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The Lincoln Record Society

VOLUME 54

The Records of the Commissioners of Sewers in the Parts of Holland 1547 - 1603

EDITED BY

A. MARY KIRKUS, Ph.D.

LIBRARIAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF READING



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Volume I

PRINTED FOR
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PREFACE

The length of time these volumes have been in the making is equalled by the number of people to whom I am indebted. To Sir Frank Stenton and Miss Kathleen Major I owe the suggestion that I should edit, for the Lincoln Record Society, records of Courts of Sewers for south Lincolnshire of the second half of the sixteenth century. They brought the records then at Boston to my notice, and, at a time when I knew nothing whatsoever about Courts of Sewers, they encouraged me to believe that I was capable of editing them. To both and to Lady Stenton I owe much for help at every stage of the work. It is a pleasure to acknowledge assistance also from those who either gave me access to the records in their care or drew my attention to relevant manuscripts, particularly Mr. H. C. Marris, late Clerk of the Peace for the Holland Division of Lincolnshire; the Rev. W. T. Armstrong, Vicar of St. Nicholas with St. John, Newport, Lincoln; the Rev. Peter Binnall, Rector of Barkwith; Dr. H. E. Hallam; the Venerable K. Healey, Archdeacon of Lincoln and Rector of Algarkirk; the Rev. J. Milner, who deputised for the Vicar of Heckington; the Rev. L. F. Pigott, Rector of Market Deeping; Mrs. Joan Varley and Miss Dorothy Williamson, of the Lincolnshire Archives Committee; Mr. J. N. Williams and other members of the Public Record Office; the Director of the Wisbech Museum; and Mr. G. M. G. Woodgate of Wisbech. To Miss F. Thurlby and Mr. G. S. Dixon I am indebted for help with the glossary.

Reading

A. MARY KIRKUS

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ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES

A.P.C.	<i>Acts of the Privy Council.</i>
C.S.P.D.	<i>Calendar of State Papers Domestic.</i>
C.P.R.	..	..	..	<i>Calendar of Patent Rolls.</i>
Callis	..	..	..	Callis (R.): <i>The reading . . . upon the Statute of 23 H.8 cap. 5 of Sewers . . . delivered . . . 1622, 2nd ed. 1685.</i>
D.N.B.	..	..	..	<i>Dictionary of National Biography.</i>
Dugdale	..	..	..	Dugdale (William): <i>The history of imbanking and draining, 2nd ed., 1772.</i>
L. and P.	..	..	..	<i>Letters and Papers, foreign and domestic, Henry VIII.</i>
L.R.S.	..	..	..	The publications of the Lincoln Record Society.
Maddison	..	..	..	Maddison (A. R.): <i>Lincolnshire pedigrees.</i>
<i>Surrey and Kent</i>	..	..	..	London County Council: <i>Court minutes of the Surrey and Kent Sewer Commission.</i>
Venn	..	..	..	Venn, J. and J. A. Venn: <i>Alumni Cantabrigienses, Part 1, to 1751, 4 vols. 1922-1927.</i>

A select bibliography is to be found on pp. lxxxix-xci.

In the introduction and appendices the numbers in round brackets refer to the material printed in this volume or which it is intended to print in later volumes.

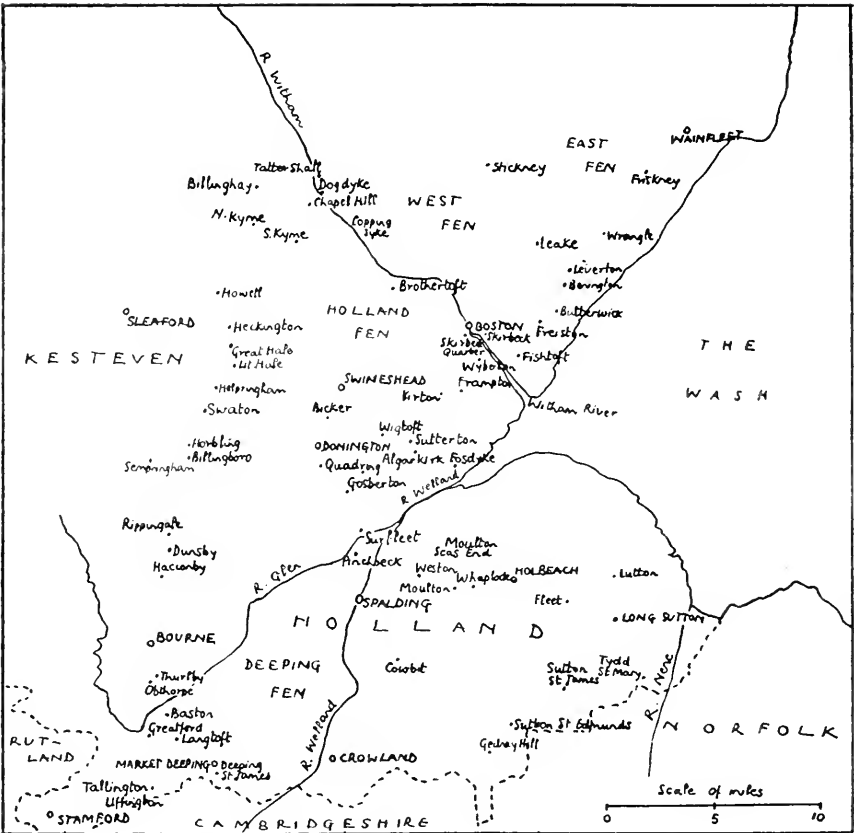
In the text common contractions, such as “w^h” for “with” and “Wm” for “William”, have been expanded. Words have been capitalised according to modern usage. Variants in the spelling of names have been collected together in the index. Marginal headings and marginal notes in the original appear in the transcript at the beginning of the paragraph to which each belongs, in italics and within round brackets.

(¹) the letters in the brackets are interlined.

(²) the letters in the brackets are cancelled.

(³) the letters in the brackets are deleted.

[^s] the letters in the brackets have been supplied.



THE FENLANDS OF LINCOLNSHIRE

INTRODUCTION

I. PRELIMINARIES

The greater part of the sixteenth century records relating to Courts of Sewers held in south Lincolnshire which are printed in this volume and in the volumes planned to follow it were kept for many years in the Sessions House at Spalding. In 1928 or shortly afterwards Mr. H. C. Marris, the Clerk of the Peace for Holland, had them transferred to the County Hall in Boston, whence in 1954 they were moved to the Lincolnshire Archive Committee's repository at Exchequer Gate, Lincoln.

The records concern the district bounded (working anti-clockwise from north-east to south-east) by Friskney, Stickney, Dogdike, Kyme, Heckington, Helpringham, Swaton, Horbling, Bourne, Stamford, the Deepings, Crowland, Tydd St. Mary, Long Sutton, Lutton and Gedney. They consist of verdicts, "laws" and ordinances, joyce books and acre books, and accounts. Verdicts were presentments made by jurors before the Commissioners of Sewers; they make up the greatest bulk of sixteenth century sewers records. "Laws," statutes, ordinances and decrees were the decrees made by the Commissioners after hearing the jurors' presentments. Joyce books took their name from agistment, which once meant "taking in livestock to remain and feed, at a certain rate," and by extension came to mean "rating or charging lands or their owners with any public burden." The joyce books which the jurors mention so often in their verdicts gave the names of the landholders with the length of the dike or bank for which they were responsible. Acre books listed the names of the landholders with the acreage on which they were rated. Accounts are self-explanatory, and produce some interesting details of costs. Examples of these types of record, together with copies of some letters written by Commissioners, all now kept in Lincoln, will be printed in these volumes, which will also include, to complete the picture of the Courts of Sewers, two of the relevant Acts of Parliament and several examples of enrolments of the writs appointing Commissioners.¹ Two classes of sixteenth century sewers record are not represented in these volumes, the oath and the estreat roll. By the Act of 23 Henry VIII, cap. v, each Commissioner of Sewers was required to take an oath of fealty before he sat; but no example of such an oath belonging to the sixteenth century has been found. The Act of 1571 provided that the clerk should pay into the Exchequer the fines

¹ Verdicts, 26-64, 66-500, 568-730; "laws," 501-567, 731-745; Skirbeck joyce book, 65; Lutton in Sutton acre book, 749-753; Bicker accounts, 746-748; letters, 754-774; Acts, 1-19; enrolled writs, 20-25.

levied in Courts of Sewers. An estreat roll for the reign of Elizabeth is extant,¹ but as it does not deal with Holland or Kesteven it has not been included.

The records² are written by many clerks, and the handwriting changes every few folios. In general in the verdicts it is cursive, seemingly put down hurriedly with little punctuation and often not easy to read. Some of the folios were once made up into files, either stitched at the top with string or pinned together, and this make-up accounts for the occasional missing word or letters in the middle of the top line. The size of the folios varies; the most common size is about 16 x 12 inches, but smaller folios are sometimes found. Judging by the old numeration, not all the files are now complete. Some of the folios are so worn and torn that transcription is necessarily fragmentary. Many were repaired and renumbered under the direction of Miss Eileen Brown, archivist of Holland from 1937 to 1940; and the reference given in square brackets at the beginning of each folio in the transcript is Miss Brown's numbering.

It is hoped that the publication of these volumes will throw light on the Courts of Sewers, and more generally on local administration in the later sixteenth century. After a brief survey of work already done on Commissions of Sewers, the introduction contains a description of the physical conditions that eventually led to the setting up of the Courts, and of the early methods used to try to prevent flooding becoming worse. The history and constitution of the Courts of Sewers are next considered. Then, for the reign of Elizabeth, the Commissions, the officers and the working of the Courts are described. Lastly comes a note on the connection between the central government and the Courts.

Considerable record material still exists from which a history of Commissions of Sewers might be compiled, though little of it has been published. Foremost among the printed volumes of these records are Dugdale's vast repository, *The history of imbanking and draining of divers fens and marshes*,³ and the *Court minutes of the Surrey and Kent Sewer Commission*, volume I (covering the years 1569 to 1579).⁴ Sir Cyril Flower's two volumes of *Public works in mediæval law*⁵ contain selected early cases from Ancient Indictments and Coram Rege Rolls concerning sewers and causeys as well as roads and bridges. The various volumes of the *Calendar of Patent Rolls* contain abstracts of enrolments of Commissions. C. N. Cole⁶ and Samuel Wells⁷ each edited the laws of the Bedford Level; though they relate to a district south of that of the records in these

¹ P.R.O., E 137. 143. 6.

² The "laws" are parchment, the rest paper.

³ 1662; 2nd ed., 1772.

⁴ Published by the London County Council, 1909.

⁵ Selden Society, 32 and 40, 1915-23.

⁶ C. N. Cole: *A collection of laws which form the constitution of the Bedford Level Corporation*, 1761; 2nd ed., 1803.

⁷ S. Wells: *A collection of the laws which form the constitution of the Bedford Level Corporation*, 1828. A second volume, published in 1830, is called *The history of the drainage of the Great Level . . .*, vol. 2.

volumes and to the following century, both editions contain much illustrative material and Wells's includes four verdicts and two laws. Works about Commissions of Sewers are rather more numerous than the printed text and extend over three hundred years. The first author to write about sewers was Robert Callis, a Lincolnshire man and himself a Commissioner of Sewers, who published in 1647 *The reading of . . . Robert Callis Esq. upon the statute of 23 H.8 cap. 5 of sewers as it was delivered by him at Gray's Inn, in August, 1622.*¹ This was followed in 1659 by *The reading of John Herne . . . concerning Commissioners of Sewers.* In 1664 came *Instructions for jury-men on the Commission of Sewers; shewing 1. What they are to surveigh and view. 2. What to enquire and present. 3. How.* Published anonymously, it was written by Robert Bissle or Bissell of Pinchbeck.² Nearer our own time H. G. Richardson has written two short articles, the first a "Note on the constitution and records of Commissions of Sewers,"³ and the other on "The early history of Commissions of Sewers."⁴ Sidney and Beatrice Webb have surveyed the history of Courts of Sewers in *English local government: statutory authorities for special purposes*⁵; though the authors' real interest lay in the development of local government after 1689, this is the best general account of the Commissions and their Courts. S. G. E. Lythe has contributed a study of Yorkshire Courts.⁶ Professor H. C. Darby's two books on the Fenland, *The medieval fenland* and *The drainage of the fens*,⁷ contain sections on sewers and contribute much to our knowledge of the local conditions which first provoked, and then resulted from, the setting up of the Commissions of Sewers. Some information about Lincolnshire Commissions can be found in W. H. Wheeler's *History of the Fens of south Lincolnshire*,⁸ and a little, mostly taken from Dugdale, in Pishey Thompson's *History and antiquities of Boston*.⁹ But the Commissions and their Courts still remain a comparatively unworked field of study.

II. PHYSICAL CONDITIONS AND EARLY HISTORY

The district in Lincolnshire, Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk known as the Fenland, the largest of England's low-lying areas, extends from Lincoln, Bardney and Wainfleet in the north to Ramsey, Earith and the Isle of Ely in the south, and from

¹ 2nd ed., 1685; 3rd ed., 1686; 4th ed., 1810; 5th ed., 1824.

² For this attribution, see *Fenland Notes and Queries*, 2, 1892-94, pp. 173-78.

³ In *Report of the Royal Commission on Public Records*, 2, 1914, pp. 98-100.

⁴ *English Historical Review*, 34, 1919, pp. 385-393.

⁵ 1922, pp. 13-106.

⁶ "The Court of Sewers for the east parts of the East Riding," *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*, 34, 1938-39, pp. 11-24.

⁷ Both published in 1940.

⁸ 1868; 2nd (much enlarged) ed., 1896.

⁹ 1856; a first edition, with the title *Collections for a topographical and historical account of Boston and the hundred of Skirbeck, etc.*, was published in 1820.

Bourne and Stamford in the west to King's Lynn in the east. It is nearly seventy miles from north to south and about thirty-five miles from east to west. It includes that district known as the Bedford Level, the history of whose drainage has attracted more attention than that of south Lincolnshire. The surface of a strip about twelve miles wide round the coast of this district is silt; west and south of the silt strip the surface is peat. Except for small areas which rise like islands above the level about them, the Lincolnshire part of the Fenland is less than fifteen feet above mean sea-level, and much of it is below high water at spring tides. So-called hills, such as Amber Hill ($9\frac{1}{2}$ feet above mean sea level), Chapel Hill (8 feet), and Gedney Hill (13 feet) can scarcely be distinguished from the flat ground about them. The Lincolnshire Fenland is liable to flooding both by fresh water from the surrounding high ground (since the rivers which flow through it have very little fall to the sea), and by salt water at high tide. An additional difficulty is experienced in the peat areas from which the silt areas are free, in that when peat is drained it dries, shrinks and sinks, thus reducing still more the fall to the sea. The submerged forests round the coast of Lincolnshire and Norfolk, such as those near Trusthorpe and Mablethorpe, are proof that this district once stood higher in relation to the sea than it does now. The period at which the sinking of the coastal areas took place is contested,¹ but it is probable that it was thousands of years ago, and that very generally the natural conditions of the sixteenth century were not unlike those that would prevail in the twentieth if the maintenance of present-day works were abandoned.

Though it is true to say that there was little appreciation of landscape and scenery, and little description, before the eighteenth century, yet it is possible to piece together a picture of these "Fenny Wastes and surrounded Grounds," half land, half water, in mediaeval and early modern times. Mediaeval chroniclers catalogue death by drowning and danger of such death; and monastic histories describe inundations, and frequent disagreements between neighbours about the maintenance of dikes. Tradition tells that in the eleventh century, during Hereward's stand in the Isle of Ely, a causeway built by William's forces through the marsh to the Isle was suddenly inundated and the men pressing along it were drowned.² King John nearly suffered a like fate when on 11 and 12 October 1216 he journeyed from Lynn to Swineshead by way of Wisbech, and all but lost his life while crossing the Well Stream.³ In October 1250 the sea flooded various parts of the English coast, including Holland,

¹ Compare the views of Clement Reid (*Submerged forests*, 1913, p. 115), and Sir Cyril Fox (*The personality of Britain*, 3rd ed., 1938, p. 25), with those of H. H. Swinnerton (*Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society*, 87, 1931, p. 370), Major Gordon Fowler (*Geographical Journal*, 83, 1934, p. 34), and C. W. Phillips (*Archaeological Journal*, 91, 1934, p. 135).

² *De gestis Herewardi Saxonis*, transcribed by S. H. Miller, 1895, pp. 44-45; bound with *Fenland Notes and Queries*, 3.

³ Roger of Wendover: *Chronica* (English Historical Society), 3, pp. 384-85.

and much damage was done.¹ Three years later Holland was again flooded.² In 1287 a strong east wind brought further salt water floods to the same district ; much of Boston was under water, many men and cattle perished,³ and the priory of Spalding suffered losses.⁴ At this time and during the beginning of the fourteenth century the prior of Spalding and the abbot of Crowland were at loggerheads over adjacent dikes and sewers, and their squabbles brought them into court.⁵ Yet it must not be thought that Holland in the middle ages was all swamp. The compotus rolls of Crowland Abbey for 1258-59 show crops and stock at Dowdike, Whaplode, Langtoft and Baston which presuppose good fertile land.⁶

In 1427 the sorry state of the fens not only in Lincolnshire but in England generally—"the great inundation of waters"—was brought to the notice of Parliament ;⁷ and in 1532 an Act recorded the damage done by "the outrageous flowing surges and course of the sea, in and upon marsh grounds and other low places" and by "landwaters and other outrageous Springs, in and upon Meadows, Pastures, and other low Grounds adjoining to Rivers, Flouds, and other water-courses."⁸ But Acts of Parliament by themselves do not stop floods, and nearly forty years later jurymen in a Court of Sewers held in Wyberton bewailed "tymes of owt raygyn downfall or watery yeres" (411). The complaint was not without reason, for 1571 was a very wet year. Later in the century Camden stressed both the fruitfulness and the marshiness of Lincolnshire. The county, he said, was rich in pastures and watered with frequent rivers ; in Holland the ground shook with every footstep, while lower Holland was enveloped in torrents and had marshes scarcely passable by the inhabitants.⁹ Early in the seventeenth century Michael Drayton described Holland, with "her unwholesome ayre, and more unwholesome soyle," as a "foule and woosie Marsh." Neptune, he said,

"every day doth powerfully invade

The vast and queachy soyle

From the wrathfulle Tydes the foming Surges swepe . . .

And turneth all to sea, which was but lately Shore."¹⁰

Speed stressed the fogs, recording that "The Ayre upon the east and south part of Lincolnshire is both thicke and foggy, by reason

¹ Matthew Paris : *Chronica majora*, ed. R. H. Luard, 5, pp. 175-177.

² "Circa festum sancti Dionisii facta est magna submersio in Hoilanda." *Chronicon Petroburgense*, ed. T. Stapleton (Camden Society, 47), 1849, p. 16.

³ *Annales monasterii de Oseneia*, in *Annales monastici*, ed. R. H. Luard, 4, p. 308.

⁴ *Victoria History of the counties of England, Lincolnshire*, 2, p. 121 ; Dugdale, p. 221.

⁵ *V.C.H., Lincolnshire*, 2, p. 120 ; Dugdale, pp. 211-15.

⁶ F. M. Page : *Estates of Crowland Abbey*, pp. 182-87 ; 203-9.

⁷ 6 Hen. VI, c. 5.

⁸ 23 Hen. VIII, c. 5.

⁹ W. Camden : *Britannia*, 3rd ed., 1590, pp. 420-21. The first edition was published in 1586.

¹⁰ M. Drayton : *Poly-olbion (Works)*, ed. J. W. Hebel, 4), 1933, pp. 516, 511. The first edition was probably published in 1612 ; the first dated edition appeared in 1613.

of the Fennes and unsolute grounds, but therewithall very moderate and pleasing . . . the east and south is Fenny and brackish."¹ Fynes Moryson, who died in 1630, found Lincolnshire "rich in Corne and Pastures," and added "The great Washes of Holland when the sea flowes are covered with water, but when it ebbes, the ground is discovered to be passed, but not without danger, and with a good guide."² Dugdale, too, remembered the fogs, reporting "the air being for the most part cloudy, gross, and full of rotten harrs; the water putrid and muddy, yea, full of loathsome vermin; the earth spungy and boggy, and the fire noisome, by the stink of smoaky hassocks."³ Fuller recorded the "*brakishnesse of the water and the grossnesse of the ayre*" of Holland, saying it was recompensed by the *goodnesse of the earth*, abounding with *deries and pasture*.⁴ Those resolute travellers, Daniel Defoe, Arthur Young and William Cobbett, each described the Fenland in their day, but, since the drainage was better controlled by then, their descriptions may be left to those interested in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Four methods of dealing with the Fenland problem can be distinguished, though the use of one method sometimes overlapped the next in time. First, there was local co-operation for the protection of land liable to flooding. Secondly, from at least 1275 onwards successive kings set up temporary Commissions *de walliis et fossalis*. Thirdly, the setting up of these Commissions was legalised by Acts of Parliament relating to sewers, the first being passed in 1427. Though exceptions can be found, it is true in general to say that both local co-operation and Commissions of Sewers aimed at maintaining the *status quo* and at preventing the floods becoming worse. The commonest form of verdict in a Court of Sewers in the reign of Elizabeth was that such and such a bank (or dike or petty drain) "ys in ruyn and deokay and ought to be repaired and amended" by so and so. Not till the second half of the sixteenth century was the fourth method tried, when plans were devised for draining great areas of fen, plans which naturally involved wholesale interference with long established ownership and tenancy. These plans included that of Thomas Lovell in 1599 for the draining of the fens of Deeping, Spalding, Pinchbeck and others in that neighbourhood;⁵ a government scheme for draining "many hundred thousand acres of marshes, and other grounds subject commonly to surrounding, within the Isle of Ely, and the counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Northampton, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, Sussex, Essex, Kent, and

¹ J. Speed: *The theatre of the empire of Greate Britaine*, 1627, p. 63. It was first published in 1611.

² F. Moryson: *Itinerary*, 1908.

³ Dugdale, p. ix. The first edition was published in 1662.

⁴ T. Fuller: *History of the worthies of England*, ed. J. Nichols, 1811, 2, p. 1. The first edition was published in 1662.

⁵ Lincoln, 485; Dugdale, pp. 205-7; *State Papers, Domestic, Edward VI-James I*, 1595-7, p. 458.

the county palatinate of Durham";¹ and in the next century the proposals of the fourth earl of Bedford for the draining of the Great Level.² Achievement fell far short of intention, but among practical accomplishments were the cutting of the Maud Foster Drain, from Cowbridge to Boston Haven, in 1568;³ and (to trespass into the seventeenth century once more) the draining of Tydd St. Mary, Tydd St. Giles and Newton Fen by Henry Dereham about 1632.⁴

There is naturally less extant evidence for early local co-operation which took the form of agreement between neighbours than for temporary and semi-permanent Commissions of Sewers. In fact, much of the known evidence is no earlier than the setting up of temporary Commissions of Sewers, though it usually implies and presumes that the conditions described were not new.⁵ When for instance in 1258 Henry de Bathe compiled the laws of Romney Marsh,⁶ he was not creating new regulations but merely recording what had been going on time out of mind. These most celebrated of all fen "laws" became, as the writer of the preface to a seventeenth century edition said, "the Pattern and Law for all other Sea-Borders, and Great Marshes and Fenns,"⁷ and they were constantly referred to in later regulations. Their contents deserve attention. In brief they declared that:—

Twelve men were to be chosen by the commonalty, half from the fee of the archbishopric and half from the barony, and these men were to measure the banks by the perch of twenty feet and the lands subject to flooding by the acre.

Twenty-four men, elected by the commonalty and called jurats, having due regard to each man's holdings, were to decide how much and what parts of the bank each should keep up.

In time of danger the twenty-four jurats were to decide what was to be done.

The common bailiff was to give notice to those who should do repairs. If the repairs were not carried out, then the bailiff should undertake them, and the landholder responsible was to be charged twice the cost.

All the lands in Romney Marsh were to be saved from flooding by both salt and fresh water with banks and sewers *sicut antiquiter utebatur*.

¹ 43 Eliz. c. 11.

² S. Wells: *The history of the drainage of the Great Level of the Fens*. See also H. C. Darby: *The draining of the fens*, pp. 11-82, for this and other seventeenth-century projects.

³ P. Thompson: *The history and antiquities of Boston*, p. 200; W. H. Wheeler: *A history of the fens of south Lincolnshire*, 2nd ed., 1896, p. 202.

⁴ *V.C.H., Cambridge and the Isle of Ely*, 4, p. 226.

⁵ Miss N. Neilson has collected some of this evidence in her introduction to *A terrier of Fleet*.

⁶ They have frequently been reprinted. Editions were published in 1543, 1579, 1597, 1647, 1686, 1690, 1697 and 1732. They are also to be found in Dugdale, p. 19, and *Close Rolls* . . . , 1256-1259, pp. 306-7.

⁷ *The Charter of Romney Marsh*, 1686, preface.

In some places use of the fens was organised on communal rather than manorial lines, and the economy in the sixteenth century differed little from that of earlier centuries. Sometimes fen rights of common were linked with the obligation to maintain banks. In the reign of Edward III Boston and Skirbeck were released from payments for commoning animals because their tenants repaired the drain of Newgate.¹ Court rolls of the soke of Bolingbroke, dating from the reign of Henry IV, give a number of cases of failure of vills to maintain their dikes.² Fen laws of common³ made by the Council of the Court of the Duchy of Lancaster and the great inquest of the soke of Bolingbroke in 1549, and confirmed in 1573, include the following:—

- 23rd. It is ordered that the inhabitants of the Frith against Earls Gate which hath any Slows, Gates or Bridges opening upon the Common shall sufficiently repair them before the Ascension Day yearly, and so keep them sufficiently repaired upon pain for every offence 6s. 8d.
- 24th. It is ordered that all other persons having the like Slows, Gates, Bridges, against the Common Fens shall before the said day repair them sufficiently on pain for every offence 6s. 8d.
- 37th. It is ordered that every man having lands abutting upon the Common Fens shall make his Ditches or Fence sufficient against the said Fens, and so keep it sufficiently repaired from time to time yearly upon pain for every rood undone 1s.

This local co-operation brought sewers within the view of both manorial courts and the parish. One of the charges of the Court Leet was to consider "if any common Wayes, Waters, Ditches or Paths are turned out of their right course,"⁴ and cases of neglect of banks and dikes were sometimes dealt with in manorial courts. In Lincolnshire such cases were brought before the manorial court of Ingoldmells in 1315, 1365, 1404 and 1419⁵; and before the court of Ormsby in 1410 and 1472.⁶ In 1519 the tenants in the manorial court of Scotter in Lindsey were ordered to repair and cleanse their sewers and ditches.⁷ In Yorkshire similar cases were brought before the court of Hunmanby in the reign of Elizabeth,⁸ and the court of Nafferton in 1573.⁹ In like fashion various manorial courts

¹ N. Neilson : *A terrier of Fleet, Lincolnshire*, p. x.

² *Ibid.*, p. xvii.

³ *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, 20, 1928-29, pp. 58-64, 74-77.

⁴ J. Kitchin : *Jurisdiction or the lawful authority of Courts Leet*, 4th ed. (of the translation), 1663, p. 18. The first edition (in French) was published in 1580.

⁵ W. O. Massingberd : *Court rolls of the manor of Ingoldmells*, 1902, pp. 44, 47, 159, 209, 240.

⁶ W. O. Massingberd : *History of the parish of Ormsby cum Ketsby*, pp. 245, 247, 257.

⁷ E. Peacock : "Notes from the court rolls of the manor of Scotter," *Archaeologia*, 46, 1881, p. 373.

⁸ *Yorkshire Archaeological and Topographical Journal*, 10, 1887-89, p. 69.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 81.

in Holderness dealt with cases relating to sewers as early as the reign of Edward III and as late as 1847.¹ At Cottenham in Cambridgeshire, where the owners of common right formed a village community which had become free by the buying out of the manorial rights,² articles of agreement which were drawn up in 1596 included arrangements both for commoning cattle and for scouring all the ditches³ about Smithy Fen and Charlude by the inhabitants of Cottenham. At Stretham in the same county a long drawn out dispute between Sir Miles Sandys and his tenants led to the drawing up of orders and byelaws by the court leet and the court baron. In 1614 the two courts made orders for the scouring and cleansing of Wortloade, the drain leading into Longlake and Thorough Lake, and laid down penalties for those who refused to scour and cleanse.⁴ In 1622 orders and byelaws drawn up by "the most and the greatest number of the inhabitants" of Stretham stated that every person having part in the partition ditch called Barlake should "ditch, scowre, clense and sufficientlie keep" the ditch⁵; and in 1639 Stretham issued yet another set of orders for the "best benefit and convenient usuage of all the comonable grounds," including an order for the upkeep of banks.⁶

Royal interest in the protection of the various fen districts can be traced back to the middle of the thirteenth century. A Commission was issued in 1258 to Henry de Bathe to act with the sheriff of Lincoln in ordering the repair of dikes, bridges and walls in Holland which had recently been inundated,⁷ and it has already been noted that the same justice compiled the laws of Romney Marsh at the king's command in the same year. In 1271-72 Henry III sent justices to Lincolnshire to inquire into broken bridges and causeys at Pekebrigge and Northdik, and the Assize Roll makes mention of Martin de Littelbirie sent for the same purpose on the previous eyre.⁸ In 1275 a Commission *de walliis et fossatis* was issued to Thomas de Fraunketon, John Bek and Alexander de Monte Forti in Holland,⁹ where the lands of the king and the prior of Spalding and others were likely to be flooded. In 1278 a similar Commission sent to Ralph de Hengham and William de Norburgh bid them inquire into the inundation of the marsh between Swaton and Donington in Lincolnshire.¹⁰ Thereafter frequent Commissions were issued for south Lincolnshire and other low lying areas.

¹ S. G. E. Lythe: "The organisation of drainage and embankment in mediaeval Holderness," *Yorksire Archaeological Journal*, 34, 1938-39, p. 284.

² W. Cunningham: *Common rights at Cottenham and Stretham in Cambridgeshire* (Camden Third Series, 18), 1910, p. 183.

³ *Ibid.*, Article xvi, p. 205.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 271-73.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 279-80.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 240.

⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1247-58, p. 660.

⁸ N. Neilson: *A terrier of Fleet*, p. 154.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1272-81, p. 120.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 291.

The number of these Commissions is surprising. There are hundreds of them endorsed on the Patent Rolls. Between 1280 and 1289, fifteen were recorded, of which three were concerned with south Lincolnshire, and between 1290 and 1299 sixteen, of which three again were concerned with south Lincolnshire. From 1300 to 1349 about 311 Commissions were enrolled, and from 1350 to 1399 about 363, some 47 and 35¹ dealing with either Holland or Kesteven or both. From 1400 until the end of August 1427, just before the passing of the first Act of Sewers, there were a hundred and one Commissions, fourteen of them concerned with south Lincolnshire.

Many of the Commissioners were men of substance, and had landed interests in or were connected by office with the shires for which they were named as Commissioners. Master Henry Yevele, master mason and architect, and owner of land in Wennington and Aveley, Essex, was a Commissioner *de walliis et fossatis* for Essex in 1391.² Thomas Mowbray, earl of Nottingham, duke of Norfolk and lord of the Isle of Axholme, was one of the Commissioners for the Isle of Axholme in 1383.³ Laurence de Allerthorpe, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, was a Commissioner for the low-lying district between Pocklington and the Humber and between Pocklington and the Derwent, Yorkshire, in 1399.⁴ The constable of Dover Castle and warden of the Cinque Ports was often a Commissioner for Sussex; Robert de Assheton in 1383,⁵ Simon de Burley, tutor of Richard II, in 1386,⁶ and John Devereux in 1389 and 1391⁷ were all Commissioners while constables and wardens. Abbots and priors were named as Commissioners from the late fourteenth century onwards; such were the abbot of Stratford for the neighbourhood of the Thames from Stratford atte Bowe to Barking, Essex, in 1384,⁸ the abbot of Glastonbury, for Somerset in 1387,⁹ the abbot of Bayham and the prior of Michelham, for the Sussex coast in 1391, 1392 and 1393,¹⁰ and the abbot of Battle and the prior of Hastings for Sussex in 1396.¹¹ Nicholas Brember, alderman of London, who was made mayor by Richard II and beheaded in 1388, was a Commissioner for the neighbourhood of the Thames in 1384.¹²

In south Lincolnshire Ralph de Hengham, chief justice of the court *coram rege* and of Common Pleas, and possibly a member of the Norfolk family of Hengham, was a Commissioner in 1278.¹³ Members of the Spayne family, which was connected with the trading

¹ Though substantially correct, these figures may be capable of revision, as it is sometimes impossible to tell whether a Commission has been enrolled a second time or is a new Commission.

² *C.P.R.*, 1388-92, p. 522.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1399-1401, pp. 44, 209.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1385-89, p. 90.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1381-85, p. 496.

¹⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1388-92, p. 516; *C.P.R.*, 1391-96, p. 293.

¹¹ *C.P.R.*, 1396-99, p. 54.

¹³ *C.P.R.*, 1272-81, p. 291.

³ *C.P.R.*, 1381-85, p. 355.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1381-85, p. 353.

⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1388-92, pp. 132, 516.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1385-89, p. 384.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1381-85, p. 496.

guilds of Boston and is supposed to have given its name to Spain Lane, were between them Commissioners eleven times between 1352 and 1400.¹ Gilbert Umfraville, earl of Angus, holder (or part holder) of the manor of Skirbeck in 1375, was a Commissioner in 1352 and 1362.² John de Boys, sheriff of Lincoln, was a Commissioner in 1362.³ John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster and "king of Castile and Leon," who held the great duchy of Lancaster which included manors in Lincolnshire, was a Commissioner four times between 1369 and 1397.⁴ Members of the Willoughby family, with land in Boston, Wyberton, Frampton, Kirton and Bicker, were Commissioners eight times between 1382 and 1423.⁵ Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland, who appears to have held the manor of Boston and, in 1367, Fishtoft (or possibly Brothertoft), was a Commissioner in 1383 and 1388.⁶ Henry IV's half brother John Beaufort, earl of Somerset, was a Commissioner in 1409.⁷ And William Paston, of Paston in Norfolk, a justice of the Common Pleas, was named on a Commission for the counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Northampton, Lincoln and Norfolk in 1418.⁸ Associated with these were members of other families who were long to be connected with Lincolnshire—Littlebury,⁹ Coplelike,¹⁰ Kyme,¹¹ Welby,¹² Tilney,¹³ Dymoke,¹⁴ and Heneage.¹⁵

It seems that the Commissions set up before 1427 lasted for varying lengths of time. Sometimes a new Commission was appointed for a district which had a Commission only a short time earlier, and it must be presumed that the first Commission had ceased sitting. On 24th July 1312, for instance, W. de Friskeney, R. de Cubbedyk, J. de Stikencie and A. de Cubbedik were appointed Commissioners for the wapentakes of Kirton and Skirbeck,¹⁶ and on 7 February of the next year Philip de Kyme, Henry de Baiocis and Roger de Cubbedik were named Commissioners for the same

¹ *C.P.R.*, 1350-54, p. 279; *C.P.R.*, 1354-58, p. 128; *C.P.R.*, 1358-61, p. 222; *C.P.R.*, 1361-64, p. 357; *C.P.R.*, 1367-70, p. 349; *C.P.R.*, 1370-74, p. 475; *C.P.R.*, 1374-77, p. 485; *C.P.R.*, 1377-81, p. 41; *C.P.R.*, 1381-85, pp. 134, 201; *C.P.R.*, 1399-1401, p. 216.

² *C.P.R.*, 1350-54, p. 273; *C.P.R.*, 1361-64, p. 210.

³ *C.P.R.*, 1361-64, p. 210.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1367-70, p. 349; *C.P.R.*, 1374-77, p. 485; *C.P.R.*, 1381-85, p. 201; *C.P.R.*, 1396-99, p. 309.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1381-85, pp. 134, 201; *C.P.R.*, 1385-89, p. 257; *C.P.R.*, 1408-13, p. 374; *C.P.R.*, 1413-16, p. 346; *C.P.R.*, 1416-22, p. 77.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1381-85, p. 201; *C.P.R.*, 1385-89, p. 385.

⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1408-13, p. 66.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1416-22, p. 200.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1301-1307, p. 346; *C.P.R.*, 1330-34, pp. 204; *C.P.R.*, 1338-40, p. 354; *C.P.R.*, 1350-54, p. 278; *C.P.R.*, 1401-1405, p. 278.

¹⁰ The family appears in nearly every volume of *C.P.R.* between 1311 and 1423.

¹¹ *C.P.R.*, 1307-13, p. 598; *C.P.R.*, 1313-17, p. 154; *C.P.R.*, 1413-16, p. 346; *C.P.R.*, 1416-22, p. 77.

¹² The family appears eleven times.

¹³ *C.P.R.*, 1361-64, p. 357; *C.P.R.*, 1367-70, p. 349; *C.P.R.*, 1370-74, p. 475; *C.P.R.*, 1374-77, p. 485; *C.P.R.*, 1377-81, p. 41; *C.P.R.*, 1385-89, p. 257.

¹⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1364-67, p. 440.

¹⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1413-16, p. 346; *C.P.R.*, 1416-22, pp. 77, 200; *C.P.R.*, 1422-29, p. 172.

¹⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1307-13, p. 530.

wapentakes.¹ But on the whole the evidence suggests that most Commissions lasted longer than a few months, and that Commissioners might expect their Commission to last several years. On 18 May 1318, a Commission was issued for the parts of Holland,² and the next Commission for Holland was dated 5 December 1320.³ Similarly, the Commission for Holland, dated 8 May 1352,⁴ was apparently not replaced until 28 June 1353,⁵ and that dated 1374⁶ (no month was noted on the Patent Roll) appears to have lasted until shortly before 4 March 1377.⁷ But the matter is complicated by descriptions of districts that are not always mutually exclusive. A better method of estimating the length of Commissions is by the use of associations of new Commissioners with those already acting. On 2 October 1321, Michael de Meldon and Roger Beler were associated in a Commission *de walliis et fossatis* for the sea coast of the counties of Cambridge, Norfolk, Lincoln and Northampton (*sic*) with Robert de Maddynge, John de Fitton, William de Ringeton, John de Hotof, Laurence de Holebech and John de Cantebridg;⁸ Robert de Maddynge and his fellows had been appointed Commissioners for this Bohemian sea coast on 25 April 1319.⁹ On 4 July 1324, Robert de Scorburch¹⁰ was associated in a Commission for the banks of Humber in the parts of Holderness with William de Ros of Hamelak, Robert le Constable, Robert de Hedon and John de Thwayt, who had been appointed on 12 November 1320.¹¹ On 15 July 1325, Adam de Brom was appointed in place of Robert de Bardelby,¹² to a Commission touching a breach of the bank of the Thames between Greenwich and Woolwich which had been set up on 26 September 1321.¹³ On 20 October 1366, Thomas de Ingelby and Roger de Fulthorp¹⁴ were associated in a Commission in the parts of Holderness with Thomas Tirelle, William de Estfeld, Thomas de Wythornwyk, and William de Hoton, who had been appointed on 26 April 1364.¹⁵ On 1 May 1403, Nicholas Hebden, William de Flete, John Littlebury and Thomas Welby¹⁶ were associated in a Commission for the parts of Holland with Thomas lord de la Warre, Philip le Despenser, John de Rocheford, William Spayne, John Meres, John Belle, Roger de Welby and John Launde who had been appointed on 12 February 1400.¹⁷ Obviously Commissions of three years and more were quite usual.

These hundreds of Commissions and thousands of Commissioners might be expected to have left a great bulk of records, but, despite the Webbs' remark that "the Public Record Office contains masses

¹ *C.P.R.*, 1307-13, p. 598.

² *Ibid.*, p. 549.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 510.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1374-77, p. 485.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1317-21, p. 363.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1317-21, p. 545.

⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1321-24, p. 56.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1361-64, p. 534.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1399-1401, p. 216.

