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### "SUBSCRIPTION OF 1916"





SOCIÉTÉ JERSIAISE

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“Ancient Petitions  
OF THE  
Chancery and the Exchequer”

AYANT TRAIT AUX

ILES DE LA MANCHE,

CONSERVÉES AU

“Public Record Office” à Londres.

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PUBLICATION SPÉCIALE.

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## PRÉFACE

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Grâce à la générosité de Lord de Saumarez, la Société Jersiaise est en mesure de présenter à chacun de ses membres la présente publication, laquelle comprend d'Anciennes Pétitions de la Chancellerie et de l'Echiquier concernant les Iles de la Manche, et qui sont conservées au " Public Record Office ".

Au mois d'Avril 1901 Lord de Saumarez, qui assistait à une réunion du Comité de la Société, offrit non seulement de fournir les copies de ces Pétitions, mais encore de prendre à sa charge les frais de leur publication, pourvu que la Société Jersiaise, de son côté, entreprit d'en surveiller l'impression.

Le Comité s'empressa d'accepter l'offre généreuse de sa Seigneurie; et voilà comment les membres de la Société auront le plaisir de lire des documents très intéressants et propres à éclairer l'histoire de ces îles pendant la fin du treizième, le quatorzième et le quinzième siècles. Ils se rapportent aux droits, aux coutumes et aux privilèges des habitants, et à leur état social à cette époque éloignée, alors qu'ils avaient à souffrir non seulement de la part de leurs ennemis de France, mais encore des exactions de leur " Gardiens " (Gouverneurs). L'historien y trouvera des détails précis sur plusieurs points intéressants.

Ces pétitions sont adressées, les unes au Roi, d'autres au Roi et à son Conseil, ou encore au Conseil, ou au Parlement, au Chancelier et à d'autres Dignitaires de l'Etat. A l'origine on les conservait à la Chancellerie; mais plus tard on les réunit sous le titre de " Parliamentary Petitions ", titre sous lequel elles sont citées par certains historiens des Iles de la Manche. Toutefois depuis 1892 la collection

en entier a été classifiée et numérotée de nouveau, sous le titre de "Ancient Petitions", par l'Autorité du "Public Record Office". Ce Bureau a publié un Index, avec un Appendice, grâce auquel, ceux qui ont consulté ces documents avant l'année 1892 sous le titre de "Parliamentary Petitions", pourront les retrouver dans leur classification nouvelle et avec leurs nouveaux numéros actuels.

Sauf les exceptions indiquées, les originaux de ces pétitions sont écrits dans la langue Normande (Norman French). A peu d'exceptions près, leur traduction est l'œuvre de Miss Emma M. Walford.

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## ERRATA.

- Page 5, line 17. For "beaten down from above" read "spat upon."  
" 14, line 24. For "at our half" read "at our Lady."  
" 15, line 16. Ditto ditto  
" " line 12. For "in revenge, alleging, again" read "renouncing  
the gain which he had made."  
" 20. Petition N<sup>o</sup> 12098. The date should be *Circa* 1331.  
Compare this petition with N<sup>o</sup> 13590 (page 49)  
and refer to Appendix to this Publication  
where the Writ and Inquisition are published.  
" 30, line 20. For "purchase" read "seeking."



# ANCIENT PETITIONS OF THE CHANCERY AND EXCHEQUER.

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Nº 13560.

[Temp : Henry III.]

In desiring the grace of the King Robert Guichart of the isle of Jersey desires that whereas he was accused by some of his enemies of the death of Thomas Donnevant & Olive his wife before the Justices of the King at the last assizes held in the said island, & whereas the said Robert knowing nothing of the said accusation & being then in Normandy was called to the said assize at the peace of the King, & came soon after the said assize to the said island & gave himself up to the prison of the King without any compulsion, in the which he is & has been detained ever since : may it therefore please the King to command the bailiff of the said island or whoever it may please the King to deliver the said Robert from the said prison if so be that he be found to be acquitted of the said crime as he is ready to put himself as to this to a good inquest ; & if he be found guilty that he may be punished according to the law & custom of the country because he is so poor that he only has enough to lay out in the prison.

Robert  
Guichart,  
accused of  
murder.

[Endorsed] Let the lord the King do of his grace according to that which shall seem expedient to his court.

Nº 13150.

To the King & his Council prays Robert Guichart indicted for the death of Thomas Donnevant & Olive his wife & put in exigence

Idem.

by the justices at the last assizes in Jersey & who came & gave himself up to the King's prison that he may have a writ to the bailiff of the isle of Jersey & to Dreu de Barantin <sup>(1)</sup> "de bien & de mal."

[No endorsement.]

Nº 8765.

Robert  
Levesque,  
an outlaw.

To the King prays Robert Levesque of the isle of Jersey that whereas he was formerly outlawed before the Justices assigned to take the assizes in the said isle for trespass & assault whereof he was accused & indicted before them: at the time of which assizes he was in England & knew nothing of the said indictment nor of the said outlawry, & he is ready to be at the law to all those who wish to say anything against him. May it please the King for God and charity to grant him his grace & pardon for this outlawry in as much as it was done in his absence & he knew nothing at all about it.

Nº 3911.

[Date: *Circa* 1291.]

Raulyn  
de Aparel  
of  
Alderney.

Raulyn de Aparel of the island of Alderney complains that whereas he took a lamb which was not worth more than 6d. sterling, & sold the skin for 3 farthings & ate the flesh for his food for the which Rauf Ode <sup>(2)</sup> warden of the said isle made him abjure the said islands. He now prays the King to pardon him this abjuration, & submits himself to the inquisition of good people.

Nº 14639.

[Temp: Edward i.]

William  
Desmares,  
as to  
patronage  
of Church  
of S<sup>t</sup> John,  
Jersey.

To the King & his Council shows William Desmares, clerk, that whereas Sir Richard Guesdel, priest, had the Church of St John in the isle of Jersey & the said Richard had left the said Church in the time of the war, & in the time of the war by the common cry was

(1) Barentin was Warden in 1235 and again from 1241 to 1252.

(2) Raoul Eudes—In 1291 Sark and Alderney were farmed to Raoul Eudes, one of the lieutenants of Otho de Grandison.

called to the peace of our lord the King & by forfeiture did in the same way as the others & during all the time of the war he lived in the power of the King, for that the Church was thus as vacant for the reason abovesaid Sir Henry de .....<sup>(1)</sup> warden of the islands by the command of the King had made him keeper of the said Church & he had the issues due, & the said William had put there a chaplain on behalf of the King ..... against the wish of the said ..... & without the commandment of the King nor of his ..... when war was had entered the said Church so as by force, for which the said William prays for a writ of the lord the King, coming to the bailiff of the island that he may be kept in his ..... this Richard has the grant of the King, I have the gift of right, that the King shall lose his patronage by his default.

[This document is defective, being torn on right hand side.]

Nº 8719.

[Temp: *Circa* 1294.]

To the valiant King of England show his good people the destruction of the islands. The body of our Lord was there cut down with swords & beaten down from above. The images were cut down with swords & roasted without food.<sup>(2)</sup> The chalices were destroyed & taken away. The women & girls were taken by force from the Churches. The men & women were killed 1500 in number. The houses were burnt and the corn, whereby they have nothing to eat. Their money & all their other chattels were carried off. Of the chasubles and the vestments they made trappings for horses and when the horses had served them they hamstrung them.

Compensation  
to Islanders  
for losses  
in time of  
war.

Sire, full of pity, it pleased you to command by your writ that restitution be made to such good people of the chattels of those who are not come to your peace & have turned towards the King of France & that the goods of the dead should be left to the next heirs.

(1) Doubtless Sir Henry de Cobham, Warden from 1294—1297.

(2) The original is as follows: "Le cors nostre Seigneur fut ilokes descoupe des espeyes ecrache de sus les ymages furent des coupes one espeyes e enrosty sanz le vitayle."—It is difficult to make sense of the passage.

Sir Henry de Cobham does not wish to do anything therein but has given them a term in London.

The poor people have not wherewith to come. Therefore they request in pity & in mercy that your order may be fulfilled & that you will give them a judge who will not be a party.

[Endorsed] As to the loss which they have had the King replies that he had previously given orders to Sir Henry de Cobham to give compensation to the people of the island according to the proportion of their losses in goods of the Normans & other fugitives according to the quantity of their goods.<sup>(1)</sup>

As to the gifts of those who died in the assault, as to this let it be commanded as elsewhere.

Nº 13731.

[Date : 1295.]

Petition  
of  
Islanders.  
Complaints  
of losses  
through  
King's  
enemies.

The grace of the King desire the men of the islands of Jersey, Guernsey & the other islands thereto belonging that whereas they have sustained grave damages by the enemies of the King in the time of war it pleased the King to command Sir Henry de Cobham then guardian of the said islands by his writ, to make compensation to them for their damages according to the tenor of the copy of the said writ joined to this bill : which compensation the said Sir Henry either would or could not make, wherefore the said islanders caused him to be summoned to the parliament when he ought to have gone to Flanders, & auditors were given them, viz., Sir John de Bacwelle, Master Robert de Leycet<sup>(2)</sup> & Master Thomas de Legorre. The said Sir Henry answered before them that he had put into the defence of the said islands as much as he had taken, & the auditors said that if

(1) These orders, dated 24<sup>th</sup> August 1294, are set out in Close Rolls, 9<sup>th</sup> Publication Soc. Jer., pp. 58 & 59.

(2) Master Robert de Leyset was appointed to the Church of St Peter Port, Guernsey, on Dec. 20, 1297 ; the same being in the King's gift by reason of the lands of the Abbot of Marmoutier-lez-Tours being in the King's hands. The Bishop of Coutances, however, refused to admit de Leyset and through the intervention of Queen Margaret, the King gave way and Robert Lyout was appointed by the Bishop. (Cf : Lettres Closes, 9<sup>e</sup> Publication Société Jersiaise, pp. 70-73).

there was anything left over after his accounts that the said compensation ought to be made & the King sent Master Robert de Leycet to hear the costs of the said Sir Henry & the receipts, & the said Sir Henry did not come. And afterwards the King gave to Sir Otes de Granzoun the said islands by a new charter, & his bailiffs have since received the goods out of which the said compensation ought to be made to the value of £10,000 tournois or more : therefore they pray the King to command the said compensation to be made.

[Endorsed] Let Henry de Cobham late warden be commanded by writ of chancery to certify the chancery for what reason he did not execute the writ elsewhere to him directed according to the tenor thereof, & when he has sent in such certificate let remedy be made.

Copy of the said writ.

Edward by the grace of God King of England Lord of Ireland & Duke of Aquitaine, To Henry de Cobham keeper of the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, &c.

Whereas divers of our men of the said islands have sustained great damage in a conflict between them & certain foreigners our enemies for the defence of the said islands ; & whereas you have taken into our hand as we understand certain goods & merchandizes of the Normans & others of the power of the King of France fugitives from the said islands : We therefore will that compensation be made to the said men in proportion to the damage they have received out of such goods & merchandizes.

Compensation  
granted.

Witness Ourself at Westminster 24 August, in the 23<sup>rd</sup> year of Our reign (1295). (see next Petition, N<sup>o</sup> 8717).

N<sup>o</sup> 8717.

[Date : 1295.]

Edward by the grace of God, &c. to Henry de Cobbeham keeper of the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, &c. Whereas divers of our men in the said islands, &c. &c.

Sir Henry  
de Cobham.

[This writ is word for word the writ abstracted in previous Petition, N<sup>o</sup> 13731.]

Witness Ourself at Westminster the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August in the 23<sup>rd</sup> year of Our reign. <sup>(1)</sup>

Sir Henry de Cobbeham takes the third [part] of the goods of those who died in the war, wherefore they desire your grace & that you will take pity upon them because they have nothing on which to live.

[No endorsement.]

N<sup>o</sup> 13674.

[Date : 1294–97.]

Petition  
of  
Guernsey  
Fishermen.

To the most excellent & noble Prince Edward by the grace of God, &c. pray the fishers of your isle of Guernsey that as they are your liege men & in your obedience as to their liege lord that it may please you to grant them under your Great Seal that they may go & fish in the sea & may carry their fish into your kingdom in such manner that you, your courts & barons so far as in their power may be served therein : and the time and market being given that they may come into your kingdom so that the said fishers in the said isle may be quit of paying the custom in your kingdom for each market for once in whatsoever place in your kingdom they shall sell those things accustomed of ancient times : & that it may please your Royal Highness to grant them these things in mercy.

[Endorsed] Command Nicholas de Cheyny <sup>(2)</sup> & Master Philip Cheyny that they taking with them another faithful person & call the right of the King who were called to enquire whether such customs in the said islands before the time of the said Otto were wont to be paid, or not, & that they certify the King the information upon the same business & upon all their proceeding into the Court of Chancery, & also let the bailiffs of the said Otto be called.

(1) The original of this Writ is in Latin.

(2) Warden in 1294 and again in 1297 and 1298.—Nicholas and Philip were sons of Sir William de Cheyny, who died in 1274, and was Seigneur of the Fief le Comte, Guernsey. Nicholas acquired the Manor of Vinchelez, Jersey, in 1324, by purchase from John de Carteret and Lucia his wife, and died in 1327.



Nº 8716.

[Date : 1294-97.]

To the King show the good people of the island of Jersey. Sir, you had mills in the said island which were burnt & destroyed in this war together with all our goods, your bailiffs wish to make us rebuild them, but Sir, we have nothing to do it with. Wherefore we pray you that you will command the said bailiffs that they rebuild the same & we will do the services as we did before.

People of  
Jersey  
on subject  
of Mills.

[Endorsed] Concerning the rebuilding of the mills, let it be commanded that Sir Henry <sup>(1)</sup> & his bailiffs cease until he has other commands.

Nº 8740.

[Date : 1294-97.]

To the King show his serjeants of the castle of Jersey that they were taken at fixed (*certeyns*) wages after the destruction of the said island to guard & garrison the said castle against the King's enemies because letters were sent to Sir Renald de Carteret, chivaler, that so many alien people were coming there that they would destroy the people & take the castle. Sir Henry de Cobbeham after the destruction & before was asked to send succour to guard the castle, because there were only 7 serjeants from England in the garrison, but he could not or would not do so, but always said that the castle was well guarded. The said serjeants asked the said Sir Henry that their wages might be paid to them, but he answered that he had no money & that they should go to the King to get their wages, that is to say, for 16 weeks which were in arrear. Wherefore the said serjeants pray to the King to command his bailiff of Jersey that their said wages may be delivered to them, because they earned them at their own expense, at which we are much surprised & have worked here at a great wrong because he has received all the rents of the King of the said isle, & besides that £3000 tournois of the goods of the bishops & abbots & abbesses & others who are in Normandy.

Serjeants  
of Castle  
of Jersey.

(1) Sir Henry de Cobham, Warden 1294-1297.

All which things we ought to have by the good people of the country, but the said Sir Henry does not make enquiry nor does he do justice in this matter. He is justice, he is bishop, he is abbot & abbess & parson because he takes & took all the goods which belonged to them in the said island & in the others.

[Endorsed] The said Sir Henry to pay the wages which are in arrear.

Nº 1528.

[Date : *Circa* 1297.]

Pierre  
Bernard de  
Toulouse  
and  
Sir Henry  
de Cobham.

To our Lord the King & his Council, shows Pierre Bernard de Toulouse, Merchant of Bayonne, that whereas I had left Pierre de Toulouse my brother in the island of Jersey where he had 400 quarters of salt or more & other goods. And the aforesaid Pierre was killed with many others by the people of the King of France in defending the said Island. And after the death of the said Pierre Sir Henry de Cobham who was warden of the Islands took & received all the goods of the said Pierre and of these goods I have formerly been pleading to the King. And he commanded by several writs that he should deliver up to me all the aforesaid goods & he has not done so nor will he do so, disdaining his orders. And on this the King gave us auditors Sir John de Backwell & Master Robert de Leysset, Clerk. And before them the said Sir Henry came and confessed that he had paid & received 42 pieces of salt which amount to 300 quarters or more. For which, Sire, I cry mercy for the love of God and of pity that it will please you to order to distrain the aforesaid Sir Henry & his goods, so that I may be paid of the value of the said goods which he has taken & received, i.e. the value of the salt for each quarter 8 sols sterling, & the damages which I have sustained & the costs to which I have been put in suing him by your writs for the last three years so that I have spent in prosecuting him all that I have ; & cannot prosecute him further.

[Endorsed] Nothing can be done therein because no account has ever been rendered to Sir H. de Cobham.

Nº 11860.

To the King shows William German of the Isle of Guernsey that the aucient usages & customs there are that if a man have forsworn the island for any cause & the King gives him his peace within a year & a day that then his lands & tenements should be delivered up to him : therefore the said William having been pardoned by the King prays for a writ to the bailiff or to Sire Otees de Gransoun to give him back his lands.

William  
German  
of  
Guernsey—  
restitution  
of land.

Nº 8002.

To the King shows William Germain of Guernsey for himself & his parceners that where Henry Everard his grandfather was seised of one "bordage" containing 4 virgates of land in the parish of St. Peter-Port : which said "bordage" owed service to the King for carrying summonses to another "bordage" called "grant mester" : when the said Henry died, his heirs, of whom the said William & his parceners are issue, were so poor that they could not do the service, whereby the said "bordage" was taken into the hands of the King : the said William prays by the soul of William his father that favour may be shown to them as they are willing to pay the said service.

William  
Germain—  
Service of  
carrying  
Summonses.

Nº 2388.

To the King.

Richard dit German of Guernsey prays to have Your grace for the abjuration he made of the said Isle because he confessed to having been partner with others in breaking by night into the house of Allen provost<sup>(1)</sup> of the said Isle & of maltreating him, at which time Rauf de Guethehon<sup>(2)</sup> one of their companions was killed : to which death plt. confessed : therefore plt. prays Your Majesty that his lands which were taken into your hands may be delivered up to him.

Richard  
German—  
restitution  
of land.

Nº 13240.

To the lord the King & to his Council shows the Dean of the island of Guernsey that whereas the King had granted to him the tithes and rents in the hands of the monks of Blancheland to sing

Petition  
of Dean  
of Guernsey—  
tithes—  
chantry.

(1) Prévôt or Sheriff. (2) Probably Jethou.

every day for the King & his ancestors, & he had made a fine of £30 to be paid to the attorneys of Sir Oto de Grandison for the aforesaid rents & tithes & made the chantry: the Prior of Vanloc<sup>(1)</sup> by his letter has given the said tithes & rents to the said monks without doing the said chantry: Now the said dean requests that he may hold according to the King's writ & the said letter to the said attorneys & may enjoy the said tithes & rents until the said monks have had grace of deliverance of their matter towards the King.

[Endorsed] And the monk of the said Abbey is present & witnesses that the said chantry is made: if it is, then nothing more is to be done & it shall remain as it is.

Nº 3123.

[Temp. Edward I.]

Robert Le  
Marchaunt.

