staff. In the suit of William de Shaldeford against William Coyne and others; the defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff returned the names of their sureties, and certain sums as the proceeds of distrainments. The sureties of William Knyght were Henry de Charnes, William de Wyverstone, Nicholas de Wyttegreve, and John brother of Nicholas. The Sheriff was ordered to distrain again those who had found sureties, and to arrest John de Wyverstone, and produce them on the Morrow of the Purification. *m. 71.*

Staff. William Trussebut sued Roger le Bakester, of Draycote, for breaking, *vi et armis*, into his close at Draycote and cutting down his trees

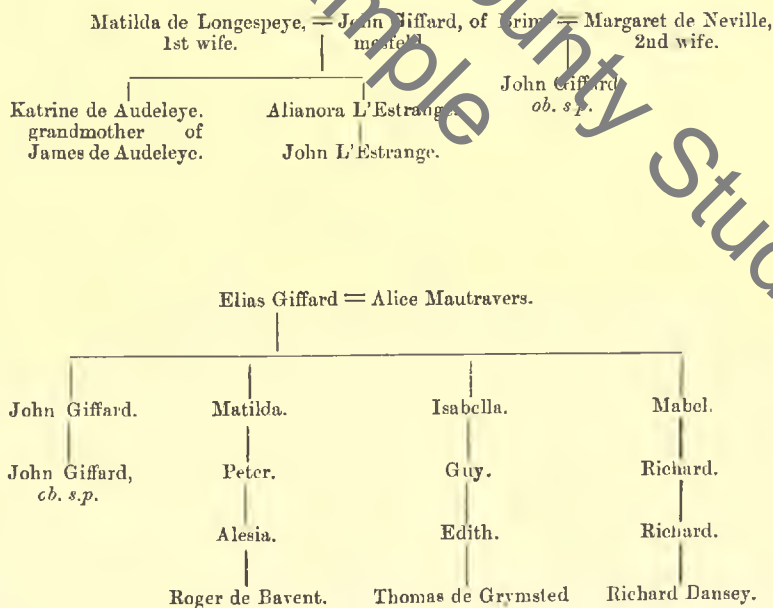
to the value of £20. Roger did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him on the Octaves of St. Hillary. *m.* 98.

Warw. Adam de Somervile sued in person Roger, son of Roger de Somervyle, of Stokton, for breaking, *vi et armis*, into his house at Stokton and taking his goods and chattels to the value of 100*s.* Roger did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him on the Quindene of St. Hillary. *m.* 104.

Warw. Robert Jurdan, of Stokton, sued Roger son of Roger de Somerville of Stokton, and Adam his brother and two others for breaking, *vi et armis*, at night into his house at Stokton, and beating, wounding, and ill-treating him and taking his goods and chattels to the value of £10. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain, and produce them on the Quindene of St. Hillary. *m.* 104.

Glouc. A long process extending over several membranes to determine the nearest heirs of John Giffard, of Brimmesfeld. John, son of Fulk Lestraunge and Alianora, sister of John Giffard, and James, son of Nicholas de Audeley, the issue of Katrine de Audeley the other sister of John Giffard having been returned as the nearest heirs by one Inquisition and other Inquisitions making the matter doubtful, the King had referred the question to Geoffrey le Scrop and his fellow justices who was to summon all the parties before him and determine the case according to law and custom of the kingdom. *m.* 119.

The proceedings give the following pedigrees:—



viro domino Hugoni le Despencer, juniore, omnes terras et tenementa quas et que habui vel aliquo modo habere potui in villa de Schipton juxta Wychevode una cum advocacione ecclesie ejusdem ville, etc. Huius testibus Dominis Johanne de Handlo, Edmundo de Cornubia, Ricardo de Perers, militibus, Rogero de Nouwers, Thomas Golafre, Johanne de Langeleye et aliis. Datum apud Schypton juxta Whitewode die Veneris proximo post Festum Nativitatis beati Johannis Baptiste, 15 E. II."

Upon this the King sent a writ to William de Shareshulle and William de Binchestre to make enquiry into the matter, and whether the tenements in question had come into the King's hand by reason of the forfeiture of Hugh le Despencer. In pursuance of this writ an inquisition took place at Oxford on the Thursday the Feast of the Ascension, 1 E. III, on the oath of twelve jurors who stated that Hugh le Despencer, the younger, had caused the said John de Brompton to be arrested at York on the 27 April, 15 E. II, and kept in prison in custody of Simon Warde, then Sheriff of Yorkshire, under pretence that he was an adherent of Thomas, late Earl of Lancaster, and he sent word to the said John by Thomas Sprengghuse, clerk of the said Hugh, that he would not be released from prison until he had enfeoffed the said Hugh of the tenements in question and advowson; and the said John de Brompton, through dread of prison and fear of death, had enfeoffed the said Hugh of the tenements and advowson against his will. And upon this the late King, on the following 20 June sent his writ to Simon Warde, the Sheriff of Yorkshire, to release John de Brompton and deliver him to Ingelran Berenger; and the said Ingelran had taken John as a prisoner to Shypton in co. Oxon, and had then threatened him that, unless he made the feoffment to Hugh le Despencer, he would take him back to the prison at York; and so the said John, being in custody and through fear of death, and against his will, had enfeoffed Hugh of the tenements and advowson, and had delivered them to the said Ingelran, as attorney for Hugh, viz., on the Friday after the Feast of St. John the Baptist, 15 E. II, in his own person, and in the presence of John de Langeleye, Thomas de Langeleye, Baldwyne de Romeny, Nicholas de la Croiz, Stephen le Botiller, and Geoffrey de Bermynnton, Vicar of the church of Shypton and of others who had assembled, and the said John in delivering seisin had protested that he did it against his will, to save his life and not for any other cause. And after the livery of seisin Ingelran permitted the said John to depart.

And they stated that the said tenements and advowson had come into the King's hand by reason of the forfeiture of the said Hugh, and that they were held of Isabella de Clare and Thomas de Langeleye by the free service of 33s. annually, and that the advowson of the church was held of the King *in capite* by a charter of King Henry, the son of the Conqueror, made to the Bishop and church of Salisbury, and to the ancestors of the said John, and the tenements were worth 60s. annually, and the church was worth 30 marks.

On the receipt of this inquisition the King issued a writ to Richard de Wylughby, the Chief Justice, directing him to call the parties before him and do what was just, etc., dated from Marlebergh, 12 November, 7 E. III. Afterwards the said John de Brumpton appeared, *coram Rege*, at Warwick, at Easter Term, 8 E. III, but nothing was done because the petition was at York and not before the Court, and a day was given to him on the Octaves of St. Michael, on which day the process was again adjourned to the next term, and so on from term to term to the present term, when John de Brumpton appeared by attorney, and a day was given to him on the Octaves of Holy Trinity.¹ m. 119.

be 27 years of age at that date (Bridgeman's "History of Church-Eaton," Vol. IV, "Staff. Coll.").

¹ John de Brimpton died on the 19th August in this year. (Bridgeman's "History of Church-Eaton," Vol. IV, "Staff. Coll.")

Staff. In the appeal of Margery, formerly wife of Richard de Burton, against Henry de Cresswalle and others for the death of her husband, the Sheriff returned that Henry de Cresswalle, Henry, son of Henry de Cresswalle, and Thomas, his brother, John del Halle, William del Holdefeld, Roger de Mynghull, and John Wade had been put into *exigent* at five County Courts and had not appeared, they were therefore to be outlawed; and he returned that Thomas, brother of Henry de Cressewalle, and Hugh de Hulle had surrendered at the fifth Court, and he had delivered them into the custody of the Marshall; and as regarded James de Stafford, chivaler, Richard de Stafford, William le Cook, Robert Beaumeys, Richard de Brinton, John de Wickwan, William le Palmer, Thomas, son of William de Stretton, and Richard de Merton, the King had sent a mandate to the Sheriff to supersede the *exigent*, as they had surrendered themselves at the Marshalsea. And the said Thomas, brother of Henry de Cressewalle, Hugh de Hulle, James de Stafford, Richard de Brinton, and Robert Beaumeys were now brought before the Court by the Marshall. And Margery appeared, and appealed them for the death of her husband, and stated that on the Tuesday, the Feast of St. Petronilla the Virgin, 8 E. III, at the ninth hour in the vill of Cressewalle near Tilinton, in co. Stafford, near a certain mill towards the north and the water called the Sowe, the said Hugh had feloniously shot Richard with a bow and a barbed arrow in the middle of the breast, and caused a mortal wound of which he had died within her arms, "*statim ibidem obiit inter brachia ipsius Margerie,*"¹ and as soon as Hugh had done this he had fled *and she had followed him with the hue and cry from vill to vill up to the four nearest vills,*¹ etc.

And she appealed James de Stafford for aiding and abetting the death of her husband, and stated that he, together with Henry de Cressewalle, Henry, son of Henry de Cresswalle, and Thomas, brother of Henry, son of Henry, John del Halle, William de Holdefeld, Roger de Myngehull, and John Wade were assembled together with the said Hugh del Hulle in the vill of Sondon in the county of Stafford in the manor owe, "*in aula manerii,*" of the said James at Sondon (Sandon) on the Sunday before the Feast of St. Petronilla, and had consented to the death of Richard, and after he had been killed the said James had received the manefactors at Sondon. And she appealed Thomas, brother of Henry de Cressewalle, Richard de Brinton, and Robert Beaumeys for abetting the death of her husband, Richard de Burton, because they were at the manor house at Sondon at the same date as the others, and had sent Hugh de Hulle to kill him at Cressewalle.

And the said Hugh de Hulle, James de Stafford, Thomas, brother of Henry de Cressewalle, Richard de Brunton, and Robert Beaumeys denied the felony and put themselves on the country. A jury was therefore to be summoned to appear *coram Rege*, on the Quindene of St. Michael, and the prisoners were committed to the Marshalsea. Afterwards James de Podemore, William de Verneye, David de Merton, Hugh Snel, John de Cestre, and William de Cotes, all of co. Stafford, stood bail for James de Stafford, Thomas, brother of Henry de Cressewalle, Richard de Brinton, and Robert Beaumeys.

And Margery appealed Richard de Stafford, chivaler, William le Cook, Richardesservaunt de Stafford, John de Wickwan, William le Palmer, of Burton, Thomas, son of William de Stretton, and Richard de Merton, for the death of her husband, and they had been committed to the Marshalsea at the last Michaelmas Term. And the Marshal stated he was not able to bring them before the Court because they were detained by serious illness, "*tam gravi infirmitate detenti sunt.*" The Marshall stated he was therefore ordered to produce them at the Quindene of St. Michael. A postscript shows that the

¹ The words in *italics* are formal only, being a necessary part in all appeals of murder by the widow of the murdered man.

process was continued till Easter Term, 10 E. III, when a jury of the vicinage of Cressewalle acquitted all the prisoners except Richard de Stafford, William le Cook, William le Palmer, Thomas, son of William de Stretton, and Richard de Merton, who had been bailed and had not appeared. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to arrest them and their manucaptors, and produce them *coram Rege* on the Morrow of St. John the Baptist; and as regarded Richard de Brinton and John de Wykwane, the Marshall returned they had died whilst in his custody. The chattels of James de Stafford were forfeited because he had been put into *exigend* (*positus fuit in exigendis*), and they were valued at 26s. 8d., for which the vill of Sheyle was answerable, and the chattels of Thomas de Cressewalle were valued at half a mark, for which the vill of Cressewalle was to answer, and the chattels of Robert de Beaumeys were valued at 40d., for which the vill of Sheyle was to answer, and Hugh de Hulle had no chattels.

And Hugh de Hulle, James, Thomas, and Robert Beaumeys prayed that enquiry might be made whether the appeal had not been brought against them out of malice, and the jury stated on oath that it had been brought against them maliciously, and they assessed the damages of Hugh de Hulle at 100s., and those of James at 40 marks, and those of Thomas, the brother of Henry, at 50 and those of Robert Beaumeys at 100s., and being asked if the said Agnes (*sic*) had sufficient to pay the damages they said that she could not satisfy more than 40s., and being asked whether the said Agnes (*sic*) had any abettors they answered in the negative. A further postscript states that the said Margery (*sic*) made fine with the King for her transgression at Hillary Term, 12 E. III, as appears in the fines of that term. *m.* 19, *Rex*.