² *C.P.R.*, 1317-21, p. 179.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1350-54, p. 279.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1370-74, p. 475.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1321-24, p. 58.

¹⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1321-24, p. 456.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1324-27, p. 224.

¹⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1364-67, p. 362.

¹⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1401-1405, p. 278.

of records relating to the proceedings of these Courts of Sewers in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries,"¹ comparatively few dated before 1427 can now be found. For Holland and Kesteven there are in Boston copies (made probably in the seventeenth or eighteenth century) of a few early verdicts.² In the Public Record Office there is a verdict among the Duchy of Lancaster records,³ and probably a few among that strange class known as Ancient Indictments.⁴ Dugdale reports three more early verdicts for Lincolnshire,⁵ and Wells another.⁶ In addition, a reflection of some of the activities of the Commissioners of Sewers can be found in the *Coram Rege* rolls, since some of the cases originally brought into the Courts of Sewers were later transferred by writs of *certiorari* to the central courts.⁷ But only a few fragments of what must have been a great series can now be traced, and the sparsity of material makes it difficult to study the details of the working of the Courts before 1427.

Early laws concerning rivers and river banks were enacted not with the object of drainage and the protection of land from flooding, but sometimes for the king's pleasure and often for the maintenance of waterways as highways. Although, for instance, the third re-issue and final revision of Magna Carta in 1225 stated that "no banks shall be defended from henceforth" except those that were kept up in the time of Henry II,⁸ it is probable that this law was concerned with the king's falconry.⁹ Magna Carta also ordered the putting down of kiddles.¹⁰ Pre-occupation with weirs, together with mills and stakes, persisted from this time onwards beyond the end of the reign of Elizabeth, but it was designed to leave the rivers open as highways, and not, as in the Acts concerning sewers, to promote the flow of fresh water from low-lying ground and to prevent flooding by the sea. In 1424, still with the object of maintaining

¹ *English local government: statutory authorities for special purposes*, p. 19. The Webbs apparently regarded all cases relating to dikes, banks, bridges and sewers in Ancient Indictments and other classes of record as coming from Courts of Sewers. But clearly they were mistaken.

² These include among others an inquisition of 22 Edward I made before Simon de Ellesworth, Robert de Stadeworth (Chaddesworth on the Patent Roll), and Roger de Copelydk (Boston, 505.1; see Dugdale, pp. 222-23); another of 9 Edward II made at Boston before Lambert de Threkyngham, Roger de Coppledike and Robert de Mabelthorpe (Boston, 505.2; see Dugdale, pp. 199-201 and 227-19); another of 18 Edward II made before William de Fairford and William de la Laund (Boston, 505.3); and a fourth of 4 Henry V (Boston, 505.4). I have failed to find the Black Book of Sewers which contained copies of sewers records.

³ D.L. 41.8. Inquisition of 12 Edward II made at Boston before Roger de Cubbeldyk, Simon le Chaumberleyn and Walter de Friskenaye.

⁴ It seems possible that some Ancient Indictments recording cases about drainage that begin "Iurati . . . presentant" and that have no indication of having been heard either *coram rege* or before the sheriff may have come from Courts of Sewers. See C. Flower: *Public works in mediaeval law*, 1, pp. 246, 260, 270, 271, 273, 275, 287, 292. But the question awaits more work on the nature of Ancient Indictments.

⁵ Dugdale, pp. 224-27, 230, 233.

⁶ S. Wells: *A collection of laws, etc.*, pp. 1-7.

⁷ Dugdale, pp. 157-58.

⁸ 9 Hen. III, c. 16.

⁹ W. S. McKechnie: *Magna Carta*, p. 508.

¹⁰ *Magna Carta*, c. 33; 9 Hen. III, c. 23.

navigation, an Act ordered that Commissions might be awarded for the reformation of the River Lea from Ware to the Thames ;¹ five years later this river was still in need of protection by statute, and by an Act of that year the Chancellor of England might retain persons to scour and amend it.²

III. THE ACTS

The first Act of Sewers was passed in 1427 (1, 2).³ This provided for the setting up of *ad hoc* Commissions by the Chancellor of England where necessary during the following ten years. The form of the Commission was given. The Commissioners were to survey the walls, ditches, gutters, sewers, bridges, causeys, weirs and trenches, and to enquire by the oath of knights and of other "good and lawful men" of the county who were to blame for the damage, this jury being called by the sheriff. They were to distrain the owners and tenants according to their holdings, to repair the sewers and other works, to employ labourers to this end, and to appoint collectors of the rate levied. They were to make statutes and ordinances according to the laws and customs of Romney Marsh, to hear cases according to the laws and customs of England and the custom of Romney Marsh, and to punish owners and tenants who neglected to repair the portions assigned to them. In brief, the Commissioners were to survey, enquire, distrain, repair, employ and appoint, make statutes, hear and determine, and punish. This Act appears to have done little more than give a statutory confirmation to what was already being done ; and, though it was elaborated and superseded by the Bill of Sewers of 23 Henry VIII c. 5, it nevertheless contained the essentials of the law of sewers as it lasted until 1930.

Two years later it was recited with one additional clause. Though Commissioners had already been empowered to make ordinances, there was no arrangement for them to execute them ; this omission was put right in the second Act of Sewers.⁴ These Acts were renewed again in 1439⁵ and in 1444,⁶ the only alteration being that the 1444 confirmation was to last fifteen years instead of ten. By the time they were next due for confirmation the country was engaged in civil war, and the Acts lapsed. In 1461 the first Parliament of Edward IV, concerned chiefly with the statement of the king's title and the attainder of the Lancastrians, confirmed the Commissions of the previous reign. "Every commission made, granted and directed by the . . . late pretended kings . . . for sewers being assigned to survey and to cause to be repaired and amended, walls, marshes, ditches, gutters, causeys and bridges, and other

¹ 3 Hen. VI, c. 5.

² 6 Hen. VI, c. 5.

⁵ 18 Hen. VI, c. 10.

³ 9 Hen. VI, c. 9.

⁴ 8 Hen. VI, c. 3.

⁶ 23 Hen. VI, c. 9.

defaults in any marsh and marshes, in any part of this realm . . . and all processes, determinations, executions, incidents, adminicles, and other circumstances pertaining to the same commissions . . . not void, repealed, adnulled, shall be of like force, virtue and strength, as if the same commissions . . . were made and granted by any king lawfully reigning in this realm, and obtaining the crown of the same by just title."¹ In fact, Commissions in existence were legalised, but the Acts of Sewers were not confirmed. Yet it is noteworthy that two successive Chancellors continued to appoint Commissioners. Two Commissions were set up in 1461,² and thirty between 1462 and July 1472 inclusive.³ Government continued, though the statutory authority had lapsed.

It was not until 1472 that the Acts of Sewers were recited again and extended for the following fifteen years.⁴ In January 1489 they were again renewed,⁵ this time for twenty-five years, and their application was widened beyond "all parts of this realm" to "the marches of Calais, Guien, and Hammes." In February 1515 they were renewed again,⁶ this time only for ten years and to the Parliament next after the end of this term. The new Act added that each Commissioner should possess freehold lands and tenements to the yearly value of £20 or else be a justice of the quorum; Commissions which included a Commissioner who neither had the necessary property qualification nor was a justice were to be null and void. Then followed failure to renew the Acts of Sewers. They were due for renewal at the next Parliament to sit after the spring of 1525. This met in London on 3 November 1529, and after adjournment was continued in Westminster from 17 December of that year until 27 April 1530. But during its four months session the Acts of Sewers were forgotten. Nor were the Members of the next Parliament, which sat in 1530 and 1531, more mindful of them, and they were not renewed until 1532. But though they had lapsed, the Chancellor's department continued to appoint Commissioners. Thus a Commission of Sewers was set up for Middlesex on 11 February 1529,⁷ two for the district between Upton Bridge, Worcestershire, and Newnham, Gloucestershire, on 11 February 1530, and 12 May 1530,⁸ and one for Sussex on 9 November 1530.⁹

It was no mere recital and renewal that followed in 1532, for "the Bill of Sewers with a new proviso" (3-19)¹⁰ was a restatement and elaboration of the whole law of sewers. It gave in detail the form of the Commission of sewers to be issued by the lord Chancellor, Lord Treasurer and the two chief justices, and the oath to be sworn by each Commissioner. Each Commission was to last for three years,

¹ 1 Edward IV, c. 1.

² *C.P.R.*, 1461-67, p. 35.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 35, 205, 280, 349, 451, 528; *C.P.R.*, 1467-77, pp. 28, 101, 169-70, 251, 252, 354.

⁴ 12 Edward IV, c. 6.

⁵ 4 Hen. VII, c. 1.

⁶ 6 Hen. VIII, c. 10.

⁷ *L. and P.*, 4, p. 2349.

⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 2809, 2882.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 3050.

¹⁰ 23 Hen. VIII, c. 5.

and its ordinances were to last no longer than the Commission unless they had been certified under the seals of the Commissioners in the Court of Chancery and had received the king's consent. Special arrangements were made for the principality of Wales and for the county palatinates, and the writ of Commission for them was to be sent out in duplicate, one under the great seal of England and the other under the seal of the principality or palatinate. The Act itself was to endure for twenty years. Any discussion of the work of the Commissions during the second half of the sixteenth century is a commentary on the Bill of Sewers, and, though minor details were altered or added in the years that followed, the Bill remained the basis of the law of sewers until Commissions of Sewers, together with many Drainage Boards, were swept away in 1930.¹

Other sixteenth century Acts of Sewers were brief. By an Act of 1534² the Bill was extended to Calais, no one was to be compelled to be a Commissioner except for his own county, and those refusing to be Commissioners were each to be fined five marks for contempt. In 1549-50 by another Act³ taxes levied by Commissioners of Sewers could be collected by distress, Commissions were each to last for five years, and the Bill of Sewers was to last for ever. A final Elizabethan Act of Sewers⁴ in 1571 stated that each Commission was to last for ten years, that no one was eligible to be a Commissioner unless he had lands to the annual value of £40, and that the clerks to the Courts of Sewers were to pay all fines and amercements into the Exchequer.

IV. THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

From 1532 the Commissioners of Sewers were named by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Treasurer and the two chief justices, or by three of them the Lord Chancellor being one. The form of the Commission was given in the Bill of Sewers (4-5), and the Commissions, like the earlier Commissions *de walliis et fossatis*, were up to 1573 enrolled on the back of the Patent Rolls. After 1573 enrolments of such records on Patent Rolls cease, and new Commissions made during the next twenty years do not appear to have been recorded centrally. In the nineties was begun the practice of noting Commissions of Sewers briefly, without the names of the Commissioners, in the Crown Office Docquet Books, the first for Lincolnshire being dated 1595-96. The life of a Commission was gradually lengthened. In 1532 it was decreed that each Commission should last three years. In 1549-50 this period was extended to five years, and in 1571 it was further extended to ten years.

Information concerning the Commissions of Sewers for Lincolnshire, their expected length of life, and the Courts that are known to

¹ 20 and 21 Geo. V., c. 44.

² 25 Hen. VIII, c. 10.

³ 3 and 4 Edw. VI, c. 8.

⁴ 13 Eliz., c. 9.

have sat in south Lincolnshire, together with the number of Commissioners who were in Court at each meeting, has been tabulated in Appendix I. It is clear that, unless there was a Commission dated between 1560 and 1562 which was never enrolled—and this is not impossible—the Commissioners who sat at Skirbeck in September 1562 (115), and those who sat at Spalding in June 1563 (123), sat on the authority of a lapsed writ. The fact that, except for William Wesnam, mayor of Boston, all the 1562 Commissioners appeared on the 1555 Commission (23, 24) suggests that there had been no new Commission.

The number of Commissioners appointed to a Commission varied, being apparently roughly controlled by the size of the area for which they were named. It seems that the Commissioners in any Commission which covered more than a small compact area split up into groups, and that each group worked in its home district. Thus the Irbys of Gosberton, Whaplode and Moulton, the Ogles of Pinchbeck and the Welbys of Moulton and Gedney sat in Holland; while the Ayscoughs of Stallingborough and South Kelsey, the Quadrings of Irby, Thomas Massingberd of the Burgh, Bratoft and Gunby family of that surname, and Hammond Upton of Northolme by Wainfleet worked in Lindsey.¹ Six Commissioners formed a quorum, and the quorum had to include (so the Acts stated) at least three from a select list. The Court of Sewers for Surrey and Kent not infrequently adjourned for lack of a quorum,² and in 1569 it adjourned "for lacke of Comysyioners" at four consecutive meetings between 25 May and 5 September.³ No evidence of adjournment for such a reason has been found in Lincolnshire, where the number of Commissioners sitting at one time varied from two (legally an impossible number) to twenty. Each Commissioner received four shillings for each day he gave to sewers business (12). The Commission was one of oyer and terminer,⁴ and the Court was a court of record.⁵ The Bill ordered that all returns and proceedings were to be in English. The Court of the Kent and Surrey Commission met in the Court House at Southwark at 8.0 in the morning, or between 8.0 and 9.0 a.m.⁶ In south Lincolnshire the Court is known to have met in a variety of towns, though time and exact place are not recorded. Possibly it sometimes sat in the local inn. At Wisbech in the eighteenth century the Court met at the Rose and Crown.⁷

¹ P.R.O., E 137.143.6. The records of the Alford and Louth Courts of Sewers in the Lincoln Record Office may be expected to show more evidence that the Commissioners worked locally.

² *Surrey and Kent*, 1, pp. 53, 93, 96, 97, 118, 165, 273, 279, 310, 318.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 38-9.

⁴ A. Fitzherbert: *The new natura brevium*, 1666, pp. 263-67.

⁵ Callis, p. 166.

⁶ *Surrey and Kent*, 1, p. 2 *passim*.

⁷ Wisbech Museum Muniment Room, Court of Sewers minute book, 1766-86; Book of Verdicts, 1767-74.

Commissioners were to be "substantial and indifferent persons." Each was to have lands and tenements to the yearly value of 40 marks, or to be a freeman of a city or borough and have "moveable substaunce" to the value of £100, or else be "lernerd in the lawes of this realme . . . that is to saye admitted in one of the foure principall Innes of Courte for an utter Barrester." The property qualification was later raised, and each Commissioner was to have lands to the annual value of £40.¹ In 1564² and 1570³ the mayor of Boston, the aldermen of Stamford, the mayor of Grimsby and the aldermen of Grantham were named Commissioners *ex officio*. No one could be compelled to become a Commissioner except for the county in which he lived, but those refusing appointment for their own county were fined five marks for contempt.⁴ Before the Commissioners sat, each had to take an oath; he promised to act "truly and indifferently" "without any favour, corruption, dread or malice" (6). If a Commissioner took office without taking the oath, or without being otherwise qualified, he should forfeit £40 every time he sat, half going to the king and half to his accuser, and the Commission on which he sat was to be null and void (11). Callis was of the opinion that "although in discretion women have been secluded as unfit, yet they are not in law to be excluded as incapable."⁵ He also stated that since the Lord Chancellor and his fellows, "these great persons of Honor," were much occupied, they often referred appointments to others, "whereof divers persons in some Countreys have of late years crept into the Commission, which this Statute doth not allow of, which do not onely want knowledge and experience but which are also transported and carried away with selfwill."⁶ This was in 1622. Callis was a Commissioner, and must have had evidence for this statement.

But perhaps he was right when he said that these abuses had crept in only "of late years," for the Commissioners of Sewers named in the south Lincolnshire records of the sixteenth century seem to have been fully qualified. A few, but far from all of them, had matriculated at Cambridge, and a few of these then went on to the Inns of Court. They held land in the county; often their fathers and grandfathers had held it before them, and sometimes family continuity was so close that it is now difficult to separate the lives and deeds of the father from those of the son. They were men of substance, regarded as reliable by the central government, and they served as Members of Parliament, as Justices of the Peace and as Commissioners to enquire into church goods and to collect taxes, as well as Commissioners of Sewers. They intermarried, and must have known each other well. As has been said of Justices of the Peace of this century, their strength lay in their possession of local

¹ 13 Elizabeth, c. 9.

² P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

³ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073 mem. 20d.

⁴ 25 Hen. VIII, c. 10.

⁵ Callis, p. 253.

⁶ Callis, p. 225.

knowledge, local respect and local property. A brief account of those who listened to the verdicts and made the laws printed in these volumes is given in Appendix II.¹

The first duty of the Commissioners noted in the Act of 1532 was to survey the walls, streams, ditches, banks, gutters, sewers, bridges, mills and weirs in their area, and to have each repaired or destroyed as occasion demanded. Eight Commissioners surveyed Skirbeck Gote in 1577, and authorised the dikereeves to levy a rate for its repair (575). Sometimes the jury reported that certain public works or places needed to be surveyed by the Commissioners—a bridge, the site where a sluice was wanted (433), a drain and goot (699), joyce banks and other banks (701). Sometimes a paragraph in the verdict was marked “ad visum” (585, 586, 699), “ad special’ visum” (586), or “refertur ad visum” (699). Once two Commissioners were named “to make vue & to sertefie at the next sessions of the sewers” (600). At another time the verdict recorded “Commissioners to vewe all the parisshes for the helpe and releaffe . . . of Sutton cum membris” (586), and “all these places to be vewed . . . by the Commissioneres subscribing thes presentes” (587). There is evidence that the survey was sometimes made by the jury, and this is not surprising, since the jury of the Court of Sewers was a fact-finding one. The Court ordered them to view,² and they were fined for not meeting at the appointed place and time for the survey.³ An awkward situation arose in Surrey in 1571, when one William Gardener and “his foelwes Jurors” were reprovved for “greate Negligenc,” and William Gardener avowed that the others would not survey with him, while his fellows declared “they coulde never gitt him to goe with them”.⁴ In the following century jurymen were instructed to survey all things concerning either navigation or draining or common land-passage.⁵

Having made their survey, the Commissioners sat in Court. The indispensable official there was the clerk. By statute he was appointed by the Commissioners, and he received two shillings a day (12). In 1572 the Court for Surrey and Kent allowed its clerk “in consideracone of his attandaunce & travelle herein to be taken iiij li. per annum”,⁶ but whether this payment represented a working year of forty days or was in addition to the normal two shillings a day is uncertain. The clerk acted as general secretary, kept the “laws” for use by the Commissioners and was responsible for

¹ It may be noted that William Lambard the historian (1536-1601) was a Commissioner of Sewers for the Medway area (W. Lambard: “Ephemeris,” in *Huntington Library Quarterly*, 15, 1951-52, p. 133); and that Sir Nicholas Bacon of Stiffkey sat as a Commissioner for Terrington in Norfolk in the early years of the seventeenth century (*Camden Third Series*, 26, 1915, pp. 102-23).

² *Surrey and Kent*, 1, pp. 96-97.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 220, 237.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 96-97.

⁵ R. Bissle: *Instructions for jury-men on the Commission of Sewers*, 1664, p. 3.

⁶ *Surrey and Kent*, 1, p. 147.

delivering to the Exchequer all the fines collected in Court, on penalty of £5 for each default.¹

We cannot name all the clerks of the Courts of Sewers which produced these records. The records themselves are written in different hands, but the clerk must have employed under-clerks, so change of hand does not necessarily mean change of clerk. The first clerk whose name we know was John Burton. He was probably in office in 1552, when Richard Ogle wrote to Cecil from Pinchbeck about the good work of the Commission of Sewers under Burton's direction,² and in 1566, when he wrote to Cecil about the proceedings relating to sewers in south Lincolnshire.³ It is hoped that the John Burton who was said to be diverting water out of the river of Surfleet in 1570 (247) was a namesake and not the clerk. He was certainly clerk in September 1571 (502), and in June 1574 when he signed a "law" of sewers made at Helpringham (506). By 1582 Richard Coventry, under-sheriff of Lincolnshire, was clerk for the Courts of Sewers in the parts of Holland and Kesteven.⁴ Some of his copies of important sewers records are still extant (533). He died in 1586. Perhaps he had been ill for some time before his death; certainly John Jackson, servant of the earl of Lincoln, had been acting as deputy clerk in Coventry's absence. Jackson wanted to succeed Coventry as clerk, and he brought the Commissioners a letter from his employer recommending him as very fit for the appointment (755). Thereupon Robert Carr and other Commissioners dispatched him to lord Burleigh, the Treasurer, with a letter expressing their "good liking of . . . the bearer . . . as a meete man to succeed" as clerk, and lord Burleigh agreed with the Commissioners' choice, "the rather for his experience sake whereby he shall be the better able to discharge the place" (756). In 1588 we find a letter addressed to Mr. Jackson, clerk of Sewers (758), and by June of the following year he was clerk of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton and Cambridge (769). We have glimpses first of Jackson going to Spalding "about her Majesty's speciall service," helped on his way by a letter addressed by Christopher Hatton, the Chancellor, and lord Burleigh to all the mayors, sheriffs, Justices of the Peace and constables (761), and next of Edmond Hall, Commissioner, demanding the immediate return by Jackson of a book of "laws" made at Stamford which had been lent to Coventry (762). In 1589 he was receiving orders from a group of Commissioners (767), and letters from Edmond Hall, who wanted particulars of "laws" about Deeping Fen and the rate which was to be charged for its diking (768), thought the rate levied unfair and "not indifferent" (769), and found the notice of meeting too short (770). He put his surname to the "Laws" dated 1591, 1594,

¹ 13 Eliz., c. 9.

² *C.S.P.D.*, 1547-1580, p. 46.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 272.

⁴ *Hist. MSS Comm., Cecil*, 2, p. 530.

1596, 1597 and 1599.¹ He was replaced by Robert Jackson in 1607² though he was still alive in 1608.³

The Commissioners sitting in court heard presentments, commonly called verdicts, made by a jury. These jurymen appeared in the 1532 Bill of Sewers as "suche and as many honest men . . . by whome the trouthe may beste be knowen," and they had been described in the Sewers Act of 1427 in almost the same words, as "so many and such good and lawful Men . . . by whom the Truth of the Matter . . . may best be known and inquired." Obviously they were descended from the jurymen of the petty assize "qui melius sciunt et velint veritatem dicere." They were summoned by the sheriff. In the south Lincolnshire records the names of all the jurymen were, with few exceptions (585, 697), never set out, and the wording is usually in the form "Verdict . . . by the oaths of X and his fellows." Callis stated that "the presentments at a Court of Sewers must be by the oaths of twelve men."⁴ This statement does not necessarily preclude a jury of more than twelve, and it seems probable that the jury were usually more than twelve and sometimes numbered as many as forty-eight. Indeed, considering that both the Commissions and the Acts of Sewers constantly looked back to the laws of Romney Marsh, a jury of twenty-four in imitation of the twenty-four jurats of the Marsh would be natural. Juries of twenty-four made presentments in Courts of Sewers at Boston in 1316,⁵ and at an unnamed place in 1584 (697). Courts of Sewers sat at Boston in 1318⁶ and at Fleet in 1395⁷ with juries of only twelve, another at Wisbech in 1438 with a jury of eighteen,⁸ another at Ingoldmells in the reign of Henry VIII with a jury of forty-three,⁹ another (probably in the Isle of Ely) in 1529 with a jury of sixteen,¹⁰ and yet another at Stamford in the reign of Edward VI with a jury of twenty-six (49). One of possibly fourteen—the text is imperfect—gave a verdict at Spalding in the reign of Elizabeth (585), and another of forty-eight sat at Spalding and Whaplode in July 1588.¹¹ The jurymen appearing in the Courts of Sewers for Surrey and Kent between 1569 and 1579 were listed, and their numbers ranged from twelve to twenty-four and more, but here one, two, three or four juries (for east and west Surrey, for Kent, and for Southwark) sat simultaneously.

In Lincolnshire two different sets of presentments often exist, made for the same neighbourhood in the same year, one a dikereeves' verdict and the other a *preter illos* verdict (225 and 308 ; 348, 355

¹ Lincoln 485.

² Lincoln 460, V, 1.

³ Lincoln 460, IV. George Thewe sat as clerk in a Lindsey Court of Sewers held at Alford on 1 October 1593, and his name appears at the end of a list of estreats. (P.R.O., E.137.143.6.4). He held office until at least 1623.

⁴ Callis, p. 110.

⁵ Boston, 505, II.

⁶ P.R.O., D.L.41.8.1.

⁷ S. Wells: *A collection of the laws, etc.*, pp. 1, 3.

⁸ H. C. Darby: *The medieval fenland*, p. 177.

⁹ P.R.O., D.L.41.8.8.

¹⁰ S. Wells: *A collection of the laws, etc.*, pp. 8-17.

¹¹ "Law" dated 14 July 1588. Lincoln 485.

and 357 ; 642 and 659 ; 694, 695 and 709), and the only conclusion possible is that two different teams of fact-finders reported to the Commissioners. It seems reasonable that the Commissioners should want to hear both the official view as presented by the dikereeves and the view of the tenants themselves as presented by the *preter illos* men. It is noteworthy that the conclusions were always similar. No evidence of the size of the dikereeves' and *preter illos* juries has been found, but it is difficult to believe that, where two juries inquired into and presented the same faults, both were always large. On at least three occasions a joint verdict was presented, at Skirbeck in 1555 (100-111), at Boston in 1568 (178-184),¹ and at Spalding in October 1594.² In each case two jurymen were named ; presumably each was the foreman of a separate jury. This foreman was often described as "gentleman" or "yoman." In parenthesis it may be added that in course of time the *preter illos* jury was corrupted to "Peter Ellis men," as recorded at Wyberton in May 1575 (384). Jurymen who failed to appear in Court were fined.³ One case is known (outside Lincolnshire) of discharge from jury service ; in Surrey in 1571 Edmond Sculles was discharged, "allegding to the Courte for his excuse the greate attendaunce that he is faine to use to his pacientes by professing the arte of Surgery for the curinge of the fistula."⁴

According to Callis the jury reported among other things "what person or persons did erect and set up any let or impediments" in waterways, "if any Wall, Bank, River, Sewer or other defence be defective by neglect or sufferance of such as should repair the same," and "what person or persons ought to be bound by Custome ;⁵ and Bissle's *Instructions for jury-men on the Commissions of Sewers*, published in 1664, set out their duties, showing "what to enquire and present [and] how." Their report was entered in a book of presentments or a "copyboke of all the defaltes" (432), or "sett downe in a roll ready to exhebit to the Commissioners" (700). Rarely were they able to say "All in good repare" or "Omnia bene" or "We present nichell' ad hanc curiam" (183, 187, 192, 683, 688, 689, 696, 704) ; and the verdicts were long and occasionally querulous. Sometimes the jury were not agreed (446, 615).

All three classes of presentments distinguished by Callis appear in great numbers in the Lincolnshire sewers records. Impediments in waterways were various and included mills (75), weirs, dams, piles of wood and stakes (26, 80, 151, 247, 375, 626), leaps and nets (207, 625), and weeds (326, 462). Sewers were often "in ruyn and dekeye" for lack of roding, scouring and cleansing. Banks and dikes were

¹ Sometimes the heading reads "Dikereeves' verdict" and the endorsement "*Preter illos*." See 115, 116.

² Lincoln 485.

³ Callis, p. 175 ; *Surrey and Kent*, 1, pp. 40, 43, 53, 62, 116, 136, 138, 219, 220-21, 233, 233-34, 244.

⁴ *Surrey and Kent*, 1, p. 89.

⁵ Callis, pp. 108-9.

defective for lack of height and breadth "so that at evre sorgch of waters Weland brekyth overe" (208). Dikes were ruinous because of the destruction caused by sheep and horses feeding on them (104), or by the "freattage of all manner of cattaile" (487). Hammond Beck was reported "to narowe & to shelo" (204); and "one Steven Clarke of Boston dyd cutt one gutter" in its bank (66). Highways were in need of "exalting" "both for passadge and also . . . to kepe the water in" (222), and the ruin of a common way prevented the king's subjects from going to church and other places (81). A sea gote was lacking both a "lande dore & also . . . a floode dore" (84), and elsewhere a gote door was "not sufficiently hinged wherby the salt water runeth in" (27). Causes of decay included the pulling of boats over the banks (128, 483, 486), the drawing of carts along the banks in winter (270), and the making of "caves, dennes, lodgynges [and] holes" in the banks (247). "Persons bound by Custome" to repair banks were named, with the length for which each was responsible. More will be said on this subject when assessment is discussed, and here it need only be noted that the jurors made their presentments without fear or favour, recording as defaulters the queen (who held much land which had formerly belonged to the monasteries), earls, Oxford and Cambridge colleges, and the Commissioners themselves, as well as a host of lesser landowners.

Having made their survey and listened in Court to the jury's presentments, the Commissioners still had a long task before them. In brief, the Bill bid them tax according to the value of the lands of those to be taxed, to repair and amend works, to appoint officers, to deal with accounts, to distrain for arrears of tax and otherwise punish, to commandeer and pay for carts and labour and materials, to make statutes after the laws of Romney Marsh, to direct writs to the sheriffs and other officers, and "fynally to do all and every thing and thynges as shalbe requisite . . . by all waies and meanes after" their "discrecions."

The Bill laid down that taxes should be levied on landholders according to the "quantite of their landes, tenementes and rentes by the nombre of Acres and perches after the rate of every persons porcion tenure or profite, or after the quantitie of ther common pasture or profite of fyshing or other Comodities there," or by any other way thought convenient by the Commissioners. The instructions were not simple, and in practice assessment was very complicated and, at least to the twentieth century reader, often inconsistent. Appeal was constantly made to custom—"as yt haythe hertofoyr beyne accustomed, tyme without mynd of mane" (137)—and to those records of what was customary, acre books and joyce books.¹ Obligation to mend and obligation to pay were obviously regarded as part of the same system, and indeed could not

¹ Other names for such rate books were common book (213), seadike book (104, and for an example 88-92), graft book (104) and hamstall book (249).

be distinguished if obligation to repair could be commuted for a money payment.

Banks, bridges and sewers were maintained by various means, by menwork or menwork,¹ by acre silver, by joycement, by frontage, according to the value of fishing rights, by house roods and hamstalls, and by dozenage. The term "menwork" is the Anglo-Saxon "gemaene weorc" or work shared in common, and the survival of this Anglo-Saxon word is proof of the antiquity of the system which it describes. It was direct labour. The ideal must have been the willing co-operation of the whole male population for the common good. Certainly the better off were expected to bring their horses and carts, while the poorer came with spades and barrows (270).² Menwork was not unusual, but it was unpopular and probably inefficient. Two days a year was customary. The inhabitants of Surfleet did two menwork days a year (in October and November) to keep the outfall of Bourne Eye clear of sand and silt (205, 328). In 1570 it was reported that the jury "thinke yt necessarye that there be ij substancyall menworkes everye yeare bestowed by the comonaltye in Pynchbecke upon the . . . sea bankes . . . upon lyke payne & in lyke manner & forme as by the statute for reparacion of highe wayes is prescrybed & lymyted" (249). Lutton dams were to be repaired by the Queen and her tenants and by the inhabitants of Gedney who were to give two menwork days a year; any further repairs necessary were to be paid for by acre silver assessed on the whole town (476). But only one menwork day a year was to be spent on maintaining Willowdike (270). Co-operation was not always noticeably willing. On one occasion the jury said that many common ways "which are to be repaired by mens worckes of the holle inhabitauntes and conciderynge how unwillinge the most are (beynge called by the dygraves) to performe the same . . . the same comon wayes . . . are decayed, ther fore it is necessarye that all our comon worckes which are to be fynyshed by the dygraves shalbe maid so with worckmen to be hyred by the dygraves gevyng them statute wages" (483). At another time the jury reported that rich men sent boys "or other insufficient persons" to do their menwork, while poor men bore the brunt of the labour (258, 282); the jury asked that the officers in charge might send back these insufficient persons and punish offenders. Those who refused to do their menwork were each fined one shilling (270) or sixteen pence (516), or if they possessed carts three shillings and fourpence (270, 516).³ By custom Algarkirk and Fosdike did twice as much menwork as

¹ "Comonage" is equated with "comon menwork" (628, 629). The terms "comon days" and "by comonialtie" were also used.

² In 1323-24 at Spalding every man with a messuage and ten acres had to find a "tumbrel" towards menwork, and every man with less land one able man at least eighteen years of age. (Dugdale, p. 232).

³ At Spalding in 1323-24 the fine was fourpence a day for every missing tumbrel, and two pence for every defaulting man. (Dugdale, p. 232).

Sutterton, that is, Algarkirk and Fosdike were responsible for "two pens or two rodes or els two spaydes & Sutterton one penye or j rode or els one spayd" (147, 202, 402, 648).

Assessment by acreage, or acre silver, "every man according to the number of acars & cotagis" (356),¹ was the method of taxation used for newly drained fen (140) and for districts which had "no sufficient booke to mesure by" (189). The amount of acre silver varied. In Long Sutton in 1553 freehold land paid one penny an acre and copyhold land one half-penny for the repair of local bridges, sewers and banks.² In Moulton in 1563-64 fen grounds were being charged one penny an acre when high grounds were paying twopence; the jury wanted fen and high ground rated equally in future (139).³ In Kent and Surrey in 1569 the rate was 3s. 4d.⁴ On one occasion acre silver was expressly charged against the tenants and not against the owners (341). A peculiar custom prevailed in Algarkirk and Fosdike. There every acre of land had to maintain one foot of the worst dike and either five and a half or seven feet of the best dike (85, 88).⁵ This custom lasted until the beginning of the nineteenth century, when, by a "law" of sewers made at a general Court of Sewers held in Boston Gild Hall in May 1818,⁶ it was abolished in favour of an equal rate or acre tax.

Upkeep of banks by joycement was prescribed by custom and was dependent upon joyce books which gave the names of those responsible and the distance, measured from a named spot, for which each landholder was responsible (65). The beginning and end of every man's stretch of bank was marked with stakes or "stowlpes" (249, 269, 388, 497, 597). The names in the joyce books include not only individuals but also institutions (such as the gilds of St. Peter of Boston (65), St. George (65), Corpus Christi (65) and Our Lady (65), the town of Boston (116, 184, 185), and various chantries (89, 92, 125, 142, 154, 180, 183, 187, 261, 277, 284, 336), and office holders (such as the prior of Stixwold (65), the abbot of Kirkstead (184, 185), and the prior of Sempringham (185)). The jury often complained that no perfect and up-to-date joyce and acre books existed (249, 256, 266, 312, 581, 626, 638, 660, 683, 701, 706, 707). Once they said that the joyce book was "old and the names thereof owte of remembras and partely not trewe in some poyntes" (75); and another time, after presenting a seadyke as being in need of repair, they added "butt who ought to make the same we cane nott

¹ For an example, see Lutton in Sutton acre book, 749-753.

² Commission of Sewers (kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton St. Mary) dated 6 March 1553.

³ In 1323-24 every acre in Pinchbeck and Spalding was to be assessed equally (Dugdale, p. 233).

⁴ *Surrey and Kent*, 1, pp. 25, 27.

⁵ The statement reads "the beste dyke . . . to make for everye acre (fyve foote and halfe) vij foote," but the acre book calculates 5½ feet for each acre. The "law" of 1818 gives seven feet of best bank to the acre.

⁶ A copy of the "law" of 1818 is among the parish records of Algarkirk. I am indebted to Archdeacon Healey, the rector, for drawing my attention to it.

tell for lake of a joce booke ” (398). On yet another occasion, they petitioned that perfect books be made (570). Once they asked for “ a newe joysemente ” (266).

Some banks and drains were kept up by the frontagers, the tenants or owners described as “ buters and bonderes ” (397) whose land fronted on the banks. It was thought natural that every man should repair the smaller drains which ran beside or through his land, and frontagers were almost always responsible for petty drains (208, 474)¹ and usually for headings (345).

Menwork, acre silver, joycement and frontage were common methods of maintaining banks and sewers, but other methods were used which were less common. It was said that “ great profit ariseth of the fish & fowle ” (594), and some dikes, lakes and petty drains were scoured by those with fishing rights in them (324, 416). Others were kept up by house roods and hamstalls (201, 214, 215, 248, 409, 423, 494, 587, 651, 697); this was presumably a rate on houses, and it certainly appears in towns, particularly in Pinchbeck and Kirton. In Pinchbeck again, Reedy Graft (250, 355, 380, 419, 428, 576) and Burtfen Graft (428) were diked by dozenage or the tithing, and dozenage was the method used by Moulton for the repair of twenty roods of Spalding seabank (577). Towns were responsible for the upkeep of some banks, though whether this was by menwork or by rating is not always clear. Certainly Bicker and Donington (410) and Great Hale (708) bore such a responsibility. At Gosberton the town was rated, and inhabitants and “ foreigners ” all had to pay.² The users of banks, particularly those who drove sheep or cattle along them, were expected to repair or to provide bridges to prevent undue wear by traffic (358, 472). Sometimes assessment was mixed. For instance, different stretches of a single bank were repaired by menwork and by acre silver (402); a sewer was diked by dozenage and roded by menwork (355); a drain was diked sometimes by commonage and sometimes by acreage (693); another drain was diked by acre silver and roded by menwork (327); another bank was kept up partly by frontage, partly by “ comen workes ” and partly by “ all the landes that shall take benefitt ” (485); yet another by joysement, frontage and acre silver (472); and a dike was roded by house rodes and acre silver (201).

By the 1532 Act the Commissioners were required “ to depute and assigne diligent feithfull and trewe keepers bailiffes surveyors collectours expenditours and other mynisters and officers,” yet the most indispensable officer, the dikereeve, was not always appointed by the Commissioners. This official has a long and somewhat confusing history, and it could be wished that the bulk of the evidence were greater, so that it were easier to distinguish the normal from the

¹ The evidence in the verdicts is common, and the references are not meant to be exhaustive.

² *Hist. MSS Com. Ancaster*, p. 13.

exceptional. He first appears in the records as a manorial officer. The manorial court of Ingoldmells appointed a dikereeve in 1443,¹ and the rolls of the same court named two "guardians of the dikes called Dykegraves" in 1568-69.² The manorial courts of Gedney Abbott and Gedney Pawlett were naming dikereeves (together with constables, aletasters, swineringers and other officials) in the later years of the seventeenth century;³ and the manorial court of East and West Deeping was electing dikereeves and similar officials for West Deeping and Deeping St. James in 1737.⁴ Yet since dikes without dikereeves are almost inconceivable, it seems probable that the dikereeve was originally a village or parish official. Certainly by the latter half of the sixteenth century he was a parochial officer in some places, fellow of the churchwarden, the constable, the surveyor of the highways and the overseer of the poor. The evidence of the parish book of Market Deeping strengthens this probability, for it contains churchwardens' accounts for 1570 to 1642 and town bailiffs' accounts for 1590 to 1647 as well as dikereeves' accounts for 1571 to 1585.⁵ An isolated entry in the account books of the churchwardens of Yatton in Somerset for 1538-39 must be quoted in full, if only because the story (to which no parallel was yet been found) while admitting of varying interpretations seems to link the dikereeves with the churchwardens.

"Thys yere the sylver crosse of owr church was sold by Master Kenne and xx of the honest of the parych of Yatton, and by there lyke assent the money of the sayd crosse was bestowyd by the hands of Wyllyam Cradock and Wyllyam Croke upon the makynge of a sirten sklusse or yere agenste the rage of the salte water, callyd Danys yere, set and beyng yn West Wemerham, the wych yere then beyng ruynus and yn deokay, and the seyde peryssheonars beyng charygd with the makynge thereof by the commysyonars sewards upon the paye of £x to be made by the seyde perysshonars by a day serteyne, by the same commyssonars pefyryyd as yn the commysyonars boks or decrees more playnly may apere."⁶

Presumably either the parish had no dikereeves and the charge of the Commissioners of Sewers that the Parishioners should repair the weir was therefore dealt with by the vestry, or else William

¹ W. O. Massingberd : *Court rolls of the manor of Ingoldmells*, p. 279.

² *Ibid.*, p. 293.

³ Wisbech Museum Muniment Room, court books of Gedney Abbott and Gedney Pawlett.

⁴ Boston, East and West Deeping court books.