Robert le Marchaunt<sup>(2)</sup> of Guernsey shows that in the war he was employed in getting supplies for the castle by the command of Henry, Prior of Wenlock<sup>(3)</sup> attorned by M. Otes de Graunsoun, and by command of de Sessurnys,<sup>(4)</sup> taking by day 3d. sterling: which said wages are in arrear for 2 years.

Prays for remedy, for he has lost everything.

Nº 2989.

[Temp: Edward I.]

To the King—

Dennis Le  
Marchand  
& Matthew  
de Saumarez  
—William  
de S<sup>t</sup> Remy.

Dynis le Marchaunt & Mathu de Saumareis for themselves & their partners show that they delivered a bill into Parliament for certain tenements which formerly belonged to Master William de Seynt Remy<sup>(5)</sup> in the Isle of Guernsey, & the said bill was endorsed

(1) Wenlock.

(2) Robert le Marchant married Cecilia, daughter of William de S<sup>t</sup> Remy.

(3) The Prior, who was Justice of Assize in 1299, was sued for the arrears mentioned in this petition as appears by the Assize Roll, 27 Edw. i. m. 8.

(4) de Saumarez.

(5) William de S<sup>t</sup> Remy, Lieutenant of Oto de Grandison, held office in 1278 and still in 1289, when he occupied the office of Bailiff of Guernsey.

to the effect that the King ought to command that certain defaults found in the process touching the said bill ought to be amended. The said bill was delivered to Master Robert Eyleston who gave it to the Chancellor who will not give it up except at the King's command. Plaintiffs pray that the said bill may be delivered to them as they have been trying to get it back for 2 years & have done nothing but spend money.

Nº 2472.

[Date : *Circa* 1300.]

To the King & his Council prays Luke Godes burgess of the Duke of Bretayne of Dynham that whereas Sir Nicholas de Cheny<sup>(1)</sup> formerly warden of the islands on behalf of the King had taken in Jersey one of his ships with goods to the value of £400 tournois, the which ship & goods one John le Eskirmissur together with others unknown with force & arms have taken out to sea on the coast of the said island within the suffrance (truce) that is to say, the Saturday next after St. Andrew, in the 26<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of King Edward, as he has since fully proved his claim before the miuisters of M. Otes [de Granson] & the jurats of the isle : that the King may cause him to have full restitution of his ship & goods according to the form of the suffrance, or that execution of the judgment may be done according to the process which formerly passed before the said ministers & jurats for the said Luke against the said Nicholas, wherein it is found that he had arrested the said ship & goods as is above-said, & would not give them up either by writ of the King or by challenge that he might put him to a fresh suit, thus he retained part & is still seised of the ship & the rest he will deliver at his will contrary to the form of the suffrance.

Luke Godes—  
Restitution  
of a ship.

[No endorsement.]

Nº 13242.

[Date : *Circa* 1300.]

To our Lord the King & his Council shows Richard son of John Denis of the island of Guernsey killed in the service of our Lord the

Richard  
Denis.

(1) Nicholas de Cheny was Warden in 1297—98.

King for the defence of the said Island. Whereas the said John had been appointed receiver of the lands & tenements of those who should live in the Kingdom of France in time of war & the said John had offered to give his account during his life, praying that he might be dismissed from the said bailiwick because he would not receive any of the said escheats by the danger of the war and the Wardens refused him. And soon afterwards the enemies of our Lord the King killed the said John & took all his goods and robbed him, and now again the Prior of Wenlock & the other ministers of Sir Otho force him to account on behalf of his father; and the said Richard has none of the goods of which he awaits an enquiry of good people, & prays for due remedy because his land on this account has been taken into the hand of Sir Otho.

[Endorsed] Before the King &c.

If the things are true which are contained let his goods seised be restored under good security to stand aright.

Nº 5691.

[Temp: Edward i.]

John du  
Vivier—  
Market  
place in  
Guernsey.

To you the lords justices of our lord the King in the island of Guernsey show John de V..... (John du Vivier?) that whereas he had been attorned to make suit for a writ in the court for any ..... contained in his writ, wherein was contained that he should enquire about a place (*plache*) which was established for the common people to hold the market from the half of the month of September until the middle of the month of March which will be at our half (?) of the castle & the other moiety of the year in a place which is called "les landes" in the same parish (?): the which writ was put in execution & by inquest & by judgment that whereas the writ would hear according to the law & custom of the said land, & the said John was put as attorney according to the enquiry in possession & afterward by the wish of some attorneys of the said Sir Otes he was put out, & all those present being assembled by the cry of William Tus,<sup>(1)</sup> serjeant of the King, under pain of £100 & imprisonment, & upon

(1) Cf: Havet, Cours Royales, pp. 100 et 193.

this the said John as attorney came to the King's court in judgment & required many times of the attorneys of the said Sir Otes to be maintained in the profit which he had made & of which he had been quietly in possession until he was put out by the cry, & had enquired for what reason they had disseised him thereof against the law & custom saying that the cry had been made by the writ of the King, & the said John said he wished to have judgment: the which writ was brought in & read & had contained therein that the King was deceived & that he was like to be disinherited, in which thing the King had been deceived by those who brought the writ as it appears that the said John wished to have the said writ & requests this as attorney & not in revenge (?), alleging (?) again that he had caused the said writ to be put in execution & that it was enquired into by good people worthy of faith, & that the King was not disinherited of anything by the market being held from the middle of September up to the middle of March at our half (?) of the castle for the market of ..... & the remainder of the year in a place called "les landes" in the said parish (?) ..... year in "les landes", & of this Sir John de Dittone enquired in the presence of the jurats of the King by 12 lawful men delegates (?) from each parish ..... by themselves ..... the 8 parishes ..... that it was better for the King than was the ..... for the half of the year at our half of the castle as is aforesaid than throughout the year in "les landes": for the which thing the said John as attorney requests your lordships to be maintained in the profit which he has made & as to the good of the King is found by those of the said 8 parishes.

[This petition is illegible in places, and the above is a free translation of such parts as are decipherable. The reference therein is to the Market of St. Mary de Castro, in Guernsey; cf: Close Rolls, Publication 9, Soc. Jer., p. 78.]

Nº 10824.

[Date: 1302.]

To the Councillors of the King prays John Newenham<sup>(1)</sup> Captain of the island of Guernsey that whereas certain people of the same

(1) John de Newent, Lieutenant of Oto de Grandison—1302.

John de  
Newent,  
Captain of  
Guernsey—  
Building of  
fortresses—  
Custom of  
sea.

island have made divers towers & fortresses within the same without the knowledge of the King or his lieutenant there, for what intent is not known at present, & have also withheld & detained the custom of the sea belonging to the King whereof he & his progenitors have been seised from time immemorial, viz, of each vessel coming there by sea of the portage of 40 tons 2 crowns of money, & for every vessel of less portage 1 crown, in contempt of & to the prejudice & disinherittance of the King & to the great damage of his lieutenant: may it therefore please you to grant a writ directed to the bailiff & jurats of the said isle commanding them to resist such injuries & ills & also to ordain that no such nor any like them happen there in the time to come or else to grant separate writs directed to the trespassers on this behalf to come before you to answer to the things abovesaid, viz. to Gerveys Cleremond, John Bernard, John Feuer the elder & Gylot Feuer.

[Endorsed] Let there be made with the assent of the Council separate writs under the great seal to Gerveys Cleremond, John Bernard, John Feuer the elder & Gylot Feuer within written to be here before the Council at the quindene of St. Michael next coming for certain matters which will be revealed to them at their coming, & that they do not omit to do this under pain of £100 each.

Nº 13241.

[Date : 1304.]

The Bishops  
and  
Abbots—Suit  
of Court.

To the King & his Council pray the Bishops & Abbots who have lands & tenements in the island of Jersey that whereas it has been the custom in the said island from time immemorial that every time the said Bishops & Abbots are summoned before the Bailiff of the King in the said island they have 40 days delay after the summons before they are put in default, & ought to have & always have had 10 days in the time of the assizes, & Sir Henry de Gildeford, Sir Renand de Cartret & John de Dytenne justices in the said island in the time of August when no plea ought to be held in the said



island have put them in default for 3 whole days contrary to the said custom & have taken the possessions of the said Bishops & Abbots for default made in such time & in such a way & wish them to make a fine by way of amerciament at their will, albeit that nobody is held to make a fine who requires the judgment of the jurats of the court of the King in the said island : for which they pray the King's grace that remedy may be done to them according to the law & custom aforesaid, & that that which has been done against the said custom may be repealed.

[Endorsed] Because it cannot be answered rightly to the said petition until the rolls of the preceding eyres have been seen : therefore let the rolls of the said eyres be searched before the next parliament, & then justice shall be done & let Master Robert de Le Set<sup>(1)</sup> who was the first justice named in that eyre be written to.

Nº 10214.

[Date : 1307.]

Edward by the grace of God King of England Lord of Ireland, & Duke of Aquitaine to his beloved & faithful Otto de Grandisono, keeper of his islands of Guernsey and Jersey or his lieutenant, greeting. Because We wish to be certified as to the manner & cause of the abjuration which Robert son of William Turgys made from the said islands : We command you that you certify Us under your seal distinctly & openly without delay as to the manner & cause of such abjuration, returning to Us this writ.

Writ to  
Otho de  
Grandison.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March in the first year of Our reign.<sup>(2)</sup>

[Endorsed] Robert Tourgys stole a sheep price 12<sup>s</sup> tournois & sold the same to a butcher, by reason whereof the said butcher was taken & called the said Robert to warranty, & the said Robert fled to the Church & acknowledged that he stole the said sheep & fled from the islands.

(1) *Leyset*. (2) The original is in Latin.

N<sup>o</sup> 10215.

[Date : 1307.]

William  
Le Tonger—  
Writ to Otho  
de Grandison.

Edward by the grace of God &c. to Otto de Grandisono warden of his islands of Guernsey & Jersey, or to his lieutenant greeting. Because We wish to be certified as to the manner & cause of the abjuration which William le Tonger of the island of Guernsey<sup>(1)</sup> made from the said islands : We command you that you certify Us under your seal distinctly & openly without delay as to the manner & cause of such abjuration, returning to Us this writ.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March in the first year of Our reign.<sup>(2)</sup>

[Endorsed] William Tonngard stole 2 surcoats (*supertunicas*) price 13s. tournois by reason whereof he entered the Church & fled from the islands, & at another time he fled from the islands for divers thefts, &c.

N<sup>o</sup> 10216.

[Date : 1307.]

William  
Le Tonger—  
Pardon  
demanded.

To the lord the King & his Council prays William le Tonger of the island of Jersey that whereas he was suspected [of taking] a surcoat (*surcot*) price 8 shillings (*esterlings*) which was taken away from the King's manor in the island of Guernsey : which said surcoat was put back into that place : whereupon the said William having doubts as to justice entered the Church & acknowledged the deed & forswore the said island & the others [thereto] belonging, & he now prays that the King will pardon this deed & give him his peace for the soul of his father & mother.

[No endorsement.]

N<sup>o</sup> 12822.

[Date : 1309.]

Complaints  
of Islanders  
against Otto  
de Grandison  
and his  
lieutenants.

To the King & his Council show Robert de Carteret & Luke Espiard attorneys made by brief for many plaintiffs of his liege men

(1) Compare following petition where he is said to be of Jersey.

(2) The original is in Latin.

of the isle of Jersey named in the brief that Sir John de Fresingefeld & Sir John de Ditton clerks & attorneys of Sir Otto de Grantson, justices assigned to hold the assizes according to the law & custom of the isle, there being associated with them Sir Dreu de Barentyn that these justices except Sir Dreu have made by themselves grievous amerciements of this assize without calling the jurats thereto who from time immemorial have always been accustomed to make the amerciements in the assize with the justices & to make records, & also outside the assize with the bailiffs, which amerciements Sir Dreu has repudiated in the court before the bailiff. And the said justices & the attorneys of the said Sir Otto have done many hardships to the plaintiffs of which they cannot have their right in anything because for 24 years since some of the attorneys of Sir Otto have always sought to be justices to hold the assize, wherein the trespasses of the people of Sir Otto & his attorneys & ministers ought to be amended, & the King ought to have the amends, & as the poor people have not been able to have their grievances righted for such a long time wherefore the said attorneys pray in charity for their liege men that they may have auditors & justices who are not allied to the said Sir Otto & his people, to hear the hardships & the grievances which the justices & the attorneys have done to them in the open, as it will appear by the petitions of each article, & that the matters may be tried by good justices which said isles are called the chamber of the King (la Chambre le Roy), & the people of this island & the other islands have been loyal to the King because there are many petitions which carry great grievances when they shall be shown before the auditors.

[Endorsed] Let them come to the Chancery & cause to come by writ record & process before the King.

Nº 10066.

[Date : 1309.]

To the King, &c.

The tenants of the "bordages" <sup>(1)</sup> Landry, (?) Cornet, Durant, Laisant, Rougefer in the parish of St. Peter-Port in Guernsey, the

Guernsey.  
—  
Les Bordiers.

(1) Cf: Havet, Cours Royales, pp. 101-104.

bordage of Ralph Geffrey & of Grosse teste in the parish of St. Samson in the said isle, show that whereas they & their predecessors from time immemorial have held the said bordages, doing the services thereto belonging, & paying the chief rents to the King: John de Fressingfeld without cause or right took the said "bordages" into the hands of the King.

They pray that a writ may be sent to Pierre le Marchant, bailiff of Guernsey for Sire Othes de Grantson, Master Philip de [Cheyney], Matthew de Sausmares, to enquire into the truth of the matter.

[Endorsement] It is commanded to Nicholas de Cheny, Master Philip de Cheyny & Peter Marchaunt that they or two of them who shall be present shall enquire into the contents of the said petition & shall certify the King in his Chaucery.

Nº 12098.

[Date: 1310 or 1311.]

Guernsey.  
—  
Matthew  
de Saumarez.  
—  
Castle of  
Jerbourg.

To our Lord the King shows Macie de Sausmares your humble subject of the Isle of Guernsey that whereas of your grace & by your Council at Oseneye you have by your writ commanded Sir John de Roches then Keeper of your Isles to enquire fully by good and trustworthy men of the isle aforesaid to know certainly whether a place which is called the Castle of Gerbourkes is the right & inheritance of the said Macie: the which place by the assent of our Lord the King,<sup>(1)</sup> your father, on whom God have mercy, at the request of your common people for fear of war, was enclosed for the safety of your isle & of your people: And to ascertain what franchises the said Macie has in the same place, & to find out further if this be to the prejudice or damage of you & of your people: by the which writ the said Sir John enquired diligently by good & trustworthy men upon all the articles aforesaid in the presence of your bailiff & of your jurors of the said Isle: the which Sir John has returned to your Chancellor the said writ with the report of the inquisition under his seal together with the seal of the bailiff & of those who were at

(1) Edward I.

the inquisition : the which Chancellor at his pleasure will moreover return the said writ & the said inquisition before the first Justices in eyre in the said Islands : which thing is contrary to the law & the custom of the said Island & to the great prejudice & damage of the said Macie : wherefore he the said Macie prays & desires your Highness that it may please you of your grace to command the said Chancellor by your Letter under your Privy Seal that according to the articles of the said writ & the report of the inquisition he will give to the said Macie such warrant & deliverance as belong to the case, & in this the said Macie <sup>(1)</sup> prays for your grace & remedy.

Nº 13572.

[Date : May 22, 1312.]

Edward by the grace of God King of England, &c. to his beloved & faithful Otto de Grandison warden of his islands of Guernsey or Jersey or his lieutenant greeting. We have heard the grave plaint of Our men of Our islands containing that your bailiffs & ministers of the said islands disturb them frequently contrary to their laws & customs heretofore used & approved there & molest them unjustly to the no small damage & loss of those men & the manifest depression of their estate, at which We are very much astonished & moved : We wishing as We are bound that justice should be done to Our said men & to keep & maintain them in their said right & customs as far as We may of right command you that you cause them from henceforth altogether to cease from making such disturbances & wrongful molestations inflicted upon Our said men by your bailiffs & ministers & that you permit them to use & enjoy freely & quietly their said rights & customs as is just, & as they were accustomed to use & enjoy them in the times when the said islands were in the hands of Our progenitors formerly Kings of England, & that no further rumour may come to Us therein by your default.

Otho de  
Grandison—  
Complaints of  
Islanders.

Witness Ourselves at Dover the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May in the 6<sup>th</sup> year of Our reign.

(1) The Matthew de Saumarez mentioned in this petition was a son of Matthew de Saumarez (d. 1299) and Alice de St Remy. His sister, Philippa de Saumarez, married John de Barentin, Seigneur of Rosel. (Assize Roll. 32 Edw. i. m. 4).

[Endorsed] Nothing is changed by O. de Grandison or his ministers against the laws & customs of the islanders of the island of Jersey which are certain & declared, but as to the laws & customs of the islanders of the island of Guernsey, I know not & cannot see that anything has been changed subtracted or added by the said Otto or his men because they are uncertain & never could be reduced to writing or in any way declared, on account of which the petition is sent to you enclosed. And for the King, to wit, by John de Frysingfeld <sup>(1)</sup> & his fellows your justices lately here in eyre it was found that the said islanders were abusing their laws & customs which they were accustomed to enjoy to the disinheritation of divers of them & to the detriment of the royal prerogative on account of which the said justices attorned the commonalty of the islanders before the King which matters are still pending in your court undecided.

And with the doings of the justices of the King neither O. de Grandisson nor his ministers have to intermeddle, which I signify to you under the seal of your bailiwick of the island of Guernsey here enclosed.

N<sup>o</sup> 13573.

(Date : *Circa* 1312.)

A supplication upon the writ.

Otho de  
Grandison—  
Laws and  
Customs of  
Inhabitants  
of Guernsey.

O. de Grandisson your knight signifies to your royal majesty that the jurats & inhabitants of your island of Guernsey have often complained in your Court that his bailiffs & ministers have very much disturbed them contrary to the laws & customs, & whereas you on account of this commanded him & his ministers by this writ that the said islanders should be treated according to their ancient laws & customs approved as they say, although they never have been approved or even declared, & the said O. & his ministers always prepared & ready to fulfil the royal commission to their power do not

(1) Fressingfield, Barentin, and Jean de Ditton visited the Islands as Justices in 1309.

see or know in what they are able to infringe them or even to observe them on account of the uncertainty & default of the declaration of the same which declaration the said islanders of Guernsey maliciously & that they may never be punished for their abusive customs & contrary judgments do not wish to make in any way, which tends to the no small detriment of the royal prerogative, the damage of many plaintiffs & the scandal of most, as by John de Frisingfeld & his fellows your justices lately here in eyre may clearly be found. The same O. beseeches both for the observance of right & especially of the royal mandate & that their laws & customs if they have any certain ones may be kept in all things & according to the King's mandate that the jurats of Guernsey by whom such default is & hitherto was may be compelled to declare them or to reduce them into writing as those of Gersey graciously did, as an uncertain law cannot conveniently be kept, or that at least they may be cited by a royal writ to show why they should not be at least held to this, otherwise the royal jurisdiction is & will be much injured, apart from many other inconveniences arising from the same, & that the said jurats might always say when they will such & such are our laws & they could use according to their free will or ever be punished for offences committed.