CORAM REGE, TRINITI, 9 E. III (*apud* EBOR).

Staff. John de Okoure (*Okever*) appeared by his essoin against Robert, son of Gilbert de Aston, in a plea that he, together with John le Saye, of Dunston, William the Parson, brother-sonne of Kerswalle, and Richard de Hokes, had taken, *vi et armis*, six oxen and six cows belonging to him at Mulewych (Millwich) worth £10. Robert did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he held nothing, etc. He was therefore ordered to arrest and produce him at three weeks from St. Michael. *m.* 39.

Derb. John Basset, of Chedle, and Simon le Chaloner, of Chedle, were attached at the suit of John de Twyford for taking, *vi et armis*, from Thurvaston, in 1 E. III, his goods and chattels, viz., linen and woollen clothes, corn, rye, barley, beans, peas and oats, and armour, viz., an aketon, a haberk, a gambison, a pisan, and brass dishes and plates to the value of £60. The defendants appeared by attorney and denied the injury and trespass, and appealed to a jury which was to be summoned for the Quindene of Michaelmas. *m.* 50, *dorso*.

Staff. Thomas le Rous, chivaler, sued Thomas, the Abbot of Halesowayn, and Brothers Thomas de Lecche and Adam Bradmedwe, fellow monks of the said Abbot, for breaking into his houses at Walsale, *vi et armis*, and taking his goods and chattels to the value of £10. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain the Abbot and produce him on the Quindene of St. Michael. And a mandate was sent to the Abbot to produce his fellow monks at the same date. *m.* 56.

Staff. John de Uslwalle sued Philip le Barker, of Eccleshale, and William, his son, for breaking, *vi et armis*, into his close at Eccleshale and taking his goods and chattels to the value of £10. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain Philip, who had found bail, and to arrest the said William, and produce them at a month from Easter. *m.* 88.

Staff. Ralph Lykorys was attached, at the suit of William le Strenger, for insulting, beating, and wounding him at the vill of Newcastle-under-Lime on the Friday before the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary, 8 E. III, and for which he claimed £20 as damages. Ralph denied the injury and trespass, and appealed to a jury which was to be summoned for the Quindene of St. Michael. The same William sued Matthew de Routheslegh for the same transgression, and he did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at the same date *coram Rege*. m. 108.

Staff. Roger de Trescote sued Nicholas de Trescote for breaking, *vi et armis*, into his close at Cumpton, and for treading down and consuming his growing corn and grass with his cattle. Nicholas did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at a month from Michaelmas. m. 125, *dorso*.

CORAM REGE ROLL. MICH., 9 E. III (*apud* EBOR).

Staff. Robert Sewalle, of Bysshebury, was attached at the suit of William de Maruham in a plea that he together with Thomas le Smyth, Walter de Rodesford, Thomas, son of Richard de Pendeford, Robert de Cumwell, and others, had broken, *vi et armis*, into his close at Oxleye, on the Thursday after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, 5 E. III., and had cut down his trees to the value of 100s., and had trodden down and consumed his wheat and oats to the value of 100s., with his cattle. Robert appeared by attorney and denied the injury and trespass, and appealed to a jury which was to be summoned for the Quindene of St. Hillary. m. 15.

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to summon a jury for the Quindene of St. Michael of 24 *tam nobiles quam alios* of the vicinage of Cressewalle near Tilinton to return a verdict whether Hugh le Hulle was guilty of feloniously killing Richard de Burton at Cressewalle, and whether James de Stafford, knight, Thomas, brother of Henry de Cressewalle, Richard de Brinton, and Robert Beaumeys had aided and abetted the said Hugh: and the Sheriff made no return, and he was ordered to summon a jury as before for the Quindene of St. Hillary, etc. A postscript states that afterwards at three weeks from Michaelmas, Thomas, brother of Henry de Cressewalle, appeared in Court and produced the King's letters under his privy seal addressed to the Justices, which stated that the said Thomas had been detained in the mountains of Scotland by the King's command, in the retinue of the King of Scots,¹ too late to appear at the Quinzaine of St. Michael to defend the appeal of Margaret, formerly wife of Richard de Burton, and that he was not to be put to damage in consequence. Dated from Berewick, 15 October, 9 E. III.

CORAM REGE. HILLARY, 10 E. III (*apud* LINCOLN).

Staff. Richard de Aston sued Martin, son of Geoffrey de Leghes, of Folverleye (Fotherley), Richard de Bromleye, of Folverleye, and Henry his son, Alice Bagot, of Folverleye, and Henry de Suthford, of Folverleye, and Richard his son, for breaking into his close at Aston, *vi et armis*, and consuming his grass with their cattle to the value of 40s. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. A postscript states that on that day the Sheriff made no return, and he was ordered to produce them on the Quindene of St. Michael. m. 78, *dorso*.

¹ This was Edward Balliol who had been placed on the throne of Scotland by Edward III.

CORAM REGE. MICH., 39 E. III.

Staff. John Couley the younger sued Thomas de Paunton and Adam de Dale, of Coventre, taverner, for breaking, *vi et armis*, into his close at Couley, and taking his goods and chattels to the value of 100s. The defendants did not appear and the Sheriff returned they held nothing, etc. He was therefore ordered to put them into *exigend*, and if they did not appear, to outlaw them, and if they appeared, to arrest and produce them on the Octaves of Holy Trinity. *m. 50, dorso.*

Staff. Henry de Yus and Geoffrey de Congreve sued John de Tittleley, vicar of the church of Wibbenbury, for breaking, *vi et armis*, into their houses at Stretton, and taking their goods and chattels to the value of 100s. John did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he could not be found and held nothing, etc. He was therefore ordered to put him into *exigend*, etc., as in last suit. *m. 50, dorso.*

CORAM REGE. MICH., 40 E. III.

Oxon. Thomas de Williamscote, chivaler, and Nicholas his brother, were attached at the suit of William de Shareshulle, chivaler, the elder, for forcibly entering his free warren at Barton and Dounthrope, on the Monday after the Feast of St. Leonard, 39 E. III, and chasing and taking 200 hares, 1,000 rabbits, 1,000 partridges, and 20 pheasants, during a period of eight following weeks, and for beating and wounding his servant John de Derneford, shepherd, so that he lost his services for a length of time. Thomas and Nicholas appeared in person and denied the trespass and appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Morrow of All Souls.¹ *m. 15.*

Staff. Edith, formerly wife of Roger, son of Adam le Rotour, appeared in her own person and appealed Henry Prevot, of Stafford, Baxstere, for the death of her husband. Henry did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to put him into *exigend* and if he did not appear, to outlaw him, and if he appeared, to produce him on the Quene of St. John the Baptist. *m. 15.*

CORAM REGE. EASTER, 41 E. III.

Staff. John atte Necheles and Joan his wife, were attached at the suit of Philip de Oldevalynch for taking, *vi et armis*, from Oldevalynche (Oldfarning), in 35 E. III, his goods and chattels, viz., wheat, rye, barley, oats, beans, peas, flour, wool, gold and silver and iron, to the value of 100s. The defendants appeared by attorney and denied the trespass and injury, and appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Morrow of the Ascension. A post-script shows no jury had been summoned up to Michaelmas Term, when a writ of *nisi prius* was issued transferring the suit to be heard before the Justices of Assize in the county. *m. 10, dorso.*

Staff. Richard de Thornebury and William Adekykson of Kyngesleye were attached at the suit of Gregory Tullyng for taking from Kyngesleye, *vi et armis*, in 40 E. III, linen and woollen clothes, brass and wooden vessels,

¹ At Easter Term, 41 E. III, Thomas appeared in Court and a deed was enrolled by which he was bound to pay William de Shareshulle the younger a sum of £20, to be rendered at Barton, in co. Oxon, on the following Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. These proceedings seem to denote the final disappearance from the scene of William de Shareshulle, the late Chief Justice, who is stated to have entered a monastery.

in common with him and Juliana his wife and Margery, the daughter of Juliana, and the suit was adjourned till the Quindene of Easter. A postscript states that on that day the parties appeared and Walter repeated his plea, and denied that Richard had any right over the mill-pool. Both parties appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Octaves of Holy Trinity. *m. 20, dorso.*

CORAM REGE. EASTER, 44 E. III.

Salop. A writ to the Sheriff and coroners of co. Salop directed them to return in Court the indictment respecting the death of Richard de Stafford, late parson of the church of Worthyn. And it was returned as follows:—

Inquisition taken at Worthyn on the Monday before the Feast of St. Margaret, 43 E. III. before Roger de Prayers, coroner of the co. of Salop, on the body of Richard de Stafford, late rector of the church of Worthyn, on the oath of, etc.

The jury say that on the Sunday the Feast of St. John in May in the above year, Thomas son of Richard Batkyns feloniously killed the said Richard at Worthyn, and immediately fled, and that Adam Batkyns, Richard his brother, William de Worthyn, and Richard Cokyn, aided and abetted the felony, and that Adam Batkyns had chattels to the value of 20s., and Richard his brother to the value of 100s., and William de Worthyn to the value of 40s., and Richard Cokyn to the value of 40d. Some further records on the same subject were afterwards returned by John son of Philip de Horton, the heir of Roger de Prayers, and by Philip de Horton, and Elizabeth, formerly wife of the said Roger, the executors of the said Roger, who had died in the interim. *m. 2, Rez.*

CORAM REGE ROLL. MICH., 44 E. III.

Salop. Katrine, formerly wife of Richard Neweby of Ber, in her own person appealed John in the Lone of Wolvernehampton, and Thomas his brother, William in the Lone of Wolvernehampton, John Couper the servant of John in the Lone, John son of John Jannesone, Walter le Herle of Wolvernehampton, John Tukke, William Gamel, and Henry de Bissebury for the death of her husband. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff returned that John in the Lone, Thomas his brother, William in the Lone, John Couper, and John son of John Jannesone, could not be found, and he was ordered to put them into *exigend*, and if they did not appear to outlaw them, and if they appeared, to produce them on the Quindene of Holy Trinity; and respecting the said Walter, John Tukke, William Gamel, and Henry de Bissebury, the Sheriff returned they were dead. As Katrine did not deny that John, William, and Henry were dead, they were dismissed from the suit, but she stated that Walter le Herle was alive. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to attach and produce him on the Octaves of St. Hillary. *m. 10.*

Linc. The King sued Henry de Percy for the wardship of William, son and heir of William Vavasour, who was under age, the King claiming the wardship because William held land of Henry de Beaumont, in co. Lincoln, by military service, and Henry de Beaumont was in ward to the King. Henry de Percy claimed the wardship and marriage of the heir because William held of him the manors of Hesilwode and Wodhall in co. York, by military service, and all his ancestors had had the wardship of all the ancestors of William when they were under age, from time out of memory. The King had granted the wardship and marriage of the heir to John de Salesbury. but Henry de Percy refused to deliver up the heir, and was summoned

coram Rege, to show cause, etc. A postscript states that at Michaelmas Term 45 E. III, Henry de Percy appeared and acknowledged the right of the King to the wardship and marriage of the heir, and was ordered to bring the heir into Court, *unmarried*, and deliver him to the King on the Octaves of St. Hillary, on which date 46 E. III, Henry de Percy sent the heir into Court and he was delivered to John de Salisbury to take to the King, because the King was then in his palace at Westminster.¹ m. 24, *Itex*.

CORAM REGE. HILLARY, 45 E. III.

Salop. The King sent a close writ to the Sheriff of co. Salop, commanding him to return into this Court the indictment of Thomas Horde of Northwode, for abducting Juliana, the daughter and heir of Thomas le Rous, who was under age and in ward to the King; and the Sheriff returned it as follows—

An inquisition taken before Robert de Kendale, Sheriff of co. Salop, at his Great Tour of the Hundred of Bradeford on the Wednesday after the Feast of St. Martin, 44 E. III, on the oath of Thomas Cresset, John Constantyn, Thomas de Sulton, and others, who stated that Thomas Horde of Northwode had abducted from Sulton, Juliana, daughter and heir of Thomas le Rous, who was under age and whose wardship and marriage belonged to the King, on the Monday after the Feast of the Assumption, 43 E. III, and he had feloniously stolen on the same day at Sulton a horse worth 60s two books worth 100s. from Robert de Kendale, and other goods and chattels of the said Robert to the value of 100s.