⁵ It also contains a list of subscriptions towards the repair of St. Paul's cathedral, 1632, and a note of books and other articles belonging to the church of Market Deeping. It was rebound in 1878, but the paper on which the accounts are written is all of the same kind and there seems no reason for supposing that the various accounts have not been kept together since they were first written.

⁶ *Churchwardens' accounts of Croscombe, Pilton, Yatton, Tintinhull, Morebath and St. Michael's, Bath*, ed. E. Hobhouse (Somerset Record Society, 4), 1890, p. 160.

Cradock and William Croke who had the weir repaired were the dike-reeves and, lacking account books of their own, they entered details in the churchwardens' books. (They were not the churchwardens, who are named at the head of the paragraph before this entry). Whatever the exact meaning of the story, it at least suggests a connection between the parish and the dikereeves. There is little doubt that in south Lincolnshire in the sixteenth century dikereeves were often elected (639, 688, 689, 709, 710); and that each dike-reeve belonged to a particular parish, since many of the verdicts listing the faults of a parish are followed by the names of two, three or four dikereeves (together with those of one or two surveyors). Commissioners would appoint, not elect, and the supposition is therefore that election was by the parish. An eighteenth century vestry book belonging to Heckington records the election by a select vestry of a dikereeve, together with two constables, two overseers of the poor, two overseers of the highways and two churchwardens, for each of the years from 1733 to 1736, and the same book includes the accounts of all these officials for 1729. At Whaplode in the eighteenth century the obligation to serve as dikereeve appears to have belonged to the land, for the vestry book of 1790 to 1840 contains a table with columns headed "Landowners' names" and "Who served the office." Service could be performed by deputy (531). But if here dikereeves were employed by those under an obligation either to serve or to find a deputy, instead of being elected by the vestry, they were still regarded as parish officials; and Whaplode vestry book for 1678 to 1738 contains their accounts side by side with note of the election of churchwardens and with the accounts of churchwardens and constables. In the nineteenth century the naming of dikereeves seems to have been done in some places by the Commissioners and in others by the vestry. An Act of Sewers of 1849 declared "it shall be lawful for the . . . Commissioners of Sewers from Time to Time to appoint One or More competent Person or Persons, being an Occupier of Sewable Lands within their respective Commissions . . . to act as Dyke-reeve."¹ Yet in 1896 an observer who had lived and worked in south Lincolnshire for some thirty years recorded of the practice of his day, "the ordinary course of proceeding in this district is for each parish to appoint two officers, called *Dykereeves*, to lay and collect the necessary rates and maintain the banks and sewers—and these appointments, and all that relates to them, are subject to the approval of the Courts of Sewers."² In south Lincolnshire in the late sixteenth century a dikereeve had to possess copyhold or freehold worth 40 shillings a year or goods worth that sum. He took office on Mayday (531).

¹ 12 and 13 Vict. c. 50, section 3. Details of qualifications and responsibilities are given.

² W. H. Wheeler: *History of the fens of south Lincolnshire*, p. 48. Cp. the bridge-reeves of Magdalen Bridge and German's Bridge on the Ouse, appointed by the parishes of Magdalen, Watlington and German, Norfolk (S. Wells: *History of the drainage of the Great Level*, 2, pp. 779-80).

We have already seen that the dikereeves sometimes made up the jury in the Court of Sewers. Locally in their own parishes their duties included the keeping of the joyce books (531, 668, 691). Under their guidance they organised repair work, giving notice in the parish church that certain work was to be done at stated times (259, 279, 334, 370, 483, 516). The dikereeves and the surveyors were held responsible, together with the owners and tenants, for failure to maintain banks and dikes (568, 569, 571-74, 601, 637, 638, 704). They could distrain defaulters (136), and with the proceeds of the distraint they hired labourers to do the work left undone by the defaulter (568). On the Commissioners' orders they levied rates, and they were expected to render accounts of the money collected and spent (523); but perhaps accounting was beyond their ability, for some of them were presented in Court for failure to submit accounts (252, 665, 688). By the nineteenth century the accounts were presented to the vestry of the parish at Easter.¹ The dikereeve was allowed his expenses, and a penny for every three feet of bank he had to have repaired (509) and fourpence for every boundary mark he had to set up (532). Election was not sought and the office was unpopular. The difficulty of persuading one's fellow parishioners to fulfil unwanted orders (696) weighed heavily, and some of those elected may have been incapable of the work required.² Refusal of office was recorded (638, 665, 688); the penalty was a fine of five marks (531). In 1579 a jury of dikereeves presented "John Langton gent. beyng one of the dikereeves elected for Algarkirk for neglecting & not executing the office of dikereeve" (710); in this case the culprit must have been amenable to reason, for the first of the three dykereeves named below the presentment is John Langton.

Compared with the dikereeve, the surveyor was a somewhat colourless official. By the Act of 1532 (4), he was appointed by the Commissioners. There were one or two surveyors for each parish, and, with the dikereeves, they had to see that the dikes and banks neglected by those responsible were repaired. A common verdict was "we present such and such a bank in ruin and decay in default of the owners, tenants, dikereeves and surveyors."

Other officials made intermittent appearance. In Surrey and Kent the expeditor, the collectors (usually two) and the bailiffs (usually two) were regularly named,³ while an assistant bailiff⁴ and a wallreeve⁵ and auditors⁶ were mentioned. The bailiff seems to have been the dikereeve under another name. He was expected

¹ W. H. Wheeler: *History of the fens of south Lincolnshire*, p. 48.

² A deputy dikereeve was "not so sufficient thereto as the lawe . . . hath appointed" (663).

³ *Surrey and Kent*, 1, pp. 30, 82-83, 137, 147, 153, 158, 166, 192, 209, 221, 230, 234, 246, 262, 311, 318, 330.

⁴ "Subballivus," *ibid.*, p. 30.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 82-83.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 181, 262.

to attend the Court of Sewers¹ and to give warning to those responsible that specific faults should be amended.² Once he was equated with the wallreeve,³ when it was stated that he should have four marks a year. The collector was also expected to attend the Court.⁴ As his name indicates, he collected the rates levied by the Commissioners and the fines made in Court, and paid the money either into Court or to the expeditor.⁵ The money was sometimes collected only with difficulty. On one occasion the collector took hay in distraint from a defaulter, whereupon the defaulter took it back again; the defaulter was fined.⁶ Sometimes should-be rate-payers withheld payment and locked their doors against the collector, who was told by the Commissioners to break down the doors.⁷ The expeditor laid out the money. In Lincolnshire Commissioners were sometimes named as expeditors (575); but in Surrey and Kent the expeditors, though appointed with the "whole assent and consent" of the Court of Sewers, were not Commissioners.⁸ Once in these latter counties one man was chosen as both collector and expeditor.⁹

After the Commissioners had viewed and listened to the verdicts of the jury, taxed, examined accounts and appointed officers, they made "laws" and decrees. These can be divided into two classes, first, general "laws," and secondly, "laws" made to meet particular situations. The general "laws" were naturally the most important, and they were sometimes repeated and reaffirmed. The "breviate of generall lawes" made at Boston on 1 April 1576 (507-533), for instance, was repeated in a slightly abbreviated form in September 1581 (731-35). These were the general principles set out in detail. The "laws" made to meet specific difficulties were different. They stated the cause, and laid down the remedy; and they were full of place names and personal names. Such, for instance, was the "law" made at Spalding in August 1586, for the draining of land round Spalding and Weston (743-45), that of June 1591, which gave Richard Evington permission to pipe water from the Welland to his grounds in Wykeham in Spalding,¹⁰ that of December 1596, which ordered the sale of Charles Riccardes' cottage to pay for repairs made to his section of Baston Bank,¹⁰ and the two "laws" of 1599 which provided for the raising of £12,000 for the draining of Deeping Fen, Thurlby Fen and Bourne South Fen.¹⁰ A disagreement between the Commissioners in 1588 about Ravensdike and Garnersdike and the efficacy of the Shire Gote led to the issuing of two opposing "laws."¹⁰

The Privy Council watched this considerable local activity with

¹ *Surrey and Kent*, 1, pp. 68, 135.

² *Ibid.*, p. 147.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 79, 144, 145, 146, 213-14, 217-18, 232, 330; Callis, p. 175.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 114-115, 116.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 193.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 193.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 193.

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 193.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 193.

¹⁰ Lincoln, 485.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 137-38.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 68.

⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 104-6, 110.

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 260.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 260.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 260.

sympathetic interest. On occasion it gave advice, suggested action, urged more strenuous measures, or commended work already done. It wrote to lord Clinton, Lord Chief Justice, and other Commissioners of Sewers in Lincolnshire about a levy, said to be overcharged, made by certain Commissioners on the town of Croft or "Cust" and asked for a stay of execution while the case was examined.¹ It asked the Lincolnshire Commissioners to consider how certain fens might be drained.² It suggested that Humphrey Bradley (the Brabanter and author of a treatise on the fens), John Hexham and Ralph Agas should act as an independent committee of inquiry into the controversy over Ravensdike and Garnersdike.³ It commended work on Clowes Cross Drain and urged its completion.⁴ It tried to dissipate the difficulties that arose when undertakers started to drain Denver Common and other fens.⁵ Outside Lincolnshire it urged the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London to help the bailiff in his demands for the scouring of the Fleet.⁶ Over a period of three years, it stressed the need of scouring the river Nene at Wisbech in letters addressed to the Bishop and Chapter of Ely.⁷ It asked the Lord Keeper to take special care in the choice of Commissioners.⁸ It was a benevolent interest that the Privy Council showed in matters relating to fens and drainage.

This, then, was the cycle, or rather the interlocking series of cycles. Commissioners appointed by the king or queen on the recommendation of the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Treasurer and the two chief justices for a period of three, five or ten years, dikereeves either appointed in the manorial court or elected in the vestry and serving one year. Commissioners viewing, listening to verdicts in Court and making "laws," dikereeves trying to keep the sewers in their parishes repaired, carrying out the Commissioners' orders, and presenting defaulters in Court. The aim was not the drainage of great areas of marsh and swamp, but the maintenance of the *status quo*. And so far as it is possible to tell and except in very wet years like 1571, the Courts of Sewers and the organization around them did achieve this aim.

¹ *A.P.C.*, 1578-80, pp. 252-53; *A.P.C.*, 1581-82, p. 202.

² *Ibid.*, p. 353.

³ *Ibid.*, 1588-89, pp. 112-13.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 1596-97, pp. 531-52.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 1597, pp. 274-76, 367-68.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 1571-75, p. 271.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 1575-77, p. 134; *ibid.*, 1577-78, p. 321; *ibid.*, 1578-80, pp. 190-91.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 1592, p. 191.

I. MEETINGS OF COURTS, ETC.

MEETINGS OF COURTS OF SEWERS IN SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place of Meeting</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners sitting</i>	<i>Reference</i>
31 Hen. VIII	Spalding	1+	Lincoln 505.5,6
28 June 1542		1+	Lincoln 505.7
3 Aug. 1542	Donington	8+	Dugdale, p. 203
4 Aug. 1544	Donington	10	77, 193
17 Sept. 1547	Donington	7	26
1 Sept. 1550	Wrangle	4+	Dugdale, p. 164
6 July 1552	Stamford	9	49, 64 ; Lincoln 505.7b
23 July 1 & 2 Ph. & M.	Swineshead	7	100
12 June 1559	Skirbeck		112
9 Aug. 1559	Boston	5	114
2 Sept. 1562	Skirbeck	7	115
11 June 1563	Spalding		123

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COMMISSIONS OF SEWERS FOR SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners appointed</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Expected life of Commission</i>
13 June 1564	Lincolnshire	95	P.R.O., Pat. Roll 998, mem. 24-25d	5 years
17 Dec. 1566	Isle of Ely and Tydd St. Mary	31	P.R.O., Pat. Roll 1073, mem. 13-14d	5 years
14 June 1570	Lincolnshire	89	P.R.O., Pat. Roll 1073, mem. 20d	5 years
9 Nov. 1570	Lincolnshire	88	P.R.O., Pat. Roll 1073, mem. 20-21d.	5 years

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MEETINGS OF COURTS OF SEWERS IN SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place of Meeting</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners sitting</i>	<i>Reference</i>
8 Oct. 1565	Boston		161
21 Oct. 1565			157
22 Oct. 1565	Boston		Lincoln 476.I.1
14 April 1566	Boston		162
8 June 1566	Stamford	15	P.R.O., S.P. 12, Eliz. 39, item 73
9 July 1566	Bourne	8	Lincoln 505.8
15 Aug. 1566	Stamford	15	Lincoln 505.8 ; 505.14
30 Aug. 1566	Bourne	8	Lincoln 505.12 ; 505.14
7 Sept. 1566	Sempringham	12	Lincoln 505.14
14 Sept. 1566	Sempringham	15	P.R.O., S.P. 12, Eliz. 40, item 72
21 May 1567	Spalding	1+	169, 173
30 June 1568	Boston		178, 185
1568	Spalding		211
17 June [1568?]	Spalding	5	213
22 July [1568?]	Moulton		217
[1568 ?]	Spalding	2+	223
23 March 1571			401
8 May 1571	Bourne		P.R.O., S.P. 12, Eliz. 78, item 2
11 June 1571	Spalding		225, 308, 314, 333
5 July 1571	Bourne	4+	Dugdale, p. 241

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MEETINGS OF COURTS OF SEWERS IN SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place of Meeting</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners sitting</i>	<i>Reference</i>
11 July 1571	Spalding		279
21 Sept. 1571	Boston	7 or 8	502 ; Dugdale, pp. 240-1
1571			255, 257, 281, 311, 319, 325
5 May 1572	Spalding		348, 355, 357, 358, 364
May 1572	Spalding		344, 360
July 1572	Spalding		334, 335, 351, 356, 370
1572			339, 409
22 June 1574	Helpringham	10+	501 ; Dugdale, p. 241
5 July 1574	Bourne	4+	Dugdale, p. 241
26 April 1575			441
17 May 1575			384, 432
21 May 1575	Spalding		427
26 May 1575			446, 447, 449
31 May 1575	Boston	7	388, 649
1575			399, 414, 430, 437, 475, 490
28 March 1576			463, 476
1 April 1576	Boston		507
2 April 1576	Spalding		467
20 Aug. 1576	Boston	10	534
27 Sept. 1576	Spalding	11	453
1576			472, 499
28 April 1577	Boston (strictly a view)	9	575
19 Oct. 1577	Boston	2+	568, 576
24 Sept. 1578	Boston	2+	616
28 Sept. 1578	Boston	2+	613
10 Oct. 1578	Spalding	7	585, 587, 600
9 Oct. 1579	Boston	2	702, 706

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MEETINGS OF COURTS OF SEWERS IN SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place of Meeting</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners sitting</i>	<i>Reference</i>
7 Oct. 1580	Boston		642, 659
2 Sept. 1581	Boston	11	731
2 Oct. 1581	Boston	1+	Boston, packet labelled "X"
12 Jan. 1582	Boston		660
About 12 Oct. 1582	Whaplode	12	P.R.O., Exchequer Depositions, 28 & 29 Eliz., Michaelmas No. 24
28 Feb. 1583	Boston	13	736, 737
2 Oct. 1583	Spalding	7+	669
12 Oct. 1583	Boston	5+	662, 683, 684
8 April 1584	Fleet	20	738
24 Aug. 1584		10	697
4 Dec. 1584	Boston	7	694, 695, 709
7 Dec. 1584			693
7 June 1585	Spalding	8	740, 742
26 Aug. 1586	Spalding	10	743, 745 ; Lincoln 505.33
14 Jan. 1587	Spalding	6	711
8-9 June 1587	Boston	6	Lincoln 474, XIV. 21, 24
29 May 1588	Spalding	10	Lincoln 485
30 May 1588	Whaplode	10	Lincoln 485
14 July 1588	Spalding	6	Lincoln 485
20 Jan. 1589	Boston	11	Lincoln 474, IX, 64, 68, 72 ; 474, X, 16, 17
27 Jan. 1589	Spalding		Lincoln 474, IX, 40
1 Oct. 1589	Spalding	1	Lincoln 474, IX, 1
16 June 1590	Spalding		Lincoln 474, X, 1
24 Sept. 1590	Sleaford		Lincoln 474, X, 14, 19
20 April 1591	Boston	6+	Lincoln 474, IX, 25
4 June 1591	Spalding	7	Lincoln 485 ; 474, XI, 1
12 Oct. 1591	Sleaford		Lincoln 474, XI, 22, 24

COMMISSIONS OF SEWERS FOR SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners appointed</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Expected life of Commission</i>
38 Eliz. 1595-96	Lincs., Hunts., Northants., Cambs., City of Lincoln		P.R.O., Crown Office Docquet Book, p. 34	10 years
16 July 1597	Lincs., Hunts., Northants., Cambs., City of Lincoln, Isle of Ely		do. p. 70	10 years
2 March 1598	Between Retford Bridge and Stock- with Bridge		do. p. 90	10 years
17 July 1599	Lincolnshire and Lincoln		do. p. 144	10 years

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MEETINGS OF COURTS OF SEWERS IN SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place of Meeting</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners sitting</i>	<i>Reference</i>
9 Aug. 1592	Boston	8	Lincoln 474, XII, 1, 13, 24
9 Jan. 1594	Spalding	6	Lincoln 474, XIII, 20
2 Oct. 1594	Spalding	8	Lincoln 485 ; 474, XIII, 1
18 March 1595	Spalding		Lincoln 474, XV, 1
15 July 1595	South Kyme	1+	Lincoln 474, XIV, 30
18 July 1595			Lincoln 474, XIV, 1, 6
27 Aug. 1595		7	Lincoln 485
17 Oct. 1595	Spalding	6	Lincoln 474, XIV, 11
2 June 1596	Spalding		Lincoln 474, XVI, 1
16 Sept. 1596	Spalding	20	Boston, packet labelled "X"
3-4 Dec. 1596	Boston	14	Lincoln 485 ; 474, XVII, 28, 31, 34, 45
5 Aug. 1597	Boston		Lincoln 474, XVII, 25, 43
30 Aug. 1597	Spalding	5	Lincoln 474, XVII, 1
6 June 1598	Spalding		Lincoln, 474, XVIII, 1, 15
10 ——— 1598	Bourne		Lincoln 474, XIX, 1
20 Aug. 1599	Bourne	12	Lincoln 485 ; Dugdale, p. 205
22 Aug. 1599	Boston		Lincoln 474, XIX, 20
5 Sept. 1599	Sempringham	11	Lincoln 485
20 Sept. 1599	Market Deeping	8	Lincoln 485 ; Dugdale, p. 205

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COMMISSIONS OF SEWERS FOR SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners appointed</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Expected life of Commission</i>
18 Jan. 1600	Lincs., Hunts., Northants., Cambs., City of Lincoln, Isle of Ely, Boston		P.R.O., Crown Office Docquet Book, pp. 159, 171	10 years
6 July 1601	River Don & New Dike in Yorks. & Lincs.	1 +	do. p. 226	10 years

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MEETINGS OF COURTS OF SEWERS IN SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE 1540-1603

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place of Meeting</i>	<i>No. of Commissioners sitting</i>	<i>Reference</i>
6 April 1600			Lincoln 475, I, 11
8 April 1600	Boston		Lincoln 475, I, 8
3 July 1600	Sleaford		Lincoln 475, I, 1
30 Aug. 1600	Market Deeping	16	Lincoln 475, I, 8 ; Dugdale, p. 205
2 June 1601			Lincoln 475, I, 12
16 March 1602	Boston	20	Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, <i>A MS collection . . . relating to . . . the . . . Fens</i> , vol. 1

II. COMMISSIONERS OF SEWERS

Brief notes follow concerning the Commissioners of Sewers who are known to have acted in south Lincolnshire between 1544 and 1603. Commissioners whose names appear on the Commissions but who do not appear to have acted in south Lincolnshire have been omitted, as have those whose complete activities in the matter of Courts of Sewers have (so far as is known) been recorded by Dugdale.

HENRY ADAMS was named Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in November 1570;¹ he was one of the four Commissioners on the November Commission who were not also on the June Commission of the same year. He sat at Boston in August 1576 (534, 567), at Spalding in September 1576 (453), at Boston in September 1581 (731, 735), at Whaplode in October 1582,² at Fleet in April 1584 (738), at an unknown place in August 1584 (697) and at Spalding in June 1585 (740, 742), and in August 1586 (743). It is possible that the Commissioner can be identified with the Henry Adams who matriculated from Caius College, Cambridge, at Michaelmas 1559.³ In 1569 he married Mary daughter of Adlard Welby, another Commissioner of Sewers.⁴ He held land in Tydd St. Mary in 1575-76 and 1578.⁵

No Commission appointing ED. ANDERSON Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but as Commissioner he signed a letter to the dikereeves of the soke of Bolingbroke in 1598 (774). He was Sir Edmund Anderson, born at either Flixborough or Broughton in 1530. He was a student at Lincoln College, Oxford, and the Inner Temple. In 1579 he became serjeant-at-law to the queen, and he was Justice of the Common Pleas from 1582 to 1605. He married Magdalen daughter of Christopher Smyth of Annables in Hertfordshire, Clerk of the Pipe. He died in August 1605. He was peculiar among Lincolnshire Commissioners in that his native county played only a small part in his life.⁶

BARTHOLOMEW ARMYN or Armine was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564,⁷ and in both June and November 1570.⁸ He was a Commissioner in 1589 (769), he sat at Boston early in August 1592,⁹ and as Commissioner he was one of the writers of a letter to lord Burghley dated 30 August 1592, about the diking of the Welland (773). He was heir (though the fourth son) of William Armine of Osgodby and Katherine daughter of Sir John Thimbleby of Irnham. He married three times, his third wife

¹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073 mem. 20d.

² P.R.O., Exchequer depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, no. 24.

³ Venn, 1, p. 4.

⁴ Maddison, 1, p. 2.

⁵ *Ibid.*; Dugdale, p. 376.

⁶ These and other details can be found in the *D.N.B.*

⁷ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

⁸ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

⁹ Lincoln, 474, XII, 24.

being Anne daughter of William Dymoke of Friskney and widow of Charles Bolles of Haugh. He was sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1586. He died in 1598 and was buried at Lavington.¹

No Commission appointing WALTER ASHTON Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but he made brief appearances as a Commissioner at Spalding in August 1586 (743, 745), and in January 1587 (711). He may have matriculated from Christ's College, Cambridge, in 1571.² He held land in Spalding and Long Sutton, and in 1581 he married Etheldreda daughter and heiress of George Partridge of Long Sutton. He died early in August 1587, and was buried at Whaplode. Shortly afterwards Etheldreda gave her hand and fortune to Sir William Rigdon, another Commissioner of Sewers.³

No Commission appointing ROBERT AUDLEY Commissioner of Sewers has been found. As Commissioner he made "laws" at Bourne in August 1599,⁴ at Market Deeping in September 1599, and at Market Deeping again in August 1600.⁵ He may have belonged to the Audley family of Hough.

FRANCIS AYSCOUGH or Askew was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), for a district by the river Hull in about 1554-55,⁶ for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (23), and for Lincolnshire in 1564.⁷ He was Sir Francis Ayscough of Stallingborough and South Kelsey, son of Sir William Ayscough of Stallingborough and brother-in-law of George St. Paul of Snarford.⁸ He was Commissioner to inquire into chantries in Lincolnshire in 1548,⁹ sheriff of Lincoln in 1545, 1549 and 1554,⁴ Commissioner to inquire into markets in Lindsey in 1551,¹⁰ Commissioner for the third payment of the relief in the same year,¹¹ Commissioner to inquire into church goods in Lindsey in 1553,¹² Commissioner for gaol delivery in Lincolnshire in 1554,¹³ and Justice of the Peace in Kesteven in 1562.¹⁴ He died in 1564.⁸

THOMAS BENDYSHE sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), though no Commission appointing him has been found. Possibly he came from Bumpstead, Essex; certainly the Bendish family of that place had Lincolnshire connections. Possibly also he matriculated from Peterhouse, Cambridge, in 1554,¹⁵ was admitted at the Middle Temple,¹⁶ and died in 1603.¹⁶

¹ Maddison, 1, p. 40.

² Venn., 1, p. 47.

³ Maddison, 4, p. 1139; *ibid.*, 3, p. 821; L.R.S. 1, p. 193.

⁴ Lincoln 485.

⁵ Dugdale, pp. 205-6.

⁶ C.P.R., 1554-55, p. 110.

⁷ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

⁸ Maddison, 1, p. 63.

⁹ C.P.R., 1548-49, p. 136.

¹⁰ C.P.R., 1550-53, p. 141.

¹¹ C.P.R., 1553, p. 355.

¹² *Ibid.*, p. 414.

¹³ C.P.R., 1554-55, p. 106.

¹⁴ C.P.R., 1560-63, p. 439.

¹⁵ Venn., 1, p. 132.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, C.P.R., 1560-63, p. 604.

JOHN BOLLES was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the district between Gedney in Lincolnshire and the "Chapell of the Sea" in Cambridgeshire in 1544,¹ for (possibly the same) parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire in 1547,² and for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20). He sat at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193). He can probably be identified with the eldest son of Richard Bolles of Haugh; if so, he married Katherine daughter of Sir William Tirwhitt of Kettleby.³ He was Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1543 and 1547,⁴ and Commissioner in Holland for the third payment of the relief in 1551.⁵ He was dead by May of the following year.⁶

RICHARD BOLLES or Bollys was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,⁷ for the county of Lincoln in 1547 (20), for Holland in 1554 (21), and for Lincolnshire in 1564 and in June and November 1570.⁸ He sat at Boston in May 1575 (388), April 1576,⁹ and August 1576 (534, 567). He viewed Skirbeck Gote in April 1577 (575). He sat at Boston in October 1577 (568), at Spalding in 1577 or 1578 (585, 587), at Boston in September 1578 (613, 616), and at Spalding in October 1578 (600). He seems to have sat at Boston twice more, in January 1589,¹⁰ and in April 1590.¹¹ He was the son and heir of an earlier Richard Bolles of Haugh, and, besides Haugh, he owned or leased land in Pinchbeck¹² and Boston and the manors of Frieston, Crowdale¹³ and Claxby.¹⁴ He was Justice of the Peace for Lindsey in 1539 and 1547,¹⁵ and Commissioner for collecting the third payment of the relief in 1551.¹⁶ He was Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1564 (when he was reported "indifferent" to the form of religion then established),¹⁷ and again in 1570.¹⁸ Either he or a namesake was three times defendant in the Star Chamber.¹⁹ He died in 1592 at the age of eighty-five, and was buried at Boston. A brass in the Stump records his three marriages (to Jane daughter of Sir William Skipwith, to Anne Rigby and to Margaret Hutton) and his children,

¹ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 324.

² Commission of Sewers (kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton St. Mary) dated 17 October 1547, and issued under the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster.

³ Maddison, 1, p. 150.

⁴ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 316; *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, p. 85.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 356.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1550-53, p. 42.

⁷ *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

⁸ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d; Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

⁹ Boston, package labelled "X."

¹⁰ Lincoln, 474, IX, 64.

¹¹ Lincoln, 474, IX, 25.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 204.

¹³ *C.P.R.*, 1555-57, pp. 38-9, 192.

¹⁴ Appendix to the *Thirty-eighth report of the Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records*, p. 372.

¹⁵ *L. and P.*, 14, part 1, p. 534; *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, p. 86.

¹⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 355.

¹⁷ M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters from the bishops to the Privy Council*, 1564, p. 27.

¹⁸ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 40d.

¹⁹ *Lists and Indexes*, No. 13, pp. 252, 287, 308.

and adds " he had sundrie tymes had charge in Fraunce, Scotland, & this realme, & had bene twice sheriff of the . . . countie."

No Commission appointing ELIAS BRANTINGHAM Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but he sat at an unknown place in August 1595,¹ at Boston in December 1596² and at Sempringham in September 1599.²

A THOMAS BROWNE was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,³ for Holland in 1554 (21), and for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24). As Commissioner he sat at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193), and at Swineshead in July 1555 (100). There were Brownes of Croft, Addlethorpe, Haltham, Pinchbeck, Saltfleetby, and Yawthorpe, and the name is too common for identification. The Commissioner of Sewers, may, however, have held land at Heckington in 1548-49,⁴ and he can possibly be identified with the Thomas Browne who was Commissioner for Holland and Boston for the collection of the third payment of the relief⁵ in 1551 and Commissioner to view church goods in Boston about 1553.⁶

No Commission appointing RICHARD BROWNLOWE Commissioner of Sewers has been traced. He sat at Sempringham in September 1599.² He was protonotary of the Common Pleas and was establishing himself in Lincolnshire by buying estates in Rippingale and other places.

No Commission appointing ROBERT BRYAN Commissioner of Sewers has been found. He sat at Spalding in September 1596,⁷ and at Boston in December of the same year.² He was Robert Bryan of Bolingbroke, and he married Eleanor daughter of Thomas Bendish of Bumpstead, Essex.⁸

JOHN BUSHEY was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in both June and November 1570.⁹ He sat at Boston in September 1571 (502).

No Commission appointing GEORGE CARLETON Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but as Commissioner he sat at Wisbech in September 1581,¹⁰ at Whaplode in October 1582,¹¹ at Spalding in October 1583 (669), at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), at Spalding in May 1588,² was one of the writers of a letter to Robert Jackson, clerk to the Commissioners, in July 1588 (758), and sat at Wisbech in October 1589.¹² He seems to have lived either near Wisbech or at Overstone in Northamptonshire. He was one of

¹ Lincoln, 485.

² Lincoln, 485.

³ *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1548-49, p. 348.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1553, pp. 356, 362.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1550-53, p. 394; *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 417.

⁷ Boston, packet labelled "X."

⁸ Maddison, 1, p. 197.

⁹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20-21d.

¹⁰ Dugdale, p. 347.

¹¹ P.R.O., Exchequer Depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, no. 24.

¹² Dugdale, p. 348.

the early Adventurers who tried to drain the fens. In July 1579, he petitioned the Privy Council for the scouring and banking of the river at Wisbech.¹ By 1580 he was working with Humphrey Mitchell in Holland and the Isle of Ely, having taken over a licence to drain which had been issued to one Peter Morris.² In 1586 he was one of the plaintiffs, described as Her Majesty's occupiers and farmers of low and drowned grounds in Whaplode and of the farm of Aswick, who wished to execute the terms of a special Commission for draining the low grounds of Moulton, Whaplode and Holbeach, and particularly the south side of Garners Dike and Ravensdike.³ The case seems to have dragged on, for in August 1588, Sir Edward Dymoke wrote to John Walpole and three other Commissioners about "the causes in question betwixt you and Mr. Carleton about the draining of Little Porsend" (764).

A ROBERT CARR was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the county of Lincoln in 1547 (20), for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), for the Humber, Don, Trent, and Heckdike to Bickersdike in the same year,⁴ and for Lincolnshire in 1564⁵ and in both June and November 1570.⁶ Someone of this name sat as Commissioner at Boston in September 1571 (502), May 1575 (388)⁷ and August 1576 (534, 567),⁷ at Spalding in September 1576 (453),⁷ at Boston in April (575) and again in October 1577 (575), at Spalding in 1577 or 1578 (585, 587), and in October 1578 (600), at Boston in October 1579 (706), and September 1581 (731, 735),⁷ at Whaplode in October 1582,⁸ at Boston in February 1583 (736, 737),⁷ at Spalding in October 1583 (669),⁷ at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739),⁷ at an unknown place in August 1584 (697),⁷ at Boston in December 1584 (695), at Spalding in June 1585 (740, 742),⁷ and in January 1587 (711),⁷ at Boston in June 1587,⁸ at Spalding in July 1588,⁹ at Boston in January 1589,¹⁰ at Spalding in October 1589,¹¹ at Boston in January 1590,¹² and April 1590,¹³ and at Spalding in June 1591.⁹ Two Commissioners of the same name sat at Helpingham in June 1574 (501, 506). It is difficult to separate the lives of father and son in this case. Robert Carr the elder, of Sleaford, born in 1511, was the son of George Carr of Sleaford.¹⁴ He married first Elizabeth sister of Anthony Cawdron; secondly Anne daughter of Sir George Talbois of Kyme and widow of Sir Edward Dymoke of Scrivelsby; and thirdly Anne, widow of two Commissioners of

¹ *C.S.P.D.*, 1547-1580, p. 628.

² *A.P.C.*, New Series, 12, pp. 68-69.

³ *P.R.O.*, Exchequer depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, no. 24.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 110.

⁵ *P.R.O.*, Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-5d.

⁶ *P.R.O.*, Patent Roll 1073 mem. 20d.

⁷ These entries relate to "Robert Carr the younger."

⁸ Lincoln, 474, XIV, 25, 21.

⁹ Lincoln, 485.

¹⁰ Lincoln, 474, IX, 64.

¹¹ Lincoln, 474, IX, 1.

¹² Lincoln, 474, X, 16, 17.

¹³ Lincoln, 474, IX, 25.

¹⁴ Maddison, 1, pp. 228-229.

Sewers, Nicholas Robinson of Boston, and Leonard Irby. In 1539 he purchased lands formerly belonging to the monastic houses of Catley, Haverholme, Sempringham, Bullington and Sixhill.¹ He died in 1590, leaving by his first wife a second son, Robert Carr of Aswarby, who married Cassandra widow of Adlard Welby,² and died in 1606.³ In some cases the Commissioner is clearly the son, as when he was distinguished as "the younger" or he wrote from Aswarby (759). What is uncertain is which Robert Carr it was who appeared in various records about the middle of the century. There was, for instance, the Robert Carr who paid in the Court of Augmentations in 1549, together with John Almonde, for lands in Sleaford, Holdingham, Quarrington and Kirkby Laythorpe.⁴ In 1547, 1554 and 1562 a Robert Carr was appointed Justice of the Peace for Holland.⁵ In 1548 a Robert Carr was named as escheator for Lincolnshire,⁶ in 1550 he was Commissioner for collecting the third payment of the relief in Kesteven,⁷ about 1550 and again in 1553 he was Commissioner to view church goods in Kesteven and Holland,⁸ in 1559 he was Member of Parliament for Boston,⁹ in 1564 he was Justice of the Peace when he was reported "earnest in religion",¹⁰ and in 1581 he was sheriff of Lincolnshire.¹¹

No Commission appointing ANTHONY CAWDRON Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but as Commissioner he sat at Helpringham in June 1574 (501, 506), at Boston in August 1576 (534, 567), in September 1581 (731, 735) and in February 1583 (736, 737), at Spalding in October 1583 (669), at an unknown place in August 1584 (697), at Boston again in December 1584 (695), at Spalding in June 1585 (740, 742), and in August 1586 (743, 745), and at Boston again in June 1587¹² and in January 1590.¹³ He was the son of William Cawdron of Heckington who died in 1544. He married first Elizabeth widow of Thomas Tirrington of Gosberton, and secondly Jane widow of Nicholas Wolricke of Spalding. He died in September 1590, and was buried at Heckington.¹⁴

SIR THOMAS CECIL was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in both June and November 1570.¹⁵ As Commissioner he inquired into Clowse Cross drain in the Great Level in 1577-78,¹⁶ sat at Spalding in September 1596,¹⁷ and wrote to the

¹ G. A. J. Hodgett: "The dissolution of the religious houses in Lincolnshire," *Lincolnshire Architectural and Archaeological Society Reports and Papers*, N.S. 4, 1951-52, p. 90.

² L.R.S., xxxi, p. 137.

³ Maddison, 1, p. 229.

⁴ C.P.R., 1548-49, pp. 345-46.

⁵ C.P.R., 1547-48, p. 85; C.P.R., 1553-54, p. 21; C.P.R., 1560-63, p. 439.

⁶ C.P.R., 1553, p. 327.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 355.

⁸ C.P.R., 1550-53, p. 395; C.P.R., 1553, p. 414.

⁹ *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, p. 401.

¹⁰ M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters . . . 1564*, p. 26.

¹¹ T. Fuller: *The history of the worthies of England*, 2, p. 30.

¹² Lincoln, 474, XIV, 21, 25.

¹³ Lincoln, 474, X, 16.

¹⁴ Maddison, 1, pp. 233-34; A. R. Maddison: *Lincolnshire Wills, 1500-1600*, p. 51.

¹⁵ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

¹⁶ Dugdale, p. 375.

¹⁷ Boston, packet labelled "X".

dikereeves of the soke of Bolingbroke in 1598 (774). He sat at Bourne in August 1599¹; and he signed the "laws" made at Market Deeping in the following month,¹ though he may not have been present for his name does not appear in the heading. He was the eldest son of William Cecil, lord Burghley. Born in 1542, he was Member of Parliament for Stamford in 1563, took an active part against the northern earls in 1569, and was made President of the Council of the North in 1599. He married first Lady Dorothy Nevill, and secondly the widow of Sir Thomas Smith. He succeeded his father as second lord Burghley in 1598 and was created Earl of Exeter in 1605. He died in 1622.²

WILLIAM CECIL, lord Burghley, was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Holland in 1554 (21), for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham, and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (23), for Lincolnshire in 1564,³ and for Lincolnshire again in both June and November 1570.⁴ He sat at Stamford in July 1552 (64). Born in 1520, he inherited estates in Rutland, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire from his father in 1552, and, despite the preoccupations of a busy life first as one of the principal secretaries and then as minister of state, he was Member of Parliament for Stamford in 1547-52, for the county of Lincoln in 1555 and 1559, and for the county of Northampton in 1562-67, and became Lord lieutenant for Lincolnshire in 1587. He died in 1598.⁵

The Commission appointing JAMES CLAYPOLE Commissioner of Sewers has not been found, but as Commissioner he sat at Spalding and Whaplode in May 1588,¹ and at Spalding in September 1596,⁶ and he appears to have been a Commissioner in 1592 (773). He was James Claypole of Northborough, Northamptonshire. He died in October 1599.⁷

HENRY CLINTON was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564³ and in June 1570.⁴ He sat at Boston in September 1571 (502), and at Helpringham in June 1574 (501, 506), he is known to have been a Commissioner in 1592 (773), and he sat at Sempringham in September 1599.¹ He was born about 1540, and was son and heir of Edward Clinton, first earl of Lincoln and Lord High Admiral. He was Justice of the Peace for Kesteven, Lindsey and Holland in 1570.⁸ He succeeded his father in 1585, and he died in 1616.⁹

No Commission appointing JOHN COLVILL Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but as Commissioner he was one of the signatories of a letter written on 9 July 1588 to John Jackson, Clerk of the Sewers (758), and he sat at Spalding and Whaplode in

¹ Lincoln, 485.

² *D.N.B.*

³ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

⁴ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

⁵ For more detailed accounts see the *D.N.B.* and the *Complete Peerage*.

⁶ Boston, packet labelled "X".

⁷ Maddison, 1, p. 251.

⁸ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 40d.

⁹ Further details can be found in *The Complete Peerage*.

May 1588,¹ and at Wisbech in October 1589.² He may be identified with the John Colvill who matriculated from Trinity College, Cambridge, at Michaelmas 1559,³ and the John Colvill who married Ann daughter of Nicholas Pinchbeck of Pinchbeck.⁴

No Commission appointing ANTHONY COPE has been found. He sat at Spalding on 29 May 1588,¹ at Whaplode on the following day,¹ and at Spalding in June 1591,¹ each time for the purpose of passing "laws." In 1588 he was involved in a dispute, the "laws" which he and other Commissioners passed in May being refuted in July by another group of Commissioners on the grounds that the remedies proposed would not be effective. The same jurors who in May said the proposals would be beneficial declared in July that they "utterly misliked the . . . new dreyne".¹

No Commission appointing FRANCIS COPLEDIKE of Harrington Commissioner has been found, but as Commissioner he was one of the writers of a letter to lord Burghley dated 30 August 1592 (773). He was the second son of Sir John Copledike, he matriculated sizar from St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, at Easter 1548, married Elizabeth daughter of Lionel Reresby of Thribergh, Yorkshire, was heir to his elder brother John in 1585, and died in December 1599.⁵

SIR JOHN COPLEDIKE of Harrington was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,⁶ for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), and for Lindsey⁷ and Holland in 1554 (21). He sat at Donington in 1542 or 1543,⁸ at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193), and at Wrangle in September 1550.⁹ His family held Copledike's Manor in Frieston from the earliest times, and acquired Harrington in the fourteenth century, possibly by marriage with the heiress of that name; by the end of the same century it also held the manors of Aswardby, Fordington, Sutterby, Copledike in Frampton, and Wyberton.¹⁰ Sir John married Elizabeth Littlebury. He was appointed Justice of the Peace for Lindsey in 1539,¹¹ for Holland in 1543,¹² and for Holland and Lindsey in 1547.¹³ He was Commissioner of oyer and terminer in 1541,¹⁴ and he was nominated but not pricked as sheriff of Lincoln in 1547.¹⁵ He was Commissioner for the third payment of the relief in Lindsey and Holland in 1551,¹⁶ and Justice for gaol

¹ Lincoln, 485.