Nº 12999.

[Temp : Edward ii.]

To the King & his Council show & complain Rauf de Keytonel & William de Keytonel<sup>(1)</sup> with many other bakers of the island of Jersey, & William le Segersteyn & William Columbe & many other taverners of the said island that the bailiffs & the attorneys of Sir Otes de Graunsun have imposed grave fines (*amendes*) upon them at their will without the 12 jurats, which is contrary to the custom, the which custom is that no fine can be made until it be judged by the 12 jurats assigned by the King in the said island to guard the rights of the King : wherefore the said bakers & taverners pray for remedy & that they may be treated by the custom.

Otho de  
Grandison—  
Complaints of  
Bakers and  
Taverners.

[Endorsed] Let them go to the Chancery & show the wrongs done to them, & let them have a writ to the justices when they shall come into those parts.

(1) Keytivel (?).

N<sup>o</sup> 13264.

[Temp : Edward ii.]

Robert  
le Galicien.

To the King <sup>(1)</sup> & his Council cries mercy Robert le Galicien son of Rauf le Galicien & his parceners of Jersey for God & for the soul of his father in whose rolls it was found that the marriage of Joan their mother was arrested in your hand by your inquisitors behind the back of those who formerly came into these countries, viz., Sir John Weger & Rauf de Brompton to whom he was accused behind his back, it was not known to him how. Afterwards camè M. Otes de Granson & the aforesaid Rauf came & demanded for what reason the marriage of his wife was in the hand of the King & still nothing had been taken into the hand of the King. And Sir Otes asked him what he had for him, & he said that he had held in peace, 50 years & more, as in lawful marriage, his wife, & called to warranty the rolls of King Henry [III.] And they gave him a term to come to the rolls & it was found in the rolls just as he had said, as it appears by the writ of the King of which he has the copy & they were seised by command of the King & Sir Otes, & then the mother died seised & the children lived in ..... <sup>(2)</sup> of the marriage of their mother. Wherefore we pray you that you will take an inquest of the parish of St. Martin de Grouville & of ..... <sup>(2)</sup> the matter be ..... <sup>(2)</sup> as they were seised by Philippe Levesque, Chevalier, by your command, then bailiff of your isle of Jersey, & after the death of the said bailiff <sup>(3)</sup> Pierre Dartys <sup>(4)</sup> new bailiff, farmer of Sir Otes de Granson in the said island kept the said rent wrongfully & contrary to custom; for which he prays the grace of the King that if it be proved by the inquest that the said mother died in possession as he said that restitution be made to him as law & the ..... <sup>(3)</sup> of those parts demand, & as he had at other times carried the command of the King. And they did nothing therefore, as he believes, from the rules of King Henry.

[Endorsed] Otto de Grandisone or his lieutenant is commanded to enquire, &c. as to all the articles contained in

(1) Edward II. (2) Illegible. (3) He died about 1289.

(4) Pierre de Arcis.



the petition, & to let the King know about the inquisition without delay, &c. And according to the inquisition let justice be done.<sup>(1)</sup>

Nº 2370.

[Temp : Edward ii.]

To our lord the King of England show Robert le Galicien & his parceners that whereas at other times 10 quarters of wheat in the parish of St. Lawrence & 16 d. of tournois in the parish of St. Martin de Greville in Jersey with the appurtenances which were given & granted by William de Brikeboc & Adam de Sotewant in marriage with Joan their mother & with Raol Galicien their father, & for the said taking the said Raol vouched to warranty the rolls of our lord King Henry, and the said Raol & the said Joan were found in the rolls. And after that at your command Sir Philip Levesque Bailiff of Sir Otes de Granson at that time seised the said heirs in the said parish & the mother & the said heirs died in seisin. And after this Peres Darcys Bailiff of Sir Otes de Graunsonn disseised the said heirs of the said things, which said Peres was commanded at the Bench of London to put the said heirs in seisin, & nothing was done for that they have often purchased a writ & your command could avail them nothing : for the which the said heirs desire your grace that the rolls may be searched to know if this is so or not, & for this they await the inquest of good men of the said parishes whether it is as they say, & for God that henceforth they may be at peace.

Robert  
le Galicien.

[Endorsed] It is answered that what is asked may not be done because the predecessors of the said R. are excluded by judgment whereby the fee in question is adjudged to belong for ever to the King because the predecessors aforesaid did not show or exhibit the charter of King Henry which they said they have on the day assigned to them to show the same, nor do the letters from the Chancery upon the resti-

(1) Cf : order sent to Otho de Grandison 30<sup>th</sup> May 1305. (*Lettres Closes*, 9<sup>th</sup> Publication, Soc. Jer., p. 76.) Also Havet, *Cours Royales*, p. 200.

tution of the said fee afterwards obtained stand in the way because in the said letters mention was not made of the said judgment, & so they were obtained by a perversion of the truth.

N<sup>o</sup> 13556.

Gylot  
Tongart who  
had abjured  
the Island.

To the King & his Council shows Gylot Tongart of the island of Jersey & prays the King that he of his charity & alms will pardon his suit & grant him his peace for a trespass which he committed in the castle of the same island, that is to say, for breaking open a chest out of which he took & carried away a sword & a pair of gloves of leather, of which he was taken seised, & afterwards put in ward in the house of William le Petit in the parish of St. Heliers (*Seyntelers*), & escaped thence for fear of death to the Church & afterward abjured the land, for which he prays the grace of the King as is aforesaid that for the love of God & his sweet charity & for the souls of all Christians that he will have pity upon him so that he will give him his peace, & for that will grant him his charter.

[Endorsed] The plaintiff cannot be helped from the Chancery because he prays the King's pardon for a certain abjuration which the plaintiff made for, therefore, before the King.<sup>(1)</sup>

The bailiffs of the island are commanded to certify the King as to the manner & cause of the abjuration.

N<sup>o</sup> 5685.

[Date : 1315.]

Appointment  
and oath of  
Bailliff of  
Guernsey.

To the King & his Council show the people of Guernsey that it is usual as of right & custom that when any minister comes to the islands from our lord the King by his writ patent as guardian or justice, & having come appoints any bailiff to hold the court & the pleas, that such bailiff by the custom of the land ought to make oath before the jurors & the good people of the land that he will well &

(1) Cf: Havet, Cours Royales, page 301 (par. 18).

lawfully keep & maintain the rights, estate & crown of the lord the King & the people of the country in their lawful customs & usages : Now the said people complain of Sir John de Ditton <sup>(1)</sup> & Sir Druy de Barentyn ministers of Sir Otes & of Sir Pierre de Petifes <sup>(1)</sup> who are in the islands lords wardens without a writ patent of the King, who have appointed Masse de la Curt <sup>(2)</sup> to be bailiff to hold the court & the pleas & will not that the said Masse make oath as custom requires, going against the estate of the King & the custom of the country : Now requiring to be re-established in their ancient estate, they pray to have Justices sent to enquire into the truth for the King & country.

Nº 13252.

[Temp : Edward ii.]

John le Moigne of Guernsey complains against Sir Berard de Orneye, <sup>(3)</sup> Master Geffrei de Cartret, Dean of Jersey, <sup>(4)</sup> Simon de St. Martin, priest, Piers de Gariz & Perot Ernaud & Richard de Heriche for having treated him contrary to the custom of the Court of Christianity while he was under the protection of the King.

Complaint  
of John  
Le Moigne.

Nº 2693.

[Temp : Edward ii.]

To the King & his Council shows Geoffrey de Karteret <sup>(5)</sup> that whereas the King had given by letter of Privy Seal to M. Renaud de Karteret father of the said Geoffrey all the tithes which the abbot of Mont St. Michel received in the parish of St. Owen in the isle of Jersey of which matter the attorneys of Sir Otes would do nothing because it was written in the letter Guernsey instead of Jersey, wherefore the said Geoffrey prays for remedy.

Geoffrey  
de Carteret,  
Dean  
of Jersey.

(1) John de Ditton and Pierre de Petitfeu were lieutenants of Oto de Grandison in 1309. Ditton also held the office in 1306.

(2) Massey de la Court was appointed Bailiff of Guernsey in 1315.

(3) The name Orneye has been altered in original.

(4) Geoffrey de Carteret was Dean in 1332 ; see Dupont, Vol. II. p. 249. He probably held the office several years previously, as he was appointed to the Church of S. Martin on April 16, 1295.

(5) See note to preceding petition.

Moreover the said Geoffrey prays that he may have a charter of the lands & tenements which the King has given him in Scotland.

Let it await the coming of the King into Scotland.

[Endorsed] Before the Council.

Let it be declared of what form & date are the collation  
& then let answer be made.

Nº 3333.

[Temp: Edward ii.]

Complaint  
against  
Ministers of  
Sir Otho  
de Grandison.

To our Lord the King & his Council, shows Gerard Philip of the island of Guernsey that as the ministers of Sir Othes de Grandison by their great malice falsely against the peace of the King took Renouf Gautier uncle of the said Gerard and in the castle of Guernsey imprisoned him by great hatred and there by divers manners of torments killed and feloniously murdered him for which trespass the said Isles of right are escheated to our Lord the King & the malefactors liable to be hanged, for which the said Gerard prays that Sir Nicolas de Cheyne, knight, in the said island and Master Philip de Cheyne, his brother, & Sir John de Carteret, knight, in the island of Jersey, Justices, may be assigned who well know how the murder was done to try this trespass & many others because 9 years have passed without justices & the last who were there were more intent in maintaining the said Sir Otho & his ministers than to administer the law to the King & his people. And the said Gerard prays to be in the protection of the King so that as soon as justices come to Guernsey for this because the said ministers are his enemies because he is demanding to show the King & his Council how the said ministers murdered his said uncle in the said castle.

[Endorsed] Let it be followed in Chancery & a writ be had there.

Nº 4345.

[Date: *Circa* 1320.]

Idem.

To our Lord the King & his Council, John du Vivier, Thomas Esterfeld, Philip de Vincheles of Guernsey and Jersey for themselves

& their companions show that whereas they are suitors in your Court for themselves & others of the Islands to excuse them upon certain false suggestions sent to Court by the ministers of Sir Oto de Grandison, Sir John de Ditton & Sir Girard d'Orons & Pierre de Balmes,<sup>(1)</sup> keepers of the said Islands, who have been called to the King's peace by an indictment of one Renouf Gautier murdered in the castle of the said Isle of Guernsey, in which said ministers the above named John, Thomas, Philip & their companions put no faith, and of the friends of Gautier de la Salle as also of his wife & of his son and of his relations who greatly threaten them because he was hanged for murder by his knowledge, & others who abjured the country for this deed as Master William le Enginour & John Justice<sup>(2)</sup> & Christian Hert of whom the said John, Thomas, Philip & their companions doubt greatly, as well as of the said Ministers, who strongly upheld them ;

Plaintiffs pray to be protected from them, so that they can safely follow their right in Court.

[Endorsed]

Let protection be given them.

N<sup>o</sup> 13429.

[Date : *Circa* 1320.]

Thomas de Estefeld shows to the King that Sire Ottes de Gransson caused Sire John de Fressingfield, Justice, to come to Guernsey<sup>(3)</sup> contrary to the command of the late King.

Thomas  
de Estfeld.

Robert le Gay<sup>(4)</sup> was several times before the said Sire John & was put in prison.

Thomas de Estefeld was then at Tourney & went to the Parliament at York in the 12<sup>th</sup> year,<sup>(5)</sup> & complained of his grievances at the hands of the said Sire John, whereupon Sire John de Stonnore, Guillaume de Bourne, Sir Nicholas de Cheiney & Sir John de Kartret were chosen as Justices for the said Isles.<sup>(6)</sup>

(1) Pierre de Balmes, Lieutenant of Oto de Grandison in 1319. Girard d'Orons (see note, page 33.)

(2) John Justice was pardoned in Dec. 1320.

(3) In 1309. (4) Robert Le Gay was Bailiff of Guernsey in 1311.

(5) 1318. (6) They visited the Islands in 1320.

N<sup>o</sup> 13588.[Date : *Circa* 1321.]

Sir Henry  
Spigurnel.

Thomas de Estefeld<sup>(1)</sup> & Jordan Mauns show that Sire Henry Spigurnel was appointed by Sir Ottes de Graunsson contrary to the ordinance of the King.

N<sup>o</sup> 5592.[Date : *Circa* 1321.]

Petition of  
Commonalty  
of Islands.

The within written things are petitioned by Thomas de Estefeld & John de Laloe, jurats, promoters for the King in Guernsey &c., & proctors for the commonalty of the said Islands.

First that English Keepers may be sent as soon as possible.

Protection for the said Thomas de Estefeld.

John de Laloe son of John de Laloe prays the King's grace & remission of a fine. [Rest is torn away.]

[In another copy this entry runs thus: John de Laloe son of John de Laloe who was banished from the island for a term under pain of £10 tournois, prays for remission of this fine & restitution of his goods.]

N<sup>o</sup> 2412.[Date : *Circa* 1321.]

Complaints of  
Islanders  
against Otho  
de Grandison.

To the King of England show the common people of the island of Guernsey that whereas they have prosecuted in England to have remedy for the grievous ills & extortions oppressions & disinheritance done to them since Sir Ottes de Grandson has had the custody of the islands by his ministers & by justices brought by him, so that no one could have justice who was not allied to him & of his purchase until the King out of pity at his parliament at York at the suit of plts. sent justices above suspicion, [viz.] William de Borne & his companions to hear & determine all complaints of all plts. wishing to complain against the said Sir Ottes & the ministers brought by him during all the time of his custody, who did part of that which was

(1) Thomas de Estfeld was Bailiff of Guernsey in 1331. He married Alice, sister of William de St Remy, and widow of Matthew de Saumarez. (Assize Roll, 17 Edw. ii. m. 1.)

committed to them according to their commission, & part they did not because the said Sir Otes brought a writ to surcease when they had performed the moiety of their eyre to the great damage of the King & the destruction of his people, for that they had prayed that those justices should come to finish their eyre & this was granted by the King and the Council in parliament, which thing was disturbed, &c. &c.

[This petition is of great length & all in the same strain.]

Nº 12834.

[Date : 1321.]

To the King & his Council show the people of the Isle of Guernsey that whereas for many wrongs & grievances done to them by Sir Otes de Grauntsoun & his ministers the King & his Council at his parliament of York in the 12<sup>th</sup> year of his reign commanded by commission made to M. John de [Stonore] Sir William de Burne, Sir Nicholas de Cheyny & Sir John de Cartret to redress those wrongs & grievances & all the mistakes made by Sir J[ohn] de Frysngfeld & all other justices & ministers there since the time the said M. Otes had been Keeper of the isles of the which ..... they were commanded ..... the rolls of their process & the petitions of the people of the said isles under the foot of the great Seal before the said Sir John de St[onore] & his companions; whereupon the said Sir William de Bourne & his companions by virtue of the said commission by the advice of 12 jurates of the King caused the said wrongs done to the said people to be duly repealed & redressed; for which said wrongs whereof the said Sir Otes & his ministers were attainted the attorney of the said people demanded for the King award & judgment of the said Sir Otes as of one who had forfeited his estate which he had in the said ..... whereupon the said Sir William surceased until the next parliament; to which came Thomas Estfeld attorney of the people, to wit, to Westminster in Michaelmas term in the 14<sup>th</sup> year<sup>(1)</sup> to secure for the King judgment against the said Sir Otes, at which time the said Thomas was beaten & illtreated

Complaints  
against the  
Ministers  
of Otho  
de Grandison.

(1) 1321.

by the people of the said Sir Otes at London so that he dare not proceed. But it was awarded at the said parliament that the said Sir William & his companions should proceed in their eyre to perform & try the bills then not tried & amounting to 360 bills besides the others made to them since to their great damage : whereupon they did nothing ; for which they pray remedy & also judgment that the said Sir Otes may be removed from the said islands as one who has forfeited all his estate for the wrongs of which he is attainted by the said Sir William by enquiry contained in their process.<sup>(1)</sup>

[Endorsed] Let the process be seen & justice done.

For the King & the commonalty of the island of Guernsey in the enquiry containing £8 sterling to be adjudged.

N<sup>o</sup> 4018.

[Date : *Circa* 1323.]

To the King & his Council.

John  
de Vivier.

John de Vivier<sup>(2)</sup> & Colin Loruel of Guernsey show that where Sire Henry Spigornel<sup>(3)</sup> recently justice in the Islands put them into prison in the Castle where no one should be detained unless it be for crime and kept them there for 8 days & then made them come to Court & challenged them to amend for the King and Sire Otho de Grandison a refusal of Sire William de Ourons and a decision and obedience which they had made to a bailiff who had not been nominated by Sire Otho ; the said John declared that he had followed the custom in what he had said and done and that he had claimed judgment thereon, and did so still, and thereupon he (Spigornel) sent them back prisoners and afterwards made them come into Court again and told them that they would remain prisoners all the following year, if they did not submit, as is said above, and that by the force & power of prison they would submit<sup>(4)</sup> ; that the said John was

(1) Parts of the original are torn away.

(2) Probably the same John de Vivier who was fined for refusing to accept the office of Jurat, after having been elected. (Havet, *Cours Royales*, pp. 58 et 59.)

(3) Judge of Assize in 1328.

(4) Norman Fr : *obligèrent* : term used in Acts of Feudal Courts with reference to summary procedure.



fined in the sum of £40 to Sire Otho and Colin in £60 according to the good will of the said Sire Otho: on account of which they request this demand to be suspended or that Sire Otho be summoned at the suit of the said John and Colin before our Lord the King to declare the cause, for they have had none of his property nor done anything contrary to custom, so that they may appeal before the King & his Council of this grievous will & submit to judgment, the reasons on either side being heard according to the custom of the said isle.<sup>(1)</sup>

Nº 12836.

[Date : *Circa* 1324.]

To the King, &c.

John le Moigne & his companions tenants of the Islands show that they having suffered many grievances & extortions from M. Otes Granson & his ministers, the King had commanded Justices to go to the said Islands to hear these grievances. In the parliament held in the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the King's reign M. John de Stonhore, Sires William de Burne, Nicholas de Cheyny & John de Carteret<sup>(2)</sup> were appointed Justices, but as they did not please the said M. Otes he (i.e. the King) appointed Henry Spigurnel & William de Denom.<sup>(3)</sup>

Otho  
de Grandison.  
—  
Complaints of  
Islanders.

As their grievances have not been attended to, plaintiffs pray for remedy.

[Part of this document is torn away.]

Nº 13171.

[Date : 1324.]

To the King, &c.

Thomas de Estefeld shows that M. Otes de Grauntsonne & M. Gerard de Orens<sup>(4)</sup> came to St. Peter-Port to a place there called "la ville au Roi" on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of St. Michael, 17<sup>th</sup> year<sup>(5)</sup> of King

Thomas  
de Estfeld.

(1) This petition probably refers to some dispute with reference to fulfilment of feudal services.

(2) They held pleas in the Islands in 1390 (see Havet, *Cours Royales*, pp. 11 and 127.)