The Sheriff was ordered to arrest the said Thomas Horde and produce him *coram Rege*, on the Quindene of Easter. A postscript states that on that day Thomas surrendered and was committed to the Marshalsea, and being brought before the Court by the Marshal, he pleaded he was not guilty, and put himself on the country; and the Sheriff was ordered to summon a jury for the Octaves of Holy Trinity, and Hugh de Wrottesley, chivaler, John Sully, chivaler, John de Burley, chivaler, and William de Hunter became bail to produce him at the above term.

A further postscript states that on the Octaves of Holy Trinity the said Thomas Horde being solemnly called did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to put him into *erigend*, and if he did not appear to outlaw him, and likewise to arrest the said Hugh de Wrottesley, chivaler, and the other sureties, and produce them *coram Rege*, on the Octaves of St. Michael to satisfy the King for not producing the said Thomas. Afterwards, on the following Trinity Term the said Hugh de Wrottesley, chivaler, and the other sureties made fine with the King, as appears on the Roll of Fines of that Term.² m. 10, *dosso*.

¹ That is, the King was not present in Court on that day. I have taken a note of this suit because the Vavasours of Hazlewood, co. York, now represent the family of Draycote, of Draycote, co. Stafford, and are the owners of most of the Draycote property in the county.

² The three knights were fined 40d. each, and William de Hulton, 2s. The *misericordia* of a knight was usually double that of an esquire or other commoner, and on the early Rolls, when the words *miles* or "chivaler" are not used, the knights can usually be distinguished in this way.

Juliana was a rich heiress—her father, Thomas le Rous, having held manors in the counties of Hereford, Berkshire, and Gloucestershire; whether he was identical with Thomas le Rous, of Walshall, I am not able to state, but it will be seen that at p. 140 his widow Matilda gave evidence in a Staffordshire suit. In Gloucestershire Thomas held the manor of Harsecumbe of the King, *in capite*, by the service of a fourth of a knight's fee. The Hereford Inquisition of 44 E. III, states that Thomas died 6 January, 31 E. III, when Richard de Penbrugge, knight, took possession of Aleynesmore, which Thomas held of the See of Hereford, owing to a

CORAM REGE. EASTER, 46 E. III.

Staff. Thomas de Stafford in his own person sued Thomas atte Walle, chaplain, for forcibly breaking into his close and house at Alveton, and taking his goods and chattels to the value of £10. The defendant did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he could not be found. He was therefore ordered to put him into *exigend*, and if he did not appear, to outlaw him, and if he appeared, to arrest and produce him on the Morrow of (*sic*)—*left unfinished*. *m. 10, dorso.*

Staff. Roger de Overton was attached at the suit of John Willesone of Willenhale, and Sibil his wife, for forcibly breaking into the close and houses of Sibil at Hamerwyche, on the Monday after the Feast of St. Giles the Abbot, 36 E. III, and taking timber from the houses, and other goods and chattels, viz., corn, hay, woollen and linen clothes, brass and wooden vessels, and utensils of the house, to the value of £20, and for which he claimed £100 as damages.

Roger appeared by attorney, and denied the trespass, and appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Octaves of Holy Trinity. *m. 20.*

Staff. Hugh Coyne sued Walter de Verneye for taking *vi et armis* a boar and sixteen pigs worth 10 marks, from Alveton, and goods and chattels belonging to him to the value of 40s, and for treading down and consuming with his cattle his growing corn and grass. Walter did not appear, and had been attached by John de Prestewode and William Verneye; they were therefore *in misericordia*, and the Sheriff was ordered to distraint and produce the said Walter on the Sunday of Holy Trinity. *m. 31.*

Staff. John de Denstone and Milicent his wife sued Walter de Verneye for taking by force an ox belonging to Milicent, from Denstone, and other goods and chattels belonging to her to the value of 20 marks, and 40s. of her money. Walter did not appear, and the process was the same as in the last suit. *m. 31.*

Staff. Edmund Giffart sued Richard atte Hyde, the younger and Margaret Smythes of Chilynton in a plea of trespass. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distraint Richard who had found bail, and to arrest Margaret, and produce them on the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 43, dorso.*

CORAM REGE. TRINITY, 46 E. III.

Staff. Adam Felcok was attached at the suit of Hugh Coyney for breaking *vi et armis* into his close at Wodehouses, on the Monday after the Feast of St. Giles the Abbot, 40 E. III, and taking his linen and woollen clothes, brass, copper, and wooden vessels, corn, hay, silk coverlids, "*ulamina de cirico*," rings, buckles of gold and silver, cups, and other jewels to the value of £20. Adam denied the trespass and appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 10, dorso.*

Staff. Thomas Milward of Perton sued Richard Broun, vicar of the church of Penne, in a plea of trespass. Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he was a clerk holding a benefice in the See of Chester, and held no goods or chattels by which he could be attached. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to arrest and produce him *coram Rege* on the Octaves of St. Hillary. *m. 10, dorso.*

Staff. John atte Yate, of Trescote, sued the same Richard for a trespass and the process was the same as in the last suit. *m. 10, dorso.*

Staff. A writ of *certiorari*, addressd to the Chief Justice, John Knyvet

directed a copy of the Fine levied in 18 E. III between William de Shareshulle, chivaler, and Dionisia his wife, complainants, and Henry Power and another, deforciant of the manors of Patleshulle and Overton, in co. Stafford, and the manors of Rowlesham and Barton Odo, in co. Oxford, and the manor of Bolyngale, in co. Salop, to be brought into Court.

By this Fine the deforciant settled the manors of Pateshulle, Barton, and Bolyngale, on the complainants for their lives, and conceded that the manor of Overton, which Nicholas de Shareshulle held for his life, and the manor of Rowlesham which John, son of William Foliot, held for his life; after the deaths of the said Nicholas and John, should revert to William and Dionisia, with remainder to William, son of the said William, and to Joan his wife, and to their issue, and failing such, to the right heirs of William de Shareshulle, chivaler.

A postscript states that afterwards at the suit of William de Shareshulle, son and heir of the said William, son of William de Shareshulle, chivaler, it was shown that the said William de Shareshulle, chivaler, and Dionisia were dead, and that the said Nicholas de Shareshulle was dead, and likewise that the said William, son of William de Shareshulle, and Joan his wife were dead, and that under the terms of the Fine the said manor of Overton should remain to him as son and heir of the said William, son of William de Shareshulle, chivaler, but that Richard de Everdon had entered into the manor and held it against the form of the Fine. The Sheriff of Staffordshire was therefore ordered to summon the said Richard for the Quindene of St. Michael to show cause why the said William, son of William, son of William de Shareshulle, chivaler, should not have execution of the Fine; on which day Richard appeared in person, and a day was given to the parties on the Quindene of St. Hillary, on which day William appeared by attorney and Richard appeared in person, and a day was given to them on the Quindene of Easter. A master postscript shows adjournments for apparently no cause up to Trinity Term 18 E. III. *m. 40.*

Staff. John de Witton was attached at the suit of John de Kyngeston, the Prior of the church of Sandwelle, who appealed him, together with Richard Grymynhill, William de Marcham, and others, to makeem, and breach of the peace. The Prior appeared in person and stated that on the Thursday before the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, 44 E. III, the said John had come with the other defendants to Sandewell, and with malice aforethought had shot him in the arm with an arrow. John de Witton appeared in person and denied the felony and took exception to the writ, because John de Kyngeston was stated in it to be the Prior of Sandwelle whereas one Richard de Tudenham was Prior of the said church; he stated also that the said John de Kyngeston was a monk, subject to the Abbot of Clun, and neither the Abbot, nor Richard de Tudenham the Prior, were named in the writ.

John de Kyngeston replied that he was the Prior of Sandewell as stated in the writ, and appealed on this issue to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Octaves of St. Michael, and John Burgilon, Cornelius de Wirley, John de Whethales, and William de Hulton, became sureties to produce John de Witton at the same date, and likewise for his good behaviour (*de bono gestu suo*). *m. 48.*

Staff. The King sent a writ to the Justices directing them to return into this Court the indictment of John son of James de Blore of Alstanesfeld for feloniously killing Adam, son of Robert de Alstanesfeld, and it was returned in these words:—An inquest taken before Thomas de Eyton one of the coroners of co. Stafford, on a view of the body of Adam, son of Robert de Alstanesfeld, at Alstanesfeld, on the Sunday after the Feast of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 45 E. III, by the vills of Alstanesfeld, Mathefeld, Wetton, and Boterton, and on the oaths of twelve jurors, viz., John de Apedale, John son of Robert, John Moysyng, Simon Hichecok,

William Cantrell, &c., who stated that Adam, son of Robert de Alstanesfeld, came to the churchyard of Alstanesfeld, and John, son of James de Blore of Alstanesfeld quarrelled with him, out of an old hatred, and drew his dagger, and feloniously struck the said Adam in the back with it, so that he died after receiving the rites of the church (*jura ecclesie*), and John immediately fled, and he had goods and chattels to the value of 43s. 4d. The Sheriff was ordered to produce the said John *coram Rege*, on the Octaves of St. Hillary. *m. 19, Rev.*

CORAM REGE. HILLARY, 47 E. III.

Staff. Thomas, son of Henry de Knyghtley, sued John de Borghe in a plea of trespass. John did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him on the Quindene of Easter. *m. 12.*

Staff. Margery, formerly wife of William le Smyth of Chilynton, sued Henry Murwyder and John Chetwynd, in a plea of trespass. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. *m. 30.*

Staff. John de Ipestones in his own person appeared against John de Weston of Cressewalle in a plea of trespass. The defendant did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him on the Quindene of Easter. *m. 47.*

Staff. Richard de Melourne, vicar of the church of Shenstone, was attached at the suit of Nicholas Bernewelle, for breaking into his house at Lichefeld *vi et armis*, and beating, wounding, and illtreating him, on the Sunday after the Feast of St. Barnabas, 43 E. III. and taking his goods and chattels, viz., linen and woollen clothes, gold, silver, and other jewels, to the value of 10 marks. Richard denied the trespass, and put himself on the country, and the Sheriff was ordered to summon a jury for the Quindene of Easter. *m. 84.*

CORAM REGE. TRINITY, 47 E. III.

Staff. John de Knyghtley sued Katrine, formerly wife of John Busard, knight, John Ughtred, Adam Porter, and Richard Trumwyn in a plea of trespass. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain those who had found bail, and to arrest the others, and produce them on the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 9.*

Staff. Robert de Swynerton sued Thomas de Tatenhulle, chaplain, for treading down and consuming with his cattle his growing corn at Great Suggenhulle to the value of £10. Thomas did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he held nothing, etc. He was therefore ordered to put him into *exigent*, and if he did not appear, to outlaw him, and if he appeared, to arrest and produce him on the Octaves of St. Hillary. *m. 9.*

Staff. John in le Lec sued Richard le Hervile (Heronville) for breaking *vi et armis* into his close at Fynspathe and treading down and consuming his corn and grass with his cattle to the value of £10. Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he held nothing, etc. He was therefore ordered to put him into *exigent*, and if he did not appear, to outlaw him, and if he appeared, to arrest and produce him on the Octaves of St. Michael.

Staff. Isabella, formerly wife of Hugh Cuny (Coynes), in her own person appeared William Stryngere of Alveton, Walter Verney of Denstone, and Adam Felcok of Assheburne, for the death of her husband. And the

and if they appeared to arrest and produce them on the Octaves of Holy Trinity. And likewise to arrest the others and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. *m. 40, dorso.*

Oxon. Robert Eyryk, *clericus*, William de Hampton, Henry de Nevylle, John de Christelton, *clericus*, John Ferrour of Ruggeleye, Hugh Poure of Bledesdon, Edmund Giffard of Thame, and two others were attached at the suit of Thomas de Billesdon, for forcibly abducting and carrying away Elizabeth his wife from Thame on the Wednesday after the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, 1 R. II, together with goods and chattels of the said Thomas, viz., linen and woollen clothes, and rings and buckles of gold and silver, and for which he claimed £1,000 as damages.

The defendants appeared by attorney, and Edmund Giffard, John Cronche, and John Heyward stated they were not guilty, and appealed to a jury which was to be summoned for the Octaves of St. Hillary.