² Dugdale, p. 348.

³ Venn., 1, p. 376.

⁴ W. Watson: *An historical account . . . Wisbech*, plate facing p. 485.

⁵ Venn, 1, p. 394; L.R.S., ii, p. 131.

⁶ *L. and P.*, vol. 16, p. 52.

⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 36.

⁸ Dugdale, p. 203.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 164.

¹⁰ A. R. Maddison: *Lincolnshire Wills*, 1st series, p. xxvii; W. O. Massingberd:

"Copledike of Harrington," *Reports and Papers . . . of the Architectural Societies*,

28, 1905-6, pp. 1-4.

¹¹ *L. and P.*, 14, part 1, p. 534.

¹² *Ibid.*, 20, part 1, p. 316.

¹³ *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, pp. 85-6.

¹⁴ Appendix to the *Third report of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records*, p. 262.

¹⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 316.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 355-6.

delivery in Lincolnshire in 1554.¹ He was Member of Parliament for Lincolnshire in this last year.² He died in 1557, leaving four sons, two of whom—John and Francis—were also Commissioners of Sewers.

JOHN COPLEDIKE of Harrington was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (23), and for the county of Lincoln in 1564³ and in both June and November 1570.⁴ As Commissioner he sat in north Lincolnshire, including Louth, in May and June 1561.⁵ He was the eldest son of Sir John Copledike of Harrington, and was born about 1528. He was Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1564, when he was declared out of sympathy with religion as then established.⁶ He was sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1567. He died, childless, in 1585.⁷

ROBERT COTTON sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Spalding in September 1596,⁸ and again in April 1602.⁹

WILLIAM DARBY or Derby was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Holland in 1554 (21), for Lincolnshire in 1564,³ and for Lincolnshire again in both June and November 1570.⁴ He viewed the banks of Wainfleet St. Mary in April 1571¹⁰; and he sat at Spalding in June probably 1568 (213), at Boston in May 1575 (388), September 1581 (731, 735), and December 1584 (695), at Spalding in August 1586 (743, 745), and at Boston once more in June 1587.¹¹ He lived at Benington, and married Barbara daughter of Charles Yarborough.¹² He was recorded as being "earnest in religion and to be trusted" in 1564.⁶ He was mayor of Boston in 1570.¹³ He died in September 1591, and was buried at Boston.¹⁴

No Commission appointing ANTHONY DEATH Commissioner has been traced, but he sat at Fleet in April 1584 (738). He may have lived at Boston, for a daughter of one Anthony Death was baptised there in July 1584.¹⁵ There were also Deaths in Gosberton and Heckington, but the family tree is very incomplete.

No Commission appointing HENRY DIGBY Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but he sat at Stamford in July 1552 (64). He had Rutland and Leicestershire connections. In 1547¹⁶ and 1554¹⁷ he was Justice of the Peace for Rutland, and in 1551 he was Commissioner for Rutland for the third payment of the relief.¹⁸

¹ C.P.R., 1554-55, p. 106.

² *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, p. 390.

³ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-5d.

⁴ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

⁵ P.R.O., E 137.143.6, rot. 3.

⁶ M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters . . . 1564*, p. 27.

⁷ Maddison, 1, p. 268.

⁸ Boston, packet labelled "X".

⁹ Dugdale, p. 206.

¹⁰ Dugdale, p. 166.

¹¹ Lincoln, 474.XIV.21, 25.

¹² Maddison, 1, p. 296.

¹³ P. Thompson: *History and antiquities of Boston*, p. 454.

¹⁴ *Parish registers of Boston*, 1, p. 134.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 65.

¹⁶ C.P.R., 1547-48, p. 88.

¹⁷ C.P.R., 1553-54, p. 23.

¹⁸ C.P.R., 1553, p. 357.

KENELM DIGBY also sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Stamford in 1552 (64) seemingly without having been appointed Commissioner. He appeared on the Pardon Roll of 1559 as "of Stokedrye *alias* Drystoke, co. Rutland, *alias* of Tylton, co. Leicester, *alias* of Dygbie, co. Lincoln."¹ He was nominated but not picked for sheriff of Rutland in 1547 and 1548,² he was Justice of the Peace for Rutland in 1547,³ Commissioner of oyer and terminer for the counties of Northampton, Warwick, Leicester, Rutland, Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln in 1547,⁴ Commissioner for Rutland for the third payment of the relief in 1551,⁵ and Commissioner to inquire into church goods in Rutland in 1553.⁶

No Commission has been found appointing RICHARD DOWCE Commissioner of Sewers, but he sat at Boston in December 1596.⁷ Someone of the same name appeared on the Pardon Roll of 1554 as "of Freyston in Holland."⁸

No Commission appointing CHARLES DYMOKE of Howell Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but he was undoubtedly acting as Commissioner in 1592 (773). He was the second son of Sir Edward Dymoke who is noted below. He was Member of Parliament for Lincoln City in 1593.⁹ He died in 1611.¹⁰

Sir EDWARD DYMOKE of Scrivelsby was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon, and Northampton in 1547 (20), for Holland in 1554 (21), for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (23), and for Lincolnshire in 1564.¹¹ He sat at Donington in August 1542,¹² at Wrangle in September 1550,¹³ and at Stamford in July 1552 (64). Son of Sir Robert Dymoke of Scrivelsby, he married Ann daughter of Sir George Talbois; and his wife brought the manor of Kyme into the Dymoke family.¹⁴ He was sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1536, 1547, 1556 and 1557,¹⁵ and Justice of the Peace for Holland, Kesteven and Lindsey in 1554¹⁶ and for Holland in 1562.¹⁷ He was champion at the coronations of Edward VI, Mary and Elizabeth. He died in 1567.¹⁸

As mayor of Boston¹⁹ GEORGE EARLE was qualified to act as Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1576-77 and 1584-85. He viewed Skirbeck Gote in April 1577 (575), and sat at Boston in

¹ *C.P.R.*, 1558-60, p. 242.

² *C.P.R.*, 1553, pp. 317, 328.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 75.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 415.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 435.

⁹ *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, p. 429.

¹⁰ Maddison, 4, p. 1206.

¹¹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

¹² Dugdale, p. 203.

¹⁴ S. Lodge: *Scrivelsby*, p. 69.

¹⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 21.

¹⁸ Maddison, 4, p. 1205.

¹⁹ P. Thompson, *op. cit.*, p. 454; P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

³ *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, p. 88.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 357.

⁷ Lincoln, 485.

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 164.

¹⁵ *D.N.E.*

¹⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 439.

December 1584 (694, 695). He may have been related to the family of Augustine Earle of Stragglethorpe, but this is uncertain. A number of children of George Earle were baptised at Boston between 1574 and 1598,¹ but the entries in the parish registers probably refer to three generations. One George Earle was buried in 1585.²

RICHARD FIELD was mayor of Boston in 1575-76,³ and as such he was Commissioner.⁴ He sat at Boston in August 1576 (534, 567).

GEORGE FOSTER was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564⁵ and in both June and November 1570.⁶ He sat at Boston in August 1559 (114), seemingly before he was appointed. He may have been the son of John Foster of Folkingham. He appears to have been Town Clerk of Boston in 1545 and 1567,⁷ Member of Parliament for Boston in 1553, 1554, 1555 and 1558,⁸ and mayor of Boston in 1558.⁹ The parish registers of Boston record the death of two George Fosters, one in March 1570, and the other in October 1573,⁹ and they may have been confused in these notes.

JOHN GAMLYN or Gamblin sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Spalding and Whaplode in May 1588,¹⁰ and at Spalding again in July 1588,¹⁰ at a time when two groups of Commissioners were making opposing "laws" for the diking of the Welland. He appears to have attended the meeting of both groups, though he signed only the "laws" made in July 1588. He was John Gamlyn of Fulney Marsh. He was one of the foundation governors of Spalding Grammar School in 1558,¹¹ and with his son Matthew he founded and endowed an almhouse in Spalding. He died in 1590¹².

No Commission appointing MATTHEW GAMLYN or Gamblin of Fulney Marsh Commissioner of Sewers has been found. He sat at Spalding in July 1588¹⁰ and in June 1591,¹⁰ at Boston in August 1592,¹⁰ at Spalding in February 1594,¹⁰ October 1594,¹⁰ and September 1596,¹³ at Boston in December 1596,¹⁰ at Sempringham in September 1599,¹⁰ and at Boston in March 1602.¹⁴ He was born at Spalding in 1546, he matriculated from Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1562, and he was admitted at Lincoln's Inn in 1565.¹⁵ He married first Jane daughter and heiress of Nicholas Wolriche of Spalding Abbey and second Margaret daughter of Robert Bevill of Chesterton, Hunting-

¹ *Parish registers of Boston*, 1, pp. 48, 58, 60, 66, 83, 86, 94.

² *Ibid.*, p. 123.

³ P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 454.

⁴ P.R.O., Patent Rolls 998, mem. 24-25d and 1073, mem. 20d.

⁵ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

⁶ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d. ⁷ P. Thompson, *op. cit.*, p. 459.

⁸ *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, pp. 382, 386, 390, 393, 397.

⁹ *Parish registers of Boston*, 1, pp. 107, 111.

¹⁰ Lincoln, 485.

¹¹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1306, mem. 19. ¹² *Genealogist*, 2, 1878, p. 386.

¹³ Boston, packet labelled "X".

¹⁴ Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, *A manuscript collection of documents relating to . . . the East, West and Wildmore Fens*, vol. 1.

¹⁵ Venn, 2, p. 190.

donsire. He built Fulney Hall out of part of the ruins of Spalding Abbey.¹ In 1588 he was named a foundation governor (together with his father) of Spalding Grammar School.² He was attorney-at-law. He died in 1617 and was buried at Spalding.¹

No Commission appointing WILLIAM GANNOCK Commissioner has been found, but he sat at Boston in December 1596,³ and in March 1602.² He was presumably either William Gannock the elder who was mayor of Boston in 1567 and 1578,⁴ or his son who was mayor of the same town in 1594.⁴ The elder William founded a school in Boston in 1567;⁵ he died in August 1602.⁶ The younger William was still alive in 1607.⁶ But there were also Gannocks in Sibsey and in Stickney.

No Commission appointing HENRY GATES Commissioner has been found, but he sat at Spalding in August 1586 (743), and at Boston in January⁷ and April 1590.⁸ He was Henry Gates of Gosberton, third son of Sir Henry Gates of Seamer, Yorkshire.⁹

ANDREW GEDNEY of Bag Enderby was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564¹⁰ and in both June and November 1570.¹¹ He sat in north Lincolnshire in May 1561¹² (apparently before his appointment), at Boston in February 1583 (736, 737), and at Alford in October 1593;¹² and as Commissioner he was one of the signatories of a letter to lord Burghley dated 30 August 1592 (773). He was born about 1528, the first son of John Gedney of Bag Enderby. He married Dorothy daughter of Sir William Skipwith,¹³ was sheriff of Lincoln in 1574-75,¹⁴ and was dead by 1613-14.¹⁵

JOHN GRESBY was Commissioner of Sewers as mayor of Boston in 1596-97.⁴ He sat at Boston in December 1596,³ and possibly again in March 1602.¹⁶

WILLIAM HACKE or Hake sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Spalding in September 1596.¹⁷ Someone of this name matriculated from St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1581.¹⁸

EDMUND HALL was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), and for the county of Lincoln in 1564¹⁰ and in both June and November 1570.¹¹ He sat

¹ *Genealogist*, 2, 1878, p. 386.

² P.R.O., Patent Roll 1306, mem. 19.

³ Lincoln, 485.

⁴ P. Thompson, *op. cit.*, p. 454.

⁵ L.R.S., i, p. 156.

⁶ Maddison, 2, pp. 383-85.

⁷ Lincoln, 474.X.16, 17.

⁸ Lincoln, 474.IX.25.

⁹ Maddison, 2, p. 395.

¹⁰ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

¹¹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

¹² P.R.O., E 137.143.6, rot. 3 and 4.

¹³ Maddison, 2, p. 396.

¹⁴ *C.S.P.D.*, 1547-80, p. 504.

¹⁵ Maddison, 2, p. 396. Maddison says "dead 1591; inq. p.m. 10 Jac. I," but this statement cannot be correct.

¹⁶ Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, *A manuscript collection of documents relating to . . . the East, West and Wildmore Fens*, vol. 1.

¹⁷ Boston, packet labelled "X".

¹⁸ Venn, 2, p. 278.

at Skirbeck in September 1562 (115), at Bourne in July 1574,¹ at Spalding in September 1576 (453), at Spalding in 1577 or 1578 (585, 587), at Fleet in April 1584 (738), at a place unknown in August 1584 (697), and at Boston in August 1592.² In 1577 or 1578 he was named Commissioner of Sewers to consider Clowe Cross drain, and he sat at Peterborough in June 1578.³ He was the son of Francis Hall of Grantham and Elizabeth daughter of Sir John Wingfield.⁴ He appeared on the Pardon Roll of 1 Mary as Edmund Hall of "Gretford," Lincolnshire.⁵ He was Member of Parliament for Grantham from 1547 to 1552.⁶ In 1561 he was made Constable of the Staple,⁷ and in the next year he was Commissioner of the Peace for Kesteven⁸ and Commissioner *post mortem*.⁹ He was still Justice of the Peace in 1564, when the bishop of Lincoln reported him "earnest in religion."¹⁰ He was Justice of the Peace for Kesteven in 1570.¹¹ He was one of the defendants in the Star Chamber in a case concerning the possessions of the gild of Baston.¹² From Greatford in 1588 and 1589 he wrote letters (765, 766) to his fellow Commissioners of Sewers, Robert Carr, Richard Ogle, Thomas Lambert, William Rigdon and William Watson, and four letters (762, 768, 769, 770) to John Jackson, clerk of the Sewers. To the Commissioners he sent his regrets that he dare not venture to travel into Holland to be at the giving up of the verdicts, and he added much advice, including the names of thirteen men whom he thought would be good surveyors. He died in November 1592.¹³

No Commission appointing HENRY HALL Commissioner has been found. He sat at Spalding in September 1596,¹⁴ at Bourne in August 1599,¹⁴ at Sempringham and at Market Deeping in September 1599,¹⁴ and at Market Deeping in August 1600.¹⁵ He was the eldest son of Edmond Hall of Greatford, whose life is noted above. He died in January 1616.⁴

SIMON HALL of Burton Pedwardine was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24). He sat at Swineshead in July 1555 (100). He was the son of William Hall, and he married first Julian daughter and heiress of Richard Roberts of Donington, and secondly Mary daughter of Sir Robert Hussey and widow of John Monson of South Carlton. He died in January 1566.¹⁶

¹ Dugdale, p. 241.

² Boston, 474.XII.24.

⁴ Maddison, 2, pp. 441-42.

⁶ *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, p. 375.

⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 29.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 433.

¹⁰ M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters . . . 1564*, p. 26.

¹¹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 40d.

¹³ Boston, packet labelled "X".

¹⁵ Dugdale, p. 205.

³ Dugdale, pp. 375-76.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 446.

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 439.

¹² *Lists and Indexes*, No. 13, p. 97.

¹⁴ Lincoln, 485.

¹⁶ Maddison, 2, p. 444.

FRANCIS HARRINGTON of South Witham was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564,¹ and in both June and November 1570.² In 1571 he wrote to lord Burghley about certain sewers between Spalding and Pinchbeck.³ He sat at Spalding in September 1576 (453) and again in 1577 or 1578 (587), and at an unknown place in August 1584 (697). He was still Commissioner in 1589 (769). He was the son of Robert Harrington of Witham-on-the-Hill who died on 4 January 1559. He was Member of Parliament for Stamford from 1572 to 1583,⁴ and recorder of Stamford. He died in August 1595.⁵

No Commission appointing ROBERT HARRINGTON the younger of Witham-on-the-Hill Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but he sat at Spalding in August 1586 (743), and he was still Commissioner in August 1592 (773). He was son of John Harrington, grandson of another Robert (an earlier Commissioner), and nephew of Francis Harrington.⁶ He appears to have matriculated from Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, at Michaelmas 1567.⁷ He died before December 1601.⁸

WILLIAM HENEAGE of Hainton was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564¹ and in both June and November 1570,² and he was still a Commissioner in 1592 when with others he wrote to lord Burghley about the banking of the Welland (773). He was the third son of John Heneage of Towes and nephew of Sir Thomas Heneage of Hainton³ who was the first gentleman of the Privy Chamber, Justice of the Peace for Lincolnshire and Middlesex and *custos rotulorum* in Lindsey.⁴ The family had long been settled in Hainton, and at the dissolution of the monasteries it received a share of the monastic lands. William Heneage was sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1585 and 1598.⁵ He died in 1610 at the age of 91, and an inscription in Hainton church tells of his two marriages and the four children by his first wife who were still living when the monument was put up.¹¹

No Commission appointing EDWARD HERON of Langtoft, Stamford, and Cressey Hall, Surfleet, Commissioner of Sewers has been found. But as Commissioner he sat at Fleet in April 1584 (738), at Spalding and Whaplode in May 1588,¹² wrote a letter with others to John Jackson from Whaplode in July 1588 (758), sat at Boston, in August 1592,¹³ at Spalding in September 1596,¹⁴ at Bourne and Sempringham in August and September 1599¹² and at Market

¹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

² P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d. ³ C.S.P.D., 1547-1580, p. 409.

⁴ *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, p. 409.

⁵ Maddison, 2, p. 462.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 461-2.

⁷ Venn, 2, p. 311.

⁸ Maddison, 2, pp. 482-83.

⁹ *L. and P.*, 21, part 2, p. 158.

¹⁰ T. Fuller: *Worthies*, 1824, 2, p. 31.

¹¹ *L.R.S.*, xxxi, p. 162.

¹² Lincoln, 485.

¹³ Lincoln, 474.XII.24.

¹⁴ Boston, packet labelled "X".

Deeping in August 1600.¹ He matriculated from St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1558,² was entered at Lincoln's Inn in February 1565, was called to the Bar in February 1574, and became serjeant-at-law in January 1595. He was recorder of Stamford in 1588, was knighted before September 1605, and became a baron of the Exchequer in November 1607. He died in July 1609.³

Sir JOHN HEIGHAM or Higham sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Whaplode in October 1582.⁴ He was one of the governors of the Great Level appointed in 1606.⁵

RICHARD HILTOFT was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in both June and November 1570.⁶ He sat at Boston in August 1576 (534, 567)⁷ and viewed Skirbeck Gote in April 1577 (575). He held the manor of Cawkwell in 1564.⁸ His family tree has not been reconstructed nor his family history written; but it can be noted that a John Hiltoft of Saleby died in 1549,⁹ and another John Hiltoft was mayor of Boston in 1577.¹⁰

BLASE HOLLAND was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,¹¹ and for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20). He sat at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193), and at Donington in September 1547 (26). He was the son of Thomas Holland of Stenning and Quadring, and he lived at Howell. He married Christian daughter of Robert Read of Wrangle; their son Blase was born about 1528, lived at Swineshead, and died in January 1553.¹² He was a member of the guild of Corpus Christi of Boston.¹³ He was Justice of the Peace for Kesteven in 1539 and 1540,¹⁴ for Holland and Kesteven in 1543,¹⁵ and for Holland in 1547.¹⁶ He was Commissioner of oyer and terminer in Kesteven in 1540,¹⁷ Commissioner in Holland for collecting the benevolence decreed against the French in 1544-45,¹⁸ and Commissioner in Kesteven and Holland for the collection of the third payment of the relief in 1551.¹⁹

A THOMAS HOLLAND was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,¹¹ for the district from Gedney in Lincolnshire to "the Chapell of the Sea" in Cambridgeshire in 1544,²⁰ for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), for parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire in the same

¹ Dugdale, p. 205.

² Venn, 2, p. 345.

³ Maddison, 2, p. 488; E. Foss: *Biographia juridica*, p. 345.

⁴ P.R.O., Exchequer depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, no. 24.

⁵ Dugdale, p. 387.

⁶ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

⁷ The name at the end of the "law" (567) reads "John Hiltoft."

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 207.

⁹ A. R. Maddison: *Lincolnshire wills*, 1st series, p. 37.

¹⁰ P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 454.

¹¹ *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

¹² Maddison, 2, pp. 506-7.

¹³ P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 122.

¹⁴ *L. and P.*, 14, part 2, p. 221; *ibid.*, 15, p. 466.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 20, part 1, p. 316.

¹⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, p. 85.

¹⁷ *L. and P.*, 15, p. 466.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, 20, part 1, p. 325.

¹⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1553, pp. 355-56.

²⁰ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 3.

year,¹ for Sutton in Holland in 1553,² for Holland in 1554 (21), for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), for Lincolnshire in 1564,³ and for the same county twice in 1570.⁴ A Thomas Holland sat as Commissioner at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193), at Donington in September 1547 (26), at Swineshead in July 1555 (100), and at Skirbeck in September 1562 (115). There were two Thomas Hollands who were Commissioners of Sewers, and it is not possible to disentangle their lives entirely. Thomas Holland the elder, of Stenning, Swineshead and Spalding, born about 1485, was the first son and heir of an earlier Thomas Holland who died in 1516 and was buried in Bourne Abbey, and grandson of a Sir Thomas Holland who was buried at Lynn. He was therefore brother of Blase Holland. He was Comptroller of the Household and Treasurer to the Duke of Richmond. He died in 1558. His eldest son, Thomas Holland the younger, of Stenning, was born about 1512.⁵ A Thomas Holland, possibly the elder, was Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1543 and 1547,⁶ Commissioner in Holland for the collection of the benevolence decreed against the French king of 1544-45 and 1546,⁷ Commissioner in Holland for the collection of the third payment of the relief in 1551,⁸ and Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1554.⁹ Thomas Holland the younger inherited land from his sister Elizabeth, wife of Henry Reppes, in 1548,¹⁰ and disposed of forty messuages in Deeping St. James, Market Deeping, Stamford, Bourne and Maxey in 1549.¹¹ He was Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1562,¹² inherited from his brother George in 1567,¹³ and was probably Justice of the Peace for Holland again in 1570.¹⁴ The date of his death is unknown.

EDWARD HUNSTON sat at Boston in February 1583 (736, 737). He was the second son of William Hunston of Boston who died in 1566. He was drowned at Boston in 1586.¹⁵

WILLIAM HUNSTON was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564.³ He sat for the Marshland of Norfolk in July 1570,¹⁶ at Boston in May 1575 (388), and August 1576 (534, 567), at Spalding in September 1576 (453), and he viewed Skirbeck

¹ Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton, dated 17 October 1547, and issued under the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster.

² Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton, dated 16 March 1553, and issued under the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster.

³ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

⁴ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

⁵ Maddison, 2, pp. 505-6. The name "Thomas" is recorded in ten successive generations of this family.

⁶ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 316; *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, p. 85.

⁷ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 325; *ibid.*, 21, part 1, p. 484.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 357.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 21.

¹⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1548-49, p. 92.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 372.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 439.

¹³ Maddison, 2, p. 506.

¹⁴ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 40d.

¹⁵ Maddison, 2, p. 524.

¹⁶ Dugdale, p. 345.

Gote in April 1577 (575). He sat at Boston in October 1577 (568), September 1578 (613, 616), and October 1579 (702, 706), at Spalding in October 1578 (600), and at Boston in September (731) and October 1581.¹ His father, William Hunston the elder, who held land at Walpole St. Peter, Norfolk, and in Boston, was Member of Parliament for Thetford in 1553,² and was named Commissioner of Sewers for parts of Norfolk in the same year.³ His mother was Dorothy daughter of Thomas Holland of Swineshead, himself a Commissioner of Sewers.⁴ William Hunston the younger was born about 1540, and matriculated from Pembroke College, Cambridge, in 1559.⁵ Either he or his father was Justice of the Peace for Kesteven in 1564 and was reported "earnest in religion".⁶ William Hunston the elder died in 1566. William Hunston the younger was sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1572, and died in 1582.⁴

No Commission appointing JOHN HUNT Commissioner has been found. He sat at Spalding in September 1596,¹ at an unknown place in the same month,⁷ and at Bourne in August 1599.⁸ He was appointed to view the Great Level in July 1604,⁹ and in 1606 he was a member of the Corporation of the Great Level.¹⁰ He was an engineer, and in 1601 he planned to set up an engine to drain the low ground on the south side of Ravensdike in Holbeach and Whaplode.¹¹

ANTHONY IRBY the elder, of Gosberton, Swineshead, Sutterton and Moulton, was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,¹² for the district between Gedney and "the Chapell of the Sea" in 1544,¹³ for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), and for parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire in the same year.¹⁴ He sat at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193), and at Donington in September 1547 (26). He was Justice of the Peace for both Holland and Kesteven in 1547.¹⁵ He died in 1552, leaving a large family.¹⁶

ANTHONY IRBY the younger, of Whaplode and Moulton, was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564.¹⁷ He sat at Whaplode in October 1582,¹⁸ at Boston in February 1583

¹ Boston, packet labelled "X".

² *Members of Parliament, return* 1213-1702, p. 382.

³ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 36.

⁴ Maddison, 2, p. 523.

⁵ Venn, 2, p. 432.

⁶ M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters . . .* 1564, p. 27.

⁷ Dugdale, p. 349.

⁸ Lincoln, 485.

⁹ Dugdale, pp. 377-78.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 387.

¹¹ "Law" of 8 August 1601, for the levying of a tax to pay John Hunt. Lincoln, 485.

¹² *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

¹³ *Ibid.*, 20, part 1, p. 324.

¹⁴ Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton, dated 17 October 1547.

¹⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, pp. 85-86.

¹⁶ Maddison, 2, pp. 542-43.

¹⁷ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

¹⁸ P.R.O., Exchequer Depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, no. 24.

(736, 737), at Fleet in April 1584 (738), at an unknown place in August 1584 (697), at Spalding in June 1585 (740) and in August 1586 (743), at Boston in June 1587,¹ at Spalding and Whaplode in May 1588,² at Boston in January 1590,³ and August 1592,⁴ at Spalding in February 1594,⁵ and October 1594,⁶ at an unknown place in August 1595,² at Spalding in September 1596,⁶ at Boston in December 1596,² at Peterborough in April 1597,² at Spalding in August 1597,⁷ and again in June 1598 (774), at Bourne in August 1599,² at Sempringham and Market Deeping in September 1599,⁸ at Market Deeping in August 1600,⁸ and at Boston in March 1602.⁹ He was the son of Thomas Irby of Whaplode and grandson of Anthony Irby the elder of Gosberton. He matriculated from Caius College, Cambridge, in 1559, was admitted to Lincoln's Inn in 1569, and was called to the bench in 1589-90.⁷ He was Member of Parliament for Boston in 1588-89, 1592-93, 1597-98, 1601, 1604-11, 1614 and 1620-22,¹⁰ Recorder of Boston in 1613,¹¹ and an alderman of Boston in 1620.¹² He married Alice daughter of Thomas Welby of Moulton, himself a Commissioner of Sewers.¹³ His eldest son Anthony was born late in 1576 or within the first nine days of 1577, and father and son have been confused. It was obviously the father who leased land in Boston in 1593 and bought land in Whaplode in 1597 and in Moulton in 1598;¹⁴ who was made Steward of the Dowager Countess of Bedford's manors in Lincolnshire and Leicestershire in 1596;¹⁵ and who was appointed deputy steward of the soke of Bolingbroke in 1599.¹⁶ He died in 1625.¹³ But the great monument in Whaplode church is that of the son, "Sr Anthonie Irby knight sonne of Anthonie Irby Esquire and Alice his wife, daughter of Thomas Welbie of Molton Esquire."

LEONARD IRBY was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), for Lincolnshire in 1564,¹⁷ for the Isle of Ely and Tydd St. Mary in 1566,¹⁸ and for Lincolnshire in both June and November 1570.¹⁹ He sat at Boston in August 1559 (114), at Skirbeck in September 1562 (115), at Spalding

¹ Lincoln, 474.XIV.21, 25.

² Lincoln 485.

³ Lincoln, 474.X.16, 17.

⁴ Lincoln, 474.XII.1, 24.

⁵ Lincoln, 474.XIII.20.

⁶ Boston, packet labelled "X".

⁷ P. Thompson, *op. cit.*, p. 392.

⁸ Dugdale, p. 205.

⁹ Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, *A manuscript collection of documents relating to . . . the East, West and Wildmore Fens*, vol. 1.

¹⁰ *Members of Parliament, return . . . 1213-1702*, pp. 423, 428, 433, 438, 444, 452, appendix, p. xxxviii.

¹¹ Venn, 2, p. 450.

¹² P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 393.

¹³ Maddison, 2, p. 542.

¹⁴ *Lord Boston's muniments at Hedsor relating to south Lincolnshire*, pp. 37, 38.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 38.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 39.

¹⁷ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

¹⁸ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 13d.

¹⁹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

in June probably 1568 (213), at Boston in September 1571¹, and at Spalding again much later, probably in 1578 (585). He was the second son of Anthony Irby the elder of Gosberton. He married Anne daughter of Charles Knevitt and widow of Nicholas Robinson. (Her first husband died in 1560. Her third husband was Robert Carr of Sleaford. All three husbands were Commissioners of Sewers.²) He was Clerk of the Peace and of the Crown in Holland and Kesteven in 1543.⁴ He was Commissioner of inquisitions *pos' mortem* in 1548 and 1550.⁵ He was escheator in Lincolnshire in 1552,⁶ Commissioner to inquire into church goods in the same county in 1553,⁷ and Commissioner of the Peace for Kesteven and Holland in 1562.⁸ In 1554 he was described as "of Swyneshead . . . gentleman servant of Edward lord Clynton and Saye".⁹ He was Member of Parliament for Stamford in 1545-47; and for Boston in 1554-57, 1559 and 1563.¹⁰ In 1561 he was deputy steward of Long Sutton in the Duchy of Lancaster.¹¹ In 1564 he was still a Justice of the Peace for Kesteven, when he was reported to be "indifferent" to religion as by law established.¹² The date of his death is not known.

CHRISTOPHER KELKE or Kewe of Barnetby was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564¹³ and in both June and November 1570.¹⁴ He sat at Boston in September 1571 (502) and at Helpringham in June 1574 (501). He was the son Christopher Kelke of Grimsby and Jane daughter and co-heir of John Saint Pol of Snarford. He married Elizabeth daughter of Robert Carr of Sleaford and widow of William Fairfax. In 1581 he was legatee of his uncle Sir Robert Tirwhitt.¹⁵

ANTHONY KYME of Boston was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564¹³ and again in both June and November 1570;¹⁴ and as mayor of Boston¹⁶ he was *ipso facto* Commissioner in 1574-75. He sat at Wainfleet in April 1571,¹⁷ at Helpringham in June 1574 (501, 506), and at Spalding in September 1576 (453). He was the son of Alexander Kyme of Kyme, and he is said to have married in 1558, Elizabeth Howson (who died in 1600 or 1601) widow of William Cracroft of Burgh.¹⁸ In 1555 and 1557 he leased much land

¹ Dugdale, p. 240.

² Maddison, 2, p. 542.

³ *Ibid.*, 3, p. 825.

⁴ *L. and P.*, 18, part 1, p. 283.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1548-49, p. 134; *C.P.R.*, 1549-51, p. 344.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 386.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 414.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 439.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 350.

¹⁰ *Members of Parliament, return* . . . 1213-1702, pp. xxxi, 386, 390, 393, 397, 401, 404.

¹¹ R. Somerville: *History of the Duchy of Lancaster*, vol. 1, p. 582.

¹² M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters* . . . 1564, p. 27.

¹³ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

¹⁴ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d. ¹⁵ Maddison, 2, p. 556.

¹⁶ P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 71.

¹⁷ Dugdale, p. 166.

¹⁸ Maddison, 4, p. 1274. But see *Boston parish registers*, vol. 1, p. 5, where one Anthony Kyme is recorded as marrying Elizabeth Calverley in 1564. It is of course possible that there were two Anthony Kymes living at Boston about this time, and if this is so they are probably confused in the above biographical note.

which had formerly belonged to monastic houses—to Louth Park Abbey,¹ Sixhills Priory,² Stixwold Priory,³ Thornholme Priory,⁴ Mountgrace,⁵ and Kirkstead Abbey.⁶ In 1556 he was one of the Commissioners who inquired into land and pasture in Ingoldmells.⁷ In 1562 he was twice a Commissioner *post mortem*.⁸ As mayor of Boston in 1574-75 he sent a letter to the Privy Council complaining that pirates were troubling that port.⁹ He was living at Wrangle early in 1578 and his will was proved in March of that year.¹⁰

No Commission has been found appointing WILLIAM LACEY Commissioner of Sewers, but he sat at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), he signed a letter as Commissioner in 1592 (773), and he sat at Spalding in September 1596,¹¹ and at Market Deeping in August 1600.¹² He was William Lacey of Deeping St. James or Little Deeping, son of Henry Lacey of Stamford. He matriculated from Christ's College, Cambridge, in November 1554.¹³ He was Alderman of Stamford in 1573,¹⁴ and as such he automatically became a Commissioner of Sewers. He married Joan daughter of Robert Tighe of Deeping St. James, and died in 1612.¹⁵

No Commission has been found appointing THOMAS LAMBERT of Pinchbeck Commissioner of Sewers. But he was acting as Commissioner in February 1588 and in August 1592 (765, 773); and he sat at Boston in January 1590,¹⁶ at Spalding in June 1591,¹⁷ at Boston in August 1592,¹⁸ at Spalding in February 1594,¹⁹ and in October of the same year,¹⁷ at an unnamed place in August 1595,¹⁷ at Spalding in September 1596,¹¹ at Boston in December 1596,¹⁷ at Spalding in August 1597,²⁰ at Bourne in August 1599,¹⁷ at Sempringham and Market Deeping in September 1599,¹⁷ at Market Deeping in August 1600,¹² and at Boston in March 1602.²¹ In 1605 he was among those who thought the draining of the Great Level possible,²² and in the next year he was one of the governors of the fens in the Isle of Ely.²³ He was anxious to tax "the country" for Boston sluice.²⁴ He was the son of John Lambert and Margaret daughter of Amory Carr of Thornton in Yorkshire. He married Susan daughter of Sir Edward Dymoke of Scrivelsby and widow of

¹ *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 219.

² *Ibid.*, p. 265; *C.P.R.*, 1557-58, pp. 157-59.

³ *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 284; *C.P.R.*, 1557-58, pp. 157-59.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 317.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1557-58, pp. 153-4.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 318.

⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1557-58, p. 163.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, pp. 433, 448.

⁹ P. Thompson; *op. cit.*, pp. 454, 71.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 385.

¹¹ Boston, packet labelled "X".

¹² Dugdale, p. 205.

¹³ Venn, 3, p. 33.

¹⁴ R. Butcher: *Survey and antiquity of . . . Stamford*, p. 85.

¹⁵ Maddison, 2, p. 576.

¹⁶ Lincoln, 474.X.16, 17.

¹⁷ Lincoln, 485.

¹⁸ Lincoln, 474.XII.1, 24.

¹⁹ Lincoln, 474.XIII.20.

²⁰ Lincoln, 574.XVII.1.

²¹ Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, *A manuscript collection of documents relating to . . . the East, West and Wildmore Fens*, 1.

²² Dugdale, p. 379.

²³ *Ibid.*, p. 387.

²⁴ Lincoln, 501.

Arthur Walpole of Pinchbeck. He was knighted in 1603 and he died in July 1613.¹

LINCOLN, see CLINTON.

HUMPHREY LITTLEBURY was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), and for Lincolnshire in 1564.² He sat at Boston in August 1559 (114), and in the north of Lincolnshire in or about the same year.³ He can probably be identified with the first son and heir of John Littlebury of Hagworthingham and Katherine daughter and heir of Richard Gally of Bicker, who died in November 1569. The fact that no Humphrey Littlebury appeared on the 1570 Commissions of Sewers helps to confirm this presumption. But there was another Humphrey Littlebury living at the same time, son of Thomas Littlebury of Stainsby and grandson of John Littlebury's elder brother Richard of Stainsby. This second Humphrey was born about 1524, was legatee of his uncle George St. Pol in 1558, and died in October 1580.⁴ One or other Humphrey Littlebury was Justice of the Peace for Lindsey in 1562,⁵ and for Holland in 1564 when he was described as a hinderer to the established religion.⁶

ROBERT LITTLEBURY was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), and he sat at Swineshead in July of that year (100). He was presumably a member of the family of Littlebury of Hagworthingham, Stainsby and Wragby, but it has not been possible to identify him. One Robert Littlebury was made bailiff of the manor of Langtoft by the monks of Crowland shortly before the dissolution.⁷

JOHN LOCKTON was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in November 1570.⁸ He sat at Boston in September 1571 (502), at Helpringham in June 1574 (501, 506), at Boston in May 1575 (388), at Boston in September 1581 (731), at Boston in February and October 1583 (736, 737, 683), at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), and at Boston in January 1590,⁹ August 1592,¹⁰ and December 1596.¹¹ He was almost certainly the son of John Lockton of Swineshead and Alice daughter of Robert Huntington of Thaxted, Essex. He was born about 1555, married Frances daughter of William Howson of Wigtoft, was knighted in 1603, and died in January 1611.¹² A John Lockton, presumably the Commissioner, was Comptroller

¹ Maddison, 2, p. 578.

² P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d. ³ P.R.O., E 137/143/6.

⁴ Maddison, 2, pp. 599, 600. ⁵ C.P.R., 1560-63, p. 439.

⁶ M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters* . . . 1564, p. 27.

⁷ G. A. J. Hodgett: "The dissolution of the religious houses in Lincolnshire and the changing structure of society", *Lincolnshire Architectural and Archaeological Society Reports and Papers*, N.S. vol. 4, p. 86.

⁸ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d. ⁹ Lincoln, 474.X.17.

¹⁰ Lincoln, 474.XII.1.

¹¹ Lincoln, 485.

¹² Maddison, 2, p. 604; Venn, 3, p. 98.

of the port of Boston in 1597, when he was accused of misconduct in the execution of his office.¹

JOHN MAN was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Holland in 1554 (21), for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), for the county of Lincoln in 1564,² and for the Isle of Ely and Tydd St. Mary in 1566.³ He sat at Boston in August 1559 (114), at Skirbeck in September 1562 (115), and at Spalding in June, probably 1568 (213). He is difficult to identify. He may be the John Man of Bolingbroke who died in 1569, or this John's son, also of Bolingbroke, who married Audrey daughter of Richard Ogle of Pinchbeck.⁴ There is a John Man on the Pardon Roll of 1 Mary,⁵ described as "of Pynchebecke, co. Lincoln, gentleman, *alias* of Sutton Sancti Jacobi in Holland, co. Lincoln, yoman, *alias* John Manne, citizen and grocer of London," who may have been Audrey's husband or yet a third John Man. It can merely be recorded that one John Man was appointed Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1562,⁶ that two years later someone of the same name appeared as Justice of the Peace for Kesteven when he was reported as "earnest in religion",⁷ and that in the sixties one of the same name was feodary of the Duchy of Lancaster.⁸

No Commission appointing RICHARD MORE Commissioner has been found, but he sat at Whaplode in October 1582,⁹ and at Fleet in April 1584 (738). He may have been Richard More of Bourne, who was buried at Pinchbeck in April 1590¹⁰; or Richard More of Grantham, who was Justice of the Peace in 1584 and Member of Parliament for Grantham in 1585, and who died in 1595.¹⁰

THOMAS MORRYSON was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), and as mayor of Grimsby in 1576¹¹ he was Commissioner in that year. He sat at Fleet in April 1584 (738). He was Thomas Morryson of Cadeby, Clerk of the Pipe. He died in 1592.¹¹

RICHARD OGLE was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Huntingdon, Cambridge and Northampton in 1540,¹² for the district between Gedney in Lincolnshire and the "Chapell of the Sea" in Cambridgeshire in 1544,¹³ for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), for parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire in 1547,¹⁴

¹ Appendix to the *Thirty-eighth report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records*, 1877, pp. 374, 376.