(3) Appointed July 1323.

(4) Gerard Derous, Dorme, Oroms or de Evrons, Lieutenant of Otho de Grandison 1321-28. (See Havet, *Série Chronologique*, p. 23, and *Bulletins Société Jersiaise*, Vol. II, p. 43.)

(5) 1323.

Edward that now is, & cut & carried away corn &c. of the said Thomas to the amount of £20 sterling.<sup>(1)</sup>

The said Thomas & his partners also show that they having enclosed in the parish of St. Andrew 2 acres of land whereof they were seised by judgment of the court, the said M. Gerard de Orens came & with force ejected them from the same, & carried away their goods to the value of £60.

The said Thomas, Dionisius le Marchaunt & John le Moigne partners of the "Champart" called the fee of St. Ellen say that the said M. Gerard de Orens & Henry de St. Martin disseised them of the said "Champart," &c. &c.

They pray for remedy.

Nº 3090.

[Date : 1324.]

Estate of  
William  
de St Remy.

To the King, &c. show Oliver le Moine<sup>(2)</sup> & Thomas Distefild by reason that Alice his wife is the heir of Master William de St. Remy killed (*ocis*) in the service of the King, that they have demanded of the Prior of Wenlock the goods of the said William which he had. The said heir prayed Master Robert de Leisset to see that right was done to her, which he refused.

Nº 12833.

[Temp : Edward ii.]

To the King, &c.

John  
de Barentin.

John de Barentin<sup>(3)</sup> for himself & the other heirs of Sire William de Barentin shows that where Master Robert de Loyset & the Prior of Wenlock<sup>(4)</sup> were assigned as Justices to hold the assizes in the said islands, the said justices demanded of the said John & others by what reason they held the heritage which is ..... "le fiu painel"<sup>(5)</sup>

(1) See Assize Roll, 17 Edw. ii. m. 2.

(2) A nephew of Alice de St Remy. He held the office of Prévôt of Guernsey in 1320.

(3) John de Barentin, Seigneur de Rosel, was killed in a skirmish near Mont Orgueil Castle in 1339.

(4) Robert de Leysset, Henry, Prior of Wenlock, Jean de Newent, Pierre d'Arcis and Pierre Le Marchant were nominated Justices by letters dated 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1299.

(5) Fief Paisnel.

& they answered that whereas M. Drui de Barentin their ancestor had in the isle Daurenie<sup>(1)</sup> a portion of land as his proper inheritance, M. Richard de Grae<sup>(2)</sup> then Keeper of the said isles by the ..... of the King had exchanged with the said M. Drui & his heirs the said "fiu painel" for the land the said Drui had in the said isle. The Justices refuse to hold an inquisition & will not give judgment, therefore the said John & others pray that they may hold the said fee as their ancestor, their father & they have held it up to the present.

[Part of this document is torn away.]

Nº 8020.

To the King.

William Rohais his frank tenant in Gernsey prays that the King will grant him a writ of confirmation of a little serjeanty called the franchise of Rohais in Guernsey in the parish of St. Andrew, viz. ward of prisons, suits, homages, &c., & all the things which belong to the chief lord, as the said William had them by judgment of the Justices, viz. Sire William de Bourne<sup>(3)</sup> & his fellows.

William  
Rohais.

Nº 5890.

[Date : *Circa* 1327.]

To the King & his Council pray the poor people of the islands that they may have the customs & usages that they were wont to have in the time that the islands came into the hands of Sir Otes, complaining that they are grievously distrained against the law & the usages of the land by the ministers of Sir Otes to come to the pleas every day at the will of the bailiff, whereas they have not been accustomed nor ought of right to come except every fortnight whereby the people lose their labour & their living, by land & sea, to the confusion of everybody, for the which they pray for remedy, otherwise they cannot live.

Complaints  
against  
Ministers of  
Sir Otho  
de Grandison.

Moreover the people complain of the ministers of Sir Otes, as Sir John de Ditton & Sir Druy de Barentyn & the others, that of

(1) Alderney.

(2) Richard de Gray, Gardien des Iles (1) 1226-7, (2) 1229-30, (3) 1252-4. (Havet).

(3) Justice of Assize in 1320.

their will without regard or judgment they imprison the people in the castle for every kind of trespass & for debt, all having goods for which they may be distrained & all offer pledges to receive right in the court of the King, and if anyone for hatred or envy accuse his neighbour of any offence the said ministers cause him to be put in the castle without inquest, & will put them there without their being found guilty of any offence, & will tell them that they will remain in prison ..... & will not let them put in plevin without making ransom, whereby the people are aggrieved & fined against the laws of the land.

Moreover they complain that the said ministers amerce them at their will without regard & judgment & assess the said amercements at their will, which ought to be adjudged & taxed by the 12 jurors according to the quantity of the trespass.

[No endorsement.]

Nº 4148.

[Date : *Circa* 1297.]

To our Lord the King & to his Council :—

Robert de  
Cumberwell.  
—  
Distrain of  
a ship—and  
goods.

Robert de Cumberwell<sup>(1)</sup> prays for remedy from the hardships & from the grievances which Henry Binelard (or Beuelard) Prior of Wenlock & his ministers have done to him in the Isles of Guernsey and Jersey, of a ship with its equipage and other goods to the value of £100 and more which the Prior distrained of his property in the Isle of Guernsey without inspection (or preliminary decision<sup>(2)</sup>) and without Judgment; and the said Robert demanded delivery of the said ship and of his goods in full court before the 12 Jurats and other good people of the country, and took occasion to reply to all, that he wished to demand nothing; and the Prior would not give him delivery, but agreed afterwards before Sir Nicolas de Cheny and the Prior of the Vale, and before the 12 Jurats that according to their decision he would allow from his account, all of which was allowed. And when the said Robert came to the castle of Guernsey to render

(1) Robert de Cumberwell was presented to the Church of St. Brelade on Feb. 14, 1298.

(2) Norman French : *agard*.

his account, the Prior did not wish to grant him anything of what he had previously promised. And the said Robert sought out a writ of trespass against the Prior and actioned him in the said Island so that judgment passed for him that he was to be put in possession of his goods; and before execution of this judgment was made the ship was burned by the enemies of the King; and the Receiver killed who had possession of his other goods. For all which the said Robert prays that the Prior be compelled to give him compensation for the damages he has suffered through his fault.

\* \* \* \* \*

These are the hardships which the Prior & his ministers have done to the said Robert in the Isle of Jersey. They placed two men of the parish of S<sup>t</sup> Ouen to receive all the goods of the Church of S<sup>t</sup> Ouen, of which the said Robert had the keeping by Sir Henry de Cobham according to the wish of the King; and suffered Sire Geoffrey de Filebek to live in the village as parson, of which matter the King himself replied to his Procurator that no pardon would he grant him during the suspension. Wherefore the said Robert prays to be put in possession of his goods & of the above keeping (i.e. of the Church) until the King has signified his pleasure as to the aforesaid Church.

Church of  
S<sup>t</sup> Ouen.

[Endorsed <sup>(1)</sup>]

To the above petition the Prior replied that he distrained the ship of which mention is made whilst the islands were in the keeping of the lord Otho [de Grandison] and this because Robert de Cumberwell was bound to render an account to the same from the time when he [the Prior] was Bailiff in the said Islands for the said Otho, and being duly requisitioned by the said Prior to render the said account, the said Robert refused to render the account to him and he [the Prior] distrained the other goods besides the ship and equipage by order of the King, inasmuch as some goods were stolen from a certain ship of Portugal by the said Robert & his people; the said Robert asserting that the said Prior had rightly distrained his said ship with its equipage & aforesaid goods for one month or thereabouts before he had been requisitioned by the said Prior to render the said

(1) In Latin.

account & that he had no order from the King to distrain the said goods, as he asserts, and both parties desire that enquiry should be made by the country (*per patriam*) concerning the premises when the next Commissioners are sent there.

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The Prior came before the Commissioners and presented himself against Robert de Cumberwell who was in default.

Wherefore Judgment is given that the Prior may go thence undisturbed without any day being assigned, and that Robert be in default on both suits.

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To the second petition<sup>(1)</sup> the Prior replied that he had not placed any man in the Church of which mention is made nor had anyone done so for him; the said Robert asserting the contents of the petition to be true; and both parties desire that on this matter an enquiry be made by the next Commissioners sent there.

Nº 5152.<sup>(2)</sup>

[Date : 1297.]

To the King's Majesty :

Robert de  
Cumberwell.

Robert de Cumberwell prays that whereas he had demanded writs to be subscribed in your Court of Chancery & had brought them to the Bailiffs of the Islands, they refused to receive the writ of seizure,<sup>(3)</sup> wherein you are a party against the Prior of Wenlock, in despite of you and in contempt of your letters, wherefore the said Robert prays that the said Prior may be punished for the action of his Bailiffs in this matter according as it shall seem fit to be done by you or your Council.

King's Writ—  
Sept. 4, 1297,  
to the Prior  
of Wenlock.

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Edward &c to our beloved in Christ, Henry, Prior of Wenlock, lieutenant of our beloved & faithful Otho de Grandison of the Isles of Guernsey & Jersey, Greeting,—

Whereas we lately sent our beloved clerk Robert de Cumberwell to the said Islands for the purpose of effecting certain business for us

(1) i.e. the latter part of the above petition referring to the Church of St Ouen.

(2) The originals of this petition and the Writs which follow are in Latin.

(3) *Breve captionis*.

there specially appertaining and you have by the fury of the hatred previously conceived by you towards the said Robert caused him inhumanly to be bound in chains and prison by your want of consideration & without reasonable cause, to the contempt of us & the loss & oppression of the said Robert, as we have learned ;

We, therefore, unwilling to permit this transgression to remain unpunished, command you, if it be so, to amend your action in that respect, and not to dare to further extend the complaint, as otherwise it would be incumbent on us on account of your failing to intervene.

Moreover you are to appear before us on the octave of Saint Hilary, wherever we may then be in England, in order to reply to us & to the said Robert not only in the premises but in other matters which the said Robert may then reasonably be able to exhibit there against you on our behalf & on his own.

And bring this writ with you ; as witness myself at Carlisle this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September in the 26<sup>th</sup> year of my reign. (1297).

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The King, to Henry, Prior of Wenlock, lieutenant &c.

Whereas we lately have had certain Ecclesiastical persons staying in the said Islands who were adherents of our enemies, as it is said, in the time of the war between us & the King of France, and we caused their benefices to be seised into our hands and these committed to the care of certain other persons not suspect, and amongst these our beloved Clerk Robert de Cumberwell obtained the custody of the Church of Saint Ouen in the Island of Jersey by the Commission of our beloved & faithful H. de C(obham) lately Warden of the said Isles by our wish and mandate ; you, as we have heard, without any respect for what had taken place in the premises & without consulting us, have ejected the said Robert from the custody of the said Church without reasonable cause, and you have permitted one of the before mentioned persons, as it is related, to enter into possession of the said Church & to levy & hold the income of the same, to the prejudice and loss of the King & to the injury and manifest contempt of our said order, at which we are very greatly astonished.

We, therefore, unwilling, as we should be, that those things thus attempted by you should be sustained, order that, if the matter be

King's Writ—  
Sept. 14,  
1298.

—  
Custody of  
Church of  
S<sup>t</sup>. Ouen.

so, you cause those things by you done in these parts to be so far corrected, that the said King may not have cause of complaint nor that it may be incumbent on us in this to intervene out of fuller solicitude.

And you will inform us by writing what has been done in the premises. As witness myself at Carlisle the 14<sup>th</sup> day of September in the 27<sup>th</sup> year of our reign. (1298).

Nº 3566.

To the King's Majesty,—

Presentation  
to  
S<sup>t</sup> Sampson's  
Church.

William de Spissa,<sup>(1)</sup> Clerk, shows that whereas you presented him more than a year ago to the church of Saint Sampson in the Island of Guernsey vacant by the death of the Rector, but that the Bishop of Coutances, in whose diocese the said church is, has conferred the office on another & has placed him there. Wherefore your petitioner prays that remedy may be given him, lest the rights of the King perish in this matter.

[Endorsed] Let the matter go before the Council tomorrow.<sup>(2)</sup>

Nº 2976.

[Date : *Circa* 1325.]

To our Lord the King & his Council :—

John de la  
Marche,  
Viscount.

John de la Marche<sup>(3)</sup> shows that whereas he had constituted William Larcher otherwise called Cok as his Attorney to take and receive the profits and emoluments of the Viscounty (*de la viscontee*) of the Island of Jersey, of which profits and emoluments the said John cannot obtain an account, the said John begs that a writ may be directed

(1) William de Spissa was appointed to the benefice of S<sup>t</sup> Sampson on Feb. 10, 1298. Cf: also *Lettres Cloises*, Pub. 9 Soc. Jer., p. 72.

(2) The original is in Latin.

(3) John de la Marche was also keeper of the Castle of Guernsey and was suspended in his offices in consequence of being suspected of having aided John Le Marchant to escape from prison. He was however acquitted of this act by the Court of Guernsey and an Order of the King exists, dated July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1330, and directed to John de Roches, to reinstate him in the office of the Shrievalty of Jersey, to which it is stated King Edward ii had appointed him.



to Sir John de Clyvedon<sup>(1)</sup> Keeper of the Islands for the King to oblige the said William to render an account to the said John de la Marche of the aforesaid profits and emoluments before the said Sir John de Clyvedon & that when the account be rendered the said William be judged according to the responsibility of his office so that the said John may be served ; thus he prays that justice be done to him.

[Endorsed] Let command by writ be given to the Keeper of the Isles concerning this petition to bring the said William before him and that justice & reason be done to the said John according to the customs of the Islands.

Nº 14420.

[Temp: Edward ii.]

To the King & his Council show his humble chaplains the Abbot & Convent of Mont St. Michel "en peril de la Mer" that whereas their goods are common between them & during all the voidances (*vacacions*) of the said Abbey, the Prior & the Convent of the same place have had & been accustomed to have from time immemorial all manner of profits forthcoming from the lands & tenements which they hold of the King in the islands of Guernsey, Jersey & the others without the King or his ancestors or any of their ministers having at any time any manner of profit from the same, except only relief, according to the custom of the said islands, whereupon a writ returnable into the Chancery has been issued to the wardens of the said islands or their lieutenant to enquire into the right as well of the King as of the said Abbot & Convent, yet this notwithstanding the lieutenant of the wardens of the said islands holds the said profits "en arrest", & tries by divers distresses to levy the said profits from the time of the last voidance of the said Abbey to the great damage & prejudice of the said Abbot & Convent.

Conflict  
between  
Abbot of Mont  
St Michel and  
the Wardens  
of Islands.

Wherefore they pray that as the Abbot that now is has done fealty to the King who has rendered to him his lands & tenements by his letters patent, & is ready to find sufficient surety in the said

(1) John de Clyvedon was Keeper in 1324, and probably held office previously.

islands to answer to the King & his ministers for the issues above-said if they ought to belong to the King, it may be commanded to the said wardens of the said islands that by the said surety they will suffer the said Abbot to do as he likes with the said issues without any hinderance, & that if they have received any of them that they will give them up without delay & by the surety abovesaid.<sup>(1)</sup>

[No endorsement.]

Nº 14304.

[Date : 1328.]

Mont  
St Michel and  
the Priory of  
St Clement.

To the lord the King shows the abbot & the convent of Mont St. Michel "en peril de mer" that whereas Edward formerly King of England father of our lord the King that now is before Sir Henry de Guldeford<sup>(2)</sup> & his companions justices in eyre in the island of Jersey demanded against the abbot of St. Michel the predecessor of this abbot the manor of St. Clement with the appurtenances in the said isle by writ of right : the which manor the said abbot held as a priory : before which justices the said abbot was awarded as not sustained (*com noun defendu*) whereby the said manor was taken into the hand of the King & has been detained thus ever since, & the said abbot in the parliaments as well in the time of the King who is dead as in the time of the King who now is has followed praying that he may be received to show the right of the Church to the said manor which was the priory of the said abbey before the said recovery for 200 years & more, & hereupon has obtained many writs to divers justices in eyre in the said islands who have enquired as to the right of the said abbot to the said manor, & by verdict & inquest have found that the said manor was the priory of the said abbey from time immemorial ; and now of late M. Henry le Spigurnel & his companions justices in eyre in the said islands by writ of the King took an inquest upon the said business, calling before the King the said abbot to hear judgment upon the said business, & because the re-

(1) Consult Dupont, Vol. II for an account of the disputes referred to in this petition between the Wardens and the Abbot of Mont St Michel.—Cf : also Havet, "Cours Royales, Pièces Justificatives", N<sup>os</sup> xviii et xx.

(2) Justices in 1274.

great grievance of your people, & as to this please let your pleasure be known to the said Keeper.<sup>(1)</sup>

And please also to command him to keep & maintain your said people in the usages & customs anciently used and to receive from your people your rents in such money as they are taken in payment by the King in his Duchy of Normandy; whereof your said people for certain causes have been accustomed to be quit from your payments & deliveries; & also to enquire how your people of the said islands have been treated governed & kept during the Custody of the said Sir Otto, so that execution of right may be done according to law & custom; & that your said people may be quit of customs in selling & buying merchandize in England in the same manner that English people are quit of all customs in selling & buying throughout all your islands, so that we may be of one lordship as we were in the time of your ancestors, & to give & grant them writ & commission.

Ancient  
Customs and  
Commercial  
Privileges.

Nº 2670.

[Date : 1329.]

Edward by the grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland & Duke of Aquitaine to his beloved & faithful John de Roches warden of his islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Sark & Alderney, greeting. The petition on behalf of the commonalty of the said islands of Jersey & Guernsey exhibited before us & our council we send you enclosed in these presents commanding you that having inspected that petition you shall fully inform yourself as to the contents

John  
de Roches.

(1) Following this petition a dispute arose as to the ownership of the Castle of Jerbourg, which was claimed by Matthew de Saumarez. An Inquisition was ordered by Edward iii in 1330. The King's Writ and the report of the Inquisition are printed in the Appendix to this Publication. Cf: also Petition 12098 (page 20), the date of which should be 1331. The Castle of Jerbourg was used as a place of refuge for the inhabitants in time of war. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1337, a grant for 10 years was made to Matthew de Salvo Marisco of a Custom of two-pence in the pound on goods bought and sold by natives of Guernsey for the repair and upkeep of the place. There is an indication in the Calendar of Patent Rolls that Jerbourg was destroyed in 1351. It must have been again repaired, as it is mentioned in the Accounts of Nicholas de la Salle, Receiver, for the year 1372-73. The Castle still existed in 1629, and by an Act of the States of Guernsey of that year repairs were ordered thereon, which were carried out under the superintendence of Colonel Paperel, principal Engineer to the King.

thereof & all the circumstances of the same by inquisition or other way whereby it shall seem to you most expedient, & of that which you shall find therein you shall certify us distinctly & openly on the Octave of St. Michael next coming, under your seal, returning to us this writ.

Witness Ourselves at Windsor the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July in the third year of our reign.

By writ of privy seal.

N<sup>o</sup> 15417.