And Robert Eyryk, without acknowledging that Elizabeth was the wife of Thomas, stated that Simon de Hondesacre, knight, the father of Elizabeth, and of whom she was one of the heirs, held on the day he died, the third part of the manor of Hondesacre, by homage, fealty, and military service, of Robert the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield as of the right of his church of St. Cedde of Lichfield, and after his death the Bishop had taken seisin of Elizabeth in right of his tenure, and had afterwards sold the wardship and marriage of Elizabeth to him, and he was seised of them, until the said Thomas had forcibly abducted her from Great Glen in co. Leicester on the Saturday after the Close of Easter, Elizabeth being then eight years of age, and the said Robert Eyryk had sought for her, and found her at Thame in co. Oxford, and had taken her away as was lawful. And William de Hampton and the others pleaded they had assisted the said Robert, and prayed for judgment on the same grounds. And a day was given to the parties on the Octaves of St. Hillary.

A postscript shews adjournments of the case *in statu quo nunc* up to Trinity, 2 R. II. *m. 42.*

Warw. William de Peyto and John his son, and William, son of John de Peyto, were attached to answer the appeal of Beatrice, formerly wife of John Knotte, for the death of her husband, and she stated that one John Herowe, whom she appealed as principal, had killed her husband with a pole axe on the Monday the Feast of St. Bartholomew, 1 R. II, and that the said William, John, and William, son of John, had abetted and procured the said John Herowe to commit the felony. The defendants appeared and were admitted to bail. A postscript shews that the appeal was carried on until Easter Term, 2 R. II, when Beatrice failed to appear, and the appeal was dismissed, but the defendants had to answer at the suit of the King; the process was continued till Hillary Term, 3 R. II, when a jury at Coventry returned a verdict that they were not guilty, and assessed the damages of William de Peyto at 115 marks, and those of his son at 50 marks, and those of William, son of John, at 45 marks. And being asked if anyone had aided and abetted the said Beatrice, they stated that Nicholas West of co. Northampton, and William Tyso of co. Warwick had abetted and procured Beatrice to make the appeal. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to distrain them for the said damages. *m. 42, dorso.*

CORAM REGE. TRINITY,² 1 R. II.

Staff. Richard Leveson sued John Colyngnam, William Maggeson, Thomas Gruym, John de Horley, and John Hendesone, for forcibly breaking

¹ Elizabeth was one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir Simon Handsacre. She subsequently married Roger Climon (see p 169 of Vol. X^{II}).

² As the reign of R. II commenced on the 22nd June, Trinity Term is the latest term of the regnal year.

into his close at Wolvernehampton, and taking from it eight oxen worth 8 marks. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to put them into *exigent*, and if they did not appear, to outlaw them, and if they appeared to arrest and produce them on the Morrow of the Purification of the Blessed Mary. *m. 44, dorso.*

Leyc. The King, by a close writ, directed the Sheriff of co. Leicester to return into Court the Coroner's Inquest on the body of John Chamberleyn, of Honecote, taillour, taken by John Charnels, of Snakeston, one of the Coroners in 51 E. III. The inquest was returned into Court and stated that on the Friday before the Feast of the Purification, 57 E. III, on the first hour of the day, John Somervylle, of Northburg, Milnere, and John de Roteby, of Northburg, with thirty men of the Lord Robert de Ferrars, knight, of whose names they are ignorant, came to Honecote, and there feloniously killed with their swords John Chamberlayn, of Honecote, taillour, with two mortal wounds, and he had the rites of the Church (*habuit jura ecclesie*), and the said John Somervylle, John de Roteby and the others, on the same day insulted Sir John Fildet, knight, at his manor of Honecote, and broke open the doors of the hall and chamber with a view to kill him with swords and arrows, etc., and that Sir Robert de Ferrars, knight, the Lord of Northburgh, maintained and abetted them in the felony. A postscript states that on the Octaves of St. John the Baptist John Somervylle and John de Roteby were brought up by the Sheriff and committed to the Marshalsea, and the Sheriff was ordered to arrest Robert de Ferrars.

Afterwards on the Octaves of Holy Trinity, 3 R. II, the said John and John appeared in Court and produced the King's Letters Patent dated 26 November, 3 R. II, pardoning them for the death of John Chamberleyn, of Honecote, on the supplication of his faithful and beloved Robert de Ferrars, and the Letters being inspected, the said John and John were released.¹

CORAM REGE. HILLARY 2 R. II.

Staff. John de Greseleye, chaplain, sued Stephen, son of Ralph de Hampton, Henry de Gretewyche (Gretwich), Thomas le Smith, William de Lyndeseye, William Dankynessone, of Hampton, clerk, and four others, for breaking, *vi et armis*, together with Ralph de Hampton, Thomas de Hampton, chaplain, and Roger Michel, of Abbotes Bromleye, into his park at Colton, and chasing and taking his game. Stephen and the others above named did not appear, and the Sheriff returned they held nothing, etc. He was therefore ordered to arrest and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. The same day was given to Ralph and Thomas and Roger, who had appeared by essoin. *m. 54, dorso.*

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to arrest John, the servant of Robert Mauvesyn, and John Fox, the servant of Thomas Arderne, knight, to answer to the King for divers felonies of which they had been indicted, and he made no return to the writ. He was therefore ordered to produce them on the Quindene of Easter. *m. 5, Rex, dorso.*

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to arrest John Chamberleyn Skynner, Thomas Muriell, of Norton, Thomas Arderne, knight, and John Whitynton, chaplain, to answer to the King for aiding and abetting divers felonies of which they had been indicted. And he made no return to the writ. He was therefore ordered to arrest and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. *m. 5, Rex, dorso.*

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to put into *exigent* William, son of Richard in le Lone of Wolvernehampton, and if he did not appear to outlaw

¹ Robert de Ferrars was Lord of Chartley, in Staffordshire.

Salop. It had been presented before Nicholas Burnell and his Fellow Custodians of the Peace at Shrewsbury on the Tuesday in the second week of Lent, 1 R. II, that John, son of John de Pyryton *sic* (Perton), knight (*militis*), had feloniously killed John Walsh, the parson of the church of Styrcheleye, on the Wednesday before the Feast of the Purification, 1 R. II, and the King for certain reasons commanded the said Indictment to be returned into this Court. And at this term John, son of John, surrendered and was committed to the Marshalsea, and being brought before the Court by the Marshal and questioned he stated that the King had pardoned him for the said death, and he produced Letters Patent dated 19 February, 2 R. II, which stated that the King, at the request of the Earl of Stafford, had pardoned John, son of John de Perton, chivaler, for the death of John le Walsh, the parson of the Church of Stircheley, and he prayed he might be released, and the King's Letters Patent having been inspected, he was discharged. *m. 4, dorso, Rev.*

COHAM REGE. TRINITY, 2 R. II.

Staff. Hillaria, formerly wife of William Horsho, appeared in her own person and appealed William Mauvesyn, of Rydware Mauvesyn, Nicholas de Aston, of Hondesacre, Thomas de Arderne, chivaler, William Taillour, of Rydware Mauvesyn, and Robert Mauvesyn, of Rydware Mauvesyn, chivaler, for the death of her husband, viz., the said William Mauvesyn and Nicholas de Aston as principals, and the others as accessories to the felony. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to put the said William and Nicholas into *exigent*, and if they did not appear to outlaw them, and if they appeared, to produce them on the Octaves of St. Hillary. And he was ordered to arrest the others and produce them on the Quindene of St. John the Baptist. *m. 4.*

Staff. Edith, formerly wife of Thomas de Pyre, appeared in her own person and appealed John Roberdesservant Mauveysyn¹ and John Fox Thomasservant Ardene¹ for the death of her husband, and she appealed John Skynnere, Thomasservant Ardene, Thomas Muryel, of Norton, John Seint Johan of Lichfeld, Robert Wyse, of Lychfeld, Thomas de Arden, chivaler, and John de Whitynton, chaplain, as accessories to the felony. And her sureties for the prosecution were Laurence Frodeleye and William Frodeleye, of co. Stafford. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to put John Roberdesservant and John Fox into *exigent*, and if they did not appear to outlaw them, and if they appeared, to arrest and produce them on the Octaves of St. Hillary. And he was ordered to arrest the others and produce them on the Quindene of St. John the Baptist. *m. 4, dorso.*

Staff. John Pety sued Thomas Stonus, of Ryggeley, and Ralph Sponer, of Stafford, for conspiring, together with John Balle, of Pencerich, William de Bvlyngton, and William de Eton, so that he was indicted before Nicholas de Stafford and his Fellow Custodians of the Peace at Stafford for aiding and abetting the death of John le Bouyere, of Lichfeld, stated to have been killed by Thomas, the servant of Roger le Marchal of Walshale, and by reason of which he had been arrested on the Tuesday before the Feast of Palms, 1 R. II, and detained in prison at Stafford till the Thursday the Feast of St. Hillary, 1 R. II, and for which he claimed £200 as damages. The defendants denied the conspiracy and appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 31.*

¹ *I.e.*, John, the servant of Robert de Mauveysyn, and John Fox, the servant of Thomas de Ardene. See proceedings on p. 150.

and taking his fish, viz., pykes, perches, roches, bremes (*sic*—in English), and eels to the value of £10, and 20 hares, 40 rabbits, 40 pheasants, and 1,000 partridges, and for which he claimed £200 as damages. Thomas, Henry and John appeared by attorney and denied the trespass, and appealed to a jury, etc., as above. *m. 46.*

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to arrest Edith, formerly wife of Thomas Pipe, and produce her at this Term to make satisfaction to the King for not prosecuting her appeal against John, Roberdesservant Mauveysin, and John Fox, Thomasservant Ardene, Philip, Thomas Chamberleyn Ardene, John Skynner, Thomasservant Ardene, Thomas Muriell of Norton, John Seyn, Johan of Lichefeld, Robert Wisse of Lichefeld, Thomas de Ardene, chivaler, and John de Wtyngton, chaplain, for the death of her husband. Edith did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to produce her on the Octaves of Holy Trinity. *m. 7, dorso, Rex.*

CORAM REGE. TRINITY, 3 R. II.

Staff. Richard de Walton, Barkere, was attached at the suit of John de Greyby, Hugh Jus, and John Pety of Walsale, for unlawfully taking and detaining a hawk belonging to them. And they stated that on the Thursday after the Feast of Simon and Jude, 3 R. II, he had unlawfully taken a hawk belonging to them on the high road near Lichefeld, and detained it for an hour, and for which they claimed £20 as damages. Richard denied that he had taken the hawk on the high road,¹ and stated that the said John de Greyby was in the house of one Isabella Ferour, and carrying the hawk on his hand, and that he, Richard, was at that time bailiff of Robert, the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, within the town of Lichefeld, and levying the ameracements of the Court of the Bishop, and he was directed to levy a fine from the said John of 6*d.* And John refused to pay it, and he had taken the hawk in the said house for the fine in question, not knowing that the said Hugh or John Pety had any property in it. The plaintiffs repeated their plea and appealed to a jury which was to be summoned for the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 56, dorso.*

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to arrest Hillaria, formerly wife of William Horssho, and produce her at this Term, to make satisfaction to the King for not prosecuting her appeal against William Mauveysin and others for the death of her husband. And he returned she could not be found. He was therefore ordered to put her into *exigend*, and if she did not appear, she was to be *waiyata*, and if she appeared, to arrest and produce her on the Octaves of St. Hillary. *m. 11, Rex.*

Staff. Hillaria, formerly wife of William Horssho, who had brought an appeal against William Mauveysyn of Ridware Mauveysyn, Nicholas de Aston of Hundesacre, Thomas Ardene, chivaler, William Tailloar of Ridware Mauveysyn, and Robert Mauveysyn of Ridware Mauveysyn, chivaler, for the death of her husband, did not appear to prosecute it, and her sureties, John Lake and Laurence Frodeley, were *in misericordiá*, and William Mauveysyn and the other defendants were quit of the appeal, but as the Court required to be certified if any appeal or indictment had been made before the Sheriff or Coroners of the county respecting the said death, the Sheriff and Coroners of co. Stafford were ordered to make a scrutiny of their rolls, and return the result into this Court at a month from Easter, and they made their returns as follows:—The answer of John de Verdon, Sheriff, and of Richard Levesone, William Stonylowe, and John Galpyn, three of the Coroners, stated that there was no indictment or appeal made before them respecting the said death, and the answer of Richard de Ruggeleye, the fourth

¹ A distraint on a high road would be illegal except made by the King's bailiffs.