² P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

³ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 13d. ⁴ Maddison, 2, p. 630.

⁵ C.P.R., 1553-54, p. 445.

⁶ C.P.R., 1560-63, p. 439.

⁷ M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters* . . . 1564, p. 27.

⁸ R. Somerville: *History of the Duchy of Lancaster*, 1, p. 582.

⁹ P.R.O., Exchequer Depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, no. 24.

¹⁰ Maddison, 2, p. 687.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 693.

¹² *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

¹³ *Ibid.*, 20, part 1, p. 324.

¹⁴ Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton St. Mary, dated 17 October 1547.

for Sutton in Holland in 1553,¹ for Holland in 1554 (21), and for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24). A Richard Ogle sat as Commissioner at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193), at Donington in September 1547 (26), at Stamford in July 1552 (64), at Swineshead in July 1555 (100), at Boston in September 1581 (731, 735), at Whaplode in October 1582,² at Boston in February (736, 737) and October 1583 (683), at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), at an unknown place in August 1584 (697), at Boston in December 1584 (695), at Spalding in June 1585 (740, 742), in August 1586 (743, 745), and in January 1587 (711), at Boston in June 1587,³ and in May 1588,⁴ at Spalding in July 1588,⁴ at Boston in January 1589,⁵ in January 1590,⁶ and in April 1590,⁷ at Spalding in June 1591,⁴ at Boston in August 1592,⁸ at Spalding in October 1594,⁴ at a place unknown in August 1595,⁴ at Spalding in September 1596,⁹ at Boston in December 1596,⁴ at Spalding in August 1597,¹⁰ at an unknown place in September 1597,¹¹ at Bourne in August 1599,¹² at Sempringham and Market Deeping in September 1599,¹² and at Market Deeping in August 1600.¹³ As Commissioner he received and wrote letters in 1588 and 1592 (764, 773). There were two Commissioners of Sewers called Richard Ogle. The first was Richard Ogle of Pinchbeck who died in 1555. He can probably be identified with the Richard Ogle who was Commissioner for collecting the benevolence for defence against France in Holland in 1544-45¹⁴ and in Kesteven in 1546,¹⁵ Justice of the Peace for Holland and Kesteven in 1543 and 1547,¹⁶ Commissioner for inquisitions *post mortem* in Lincolnshire in 1548,¹⁷ Commissioner for the collection of the third payment of the relief in Kesteven, Holland, Rutland and Boston in 1551,¹⁸ Commissioner in Holland to enquire into the price of corn in 1551,¹⁹ Commissioner to deal with church goods in Holland and Boston in 1553,²⁰ Justice of the Peace for Kesteven in 1554,²¹ and Commissioner for gaol delivery in Lincolnshire in 1555.²² He bought lands in Pinchbeck, Surfleet and Fleet which formerly belonged to the Abbey of Vaudey.²³ The second Richard Ogle was the son of Thomas Ogle and grandson of the first Richard. He was knighted in 1603, married Dorothy daughter of Robert Ashfield of Stowlangtoft in

¹ Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton St. Mary, dated 6 March 1553.

² P.R.O., Exchequer Depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, no. 24.

³ Lincoln, 474.XIV.21, 25.

⁴ Lincoln, 474.IX.64.

⁵ Lincoln, 474.IX.25.

⁶ Lincoln, 474.X.16, 17.

⁷ Lincoln, 474.XII.1.

⁸ Lincoln, 474.XVII.1.

⁹ Boston, packet labelled " X ".

¹⁰ Lincoln, 474.XVII.1.

¹¹ Dugdale, p. 349.

¹² Lincoln, 485; Dugdale, p. 205.

¹³ Dugdale, p. 205.

¹⁴ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 325.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 21, part 1, p. 484.

¹⁶ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 316; *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, pp. 85-6.

¹⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1548-49, p. 134.

¹⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1553, pp. 355-7, 362.

¹⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1550-53, p. 141.

²⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1553, pp. 414, 417.

²¹ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 21.

²² *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 106.

²³ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 327.

Suffolk, was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1608, and died insolvent in Fleet Prison in 1627.¹

THOMAS OGLE of Pinchbeck was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564² and in both June and November 1570.³ A Commissioner of this name sat at Spalding in 1577 or 1578 (585), at an unnamed place in August 1595,⁴ at Spalding again in September 1596,⁵ at Boston in December 1596,⁴ at Bourne in August 1599,⁴ at Sempringham and Market Deeping in September 1599,⁴ at Market Deeping in August 1600,⁶ at Boston in March 1602,⁷ gave Thomas Lovell permission to drain in August 1602,⁶ and was one of the Commissioners who in 1605 thought that the Great Level could be drained.⁸ Unfortunately for identification, there were two Commissioners of Sewers called Thomas Ogle. The first was the son of that Richard Ogle of Pinchbeck who died in 1555; he married Jane daughter of Adlard Welby of Gedney, and died in 1574. His second son was another Thomas Ogle, who after marrying twice died in 1617.⁹ A Thomas Ogle, presumably the elder, was Justice of the Peace in Holland in 1562¹⁰ and again in 1570.¹¹

JOHN PEPYS or Peipes sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Spalding in September 1596,⁵ and at Peterborough in April 1597.⁴ The first son of John Pepys of Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, he matriculated at Clare College, Cambridge, in 1575, and was admitted to Gray's Inn in 1578. He married Elizabeth daughter of John Bendish of Steeple Bumpstead, Essex, and died in 1604.¹²

Sir JOHN PEYTON or Peiton sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Wisbech in September 1581,¹³ at Spalding in October 1582,¹⁴ at Wisbech in October 1589,¹⁵ at King's Lynn in September 1591,¹⁶ and at Wisbech once more in July 1610.¹⁷ In the summer of 1598 he and his wife Dorothea were in trouble with the authorities for not paying their acre silver.¹⁸ In 1619 he owned the "East Fen".¹⁹

No Commission appointing Sir WILLIAM RIGDON of Dowsby Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but he sat at Boston in January 1590,²⁰ and in August 1592,²¹ at Spalding in February 1594,²² in October 1594,⁴ and in September 1596,⁵ at Boston in

¹ Maddison, 2, p. 731.

² P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

³ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

⁴ Lincoln, 485.

⁵ Boston, packet labelled "X".

⁶ Dugdale, p. 205.

⁷ Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, *A manuscript collection of documents relating to . . . the East, West and Wildmore Fens*, vol. 1.

⁸ Dugdale, p. 379.

⁹ Maddison, 2, pp. 731, 733.

¹⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 439.

¹¹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 40d.

¹² Venn: *Alumni Cantabrigienses . . . to 1751*, vol. 3, p. 344.

¹³ Dugdale, p. 347.

¹⁴ P.R.O., Exchequer depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, no. 24.

¹⁵ Dugdale, p. 348.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 349.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 389.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 350.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 404.

²⁰ Lincoln, 474.X.16, 17.

²¹ Lincoln, 474.XII.1, 24.

²² Lincoln, 474.XIII.20.

December 1596,¹ at Bourne in August 1599,¹ at Market Deeping and Sempringham in September 1599, at Market Deeping in August 1600,² and at Boston in March 1602. He was born about 1558 and was the son of Thomas Rigdon of Chartham, Kent, and Anne Villiers. He married first Etheldred daughter of George Partridge of Sutton in Holland, and then Eleanor daughter of John Wymark of Greatford. He died in 1610.⁴

ANTHONY ROBERTSON or Robinson was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,⁵ for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), for Holland in 1554 (21), for Lincolnshire in 1564,⁶ for the Isle of Ely and Tydd St. Mary in 1566,⁷ and for Lincolnshire in both June and November 1570.⁸ He sat at Donington in September 1547 (26), at Boston in August 1559 (114) and again in September 1571 (502). There is said to be great uncertainty about the descent of his family.⁹ Anthony Robertson, of Riceprice in Fishtoft, merchant of the Staple,¹⁰ appears to have been the son of Thomas Robinson of Algarkirk, merchant of the Staple, and his second wife Mary Saxby who died in 1520. Anthony had by his first wife five sons, one of whom was called Anthony. He was Justice of the Peace in Holland in 1543,¹¹ and Commissioner for collecting the third payment of the relief in Holland in 1551.¹²

No Commission appointing MATTHEW ROBINSON Commissioner of Sewers has been found. But he was Commissioner in 1592 when he was one of the signatories of a letter to lord Burghley (773), he sat at Spalding in June 1591,¹ October 1591¹ and September 1596,¹³ at Peterborough in April 1597,¹ at Bourne in August 1599,¹ and at Market Deeping in September 1599,¹ and in August 1600.¹⁴ He was among the Commissioners who gave Thomas Lovell permission to drain in August 1600,¹⁴ and he viewed the Great Level in June 1605.¹⁵ He was the son of Lawrence Robinson of Maxey in Northamptonshire.¹⁶ Little more is known about him, except that in October 1582 he had recently enclosed a piece of salt marsh.¹⁷

NICHOLAS ROBERTSON or Robinson was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,⁵ for the district between Gedney in Lincolnshire and "the Chapell of the Sea" in Cambridgeshire in

¹ Lincoln, 485.

² Dugdale, p. 205.

³ Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, *A manuscript collection of documents relating to . . . the East, West and Wildmore Fens*, vol. 1.

⁴ Maddison, 3, p. 821.

⁵ *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

⁶ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-24d.

⁷ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 13d.

⁸ *Ibid.*, mem. 20d.

⁹ Maddison, 3, p. 826.

¹⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 347.

¹¹ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 316.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 356.

¹³ Boston, packet labelled "X".

¹⁴ Dugdale, p. 205.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 379.

¹⁶ Maddison, 3, p. 825.

¹⁷ P.R.O., Exchequer Depositions 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, No. 24.

1544,¹ for Lincolnshire in March 1547 (20), and for part of Lincolnshire and "the Chapell of the Sea" in October 1547.² He sat at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193), and at Donington in September 1547 (26). He was the son of Nicholas Robinson, merchant of the Staple, and he married Anne Knyvett, who after his death became the wife first of Leonard Irby and then of Robert Carr of Sleaford.³ He held land in Algarkirk.⁴ He was Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1543,⁵ and again in 1547.⁶ When in the year 1545 Boston received its first charter he became its first mayor.⁷ In 1544-45 and 1546 he was Commissioner in Holland for collecting the benevolence decreed towards defence against the French king⁸; in 1550 and 1551 he was Commissioner for collecting the third payment of the relief in Holland and Boston,⁹ and in 1551 he was appointed to the Commission to enquire into the enhanced price of corn in Holland.¹⁰ He died in Boston in 1560.

THOMAS ROBINSON was mayor of Boston in 1582-83,⁷ and as such he was Commissioner of Sewers. He sat at Boston in February 1583 (736, 737).

GEORGE SAMPOLL, Seyntpole, St. Pol or St. Paul was named Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,¹¹ for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), and for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely (23), and for parts of Yorkshire in 1555.¹² He sat at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193), at Wrangle in September 1550,¹³ at Stamford in July 1552 (64), and at Alford in October 1594.¹⁴ Unfortunately for identification, there were two men of this name living about the middle of the sixteenth century, George St. Paul of Campsall son of John St. Paul of Campsall, and George St. Paul of Snarford third son of John St. Paul of Snarford.¹⁵ The dates of birth and death of George of Campsall are unknown. George of Snarford was born about 1499, married Jane daughter of Sir William Ayscough, and died on some date between 30 December 1558, and 22 February 1559, being described at his death as of North Carlton.¹⁶ Various facts are known about one or other George St. Paul. Because it has not been possible to distinguish them, these facts can only be listed, but the probability is that most of them up to February 1559 relate to George St. Paul of Snarford. In 1539 he was Justice of the Peace for Lindsey.¹⁷

¹ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 32.

² Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton St. Mary, dated 17 October 1547.

³ Maddison, 3, p. 825.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1548-49, pp. 357, 361-62.

⁵ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 316.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, p. 85.

⁷ P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 454.

⁸ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 325; *ibid.*, 21, part 1, p. 474.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1553, pp. 356, 362.

¹⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1550-53, p. 141.

¹¹ *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 110.

¹³ Dugdale, p. 164.

¹⁴ P.R.O., E 137/143/6, rot. 4d.

¹⁵ Maddison, 3, pp. 843, 845.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 845.

¹⁷ *L. and P.*, 14, part 1, p. 534.

In 1544 he bought Lyngs Grange from lord Clinton, who had it from Barlings Abbey.¹ In 1547 he was described as "of Lincoln and Louth Park, *alias* of Lincoln's Inn, gentleman".² In 1549 he bought land formerly belonging to Bullington Priory,³ and in 1551 he was renting land in Spalding.⁴ In 1554 he was granted custody of the manor of Snitterby and of lands in Faldingworth.⁵ He was Member of Parliament for Lincoln city in 1545-47, 1547-52, 1553 and 1558.⁶ He was on a Commission of oyer and terminer for the counties of Northampton, Warwick, Leicester, Rutland, Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln, the cities of Lincoln and Coventry and the towns of Leicester and Nottingham in 1547.⁷ He became Commissioner to collect the third payment of the relief in Lindsey and Holland and in Boston in 1551,⁸ and to survey church goods in Boston in 1553,⁹ Justice of the Peace for Lindsey in 1554,¹⁰ Commissioner of oyer and terminer in Lincolnshire and other counties and Commissioner for gaol delivery in Lincolnshire and other counties,¹¹ and Commissioner for gaol delivery in Lincolnshire all in the same year,¹² and Commissioner of oyer and terminer again in 1557.¹³ He became a serjeant at law in 1555.¹⁴

No Commission appointing NICHOLAS SAUNDERSON Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but he made a brief appearance as Commissioner in August 1592 (773). He was born about 1562, the son of Robert Saunderson of Reasby, Saxby and Fillingham, and nephew of an older Nicholas Saunderson of Reasby who died in 1591.¹⁵ He was sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1592,¹⁶ and Member of Parliament for Grimsby in 1593 and for Lincolnshire in 1625.¹⁷ He was created a Baronet in 1612 and became Viscount Castleton in the kingdom of Ireland in 1627. He died in 1631.¹⁸

ROWLAND SHERARD or Sherrerd was appointed a Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564,¹⁹ and in both June and November 1570.²⁰ He sat at Helpringham in June 1574 (701), and at Spalding in September 1576 (453). He lived at Lobthorpe in North Witham, and entered Gray's Inn in 1551. He married Jane daughter of Augustine Porter of Belton.²¹ In 1582 he was involved in a quarrel with the under-sheriff of Lincolnshire, Richard Coventry,

¹ G. A. J. Hodgett: "The dissolution of the religious houses in Lincolnshire and the changing structure of society," *Lincolnshire Architectural and Archaeological Society Reports and Papers*, vol. 4 N.S., 1951-52, p. 94.

² *C.P.R.*, 1548-49, p. 154.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 226.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1550-53, p. 183.

⁵ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 90.

⁶ *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, pp. xxxi, 376, 382, 397.

⁷ *C.P.R.*, 1547-48, pp. 75-76.

⁸ *C.P.R.*, 1553, pp. 355-56, 362.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1550-53, p. 394; *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 417.

¹⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 21.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 29.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 106.

¹³ *C.P.R.*, 1555-57, p. 454.

¹⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, p. 59.

¹⁵ Maddison, 3, p. 858.

¹⁶ Thomas Fuller: *The history of the worthies of England*, 1811, 2, p. 31.

¹⁷ *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, pp. 429, 464.

¹⁸ Maddison, 3, p. 858.

¹⁹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

²⁰ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

²¹ Maddison, 3, p. 871.

who is presumably to be identified with the clerk of Sewers of that name. Coventry had been instructed to levy £60 of John Thymelby of Irnham, as a fine for absenting himself from church for three months, and he took two hundred sheep from Sherard instead. The latter wrote to Burghley, the Lord Treasurer, petitioning that the sheep be returned.¹ The outcome of the dispute is not known. Sherard died in 1592.

RICHARD SHUTE sat as Commissioner at Fleet in April 1584 (738).

No Commission appointing ALEXANDER SKINNER of Boston Commissioner of Sewers has been found. He sat at Boston in May 1575 (388), at Spalding in September 1576 (453), viewed Skirbeck Gote in April 1577 (575), sat at Boston in September 1581 (731, 735) and February 1583 (736, 737) and at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739). The son of Robert Skinner of Lincoln city and of Thorpe by Wainfleet, he was born about 1512. In 1550 he was made collector of subsidy and customs in the port of Boston.² In 1566 he bought three parcels of pasture in Bullgate, Boston, from Philip Tilney.³ In 1576 he was admitted to the Company of Merchant Adventurers of London.⁴ He was twice married. He died on 29 April 1584, and was buried at Bolingbroke.⁵

No Commission has been found appointing VINCENT SKINNER of Thornton College Commissioner of Sewers. He was Commissioner for the Great Level in 1577-78,⁶ sat at Whaplode in October 1582,⁷ and at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), and was writing letters as a Commissioner in July 1589 (772). He was the son of John Skinner of Thorpe by Wainfleet, and he married first Audrey daughter of Richard Ogle of Pinchbeck and widow of John Man of Bolingbroke, and secondly Elizabeth daughter of Robert Fowkes. In the fifteen eighties he succeeded his father as receiver of the Honor of Bolingbroke.⁸ He died in 1616, and was buried at Holborn "out of Isaac Bringham's house in High Holborn, being a prison".⁹

ROBERT STEPHENSON or Stevenson was mayor of Boston in 1586-87¹⁰ and was Commissioner of Sewers while in office. He sat at Boston in December 1596,¹¹ and again in March 1602.¹²

WILLIAM STIRMYN sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Spalding in September 1596,¹³ and was Commissioner for the Great Level in April 1605.¹⁴

¹ *Hist. MSS Comm.*, Cecil, 2, p. 530.

² *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 346.

³ *Lord Boston's muniments*, p. 36.

⁴ P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 73.

⁵ Maddison, 3, p. 887.

⁶ Dugdale, p. 375.

⁷ P.R.O., Exchequer depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, No. 24.

⁸ R. Somerville: *History of the Duchy of Lancaster*, 1, p. 580.

⁹ Maddison, 3, p. 888.

¹⁰ P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 454.

¹¹ Lincoln, 485.

¹² Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, *A manuscript collection of documents relating to . . . the East, West and Wildmore Fens*, vol. 1.

¹³ Boston, packet labelled "X".

¹⁴ Dugdale, p. 370.

Sir ANTHONY THOROLD of Marston was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), and for the county of Lincoln in 1564¹ and in both June and November 1570.² He sat at Boston in September 1571 (502) and at Helpringham in June 1581 (501, 506). He married first Margaret daughter of Henry Sutton of Wellingore and secondly Anne daughter of Sir John Constable of Knoulton.³ In 1557 he was Member of Parliament for Grantham,⁴ and in 1571 High Sheriff of Lincolnshire. He died in 1594.⁵

WILLIAM THOROLD was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), and for Lincolnshire in 1564.¹ He sat at Stamford in July 1552 (64). There was more than one William Thorold living at the time, but it is probable that the Commissioner of Sewers was William Thorold of Hough and Marston,⁵ High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1558, Merchant of the Staple in 1559 and 1560,⁶ who died in 1569.

JOHN TOWTHBY or Toothby was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in both June and November 1570.² He sat at Boston in December 1596.⁷ The fourth son of Thomas Towthby of Towthby, he was born in 1538, married Dorcas daughter of Edward Ayscough and died in 1598.⁸

No Commission appointing ROBERT TOWNELEY Commissioner of Sewers has been found. He sat at Boston in February (736, 737) and October 1583 (683), at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), and at Boston again in December 1584 (695). He was harbour master of Boston, and an alderman of the same town, and not later than 1570 he married Joan widow of Richard Skepper of East Kirkby.⁹ He died on 8 March 1585.¹⁰

ARTHUR WALPOLE is another of the Commissioners of Sewers for whom no Commission has been found. He sat at Helpringham in June 1574 (501), at Boston in May 1575 (388), and in August 1576 (534, 567), at Spalding in September 1576 (453), at Boston again in September 1581 (731, 735), at Whaplode in October 1582,¹¹ at Boston in February (736, 737) and October 1583 (683), at Spalding in October 1583 (669), at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), at an unknown place in August 1584 (697), and at Spalding in June

¹ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

² P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d. ³ Maddison, 3, p. 982.

⁴ *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, p. 397.

⁵ Maddison, 3, p. 982; *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 456.

⁶ *C.P.R.*, 1558-60, pp. 24, 411-2.

⁷ Lincoln, 485.

⁸ Maddison, 3, p. 1010.

⁹ In 1570 he and his wife leased half an acre of pasture in Spain Lane, Boston. P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 113.

¹⁰ A brass in the Stump at Boston provides most of these details.

¹¹ P.R.O., Exchequer depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, No. 24.

1585 (740, 742). He viewed Skirbeck Gote in April 1577 (575). He was the second son of Robert Walpole of Stamford and Pinchbeck. He matriculated from Peterhouse, Cambridge in 1548, and he was admitted at Gray's Inn in 1553 and at the Inner Temple in 1556.¹ In 1559 he appeared on the Pardon Roll as Arthur Walpole of Pinchbeck, *alias* of the Inner Temple, *alias* of Stamford, *alias* of Spalding.² He married first Elizabeth Staunton of Staunton, Nottinghamshire, and secondly Susan daughter of Sir Edward Dymoke of Scrivelsby. He died in August 1585.³

JOHN WALPOLE sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Boston in September 1581 (731, 735), at Whaplode in October 1582,⁴ at Boston in February (736, 737) and October 1583 (683), at Spalding in October 1583 (669), at Fleet in April 1584 (738, 739), at an unknown place in August 1584 (697), at Boston in December 1584 (695), at Spalding in June 1585 (740, 742), in August 1586 (743, 745), and in January 1587 (711), at Boston in June 1587,⁵ at Spalding in July 1588,⁶ and at Boston in January 1590.⁷ After the meeting of the Commissioners at Whaplode in 1582 he was involved in 1586 in a lawsuit concerning the draining of the low grounds of Moulton, Whaplode and Holbeach, when it was alleged that he and four other Commissioners had illegally ordered the placing of Whaplode Gote four score poles nearer the sea than the other twelve Commissioners sitting together had originally decreed.⁴ It is uncertain whether the Commissioner was John Walpole of Barholm (son of Robert Walpole of Stamford and Pinchbeck) who died in 1588,⁸ or his namesake (second son of Thomas Walpole of Whaplode) who, after matriculating from Caius College, Cambridge, in 1559, was admitted to Lincoln's Inn in 1565, succeeded to the estates of his elder brother, and was buried at Sleaford in 1590.¹ There are other facts about one or other John Walpole which can but be recorded. A John Walpole was Justice of the Peace for Norfolk in 1554;⁹ held land in Upwell, Cambridgeshire, in 1554, and in Salle and Heydon¹⁰ and Wendling, Norfolk, in 1558;¹¹ and was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for part of Norfolk in 1554 and 1555.¹²

ROBERT WALPOLE of Stamford and Pinchbeck was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540,¹³ for the district between Gedney in Lincolnshire and "the Chapell of the Sea" in Cambridgeshire in 1544,¹⁴ for Lincolnshire in 1547 (20), for Sutton in

¹ Venn, 4, p. 324.

² *C.P.R.*, 1558-60, p. 179.

³ Gervase Holles says 1583 (*L.R.S.* i, p. 201). But see Venn, 4, p. 324; Maddison, 3, p. 1040.

⁴ P.R.O., Exchequer depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, No. 24.

⁵ Boston, 474.XIV, 21, 25.

⁶ Lincoln, 485.

⁷ Lincoln, 474.X.16, 17.

⁸ Maddison, 3, p. 1039.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 22.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 189, 362.

¹¹ *C.P.R.*, 1557-58, p. 236.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1554-55, pp. 108, 111.

¹³ *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 20, part 1, p. 324.

Holland in 1554,¹ for Holland in 1554 (21), for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), and for Lincolnshire in 1564.² His name appeared on both the June and November Commissions of 1570,³ although if a secondary authority is to be trusted he was then dead.⁴ As Commissioner he sat at Donington in September 1547 (26). He was son of William Walpole, and father of one Commissioner of Sewers, Arthur Walpole, and possibly of a second, John Walpole.⁵ He was Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1543,⁶ 1547,⁷ 1554,⁸ and 1562.⁹ In 1551 he was one of the Commissioners who collected the third payment of the relief in Holland.¹⁰ He is said to have died in February 1570, and there was mention in his will of lands in Pinchbeck, Spalding, Surfleet, Stickney, Gosberton, Quadring, Stamford, Tallington, Stowe, Deeping, Obthorpe in Thurlby and Barholm.¹¹

No Commission naming WILLIAM WATSON Commissioner of Sewers has been found. But he sat at Boston in August 1576 (534, 567), at Spalding in September 1576 (453), at Boston in September 1581 (731, 735), at Whaplode in October 1582,¹² at Boston in February 1583 (736, 737), at Spalding in October 1583 (669), at Fleet in April 1584 (738), at an unknown place in August 1584 (697), at Spalding in June 1585 (740, 742), August 1586 (743, 745) and July 1588,¹³ at Boston in January 1589,¹⁴ and at Spalding in June 1590,¹⁵ and in February 1594.¹⁵ In 1588 during the dispute between George Carleton and John Walpole about the draining of Little Porsand he sided with the latter (764). The name is too common for a confident identification of the Commissioner to be made. A William Watson was under-steward of Steeping in 1574-76, of Bolingbroke halmote and Sutton in Holland in 1579-81, and of Sutton in Holland in 1581-83.¹⁶ A William Watson was town clerk of Boston in 1574,¹⁷ and governor of the new grammar school at Spalding in 1583,¹⁸ and a man of the same name, "bruer," was alderman, that is mayor, of Stamford in 1593.¹⁹ But more information is needed before the various William Watsons can be distinguished from each other.

ADLARD WELBY was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the district from Gedney in Lincolnshire to "the Chapell of the Sea"

¹ Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton St. Mary, dated 6 March 1553.

² P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

³ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d. ⁴ Maddison, 3, p. 1039.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 1039-40.

⁷ C.P.R., 1547-48, p. 85.

⁶ L. and P., 20, part 1, p. 316.

⁸ C.P.R., 1553-54, p. 21.

⁹ C.P.R., 1560-63, p. 439.

¹⁰ C.P.R., 1553, p. 356.

¹¹ Maddison, 3, p. 1039.

¹² P.R.O., Exchequer depositions, 28 and 29 Elizabeth, Michaelmas, No. 24.

¹³ Lincoln, 485.

¹⁴ Lincoln, 474.IX.64.

¹⁵ Lincoln, 474.XIII.20.

¹⁶ Appendix to the *Forty-third report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records*, 1882, p. 290.

¹⁷ P. Thompson: *op. cit.*, p. 459.

¹⁸ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1306, mem. 19d.

¹⁹ R. Butcher: *Survey and antiquity of . . . Stamford*, p. 85.

in Cambridgeshire in 1544,¹ for (possibly the same) parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire in 1547,² for Sutton in Holland in 1553,³ for Holland in 1554 (21), for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (24), for Lincolnshire in 1564,⁴ for the Isle of Ely and Tydd St. Mary in 1566,⁵ and for Lincolnshire in both June and November 1570.⁶ Someone of this name sat as Commissioner at Stamford in July 1552 (64), at Swineshead in July 1555 (100), at Skirbeck in September 1562 (114), at Spalding in June probably 1568 (213) and in 1577 or 1578 (585, 587), and at an unknown place in August 1595.⁷ Adlard was a common Christian name in the Welby family, and two were Commissioners of Sewers. The first was the son of Richard Welby of Gedney who died in 1527.⁸ This Adlard Welby was Commissioner of inquisitions *post mortem* for Lincolnshire in 1548,⁹ Commissioner for the collection of the third payment of the relief in Holland in 1551,¹⁰ and Commissioner for the survey of church goods in Holland in 1553.¹¹ He was Justice of the Peace for Holland in 1554,¹² for Lindsey and Holland in 1562,¹³ for Kesteven in 1564 when he was reported "earnest in religion,"¹⁴ and for Lindsey and Holland in 1570.¹⁵ He was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1561. In 1564 he bought Gedney manor.¹⁶ He died in August 1570.¹⁷ He married twice, and in 1574 his widow married as her fourth husband Robert Carr of Sleaford. The second Adlard Welby who was a Commissioner of Sewers was almost certainly this elder Adlard's son by his first wife. He lived in Woodhead in Casterton, Rutland. Little is known of him, except that he was still living in 1618.¹⁸

Two men called THOMAS WELBY were appointed Commissioners of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555, being Thomas Welby of Moulton and Thomas Welby of Welby (24), one (not identified) for Lincolnshire in 1564,⁴ and one (again not identified) for Lincolnshire in both June and November 1570.⁶ A Thomas Welby sat at Skirbeck in September 1562 (115), at Spalding in June probably 1568 (213), at Spalding and Whaplode in May 1588,⁷ and at Spalding again in October 1594.⁷ Thomas

¹ *L. and P.*, 20, part 1, p. 324.

² Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton St. Mary, dated 17 October 1547.

³ Commission of Sewers, kept in the parish chest of Long Sutton St. Mary, dated 6 March 1553.

⁴ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

⁵ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 13d.

⁶ *Ibid.*, mem. 20d.

⁷ Lincoln, 485.

⁸ Maddison, 4, pp. 1315-16.

⁹ *C.P.R.*, 1548-49, p. 134.

¹⁰ *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 356.

¹¹ *C.P.R.*, 1550-53, p. 395; *C.P.R.*, 1553, p. 414.

¹² *C.P.R.*, 1553-54, p. 21.

¹³ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 439.

¹⁴ M. Bateson, ed.: *A collection of original letters . . . 1564*, p. 27.

¹⁵ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 40d.

¹⁶ Maddison, 4, p. 1316.

¹⁷ *L.R.S.*, i, p. 179.

Welby of Moulton, son of Thomas Welby of Halstead, was born not later than 1524, married in 1560 Elizabeth daughter of Sir Richard Thimbleby of Irnham, and died in 1570. The Welby pedigree is involved, and Thomas Welby of Welby has not been identified. Members of the family lived at Gedney, Moulton, Stixwould and Whaplode. The Thomas Welby who sat as Commissioner in 1594 may have been the eldest son of Thomas Welby of Moulton, born in 1562, who died in 1623.¹

No Commission appointing WILLIAM WELBY Commissioner of Sewers has been found. But as Commissioner he sat at Boston in January 1590,² August 1590,³ and August 1592,⁴ at Spalding in February 1594,⁵ and October 1594,⁶ at an unnamed place in August 1585,⁶ and at Boston in March 1602.⁷ He was Sir William Welby, son of Adlard Welby who died in 1570 and his second wife Cassandra. Sir William married first Frances daughter of John Man of Bolingbroke and secondly (in 1594) Susan daughter of William Fitzwilliam of Bolingbroke.⁸

No Commission appointing WILLIAM WESNAM Commissioner of Sewers has been found, but he sat as Commissioner at Skirbeck in September 1562 (115), at a time when he was mayor of Boston.⁹ The mayor of Boston (together with the aldermen of Stamford, the mayor of Grimsby and the alderman of Grantham) was named as Commissioner in the 1564 Commission,¹⁰ and practice may have preceded authorization. William Wesnam was lessee of the grazing rights of the manor of Swineshead, and he grazed over two hundred sheep belonging to a Bitchfield farmer.¹¹

FRANCIS WILLOUGHBY was Commissioner in August 1592 (773), when he was one of the signatories of a letter to lord Burghley.

No Commission appointing THOMAS WIMBERLEY Commissioner has been found. He signed two "laws" of sewers dated August and September 1599.⁶ But it is not certain that he sat at Bourne and Market Deeping when the "laws" were drawn up, for his name does not appear at the top with those of the other Commissioners present.

JOHN WINGFIELD was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Northampton in 1540.¹² He sat at Boston in August 1544 (77, 193). The Wingfield pedigree is both complex and confused, and without

¹ Maddison, 4, p. 1314.

² Lincoln, 474.X.16, 17.

³ Lincoln, 474.IX.25.

⁴ Lincoln, 474.XII.1, 24.

⁵ Lincoln, 474.XIII.20.

⁶ Lincoln, 485.

⁷ Lindsey County Library, Lincoln, *A manuscript collection of documents relating to . . . the East, West and Wildmore Fens*, vol. 1.

⁸ Maddison, 4, p. 1317.

⁹ P. Thompson : *op. cit.*, p. 454.

¹⁰ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

¹¹ J. Thirsk : *Fenland farming in the sixteenth century*, p. 35.

¹² *L. and P.*, 16, p. 52.

more evidence it is impossible to say which of several John Wingfields living at the time was the Commissioner.¹

Another JOHN WINGFIELD sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Spalding in September 1596,² at Bourne in August 1599,³ and at Market Deeping in August 1660.⁴ His identity, too, is uncertain.

ROBERT WINGFIELD was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in 1555 (23), and, together with Robert Wingfield junior, for Lincolnshire in 1564⁵ and in both June and November 1570.⁶ Robert Wingfield the elder sat at Bourne in July 1574;⁷ and one or other sat at Spalding in September 1576 (453), was active as Commissioner in 1588 (758), sat at Spalding and Whaplode in May 1588,⁸ at Spalding in September 1596,² at Peterborough in April 1597³ at Spalding in August 1597,⁸ at Bourne in August 1599,³ and at Market Deeping in September of the same year³ and in August 1600⁴. One was Commissioner of Sewers for the Great Level in 1577-78⁹ and in 1605.¹⁰ A Robert Wingfield was Member of Parliament for Peterborough in 1563¹¹ and Stamford was represented by a Robert Wingfield in 1586-87, 1588-89, 1593, 1597-98, 1601 and 1604-11.¹²

GREGORY WOLMER of Bloxholm and Swineshead was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Nottingham and the Isle of Ely in January 1555 (24). He sat at Swineshead in July 1555 (100). He was the son of Richard Wolmer of Swineshead and Isabel daughter and heiress of Nicholas Upton. He died in 1575.¹³

His eldest son, GREGORY WOLMER of Swineshead, sat as Commissioner of Sewers at Spalding in October 1583 (669), though no Commission appointing him has been found. He married Elizabeth Fairfax granddaughter of Robert Carr of Sleaford, was knighted in 1603, and was dead in January 1619.¹³

RICHARD WORME was Commissioner of Sewers in 1588, when he sat at Spalding and Whaplode in May³ and sent a letter to John Jackson (758).

WILLIAM YAXLEY was appointed Commissioner of Sewers for Lincolnshire in 1564⁵ and in both June and November 1570.⁶ As Commissioner he sat at Boston in August 1576 (534, 567), and

¹ T. Blore: *History and antiquities of Rutland*, 1, part 2, pp. 65, 67; M. E. Wingfield, 7th Viscount Powerscourt: *Muniments of the ancient Saxon family of Wingfield*, pp. 4, 5; J. M. Wingfield, ed.: *Some records of the Wingfield family*, p. 240.

² Boston, packet labelled "X".

³ Lincoln, 485.

⁴ Dugdale, p. 205.

⁵ P.R.O., Patent Roll 998, mem. 24-25d.

⁶ P.R.O., Patent Roll 1073, mem. 20d.

⁷ Dugdale, p. 241.

⁸ Lincoln, 474.XVII.1.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 379.

⁹ Dugdale, p. 375.

¹¹ J. E. Neale: *The Elizabethan House of Commons*, p. 208.

¹² *Members of Parliament, return*, 1213-1702, pp. 418, 424, 429, 434, 438, 444.

¹³ Maddison, 3, p. 1105.

viewed Skirbeck Gote in April 1577 (575). He was either William Yaxley the elder of Boston, who married Rose daughter of John Langton and widow of Nicholas Upton of Northolme ; or his son William Yaxley the younger of Boston, who married Elizabeth Woodroffe in 1582, and was condemned for conversion to popery and pardoned in January 1585.¹ A William Yaxley, presumably the younger of Boston, matriculated from Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1561.² The elder William was assessed for a subsidy on land in Benington in 1560,³ and alienated land in Martin near Horncastle and other places in 1563.⁴

¹ Maddison, 3, p. 1124.

³ P. Thompson : *op. cit.*, p. 536.

² Venn, 4, p. 488.

⁴ *C.P.R.*, 1560-63, p. 616.

III. GLOSSARY

- Able, awble, awebyll tree, the abele or white poplar tree.
 Acre silver, a rate for the upkeep of dykes based on acreage.
 Balenger, a small sea-going vessel, apparently a kind of sloop.
 Bight, a bend or curve as a geographical feature, such as a bend in a dyke.
 To brest, to repair or strengthen ; to face (a bank).
 Caulr' (Cullyer), tax collector. " The coppieholders and quest of the abovesaid mannours are to choose everie yeare new culliaris . . . the which culliaris so chose are to collect . . . the Kinge's Majestie's rents . . . as also to gather the fynes." Lincoln, 453, 1.
 Causey, calcey, a paved way ; a "bridge over dirt" (Fuller, vol. 1, p. 34) ; " a passage made by art, of Earth, Gravel, Stones and such like, . . . leading through surrounded grounds for the safe passage of the king's liege people." (Callis, p. 90).
 Clough, clow, a clapgoat or tidal flap fixed in the gates of a lock in such a way that water can flow out through it, but not in by it.
 Commonage, see Menework.
 Coparteyner, coparceyner, a coheir or coheiress.
 Coucher, a cottager.
 Crest, ghrest, the top ; a bank.
 Crike, a creek or inlet of the sea.
 Crome, a hook or crook, especially a stick with a hook at the end of it, to draw weeds out of ditches.
 Delph, delf, a drain or dyke.
 To didle, to clean out the bed of a river or ditch.
 Didle mill, an instrument for cleaning ditches.
 Doole, dole, a boundary or landmark, consisting of a post, a stone, or an unploughed balk of land.
 Dozenage. Dozen was sometimes used corruptly for Anglo-French dizeyne, a tithing or group of ten households.
 Dozener, a member of a tithing or dozen.
 Drift, a rough road, a cattle road.
 Drove, a road or track with free right of way for cattle.
 Dyke, originally a drain or ditch ; the word later came to be used of a bank.
 Ee, ea (from O.E. ea) sometimes mistakenly spelt eau, a drain or sewer.
 Easement, the right or privilege of using something not one's own.
 Estopple, an obstruction in a drain.
 Fleet, a shallow channel or piece of water, usually tidal.
 Forletten, forsaken or abandoned.
 Freter, that which eats away or wears down.
 Gad, a measure of length differing in different districts.
 Gappell, see Grippell.
 Gate, gaet, a way.

Ghrest, see Crest.

Gitt, gittis, gytt, a drain or sewer.

Goole, see Gowle.

Gore, a narrow strip or triangular piece of ground.

Gote, goat, goot, gowt, a drain or channel ; a sluice. " Goats be the usual Engines erected and built with Percullesses and Dores of Timber, Stone or Brick . . . accounted the most usefull instruments for draining the Waters out of the Land into the Sea " (Callis, p. 91). " Engines built with Dores of Timber to let the Landfloods into the Sea " (W. Nelson : *Office and authority of a Justice of Peace*, 4th ed., 1711, p. 532).

Gowle, goole, a sluice ; a wooden drain-pipe ; a breach or overflowing of water.