[Temp : Edward iii.]

William  
Levesque.  
—  
Fief de  
la Robeline.

This shows William le Bissup<sup>(1)</sup> of the island of Jersey that Geffray Bernard, John de Duhos & their parceners deprive him of the rents & obediences of the quarter of Roblineys<sup>(2)</sup> in the parish of Our Lady 'de arse muster,<sup>(3)</sup> of which Jordan le Bissup father of the said William died vested & seised as of his purchase which he made of Gervaise daughter of Richard le Bissup, of which he prays that he may recover his seisin of the said rents & obediences, & after the seisin that the bailiff of the said island of Jersey shall take the inquest by the knights & jurats of assize or by the aggrieved party to know for certain if the said William was deprived of his seisin against the custom of the said isle, & without view of the land by the lineage (?) of his adversaries. And that this be not omitted by any prohibition which the adversaries of the said William had carried before this time. And this writ was granted before this time to the said William before Sir John de Kirkeby, Sir Nicholas de Estaplington & Sir Walter Elicun & Sir Robert de Escardeburgh or before his adversaries.

N<sup>o</sup> 10282.

[Date : 1329.]

Nicole, wife  
of Thomas  
Arthur.

To the King & his Council prays Nicole who was the wife of Thomas Artur of the island of Jersey & daughter & heir of Nicholas

(1) William Levesque (see Extentes of 1274 and 1331).

(2) Fief de la Robeline.

(3) de arse monasterio—St Mary's parish. See Placita Querelarum coram John de Fressingfeld & aliis 2 Edward ii (N<sup>o</sup> 1160). m. 1.

Johan of the said island that whereas the said Nicholas had made a conditional agreement with Peter le Moign to find him in all things necessary in his life & 50 livres tournois which were left by fraud to surrender to him all their things within a certain term for 5 acres of land with a little "frecages", which heritage he purchased then in the parish of St. Laurence, which he obliged him in the eye of the parish to have for a fine & heritage to him & his heirs for the condition abovesaid, which condition he does not keep, but the said Nicholas lived in his seisin peaceably the year & the day, and after the space of two years Nicole who was the wife of the said Thomas having it without the knowledge of the said father used it inasmuch as the said Nicholas had gone out of the country to request the said Peter that he would keep covenant with him, & he did nothing, & in the time of the war the said Nicole was taken & carried into Normandy against her will, & then the land was taken into the hand of the King by a bailiff called Peter Dartiz,<sup>(1)</sup> & after a year Peter le Moigne was taken into Normandy & forfeited those members in the said island for which thing the said Nicole prays in regard of charity a writ to the King's warden of the islands to enquire concerning her right, & that if he finds that she has right he will cause her heritage to be given again to her & to restore her damages according to the custom of the country.

N<sup>o</sup> 10283.

[Date : 1329.]

Edward [III] by the grace of God, King of England, &c. to his beloved & faithful John de Roches his warden of the islands of Guernsey & Jersey or his lieutenant there greeting. We send you enclosed with these presents a certain petition of Nicole who was the wife of Thomas Arthur of Jersey exhibited before Us & Our Council, commanding you that having inspected that petition & diligently examined it as to those things which are therein contained; & also as well upon Our right as upon the right of the said Nicole in this behalf, you by inquisition in Our full court of the said island of Jersey, in the presence of the said Nicole whom We wished to be called to

Nicole, wife  
of Thomas  
Arthur.

(1) Pierre d'Arcis. Bailiff in 1290-92-.

this by you if she should wish to be present, & by other ways & means whereby you may the better be able to be fully informed, shall certify Us upon that information & of that which We ought to be informed in the premises according to the law & custom of those parts by your letters distinctly & openly, returning to Us this writ.

Witness Ourselves at Dunstaple the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Our reign.

[Endorsed] On Thursday next after the feast of the Conception of the Blessed Mary the Virgin [Dec. 8] in the said year this writ was prosecuted in full Court by Nicole the relict of Thomas Artur. And to prosecute this writ & to lose or gain the whole cause, the said Nicole makes Jean Perier her attorney. Process of the same having been heard Philip de Winch<sup>(1)</sup> for answer prays view against the said Jean.

On Tuesday after the feast of St. Hilary, A.D. 1329, before me John de Roches, Peter Hugo,<sup>(2)</sup> bailiff, & the jurats of the King an inquisition was made of the lands & tenements contained in the present petition as well by the jurats of the King as of Alice daughter & heir of Nicholas Johan, by the oath of Richard le Franceys, Colin Dupont, Nicholas Hasteyn, Colin Boiscervoise, Colin Hasteyn, Colin Torguis, Richard Robin, Richard Cambres, senior, William Viel, Robert Michel, William Cambres & Ralph Burnouf, who say that Nicholas Johan father of the said Nicole enfeoffed Peter le Moigne of the lands & tenements contained in the said petition upon this condition, that the said Peter should find the said Nicholas with all things necessary for his life, which condition the said Peter did not keep, but the said Nicholas died seised & invested of the said lands & tenements notwithstanding the said feoffment. And the said lands & tenements were taken into the King's hands on account of the felony of the said Peter, & counsel having been had with the King's jurats who say by the law & custom of the island that as he did not keep the said condition the said feoffment was consequently void, especially as the said Nicholas died seised of the said lands & tenements, on account of which the jurats say that the said lands & tenements shall be restored to the said Nicole.

(1) Philip de Vincheleys. (2) Pierre Ugoun.

N<sup>o</sup> 2670.

[Date : 1329.]

Edward by the grace of God King of England, &c. to John de Roches warden of his islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Sark & Alderney greeting. We send you herewith enclosed a petition on behalf of the commonalty of the said islands, exhibited before Us & Our Council, commanding that having inspected that petition you will inform yourselves more fully as to the contents thereof & all the circumstances thereof by inquisition or any other way which shall seem to you most expedient, & upon that which you shall find therein you shall certify Us in the Octave of St. Michael next coming under your seal, distinctly & opening, returning to Us this writ.

The  
Commonalty  
of the Islands.

Witness Ourselves at Windsor the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Our reign.

[N<sup>o</sup> 2674 is a copy of the above writ.]

N<sup>o</sup> 2669.

[Date : 1330.]

To the King & his Council shows the commonalty of the islands of Jersey & Guernsey that whereas in the time of your ancestors Kings of England & Dukes of Normandy they have from time immemorial been quit of the payments of the ancient farms of our lord the King to pay in such money & of such value as the farms and the rents of the Duchy of Normandy are paid & rendered to the King of France at the Exchequer at Rouen, & for this they pay to the King a rent which is called in these parts "le Moneage" (*monetagium*) so that the money be not otherwise changed nor to the value otherwise than as is current in the Duchy of Normandy. And now of late M. John de Roche warden of the islands attempts to raise the farms & the other rents of the King by hard distresses, taking the money otherwise & more dear than is current in the said Duchy in payment of the rents & farms belonging to the King of France to the great impoverishment of his people & contrary to their custom always used ; for the which they pray for a writ to the said warden of the said islands that they may be quit of paying in such money & of

The  
Commonalty  
of Jersey and  
Guernsey.  
—  
*Monetagium.*

such value in the payment of the farms & rents of the King as those of the Duchy of Normandy pay, & may be quit of the farms & rents to the King of France in the said Duchy as in all times they have been accustomed in the time of the ancestors of the King & Dukes of Normandy, and that it may please you to have regard in pity of the great damages, wars, murders & burnings which they & their ancestors have suffered in the time of your ancestors, because without this money they cannot live, & no other is current in the country.<sup>(1)</sup>

[N° 2672 is another copy of the above in which occur the words "of which Duchy they were members anciently": these words are underlined.]

N° 2671.

[Date : 1330.]

**Monetagium.**

To your royal majesty I<sup>(2)</sup> signify according to the tenor of your writ directed to me enclosing a petition for the Commonalty of the island of Guernsey (? and Jersey) that as diligently as possible I have enquired & found by the oath of 24 good & lawful men free tenants of your royal demesne that the Commonalty of the said island from time immemorial was wont to use such money and of so great value as is used in the Duchy of Normandy for payments to the King of France because the said island & other islands were formerly of the members of the said Duchy. And for the same cause your ancestors held the said islands & you obtain & shall obtain, God willing, the same islands by reason of the said Duchy. And that the said money might remain in that state your ancestors were wont to take in the said island every 3 years a certain rent called monetage<sup>(3)</sup> (*Monetagium*) And the said Commonalty never had any other standard of money, neither can they maintain themselves in any other way nor live without money, nor any inhabitant amongst them.

(1) With reference to this petition consult Havet, "Cours Royales, Pièces Justificatives," xxxiv—vi.

(2) Jean de Roches, Warden.

(3) Moneyage or hearth money; levied every three years. This was a tax due to the Duke of Normandy on the understanding that the coins of the duchy should not be changed or depreciated. It is remarkable that this tax was paid down to recent times (Cf: Extentes published by Société Jersiaise).



Nº 2673.

[Date : 1330.]

Sire,—Whereas you have commanded me by your writ that I should certify you distinctly & openly by inquest or otherwise as I should see can best be done : I have taken inquest of the people of the country as I have sent to you by the return in which they are parties, & you know they will say what is best for them, but I have asked counsel of the wise men of the English & Normans, but I have not yet found any wise man who did not say well, that it is not thought that you should abandon (*lessiez*) your rents, which follow, & that your ancestors have passed them for 200 years for the weakness of the money of the King of France, because it would cause great damage : the first is, that if you granted it, they would keep it by law & custom always & no one would be able to interfere with it ; the second is, that you will lose the moiety of your rents purely & more according to the weakness of money, supposing that the King of France should make money that three sols should be worth one esterling & that one ought to pay you three sols of good money or the value, then they would get off for one esterling : and then, Sire, you can know what loss you might sustain. And if you grant it, it will be at the will of the King of France what money you take and of what value from your said rents & services. Moreover, Bishops, Abbots, Priors & gentlemen say well that if you take your rents in the manner that you ought to do of right that they will do it also of their tenants, & this is contrary to all right & reason according to the opinion of the wise men that the people ought to use in the jurisdiction of the prince. And also it is against their prayer & their petition as well.

Monetagium.

Nº 2642.

To your royal Majesty your poor people of the islands signify that whereas they in this war were destroyed many times by the enemies, & considering that poverty they are too often cited at the court of the Bishop of Constantine & troubled by it for certain trifles,<sup>(1)</sup> which is very hard for them to bear so often ; whereupon they pray that some remedy may be applied hereupon by you.<sup>(2)</sup>

See of  
Coutances.

[No endorsement.]

(1) *Truffa* : a peccadillo or trifle. (2) Original in Latin.

N<sup>o</sup> 3465.[Date : *Circa* 1330.]

John  
de Roches,  
Warden of  
the Islands.

To the King & his Council shows John de Roches<sup>(1)</sup> that whereas he has had the keeping of the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, &c. by the King's Commission, he has endured great labour & great peril of his body there & has been put to great expense in rendering an account of the revenues to the Exchequer & in taking his wages out of the revenues of the said islands, especially as there is such a wide expanse of sea from each of the islands to the others, & now he has come to render his account to the Exchequer & demand reasonable allowance for his wages, & because Sir Otes de Grauntsoun & others have for such a long time had the custody no remembrance is found in the Exchequer as to how much the warden of the islands ought to take nor any account of the revenues of the said islands, wherefore the said John prays that .....<sup>(2)</sup> may be ordered to him by the year by the King & his Council according to the time he has had the said custody for he has well .....<sup>(2)</sup> by inquest taken there lately by virtue of the King's Commission that the wardens who have been there .....<sup>(2)</sup> "de li cc livres des bons tourneys."

And also the said John prays that whereas those of the Exchequer do not find any evidence whereby .....<sup>(2)</sup> nor to give a final end (*issue*) of his account to the great peril of him & his heirs, that command may be given to the Chancellor or to the Barons of the Exchequer than an extent may be made of the islands, so that the King may be answered suitably of the said revenues, & that the said John may be out of the peril which might happen by the delay of his final account.<sup>(3)</sup>

[Endorsed] Let it be commanded to the Treasurer & Barons of the Exchequer to search the remembrances of the Exchequer, & if they find that other wardens have had wages that they give him the same, & if not, that they have regard to his estate & his great labour & the time he has lived [there] & to

(1) John de Roches, Warden 1328-30.

(2) Portion of document torn away.

(3) The original is in bad condition.

let him have reasonable wages, & if they find no account in the said remembrances of the revenues of the said islands, that they ordain some remedy either by making an extent or otherwise, so that the King may be furnished with the revenues & the said John may make an account & be discharged & relieved.

Nº 3421.

[Date : *Circa* 1330.]

To the King &c<sup>a</sup>

William de la Rue,<sup>(1)</sup> parson of Compton, prays for payment of such sum as may please the King for his services in the Islands as Commissioner in virtue of letters from Chancery, being in the Islands 17 weeks. Asks that Sir John de Roches, then Keeper, return his account for the same.

[Endorsed] Petition referred to the Barons of the Exchequer.

Nº 2649.

[Date : 1330.]

To our Lord the King & his Council, show his liege subjects of the Islands that as they have been are still & always will be, if God pleases, in your fealty & obedience as of your predecessors, time out of memory, nor did they ever depart therefrom, though many times burut, killed & destroyed by the people of the King of France, as their desire is to be under the care of our Lord the King without mean by gift or farm of the said land to any, but they desire to have a Warden named by our Lord the King from amongst the Knights of England as was accustomed in former times, as Sir Otes de Grauntsoun had the keeping of the said Islands, in which Warden they could have full confidence to save & guard them & their land according to the use of the King, if there were occasion in time of misfortune because they are gone over to the power of the King of

Petition  
against  
Bernard de  
Pynsoles and  
Laurence  
de Gaillard,  
Wardens.

(1) Jean de Roches, Robert de Norton and William de la Rue were appointed on May 16, 1330, as Commissioners.

France. And now they have heard that our Lord the King has granted the wardenship to Piers Bernard de Pynsoles & to Laurence de Gaylard as farmers paying to our Lord the King yearly the sum of five hundred marks, as they have learned.

Wherefore the before mentioned people of the Islands pray that it will please our Lord the King to cancel the said grant of the farm & wardenship of the said Islands to the said Piers & Laurence & will therefrom assign a fit & proper Warden as above related for the safety & salvation of his land & of his people in the divers dangers which may arise.

And they offer many thanks to our Lord the King for the good Warden which was sent to them recently, John de Roches, who loyally kept the islands for the King & the people in great safety & ease.<sup>(1)</sup>

[Endorsed]

It appears to the Council, if it pleases the King, that the safety of the Islands requires their keeping to be in the hands of Englishmen in whom the King can have confidence & as this matter appertains to the King, let this go before the King.

Nº E. 822.

[Temp : Edward iii.]

Complaints of  
Islanders.

To the King & his Council pray the poor people of the islands that he will take pity on them on account of the great destruction which they suffered in the time of war, that they may have the usages & customs which they had in the time of the King your father, & that all the bad customs which were imposed upon them in the time of Sir Otes & his bailiffs may be removed as on account of them they can scarcely live. They have not been able to obtain remedy for 20 years because they only had judges of whom they had complained & who were ministers of Sir Otes, wherefore they now pray for remedy.

[No endorsement.]

(1) The original of this petition is printed in Vol. II of the Bulletins of the Société Jersiaise, p. 45.

N<sup>o</sup> 5884.

To the King cry for mercy his "petit povre people" of the isles that he will take pity on them because in the time of peace they have been put out of their customs & badly aggrieved for 20 years in many ways, & in the time of war carried away, burnt & devastated<sup>(1)</sup> by defect of guard, & since the discomfiture [have been] badly & hardly ruled by those who ought to save & preserve them in all right, as it appears by all the commonalty how they are put in poverty by divers extortions which are done to them, for the which they pray the King to give them such a guardian as will be good to them & treat them amiably & save them loyally.

Poverty  
of Islanders.

[No endorsement.]

N<sup>o</sup> 2648.

[Temp : Edward iii.]

To our Lord the King & his Council shows his poor people of the Islands that whereas in the time of the King your father (whom God preserve) they had grievously complained of Sir Othes de Graunzoun & his ministers of divers extorsions injuries and grievances against the laws & customs of the Islands to them wrongly done, to try & terminate which wrongs and grievances the said Sir Othes by his great gifts procured a Commission to his friends and to his ministers there; who accentuated the wrongs & the grievances done by the said Sir Othes & his ministers in maintaining and using new laws & in bringing injury upon the people by breaking the laws & customs of time from which the memory of man does not run in these parts accustomed and by giving no manner of justice or reason to any man who felt himself aggrieved. Wherefore our Lord the King in his Parliament held at Westminster at his last coming from Gales<sup>(2)</sup> seeing his people of the Islands to be so badly governed guarded and destroyed, commanded and prohibited any commission to be issued to the friends of the said Othes or to any one named by him.

Redress  
of Wrongs  
demanded by  
Islanders.

(1) Norman French: issillez; from essillier or issillier, to exile and by analogy to devastate.

(2) Gales. This word is in some instances used for Wales; in others for France and Calais.

Wherefore our Lord the King, who now is, whom God preserve, in his Parliament held at York in the 12<sup>th</sup> year of his reign hearing & seeing the grievous complaints of his people of the Islands by his commission appointed Sir William de Bourne & his Companions Justices to hear, redress, terminate & try all the wrongs and grievances done by the said Sir Othes & his ministers & to repeal & redress the errors before this time done in the said Islands. The said Othes & his ministers fearing lest right & execution should be done in these matters by his great gifts procured a writ of *Supersedeas* to be issued to the said Sir William & his companions; who left the Islands without trying & terminating the wrongs & errors committed by Sir John de Fressingfeld, Sir John de Ditton clerks, Sir Othes & their companions, Justices in the Islands before that time.

And thereupon the said Sir Otho to the great trouble & destruction of the said people of the islands obtained a Commission to Henri de Spygournel & his companions who by the procurement of the said Sir Othes & his ministers came to the Islands &c. &c.

Wherefore his poor people pray for redress & that Justices may be assigned &c. &c. And if the Justices do right to the King and people, that the said Sir Otho be expelled from the Islands, &c. <sup>(1)</sup>

[Endorsed]

Let each man who believes himself to be aggrieved come to the Chancery & he will have a writ granted to bring such errors before the King & to have redress for same.

Nº 13251.

[Temp: Edward iii.]

Complaint of  
John Lalowe  
against  
Pierre de Garis,  
Bailliff.

To our Lord the King & his Council, complains Johan Lalowe of the island of Guernsey of Pierre de Gariz<sup>(2)</sup> formerly Bailiff in the said Island, that during the time when he was Bailiff under Sir Otes he beat him and ill-treated him and the said Johan was in the protection of our Lord the King at the time when M. Otes de Graun-

(1) The original of this petition is printed in J. F. de Havilland's *Essay on the Constitution of Guernsey* (1847)—Appendix, 4.