Coroner, respecting the death of William Horssho, who was indifferently named William Horssho, and William de Burton of Ruggeley, was as follows :—

An Inquisition taken before Richard de Ruggeleye, coroner for co. Stafford, on the oath of twelve jurymen, who stated that Nicholas de Aston of Hondes-acre, and William Mauvesin, had feloniously killed, with their two swords, William de Burton of Ruggeleye, by striking him on the left side of the head before sunrise at Castallesok, in the wood of Cannok, on the Thursday after the Feast of St. Ceddle the Bishop, 2 R. II, and that William Sprot, chaplain, and Elena, the servant of William Sprot, had aided and abetted them. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to arrest the said William Sprot and Elena and the said William Sprot surrendered at this Term, viz., on the Quinsene of Holy Trinity, and was committed to the Marshalsea, and brought before the Court by the Marshal, and as the principals, Nicholas de Aston and William Mauvesin, had been outlawed, he was required to plead, and he stated he was not guilty, and put himself upon the country. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to summon a jury for the Octaves of St. Michael, and William was released on bail, William Reynald, Thomas Muryel, Richard de Lestwych, John de Hulton being sureties for him.

A postscript shews the process was continued till Easter Term, 4 R. II, when it was removed by writ of *hisi prius* to be heard at Lichefeld, when a jury found he was not guilty. *m. 13, Rex.*

Staff. Memorandum, that Geoffrey Martin, the Clerk of the Crown, in the King's Chancery, by command of the Chancellor brought into Court a record which was in these words :—

Here follows a special commission addressed to Robert Tresilian, Ralph de Vernoun, William de Legh, David Panemere, John Pole, Robert Burgyloun, Simon de Lychefeld, John de Wolaston, and John Galpyn, commanding them to return on the oath of a jury, what malefactors and disturbers of the peace had killed John de Warton at Leyk, in co. Stafford, who had procured the deed, etc., dated 16 April, 3 R. II. And the said Justices returned an Inquisition in these words :—

An Inquisition taken at Leek before Ralph de Vernoun, chivaler, John de Wolaston, John Galpyn, and their fellow Justices, etc., on the Tuesday the Feast of the Apostles, Philip and James, 3 R. II, by virtue of the King's commission, and on the oath of Henry del Delf, John de Coton, William de Peshale, John del Holyes, William del Forde, Thomas de Roger de Wenylegh, Robert del Mulne, John le Mayster, William de Kinton, Richard de Whitehalgh, and William de Ilkeston, who stated that Henry de Bradeshawe of Leek, Thomas Page of Leek, Robert le Wright of Leek, Robert Tuppeheved, Richard de Bradeschawe, of Leek, and Thomas le Coke of Leek, came to the town of Leek on the Saturday after the Close of Easter, 2 R. II, and laid in wait for John de Warton in order to kill him, and they struck the said John de Warton in the body with an arrow, and called upon him to surrender to the peace (*se reddere paci*), and the said John had surrendered, and the said Henry de Bradeschawe and the others named above, had kept him a prisoner at Leek for the space of four days, and afterwards had taken him to a place called le Leekmore in the parish of Leek, and had cut off his head, and they had feloniously killed the said John de Warton, and that William de Lichefeld, the Abbot of the church of St. Mary of Dieulacres, had afterwards received the said Henry and the others named, and had received them up to this date knowing that they had committed the felony.

Another Inquisition was returned in these words :—

An Inquisition taken at Leek before Ralph de Vernoun and William de Legh, Knights, John de Wolaston, and their fellow Justices assigned, etc., on the Saturday after the Feast of Corpus Christi, 3 R. II, on the oath of

Adam Godewyn, Henry le Turnour, Thomas Gcseeb of Tene, John de Sharpecliff of Boterton, Henry le Mayster, John, son of Robert de Whitehalgh, Roger Pyn of Foxwyst, Robert, son of John de Ypstanes, Henry de Pathewyk, Robert, son of Ralph de Leys, John, son of William de Whitehalgh, and John, son of Robert de Badyleye of Ypstanes, who stated that Henry de Bradeschawe of Leek, Thomas Page, Robert le Wryght of Leek, the younger, Richard del Kechyn of Leek, Richard de Bradeschawe, Richard de Leryhalgh of Leek, Thomas le Coke of Leek, Nicholas le Hunte of Leek, William Balle of Leek, and Robert Tuppeheved of Leek, came armed to Leek, on the Saturday after the Close of Easter, 2 R. II, viz., with swords, bows and arrows, and had feloniously killed John de Warton in a place called le Leekton, and had cut off his head by the command of William de Lichefeld, the Abbot of the church of St. Mary of Dieulacres, and that the said Henry de Bradeschawe and the others named had afterwards feloniously despoiled the said John de Warton, and had taken a *Jacke* of black fustian (*de nigro fustian*) worth 20s., a bow and arrows, and a sword with a belt, *perna*, and a brayselle of silver worth 13s. 4d., a horse with a saddle worth 10s. and other necessities for the chambers of the said John at Leek to the value of 40d. And that William de Lichefeld, the Abbot of Dieulacres, Edmund de Draycote, a monk and cellarer of the abbey, Robert de Beresford, William Dyke of Leek, and William del Brugge, the vicar of the church of Leek, had received the said Henry and the others named, continually and many times up to the date of the Inquisition at Leek, knowing that they had committed the said felony.

Afterwards the said William Lichefeld, the Abbot of Dieulacres, surrendered himself in Court at this Term, viz. on the Quindene of Holy Trinity, and was committed to the Marshalsea, but as the said Henry de Bradeschawe, and the others indicted as principals, had not been convicted or outlawed, he was admitted to bail, and found security himself at £100, and four sureties each at £40 for his good behaviour.

A postscript states that at Easter Term, 4 R. II, Robert Toppehed surrendered and was committed to the Marshalsea, and being brought before the Court, pleaded not guilty, and put himself on the country. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to summon a jury for the Octaves of Holy Trinity.

Afterwards at three weeks from Easter, 5 R. II, William Dyke and William del Brugge surrendered, and being brought before the Court, produced the King's Letters Patent pardoning them for all felonies committed anterior to the 14 December, 5 R. II, and they prayed they might be released from prison, and they were discharged on their finding security for their good behaviour. And likewise the said Robert Tuphed appeared in Court on the Friday the Morrow of the Ascension, and produced the King's Letters Patent pardoning him for all felonies committed before the above date. Dated from Westminster, 5 R. II. And he was released, after finding securities for his good behaviour. And at the same Term, Robert Wryght surrendered, and produced the King's pardon, and he was released in the same way, finding security for his good behaviour.

A further postscript states that on the Quindene of Holy Trinity, 5 R. II, William de Lychefeld, the Abbot of Dieulacres, and Edmund Draycote, surrendered and were committed to the Marshalsea, and being brought before the Court, they produced the King's pardon as above, and prayed they might be released, and they were discharged on finding bail for their good behaviour, their sureties being John Knyghtley, John de Hulton, Richard Bradeschawe, and Nicholas Colman, and Henry de Bradeschaw had been released by the King's Charter, as appears on the Roll of Easter Term, 4 R. II, Roll 19 of the King's Pleas, and afterwards at Trinity Term, 8 R. II, Nicholas le Hunte surrendered, and produced the King's pardon as above, and he was discharged. *m. 17, Rex.*

Staff. Memorandum that Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Primate of all England, with his own hands delivered into Court a record in these words. Here follows a writ by the King addressed to the Sheriff of co. Stafford, stating that having been given to understand that the Abbot of Burton held a market in the vill of Burton every Sunday without authority, he was to make enquiry into the matter, on the oath of a jury, and return the Inquisition into the King's Chancery. Dated 4 February, 3 R. II; and the return to the writ was as follows:—

An Inquisition taken before John de Verdon, Sheriff of co. Stafford, at Burton-on-Trent, on the Wednesday the Morrow of St. Cuthbert, 3 R. II, on the oath of Thomas de Whitynton, Richard Walker, William Verney, Thomas de Tapletoft, John Migners, Henry de Smerhulle, Richard Bonet, and five others, who stated that the Abbot of Burton held a market every Sunday in the vill of Burton in the same way as his predecessors had done, for the sale and purchase of all kinds of corn, and of all other saleable things coming into the town, but by whose authority they were ignorant, and it was to the injury of the market of the Burge of Lancaster which was held every Monday in the town of Tuttebur. The Sheriff was therefore commanded to summon the said Abbot to appear *coram Rege*, on the Morrow of St. John the Baptist. *m. 23, Rex.*

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to produce Edith, formerly wife of Thomas Pipe, to make satisfaction to the King for not prosecuting her appeal against John Roberdesservant Maresyn, and others, for the death of her husband, and he now returned that she was dead. *m. 4, dorso, Rex.*

CORAM REGE. MICH., 4 R. II.

Staff. Matilda, formerly wife of Hugh Suel, appealed in person Emma, the wife of Henry de London, of Stafford, cook, William Bougent, Soutere, Thomas Scholenmaster, of Stafford, Roger Lambard, of Stoke Goldyngton, and William Heuster, of Stafford, for the death of her husband. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff returned they could not be found; he was therefore ordered to put them into *exigent*, and if they did not appear to outlaw them, and if they appeared, to arrest and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. *m. 1.*

Staff. Henry de Tynmore, the parson of the church of Ellsford, who had been indicted for procuring Henry Pernell to kill Thomas Palfreyman, and for knowingly receiving the said Henry afterwards, surrendered at this term, and was committed to the Marshalsea, and as it appeared that the principal, Henry Pernell, had been outlawed, the said Henry was put on his trial and he pleaded not guilty, and appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Morrow of All Souls. A postscript shews that the process was continued against him till Easter, 5 R. II, when it was transferred by writ of *nisi prius*, to be heard at Lichfield, by the Justices of Assize, when a jury stated on oath that the said Henry de Tynmore was not guilty. *m. 28, Rex.*

CORAM REGE. HILLARY, 4 R. II.

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to arrest Isabella, formerly wife of William Broun, and produce her at this term to make satisfaction to the King for not prosecuting her appeal against Nicholas Sandford, for the death of her husband. And the Sheriff returned that she could not be found. He was therefore ordered to put her into *exigent*, and if she did not appear to outlaw her, and if she appeared, to arrest and produce her on the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 10, Rex.*

plainants, and Thomas Mylles, deforciant of a messuage, 40 acres of land, and 10 acres of meadow in Chedell.

Thomas remitted all right to the complainants and to the heirs of Sampson Walkeden, for which the complainants gave him 400 marks of silver.

On the Morrow of Holy Trinity. 21 Elizabeth.

Between Gilbert Gerrard, armiger, Attorney-General of the Lady the Queen, complainant, and Walter Harecourte, armiger, deforciant of the manor of Tillington, with the appurtenances, and of a messuage, a garden, an orchard, 60 acres of land, 300 acres of meadow, 500 acres of pasture, 300 acres of furze and heath, and 100s. of rent in Tillington.

Walter remitted all right to Gilbert and his heirs, for which Gilbert gave him £40.

On the Morrow of Holy Trinity. 21 Elizabeth.

Between Nicholas Longford, armiger, complainant, and Fulke Grevyle, knight, and Anne his wife, deforciant of 4 messuages, 4 tofts, 4 gardens, 100 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, 10 acres of wood, 100 acres of furze and heath, 100 acres of moor, 100 acres of turbarry, 60 acres of moss, and 11s. 3d. of rent in Alstonfeld, and of a sixth part of the manor of Alstonfeld, with the appurtenances, also of 600 acres of furze and heath, 300 acres of moor, 200 acres of turbarry, and 200 acres of marsh in Alstonfeld and Hope.

Fulke and Anne remitted all right to Nicholas and his heirs, for which Nicholas gave them 100 marks of silver.

On the Quindene of Easter. 21 Elizabeth.

And afterwards reconced on the Morrow of Holy Trinity. 21 Elizabeth.

Between William Broughton, William Radnall, the younger, William Grene, and William Vise, complainants, and Thomas Essex, armiger, and Robert Turner, gentleman, and Anne his wife, deforciant of 5 messuages, 5 tofts, 5 gardens, 500 acres of land, 50 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 10 acres of wood, and common of pasture for all kinds of cattle in Staundon, Walford, Bowers, Cotes, Slynerton, Charleton, otherwise Chalton, and Chawton.