Graft, a drain, commonly one newly cut ; sometimes a small sewer separating parishes or townships.

Grippell, gayppele, gappell, a trench, ditch or gutter.

Gutter, a freshwater drain, narrower than a sewer.

Haff, a water plant.

To haff, to clean the water plants out of a drain or sewer.

Hamstall, a homestead.

Hassock, matted vegetation, especially of coarse grass or sedge on marshy land.

Heading, ? a bank or dam.

Hebbing were (ebbing weir), a weir to stop fish at ebb tide.

Heble, a narrow short plank-bridge.

Hekke, a grating in a river to obstruct the passage of fish while letting the water go through.

Horn, hum, hirn, a turning, corner or bend.

To hook, houk, to cut the weeds at the side of a drain.

Hough, a hollow.

House rodes, land attached to houses and assessed for diking.

Hunderare, hundreder, " a man impannel'd, or fit to be empannel'd, of a Jury, upon any Controversie, dwelling within the Hundred, where the Land in question lies " (T. Blount : *A law-dictionary*, 1670).

Indike, ingdike, a protecting bank.

Ing, yng, a low-lying meadow.

To joist, agist, originally to pasture stock on another's land ; by extension, to rate with any public burden, particularly with the upkeep of banks and drains.

Joyse bank, a bank maintained not by menetwork but on the basis of a joyse (or agistment) book.

Joyse book, a book which records the length of bank to be maintained by the various individuals listed in it.

Landlawer, the laws of sewers of the district.

Landmer, an inland lake.

- Lepe, leppe, a leap in a waterway or a weir.
 Lode, a waterway or a fenland road.
 Lugge, weeds.
 Maner, mayner, earth thrown up when the sewers were cleaned.
 Marchholder, tenant of march land.
 Menework or commonage, A.S. *gemaene weorc*, work shared in common.
 Outfenbank, outfendyke, outside the fenbank or fendyke, in an unfenced pasture.
 Outring bank, division bank.
 Pightle, a small field or enclosure.
 Pingle, a small enclosure, generally long and narrow.
 Piscarie, fishing rights ; fishery.
 Pisgoote, a little goote.
 Preter illos verdict, used in these records of a verdict given by a jury that did not consist of dikereeves.
 Purpresture, an illegal enclosure of or encroachment upon the land of another.
 Rappyt, rabbet, a clow.
 Rawght, raught, rafte, rought, a drain.
 Reg, a ridge ; a strip of arable land in the open fields.
 Rood, a fourth part of an acre ; a rod, pole or perch, varying locally from 6 to 8 yards, in south Lincolnshire drainage records usually 20 feet.
 To rod, road, rood, to cut and clear a river or dyke of weeds.
 Rondell, a runnell, a gutter or small stream, particularly a stream running over a road.
 Rowme, earth and mud thrown up when a sewer was cleaned.
 Salcoote, a salt-house, a building in which salt was made by admitting salt-water and letting it evaporate naturally or by boiling.
 Sallow, willow.
 Sewer, " a fresh water trench compassed in on both sides with a Bank, . . . a small current or little River " (Callis, p. 80).
 Shift, sheft, a division of land within a parish or township. The shifts of Gosberton (190, 198), Surfleet (73, 190, 198, 199), Skirbeck (667, 668, 691, 692), Sutterton (666, 689), and Wigtoft (665, 688) are mentioned.
 Shitt, shutt, a clow or shutter.
 Skantling, measure or dimension of anything.
 To skert, to trim, or to give an edge or bank.
 Skirth, a drain or small water-course.
 Slaker, a shuttle or stop-gate to hinder the passage of water.
 Sleyke, slete, slike, mud or slime.
 Sock, water which percolates through the soil.
 Spout, a pipe by which water is carried off.
 Stamp, a weir.

Staythe, staithe, a warf ; a landing place, sometimes used to denote the foreshore of a river kept up by means of faggots or kids, or by timber or stonework.

Stonge, a pole or stake ; a measure of land.

Stowe, a place or site.

Stowlpe, stoulpe, stulpe, a peg or post, often used to mark a boundary.

Strope, stroope, a long narrow strip of land.

Syke, sike, a small stream.

Tenorie, tenants.

Teyrer, tearer.

Upgrasse, identified with marsh.

Vinten, vynten, wintan, a division of a parish. Gough (Camden's *Britannia*, ed. Gough, 1789, vol. 2, p. 238) says that Spalding was "antiently divided into twelve vyntyns." There is evidence here that Kirton was also divided into vintens, those of Skeldyke (31), the Meres (570) and Willington (82, 571) (and possibly also Marketstead, the Eedike and Kirtonholme (646), being named.

Wardike, werdike, a protecting bank.

Warping, deliberate flooding of land so that by the deposit of silt the level be gradually raised.

Wathe, a ford.

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6 HENRY VI, cap. 5¹

1

Item, Our Sovereign Lord the King, by the Advice and Assent aforesaid, considering the great Damage and Losses which now late be happened by the great Inundation of Waters in divers Parts of the Realm, and that much greater Damage is very like to ensue, if Remedy be not speedily provided, hath ordained and granted, That during Ten Years next ensuing several Commissions of Sewers shall be made to divers Persons by the Chancellor of England for the Time being, to be sent into all Parts of the Realm where shall be needful, according to the Form that followeth :

2

HENRY, by the Grace of God, King of England, etc. To his well beloved and faithful A, B, C and D greeting. Know ye, That whereas the Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Sewers, Bridges, Causeys, and Wears by the Coasts of the Sea, and Marsh, within the Coasts and Limits of Lindsey in the County of Lincoln, by the rage of the Sea flowing and reflowing, and Trenches of fresh Waters by divers Places descending to the Sea, be so decayed and broken, that many inestimable Damages for Default of Reparation of the same Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Bridges, Causeys, and Wears, in Times past have happened there, and yet it is to be feared that much more Hurt within short Time will happen, unless that some speedy Remedy be provided therefore : We, Forasmuch as by reason of our regal Dignity We be bounden to have Regard to the Safety of our Realm of England in all Places, willing in this Behalf to provide convenient and speedy Remedy ; have assigned you, etc., of which, etc. We will to be one, our Justices to survey the said Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Sewers, Bridges, Causeys, Wears, and Trenches ; and to enquire by the Oath as well of Knights as other good and lawful Men of the said County, as well within Liberties as without, by whom the Truth of the Matter may be best known, by whose Default such Damages have there happened, and who doth hold Lands and Tenements or hath any Common of Pasture or Fishing in those Parts, or else in any wise have, or may have the Defence, Profit, and Safeguard, as well in Peril nigh, as from the same far off, by the said Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Sewers, Bridges, Causeys, and Wears, and also Hurt or Commodity by the same Trenches, and there to distrain all them for the Quantity of their Lands and Tenements, either by the Number of Acres, or by their Plow-Lands, for the Rate of the Portion of their Tenure, or for the Quantity of their Common of Pasture or Fishing, together with the Bailiffs of Liberties and other Places of the Counties and Places aforesaid, to repair the said Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Sewers, Bridges, Causeys, and Wears, in the Places necessary, and the same or other, as often and where shall be needful

¹ *Statutes of the Realm*, vol. 2, pp. 236-238. The marginal notes have been omitted.

to make of new, and to cleanse the said Trenches in Places necessary, and if need be to stop them up; So that no Tenants of Lands or Tenements, nor any having Common of Pasture or Fishing, rich or poor, nor other of what Condition State or Dignity, which have or may have Defence, Commodity, and Safeguard by the said Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Sewers, Bridges, Causeys, or Wears, or else any Hurt by the said Trenches, whether they be within Liberties or without, shall in any wise be spared in this; and for Agistments upon the Sea Banks for Preservation of the said Parts, according to the Number of the Acres or Perches by you, etc. of whom, etc. We will to be one, newly to number, and as often and where shall need of new to make; and to depute certain diligent and true Keepers for the said Preservation, and to hear the Account of the Collectors of the Money which shall be levied for this Cause, and to be spent in the Reparation and Amendment of the said Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Sewers, Bridges, Causeys, and Wears, and stopping of the said Trenches; and to distrain by you, etc. of whom, etc. We will to be one, or by other whom ye shall thereto depute for the Arrearages of such Collection, as often as need shall be, and as ye shall think meet: And to make and ordain necessary and convenient Statutes and Ordinances for the Defence and Safety of the said Sea Banks and Marshes, and the Parts adjoining, according to the Laws and Customs of Romney Marsh, and to hear and determine according to the Law and Custom of our Realm of England, and the Custom of Romney Marsh all and singular the Premises, as well at our Suit as the Suit of any other that will complain before you in this Behalf: And to take and put in the said Works and Reparations as many Ditchers and other Workmen and Labourers for the said Workmanship and Reparations, as may suffice for the great, speedy, and instant Necessity, upon competent Wages to them in this Behalf to be paid. And therefore We command you, that at certain Days and Places which you, etc. of whom etc. We will to be one, thereto shall appoint, ye shall survey the said Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Sewers, Bridges, Causeys, Wears and Trenches, and all and singular the Premises do and accomplish, and hear and determine in Form aforesaid: So that for Default of Reparation of the said Walls, Ditches, Gutters, Sewers, Bridges, Causeys and Wears, and stopping of the said Trenches, no hurt nor Peril shall in any wise happen; And that ye compel all them whom ye shall find negligent or stubbornly denying to do Reparation, or making of their Portions, speedily to reform and amend the same by Distresses and Amerciaments, and other Ways and Means which to you shall best seem for such Defaults; and that ye cause all Things which by you shall be ordained in this Behalf, as well within Liberties as without, firmly to be observed, doing therein as to Justices pertaineth, according to the Law and Custom of our Realm of England: Saving to Us the Amerciaments and other Things thereof to Us pertaining: We have also commanded our Sheriff of the said County, that at certain Days and Places which you,

etc. of whom, etc. We will to be one, shall give him to know, he shall cause to come before you, etc. of whom, etc. We will to be one, so many and such good and lawful Men of his Bailiwick, as well within Liberties as without, by whom the Truth of the Matter in the Premises may best be known and inquired: In witness whereof, etc. Witness, etc.

23 HENRY VIII, cap. 5¹

A generall Acte concernynge Commissions of Sewers to be directed in all partes within this Realme.

Our Soveraynge Lorde the King, like a vertuose and mooste gracious Prince nothing erthly so highlye weyeng as the avaucynge of the common profitte welthe and commoditie of this his Realme, considering the daylye greate damages and losses whiche have happened in many and divers parties of this his said Realme, as well by reason of the outragious flouyng surges and course of the See in and upon marsshe groundes and other lowe places, heretofore through politik wisdomed wonne and made profitable for the greate common welthe of this Realme, as also by occasion of lande waters and other outragious springes in and upon medowes pastures and other lowe groundes adjoynyng to ryvers fluddes and other water courses, And over that by and throughe milles mildammes weres fisshegarthes kedels gores gootes fludgates lockes and other impedimentes in and upon the same ryvers and other water courses, to the inestimable damages of the common Welth of this Realme, which daily is likely more and more to increase oneless spedye redresse and remedy be in this behalve shortly provyded, wherin albeit that dyvers and many provisions have ben before this tyme made and ordeyned, yet none of them arr sufficient remedye for reformacion of the premisses; Hath therefore by deliberate advyse and assent of his Lordes spirituall and temporall and also his loving Commons in this present parliament assembled ordeyned established and enacted, that Commissions of Sewers and other the premisses shalbe directed in all parties within this Realme from tyme to tyme where and whan nede shall require according to the maner fourme tenure and effecte hereafter ensuyng, to suche substaunciall and indifferent personnes as shalbe named by the Lorde Chauncellor and Lorde Treasurer of England, and the two chieffe Justices for the tyme beyng, or by thre of them wherof the Lord Chauncellor to be one.

Henry the VIII, etc. Knowe ye that forasmoche as the walles diches bankes guttures sewers gootes calceis bridges stremes and other defenses by the costes of the See and Marsshe grounde lieng and beyng within the limittes of A, B or C in the Countie or Counties of
or in the borders or confynes of the same,

¹ *Statutes of the Realm*, vol. 3, pp. 368-372. The marginal notes have been omitted.

by rage of the See flowyng and reflowyng and by meane of the trenches of freshe waters discending and having course by dyvers wayes to the See, be so diruppte lacerate and broken, and also the common passages for Shippes balengers and botes in the rivers streames and other fluddes within the limittes of A, B or C in the Countie or Counties of _____ or in the borders or confynes of the same, by mean of setting up erecting and making of stremes milnes bridges pondes fisshe garthes mildammes lokkes hebbyng weares heckes and fludgates or other like lettes impedimentes or anoysaunces be letted and interrupted, so that greate and inestimable damage for defaulte of reparacion of the said Walles diches bankes fences sewers gootes gutteres calceis bridges and streames, and also by meane of setting upp erecting making and enlarging of the said fisshegarthes myldammes lokkes hebbynge weares heckes fludgates and other lyke anoysaunces in tymes past hath happened, and yet is to be feared that farre gretter hurte losse and damage is like to ensue onelesse that spedie remedie be provyded in that behalve : We therefore for that by reason of our dignitie and prerogatyve roiall we be bounde to provyde for the saftie and preservacion of our Realme of England, willing that spedye remedy be hadd in the premisses, have assigned you and syxe of you of the which we woll that A, B and C shalbe thre, to be our Justices to survey the said walles stremes diches bankes gutters sewers gootes calceis bridges trenches mylls myldammes fludgates pondes lokes hebbyng weres and other impedimentes lettes and anoysaunces aforesaid, and the same cause to be made corrected repayred amended putt downe or reformed as case shall require after your wisdomes and discrecions ; and therin aswell to ordeyne and doo after the fourme tenure and effecte of all and singuler the estatutes and ordnaunces made before the firste day of Marche the xxiiij yere of our reigne touching the premises, or any of theym, as also to enquire by the othes of the honest and lawful Men of the said Shire or Shires place or places where suche defaultes or anoysaunces be, aswell within the liberties as without by whome the trouthe may the rather be knowen, through whose defaulte the said hurtes and damages have happened and who hath or holdeth any landes or tenementes or common of pasture or profite of fishing or hath or may have any hurte losse or disadvauntage by any maner of meanes in the said places, as well nere to the said daungers lettes and impedimentes as inhabitinge or dwelling there aboutes by the said walles diches bankes gutteres gootes sewers trenches and other the said impedimentes & anoysaunces ; and all those personnes and every of them to taxe assesse charge distreyne and punysshe, as well within the metes limites and boundes of olde tyme accustomed or otherwise as els where within our Realme of Englonde, after the quantitie of their landes tenementes and rentes by the nombre of Acres and Perches after the rate of every persons porcion tenure or profite, or after the quantitie of ther common of pasture or profite of fysshing or other Commodities

there, by such waies and meanes and in suche maner and fourme as to you or vj of you wherof the said A, B and C to be thre, shall seme moste convenient to be ordeyned and don for redresse and reformation to be had in the premisses : And also to refourme repayre and amende the said walles diches bankes gutters sewers gootes calceis bridges streames and other the premisses in all places nedefull, and the same as often and where nede shalbe to make newe, and to clense and purge the trenches sewers and diches in all places necessarie, and further to refourme amende prostrate and overthrowe all suche mylles streames pondes lockes fischegarthes hebbyng weres and other impedimentes and anoysaunces aforesaid, as shalbe founde by inquisition or by your surveyeng and discrecions to be excessyve or hurtfull ; and also to depute and assigne diligent feithfull and trewe keepers bailiffes surveyors collectours expeditours and other mynisters and officers for the savetie conservacion reparation reformation and makynge of the premisses and every of theym, and to here the accompte of the Collectours and other ministres of and for the receyte and leyng oute of the Money that shalbe levyed and payed in and aboute the making repayring refourmyng and amending of the said walles diches bankes gutters gootes sewers calceis bridges streames trenches milles pondes lockes fishgarthes fludgates and other impedimentes and anoysaunces aforesaid, and to distreyne for the arrerages of every suche collecion tax or assesse as often as shalbe expedient, or otherwise to punyssh the dettours and deteynours of the same by fynes amerciamentes peynes or other like meanes after your good discrecions ; and also to arrest and take as many cartes horses oxen beastes and other instrumentes necessarie and as many workemen and laborers as for the said workes and reparacions shall suffice, payeng for the same competent wages salarie and stipend in that behalve ; and also take suche and as many treeswoddes underwoodes and tymbre and other necessaries as for the same workes and reparacions shalbe sufficient at a reasonable price by you or syx of you, of the which We will that A, B and C shalbe thre, to be assessed orlymytted aswell within the limittes and boundes aforesaid as in any other place within the said Countie or Counties nere unto the said places ; And to make and ordeyne statutes ordenaunces and provysions frome tyme to tyme as the case shall require for the savegarde conservacion redresse correccion and reformation of the premisses and of every of theym and the parties lieng to the same necessarie and behovefull, after the lawes and customes of Romney marsshe in the Countie of Kente, or otherwise by any wayes or meanes afteyr your owne wisdomes and discrecions ; and to here and determyne all and singular the premisses as well at our suite as at the suite of any other what soever complaynyng before you or vj of you wherof A, B and C shalbe thre, after the lawes and customes aforesaid, or otherwise by any other wayes and meanes after your discrecions. (5) And also to make and directe all wryttes preceptes warrauntes or other commandementes by vertue

a corporall othe before the Lorde Chauncellour, or before suche to whome the said Lorde Chauncellour shall directe the Kinges writte of Dedimus potestatem to take the same, or before the Justices of the peace in the Quarter Sessions holden in the Shire where suche Commission shalbe directed, the tenor of which Othe hereafter ensueth :

Ye shall swere that you to your connyng witte and power shall truely and indifferently execute the authoritie to you yoven by this Commission of Sewers, without any favour affeccion corrupcion drede or malice to be borne to any maner personne or personnes, and as the case shall require ye shall consent and endeavour your selffe for your parte to the best of your knowlege and power to the making of suche holsome juste equall and indifferent lawes and ordynaunces as shalbe made and devysed by the moste discrete and indifferent nombre of your felowes beyng in Commission with you, for the due redresse reformation and amendement of all and every suche thinges as ar conteyned and specified in the said Commission, and the same lawes and ordynaunces to your connyng witte and power cause to be put in due execucion without favour mede drede malice or affeccion, as God you helpe and all Seintes.

7

And it is also enacted by the auctoritie aforesaid that all and every estatute acte and ordenaunce heretofore made concerning the premisses or any of them, aswell in the tyme of oure Sovereigne Lorde the Kinge that nowe is as in the tyme of any of his progenitours Kinges of this Realme of England, not beyng contrarie to this presente Acte nor heretofore repealed, frome hensforth shall stande and be good and effectuell for ever and to be put in due execucion according to the true meanyng and purportes of the same.

8

And over that be it enacted that the Commissioners hereafter to be named in any of the said Commissions, accordyng to the purport and effect of the same Commissons, have full power and auctoritie to make constitute and ordeyne Lawes ordenaunces and decrees ; and further to doo all and every thing mencioned in the said Commission according to the purporte effecte wordes and trewe meanyng of the same ; and the same lawes and ordenaunces so made to reforme repelle and amende and make newe frome tyme to tyme as the cases necessarie shall require in that behalff.

9

Provyded alway and it is enacted that if any personne or personnes beyng assessed or taxed to any lote or charge for any landes tenementes or hereditamentes within the limites of any Commission hereafter to be directed, do not pay the said lotte and charge, according to the ordenaunce and assignement of the Commissioners

havng power of thexecucion of the said Commission, by reason wherof it shall happen the said Commissioners havng power of execucion of suche Commission, for lake of payment of suche lotte and charge, to decree and ordeyne the same londes tenementes and hereditamentes frome the owner or owners therof and thir heires and the heires of every of theym, to any personne or personnes for terme of yeres terme of liffe in fee symple or in taile for payment of the same lotte and charge, that than every suche decree and ordenaunce so by them made, ingrossed in parchment and certified under their Seales unto the Kynges Courte of Chauncerie with the Kinges roiall assent hadd to the same, shall bynde all and every persone and persones that at the making of the same decree had eny interest in suche landes tenementes or hereditamentes in use possession revercion or remayndre ther heires and feoffes and every of them; and not to be in anywise reformed oneles it be by auctoritie of parliament hereafter to be sommoned and holden within this Realme.

10

And Also it is provided by auctoritie aforesaid that the same lawes ordenaunces and decrees, to be made and ordeyned by the said Commissioners or syxe of them by auctoritie of the said Commission, shall bynde aswell the londes tenementes and hereditamentes of the Kinge our Soverainge Lorde, as all and every other personne and personnes and theyr heires for suche their interest as they shall fortune to have or may have in any landes tenementes or hereditamentes or other casuall profitf advauntage or commoditie what soever they be, wherunto the said lawes, ordenaunces and decrees shall in any wise extende, according to the true purporte meanyng and entent of the same lawes.

11

And It is furthermore by the auctoritie aforesaid established and enacted that if any manner of personne or personnes, of what estate or degree soever he or they be of, that frome hensforth doth take upon hym or them to sitte by vertue of any of the said Commissions not beyng before sworne in forme as is aforesaid and according to the tenour of the Othe afore specefied, or if any personne so named and sworne doo sitte as is aforesaid not havng landes and tenementes or other hereditamentes in fee symple fee taile or for terme of liff to the clere yerely value of xl. markes above all charges to his owne use, excepte he be reseant and free of any Citie Borough or Towne corporate and have moveable substaunce of the clere value of one hundred poundes, or els be lerned in the lawes of this realme in and concernyng the same, that is to saye, admitted in one of the foure principall Innes of Courte for an utter Barrester, shall forfaite fourtie poundes for every tyme that he shall attempte so to doo, the one halff therof to be to our Soveraigne Lorde the Kinge and the other halff therof to the use of hym or theym that will sue

therefore by accion of dette bill playnte or informacion in any of the Kynges Courtes, in which accion or suite noo wager of lawe shalbe admitted, nor any essoyne or proteccion shalbe alowed: And if any accion of trespas or other suite shall happen to be attempted ageyne any persone or personnes for taking any distresse or any other acte doying by auctoritie of the said Commission, or by auctoritie of any lawes or ordenaunces made by vertue of the said Commission, the defendaunt or defendauntes in any suche accion shall and may make avowrie conysaunce or justificacion for the taking of the same distresse or other acte doying touching the premisses or any of them, alleging in such advourie conisaunce or justificacion that the said distresse trespas or other acte wherof the pleintiff compleyneth was don by auctoritie of the Comission of Sewers for lotte or taxe assessed by the said Commission, or for such other acte or cause as the said defendaunt did by auctoritie of the said Commission, and according to the tenour purporte and effecte of this present acte made the xxiiij yere of the reigne of our Sovereigne Lorde Kinge Henry the viij without any expressing or rehersall of any other matter or circumstaunce conteyned in this present acte, or any Commission lawes estatutes or ordenaunces theruppon to be made; wheruppon the playntiffe shalbe admitted to replie that the defendaunt did take the said distresse, or do any other acte or trespas supposed in his declaracion of his owne wronge, without any suche cause alleged by the said defendaunt, wherupon the issue in every suche accion shalbe joyned to be tried by verdicte of xij men and not otherwise, as is accustomed in other personall accions; And uppon the triall of that issue the holle matter to be gyven on both parties in evydence according to the very trouthe of the same; And after suche issue tried for the defendaunte or nonsuite of the Playntiffe after apparaunce, the same defendaunt to recover treble damages by reason of his wrongfull vexation in that behalfe with his costes also in that parte susteyned, and that to be assessed by the same Jurie or Writte to enquire of damages as the cause shall requyre.

12

And It is also enacted that every of the said Commissioners shall have and perceyve iiij s. for every daye that they shall take payne in the execucion of this Commission of Sewers, and one Clerke by theym to be assigned two shillings for every day, of the rates taxes lottes and waynes that shalbe assessed or loste by auctoritie of the said Commission, and to be levyed and payed by thir discrecions: And that the said Commissioners or syxe of them shall have power and auctoritie to lymyte and assigne of the same rates taxes lottes and waynes by theyr discrecions, suche reasonable sommes of money to the said Clerke for writing of bokes and processe concernyng the premisses, and to the Collectours expenditours and suche other as shall take payne in the due execucion of the said Commission, as by the discrecions of the said Commissioners or vj of them shalbe thought reasonable.

13

Provyded alway that whan soever and as often as suche Commission as is afore limited shalbe made and directed to any person or personnes for the reformacion and amendement of or in any of the premisses specified in the said Commission within the fees liberties or possessions of the Duchie of Lancastre, that than suche Commissioners as shall execute any suche Commission shalbe alwayes named and appoynted by the discrecion of the Lorde Chauncellour and Lorde Tresaurer of Englande and the said two chieffe Justices of eyther Benche and the Chaunceler of the said Duchie for the tyme beyng or thre of them, whereof the said Lorde Chauncellor and the Chaunceller of the Duchie to be two ; And that in every such case two Commissions shalbe awarded and made according to the tenor of the Commission above expressed, one therof under the greate Seale of Englande and the other under the Seale of the same Duchie as before tyme hath ben accustomed ; any thing afore rehersed in this present acte to the contrarie hereof notwithstanding.

14

And It is further enacted that the said Commissions from tyme to tyme as the case shall require shalbe hadd and opteyned without any money or other charge to be paide for the seales or writing of the same, onelesse it be to the Kinge ij s. vj d. for the seale of every Commission as hath ben accustomed, and for the writing and enrolling of any one Commission v s. and not above.

15

And It is further enacted that every Commission to be made by auctoritie of this acte shall endure and continue for the terme of thre yeres next after the Teste of the Commission ; Nevertheless after any Commission, made and delyvered out of the Kinges Courte of Chauncerye, the Kinges Highnes shall alwaies at his pleasoure by his Writte or Supersedeas oute of his said Courte of Chauncerye at any tyme discharge aswell every suche Commission as every Commissioner that shalbe made or named by auctoritie of this acte ; after which discharge the said Commissioners shall have noo power nor auctoritie to procede in the execucion of thir Commission nor in any thing by auctoritie of this acte.

16

Provyded alwaies that suche lawes actes decrees and ordynaunces as shall happen to be made by the said Commissioners, according to the tenour of their Commission or by auctoritie of this acte, shall stande good and effectuall and be put in due execucion so longe tyme as their Commission endureth and no lenger ; Excepte the said lawes and ordenaunces made and ingrosed in parchment and certified under the Seales of the said Commissioners into the Kinges Courte of Chauncerie, and than the Kinges Roiall Assent be had to the same :

any thing conteyned in this present acte to the contrarie hereof notwithstanding.

17

Provyded also that whan soever and as often as suche Commission as is afore limited shall be made and directed to any persone or personnes, for the reformation and amendement of or in any of the premisses specified in the said Commission within the fees liberties and possessions of the principalitie of Wales, the Countie palantyne of Chester, or within the fees liberties and possessions of any other place where there is libertie and jurisdiction of Countie Palantyne, that in every suche case two Commissions shalbe awarded and made according to the tenor of the Commission above expressed, one therof under the greate Seale of Englande, and the other under the usuall Seale of the Countie Palantyne, in maner and forme as is above provided for the Duchie of Lancastre: any thing afore rehersed in this present acte to the contrarie notwithstanding.

18

And It is provyded and also enacted that the Roiall assent limited to be had unto the lawes and ordenaunces to be made by the said Commissioners as is abovesaid, shalbe certified into the said Courte of Chauncerie under the Kings privie Seale; and that there shall not any somme of money be paid for the same pryvye Seale, but for the writing of the same Certificate under the said privie Seale shalbe paid to the writter therof two shillinges and not above, nor no other nor gretter somme for any thing touching or concernyng the same Certificate under the same privie Seale.

19

Provyded alwaies that the Chauncellours and suche other as shall have the Custodie of the Seales of the said Principalitie of Wales or the Countie Palauntyne of Chestre, or within the fees liberties and possessions of any other place where there is libertie and jurisdiction of Countie Palantyne, upon reasonable request and upon the sight of the Commission under the Kinges greate Seale of his Chauncerie, shall without delaye make oute an other Commission under the Seale of the said Countie Palantine, according to the tenor of the Kinges Commission to them shewed under his greate Seale, and to those Commissioners as shalbe named by the Lorde Chauncellor Lorde Tresourer and the two chieffe Justices or by thre of them wherof the Lorde Chauncellor to be one, excepte it be within the fees and liberties of the Duchie of Lancaster, within which fees and liberties the Commissioners shalbe named & Commissions made as is afore ordeyned by this acte; any thing conteyned in the said acte or in any proviso therunto added and annexed to the contrary therof notwithstanding. This acte to endure for xx yeres.

ENROLMENT OF A COMMISSION OF SEWERS,

DATED 1 MARCH 1547

[*Patent Roll No. 801, Mem. 4d*]

20

(*Lincolne pro sewers*) Edwarde the syxte etc. To our right trustie and right welbelovyd Thomas lorde Borough Edwarde lorde Clynton Wyllyam Willoughby knyght lorde Willoughbye Edmund Sheffelde knyght lorde Sheffelde and to our trustie and right welbelovyd Thomas Hennege knyght Wyllyam Skipwithe knyght Robert Tyrwhite the yonger knyght Edwarde Dymmocke knyght Fraunces Ascughe knyght John Coplelike knyght John Caven-dishe knyght John Thymolby knyght and to our trustie and welbelovyd Thomas Wymbysse John Hennege Roberte Hennege Richard Cecyll William Monson Richard Goodricke Thomas Lytleburie Richard Bolles Edwarde Forsett John Sutton Roberte Tirwhite John Tourney Thomas Kyme Richard Dysney Vincent Grauntham John Haselwood Henry Portyngton Anthony Eyerby Mathewe Seyntpole (Nicholas Robertson George Seyntpole¹) Thomas Myssenden Thomas Holland Gefry Colvyle William Manby Richarde Ogle James Smythe Nicholas Gyrlington John Skipwithe Roberte Brokelsbye Phillip Tirwhite William Dalyson Thomas Hussey Henry Lacey William Tharrolde Wyllyam Smythe Roberte Carre Austen Porter Richarde Markeham Edwarde Bussey Roberte Paynell Roberte Harryngton John Broxolme John Bellowe Blase Hollande Roberte Walpole Anthony Robertson John Bothe Leonarde Craycrofte and John Bolles gretings. Knowe ye that forasmuche as the walles diches bankes gutters sewers gootes calceys bridges stremes and other defenses by the costes of the see and marshe groundes lyeng and being within the countye of Lincolne or in the borders or confynes of the same by rage of the see flowing and reflowyng and by meane of the trenches of freshwaters descending and havynge course by dyvers waies to the see be dirupte lacerate and broken and also the comen passages of shippes balengers and bootes in the ryvers stremes and other fluddes within the seid lymytes in the seid countie or in the borders or confynes of the same by meane of setting up erectyng and maykng of stremes mylnes bridges pondes fyshegarthes milne dammes lockes hebbing weres hekkes and fludgates or other like lettes impedymentes or annoyaunces be lettyd and interuptyd so that great and inestymable damage for defaute of reparacyon of the seid walles diches bankes fenses sewers gootes gutters calceys bridges and stremes and also by meane of setting up erectyng [*Mem. 5d*] maykng and enlarging of the seid fyshegarthes mildammes lokkes hebbing weres hekkes fludgates and other lyke annoyaunces in tymes past hathe happenyd and yet is to be feared that farre greater losse and damage is lyke to ensue onlesse that spedye remedye be provyded in that

behalfe: we therefore for that by reason of our dignytie and prerogatyve royally we be bounde to provyde for the safetie and preservacyon of our realme of Englonde willing that spedye remedye be had in the premysses have assigned you thre score and one thre score fyfthe and nyne fyfthe and eight fyfthe and seven fyfthe and six fyfthe and fyve fyfthe and fowre fyfthe and thre fyfthe and two fyfthe and one fyfthe fortie and nyne fortie and eight fortie and seven fortie and six fortie and fyve fortie and fowre fortie and thre fortie and two fortie and one fortie thirtie and nyne thirtie and eight thirtie and seven thirtie and six thirtie and fyve thirtie and fowre thirtie and thre thirtie and two thirtie and one thirtie twentie and nyne twentie and eight twentie and seven twentie and six twentie and fyve twentie and fowre twentie and thre twentie and two twentie and one twentie nynetyne eightyne seventyne sixtine fyfthe fowretyne threttyne twelve eleven ten nyne eight seven and six of you whereof ye the seid Thomas lorde Borough Edwarde lorde Clynton Wylliam lorde Willoughbye Edmunde lorde Sheffield Thomas Hennege Wylliam Skipwithe Fraunces Ascughe John Cavendishe Thomas Wymbyshe John Hennege Roberte Hennege Wylliam Monson Richarde Goodrick Richarde Bolles John Tournay Vyncent Grauntham John Haselwood Anthonye Eyerbye Nicholas Robertson George Seyntpole Thomas Holland Richarde Ogle James Smythe John Skipwithe Robert Brokelsbye Wylliam Dalyson Thomas Hussey William Tharrolde Wylliam Smythe Edwarde Bushey John Broxholme John Bellowe Blase Hollande and John Bothe shalbe of the quorum of the whiche we woll that thre of you of the quorum shall alweis be there our justices to surveye the seid walles stremes diches bankes gutters sewers gootes calceys bridges trenches milnes mildammes fludgates ponde lokkes hebbing weres and other impedimentes lettes and annoyances aforeseid and the same cause to be made correctyd repayred amendyd put downe or reformyd as case shall requyre after your wysdomes and discrecyons and therein as well to ordeyn and do after the fourme tenour effecte of all and singuler the estatutes and ordenaunces made before the fyfte daie of Marche the xxijth yere of the reigne of oure late entierlie beloved father of famous memorye king Henry the VIIIth touching the premysses or any of them as also to enquire by the othes of the honest and lafull men of the seid shyre or places where suche defautes or annoysaunces be aswell within the lyberties as withoute by whome the trouthe maye the rather be knowne throughe whose defaute the seid hurtes and damages have happenyd and who hathe or holdyth any landes or tenementes or common of pasture or profytte of fysshinge or hathe or maye have any hurte losse or disavauntage by any maner of meanes in the seid places aswell nere to the seid daungiers lettes and impedimentes as inhabiting or dwelling thereaboutes by the seid walles diches bankes gutters gootes sewers trenches and other the seid impedimentes and annoysaunces and all those persones and

every of them to taxe assesse charge distreyne and punyshe aswell within the metes lymyttes and boundes of olde tyme accustomed or otherwyse as elsewhere within our realme of Englonde after the quantytie of their landes tenementes and rentes by the nombre of acres and perches after the rate of every persons porcyon tenure or profyte or after the quantytie of their common of pasture or profytte of fysshing or other comodyties there by such wayes and meanes and in suche maner and forme as to you or syx of you of the whiche we woll that thre of you of the quorum shall alweis be there shall seme moste convenient to be ordeyned and donne for redresse and reformacyon to be had in the premysses And also to reforme repayre and amende the seid walles diches bankes gutters seweres clauses [*sic*] bridges stremes and other the premysses in all places nedefull and the same as often and where nede shalbe to make newe And to clense and pouрге the trenches sewers and diches in all places necessarye And further to reforme amende prostrate and overthrowe all suche milnes stremes pondes lokkes fyshegarthes hebbing weres and other impedymentes and annoysaunces aforeseid as shalbe founde by inquyscyon or by your surveying and discrecyons to be excessyve or hurtefull And also to depute and assigne dilygent faithfull and trewe keepers baylyffes surveyours collectours expeditours and other ministers and offycers for the savetye conservacyon reparacyon reformacyon and makyng of the premysses and every of them and to here the accompte of the collectours and other mynsters of and for the receyte and layeng oute of the money that shalbe levyed and payed in and aboute the makyng repayring refourmyng and amending of the walles diches bankes gutters gootes seweres and calceys bridges trenches milnes pondes lokkes fysshegarthes fludgates and other impedymentes and annoysaunces aforeseid And to distreine for the arrerages of every suche colleccyon taxe or assesse as often as shalbe expedyent or otherwyse to punyshe the dettours and deteynours of the same by fynes amercyamentes paynes or other lyke meanes after your good discrecyons And also to arreste and take as manye cartes horses oxen beastes and other instrumentes necessarie and as manye workmen and laborers as for the seid workes and reparacyon shall suffyce payeng for the same competente wages salarie and stypende in that behalfe And also to take suche and as manye trees woodes underwoodes and tymbre and other necessaries as for the same workes and reparacyons shalbe sufficient at a reasonable pryce by you or syx of you of the whiche we woll that thre of you of the quorum shall alweis be there to be assessyd or lymyted aswell within the lymytes and boundes aforeseid as in every other place within the seid countye nere unto the seid places And to make and ordeyn statutes ordenaunces and provysyons frome tyme to tyme as the case shall requyre for the safegarde conservacyon redresse correccyon and reformacyon of the premysses and every of them and the parties lieng to the same necessarie and behovefull after the lawes and customes of Romney

Marshe in the countie of Kente or otherwyse by anye waies or meanes after your owne discrecyons and wysdomes And to here and determyne all and singuler the premysses aswell at our sute as at the sute of any other whatsoever complayning before you or syx of you of the whiche we woll that thre of you of the quorum shall alweis be there after the lawes and customes aforeseid or otherwyse by any other waies and meanes after your discrecyons And also to make and directe all writtes preceptes warrantes or other commaundementes by vertue of these presentes to all shriffes baylyffes and all other mynysters offycers and other persons aswell within liberties as withoute before you or syx of you of the whiche we woll that thre of you of the quorum shall alweis be there at certain daies termes and places to be prefyxed to be retournyd and retheyned and further to contynewe the processe of the same and finally to doo all and every thing and thinges as shalbe requysyte for the due execucyon of the premysses by all waies and meanes after your discrecyons And therefore we commaunde you that at certain daies and places when and where ye or six of you of the whiche we woll that thre of you of the quorum shall alweis be there thinke expedyent ye do surveye the said walles fenses diches bankes gutters gootes sewers calceys pondes bridges ryvers streames watercourses milnes lokkes trenches fyshgarthes fludgates and other the lettes impedymentes and annoysaunces aforeseid and accomplysse fulfyll here and determyne all and singuler the premysses in due fourme and to theffecte aforeseid after your good discrecyons and all suche as ye shall fynde negligent gaynsayeng or rebellyng in the seid workes reparacyons or reformacyon of the premysses or negligent in the due execucyon of this our Commyssion that ye do compell them by distresse fynes and amerciamentes or by other punyshmentes waies or meanes whiche to you or syx of you of the whiche we woll that thre of you of the quorum shall always be there shall seme moste expedyent for the spedye remedye redresse and reformacyon of the premysses and due execucyon of the same And all suche thinges as by you shalbe made and ordeyned in this behalfe aswell within liberties as withoute that ye doo cause the same tymely to be observyd doing therein as to our justyces apperteynyth after the lawes and statutes of this our realme and according to your wysdoms and discrecyons Saved alweis to us suche fynes and amerciamentes as to us therof shall belonge And we also have commaunded our shriffe of our seid countie [of^s] Lincolne that he shall cause to comme before you or syx of you of the whiche we woll that thre of you of the quorum shall alweis be there at suche daies and places as ye shall appointe to them suche and as manye honest men of his baylyfwyke aswell within liberties as without by whome the trouthe may best be knowne to enquiry of the premysses commaunding also all other mynysters and offycers aswell within libertie as withoute that they and every of them shalbe attendaunt in and aboute the due execucyon of this our Commysson In witnes wherof we have caused

these our lettres of Commysson to be sealyd withe our great sealle at Westm' the fryrste daye of Marche.