(2) Bailiff in 1325 and 1326.

soun caused him to be summoned to England and Sir Berard de Orne caused him to be summoned at that time to the Kingdom of France, and the said Johan came to England at the Court of our Lord the King against the said Sir Otes, the said Pierre de Gariz then Bailiff under the said Sir Otho made him demand against him & against John la Conayl from fortnight to fortnight & fined him heavily, and the said Johan was excused as he was in England before our Lord the King and all this availed him nothing, and ordered that 20 livres tournois should be levied on him half to the said Sir Otho & the other half to the said Johan la Cornail, to the great prejudice of the said Johan for which he prays to God that remedy may be given him, that the case may be recalled before the next Justices & that they may give back to the said Johan the money which they levied.

Nº 4811.

[Date : *Circa* 1330.]

To the King & his Council complains Piers Bernard of Pynsole<sup>(1)</sup> your serjeant at arms that whereas he was appointed by your father to be Keeper of the Tower of London &c. &c.

Bernard  
de Pynsole.

I was afterward sent with 40 companions to bring away treasure from Burdeux.

Since I came by your commandment to London from Amiens when you made your last homage I served the office of serjeant at arms at your court, & while warden of your islands to your great profit & at my great trouble & costs I certified your Council that I had paid into the Exchequer by the year £500 for the emolument of the islands of which the warden before me only paid £37 by the year, and no man paid more than 500 marks, & for all the said services I have only received from your wardrobe & elsewhere 100 s. sterling, &c.

[Endorsed] Let him show what he has of wages & other things contained in this bill.

(1) Pierre Bernard de Pynsole and Laurens du Galars or de Gaillard (of Bayonne) were named Wardens of the Islands on 29th August, 1330, but only held office during a year. Consult Havet's *Série Chronologique des Gardiens*, p. 25.

N<sup>o</sup> 8355.(Date : *Circa* 1330.)Bernard  
de Pynsole.

To the King & his Council prays Piers Bernard of Pynsole your serjeant at arms that whereas he has for a long time served the King your father & you, he has now of late been suddenly removed without cause from the custody of your isles which he held at your great profit, & to maintain it properly he has spent more than £1000 sterling, & now he is ill, &c.

He now prays for the office of bailiff of Goose & Synaux on the coast of Bann for life.

[Endorsed] The King is not yet advised to grant such office until he knows what it is worth.

N<sup>o</sup> 14025.[Date : *Circa* 1330.]

Idem.

To the King & his Council shows Piers Bernard de Pynsole of Bayone his serjeant at arms that whereas the King is bound to him by his letters obligatory in £157. 13. 3 sterling for the costs of himself & 100 companions in arms being in the guard of your islands of Guernsey & Jersey & the others near by commission of the King your father in the time of war, of which sum he has never had more than £20 sterling of the customers of Southampton : May it please the King to pay the said debt, &c. & to grant him the wardship of his castle of Bayone for life.

[Endorsed] The wardship of the castle contained in this petition is granted to Oliver de Burdeux.

N<sup>o</sup> 8600.

[Date : 1331.]

Estate  
of William  
de S<sup>t</sup> Remy.

The King [Edw. iii.] to Thomas Wake<sup>(1)</sup> Keeper of the Islands of Guernsey &c. Whereas King Edward Our Father in the court before Henry Spygurnel Justice in the said Islands petitioned versus Thomas de Estfelt & Alice his wife a certain part of the lands &

(1) Thomas Wake, Lord of Liddel, Warden 1331–1333—.



tenements in Guernsey which were of Master William de Remigio<sup>(1)</sup>; & versus Dionisius le Marchant & Petronilla his wife another part of the same; & versus John le Moigne another part, & versus Ralph le Moigne another part thereof: which said tenements the said William held of King Edward Our Grandfather by certain services & which reverted to the King because the said William committed a felony & left the island. Afterwards the King pardoned him & restored to him the said lands of which he died seised. After his death the said Thomas de Estfelt & others entered into the same as his kinsmen & heirs. The said Letters of pardon having been burnt in the war, the said lands were taken into the hands of the late King whereupon the said Thomas & others pray for remedy. Upon inspection of the Rolls it was found that Our said Grandfather pardoned the said William on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July in the 22<sup>nd</sup> year of his reign,<sup>(2)</sup> & Our said Father then commanded Oto de Grandison Keeper of the said Islands to deliver up the said lands to the said Thomas & others without delay, but as he did not do so, We sent to John de Roches to carry out the command. Afterwards the said Thomas & others came into court & said that they were seised of all the lands & tenements whereof the said William died seised except a fee of St. Helen, a close called the close of St. Andrew & 36 s. tournois in the parish of St. Andrew issuing from the fee called Manmarke. We now command you to look well into this matter that justice may be done.

Witness G. le Scrop at Westminster 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> in the 5<sup>th</sup> year of Our reign.

Given in the Court of Guernsey 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. in the said year, in the presence of Geoffrey de la Hoge, Ralph de Beauchamp & others [not named.]

N<sup>o</sup> 2840.

[Date : *Circa* 1331.]

Oliver Le Moigne<sup>(3)</sup> nephew & heir of Master William de Seint Remy<sup>(4)</sup> deceased, & Thomas Estefeld by reason of Alice his wife

Estate  
of William  
de St<sup>t</sup> Remy.

(1) William de St<sup>t</sup> Remy. (2) 1293.

(3) See Close Rolls published by Société Jersiaise, (Pub. 9, pp. 71 & 72).

(4) An enquiry into the conduct of William de St. Remy as Bailiff of Guernsey was made by Thomas de Sandwich in 1293, and he in consequence fled the country, and his lands and goods were confiscated to the profit of Oto de Grandison, the Warden. The following year, however, he was pardoned. (See Close Rolls cited in previous note, pp. 54-56.)

sister & heir of said deceased, show that whereas the King had delivered lands, tenements & rents of said deceased which Thomas de Sandwyce had taken into the King's hands by reason of an objur-  
 ation which the said William had made in Guernsey, & the bailiffs of Sire Otes de Grandison detained one piece of land in the parish of St. Andrew which was of the said William by the escheat of his father, & 36 sols tournois of yearly rent issuing out of a capital messuage in the said parish, & also detained a fee called the fee of St. Ellen in the said parish, whereof the said William was seised peaceably before the time Sire Thomas de Sandwyce came to the said isle, who caused the said William many hardships.

The said heirs complain that the said bailiffs keep 2 quarters of wheat growing on 4 pieces of land in the parish of St. Martin de la Bellehouse<sup>(1)</sup> which were of the said William by the death of his father & which afterwards the mother of the said William had given with other rents, & from her were escheated to the said William after the grace of the King had been shown to him.

Pray that an inquisition may be taken.

Nº 13077.

[Date : 1338.]

Richard  
 Philippi,  
 Prior of  
 St. Clement.

To the Chancellor of our lord the King & to his Council shows Brother Richard Philippi monk of Mont St. Michel & prior of the priory of St. Clement in the island of Jersey that whereas the said prior was born & bred in the said island he has been & is constrained by imprisonment of his body, as if he had been born in Normandy, by Philippot de Bartone who was appointed by M. Thomas de Feryrs to levy the goods of aliens ; & the said Philippot wanted to have the moiety of all the goods belonging to the said priory notwithstanding that the said prior offered to pay that which he is bound to render to his abbot. And as his mill & his men have been burnt and destroyed by the King's enemies, the said prior prays that remedy may be had.<sup>(2)</sup>

(1) St. Martin, Guernsey.

(2) In the Close Rolls 12 Edward iii, under date of Oct. 16, 1338, p. 507, appears the following : " Brother Richard Philippi has shown the King that whereas the Keeper exacts a moiety of his goods and chattels because he is of Norman origin, by pretext of the King's order to take the possessions of certain aliens, and the prior is a native of Gereseye and he is prepared to answer to the King for the *apportum*, which he is bound to render yearly to the Abbot of Mont St. Michel, the King orders the Keeper to receive the *apportum* from the prior and to supersede further exaction of his goods and chattels."

[Endorsed] Let the said Philippot know that if the petition contains the truth he shall receive of the said prior that which he is bound to render to his abbot without more being asked of him.

N<sup>o</sup> 3282.

[Date : *Circa* 1339.]

To the Lord the King & his Council shows Richard Poleyn of the island of Jersey that whereas he has taken the farm of the sheaves of the attorney of the abbess of Mouster Vilers en Canz, which farm & his goods have been burnt & destroyed by the enemies of our Lord the King; he now prays for the King's grace as the King has granted by his writ that nothing was paid & an inquest was formerly issued, & he still awaits an inquest, & if it be found to be true, that then he & his farmer may be quit as they have had no advancement of the said farm, as the King had granted him by his writ.<sup>(1)</sup>

Richard  
Poleyn.

[Endorsed] Let him come to the next parliament.

N<sup>o</sup> 5880.

[Date : 1338-9.]

To our Lord the Duke of Cornwall and to the Council of our Lord the King, we the commonalty of the island of Jersey show that on the Friday <sup>(2)</sup> on the day of St. Gregory Sir Robert Bertran marshall of France & a large number of barons & other high people to the number of 8000 as far as we can see, & 17 galleys of Ganes<sup>(3)</sup> & about 35 ships of Normandy came to Jersey, went on land & made a muster, & afterwards sent us letters to go & speak to them, & to send them some good people of the country & thereupon two of their grand masters & two of our people went half way between us & them &

Attack  
on Jersey by  
Sir Robert  
Bertran.

(1) Printed in the original Norman French by the Société Jersiaise, Bulletins vol. iii, p. 14.

(2) March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1338-9. As to the Expeditions against the Islands undertaken by Sir Robert Bertran, Seigneur de Bricquebec, consult Dupont, Vol. II, Book iv, ch. 8.

(3) A French name for Genoa.

required that one should go to the King of France & to them, or otherwise they would assault us in the castle, & that we might be quite certain that they would put us to death without sparing great or small, & that they would destroy the country & the land; but if we would give up the castle they would restore all our lands franchises & liberties, & that such franchises lands and liberties which we wished to have for us & our heirs they would confirm to us by the King of France; to all which things answer was made that whether we were to lose land or people or to die, the castle would not be given up as long as there were 10 men alive in it. And thereupon they went back to their galleys and ships & sent afterwards by sea to view the castle & by land to survey where they might assault the castle & did it many times, but thanks to God they saw from all parts that the castle was so strong & so well appointed for defence that they went back to their fleet, & on the Monday they made a raid (issue) burnt many houses, manors & mills & took away many cattle & other goods, & one part of our people came out of the castle & went towards those who were committing the arson & killed about 40 or more, & by the mercy of God our people came back safe, & on the Tuesday Sir Robert Bertran & all his people & his fleet went to Normandy & the 17 gallies went to Guernsey, & on the Sunday following (i.e. March 20) a great fleet sailed from Normandy to Guernsey to the number of 100 large ships, 100 other vessels, 5 other galleys & the 17 gallies aforesaid, & went together to La Rochelle & to Ernende & to St. Seveenen<sup>(1)</sup> to load up with wines which the merchants of the power of the King of France had bought to the number of 30,000 tons to take them to Normandy, & these 22 gallies must have had on each ton 7<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup> sterling for the carriage & keeping. Wherefore, dear Lords, you can see that if the navy of England should be hastily assembled & should go against them, now is the point to make the greatest honor & profits which could ever be done for our Lord the King & for themselves great profits & great vengeance upon their enemies. And if those of England let them go at this time & they & their goods may return into Normandy, be assured that they will not finish all this summer from day to day from going

(1) Esnandes and St Savinien.

upon England by the harbours to destroy the fleet & the towns as much as possible. And it seems to us that it would be a good thing if you quickly sent a message to Bayonne & commanded them to come to the aid of the English navy to aid in destroying the navy of the King of France which is at Petou,<sup>(1)</sup> & also if it pleased you to cause to come by Jersey 40 ships & 60 or 65 barges to go to the castle Corneyt of Guernsey, that with the help of God the counsel of the people of Guernsey & the good will which the people of Guernsey have towards the King the castle would be conquered within two days. Because there is of money or provision in the castle or in the land for the King of France but one knight & 80 men of Normandy altogether. And for God's sake be willing to succour us with money, for the serjeants ..... who are in the garrison of the castle, as one owes them a great deal of money, because it needs for the garrison of the castle 300 men each day, for we are surrounded on all sides by our enemies & great works & engines & other things which they make every day in the castle. And, Lords, for God's sake do not marvel if the good people of the country who are on pay in the castle ask you to be paid, because they & all the others have been destroyed & burnt three times in one year.

Written at the castle of Jersey the Thursday before the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Given under the seal of the bailiwick of our Lord the King, such as is used in the island of Jersey.<sup>(2)</sup>

[No endorsement.]

Nº 7814.

[Temp : Edward iii.]

To the Council of our lord the King show the messengers of the isle of Jersey a part of the perils of the same, viz., that the said isle is so near the enemies that they might come from Normandy to the castle of the said isle from the rising of the sun before one o'clock &

The Defence  
of Jersey.

(1) Poitou.

(2) This petition in the original Norman-French is published in Vol. III of Bulletins of the Société Jersiaise, p. 14.

in the same way from Guernsey which is at present in the hands of the enemies: and the said isle is so far from England & from all manner of other help that it cannot be saved or guarded if it be not by force of the people of the garrison, because there is there no one born of the land who will enter the castle if it be not at the wages of the King: & the revenues of the said isle were spent & destroyed before the coming of the warden who now is, & with less than 300 men it cannot be kept & saved. And if the said isle were in the hands of the enemy (which God forbid) the passage towards Gascony would be more ..... & perilous. And therefore we let you know that if the navy of France be on the sea before the garrison be enforced the said isle would be in peril because no one would have passage after the said navy was known to be on the sea, if there were there no fleet. May it please you to provide a remedy for the said perils that the said island may be saved & guarded to the honor & profit of the King whom God maintain of his grace.

[Endorsed] It appears to the Council that 120 might suffice for the guard of the castle of whom 40 men at arms & 60 serjeants at the wages of the King: and if more are wanted let them be taken of the people of the isle at their costs inasmuch as it is for the salvation & safety of them & their goods.

Nº 10479.

[Date : 1341.]

Estate  
of William  
Payn, Jurat.

Edward [the Third] King of England & France, &c. to Thomas de Hampton warden of his islands of Guernsey, Jersey, &c. Whereas it was lately found by certificate sent into Our Chancery by Walter de Weston late lieutenant of Thomas de Ferariis then warden of Our said islands, that Philip de Wyncheleys & Guillemota his wife had seisin in Our Court by reason of the said wife according to the law & custom of the said island of Jersey of all the lands & tenements which were of William Payn, deceased, son of William Payn, by virtue of the succession of the said deceased, & Ralph Mahy<sup>(1)</sup> then

(1) Raoul Mahy, Vicomte de Jersey, 1340.

Our sheriff in the said island was commanded to go personally to the Church of St. Saviour to put the said Philip & Guillemota in seisin of the said lands & tenements, which he did publicly, & they continued their said seisin peacefully until the said Thomas caused the said lands & tenements to be taken into Our hand of his own free will & for no other cause : We commanded you to remove Our hand from the same & not to intermeddle further in them : & afterwards because the said Thomas certified Us that the said premises for a good reason ought to remain to Us, because the said William Payn<sup>(1)</sup> who lately held the said lands & tenements adhered to the French against Us, & that the said Thomas took the same into Our hand by the forfeiture of the said William. Now on behalf of the said Philip & Guillemota We are given to understand that William Payn father of the said William deceased long before he went over to Our said enemies gave the said premises to the said William his son to hold in fee & inheritance, by virtue whereof the said son continued the seisin thereof up to his death, & that the said Philip & Guillemota because the latter was the kinswoman & next heiress of the said William the son immediately after his death entered the said premises & recovered the same by due process made between the said Philip & Guillemota & the said William Payn the father in Our court of the said island while the said William the father was in Our faith & peace, & were thereof seised until they were taken into Our hand as is abovesaid, besecching Us that We will cause Our hand to be removed from the said lands & tenements : We wishing to be certified by you as to the premises & to do therein what is just, command you to make inquisition upon the premises & to send it to Us without delay.

Witness Ourselves at the Tower of London the 26<sup>th</sup> day of July in the 15<sup>th</sup> year of Our reign over England & the second over France [1341.]

(1) On January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1340, William Payn, Juré-Justicier, was dismissed from office by Parliament for having adhered to the French, and the Bailiff and Jurats were ordered to cause another person to be elected in his stead. (Cf: Havet, *Cours Royales*, p. 62).

N<sup>o</sup> 10476.[Date : 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1342.]

Estate  
of William  
Payn, Jurat.

To the King of England & France & to his Council Thomas de Hanthone<sup>(1)</sup> warden of his islands honor & reverence. Whereas a writ has been presented to us issuing out of your Chancery by Philip de Vincheleis by reason of Guillote his wife by virtue whereof we have enquired by good & trustworthy people above suspicion & neighbours, viz. James (?) Patier, Colin Bequet, Raol Paein, Pierre le Yvre, Pierre Norman, Guille Guillebert, John Letelier, Robert Norman, Jordan Norman, Pierre Norman, John Formentin & Pierre [P]atier, who being sworn & examined say that the said Philip by reason of his wife had been seised in your court of the said islands of the succession of William Paein son of William Paein, saving the right of the King & each one, & that Rael Mahy then sheriff had seised him thereof by the law of the parish of St. Saviour, & duly delivered up the keys to him, but as to the gift of the said William Paein to the said Guillote they knew nothing nor that the said son had ever had possession or seisin thereof, but they always looked upon the said William Paein the father as the true possessor until M. Thomas de Ferieris<sup>(2)</sup> caused the said lands & tenements to be seised into your hand where they still are because the said William the father then thereof seised went over to your enemies, which said depositions & report together with this writ we send you herein enclosed sealed with the seal of the bailiff of the said island.

Given the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, A.D. 1342.

[The writ above referred to is to be found in the preceding petition, N<sup>o</sup> 10479.]

N<sup>o</sup> 11935.[Date : *Circa* 1342.]

To the King.

Seizure of a  
ship and cargo  
by King's  
enemies.

Richard de Porte & John le Foure & other merchants of Guernsey [not named] show that where they had loaded a ship called the Katherine of the said isle full of wines to the value of

(1) Thomas de Hampton, Warden 1341-42.

(2) Thomas de Ferriers, Warden 1337-40 & 1343-47.



£250, they were met on the sea by the people of St. Malou & by Spaniards & by the people of "Oloun"<sup>(1)</sup> your enemies, who took away the said ship, as M. Thomas de Hampton, Chivaler, Keeper of the said Isle can witness.

Plaintiffs pray for remedy.

Nº 10477.

[Date : 1342.]

Edward [the Third] King of England & France & Lord of Ireland to Thomas de Hampton warden of his islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Sark & Alderney, greeting. Because We have been informed that many provisors of the court of Rome have intruded themselves upon Our right in divers benefices in the said islands, the collations whereof belong to Us by reason of the lands & tenements of the religious men & others of the power of France being in Our hand by reason of the war which has broken out between Us & the French, after such lands & tenements were taken into Our hands & in like manner detain & occupy those benefices to Our prejudice & manifest disinheritance: We command you to certify Us as to all such benefices in the said island, belonging to Our collation by reason of the premises which have been vacant from the time of the taking of the said lands & tenements, & who now occupy the same & by what title & in what manner, & the value thereof, into Our Chancery before the feast of Easter next coming distinctly & openly under your seal, returning to Us this writ.