The deforciantes remitted all right to the complainants, and to the heirs of William Broughton, and the said Thomas granted for himself and his heirs that they will warrant the said tenements to the complainants and the heirs of William Broughton against the heirs of Thomas Essex, armiger, deceased, father of the said Thomas, and against the heirs of Thomas Essex, knight, deceased, grandfather of the said Thomas, and against the heirs of William Essex, knight, greatgrandfather of the said Thomas, for which the complainants gave them £120.

On the Morrow of St. Martin. 21 Elizabeth.

Between Joan Bradshawe, widow, and Benedict Wynchcombe, gentleman, complainants, and John Gyfford, armiger, deforciant of the manor of Walton, with the appurtenances, and of 13 messuages, a dovecote, 13 gardens, 500 acres of land, 160 acres of meadow, 500 acres of pasture, 60 acres of wood, 400 acres of furze and heath, and 30s. of rent in Walton and Chebsey.

John remitted all right to the complainants and to the heirs of Joan, for which the complainants gave him 500 marks of silver.

On the Octaves of St. Michael. 21 Elizabeth.

Between Thomas Byrche, complainant, and Robert Weeley and Eleanor his wife, deforciant of 30 acres of pasture and 30 acres of moor in Harborne.

Robert and Eleanor remitted all right to Thomas and his heirs, for which Thomas gave them £40.

On the Octaves of St. Michael. 21 Elizabeth.

Between Francis Aston, clerk, and Mary his wife, complainants, and Hugh Gorton and Juliana his wife, deforciant of a moiety of a messuage, a garden, an orchard, 40 acres of laud, 8 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 4 acres of wood, and 6 acres of furze and heath in Alderiche otherwise Alderige, and Great Barre.

Hugh and Juliana remitted all right to Francis and Mary and to the heirs of Francis, for which Francis and Mary gave them £40.

On the Octaves of St. Michael. 21 Elizabeth.

Between John Richardes, complainant, and William Cowper and Elizabeth his wife, deforciant of a messuage, a garden, an orchard, and 3 acres of land in Cover.

William and Elizabeth remitted all right to John and his heirs, for which John gave them £40.

On the Octaves of St. Michael. 21 Elizabeth.

Between John Chapman, clerk, complainant, and Robert Ethell and Joyce his wife, deforciant of 4 acres of laud, 8 acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture, and 2 acres of wood in Naughton.

Robert and Joyce remitted all right to John and his heirs, for which John gave them 130 marks of silver.

On the Octaves of St. Michael. 21 Elizabeth.

Between Robert Ethell, complainant, and William Overton, gentleman, and Agnes his wife, deforciant of a messuage, a barn, a garden, an orchard, 60 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, and 20 acres of pasture in High Offley otherwise Offley, and Bussey.

William and Agnes remitted all right to Robert and his heirs, for which Robert gave them £40.

On the Octaves of St. Michael. 21 Elizabeth.

Between John Kendrike, the elder, Thomas Kendrike, and John Kendrike the younger, complainants, and William Ludlowe otherwise Alexander, and Mary his wife, deforciant of 4 acres of meadow and 10 acres of pasture in Brinsford, Coven, and Bushburye.

William and Mary remitted all right to the complainants and to the heirs of John Kendrike, the elder, for which the complainants gave them 130 marks of silver.

On the Octaves of St. Michael. 21 Elizabeth.

Between George Melowe, complainant, and Oliver Cooke, and Joyce his wife, John Cooke, and Richard Cooke, deforciant of 12 acres of pasture in Wednesburye.

Oliver and Joyce remitted all right to George and his heirs, for which George gave them £40.

On the Octaves of St. Michael. 21 Elizabeth.

Between Jerome Broke, gentleman, and Arthur Agarde, gentleman, complainants, and Robert Broke, gentleman, deforciant of 20 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10 acres of wood, and 20 acres of furze and heath in Haselor.

Robert remitted all right to Jerome and Arthur and to the heirs of Jerome, for which Jerome and Arthur gave him £80.

On the Morrow of St. Martin. 21 Elizabeth.

Between Thomas Fortescue, armiger, John Norres, armiger, Ralph Rudyarde, gentleman, James Rudyarde, gentleman, and Hugh Davy, complainants, and Thomas Rudyarde, armiger, deforciant of 3 messuages, 3 gardens, 60 acres

Between Edward Eyre and Thomas Rawbon, complainant, and Michael Warynge, armiger, and Thomas Warynge, gentleman, son and heir apparent of the said Michael, deforciant of 3 messuages, 3 cottages, 4 gardens, 3 orchards, 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 140 acres of pasture, 20 acres of wood, and 6s. of rent in **Wolverhampton, Penne, and Bradeley.**

Michael and Thomas Warynge acknowledged the said tenements to be the right of Edward, for which Edward and Thomas Rawbon granted them to Michael and Thomas and to the heirs of Thomas forever.

(To be continued.)

Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY
STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

TEMP. R. II.

(Continued from Vol. VIII "Staffordshire Collections.")

Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORD-
SHIRE TENANTS. TEMP. R. II.

RICHARD II succeeded his grandfather on the 22nd June, 1377. He was then in his eleventh year, and the government of the kingdom was entrusted to a Council chosen by the prelates and barons.¹ The king found himself involved at his accession in an expensive war, for the truce with France had expired before the death of Edward III, and the pretensions of his uncle, John of Gaunt, to the crown of Spain had added that country to the number of the king's enemies.

In July and August the combined fleets of France and Spain ravaged the south coast of England, and took possession for a time of the Isle of Wight; they burned Hastings and Rye, but were beaten off at Winchelsea. A few weeks later, the men of the Cinque ports landed in Normandy, ravaged several places, and recovered the church bells of Rye, which had been carried off by the French.

Sir Thomas Felton, the Seneschal of Guienne, after vainly demanding succour from England, assembled with difficulty 500 lances at Bordeaux; leaving 200 of these in Bordeaux, he attacked the French with the remainder, but was defeated and taken prisoner. The Duke d'Anjou, who commanded the French forces, afterwards captured several places in Guienne.

In 1378, Sir Hugh Calverley, the Captain of Calais, made an inroad into Picardy with a detachment of the garrison, and set fire to Boulogne, and ravaged the adjacent country.

On the 1st August of the same year a treaty of alliance had

¹ The Council included Hugh, Earl of Stafford, and Sir Richard Stafford, who were probably the nominees of John of Gaunt. Great jealousy was shewn of the king's uncles, and they were all excluded from the Council by name, but their influence was felt in every department of the Government, and caused great confusion.

been signed between the King of England, and Charles, King of Navarre; the latter ceded the town of Cherbourg to the English for three years, and the English king promised in return to maintain for four months 500 men-at-arms and 500 archers in Navarre, to defend that province against the Spaniards.

In this year also the Duke of Lancaster landed an army in Brittany, and laid siege to the town of St. Malo, but after a fruitless attempt to take it by mining, he re-embarked his troops and returned to England: the French likewise besieged without success the towns of Brest and Cherbourg, which had been occupied by the English. The descent of the Duke of Lancaster in Brittany recalled the French from Guienne into Normandy, and a very large army under Du Guesclin was sent to oppose the Duke of Lancaster in Brittany. The latter, however, held a strong position protected by the river Eance, and the French were unable to attack him, and the English, possessing no horses, did not attempt to cross the river.¹

FRENCH ROLL, 1st R. II.

Henry de Ferrars, of Groby, in the retinue of Michael de la Pole, about to proceed to sea (*supra mare profecturus*), had letters of attorney in the names of Henry de Alderne, chivaler, and Robert de Melton, clerk, dated 26th October, and available till Easter.

Ralph de Ferrars, chivaler, had the same.

Michael de la Pole, the king's admiral in the north (*Admirallus Regis versus partes boreales*) had letters of protection till Easter, 27th October.²

John de la Pole, chivaler, had letters of attorney 24th October.

Richard Westone, in the retinue of Hugh de Calvilegh, Captain of Calais, had letters of protection, dated 17th October, available for one month.

John Baudewyn, son of John Baudewyn, armiger, and 10 others

¹ They had embarked at Southampton on the 24th June, with the object of destroying the French fleet before its junction with the Spanish, and according to Froissart had taken no horses with them.

² The Scots as usual, following in the wake of France, had broken the truce with England; and Mercer, a Scotch privateer, was scouring the German Ocean with a fleet of ships. In the following spring, Philipot, a rich citizen of London, equipped a small squadron, fell in with Mercer, and took him prisoner, capturing sixteen Spanish ships which were under his command. Philipot was blamed by the Council for making war without the royal license, but the king made him a knight.

in the retinue of Ralph de Ferrers, had letters of protection, dated 15th October.

Robert de Baryngton, in the retinue of Hugh de Calvilegh, Captain of Calais, had letters of protection for a year, dated 29th August.

Thomas, Lord de Roos, in the retinue of John, King of Castile and Leon, and Duke of Lancaster, had letters of protection till the Feast of All Saints, dated 16th June.

William de Chetewynd, knight, in the retinue of the same Thomas, had similar letters.

Henry de Ferrars, of Groby, in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchaump, Earl of Warwick, had letters of protection available till Christmas, dated 13th June.

William Burcesire, in the retinue of Hugh, Earl of Stafford, had letters of attorney till All Saints, dated 16th June.

John de la Pole, knight, about to set out on the king's service abroad, had letters of protection till Michaelmas, dated 26th May.

Michael de la Pole, in the retinue of the king's uncle, John, King of Castile, &c., had letters of attorney available for a year, dated 2nd June.

Edmund de la Pole, chivaler, in the same retinue, had similar letters, dated 25th May.

Baldwin St. George, knight, about to set out of the seas (*supra mare*) in the king's service, had letters of attorney for a year, dated 5th June.

Geoffrey Chaucier, about to proceed beyond seas in the king's service, had letters of attorney in the names of John Gower and Richard Forester, dated 21st May, and available for a year.

Thomas Mordak, knight, about to proceed abroad in the retinue of Robert de Ferrers, of Wenme, with John, King of Castile and Leon, etc., had letters of protection till Michaelmas, dated 14th May.

Ralph Basset, of Drayton, chivaler, about to proceed abroad in the king's service, had letters of protection till Michaelmas, dated 18th March.

The following, who were of his retinue, had the same :—

John Boteler.	William Rothewell.
Henry de Neville.	Thomas Wildebore.
John Neville.	William Porter.
William Neville of Pickale, knight.	John Billyng.
Thomas de Reviston.	Richard Alderwych.
Henry Mariot.	

visors. Boucicault's lance was broken, and his helmet was knocked off with such violence that the blood gushed from the nose, and he was forced to retire to his tent. Sir Thomas Sherbourne then sent an esquire¹ to strike the shield of St. Py. At their first encounter they aimed at the helmet, but both lances glanced off, and it was considered that they should run another tilt; on this occasion both shields were struck fair, and the English knight lost his stirrups and fell off his horse. This completed the first day's tournament.

On the second day Sir William Clifton challenged Boucicault, and the result was—

First joust. Both shields struck fair; no damage.

Second joust. Both helmets struck, but lances glanced off them; no damage.

Third joust. Both shields struck fair; no damage.

Fourth joust. Both helmets knocked off.

Sir Nicholas Clifton then challenged St. Py.

First joust. Both shields struck fair, and both lances broken.

Second joust. Both aimed at the helmet and missed.

Third joust. The horses crossed and the lances missed.

Fourth joust. Both aimed at the helmet, and St. Py knocked his adversary's helmet off.

A young English esquire then issued from the ranks of the English, and sent to strike the shield of de Roye. Froissart describes him as "*un gentil ceuyer d'Angleterre et moult prochain du Comte de Hostidonue, lequel on nommoit Guillaume Seymour*" (Seymour). The result of this encounter was—

First joust. Both shields struck on the full; no damage.

Second joust. Seymour's horse shied and he nearly missed his stroke—his own shield was struck fair; no damage.

Third joust. Both aimed at the helmet, which were struck near the top, but the lances glanced from them.

Fourth joust. Both aimed at the helmet, and Seymour's helmet was struck off.