ENROLMENT OF A COMMISSION OF SEWERS,

DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1554

[*Patent Roll No. 864, Mem. 18d*]

21

(*Lincoln Holland*)

¹q Edwardus dominus Clynton & Say

q Willelmus dominus Willoughbye

q Willelmus Cycill miles

[*Mem. 19d*]

q Edwardus Dymok miles

q Johannes Coplelike miles

q Robertus Dobbes maior burgi Boston'

q Thomas Litlebury

Ricardus Bolles

Arthurus Dymok

q Thomas Holland

q Ricardus Ogle

Robertus Walpole

q Athelardus Welby

Thomas Kyme

q Willelmus ²Danye

Anthonius Robertson

q Thomas Browne

Willelmus Derby

Johannes Tupholme

Willelmus Kydd

Johannes Mann &

³Laurentius Palmer

22

⁴Knowe ye that forasmuche as the walles dyches bankes gutters etc. within the partes of Holland in the countie of Lincoln or the borders or confynes of the same etc. we have assigned youe two and twentie one and twentie twentie nynetene eightene seventene sixtene fiftene fouretene thirtene twelve eleven ten nyne eight seven and six of youe whereof ye the said lord Clynton lorde Willoughbye William Cicill Edward Dymok John Coplelike Robert Dobbes (Richard Bolles¹) Thomas Litlebury Thomas Holland Richard Ogle Athelard Welby William Danye and Thomas Browne

¹ The following names are written on the left-hand half of the membrane.

² Written "Danye" in the quorum list.

³ This is the last entry on the left-hand half of the membrane.

⁴ The following paragraph is written on the right-hand half of the membrane.

shalbe of the quorum the (with¹) we woll that three of you of the quorum shalbe there alwayes our Justices to survey etc. and we allso commaunde our sheriff of Lincoln etc. In witnes etc. Witnes the quene at Westm' the xx day of Februarye.

ENROLMENT OF A COMMISSION OF SEWERS,
DATED 26 JANUARY 1555

23

[*Patent Roll No. 885, Mem. 10d*]

(*Lincoln Northantes' Cantebr' Hunt' Notingh' & Insula Elien'*)

¹q Henricus comes Rutland
 q Thomas episcopus Elien'
 q Johannes episcopus Lincoln
 Johannes episcopus de Burgo Sancti Petri
 q Edwardus dominus Clynton
 Willelmus dominus Burgh
 q Willelmus dominus Willoughby
 q Ricardus Southwell miles
 q Johannes Huddleston miles
 q Clemens Higham miles
 q Willelmus Cycill miles
 Robertus Tyrwhite senior
 q Robertus Tyrwhite
 Thomas Tressham
 Edwardus Dymmock
 Humfredus Stafford
 q Franciscus Ascughe
 Willelmus Skipwith
 Willelmus FitzWilliams
 q Johannes Copledyke
 Walterus Mildmaye
 Johannes Markham
 Johannes Byron
 Gervasius Clifton
 Ricardus Thymolby
 Anthonius Nevill
 Willelmus Holles
 Johannes Hercye
 Laurentius Tityllard
 q Willelmus Dalyson serviens ad legem
 Jacobus Harryngton
 Willelmus Monnson
 Andreas Newell
 Henricus Portington
 q Johannes Hennege

¹ The following names are written on the left-hand half of the membrane.

Thomas Hussey
 Thomas Littlebury
 Georgius FitzWilliams
 Matheus St Pole
q Georgius Seyntpole
 Ricardus Dysney
q Robertus Wyngfeld

[*Mem. 11d*]

24

Willelmus Tharold
 Robertus Browne
 Franciscus Quarels
 Philipus Tirwhite
 Ambrosius Sutton
 Johannes Turney
 Thomas Myssenden
 Johannes Etton
 Ricardus Craycrofte
 Willelmus Sandon
 Johannes Lancton
 Hamondus Upton
q Georgius Hennege
 Johannes Skipwith de Utterby
 Tristramus Tirwhite
 Lion' Skipwith
 Edwardus Ascughe
q Willelmus Manby
 Johannes Bouche
q Johannes Bellowe
q Johannes Dyon
q Georgius Frevile
 Humfridus Littlebury
 Robertus Payton
 Andreas Bilsby
q Osbertus Moundeford
 Ricardus Pannell
 Willelmus Bryan
q Robertus Carre
 Galfridus Covell
 Edmundus Busshy
 Hamondus Sutton
 Ricardus Everard
 Ricardus Markham
 Thomas Wren
q Henricus Sayvell
 Willelmus Bettis
 Robertus Skerne

Willelmus Farfax
 Robertus Bro
q Robertus Brokelsby
q Ricardus Ogle
 Johannes Harrington
q Thomas Hollande
q Adlerdus Welby
 Thomas Broune
 Willelmus Davye
 Laurentius Tresby
 Robertus Littlebury
 Thomas Derby
 Robertus Walpole
 Simon Moyne
q Nicholaus Bayley
q Anthonius Tharold
 Edmundus Hall
q Georgius Willelmus
q Willelmus Porter
 Thomas Horseman
 Leonardus Iresbye
 Thomas Fakingham
 Simon Hall
q Jacobus Smyth
 Johannes Angeven
q Thomas Morison
 Nicholaus Pynchebek
q Edwardus Handby
 Ricardus Bellingham
 Thomas Keyme
 Cristoferus Egmonton
 Thomas Welby de Monkton
q Thomas Cotton
q Thomas Cotton
 Thomas Welby de Welby
 Willelmus Laurence
 Gregorius Wolmer
 Henricus Manox
 Johannes Sheppard
 Willelmus Mallory
 Johannes Mann &
 †Thomas Maria Wingfeld

25

†Knowe ye that forasmuche as the walles dyches bankes gutters
 sewers etc. within our counties of Lincoln North' Cantebr', Hunt',
 Notingh', & in Isle of Elye and in the borders or confynes of the

¹ This is the last name written in the left-hand column.

² The following paragraph is written on the right-hand half of the membrane.

same etc. we have assigned youe six score and three six score and two six score and one six score fyfe score and nynetene fyfe score and eightene fyfe score and seventene fyfe score and sixtene fyfe score and fiftene fyfe score and foretene fyfe score and thirtene fyfe score and twelve fyfe score and eleven fyfe score and ten fyfe score and nyne fyfe score and eight fyfe score and seven fyfe score and six fyfe score and fyfe fyfe score and foure fyfe score and three fyfe score and two fyfe score and one fyfe score foure score score [*sic*] and nynetene foure score and eightene foure score and seventene foure score and sixtene foure score and fiftene foure score and fourtene foure score and thirtene foure score and twelve foure score and eleven foure score and ten foure score and nyne foure score and eight foure score and seven foure score and six foure score and fyfe foure score and foure foure score and three foure score and two foure score and one foure score : three score and ninetene three score and eightene three score and seventeen three score and sixtene three score and fiftene three score and fouretene three score and thirtene three score and twelve three score and eleven fiftie fortie and nyne fortie and eight fortie and seven fortie and six fortie and fyfe fortie and foure fortie and three fortie and two fortie and one fortie nyne and thirtie eight and thirtie seven and thirtie six and thirtie fyfe and thirtie foure and thirtie three and thirtie two and thirtie one and thirtie thirtie nyne and twentieth eight and twentieth seven and twentieth six and twentieth fyfe and twentieth foure and twentieth three and twentieth two and twentieth one and twentieth twentieth nynetene eightene seventeen sixtene fiftene fouretene thirtene twelve eleven ten nyne eight seven and six of youe whereof ye the said erle of Rutland Thomas bisshopp of Ely John busshoppe of Lincoln Edward lorde Clinton William lorde Willoughbye Richard Southwell John Huddelston Clemens Heigham William Cicill Robert Tirwhite Francisse Ascughe John Coplelike William Dalyson John Hennege George Hennege William Manby John Bellowe John Dyon George Frevile Osbert Moundeford Robert Carre Henry Sayvell Robert Brokelsby Richard Ogle Thomas Holland Adlerd Welby Nicholas Bayly Anthony Tharrolld George Williams William Porter Jamys Smyth Thomas Moryson Edward Handby Thomas Cotton and Thomas Cotton shalbe of the quorum of the whiche we woll that three of youe of the quorum shall alwayes be there our justices to survey etc. and we also commaunde our sheriffes of our said countyes and every of them etc. In witnes etc. Witnes the kinge and the queene at Westm' the xxvj day of Januarye.

[473.I.1]¹

26

(1 *Boston*) Inquisitio capta apud Donyngton in partibus de Holand in comitatu Lincoln' decimo septimo die Septembris anno regni Edwardi sexti dei gratia Anglie Francie & Hibernie regis fidei defensoris & in terra ecclesie Anglicane et Hibernie supremi

capitis primo coram Thoma Holand Antonio Irby Ricardo Ogle Blasio Holand Nicholas Robertson Antony Robertson Robert Walpole Comissionariis dicti domini regis inter alios ad sueras gutteras pontes calcetas gurgites & trencheas aquarum dulcium in predicto comitatu Lincoln' supervidendum assignatis per sacramentum Willelmi Perry (& George Hulton¹) & sociorum suorum jur' whiche sey upon ther othe that ther be certeyn pyles of woode in the Haven of Boston called the sluse in Boston aforeseid in the countie aforeseid which is a grete comon noyaunce & lett (of^o) to the fryshe waters distendyng into the seid Haven & so to the see wherby & by the meanes of the same the seid Haven is gretly landed hyndred & dicayed & the water aforeseid gretly stopped & letted to the comon & grete annoyaunce & distruction of the hole countre of Holand Kesteven & Lyndsey in the countie aforeseid, and the seid jure thynkes & presentes & seith that it is necessarie the gullett of the same sluse of either side of the stone work shalbe made wydder by the space of iiij fotes more then they er nowe of either side of the stone work (& th^o) of the same, & the piles so farr to be pulled up by the lordes freeholdres tenantes & inhabitauntes of Boston aforeseid bifore the feest of All Seyntes next comyng.

[473.I.2]

27

(2 *Hamondbek*) Item they sey that the suer called Hamondbek whiche falleth into the Haven of Boston through & by Skyrbek Goote is not sufficiently dyked in depnes & bredeth & that it is necessarie to have the same suer vj foote wyde in the bothome & xvj foote above at the (bryng^o) brynk at the leste for the conveyance of suche waters as shall fall into the same, & the (tenauntes of the^o) landholders of Skyrbek & Boston of the west side of the water of Boston aforeseid ought to dyke skoure & clense the same suer in forme aforeseid to the Skotpittes of Wyberton in the countie aforeseid.

¹ This file was originally made up differently, and two sets of earlier numbering exist. The first six folios have always been in the present order. Thereafter the numbers go:—

<i>Present No.</i>	<i>Old numbers</i>	<i>Present No.</i>	<i>Old numbers</i>
7	8	8	15
8	(8 ^o)	9	16
9	(9 ^o)	10	17
10	(10 ^o)	11	18
11	(11 ^o)	12	19
12	12 altered to 13	13	20
13	13 altered to 14	14	21
14	17	17	22
		22	21 altered to 23
		23	22
			24

(*Skyrbek Goote*). Item they sey that a goote & brig in Skyrbek aforseid called Skyrbek Goote is in ruyn & decay for that the doore (therof¹) is not sufficiently hinged wherby the salt water runeth in at the same doore to the noysaunce of the countre, & the seid doore ought to be made & repared from tyme to tyme so often as nede shall requyre by justment of all the landys liyng in Skyrbek & the west side of the water of Boston.

(*The kynges stayth*) Item they sey that our sovereign lord the kyng doith kepe oon stayth (ayeinst^o) at the south ende of Skyrbek Goote which is in ruyn and decay for default of exalting & amended [*sic*] of the same, & ought to be repared & sufficiently amended by our seid sovereign lord the king for his landes (at^o) that his grace haith in Skyrbek late bilongyng to his late dissolved monasterie of Swynneshed.

[473.I.3]

28

(3 *Embry Stayth*) Item they sey that the heires of Peter Emry (of^o) ought to repayre make exalte & sufficiently amende oon stayth on the south side of the seid stayth of our seid sovereign lord the kyng ayeinst the house nowe in the tenure of John Stapleton whiche is in ruyn & decaye for default of sufficient bredeth.

Item they sey that the staith bilongyng to a land called Spryngland between the house of the seid Embry & the heires of Walter Grene is in ruyn & decaye & ought to be amended repared and sufficiently made by the inhabitauntes of Skyrbek Quarter by comon mynwork.

(*Havenbankes*) Item they sey that the seid bankes of the Haven of Skyrbek Quarter er in ruyn & in decaye bothe in height & bredeth from the frontage called Thomas Yonges in Skyrbek aforseid unto an olde goote that lieth in the mersshe over ayeinst Skyrbek churche to the grete daunger & losse of all the countre, & that it ought to be sufficiently repared by the lardholders of the seid Skyrbek Quarter & that it ought to be vj fote in bredeth & iij fote in height more then they nowe bee, & to take the maner for the making of the seid see-bankes in (e^o) the pastures next adioynyng to the seid see bankes so that they spoyle not above xl footes within eny pastur.

29

(*Wyberton*) Item they sey that the heires (of¹) Thomas Copuldyk the yonger haith xxij fote of seedyk ruynous & in decay in Wiberton aforseid, the heires of Humfray [473.I.4] Perven haith viij fotes of seedyk ther ruynous & in decay, the heires of William Garrad of Frampton have xviiij fote of seedyk in decay, Thomas (R^o) Richardson of Frampton haith xviiij fote of seedyk in decay, Philip Cleymond haith ij rodes & vj footes of seedyk in decay, John Wilkynson haith xviiij footte of seedyk in decay, the heires of Richard Copledyk haith xviiij footes of seedyk in decay, Fraunse Cleymord haith xxxij fote of seedyk in decay, (Thomas Tylney^o) (& that¹) William Laverok

(haith^o) is bounden to Thomas Tylney to discharge hym of the repayre of his seedykes (&^o) in Wyberton & haith in decay xij rodes of seedyk in the seid toun, the seid William haith by the graunt of the heires of Castell & Alakre x rodes of seedyk (all the forseid seedykes er out of repayre &¹) in decay for default of sufficient hight & bredeth.

(4 *Wyberton Gowle*) Item they sey that the fen bankes in the Lowe Fen called Wiberton Gowle is ruynous & (in¹) decay for default of sufficient hight & bredeth & ought to be repared by the persons named in a scedule herunto annexed.

30

(*viiij Hundreth*) Item the seid jurye (th^o) seith that the bankes of the south side of the Haven (called Witham¹) in diverse parcelles betwen thende (of^o) of Frampton bankes at the armytage & a place called Drapok (& from thens unto Docdyk¹) be not sufficient neither in height nor bredeth wherby a grete (mi^o) nombre of acres of comon merres of the seid viij (Hundreth¹) (C^o) called the Lowe Fen is clerely drowned & in grete [473.I.5] decay whiche bankes ought to be made sufficient & amended by thinhabitauntes of thies iiiij hundrethes that is to say Kyrton Frampton & Wiberton (& the west syde of the water in Boston¹).

(5. *Hubert Syke*) Item they sey that thinhabitauntes of the west side of the water in Boston ought to dyke skoure & clense from tyme when & as often as nede shall requyre oon dreyn called Hubbert Syke whiche begynneth at a certeyn place called the bight corner next to the haven called Wythome & from thens to a place called Skyrth within the viij C Fen.

(*Clowes Pen'*) Item they sey that it is necesarie that the seid inhabitauntes of of [*sic*] Boston do make (a^o) & erecte oon payre of clowes of vj fotes in bredeth & set the same in Hubbert Syke aforseid in a certeyn place ther called the corner of the bight next unto the Skyrth as well for the receyt of freshe water out of Wythome into (the¹) viij C Fen as for the avoydaunce of thaboundaunce of freshe waters out of the seid fen into Withome aforseid (betwen t^o) bfore the feest of Seynt Martyn the bishop next comyng upon payn of forfettyng yf they make default x li.

(*Pen'*) Item it is ordyned by the seid jurye that Wyberton Hundreth shall dyke skoure & clense the seid dyk called Skyrth from Hubert Syke unto Frampton Dyke in widnes x fotes & in depnes ij fote more then it is nowe bfore the feest of Seynt Luke the (virgen^o) (evangelist¹) next comyng upon payn of xij d. for every roode not dyked.

[473.I.6]

31

(6. *Pen'*) Item they sey that the seid dyke called Skyrth from Wyberton Dyke Ende unto Kyrton Dyke is not of sufficient depnes & bredeth & ought to be amended (x fote wide & ij fote depe¹) by thinhabitauntes of Frampton bfore the seid feest of Seynt Luke

thevaungelist next comyng upon payn of xij d. for every rode not dyked.

(*Pen'*) Item they sey that ther is xvj rodes in Skyrth aforseid not sufficiently dyked in the myddes of Skyrth & ought to be repared & made x fote in bredeth & ij fote deper then it nowe is by the inhabitauntes of the vynten of Skeldyk in Kirton bifore the seid feest of Seynt Luke next comyng upon payn of xij d. for every rode not dyked.

(*Pen'*) Item it is injoynd by the seid jure that the inhabitauntes of Algerkyrk Fosssdyk Sutterton Wigtoft & Swynneshed (all^l) make dyke & repare ther severall portions of Skyrth aforseid x fotes in bredeth & ij fotes wyder then they (b^o) be now upon payn of forfeyng for every rode not dyked xij d. bifore the seid feest of Seynt Luke next comyng.

(*Brothertoft Pen'*) Item it is ordeigned that the inhabitauntes of Brothertoft D [*sic*] shall make repare exalt & amend (too h^o) ij dam heddtes that is to sey oon called Langrakedam & the other adioynyng upon the haven at Langrak xx fote in bredeth & of sufficient (bredeth^o) height at all tymes when nede shall requyre upon payn [473.I.7] to forfeit for every default iiij li.

32

(8.¹ *Gilsyke*) Item it is ordigned that the seid inhabitauntes of Brothertoft (shall^l) dyke skoure & clense oon drayn (called^l) Gilsyke from a place called Gilsyke mouthe unto a place called Gravell Warth xij fote wide ij fottes deper then it is nowe bifore the feest of Seynt Marten next comyng upon payn of xl s.

(*Byker*) Item the seid jurours sey that ther is a drayn called the Newedyk bygynnyng at a place called Grist Ende & so from thens exterdeth unto a place called Crane Mere whiche is not of sufficient (bred^o) depnes & wydnes & ought to be dyked clensed & amended (by^l) the (lordes^l & ^o) inhabitauntes of Byker aforseid.

Item they sey that the comon suer in Byker aforseid from Crane Mere unto a place called Parke Ende is defective for defaulte of dikyng & ought to be dyked & skoured (by^l) the (lordes^l) landholders & inhabitauntes of the same town.

(*Donyngton*) (Item the seid jurours sey that ther is a certeyn water called Billingburowe Spryng bigynnyng at Billyngburowe in the partes of Kesteven in the seid countie of Lincoln whiche is a grete annoyaunce & lyke surrounde the landes of (the^o) a grete nombre of thinhabitauntes of Holand in the tyme of wynter that is to sey of Donyngton Quadryng & all other tounes between the seid tounes & Boston, & in the tyme of somer when the seyde (ln^o) inhabitauntes of Donyngton & Quadring & other (w^o) shulde have any benefitt or comoditie by the seyde water called Billyngburowe Spryng the course of the water ther is damned [473.I.8] barred, stopped & turned from the tounes aforseid.

¹ There is no folio numbered 7 in the contemporary numbering.

33

(8.^c 9) Item they sey that it is necessarie & convenyent for the comon welthe that the seid water called Billyngbrugh Spryng shall have his course as it haith hade to a place called Neslome & wher the seid water haith come to Neslome aforseid & ther haith hade no drayn into no comon suer but haith runne at large & surrounded aswell Quadryng Fen as Donyngton Fen to the grete damage of bothe the seid tounes, for remedie wherof we sey that it is beneficiall for the hole countre of Holand that the seid water shall have his (course^e) course from Neslome aforseid into a dyke called Billyngburowe Goldyk & from that place into a drayn called Billyngburowe Bek & from thens (through^e) (untoⁱ & ^e) (toⁱ) Marloode & from that place unto the Newdyk of Quadryng & Donyngton & so unto the see.

(*Goldyk*) (stetⁱ) Item they sey that ther is a drayn called Goldyk bigynnyng at (at^e) a place (calledⁱ) Marloode unto the High Brig upon Brig Dyk & from thens to a place called the Rough Ende is defective & ought to be dyked & skoured by (landholders every man ayeinst his^e) (the owners of the landesⁱ & ^e) (the lordes & freeholders of Donyngtonⁱ)^e¹

Item they sey that the seid Goldyk from Rough Ende unto a place called Byker Hyrn is also defective & ought to [be^s] dyked & skoured by the lordes & freeholders of Donyngton aforseid.

Item they sey that ther is a brig called the brig in the market place (ayeinst^e) (betwenⁱ) the (inne called the Lyon^e) (churcheⁱ) & the market crosse whiche is ruynose & in grete decay [473.I.9] for default of tymber work & ought to be repayed & amended by ladie Katerin duchesse of Suffolk.

34

((9^e) 10. *Brigdyk & Highbrig*) Item they sey that the Hiebrigg upon Brigg Dyke is ruynouse & in decay & they sey the half of the seid brig that is to sey that half of the seid brig next Donyngton ought to be repaired made & amended by the (inhabitauntes ofⁱ) Donyngton.

Item they sey that the seid Brigg Dyke from (th^e) Seynt Sayvours at Brigende (whiche was late a sell to the late dissolved monasterie of Semprynghamⁱ) to the middest of the hiebrigg at Donyngton is defectyve as well in (b^e) soundrie brigges as in the causey & ought to be repaired amended & made by the (landholders late the dissolved monasteries of Sempryngham^e) (of those persons that have the possession of the seid late sell of the priore of (Seint Saviers^e) the seid sellⁱ) called Seynt Seyvours.

35

²Item the seid jure seith & presenteth that it is necessarie (to have a newe drayn^e) for the comon welthe & profitt & savegarde (of the countre^e) as well for part of the parties of Holand that is to sey

¹ All the entries from that marked *Donynton* on 473.I.7 to the end of that marked *Goldyk* on 473.I.8 are cancelled, the last one apparently in error.

² A hand drawn in the margin points to this item.

Quadryng Donyngton & Byker as for part of the parties of Kesteven that is to sey Helpryngham Swayton Billyngburowe Horblyng Lytell Hale & diverse other tounes of bothe the seid parties to have a newe drayn & suer made & dyked for the conveyance of the water distending out of the seid [473.I.10] (10° 11) (water^o) partes of Kesteven into Helpryngham Bek & into the fen of the seid partes of Kesteven & Holand & Eight Hundreth Fen from a place called the Grest at Helpryngham Bek Ende aforseid & from the seid Bek Ende next unto the seid place called the Grest in Helpryngham aforseid in the countie of Lincoln' over the fennes of Litell Hoole & Byker aforseid unto a place called Wragmerestake in Byker & Hoole Fen aforseid in the seid countie of Lincoln', & from the seid place called Wragmerestake by the lymettes of Hoole Dyke unto a place called Babber Bothe & ther to falle into a suer called the Southe 'Ee in the Eight Hundreth Fen in the parties & countie, & fourthe of the seid South Ee to fall into a place called the Skarthe within the viij C Fen & so in the same Skyrth to a place called the Cley Hilles & from Cley Hilles to a place called the Horn & from the Horn in the seid Skyrth to a place called Gilsyke in the viij C Fen and the same suer to be dyked made & banked from Helpryngham Bek End aforseid & from the seid place called the Grest unto Gilsyke aforseid the half part therof that is to sey the west [473.I.11] (11° 12) parte of the same by the lordes freeholders tenauntes & inhabitauntes of (the same^o) Swayton Helpryngham & Litell Hoole aforseid & the other half parte therof that is to sey the est part of the same by the lordes freeholders tenauntes & inhabitauntes of Donyngton Quadryng & Byker aforseid, and from the mouth of Gilsyke aforseid (to be banked^o) unto the seid gootes to be banked by the tounes of the viij Hundreth aforseid and the same to be dyked maynteigned & repared from tyme to tyme as often as nede shall requyre from the Grest unto Gilsyke by the lordes freeholders tenauntes & inhabitauntes aforseid & to bigyn to dyke at Gilsyke aforseid & so by the boundes & lymettes aforseid unto the Grast also the seid jur' seith & presenteth that it is necessarie that the seid drayn & suer shalbe made dyked clensed & banked in maner & forme aforseid before the feest of Seynt Marten in wynter next comyng upon payn of the lordes freeholders tenauntes & inhabitauntes of every tounship aforseid to forfeit for every roode of the same not doon xij d.

36

Item the seid jurors seith & presentes that it is necessarie for the comon welthe & [473.I.12] (13 *iiij*^{or} *gootes*) savegarde aforseid that ther shalbe made leyd & sett *iiij* smalle goottes called pisgootes wherof ij to be layd in the newe syke at Toftende at the costes & charges of thinhabitauntes of Donyngton Quadryng & Byker, oon other pisgoote to be layd in a place called Copynsyke in the Lowe Fen at the charges of thinhabitauntes of 'Swayton Helpryngham Littell Hoole Grete Hole Hekyngton Horblyng & Billyngburowe and oon

¹ A hand in the margin points to this item.

other piscoote to be leyd in a syke called Anwyksyke to be made leyd (&¹) maynteigned by the inhabitauntes of Swayton Helpryng- ham Litell Hoole Grete Hole Hekyngton Horblyng & Billyng- burrowe and the seid gootes to be layd & made in maner & forme aforseid (bifore the feest^o) by the inhabitauntes of Donyngton Quadryng & Byker oon (oth^o) of the seid ij gootes to be leyd in Newsyke bifore the feest of Seynt Nicolas the bissshop next comyng and the other to be layd in the same place bifore the feest of the (Anunciation of our Ladie the Virgin^o) (nativitie of Seynt John Baptist¹) then next foloyng, and the other ij gootes to be made & leyd by the inhabitauntes of Swayton Helpryngham Litell Hole & Grete Hoole Hekyngton Billyngburowe & Horblyng bifore the seid feest of Seynt Nicholas next comyng upon payn to forfeit for every goote not made nor leyd v li.

[473.I.13]

37

(13. *Boston* 14) Item the seid jur' seith that ther is a drayn called the Olde Syke issuing out of Holand Fen in the Haven at Boston whiche (is^o) is not of sufficient depnes nor wydnes & ought to be dyked clenسد & skoured by the inhabitauntes of the west side of the water in Boston aforseid.

(*Quadryng*) Item they sey that ther is a suer called Quadryng Newdyk (from a place called^o) (whiche¹) in soundrie places is defectyve & ought to be dyked & skoured by the lordes & owners of the lande abutting upon the same Newyedyk.

[473.I.14]

38

(17. *Gosberkyrk*) Item they sey the seid comon suer from a place called (. . .¹) Fen Ende at Rusgate unto a place called Cokerell Hough in diverse places is defective & ought to be dyked & clenسد (& made xiiij fote wide & ij fotes depe¹) by the lordes & freeholders, and the seid comon suer from Cokerell Hough aforseid unto the goottes at the see (is^o) is also defective & ought to be dyked by the lordes & freeholders of Gosberton & Surflett.

(*Seebank at Graungegate End*) Item they sey ther is a pece of seebank at Graungegate Ende whiche is not of sufficient height nor bredeth & ought to be amended & exalted by Antony Irby esquier.

Item they sey that ther is a brig in Gosberton aforseid called the Partie Brigg whiche is ruynose & in decay for default of stonework & ought to be repaired amended & made by the inhabitauntes of Gosberton aforseid.

Item they sey that a certen bank called Newedyk Bank in Gosberton from West Hyrn unto Rusgate Ee mouthe whiche in diverse places er in decay & not of sufficient height nor bredeth & ought to be amended & (exalten^o) exalted by the lordes & freeholders of Gosberton aforseid, & soo from Rusgate Ee mouthe unto Quadryng Up Fen is in lyke defaulte & ought to be amended & repayed by the lordes & freholders of Surflet aforseyd.

[473.I.15]
drie yeres.¹

39

(16) Item they sey that John Brendreth of Greyby & other the inhabitauntes (ther^o) of Dawsby & Aslaby have leyd hemp & flax over the hede of the same spryng ayeinst the forme of the statute therof made.

(*Surflett*) Item they sey that ther is oon holl' tree layd at Aslaby Barr in the partes of (Kes^o) Kesteven by oon Thomas Loughton the elder of Aslaby & other the inhabitauntes ther, & ij other holl' trees at Poynton Barr & a gutter is made through the bank of the seid suer of Poynton side undre the bothom of the seid suer by Mathewe Bothe William Bukmynster Cristofer Bukmynster Richard Roger-son of Poynton & other the inhabitauntes ther so that the water that cometh thether by the seid suer & shuld from thens distende to Gosberton & Surflett aforseid in [*sic*] converted clene an other waye out of the right course (as^o) as is aforseid to the grete annoyaunce of the hole countre of Holand.

Item they sey that the comon suer from (Poynton^o) Milnthorp to a place called Flattpooles is defective & ought to be dyked & censed by the inhabitauntes of Aslaby Poynton & (Milt^o) Milnthorp, & from the seid place called Flatpooles unto Rusgate Ee mouth is lykewise defective & ought to be dyked & censed by the inhabitauntes of Gosberton & Surflett & by the lordes & freeholders of the same townes.

[473.I.16]

40

²(15. *Gosberton*) Item they say that wher ther is a spryng called Caldwell the hede wherof spryngeth in the feldes betwen (Dawseby^o) (Dowseby¹) & Aslaby in the parties of Kesteven whiche tyme out of mynde haith distended & ought to right (ought¹) to distende (all tymes of the (yere¹) by certyn gyttes & . . .¹) from thense through (& to¹) a place called Mylnthrop (& so¹) into a suer called Poynton Loode & from thens through (the comon suer in¹) Gosberton & Surflett in the parties of Holand & so to the see (and¹) the seid jur' (seith that the water in the same is letted verey muche of the course by ij miln dammes wherof the floure of the higher miln is now levye withe hede of the same spryng, wherof the oon milne is in the tenure of Robert Pekok & the other in the tenure of Robert Turn to the grete noyance of all the countre both of Kesteven & Holand next ther unto adioynnyng as well in wete yeres & in^o) (seith that one Robert Pecok (of S . . . & Robert Turn of the same . . .¹) havynge landes of ther own wher tenure . . . in lese for tenure of lyff or yeres (liynge¹) on both sydes of the seid gyttes (gutters¹) & sewers at [*blank*] in the parisshe of [*blank*] for ther severall profit & comodite haith erected bulyd made & sett (up¹) (a¹) ij mylnes & made mylne dammes so

¹ This file was originally made up in a different order, and 473.I.16 then came before 473.I.15. See note on p. 21.

² This folio is so cancelled and interlined as to be almost illegible.

that the water . . . distende from & rone by the the [*sic*] seid gytted gutters & sewer to . . . & kept in a bar ther . . . aswell of the kynges maiesties as other his subyiettes & tenentes is often tymes (. . .^e) both in tyme of sumer & in tyme of wynter by reason of the seid spryng surrounded & overflowen & also by reason of the same water that ought to distende by the seid (water^e) from place to place & to the see as is forseid is letted of his due course whiche is not only a grete nuisance & damage to the kynges maiestie his tenantes & subiectes aforseid but also to all the inhabitantes of the townes of Gosberton & Surflete & also other (the kynges subiectes^l) adioynyng neighe unto the seid sewer specially in tyme of somer for lacke of freshe water to (. . . relieff . . . both of ther higher^e) to Hell Lake & dresse ther mete for . . . relieff of ther . . . also for the leeste . . . in the . . . of Gosberton & Surflete adioynyng to the seid sewer wherfor fresshe water alowe . . . to distende to the ee wherof is stopped by leyying of seid milnes & mylne dammes wherof is a grete . . . & . . . aswell to the kynges (tennantes^e) maiestie (his^l) subyiettes & tennantes aforseid as also to all the (kynges tenants & subyiettes^e) . . . subiectes of Gosberton & Surflete & . . . will . . . the seid mylnes & mylne dammes be over throwe & pulled up so that the water distendyng & . . . from the seid spryng may find due overflo to run & distende by the sewers aforseid both in tyme of sommer & wynter & . . . letted nor stopped by the seid . . . & mylne dammes wherof shalle a . . . wethe . . . a mete parte of the (my^e) kynges maiesties tenantes & subyiettes of Kesteven aforseid as also to the inhabitantes & his subyiettes of Gosberton & Surflete & other his subyiettes in the partes of Holand^l).
[473.I.17] & repared by the lordes & freeholders of Surflett aforseid.

41

(18. *Algerkyrk & Fosdyk*) Item the seid jur' seith that the see (bank^l) bilongyng to Algerkyrk & Fosdyk from the wyndemill unto Cromer Hyrn is in decay in many & sondry places & ought to be exalted & repared by the lordes & freeholders & inhabitauntes ther as in the seedyk booke therof (made (made^e)^l) more pleynly doith appere.

Item they sey the comon (suer^l) in Fosdyk & Algerkyrk betwen (Loddes^l) (Prikfeld^e) house & Countwade is in decay & ought to be dyked & skoured xij fotes wide & iij fotes depe through out by the lordes & freeholders & inhabitauntes of the seid townes.

Item they sey that ther is a petit drayn for old landfeld on the west parte of Fosdyk whiche is stopped with (a w^e) erthe by Richard Jolyson of Frampton that water ther issuyng can not (have^l) the (cous^e) course to the hede drayn & ought to be opened by the seid Richard Jolyson.

Item they sey that oon (pedit^e) pettit drayn goyng from Midlershe unto Clayngarthes (& so^l) unto the hede drayn is defective in dyverse places & ought to [be^s] amended repared & maynteigned by the inhabitauntes of Algerkyrk.

Item they sey that Sir John Harryngton knyght ought (to kepe^e) make laye [473.I.18] & maynteign oon holl' tree in his grounde late Peter Gaunt in a petit drayn for the conveyance of the water out of (a place called^l) Crabden End into the hede drayn of Fosdyk & Algerkyrk aforseid.

42

(17 19 *Kyrton*) Item they sey that ther is a (petit^e) grete drayn in Kyrton aforseid called Kyrton Ee from the Skott pittes at Kyrton Holand unto a place Rendyles Warth is in ruyn & decay & that the suer ought to be dyked skoured & censed & made in sufficient depnes & bredeth, by the lordes & freeholders in Kyrton aforseid.

Item the seid jur' seith that a goote in Kyrton aforseid called Kyrton Goote is in ruyn & decay for default of stonework & ought to be made repaired and amended sufficiently by the lordes and freeholders in Kyrton aforseid.

Item they sey the seebankes from the myddest of Whitham Ee southward to the grete goote in Kyrton aforseid is in (ry^e) ruyn & decay for lak of reparyng & exalting of the same & that the seid bankes within the lymettes aforseid ought to be repaired exalted & amended (& made^l) of sufficient height & bredeth for the defence of of [*sic*] the salt water at all tymes by the lordes [473.I.19] & freeholders within the toun of Kyrton aforseid for suche landes as they or eny of them have within the seid toun by aker sylver.

43

(20) Item they sey that the see bankes of Kyrton from the myddest of Whitham Ee aforseid northward to a place called Creyll Goote is also in ruyn & decay & is not sufficient in height & bredeth & that the bankes within the boundes aforseid ought to be exalted & repaired in height & bredeth by the inhabitauntes of the toun of Kyrton aforseid by comon mynwork by the sight of the dykgraves of Kyrton aforseid.

Item they sey that a petit drayn in Kyrton aforseid ledyng between the lande of Mr. Thomas Littelbury esquier of Steynsby & Philip Cleymond & Antony Broun esquier is in ruyn & decay & ought to be repaired dyked & censed by the seid Thomas Philip & Antony for suche landes as they have abutting ayeinst the seid drayn.

Item they sey that a brig in Kyrton aforseid extendyng over the comon suer called Marketstid Brig is in ruyn & decay & ought to be repaired & amended by the inhabitauntes of Kyrton aforseid.

[473.I.20]

44

(19 21) Item they sey that ther is comon way in Kyrton aforseid ledyng from the church to a place called Bulholme is in ruyn & decay & ought to be made & repaired by the vynten in Kyrton aforseid called Skeldyk vynten as parcell of the toun of Kyrton aforseid.

Item they sey that ther ij severall brigges in Kyrton aforseid oon of them called the Meres Brig & the other called Blowmebrig extendyng over the comon suer in Kyrton aforseid er ruynous & in

decay & ought to be repared & made sufficient by the inhabitauntes of Kyrton aforseid by the sight of the dykgraves ther.

Item they sey that ther is a drayn called the Goote Cryke from the goote in Kyrton aforseid unto the see is defectyve & ought to be dyked & skoured by the lordes tenauntes freeholders & inhabitauntes in Kyrton aforseid.

Item they sey that ther is a fen bank in the Lowe Fen whiche is in decaye & ought to be repared exalted & amended [by^s] our sovereign lord the kyng for the (landes^l) late the priorisse of Bukland.

Item they sey that ther is an other fen bank in (the^o) a certeyn place called Salthirn in length of xxx footes is lykewise in decaye & ought to be repared exalted & amended by our seid sovereign lord the kyng for the landes late the seid priorisse.

[473.I.21]

45

((20^o) 22) Item they sey that the fen bank from a place called the Rakes Ende in the west part of the viij Hundreth Fen unto the haven bank at Dokdyk is ruynous & in decay & ought to be exalted repared & made by the inhabitauntes of Swyneshed Wigtoft Sutterton Algerkyrk & Fosdyk.

(*Frampton comon suer*) Item the seid jur' seith that the comon suer (called the Mere^l) in Frampton aforseid from the fen bank on the north syde of Holand unto the see is in decay & ought to be dyked & clenسد by the lordes (freeholders^o) & inhabitauntes in the same toun.

(*Fr. gote*) Item they sey that ther is goote in Frampton aforseid for the conveyance of freshe water out of the same toun into the see is ruynous & in decay & ought to be repared & amended by the lordes & inhabitauntes in Frampton aforseid.

(*Drain*) Item they sey that ther is a petit drayn in Frampton aforseid (from^o) called Greygoose Flete from a felde called Toftes & so by the south syde of a felde called Worlydall & (so^l) unto Stok Brig is in decay & ought to be dyked on both the sydes by them whoos landes abutttes upon the same petit drayn vj footes wyde & ij footes depe.

(*Hamond Bek*) Item they sey that ther is a drayn called Skotpittes in Frampton aforseid whiche is defective in xxxv roodes for defaulte of dykyng & ought to be dyked & (cle^o) clenسد by the ladie Katerin duchesse of Suffolk.

[473.I.21d]

46

(Item they say that ther ys oon other (pety^l) dreyn in Frampton aforesaid (ledyng^l) from a place Hanerr unto^o)

(*Petye*) Item they say that ther is oon other pety drean in Frampton aforesaid lyng the landes of the lord Wylloughby of the est part & Shors Toftes of the west & ronyth from a place called Hamerr to the south end of the landes of the lord Wylloughby & from the said landes to the south end of Worldale & so to a rigg of John Tounsyd & frome thens to (Crey^o) a drean called Greygose

Flete which drean is defectyve for lak of dykyng & scouryng, and they say the same ought to be dyked & scoured xx fote wyde & ij fote depe, by the lord Wylloughby John Tounsyd Robert Snell & the heires of Wylliam Garrard & the heires of Rychard Garrard the like John Rychardson John Meresdall & John Skynner who have landes abutting of the same every man after the rate of his landes.

[473.I.22]

47

((21^o) 23 *Lyethe Fend Hirn*) Item they sey that it is necessarie for the (mait^o) mayntenaunce & kepeng of freshe water in Holand Fen (th^o) that a payr of clowes shalbe made erecte & sett at a place (called^l) Lythe Fend Hirn adioynyng upon Hamond Bek the seid clowes to be of suche wydnes & height as shalbe sufficient for bootes to ferrye (& passe savely^l) undre, & the seid clowes to be made (& sett^l) in maner & forme aforseid by the inhabitauntes of the viij Hundreth bifor the feest of thapostles Philip & Jacob next comyng.

(*Swynshed & Wigtoft*) Item they sey that ther is a goote at the Spittle Crosse in Sutterton whiche is in decay for defaulte of reparation & ought to be amended by the lordes & inhabitauntes of Swynshed and Wigtoft aforseid.