Collation of  
benefices.

Witness Ourselves at the Tower of London the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the 16<sup>th</sup> year of Our reign over England & the 3<sup>rd</sup> over France [1342.]

Nº 10478.

[Date : 1342.]

Inquisition taken before Sir Thomas de Hampton warden of the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Sark & Alderney, by the oath of Thomas Raynaud, Matthew Philip, John Horman, Thomas Philip, Gerard Dolebel, Nicholas Gringwere (Gringoire ?), William le Moukour, Ni-

Idem.

(1) Oleron.

Church of  
S<sup>t</sup>. Martin.

cholas Martin, Geoffrey Arthur, Peter Leon, John Martin & Geoffrey Hasteyn, who say that the Church of St. Martin of Grouville in Jersey was vacant by the death of Nicholas Fabre, after the lands & tenements of the religious men & others of the power & lordship of France were seised by the King's writ on account of the war : & that in the time of Sir Thomas de Ferariis then warden of the islands John Chevalier entered into the said benefice on account of a certain provision of the court of Rome made to him, & so it was occupied, & the collation of that Church belongs to the collation of the Abbot of Lessie an alien in the time of peace & it is worth in modern times £40 tournois.

Church of  
S<sup>t</sup>. Laurence.

The Church of St. Laurence in the said island was vacant after the lands & tenements of the Abbot of Blanchelaund an alien were seised into the King's hand on account of the war, to whom the collation of the said Church belongs in the time of peace ; & that in the time of the said Sir Thomas de Ferariis William Pallott entered into that benefice by virtue of a certain provision & so occupied the same, & it is worth in modern times £30 tournois.

N<sup>o</sup>. 12212.

[Date : 1342.]

Complaints  
against  
Sir Thomas  
de Hampton.

To the King show & pray his liege men of the island of Jersey that he will be pleased to find a remedy for the grievances & damages which have been done to us by Sir Thomas de Hampthonne<sup>(1)</sup> guardian of the islands & Henry de Lamore his lieutenant in the said island & by their people, as has been shown to you before in your ship in the sea of Morbihan, whereby many good people have been killed & put to death in the said island ; & the said Henry has burnt & caused to be burnt there many houses, & the goods which the people had put in the King's castle for fear of the allies of the King of France he had taken before him & broke open the chests & hutches, & in the country he has robbed a grent many people of their goods as they can show by bill before your justices, & has imprisoned a great number of them contrary to the custom of the said island, & contrary

(1) Thomas de Hampton, Warden 1341-42.

to your commandment; & after the truces the said Sir Thomas has come to the island with such a large number of archers & other people that they have killed & robbed a great many of your liege men & have driven out of the country about 300 of the best & most powerful, without giving any reason for any of these trespasses. Since the truce he keeps 300 serjeants, & when the gallies were between the islands he only had twenty. Wherefore we pray that you will order for us a guardian under whom we can live & who may have power to enquire into these trespasses & punish the doers thereof.

[No endorsement.]

Nº 7856.

[Date : *Circa* 1342.]

To the Council of the King show the messengers of the commonalty of the island of Jersey that whereas it has often been shown to you that certain grave trespasses, extortions, damages, & many other imprisonments & many takings of money have been done to the good people of the said island by Henry de la More lieutenant of Sir Thomas de Hampton in the said island for which feeble remedy has been done in the matter; we certify you now at present that the said commonalty sends us in haste a certain messenger to bring us letters, wherein it is contained that Sir Thomas de Hampton as soon as he came to Portsmouth took 150 men of wicked people & sent them to Jersey to Henry de la More his lieutenant who robbing by night the good people of the country have killed many of them. Moreover the said Henry de la More has now of late killed by lying in wait or treachery one called William du Mount & two others with him, & the said island remains without assize & so that they cannot be punished for the trespasses they have committed & still commit from day to day on the said good people. And moreover the said Sir Thomas has collected 150 men at Hampton<sup>(1)</sup> who have been brought to destroy the said good people.

Complaints  
against  
Henry de la  
More,  
Lieutenant of  
Sir Thomas  
de Hampton.

Wherefore the said messengers pray that you will make hasty & suitable remedy for the things abovesaid.<sup>(2)</sup>

(1) Southampton. (2) Parts of this petition are indistinct.

N<sup>o</sup> 12326.

Petition  
against  
Foreign  
Jurisdiction.

Joan who was the wife of Robert Nicholas<sup>(1)</sup> of Guernsey & John her eldest son pray that whereas they are implicated by the Abbot of Maire Mouster of Toures in foreigne before the legates for a mill which they hold of the Abbot in fee in the said isle, whereof the cognizance of the plea belongs solely to the crown & not to the Church.

Plaintiffs pray for letters of inhibition & that the plea may be ended.

N<sup>o</sup> 6618.

Petition to be  
exempted  
from duties  
of Jurat.

John Estur of Guernsey shows that whereas there are in the said isle 12 jurats, they ought to be so well off that they can serve the King in that office without impoverishment of their estate : Now plaintiff has been chosen for the said office but is obliged to get his livelihood by merchandize &c., so prays that he may be dismissed.

N<sup>o</sup> 5626.[Date : *Circa* 1377.]

To our Lord the King (Richard ii) & his good Council :—

Thomas  
d'Appelby,  
Receiver.

Thomas Appelby<sup>(2)</sup> shows that whereas he was granted by patent of the King your grand-father whom God preserve the office of Receiver & Approver<sup>(3)</sup> in the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Sark & Alderney, upon which the said Thomas by his diligence & work cause the revenues of the said Islands to be collected in the best manner possible, for which he is responsible to the King in his account, more than 500 marks per annum, besides all the other accounts delivered in the Exchequer before his time : And suspended the great charges & costs which the said Islands were always to the King in time of war, besides the revenues which were largely spent

(1) Nicolle.

(2) Thomas d'Appelby was Receiver from 1374 to 1377. The Letters Patent of Edward iii appointing him to the office are dated February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1374. Cf : Du Guesclin à Jersey, by Jean Lemoine (Revue Historique, Mai-Juin 1896), Appendices 4, 5 & 6.—See also Havet, Cours Royales, pp. 76 & 77.

(3) Norman French : *Approvisseur*, or *approvour*.

such as £1000 sterling annually, or 1000 marks before the coming of the said Thomas, which are also reduced by his good administration diligence and work ; on account of which the good approval on the one hand being taken into consideration, and the great reduction of such great charges & costs on the other hand : Our Lord the King, who then was, gained great advantage as regards the government of the Islands by the diligence and work of the said Thomas ;—Wherefore the said Thomas requests of you his reward<sup>(1)</sup> according to his deserts & as it was promised to him in perpetuity in order to carry out the aforesaid administration which benefits our Lord the King : Seeing that the said Thomas is placed in great poverty, mischief & destruction both to accomplish the aforesaid administration and to maintain the rights of the King in the Exchequer, where the said Thomas has been twice wrongly imprisoned & thus impoverished for ever on account of his loyal service to the King, unless you give him his reward according to what he has deserved & as he was promised ; And so that others might take example to do better in a similar case.

Nº 12823.

[Date : 1377.]

Richard [II] by the grace of God King of England, &c. to Hugh de Calveley,<sup>(2)</sup> warden of his islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Sark & Alderney & to his lieutenant in the isle of Jersey, greeting.

We send you enclosed with these presents a petition, exhibited before Us & Our Council in Our Parliament held at Westminster, by Thomas Trym as well for Us as for himself, containing divers grievances & excesses perpetrated there by Geoffrey de St. Martyn one of the jurats of the said isle & others as it is said, commanding that having viewed the said petition & the endorsement thereof made in the said Parliament, & having due information upon the contents of the said petition, if it should appear to you that the contents of the said petition contain the truth, then call before you the parties contained in the said petition, & further cause the completion of justice to be done in his behalf according to the form of the endorsement thereof as of right was to be done.

Complaint  
against  
Geoffrey  
de St. Martin,  
a Jurat.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of Our reign.

(1) Norman French : *Guerdon*. (2) Warden 1376–1393.

N<sup>o</sup> 12824.

Complaint  
against  
Geoffrey  
de S<sup>t</sup> Martin.

To the King & his Council shows your poor liege Thomas Trym that it may please you for God & charity to have consideration & pity for a great & horrible trespass maliciously done to him, that is to say, that whereas the said Thomas & one John Logge, then his companion, were sitting at wine in the isle of Jersey in peace, there entered to them Geoffrey de St. Martyn of the said isle & many others in his company, viz., Clement Hardy, Geoffrey Hugon & Philip le Fever who commenced to riot with the said John & killed him, & moreover when the said Thomas Trym tried to rescue & defend the said John Logge, the said Geoffrey & others wounded him horribly & illtreated him in such a way that they left him for dead : and afterwards the said Geoffrey, Clement, Geoffrey & Philip, having killed the said John Logge & wounded the said Thomas nearly to death, indicted the said Thomas for the death of the said John, for the which he was in prison for 22 weeks, & afterwards by good inquest delivered as not guilty. Whereupon the said Thomas prays for a writ, so that he may prosecute his right as well for the death of the said John, as for his own injuries before the warden of Jersey or his lieutenant, & not before the bailiff & jurats, notwithstanding any liberty granted to the said bailiff & jurats, for the reason that the said Geoffrey de St. Martyn is a jurat & judge & party, & so closely allied to the said other jurats & bailiff that the said Thomas will not be able to have any justice before them.

[Endorsed] Let it be commanded to the warden of the said isle that if he find by information that the matters contained in this bill be true, then he call the said parties before him & make due & short accomplishment of justice.

N<sup>o</sup> 12825.

[Date : 1378.]

Idem.

To the most noble & wise Council of the King certifies Janaque(?) Calvelegh lieutenant of Sir Hugh de Calvelegh warden of the islands of Guernsey, Jersey &c. that he has received ..... a writ of the King

with a petition therein enclosed for Thomas Trym against Geoffrey de St. Martin jurat of the said island of Jersey & others contained in the said bill; which Thomas Trym & his said adversary I caused to come before me to proceed & answer according to the contents of the said writ & bill; which Geoffrey & his companions appeared before me in the court & answered that by the laws, books & customs of the liberties to them granted time out of mind on the part of King Edward iii & his predecessors they are not held of right to answer before me & that I ought not to have cognizance of such causes as are contained in the said writ & bill, but that all manner of things done in the country ought to come before the bailiff & jurats & to be judged & determined by them & the resiants of the country except deed (feat) of war, to which said laws & customs the said Geoffrey & his companions offer themselves always to answer: to which answer the bailiff & jurats together with all the community are agreeable, & that these things are true have put the seal of the bailiff together with the same writing in the castle of Gourre in the said isle 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1378, in the presence of William Pain, John de St. Martin, Drouet Lemperer, Richard Petit, Roger de Fangeleys (?), Pierre le Loureur, Jacques Haquevill<sup>(1)</sup> & John le ..... jurats of the King.

N<sup>o</sup> 10854.

[Date : 1378.]

To the King & his Council Henry Rether<sup>(2)</sup> lieutenant of M. Hugh de Calvylay Warden of the isles of Guernsey, &c., shows that he had a writ from King Edward addressed to Hugh de Calvylay or his lieutenant saying that he (the King) had heard that a subject of his adversary of France & of his allegiance in the time of war entered the Church of St. Peter-Port in the said isle of Guernsey & took all the profits thereof & converted them to his own use, & commanding the said Hugh or his lieutenant to find out by inquisition or otherwise on what day & year the predecessor of the now incumbent of the said Church left the same & on what day & year the now incumbent entered the same, & when he entered the said isle & took such

Church of  
St Peter-Port,  
Guernsey.

—  
Collation of  
Benefice.

(1) Hacquoil. (2) Henry Rither or Rider.

profits, & by whose favour he entered it & by whom he took the said profits, &c., &c.

Witness at Westminster the 26<sup>th</sup> day of August in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the reign of King Richard.

Sir Laurens  
Pouchin.

I have now enquired by good people, gentlemen & bourgeois & others of the said isle above suspicion, viz:—Denys le March[ant], John Bernard, John le Picart, John de Beauchamp, Raoul Quiquerel (?), Pierre du Gaillart, Pierre ....., John Vall... (?), Thomas Blondel, Phillipot Blondel, John Roney "le vyl", John Roney "le geune", John Godebiète "le viel", John Godebiète "le geune", John Cincoille, John Freman, John Cointet "le viel", Jonyn Cointet "le geune", Richard le Gondet, Pierre de St Pierre et Raoul du Marest, by whom it was found that after the death of Sir Girard Sollez parson of the Church of St. Peter-Port in Guernsey who died in possession thereof the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1368, a priest called Sir Laurens Pouchin born & bred in the part of St. Germain de Heuville in the "hague" of the coast of Cherbourg or the territory heritage & allegiance of the King of Navarre:—which priest from infancy until he accepted the said Church had lived as notary papal & imperial at the court of the Pope—accepted the said Church by the grace of Pope Urban the 5<sup>th</sup> made to him at the collation of the Abbot & Chapter of Marmoustier patrons of the said Church, & was put in possession by the vicar of the Bishop of Coutances the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March in the said year, at which time peace was made between the princes. And M. Walter Huet<sup>(1)</sup> was then Warden of the islands. And the said priest came to the said island & had possession of the said Church by the bulls of St. Peter the Pope who had provided for

(1) Huet was Warden from 1367 to 1373. According to Inq. post mortem 45 Edw. iii 2<sup>nd</sup> Nos 80 [Anno 1371] a precept was given to Huet or to John Cok his Lieutenant in Guernsey and to John Le Marchant, Bailiff, to enquire as to the right of presentation mentioned in this petition. A return was made stating the matter was examined "en Jugement en presence des Jureys du Roy" by "bonnes et loyales enquesters des plus valables dignes et loyals habitants de l'isle." They answered on 15<sup>th</sup> March 1371 (i) That the presentation belonged to Marmoustier and that the King had never presented either in time of peace or war; (ii) That the Church is vacant by the death of Girard Sollez, priest, last in possession; and (iii) That Laurens Pouchin, priest, was instituted by the Pope as his successor, and by his Attorneys took possession by bans published in the Church on three Sundays without any opposition; he was delayed in taking personal possession but came to the island on the feast of St. Peter in Cathedra, 1370.



him without favour or maintenance of any (people) of the said island, & since that time the said priest has resided in the presbytery of his Church, making the cure &c., & has comported him as a liege & faithful man of our King, & has not converted all the profits, &c. to his own use, &c. &c.

Sealed with my own seal the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1378.<sup>(1)</sup>

N<sup>o</sup> 8149.

[Date : 1382.]

To the King &c.

Denys le Marchant & John le Picart Jurats in the Isle of Guernsey show that on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1382, in the King's court, in the said Isle in the presence of John le Marchant bailiff of the King & others by ..... called Richard Cliderowe there was presented to Henry de Rither<sup>(2)</sup> lieutenant of M. Hugh de Calvyleig ..... the said Denys & John & John Nicholas<sup>(3)</sup> a patent from the Court of Chancery as follows : Richard, &c. to Hugh de Calvyleig Keeper of the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Sark & Alderney, & to Denis le Marchant, John Nicholas & John le Picart : Whereas We presented Richard Cliderowe, Clerk, to the Church of Perport<sup>(4)</sup> We now hear that Laurence Pussin<sup>(5)</sup>, Clerk, of Normandy, has entered the said Church by virtue of a certain provision made to him by the Apostolic See, & holds the same by force, & We now command you to take him & bring him before us, &c. &c. In witness &c. .... in the 6<sup>th</sup> year of Our reign [1382.]

Church of  
St Peter-Port,  
Guernsey.

—  
Collation of  
Benefice.

Richard  
de Cliderowe.

[The rest of this document is so indistinct that it cannot be deciphered.]

Given at Douney (?) in the said Island ..... day of January 1382[–3.]

(1) Cf: the following petition. (2) Rither, Rithre or Rider.

(3) Probably John Nicolle who became Bailiff of Guernsey in 1384.

(4) Saint Peter-Port.

(5) Laurens Pouchin.—On May 3, 1384, a Commission was issued to Hugh de Calviley, Dennis le Merchand, John Nicholas and John Pycard to arrest and bring before the King and Council in England Lawrence Pussyn, who, it is averred, under colour of a papal provision has craftily intruded into the Church of St Peter-port, to which the King has presented his clerk Richard de Cliderowe. (Calendar of Patent Rolls, Rich. ii, 1381–1385, p. 424).

N<sup>o</sup> 2374.

[Temp: Richard ii.]

John Garyn,  
Prior of  
St Michel du  
Valle,  
Guernsey.

To the King & his noble Council, shows John Garyn Prior of Saint Michel du Valle in the Island of Guernsey that whereas our Lord the King, who now is, granted to him by his gracious letters patent his priory at farm for sixty pounds sterling yearly to be paid to our Lord the King by the intermediary of the wardens for the time being or of their lieutenants or receivers, as is fully set out in the said patent; Henry Rider lieutenant of Hugh de Calveyley now Warden there would not accept nor obey the said patent, but as a fact has taken and levied all the revenues of the said Priory for the term of Christmas last and has assigned the Revenues of the term of Easter to his debtors to the great destruction of the said Prior & against the tenour of his patent confirmed by the protection of our Lord the King.

Upon which may it please you to grant suitable remedy & to command by writ under fixed penalties the said Warden or his lieutenant or receivers to deliver up and restore to the said Prior such chattels as they have taken from him & his farmers or that they make him an allowance in future & permit him to enjoy & use his said Priory & its appurtenances according to the contents of the said Patent. For God and in the work of charity notwithstanding that he brought a great sum to have this last patent.

[Endorsed] Let a writ be directed to M. Hugh de Calvyley or his lieutenant in the Isles of Jersey & Guernsey that he permit him to have his farm according to the purport of his Patent, without overcharging him & to deliver to the said Prior the cattle, goods & chattels belonging to him & his farmers if any be seised by the said M. Hugh or his lieutenant in the said Islands notwithstanding that he brought a great sum to have this last patent.

N<sup>o</sup> 13591.

[Date : 1385.]

To the King of England & France, the bailiff & jurats of the island of Jersey honour & all reverence. It has pleased you to send us a writ as follows : Richard King of England, &c. to his bailiff & jurats of the island of Jersey greeting. Because Philip son & heir of Reginald de Carteret, knight, deceased, who held of Us in chief is of full age as We have heard, We command you that having proved before you the age of the said Philip in the presence of Roger de Walden<sup>(1)</sup> parson of the Church of Drayton in the county of Leicester, to whom We lately committed the custody of all the lands & tenements belonging to Us which were the said Reginald's in the said island & which by the death of the said Reginald & the minority of the said Philip are in Our hands to hold until the lawful age of the said Philip for a certain farm to be yearly paid to Us, or in the presence of the attorneys of the said Roger by you to be warned in this behalf if they wish to be present, if upon such proof you shall lawfully find the said Philip to be of full age, then you shall cause him to have full seisin of the said lands & tenements without delay as of right & according to the law & customs of that island is to be done, saving the right of each one & saving to Us the homage & fealty of the said Philip due to Us in this behalf. You shall certify Us as to the said proof of age & of that which you shall do farther in this behalf when you shall have executed this Our present mandate, into Our Chancery of England under your seal distinctly & openly with the transcript of this writ that having inspected your certificate We may be able to do more for the exoneration of the said Roger in this behalf what you shall see of right ought to be done.