Another esquire followed, named Lancaster,² who sent to strike the shield of Boucicault. In this contest the result was—

¹ It will be noted the same etiquette was followed, as in the case of modern duels; a third party was invariably sent to deliver the challenge by striking the adversary's shield. In every case the *targe de guerre* was struck.

² The author of the life of Boucicault calls this esquire Henry de Lancaster,

First joust. Both aimed at the helmet, which were struck, but no damage was done.

Second joust. Both aimed at the shields, but the horses crossed and neither was struck.

Third joust. Both aimed at the helmet, and the helmet of Lancaster was knocked off.

The next challenger on the part of the English was Sir John Talbot or Talby (Froissart writes the name Taillebourg), who sent to strike the shield of St. Py; in this contest in the

First joust. Both shields were struck on the full, and both lances were broken.

Second joust. The horses crossed, and the joust failed.

Third joust. Both aimed at the helmet, and both knights had their helmets knocked off.

Sir Godfrey Seton then stepped forward, "*un gentil chevalier et bien joutant*," and sent an esquire to strike the shield of de Roye. This contest resulted as follows:—

First joust. Both shields struck fair and the lances were bent like bows, but did not break.

Second joust. The horses crossed, and the joust failed, both combatants having to drop their lances to save their seats.¹

Third joust. Seton struck de Roye on the helmet, and de Roye struck Seton's shield so violently that his lance pierced both the shield and the arm of Seton, and broke off short, leaving a splinter in the shield.²

who was afterwards King of England, and he adds that he brought letters to Bourcicault from his father, the Duke of Lancaster, saying that he had sent his son to learn the use of arms from him, whom he knew to be "*un très vaillant chevalier*."

I find, however, from the French Rolls, that there was at this time a John Lancaster, armiger, in the retinue of Thomas, the Earl Marshal, at Calais, who was more likely to be the combatant on this occasion. Henry of Lancaster afterwards served with Boucicault against the infidels of Lithuania, and it is much more probable that it was on this latter occasion that the duke wrote to Boucicault, for the latter had by this time become celebrated and the duke had made his acquaintance in Aquitaine.

¹ This would evidently be the case if the horsemen passed on the off side and the lances were at rest, under the arms.

² Froissart adds, "*De cette joute fut Messire Regnault de Roye moult prisé entre ses gens. Aussi fut-il entre les Anglois, oncques nul ne lui en dit vilenie, combien que blessé eût le chevalier, car les aventures d'armes sont telles.*"

This was considered by the spectators as a very fine specimen of skill in arms, or to use the words of Froissart, "*Cette joute fut moult prisé de tous ceuz qui la virent.*"

Sir John Clifton was followed by an English esquire named Roger Lam (Lamb), probably a mistake of Froissart for John Lamb, for I find on the French Roll of 15 R. II, a John Lambe, armiger, was in the retinue of Sir Thomas Swynburne, knight, the Captain of Gwynes. Roger Lam bore for his arms "*noir ecartelé a une croiz de gueules en mi.*" He challenged St. Py.

First joust. Both shields were struck on the full, and the lances thrown on their haunches, for the lances did not break.

Second joust. Both aimed at the helmet, but missed.

Third joust. Roger Lamb's helmet was knocked off.

The next challenger was a native of Hainault, Sir John d'Aubrecicourt, who had been brought up in the household of Edward III. His arms as given by Froissart show a remarkable departure from the simplicity of early armorial bearings. They were "*parti d'or et l'hermine, et sur l'or, une face noire bretesquée a lambeaulx de gueules, et sur l'hermine trois hamèdes de gueules, sur la première hamède une coquille d'or, sur la seconde, deux coquilles d'or, et sur la tierce hamède trois coquilles d'.*" He challenged de Roye.

First joust. Both aimed at the helmets, which were struck, but without result.

Second joust. The shields were struck with great force, and both knights dropped their lances; the shock was so great that both horses reared up, and the riders staggered and shook in their seats, but kept their saddles. Froissart says, "*merveille fut que de ce coup ils ne se passèrent tout outre.*"

Third joust. De Roye's helmet was knocked off with great violence, and he was unable to continue the contest.

Sir John d'Aubrecicourt then sent an esquire to strike the shield of Boucicault.

First joust. Both shields were struck, but the horses shied, which lessened the force of the encounter, and no damage was done.

Second joust. Both knights aimed at the helmets, which were struck, but the lances glanced.

Third joust. Both aimed again at the helmets, which were knocked off.

This completed the third day's tournament. On the fourth day the first challenger on the part of the English was Sir Godfrey Eustas (Eustace), who bore for his arms *d'or, à un lion noir à un beaux de gueules, et à une molette d'or sur l'épaule du lion*. He sent an esquire to strike the shield of Boucicault.

First joust. Both knights aimed at the helmet, but missed.

Second joust. The shields were struck on the full, and the lances broke.

Third joust. Each aimed at his adversary's helmet, and both helmets were carried away.

Then followed an English esquire named Alain Bouch (Bourke), but Froissart does not give his arms. He challenged St. Py.

First joust. Both aimed at the helmets, which were struck, but no damage was done.

Second joust. Both shields were struck, but neither party had any advantage over the other.

Third joust. Both aimed at the helmet, and the lances held on the visors, and both helmets were knocked off.

The third challenger was an English esquire named Jennin Scrope, who sent to strike the shield of Boucicault.

First joust. The horses crossed, and the lances missed.

Second joust. Both aimed at the helmets, which were struck, but no damage was done.

Third joust. At this turn Scrope was unhorsed.

Then followed a knight of Bohemia named Herr Hans, of the household of Anne of Bohemia, the wife of Richard II, "*un bon jouteur, fort et roide*," who bore for his arms *d'argent, a trois pieds de griffons noirs, ongles d'azur*. When he came forward he was asked with whom he wished to joust, and he answered Boucicault. An esquire was therefore sent to strike the shield of the latter.

First joust. Hans made a foul stroke, and forfeited his horse and arms according to the "*ordonnance*" of the tournament. Froissart gives the following description of it. He says that the knights, "*se cuidèrent bien atteindre de plein coup, mais non firent, et là se forfit le chevalier de Brhaigne, dont il fut grandement blâmé, car de*

sur-cours mal durement il consuivit sur le heaume Messire Boucicaut, et passa outre. Les Anglois virent bien que il s'estoit forfait el qu'il avoit perdu armes et cheval si les Francois le vouloient."

The French knights consulted together for some time, and decided that out of compliment to the English they would not exact the forfeit.

Next Hans then asked as a favour that he might run one lance only, and he was asked with whom he wished to tilt, and he answered with de Roye. In this joust both shields were struck on the full and Hans was carried clean out of his saddle and fell with such force, that at first it was thought he was dead. He was lifted up with some difficulty and carried off the field. Froissart adds that de Roye "*pour ce temps estoit l'un des plus forts et durs jouteurs de France*,"¹ but he does not explain more fully why the unfortunate Hans made a foul stroke in his joust with Boucicaut. I suspect, however, that in aiming at the helmet a special lance was used, without a spear-head, for it is clear that a lance armed with a spear-head would cause fatal injury if it struck the visor, and the visors were frequently struck. The lance used against the helmet must have been of the kind of which specimens are preserved at the Tower of London, and which are surmounted with steel ferrules, indented, and which Hans struck Boucicaut's helmet with a spear-headed lance. If I am right in this supposition it would explain why the combatants always followed suit in aiming at the shield or the helmet; the nature of the lance handed to them would show them the stroke they had to deliver.

After this unfortunate affair five other English esquires, named by Froissart—Robin Seorborne (Sherburne), Jean Mouton (Myton), Jaquenim Scrope, William Masquelée, and Nicholas Lamb, tried their fortunes against the French knights: of these, Sherburne, Masquelée, and Lamb held their own against St. Py, Boucicaut, and St. Py respectively, but John Mouton was unhorsed by de Roye, and Scrope by St. Py.²

¹ He was an intimate associate of Boucicaut, and accompanied him in all his enterprises in after years.

² Froissart names Jean Mouton in two contests, but as the second Jean Mouton bore different arms from the first-named, it must be a mistake on the part of the chronicler. The first Jean Mouton, "*un frisque homme et bon jouteur*," bore "*d'argent, a une lande de salles, a trois têtes de lion de sables*." The second Jean

This exhausted the number of English who were prepared to joust, and the Earl of Huntingdon, Thomas de Mowbray, the Earl Marshal, Lord Clifford, Lord Beaumont, Sir John Clifton, Sir John d'Abrecicourt, and all the other knights who had taken part in the tournament then came up in a body to the French knights and thanked them for "*leurs cbattements*," and for the courteous reception which had been given to them.

Upon the whole the Frenchmen had the best of it, for they had challenged all comers, none of them had been unhorsed, and they had been the victors in many of the contests.

In later tournaments the inconvenience of the horses crossing was remedied by a longitudinal barrier, but this must have greatly marred the effect of the contest. It is curious to note that even in the ancient tournaments the combatants were not free from the inconvenience experienced at the Eglinton tournament from the constant refusal of the horses to face the charge. It is believed that the "*coursier*" or "*decurie*" the large war horse of ancient days, was invariably a stallion; a mare or gelding was not likely to face a man in armour at full salt, and I have been told by persons who were present at Eglinton Castle on the 28th August, 1839, that the frequent refusal of the horses on that occasion proved very detrimental to the effect of the tournament, and greatly marred what would otherwise have been a very fine spectacle.

A.D. 1391

In this year took place the crusade against the infidels of Lithuania, led by the Teutonic knights of Prussia, assisted by several English and French men-at-arms of distinction.

Henry of Lancaster, afterwards Henry IV, is stated to have made his first essay in arms upon this occasion, under the famous Boucicault: the king's uncle, the Earl of Gloucester, started upon the same expedition, but having met with very bad weather at sea, returned to England without disembarking. Thomas de Stafford, who had lately succeeded to the Earldom of Stafford, and had married Anne, the daughter of the Earl of Gloucester, accompanied his father-in-law in this voyage, but died very shortly afterwards. His marriage with Anne was never consummated as she was not of a marriageable age, and she afterwards married his

Mouton bore "*gueules à un chevron de sables, et trois molettes d'or perchées, a une bordure de sables endentées.*" There was a cotemporary John Mytton of Shrewsbury, whose name is always written Mutton in the records of the period.

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Staffordshire County Studies
 Sample

HISTORY OF THE MANOR AND PARISH OF
WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD IN THE
COUNTY OF STAFFORD.

BY THE
REV. THE HON. GEORGE T. O. BRIDGEMAN.

HISTORY OF THE MANOR AND PARISH OF WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD, IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD.

THE Manor of Weston-under-Lizard in the Hundred of Colvestan (Cuttlestone) is thus mentioned in the Domesday Survey with other lands in the same tenure: "Rainald de Balgiote holds of the King 4 hides in Westone, and Bertone, and Brotone. Nine thanes held it in King Edward's time for nine manors. Here were 11 ox-teams. The arable land is sufficient for 6 ox-teams. In demesne there are 7 ox-teams, and 2 serfs, and 10 villains, with 2 ox-teams. The wood of these estates is half-a-league in length and half-a-league in breadth. *Valet* [*i.e.*, the manor], 40s. Of this land Amerland holds 1 hide of Rainald. Thereon he has 3 serfs and 1 boor. It is worth 5s." In Perekholle (Perehill) Hundred, "The same Rainald holds Niweton. Godwin held it and was a free man. Here is half a hide. The arable land is sufficient for 4 ox-teams. In demesne there is half a team, and 8 villains, and 5 boors with 3 teams. Here is 1 serf, and a mill of 4s annual value, and 2 acres of meadow, a wood 1 quarantine long and 1 quarantine broad. It is worth 40s. *per annum*."¹

These lands and manors, viz., Weston, Beighterton (in the parish of Weston), Brocton (in the adjoining parish of Sheriff Hales), and Newton (in the parish of Blithfield), together with all the great estates which were held by Rainald de Balgiote as Vicecomes or Sheriff under Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury and Arundel, had been previously held by Warin the Bald, the first Sheriff of Shropshire, who must therefore be considered the first lord of Weston after the Conquest.

It appears that Roger de Montgomery gave them, with his niece

¹ Besides these manors, Rainald held many others of the Earl of Shrewsbury and of the Crown, in Staffordshire, Shropshire, and Warwickshire, which all passed to the House of FitzAlan.