Wardship of  
Philip  
de Carteret.

Witness Ourself at Westminster the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February in the 8<sup>th</sup> year of Our reign [1385.]

Wherefore may it please you to know that we caused to come before us many good trustworthy people of the nearest & knowing

(1) Roger Walden was lieutenant of Hugh de Calviley, Warden, and is mentioned as such on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1384. Walden afterwards became Archbishop of Canterbury (1398).

about the birth of the said Philip whom we swore to tell the truth in this case, who reported by their oath with one assent that they knew well that the said Philip was of full age, so that it belongs to him to use his inheritance according to the law & custom of our said island, for the which by the ordinance of your court we seised the said Philip of all his lands & tenements according to the contents of your said writ.

In witness whereof we have sealed this letter with the seal of our bailiwick there being present Drouet Lemperere, John de St. Martyn, Geoffrey de St. Martin, William de Carteret, Pierre Brasdefer & John Poindestre, Jurats of the King.

Given at St. Heliers the 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, A.D. 1385.

N<sup>o</sup> 7843.

[Temp : Richard II.]

Sir Hugh  
de Calviley.

May it please the Council of the lord the King (Richard II) to ratify the patent of Hugh de Calveley<sup>(1)</sup> touching the estate of the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Sark & Alderney, & that the said Hugh may put & assign justice from 3 years to 3 years in all cases criminal & civil according to the law & custom of the country & to take & enjoy all things detained & concealed from all manner of people as well of time past as of time to come.

N<sup>o</sup> 14997.

[Temp : Richard II.]

Hugh  
de Calviley.

May it please the Chancellor of our lord the King [Richard II] to demand a writ from the lieutenant of the admiral of Southampton & from Thomas Hoore serjeant at arms of the King to deliver the ship & the boat of M. Hugh de Calveley & his mariners to return hastily to the isles of Jersey on the business of the said M. Hugh.

(1) Sir Hugh de Calviley or Calvilegh, Warden of the Islands 1376 to 1393, in which latter year he died. For an interesting account of this distinguished soldier see Dictionary of National Biography, vol. viii, p. 262.

Nº 5650.

[Temp: Richard II.]

To the King's Council.

The liege men & commons of the King in his isle of Guernsey complain grievously that whereas the King [had paid to him] certain yearly rents in money tournois called farm (*ferme*) or aid of the King: which said farm & all other moneys of the rents [due] to the King he [took] in such money as the Duke of Normandy received his moneys of his rent in the Duchy of Normandy as by record appears: Nevertheless plaintiffs as well by the officers of Walter Huet<sup>(1)</sup> formerly Keeper of the said island as by others afterwards have been charged to pay the said rent otherwise than they had been accustomed to pay it as by the extents & evidences of the said [island] that it please your said Council to ordain remedy for plaintiffs in this behalf & especially that they may pay their moneys as aforesaid from year to year notwithstanding the said charge: and further to grant that they may pay to the King from henceforth the said annual rents in money tournois, viz. 20 sous tournois to the franc, & that plaintiffs may hold & keep all other points contained in the last extent made in the time of King Edward ..... of the issues & profits of the said island by virtue of a commission made to Robert Norton & W<sup>m</sup> de la Rue in this behalf for .....<sup>(2)</sup>

Petition from the people of Guernsey as to money payments to the Crown.

[Endorsed] Let it be remembered that on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June in the 1<sup>st</sup> year it was granted by the Council in which were the Chancellor, Treasurer, Keeper of the Privy Seal, & Messieurs John Cheyne & John Prophete that Letters Patent under the Great Seal be made in due form according to the purport of this bill.

Nº 5611.

To the high & powerful Prince our Lord the King & his wise Council,—

Your poor lieges, subjects and commons of your Isle of Guernsey pray that whereas they and their progenitors since the conquest have

Guernsey  
Plea for  
Commercial  
Privileges.

(1) Huwet was Warden from 1367 to 1373, the date of his death.  
(2) Document defective.

always been in your faith and allegiance and have suffered grievously during the wars at the hands of your enemies by slaughter, by the burning of their property & by heavy ransoms & by several other burdens & notwithstanding all this they have remained your liege men & true subjects to their great cost and expense in defence against the said enemies without having received any subsidy: They now pray that of your especial grace and to relieve them in their poor condition you will grant them a charter of franchise to endure for ever, so that they may freely come and trade in your kingdom of England without paying customs or pontage as other merchants of England and as those of the Cinque Ports, and ought to enjoy & use throughout England the same franchises and liberties as the said Cinque Ports use & enjoy in those parts.

Nº 5676.

Commercial  
Privileges of  
Islanders.

To the King & his Council show his liege people of the islands of Guernsey & Jersey that whereas the said islands are of his ancient heritage, yet this notwithstanding they are forced to pay in England the 20<sup>th</sup> penny (*le vintisme denier*) on whatever they sell or buy as if they were aliens & to pay also a custom called *quilage*<sup>(1)</sup> for the which they pray that it may please the King inasmuch as they have no other sovereign lord upon earth that it may please him to grant of his charity that they may be quit of the things abovesaid, because all the English are as free in their islands & they & their merchandize are as quit as those of the islands themselves.

Nº 8721.

Garrison of  
Castle  
in Jersey.

The grace of our lord the King & his mercy desire Nicholas le Sour, Druet Mariet, William Adure, Peter Mariet & William Hamun of the island of Jersey, that whereas there are vessels called "bussarz"<sup>(2)</sup> which were taken to defend (*garner*) the castle of the King, for the which thing they pray the King to command his bailiff of the said island to make restitution of the value of the vessels.

[Endorsed] If it be true, let restitution be made of the things prayed for or the price.

(1) The word *quilage* means collection.

(2) Busse, bucze: a large ship with two masts.

N<sup>o</sup> 6329.

To your Royal Majesty humbly shows Ralph called Machen of the parish of St. John of the island of Jersey that whereas he is in foreign (*alienas*) lands outside the said island to earn his bread, your bailiffs made inquisition upon those who are accused of the crime of theft, homicide & other crimes, & by the inquisition thereof made the said Ralph was accused in his absence of the crime of theft, wherefore he prays for your grace & mercy that you may receive him into your peace & that you command your bailiffs by your writ that although he did not come, notwithstanding your edict made in your assizes that he may be pardoned, & to enquire whether the said Ralph be guilty of this crime & others according to the use & custom of those parts, & if they find him innocent to receive him into your peace & to restore to him his goods without delay.

Ralph Machon  
accused of  
theft.

[Endorsed] Luke de Tany

Command the bailiff of the island of Jersey that if the plaintiff wishes to put himself on the country for good & evil for the theft & crime imputed to him that it may be enquired into and signified to the King who will pardon him for his outlawry issued against him for contumacy.

By the King & Council.

To Sir W. de Grafton by the Chancellor.

N<sup>o</sup> 10213.

Rauf Blondel, of Sark, belonging to Guernsey, prays the King to forgive him because while in his nonnage two men took his clothes from him & forced him to enter a house in Sark through the window in order to open a chest containing money.

Ralph Blondel  
of Sark.

N<sup>o</sup> 5654.

To the King & his Council prays Henry Jordan of S<sup>t</sup> Saviour of the island of Guernsey, that whereas he had been indicted for having

Henry Jordan.

stolen<sup>(1)</sup> six sheaves of corn of the value of 6 esterlings for which he fled from the islands: that for pity & for the souls of his ancestors you will pardon him this flight.

[Endorsed] The warden of the islands is commanded to certify the King as to the cause of the flight.

Nº 11304.

To the King.

Richard  
de Rosel.

Richard du Rosel prays that whereas you have given him a Charter of peace for the death of William de Molepu<sup>(2)</sup> of Guernsey, you will give him that which to you belongs for the fee of the said charter.

Nº 9730.

Richard  
le Heriche  
imprisoned  
for assaulting  
Bailiff  
of Guernsey.

Whereas Richard le Heriche, clerk, your man, who is imbued with bad morals, is detained in prison because he struck the bailiff of Guernsey in the King's hall while exercising his office in the presence of me & of your provost & of your sworn clerk of your court & of many others, hitting him many times with his fist, & on the other hand made himself deforciant by using reproachful words to him which tends to the disgracing of your royal Majesty: And as the case is totally excluded from the laws of this island & is especially reserved for your Royal Highness may it please you hereupon to command what may seem to you fit, so that your royal honour may be observed hereupon, & that it may be an example to others wishing to perpetrate similar things.

And this I signify to you under the seal of your bailiwick of Guernsey here enclosed.

Given in Guernsey the 8<sup>th</sup> day of January.

Nº 11340.

Janquin,  
of Guernsey.

To our Lord the King prays, if it may please him, his liege valet Janquin de Guernsey to whom you have granted your peace in the island of Guernsey that of your grace you will grant to him that he

(1) Norman Fr: Embler. (2) Mouilpied.



may be restored in his bailiwick according to the purport of his patent, & that he may not be aggrieved again by any malice.

May it please the King that he may be restored as is abovesaid & that he may be pardoned the fees of the charters which belong to the King.

[No endorsement.]

Nº 5892.

[Date : 1454.]

To the most noble & puissant lords of the King's Council being in this present parliament.

Meekly beseeches your good graces John Nanfan<sup>(1)</sup> to consider that the King by your advice commanded me to go to the islands of Jersey & Guernsey for the safeguard & keeping of them as it appears by his Letters Patent & indenture to me made, whereupon I went there, & then returned to this kingdom to declare to you the great poverty misery & simple state of the island of Jersey which was overrun before my going there by the King's adversaries "right piteously," & that such appointments as were made between the King & me were not kept but fully broken as well for lack of payment of £295. 15. 0 sterling for the second quarter due to me by virtue of the said Letters Patent & indenture for which the Lord Treasurer has given me his warrant, as for restraint of the customers of Dartmouth & Exeter made of the customs subsidies & devoirs by them received & to me appertaining which has prevented certain enterprises & services that might have been done in the meantime : May it please your lordships to consider that in the said voyage I without any wages or reward for my person save only the gracious promise of the King & you, my lords, for the fee of my attendance as squire for the body have borne right grievous & heavy charges as well for shipping & passage into the isles as by great payment & sureties under my seal for £1000 to the captains of Shirburgh &

John Nanfan,  
Governor  
of Islands.

(1) John Nanfan was twice appointed Governor of the Island. His first appointment extended from 1452 to 1457; the second from 1460 to 1461. He was the last who occupied the position of Governor or Warden of all the Islands. From this date a Governor was appointed for each Island.

St. Saviour the Visconte<sup>(1)</sup> for salvation of the lives of the hostages of the said isle of Jersey being in their ward in peril of death which would have caused great division & the final destruction of the said isle; & also to command that the said appointments between the King & me may be observed & that I may be paid for the time past & discharged of all inconveniencies that may hereafter befall the said islands.<sup>(2)</sup>

[Endorsed] Memorandum that on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March in the 32<sup>nd</sup> year of King Henry the 6<sup>th</sup> [1454] it was agreed by the King with the advice & assent of the lords spiritual & temporal then assembled in Parliament that the appointments & covenants made between the said King & John Nanfan, Esq., for the wardship & government of the islands of Jersey & Guernsey be duly observed & kept according to the tenour of the Letters of the said King thereof made as well under the Great as the Privy Seal. And that writs of execution & other warrants be made upon the said Letters.

(1) St Sauveur le Vicomte was taken from the English shortly before August 12, 1450. Delisle, pp. 266—295.

(2) The original of the above petition is in English. The endorsement is in Latin.

## APPENDIX.

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### JERBOURG CASTLE, GUERNSEY.

*(See Petitions 12098, page 20, and 13590, page 49.)*

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INQUISITIONS—POST MORTEM—(Chancery) 4 Edw. iii (1330), N<sup>o</sup> 50.

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#### TRANSLATION OF WRIT.

Edward &<sup>as</sup> to John de Roches, Keeper of the Islands. Matthew de Saumarez has prayed Us by his petition before Us & the Council that whereas the Commonalty of the said Island of Guernsey has fortified a certain place of the said Matthew called the Castle of Gerburk, which he holds of Us in Chief, as it is said, with ditches & a wall in the manner of a Castle for the safety of the said Commonalty & their things in the time of war, without having obtained the licence of the Lord Edward, sometime King of England, our father, or of Us in this matter: We will & grant to the said Matthew that he may hold that place so fortified with its liberties, rights and appurtenances whatsoever to him and his heirs, of Us and our heirs for ever by the same services by which the same Matthew & his ancestors hitherto have held the same place with its liberties, rights & appurtenances whatsoever of Us & Our progenitors, so that the men of the Commonalty of the said Island may be there received into the same place in the time of war if it should threaten, with their goods and chattels for their safety. We, wishing to be the more assured whether we may assent to his petition without prejudice to us and our said Commonalty, command you that by the oaths of proper & lawful men of our aforesaid Island by whom the truth of the matter may be the better known diligently to enquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of Us or of our said Commonalty, and if so, then to what damage and prejudice of our said Com-

M

monalty & how and in what way, & if the said Matthew do hold the place aforesaid of Us as is aforesaid, or if any other, and if of Us then by what service and in what manner & in what way & how much the said place is worth per annum in all respects, according to the true value of the same, & which & what sort of libertics belong to the place aforesaid. And, the inquisition thereupon distinctly & openly made, you shall send to us without delay under your seal and the seals of those by whom it shall be made, together with this writ.

Witness ourself at Oseneye the 12<sup>th</sup> day of July in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of our Reign.

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### INQUISITION.

*(Translation.)*

Inquisition taken before John de Roches by the writ of the Lord the King for Matthieu de Sausmareys of the Castle of Giereboug in the Island of Guernsey.

The Lord the King sent his writ to the Island of Guernsey the 20th August A.D. 1330, in these words. Edward, etc., to John de Roches, Keeper of the Isles. Wherefore it is commanded to the Bailiff of the said Island of Guernsey that he cause to come before the said John de Roches at the town of St. Peter-Port on Monday next after the birth of the Blessed Mary the Virgin, 12 honest and lawful men of the said island who will the better know how to declare the truth of the premises. And they came, to wit: Colinus Blondel, John le Marchant, Radulphus de Beauver, Peter le Basquies, William le Carpentier, Mathieu Godelent, John le Cueul, Peter de l'Estac, Robert le Jeune, Peter le Caucheys, Richard du Val, and William Sacte, who, sworn in the presence of the aforesaid John de Roches, Geoffrey de Hoga, Bailiff, and John de Vivario, Ralph Coquerel, Ralph le Moigne, Ralph de Beauchamps, Richard Toullay, Ranulphus de Wik, Henry de la Moele, Guy Nicole, Jordan Discard, John la Corneile, and Peter Palet, jurats of the Lord the King in the said island, say upon their oath, that it is not to the damage or prejudice of the said Lord the King or of his commonalty aforesaid, that the Lord the King grants to the said Matthew to hold the said place to him and his heirs, as is above said, so that nevertheless the men of the commonalty

of the said island may be there received in time of war if it shall threaten with their goods and chattels for their safety. And they say that the said Matthew holds the said place of the King in Chief with the appurtenances which have never been separated from the said place and never ought to be separated from it, by the services within written, to wit, that after the death of the said Matthew his heir and successor owes payment to the lord the King for relief sixty shillings and one penny tournois; also if the lord the King should happen to come to the Island of Guernsey the said Matthew, or his successor, and heir, ought to offer to the same lord the King his service, to wit, to offer before the said lord his goblet or cup, the third of the three who shall serve it, so long as the King shall be in the same island. Also he ought to be present every year, or his attorney in his absence, at the three chief pleas of the lord the King without a summons, and ought to dine with the lord the King at the three pleas aforesaid. The same jurors also say that the said place which is called the Castle of Gierebouk with the said appurtenances, all of which is held together of the Lord the king in chief, is worth in common years according to the true value, without the wreck of the sea, (which cannot be estimated with certainty) twenty-five pounds sterling. And they say that there belong to the said place with the appurtenances those liberties following, to wit, that the said Matthew may have there his Court and his view, his prévôt and his vavassors who will execute his justice for him, and owe to him certain spurs, price 12 pieces tournois. Also he shall have the wreck of the sea throughout that whole place, with the appurtenances, in which the lord the King ought to have view by his deputy in the said island thereto, as by custom appointed, before the said Matthew may lay his hands upon the same, unless for the saving of the said wreck to be placed in the open or upon the sea shore by reason of the wreck belonging to the Royal Crown by the approved custom of the said island. He shall also have there free warren throughout that whole place with the appurtenances and the chasing of conies with a dog and a stick throughout the whole island, except over other free warrens of old time accustomed. Also he shall have in the same place with the appurtenances his right of pre-emption of all congers caught by his men. Also he shall have custom of mackerel and also

of herrings caught by his men by reason of his said right of pre-emption. Also he shall have his windmill with suit of his men, and the said men ought to bring timber and millstones at their own cost. Also he may recall his men from the court of the lord the King or of others to his own court, and therein he may have cognizance of movable causes and fines of his court. Also he has sales of lands and rents throughout all that place with the appurtenances. Also he has forfeiture of his men in the same place with the appurtenances. And if any of them shall abjure the realm then the prévôt of the said Matthew shall come to the house of him so forfeiting, before the then prévôt of our lord the King. The said Matthew shall have all the movable goods of the same, and *vice versa*, and also shall have his land after the day and year of waste. Also he has in the same place with the appurtenances the animals which ought to be adjudged waifs according to the custom of the country. Also the men of the said Matthew, tenants of the same place, are bound to carry the corn and oats of the said Matthew to Normandy, wheresoever the said Matthew shall wish, between St. Michael's Mount and Vauville, at the cost of the said Matthew, until the said corn shall be discharged in the barn, and after that they shall be at their own charge. Nevertheless the said Matthew ought to find for the said men the boat and the master of the boat. And if the said Matthew or his heirs should wish to be carried over to the island of Jersey the said tenants are bound to take him across at their own proper costs for three shillings tournois and one dinner. And the said tenants ought to bake the bread of the said Matthew of the wheat to make the ale of the oats of the said Matthew for as much corn and oats as they owe him, and to carry to the house of the said Matthew the cask, barrel and jar of wine and other beverage for the use of the said Matthew. And wood for burning, and the flesh of half an ox, or a quarter part either of a pig or a sheep. And the said Matthew and his prévôt and his miller, ought to be quit and exempt from the mintage of the lord the King, by reason of the liberty of the place above said with the appurtenances of the same, and he hath the same for time immemorial.

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