Ameria in marriage, to Warin the Bald, described by Ordericus as "a man of low stature, but of great spirit, who greatly assisted Earl Roger in his enterprize in Shropshire."¹

This Warin the Sheriff was dead before 1085, leaving his wife Ameria surviving, and a son and heir Hugh, then a minor, who seems to have afterwards succeeded to his father's honour and estates in or about the year 1102-3, and to have died soon afterwards without issue.

In the meantime Rainald de Balgiole, *alias* de Bailleul, had married Ameria the widow of Warin,² and appears in Domesday (A.D. 1085-6) as Vicecomes of Shropshire, and as holding all the manors, whether in Shropshire, Staffordshire, or elsewhere, which were held by Warin of Earl Roger or of the crown, including the manors of Weston and Neyton in Staffordshire. "The question whether Rainald held the shrievalty and estates *in jure uxoris*, or by appointment of the Earl (or the King) during the minority of Hugh, it is, perhaps, impossible to determine. The only recorded act of Ameria during her short widowhood is a grant to Shrewsbury Abbey out of her *dower*, and not out of her *fee*. The inference from this would be that she was not regarded as Vicomtesse of Shropshire in her own right, and so that Rainald obtained the honour independently of her."

During the tenure of Warin the tithes of Weston narrowly escaped alienation to the Norman Abbey of St. Evroult, or Ebrulf, of Uticum. "*Guarinus Vicecomes de Scrotesburia* is one of the witnesses to a charter of William the Conqueror to that house. This charter is dated at Winchester in 1081, and Warin's specific grants to the Abbey are therein enumerated. He had given Neuton to that house; he had given the church of Hales (Sheriff Hales) with the tithes of that manor; he had also given the tithes of *Guestona* in Estafordescire; and these gifts his lord Roger the Earl had allowed. But these grants are not verified by Domesday, and we have other evidence that they never took effect, for Weston-under-Lizard and Newton, near Blithfield, continued

¹ "Ordericus Vitalis" (Paris edition of 1855), Vol. II, p. 220.

² This fact has been doubted in consequence of Rainald being called, in one instance, *Brother* of Warin. We must there interpret the word "Brother" as "Brother-in-law," [or rather "wife's husband,"] for it is certain that Rainald married Ameria (Eyton's "Houses of Fitz Alan and Stuart" [communicated to the Historical Section at the meeting of the Institute, at Edinburgh, July, 1856]), p. 10, *note*.

³ Eyton's "Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. VII, p. 205.

that Thomas the chaplain of Blemenhul (Blymhill) held half a virgate of land in Weston under Brewode, which is geldable, and he is accustomed to attend with that vill at the Sheriff's towen and before the Justices. At the same sessions William the Rector of the Church of Weston under Brewod impleaded Hugh, lord of that vill, for common in his wood which touched his free tenement in *caple de Lappoley* (Lapley). The jurors also stated that Hugh de Weston and Robert de Esyngton verderers (of the forest of Cannock) sold a *caolnam* (windfall) in the hay of Geddesley (Teddesley) to the value of 10s. by the King's orders in the 38th year of H. III (1253-4). And they said with respect to the above mentioned windfall that the same verderers sold nine oaks prostrated by the *rota* for 10s. as has been already stated, but they are unable to give the value of each oak because they were sold with the branches in gross.¹

By deed without date, Hugh *filius magistri Johannis de Weston* gives to God and the monks of St. Mary and St. Chad of Buildwas common of pasture in the territory of Weston everywhere towards the north by these boundaries, that is to say, from Whitseche to the little watercourse (*castillum*) of Blamnhull and so going down between the arable land of Behterton and the heath (*Omeriam*) which is called Bradeneham (and) between (*inter*) the arable land of Weston . . . as far as Weteligestret to which are witnesses Richard Leethon, William de Wylbucion, Richard de Onne, Hamo de Morthon, Richard de Ginehul, Michael de Morthon, Robert de Behterton, John de Brunton, and others.²

A convention was made between Sir Hugh de Weston of the one part and Alice, formerly the wife of Hamo de Behterton of the other, by which the said Hugh concedes to the said Alice two parts of 1 messuage in the vill of Weston, and of all the lands and tenements of which the aforesaid Hamo, formerly her husband, died seised in Weston and Behterton, till the full age of Thomas, the son and heir of the aforesaid Hamo, in exchange for her dower, etc.; witnessed by Robert atte Wode of Weston, William le Fremon, Roger le Bere, John Tivri, William Tivry of the same, and others.³

By another deed Hugh, son of John de Weston, gave to William, son of Hamo de Weston, half a virgate of land with the appurtenances, in the vill of Weston, for his homage and service, and 12s.

¹ "Rot. Hund.," Vol. II, p. 115.

² Harl. MS. 5816. This deed is taken from the evidences of Richard Weston, of Rugeley, co. Stafford, Esq.

³ Harl. MS. 5816.

sterling, namely, that half virgate which the father of William held of the donor's father, together with a moor lying near the grove called Brydes, etc. ; witnessed by Richard Duna (de Onne), Ralph de Coven, James de Morton, Robert de Berterton, John de Brunton, William de Brunton, and many others. This deed is sealed in green wax with the Weston eagle and the legend "Sigill. Hugonis de Weston."¹

If this William, son of Hamo de Weston, were the son of Hamo de Weston de Berterton, it is probable that both he and Thomas, the son and heir of Hamo, died without issue, and that Robert, their brother, succeeded to the inheritance ; for Robert de Berterton, son of Hamo de Weston, by deed without date, gave to Margery, his daughter, and her issue, half a virgate of land in the vill of Berterton, which Thomas *super viridum* formerly held, except 2 acres extending to the garden of Thomas the chaplain, which the aforesaid Hamo, his father gave to the said Thomas the chaplain, in exchange for other two acres. If Margery should die without issue the said land to remain to Roger her younger brother, and his heirs ; witnessed by Sir Hugh de Weston, W. parson of Weston, William de Ipestanes, Chr. chaplain of Blynhall, R. de Perselhall, John Bagot of Brunton, W. Wardecote, W. France s, and many others.²

I imagine that Robert de Beiterton was succeeded by his son James, for James de Beiterton, son of Robert of the same, by deed without date, sold to Sir Hugh de Weston, knight, the homage and service of Thomas de Blumenhull, witnessed by Roger de Pycheford, Richard de Pycheford, Robert de Brunton, Henry of the Wood (*de Bosco*) of Weston, Roger le Bere, Richard of the Green (*de Virido*) of Betterton, Simon de Betterton, and many others.³

But Roger, the younger son of Robert de Beiterton, was also living later, for, by deed without date, Sir Hugh de Weston, son of Sir Hugh *de eadem*, gives and confirms to Roger, son of Robert de Betterton, son of Hamo de Weston, for his homage and service, one half virgate of land in the vill of Weston, with a messuage and croft, namely that which Dolfin de Weston, and afterwards William, the Bedel of Weston, some time held of the lords of Weston, besides two acres of land which Sir Hugh de Weston, his father, gave to the said Robert de Betterton in his wood near Marleye, etc. ; witnessed by Roger de Pycheford, Richard de Pycheford, Robert Bagot of Brunton, Roger Bagot of the same, William le Fremou of Weston, Henry de Bosco of Weston, and many others ; sealed with

¹ Harl. MS. 5816.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

the Weston eagle displayed regardant and bearing the legend "Sigillum Dni Hugonis de Weston."¹

These last two deeds are of the time of the second Sir Hugh de Weston.

In July, 40 H. III (1256) Hugh de Weston is foreman of a jury of verderers and foresters of the King's Forest of Cannock and other freemen of the county, summoned to ascertain what lands, tenements, rents, etc., pertain to the Bailiwick, which Hugh de Loges held in the same forest.²

In 41 H. III (1256-7) Hugh de Weston gives half a mark of gold to have a rassize, and the Sheriff of Staffordshire is commanded to take his security.³

In the same year 41 H. III Hugh, Lord of Weston, gave to the Prior and Canons of St. Thomas the Martyr, near Stafford, a virgate and a quarter of land, 2 messuages, with buildings, crofts, etc., belonging to them, and 3 pieces of land with the appurtenances, in Neuton, namely, that messuage and croft and half virgate of land which Ranulph, son of Hugh, at one time held, and that half virgate of land which Edward Russell at one time held, and that fourth part of a virgate which Robert Kelape held, as also common of pasture for 400 sheep, 60 beasts, and 60 swine, in his wood called the Hurst at Newton, yearly, in exchange for all the lands and tenements which the said Prior and his Canons had from him or any one else in the vill of Weston on the day on which this charter was made, namely on the Tuesday next before the nativity of St. John the Baptist. 41 H. III (19th June, 1257), including the service and homage of Henry de Bosco of Weston and his heirs for half a virgate of land which he held of the said Prior and Canons in Weston, with wards, reliefs, etc.; to which were witnesses Sir John de Acton, Philip de Poyer, Hugh de London, Thomas de Bromsulph, William de Acton, William de Ipstones, Thomas de Tresel, Robert de Hutesdon, Ralph de Hampton, Robert, son of John de Admundeston, Thomas de la Lee, William, Richard, and Hugh, of the same.⁴

An abstract of a deed which is given in another part of Mr. Parker's chartulary of St. Thomas, from which chartulary the above deed is taken, probably applies to the lands at Weston, formerly given or confirmed to the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas by

¹ Harl. MS. 5816.

² Inq., 40 H. III, No. 37.

³ Rot. Fin., 41 H. III, m. 4.

⁴ "Staff. Coll.," Vol. VIII, pp. 45, 46.

the daughters (or their representatives) of Sir John de Weston by Isabella de Bromley and therefore heirs of the whole blood.

But before speaking of these co-heirs I will mention what I have to say of the children of Sir John de Weston by Isolda daughter of William de Newton, who must have been a distant cousin; for although the seal of John, son of Sir John de Weston, above mentioned, has a bar sinister across the Weston eagle I do not question their legitimacy. I suppose these children of Isolda de Newton to have been John, Robert, William, Alice, and Agnes.

In the deeds above given, in which Sir John makes a provision for these his younger children; by those of 1321, 1328, and 1331 he provides for his son John, on whom he settles the manor of Rodbaldeston and the third part of the fourth part of the manor of Blynhill (excepting the advowson of the church), which last concession is made with remainder to his brothers Robert and William and his sister Alice and their issue, with remainder to his own right heirs.

By a deed of 1331 he settles certain lands and tenements in Newton, which he acquired from Thomas le Warde of Newton, on his son Robert, with remainder to his brother William and his sister Alice daughter of Isolda de Newton.

By his deed of 1340, to which John son of Sir John de Weston, is a witness, he gives a messuage in Weston, which he had by feoffment of Henry Attewood of Weston, to his son Robert and his issue, with remainder to his brother William and his issue, with remainder to their sister *Agnes* and her issue. Perhaps we may infer from this that the other sister, Alice, was now dead. And by a deed of November 1345 he gave to his son Robert and his issue certain messuages, lands, and tenements in Weston and Beighterton, which he also seems to have lately acquired; and as he settles them in default of the issue of Robert on his daughters Isolde, Elena, and Elizabeth in succession, I am disposed to think that William and Agnes were also deceased without issue at this time.

John, son of Sir John de Weston, incidentally occurs as a land-owner in Blynhill in 23 E. III,¹ (1349-50), after which I hear no more of him, and he probably died without issue. His third part of a fourth part of the manor of Blynhill seems to have eventually fallen to the lords of Weston, but as it was settled on his brother Robert de Weston on failure of the issue of John it must have passed by the demise of Robert.

¹ "Staff. Coll.," Vol. II, Part 2, p. 103.

Robert de Weston occurs on 16 June 24 E. III, 1350, as attorney for his sister Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John de Weston, one of the co-heirs, to deliver her purparty of the manor of Newton to Stephen de Bromley her trustee. In the pedigree drawn up by Serar, garter king, for Richard Weston, Earl of Portland in 1632, he is called Robert de Weston of Betterton in Weston, living in 32 E. III (1356) and his son John de Weston of Betterton and Newton in 49 E. III and 20 R. III, is father of Richard de Weston of Rugeley 6 H. VI ancestor of the Westons of Rugeley and the Westons of Lichfield, from whom the Earl of Portland derived his descent.¹

¹ "Erdeswick's Staffordshire," edited by Rev. Thomas Harwood, ed. of 1844, p. 164.

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