Item they sey that ther is a brig extendyng over the west drayn in Wigtoft aforseid whiche is in ruyn & decay & ought to be repared by the lordes & inhabitauntes of Swynshed aforseid.

Item they sey that ther is (a^s) drayn called the Skottpittes from Swynshed hiegh brig unto Drayton Warthe whiche is defective & that xxx rode of the same drayn ought to be dyked and skoured by ladie Katerin duchesse of Suffolk & the residue of the same drayn (ought^l) to be dyked by the lordes & inhabitauntes of Swynshed (& Wigtoft^o) aforseid.

[473.I.23]

48

((22^o) 24) (Item they sey that it is necessarie for the conveyance of the freshe water out of Wigtoft & (Wig^o) Swynshed unto the comon suer to have a petit dreyn^o).

(*Acarlandstowe Respectual'*) Item they sey that a stowe or dam called Acarland Stowe liyng at Fissmerend haith been always accustomed to be kept open from mid Merche day to midapryll for the conveyance of the waters of Swynshed & Wigtoft to the dreyn of Sutterton Algerkyrk & Fosdyk accordyng to the old custome.

(*Holland Roughtes*) Item they sey that ther is a drayn called the Hiegh Dreyn from a place called Cantlothbothe (unde^o) (unto^l) Brandyk (in^o) is in grete decaye & ought to be repared dyked & clensed by the (freholders^o) inhabitauntes of Quadryng Donyngton & Byker (in the partes of Holand^l) Billyngburow & Horblyng in the partes of Kesteven.

(*Respectual'*) Item they sey that ther is a certeyn suer bigynnyng at Symondwer whiche ought to be repared clensed & dyked by the men of Rikehundred & Algerhundred to the house of John Benacle

sometyme John Diconson whiche is out of repare & not dyked by the default of the men of Algerhundred, and the same men of Algerhundred & Rikhundred er holden to make a certeyn brig called Fyskemerebrig whiche is broken & not repaired by the difault of the men of Algerhundred to the grete damage (of^e) & hynderaunce of the hole (con^e) comynaltie. Also they sey that¹

[*Endorsed* :—] Inquisition at Donington i Edwardi 6^{ti} Anno primo regis E. 6. Wapen' de Kirton 1 Ed. 6. A speciall verdicte. Highdyk & le Highbrig.

[473.II]

[*Folio* 1] Qui facit justiciam operatur bona 49

STANFORD 'INQUISICIO CAPTA APUD STANFORD' in comitatu Lincoln' sexto die Julii anno regni Edwardi sexti dei gratia Anglie Francie & Hibernie regis fidei defensoris & in terra ecclesie Anglicane & Hiberne supremi caputis sexto coram [blank] Commissionares dicti domini regis ad seweras

per sacramentum Antonii Pykerynge de Threkyngham generosi Robert Tayllor de Thurleby Willelmi Hareby de eadem Stephani Ward de Obthorp Johannis Waters de Uffyngton Johannis Bale de Donnysby Willelmi Clerk de Haconby Johannis Atkyn de Morton Willelmi Munk de Carleby Willelmi Haddon de Braceborowe Willelmi Adam de Tydd Roberti Rogeman de Sutton Ricardi Cure de Fleete Anthonii Heydon de Multon Thome Idon' de Whaplode Willelmi Pygott de Surflete Johannis Davyson de Weston Thome Burton de Crowland (Thome^e) (Johannis¹) Bawere de Whaplode Johannis Callowe de Gedney Johannis Byrd de Baynton in comitatu Northamp' Thome Siro de Pekyrd Johannis Rawlynges de Paston Nicholai Theryngton de Barnek (*Weylond*) Thome Gyler de Ufford & Willelmi Rawlynges de Gunthorp QUI DICUNT SUPER SACRAMENTUM SUUM THAT the maigne ryver or sewer called Weylond extendyng from Stanford Brigge unto Uffyngton Brygge and fromthens thorowe the lordshyp of Uffyngton and Tallyngton aswell of the south part as of the north part unto Depyng Dam and fromthens thorowe the lordshyp of West Depyng and Markett Depyng aswell of the north part as of the south part unto the crosse negh the walk myln of West Depyng and (*Uffyngton*) fromthens unto the stoon brygge in West Depyng Gate and fromthens to Waldram Hall and fromthens to the crosse in the wegh and fromthens to the treangle brygge in Crowland and fromthens to Whythows and fromthens to Brodhows and fromthens to Cobytt church and fromthens (*Have for the doing hereof*) to Spaldyng Brygge and fromthens to Fulneghend and fromthens to the see, is not nor of long tyme hath been roded clensted & scoured dyked & banked as he [*Folio* 2] (50) ought for to bee and that there be dyverse purprestures and esto-

¹ A further folio must have been lost.

² This verdict is written on a roll. See Lincoln 505.7.6 for the ordinance resulting from the inquisition.

pelles as clowes trees rootes shelves sand beddes hylles and bankes in the said ryver or sewer as hereafter appereth by reason wherof greate habundance of fresshe water which should have his rightfull course passage and race in the said maigne ryver unto the see without lett is stopped and dysturbed of his said course and therby doothe excessyvely rebownd and brust over the banckes and gretely dooth surrownd and destroye aswell the meedes feldes and pastures in Kestven as also the marysses or fennes in Kestven and Holland adioyning to the said ryver to the inestymable damage of a grete number of the kynges maiesties subiectes AND THE jurye afforsaid sayen that thaforseid ryver owght to be roded clenسد scoured dyked and banked (*The erle of Rut' and his tenantes of the ryver to doe the part of (Antyngton^o) Ufyngton*) in manner and forme as herafter ensueth and folowyth that is to say from Stanford Brygge unto Uffyngton Brygge as is afforseid by the inhabytantes of the parysse of Seynt Jeyms negh Stanford afforseid and the townshyp of Barnek in the countye of Northampton of the south part and by the (inhabytauntes of the town¹) (townshyp^o) of Stanford and Uffyngton in the countye of Lyncoln afforseid of the north part (or by John Nettelham fermer of the fyshing ther in the said river, within the bowndes of Uffyngton afforseid¹) as the said jurye are enformed and they further sayen that within the said lymytt ther be dyverse trees rootes and hylles byeng and leyng in the said ryver and in certen places theroff the bankes of the said ryver be fallen into the same and of late tyme ther be dyverse wyllowes planted and sett therin and that the said ryver from Uffyngton Brygge afforseid unto Deping Dam afforseid owght to be roded scoured clenسد and (*Fiat lex*) kept cleane by John Nettelham and John Wryght fermer of the fyssheng ther within the said ryver unto the countes of Rutland aswell off the north part as of the south part and from the said Deping Dam unto the said crosse negh the walk myln of West Deping afforseid the said (*Fiat lex*) ryver owght to be roded scoured clenسد and kept cleane by the inhabytauntes of West Deping afforseid of both sydes and from the said crosse unto the stone brygge in Depyng Gate aforseid the said ryver owght to be roded scoured clenسد and kept cleane by James (*Fiat lex*) Ramsham and Edward Nicholson fermers to the kynges maiestie of the fysshing ther in the said ryver aswell of the south part of the countye of (*Folio 3*) [51] (*Fiat lex*) Northampton as of the north partye in the countye of Lyncoln and the jurye sayen that within the said lymytt ther is a greate shelveff or hyll warped or casten upp and from the said stone brygge unto Waldram Hall afforseid the said ryver owght to be roded scoured clenسد and kept cleane (*Fiat lex*) by Thomas Burton fermer to the kynges maiestie of the fysshing there within the said ryver aswell of the south part in the countye of Northampton as of the north part in the countye of Lyncoln and from Waldram Hall afforseid unto the crosse negh the gyth afforseid the said ryver is defectyff as is next afforseid in the defenc of the said Thomas Burten

fermer to the kynges maiestie of the fysshynge ther within the said ryver aswell of the south part (*Fiat lex*)¹ as of the north part (and the bankes of the said ryver of the south part theroff within that lymytt in dyverse places be broken and brussen by reason wheroff greate abundaunce of water falleth furth of the said ryver into Igh Fenne in the countye of Northampton to the greate dyscomodyte of the oweners the same to the manyfest decay of the said ryver of Weylond and the said bankes owght to be repayred oonly by the oweners in the said Igh Fen¹) and from the said crosse unto the treangle brygge in Crowland afforseid the said ryver is defectyff as is afforseid (in rodyng scouryng & clensyng¹) in the default of John Pynder (& William Pynder¹) fermers to the kynges maiestie of the fysshynge ther within the said ryver aswell of the north part as of the south and the jurye afforseid seyen that ther is a certen cryek within the said lymytt of the south part extendyng to Igh Fenne in the countye of Northampton (afforseid¹) by the which cryek grete habundaunce of freshe water falleth furth of thaforseid ryver of Weylond into the said fenne (*To be viewed by Mr Richard Cecill Mr Kenelme Digby Mr Welby Mr Henry Digby or ij of them before the 20 August and thereupon a lawe to be made*) to the grete nusaunce of Borowe Sooke in the countye of Northampton (afforseid¹) and to the grete decay of the said ryver (which owght to be amended by the townshypps leyng . . . in Burowe Fen in the countye of Northampton and the townshyp of Crowland in the counte of Lyncoln¹) and the (said jurye¹) sayen that from the said bryge unto Whyte Hows afforseid the said ryver is defectyff as is afforseid in the default of Nicholas Wodroweff (*Fiat lex*) fermer to the kynges maiestie of the fysshynge ther within the said ryver and within the said lymytt ther is a certen trenche cutt (. . . *ther be ij lockes in the . . . and the key of one in the keping of the bayly of Crowland Crowland the other in the keping of the next Commissioners of Sewars adioyning therto*) furth of the bank of the said ryver of Weylond of the est part theroff by reason wheroff much water issueth and falleth furth off the said ryver into a certen place called Possan, to the decay of the said ryver, and the jurye afforseid seyen that thafforseid ryver of Weylond extendyng thorowe the town of Crowland is greatly defectyffe in scouryng bankyng and dykyng and that it owght (*Fiat lex for the bankes*) to be amended by the inhabytantes theroff and the said jurye seyen that from Whyett Hows unto Brod Hows afforseid the said (*Fiat lex for the rodyng, ante festum Michae' sub poena*) ryver is not roded nor scoured in the default of the said Nicholas Wodroweff and Thomas Harrys fermer to the kynges maiestie of the fysshynge [*Folio 4*] [52] ther within the said ryver and the bankes aswell of the west part as of the est part of the said ryver within that lymytt be in great ruine and owght to be of the height of thre foote and of the brede of six foote and so made and maynteyned from Whyt Hows afforseid unto a certen (*Fiat lex for the bankyng*

¹ A hand drawn in the margin points to this entry.

ante festum Michaelis sub poena consimilis offendelis pro qualibet roda 20 d. Fiat lex consimilis) place called the Clowt by the kynges maiestie and from thens to Broder Hows afforseid by the inhabytantes of Spaldyng and others accordyng as they accustomed to doo the same and from Broder Hows afforseid to Cobytt church afforseid the seid ryver is not roded nor scoured and is insufficient in depnes and owght to be dyked xx^{ti} foote wyde and in depnes thre fote and the bankes of the west part (*Fiat lex that the kyngis dike this that the enhabitantes do banke it and rode Quere*) theroff are in great ruine and owght to be of the height of thre foote and in brede vj foote and it owght to be repayred and dyked and scoured by them accustomed to do the same and from Cobytt church afforseid unto the sewer called Symkyn Dam the said mayne (*For every enhabitant offendyng 20 d. ante festum Michaelis Archangeli ut supra*) ryver is not sufficiently roded nor scoured and owght to be dyked xx^{ti} foote in wydnes and in depnes thre foote by them accustomed (*Fiat lex ut proxime supra*) to do the same accordyng to the joyse bookes and the bankes of the said ryver from Cobytt church afforseid unto Symkyn Dam afforseid wher they have been accustomed to be made owght to be in height thre foote and in brede vj foote and so owght to be (*The decaye of Weylond*) doon by them of aunyent tyme accustomed to doo the same as is afforseid AND THE JURYE afforseid sayen that the same maigne ryver or sewer of Weylond extendyng from the town of Spaldyng to the see is greatly landed so that dyverse sewers by the which greate abundaunce of fresshe water owght to be conveyed for the dreanyng aswell of the high cuntry off Kesteven as certen townes in the lowe cuntry of Holland of the south part of Spaldyng and also for the fennes or marysses aswell in Kesteven as in Holland and which owght to have ther rightfull course descent and fall into the said maigne ryver and so to the see aswell of the oon syde as of the other syde of the same ryver as hereafter appereth, can have no fall att this present into the said maigne ryver AND BY REASON that dyverse of the said sewers of long tyme hath been and yet be stopped and letted of ther rightfull course as hereafter dooth also appere AND also by the lett of the course of thafforseid maigne ryver of Weylond and by the excessyve copious and [*Folio 5*] [*53*] abundaunt breakyng furth of the same by the insuffycencye theroff in some as is above declared and expressed and also by reason of such defaltes as hereafter do appere wherby greate abundaunce of freshe water hath been stopped and letted of his rightfull course to fall into the seid maigne ryver and likewise much water hath been conveyed and taken furth of the said maigne ryver as also hereafter appereth, THE SAME hath been not oonly the destruction and decay of the said maigne ryver by the siltyng and warpyng upp of the same by the salt water havyng contynuall course and race in the said ryver and that the bothom of the same ryver is nowe above the fall of the course of all the afforseid waters by reason of the scarcetye and want of

freshe water in the said ryver not beyng sufficient nor able to purge clene and take away with the ebb or fall of the sea water, the crekk sand and sylth that the salt water hath browght in and left behynd att his floode AND ALSO a grete occacion that the salt water att his vehement rage or hygh spryng, which chaunceth not often, dooth issue and fall furth of the said mayne ryver into the marysses and fennes of Depyng Spaldyng and Pynchbek for that the said maigne ryver of long tyme hath not had nor yet hath eny perfytt depnes or hollowe for the keyping in of the course of the floode of the said salt water, and also hath to much lybertye to flowe abrode, BOTT ALSO the breakyng furth of the said maigne ryver and the contynuall lett and stoppyng of thafforseid sewer which allwayes have hadd ther course and fall into the said maigne ryver by the rebowndyng off the water have pyeteously surrownded and drowned the feedles medowes pastures and marysses aswell in Kesteven as in Holland to the tedious aspersion of all men and to the inestymable damage of the kynges maiestie and intollerable nuisance and iniurous detrement and greate discomodyte of innumerable of his maiesties tenants and other of his subiectes, WHERFOR THE JURYE afforseid for the remedye and help heroff seyen that it is very necessarye and most nedefull that a certen goote be erected and made in and upon thafforseid ryver or sewer off Weylond of the est part of Spaldyng and under the fall of Sterrfenne Gote and North Graft into the ryver of Weylond afforseid in such place as to (the Commissioners afforseid shall seeme most conveyent¹) and the same goote to be made with foure dores to shutt with the floode of the salt water and to open with the fall of the freshe water so that [*Folio 6a*] [54] therby the see shalbe stopped and letted of his course and that nott att any tyme issue nor fall furth of the seid sewer of Weylond into flattes pannes or lowe places in the fennes betwene Spaldyng and Depyng to the nuisance of the townshyp of Spaldyng in the parties of Holland nor that the fall and course of the freshe water therby shalbe stopped or letted to the nuisance of the townshyp of Depyng Langtoft and Baston and others in the parties of Kesteven and also the same as the said jurye suppose in short tyme shall recover the said sewer of Weylond and bryng to a perfytt depnes and hollowe for that duryng the tyme of the flowyng of the salt water (*A devise for a gote to be made and officers appoynted and the manner of the levye appereth in the booke of the sessions*) the freshe water at the said goote shall gather a greate head so that with the reflowyng or ebb of the said see, together with the powre off the freshe water (in the said goote shall gather a great heade^o) shall haistely grynd and make a perfytt depnes in the said sewer of Weylond and the said jurye seyen that it is requisite and nedefull that a maigne dyke and bank shalbe casten and made aswell of the north part as of the south part of the said goote unto the sey dyke to thentent that therby the see at his vehement rage or high spryng shall not flowe

nor passe the same and also that it is requisite that the fynnes be made and dyked the oon of the oon syde of thafforseid goote and the other of thother syde and neyh to the said gote, of the salt marsshes towards the see to the intent and purpose that the salt water at his vehement rage may partly fall into the said fynnes so that his puissant force therby sumthyng shalbe metyigated ayenst the said gate and weare dyke and also at his fletyng over the said salt marsshes at the said rage shall by the said fynnes fall agayn into the said ryver of Weylond and by the said fall for want of freshe water shall pouryye and cence the sylth and wrekk of the see restyng and leyng at the said gote and the said jurye sayen that the charyges of the makyng of the said goote dyke and bank will extend to the summe of an hundredth markes and above ALSO THE SAID jurye sayen that ther be fyve principall (sewers¹) [*Folio 6b*] [55] havyng ther course from the west part of Depyng Fenne thorowe the same fenne and so to the afforseid ryver or maigne sewer of Weylond and so to the see that is to say BLAK DYKE at le New Lake ledyng or extendyng unto Oold Halmend HORSGATRAWGHE extendyng to Halmend TOWNGATRAWGHE extendyng to Symkyn Dam, LANGTOFT PANNE extendyng to the West Loode and BASTON Reape (*Fiat lex ut infra scribitur ante festum Omnium Sanctorum sub poena supra qualibet villa 20 li. and every fisher offending to lose his fishyng and to make like provision for the Croslake*) extendyng to Sterrfengote, which sewers be the principall and chieff sewers for the dreanyng of the said fenne and they owght to be roded and scoured sufficiently by the inhabytauntes of Depyng Langtoft and Baston and the inhabytauntes of Spaldyng and Pynchbek accordyng as they have accustomed to roode and scoure the same and nowe they be defectyff and not sufficiently roded nor scoured by reason wheroff the water issuyng and fallyng into the said sewer furth of the high cuntry of Kesteven, can not have ready course and passage but rebowndeth and surroundeth the said fenne or marysse to the inestymable damage of the kynges maiestie and to the utter undoyng of many of his tenentes and subiectes (and to the decay of the maigne ryver of Weylond afforseid, and the said jurye say thafforseid West Loode extendyng from the clowse in the fenne unto thafforseid sewer of Weylond is insufficient in dykyng and scouryng and yt owght to be sufficiently dyked and scoured within that dystryct by the (townshyp of Spaldyng^c) (inhabytauntes of the town of Spaldyng¹) (And to the grete decay of the maigne ryver of Weylond afforseid^c) ALSO THE JURYE AFFORSEID seyen that the said Sterrfengote extendeth from a certen place called the South Fendyke and wher of late a certen clowgh hath been erected made and sett upp unto a certen goote called Gallowe Goote and so into thafforseid ryver of Weylond and so into the see and that the said sewer is clerely [*Folio 7*] [56] landed and stopped and of long tyme hath been at the said South

Fendyke and the said clowgh utterly decayed and also from thens unto the said Gallowe Goote the said sewer is not sufficiently roded nor scoured by reason wheroff grete abundaunce of fresshe water descendyng and fallyng furth of the high countre of Kesteven into the marysses of Depyng and Spaldyng, which owght to have his rightfull course and passage thorowe the said sewer called Sterrfengote to the afforseid ryver of Weylond and so to the see doth greatly rebownd and grevously and tediously surrownd and flete over the medowes pastures fennes and marysses adioingyng same to the grete discomodyte of many of the kynges subiectes and to the grete decay of thafforseid maigne ryver of Weylond AND the jurye afforseid say that afforseid clowyth owght to be repayred furthwyth by the inhabytauntes of Pynchbek and Spaldyng and to be made to drawe up and latt down and the said sewer from the said clowgh unto a certen place called Sefull Land owght to be dyked roded and scoured by the inhabytauntes of Spaldyng and Pynchbek (*Fiat lex so that it be in breadth 2 foote, and in depth 3 foote for the first fall, and that it rune betwixt the first of Marche and last of October for the second fall as it is devised, sub pena 20 li., ante festum Omnium Sanctorum except the clowe and gote which shalbe made before Lammass 1553*) afforseid and from thens to thafforseid gote called Gallowe Gote by the said inhabytauntes and the said jurye sayen that the said clowgh owght to be of the brede of thre fote and of the height of fowre foote and the said sewer of the depnes of thre foote and brede of thre foote at the fyrst fall of the water furth of the fenne into the said sewer and fromthensfurth of the brede of xij foote and depnes vj foote unto the see so that the course of the waters in no place be letted nor stopped and that the said clowgh owght to be open all tymes of the year aswell in wynter as in somer oonles the fresshe water shalbe so abundant and greate or the rage of the see so vehement that the said sewer of Sterrfengote shall not be sufficient to resceyve and convey the same fresshe water to the (river of Weylond afforseid¹) (see^o) and then it shalbe lawfull to the inhabytauntes of Spaldyng and Pynchbek to latt down the said clowgh and to resceyve the fresshe water therby as the said sewer may convey and sewe the same to the (see^o) (said sewer or ryver of Weylond¹) for the salvgard of the countre of Holland afforseid and necessarye and very nedefull it is that sure and perfytt orders may be taken accordyngly so that the said clowgh be not otherwyse ordered nor used. AND THE JURYE afforseid sayen that the bank of the dyke at the eest eend of the fenne extendyng from Dow Hurne unto Sterrfengote afforseid and from thens to Spaldyng afforseid in dyverse places by certen persons in the parties of Holland, is trenched hollowed and (*Fiat lex, sub mulcta magna, scilicet 10 li.*) guttered by reason wheroff greate abundaunce of water which should issue and fall by the said dyke unto Sterrfengote and West Loode afforseid and so to the sewer of Weylond afforseid is altered of his right course,

to fyll up ther in sufficient dykes abowt ther severall pastures ther to the grete decay of thafforseid sewer of Weylond.

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(*Northgraft*) AND THAFFORSEID jurye sayen that ther is a certen sewer within the lordshyp of Pynchbek called Langeldrove at le North Graft which owght and hath been accustomed to be repayred clensed and maynteyned by the townshyp of Pynchbek from the fenne to the maigne ryver of Weylond of the eest part of Spaldyng wher he hath his fall into the said ryver and nowe he is stopped and of long tyme hath been and hath not his brede nor depnes as he owght to have and in dyverse places the water is turned furth of his right course wherby (*Fiat lex with a proviso that if it be to the grete anoysance of Pynchbek that to be ordered as Sterfengote is, and in any wise to be kept open betwixt the first of Marche and the first of November*) greate abundaunce of fresshe water which owght to be conveyed in the same sewer furth of the high countre of Kesteven unto the same [*Folio 8a*] maigne ryver of Weylond of the est part of Spaldyng, dooth rebownd and surround the marysses and pastures of the townes of Kesteven and Holland adioinyng to ther inestymable damage and to the expresse decay and destrucion of the afforseid maigne ryver of Weylond and the jurye seyen that the clowghes of the said North Graft owght to be ordered and used like as the clowghes of Sterfengote shalbe ordered and kept as is afforseid (*Beeche*) AND THE JURYE afforesid seyen that ther is certen sewer called the Beeche within the lordshyp of Surflete which owght to be off the brede of thre foote and depnes of thre foote att the fyrst fall of the water from the fenne into the said sewer and fromthens inward of the brede of xvj foote and depnes (off^e) off vj foote and from Surflete to the see of more brede and depnes to thentent the course of the water in noo place shalbe serted or dysturbed and he owght to be repayred clensed and maynteyned from the fenne unto Surflete of the oon syde of the town off (*Fiat lex, ante festum Michaelis, sub pena supra qualibet villa 5 li.*) Pynchbeck and by the town of Gosberton of thother syde and fromthens by the town of Surflete to the see and the clowgh ther owght to be open as appereth for the order of Sterfengote and North Graft afforseid by reason wheroff the grete and most weighty abundaunce of fressh water often fallyng furth of the parties of Kesteven which owght to have his passage and course in the said sewer called the Beeche unto the see dooth stopp and most plenteously dooth brust over the bankes and surround aswell the medowes and pastures of many townes in the parties of Kesteven as the marysses of dyverse townes in the parties of Kesteven and Holland to the greate damage of the kynges maiestie and impoverysshyng of many of his subiectes.

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(*Dykewell*) ALSO THE jurye afforseid sayen that ther is a certen well called Dykewell and the water descendyng over the

same of right hath hadd and nowe hath his course dyrectly into a certen dyke ayenst the eest unto a brygge called Dyke Brygge and from the said brygge directly into a dyke ayenst the north betwene the medowes and fennes of Dyke Morton Haconby and Donnysby unto that it cum to a certen sewer called the South Dyke of Repyng-hale and [*Folio 8b*] fromthens unto a certen dyke att the eest end of the said sewer by the which dyke the said sewer owght to be conveyed unto Holland Fendyke and so to the Beeche afforseid and so to the see and every townshyp afforseid owght to scoure and maynteyn the dykes afforseid within ther own bowndes and every of them owght to be in brede from Dyke Brygge afforseid unto the eest end of Repyng hale South Dyke afforseid xvj foote and of the depnes of vj foote and nowe they be defectyff and insufficient aswell in brede as in depnes in default off the (*Fiat lex, ante festum Michaelis sub pena 40 s. super qualibet villa*) said townshyps and specially the said dyke called Repyng hale South Dyke in the default of the townshyp of Repyng hale Ryngfen and Kyrkby and thafforseid dyke att the eest end of the said swwer called Repyng hale South Dyke is insufficient in brede and depnes and owght to be dyked and scoured by the townshyp of Pynchbek in depnes vj foote and bred or wydnes xvj foote by reason wheroff the water rebowndeth and dooth surround as well the medowes and pastures in Kesteven adionyng as also the fennes of Kesteven and Holland adionyng to the said dykes to the grete dyscomodyte of dyverse and many of the kynges subiectes beyng [*Folio 9*] fermors ther.

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(*Wyekmare & Cowheerngote*) ALSO THAFFORSEID JURYE seyen that ther is a certen sewer called Wykemeare extendyng from Goldyke unto the goote called Cowheerngote and fromthens unto thafforseid maigne ryver of Weylond of the eest part of Spaldyng by the which greate abundaunce of fresshe waters fallyng and cumyng within the lordshyp of Weston and (Multon^e) (Spaldyng¹) hath hadd and owght to have his course and descent thorowe the said goote and so into thafforseid maigne ryver (and nowe^e) of Weylond and now by the siltyng and warpyng of the said ryver the (*Fiat lex ante festum S. Michaelis, sub pena 20 li.*) bottom theroff is leeven above the fall into the same of thafforseid sewer by reason wheroff the greate abundaunce of fresshe waters fallyng into the said sewer canot passe to the se but plenteously dooth rebownd and dooth surround the felde medowes and pastures of Weston and Multon afforseid to the undoing of the inhabytauntes of the said townes and to the manyfest decay and destruction of the said ryver of Weylond (*Wear Dyke in Depyng Fenne*) THE JURYE afforseid also seyen that ther is a certen dyke in Depyng Fenne negh of the north part of the bank of the maigne ryver of Weylond afforseid extendyng from a place called Waldram Hall unto (*Fiat lex, ante festum Omnium Sanctorum, sub pena 10 li. (ante^e)*) Crowland

Heern and from thens to Whyt Hows and that the said dyke is defectyff in rodyng and haffyng and owght to be amended betwene Waldram Hall and Crowland Heern by the inhabytauntes of Depyng and from thens to Whythows by the inhabytauntes off Crowland (*Jesop' Lode*) AND THAT a certen sewer in Depyng Fenne afforseid called Jesop' Lode leyyngyng of the north part ayenst (*Fiat lex, ante festum Omnium Sanctorum sub pena vj li. xiiij s. iiij d.*) the Whyte Hows and fromthens extendyng to a certen water course called the Bleease, which said water is not haffed roded nor scoured in default of the townshyp of Cobytt and Pykale (*Trenchyng off the bankes off Weylond & others*) AND THE jurye afforseid seyen that ther be dyverse poundes or pooles of the west part of the maigne sewer of Weylond and negh unto the said sewer over and aneinst Pykale and Cobytt and the owneres and fermeres of the said pooles have made trenches and guttures in the bankes of the said sewer into the said pooles and furth (*Fiat lex providing that no water be lett out but by license of one Commissioner of Sewers, and ij dyckreeves, sub pena 10 li.*) [*Folio 10*] [60] of ther said pooles into the marysses of Depyng and Spaldyng of the west part by reason wherof greate abundaunce of water issueth and falleth furth of the said maigne ryver into the said pooles and furth of the same into the said fenne to the destruction of the said maigne ryver and surrowndyng of the same AND the jurye afforseid also seyen that the (water off Weylond is greatly mynysshed and enpayred aswell by the inhabytauntes of Pykale and Cobytt and certen persons beyng fermors of pastures betwene Broderhows and the place anenyst the hall of Symkyn Dam and by the townshyp of Depyng aswell of the oon syde as of the other syde of the said ryver by trencheng and hollowyng the bankes of the said ryver of Weylond as also by a certen clowgh erected and sett upp att Broder Hows afforseid to the greate and manyfest destruction & decay of the said ryver or sewer of Weylond¹) (*This clowghe must be kept in ij lockes, one key in the keypyng of one Commissioner off Sewars, and the other in the custody of the bayliffe of Crowland*) (inhabytauntes of Pykale and Cobytt and certen persons beyng fermers of pastures betwene Broder Hows and the place anenyst the fall of Symkyn Dam of the eest part of the said ryver and also betwene the towne of Depyng and Broder Hows afforseid of the oon syde of the said ryver as of the other syde have cutt furth aswell trenches in the bankes of the said ryver of Weylond as also by [*blank*] taken water furth of the same ryver to the manyfest destruction and utter decaye^e) therof (*Straytes for fysshing*) AND ALSO the jurye afforeseid sayen that wher or heretofore dyverse persons greatly occupyeng the trade of fysshing in the marysses or fennes of Depyng and Spaldyng and negh unto the said town of Spaldyng, have used to sett long nettes called hayes in the said fenne with certen stakes to make straytes for the dryvyng takyng and kylling of much fysshe and nowe the said persons do leave and do not occupye the said nettes called hayes, bot do make such lyke straytes

ther for ther private commodyte (*Fiat lex ad removend' ante primum Augusti sub pena quilibet viij li.*) with haff and soddes the hight of oon foote above the water and the same do suffre ther contynually to remayne by the which the fresshe water fallng furth of the high countre into the said fenne and that should passe to the said maigne ryver of Weylond is therby greatly stopped and letted to the decay of the said ryver and to the surrowndyng of the said fenne (*Brune Egh*) AND MOROVER the jurye afforseid seyen that the maigne ryver or sewer called Brune Eyh leyng att the town off Brune and fromthens extendyng unto Eest Cote and fromthens to Guddram Gote and fromthens to Surflete and so to the see is not sufficiently roded scoured and banked as he owght to be by reason wheroff the greate abundaunce of fresshe water [*Folio 11*] [61] owght to have his course and passage thorowe the same to the see is letted and stopped of his course by the which he dooth rebownd and pyetyously dooth surrownd and drown aswell the feeldes medowes and pastures in the parties of Kesteven adionyng to the same as also the fennes and marysses in Kestven and Holland in like maner adionyng to the same to the great damage of the kynges maiestie and extreme impoverysshement of a greate number of his tenantes and other of his subiectes AND THE JURYE seyen that the said sewer owght to be repayred roded scoured dyked and banked as hereafter dooth appere that is to say from the town of Brune to Eest Cote afforseid the said sewer is defectyff in dykyng and owght to be sufficiently dyked in brede of xij foote and ¹in depnes vj foote by the townshyp of Brune aswell of the north part as of the south part and from Eest Cote to Gudderham Gote the said sewer is not sufficiently roded and scoured in the defaut of Thomas Jakson fermor of the fysshing ther within the said ryver to Sir Richard Cotton knyght and the bankes of the said sewer betwene Eest Cote and (Guddrham^c) (Gudderham¹) Gote afforseid are in greate ruyne and owght to be exalted in height thre foote and in brede vj fote for the salwgard of the pastures and marysses adionyng and so to be repayred and banked of the north part by the said Thomas Jakson for that he is fermor of a certen severall pasture to the said Sir Richard Cotton knyght John Mercham gent. and William Cope gent. fermors to the kynges maiestie of certen his severall pastures ther and also by the townshyp of Brune ayenst ther fenne and within the said lymytt the said bankes owght to be so repayred as is afforseid of the south (*Fiat lex pro premissis ante festum Omnium Sanctorum sub pena pro qualibet roda viij d.*) syde by the townshyp of Pynchbek oonly and from Gudderham Gote unto a certen place called Newbury Yate the said sewer is defectyff in rodyng and scouryng and from the said Gudderham Gote unto Dovehurne the bankes of the said sewer are clerely decayed and leaien almost even with the course of the water and most nedefull to be repayred furthwith and to be exalted in height iij foote and in brede vj foote and to be roded scoured and so banked

¹ A hand drawn in the margin points to this entry.

of booth sydes by the townshyp of Pynchbek oonly and from Newbury Yate afforseid unto the see the said maigne ryver or sewer is not sufficiently roded scoured and banked aswell of the [Folio 12] [62] north as of the south in the default of the townshyp of Surflete and the jurye afforseid sayen that the said sewer is not sufficient in wydnes or brede for the conveyng of the water in dyverse places betwene Mr Ogle hows and Surflete See Eend which owght to be amendd spedely by the townshyp of Surflete oonly (*A intaking Orders for swyne*) AND THE jurye afforseid sayen that hogges or swyne be kept in the said fennes and suffered to cum to the said bankes of the said maigne ryver by reason wherof they do subvert cast down and destroy the said bankes wherfor the said jurye seyen that it is expedient that no swyne be kept nor permytted to cum neyh the said bankes by the space of iij quarters of a myle att the leest for the salveward of the said bankes and surrowndyng of the said fenne (*Trencheng of the bankes of Brune Egh*) AND THE jurye afforseid seyen that the bankes of the maigne ryver of Brune Egh afforseid within the townes of Pynchbek and Surflete afforseid in dyverse places (affo^o) are trenched guttered hollowed and cut furth by dyverse persons, and therby greate abundaunce of fresshe water falleth furth of the said ryver unto ther severall pastures ther and fylleth up ther dykes and pondes to the destruction of the perfy depnes that the said sewer nowe hath and by reason of fylling up ther said dykes they do not regard the dykyng and scouryng of them in sommer season bot suffereth them to lond up by force wheroff they be not sufficient (*Fiat lex, that the gutter be stopped within vij dayes, upon payne of 20 li. for every gutter, and imprisonment of iij dayes*) neither to abyde the dawngers of the vehement rage of the salt water nor also of the abundaunce of the fresshe water fallyng furth of the high countre of Kesteven which of very right owght to have his passage and course without lett thorowe the said countre of Holland to the see, which thyng suffred unreformed shalbe greatly hurtfull to the said countrey of Holland for that by good and sufficient dykyng and trencheng the same countrey hath been gotten and wonne from the see and also hetherto preserved (*Gleeyn*) AND FURTHER the jurye afforseid seyen that the maigne ryver or sewer called Gleeyn otherwyse called Brune Egh extendyng from Caytbrygge unto a place called Eest Cote and negh ther unto issuyng and fallyng into Brune Egh afforseid is defectyff in rodyng scouryng and bankyng and owght to be roded and scoured from Caytbrygge [Folio 13] [63] afforseid unto a certen place called Brune Barr by William Tasker fermor to the kynges maiestie of the fysshing ther and within that lymytt it owght to be sufficiently banked by the inhabytauntes of Baston and Langtoft of the south part and the inhabytauntes of Thurleby off the north part and from the said Brune Barr to Eest Cote afforseid the said sewer owght to be roded

and scoured by Thomas Jakson fermor to Sir Richard Cotton knyght of the moytye of the fysshing ther in the said ryver of the north part and William Tasker fermor to the kynges maiestie of thother moytye of the south part and the said sewer owght to be sufficiently banked within that lymytt by the inhabytauntes of the town of Dyke of the north and the inhabytauntes of Baston and Langtoft of the south AND the jurye afforseid sayen that thafforseid sewer called the Gleeyn extendyng betwene Brune Barr and the Eest Cote afforseid (*Fiat lex pro premissis ante festum Omnium (fest' c) Sanctorum sub pena viij d. pro qualibet roda*) in a place of the north part of the said sewer is landed upp and growen with flagyes reedes and other sylth by reason wherof the course of the water is straytened and therby compelled to have the force of his course of the south part ayenst the bankes of Depyng Fenne repayred by the townshyp of Langtoft and Baston and the said defaut or nusaunce owght to be enlarged and amended by the townshyp of Brune, and in like manner ther is such a defaut and nusaunce (and stopell^l) in the said ryver called the Gleeyn of the south part theroff betwene a certen place called Baston Spowtt and the West Cote afforseid, which the townshyp of Langtoft and Baston owght to amend and inlargge the brede of iiij fote at the leest for the spedy passage of the course of the said sewer. (*Langall Brygge*) ALSO THE JURYE afforseid sayen that ther is a certen brygge called Langall Brygge within the townshyp of Pynchbek of the eest part of the capytall mesuage of Sir John Harryngton knyght which owght to be wydnes xij foote and of such sufficient height that it shall not lett the course of the sewer of Brune Eyth afforseid cald Pynchbek Eyth and the (*Fiat lex, sub pena 20 librarum, ante festum Michaelis Archangeli*) said brygge owght to be a sufficient passage for hors wayn and chart And the said (brygge^c) brygge is nowe broken and [*Folio 14*] [64] utterly decayed to the great nusaunce of the kynges subiectes and it owght to be repayred by the (inhabytauntes of the^l) town of Pynchbek as the said jurye are so enformed accordyng to the custom of acre sylver within the said town (*Sewer for Tallyngton north feeld*) AND THE SAID jurye also seyen that there is a certen dreane or sewer leyynyng in the west part of the north feeld of Tallyngton and fromthens extendyng unto a certen water course called the Water Goote Balk betwene the feeldes of (Stowe of^l) the eest and Barrom of the west and so unto a certen sewer called Stowe Marsshe, which said water course or sewer called the Water Goote Balk is not dyked nor scoured in the defaut off (*Fiat lex, sub pena quinque librarum, ante festum Michaelis*) the inhabytauntes of Stowe and of Barrom and it owght to be in brede iiij foote and in depnes iij foote by reason wheroff the inhabytauntes of Tallyngton have susteyned much hurt losse and hyndraunce in the drownyng of ther corner feeldes and severall pastures ET QUE OMNIA & SINGULA

PREMISSA ut oportune exequantur redigantur & emendentur pro utilitate & commodo patrie juratores supradicti maxime petunt & supplicant IN CUIUS REI TESTIMONIUM & probationem dicti juratores presentibus die anno & loco supradictis sigilla sua affixerunt.

(Here be xvj leaves all written with one hand).

[Signed above seal tags]¹ W. Cecill Edward Dymok Francis Ayscough George Seyntpole Kenelme Dygby Harry Dygby Richard Ogle Adlard Welby William Thorold per Anthonii Pykeryng by Robard Tayllor Wylliam Hareby Wylliam Munk by Jhon Waters Wylliam Haddon Jhon Byrd ²John Rowbyn William Adam ²Anthony Heydon ³Thomas Idon.

[473.III.1]

65

(Sk[ir]bek seebankes) Item the seyde jure sey that the seebankes otherwyse called the haven bank belongyng to the Quarter of Skyrbek from Skyrbek Gote to Slypper Gote ys in certen places greatly in ruen & decay (in certen places^c) for lake of hyght bredd & thyknes & skyrtyns of the same, whiche thyknes wold be xxx^t fote at the skyrte & ten fote in the top, and wold be made two fote hyer at the leest then yt ys nowe at thys day for the savegart of the countr[e] and ought to be made heynded & skyrted from tyme to tyme by the lordes & land holders within Skyrbek Quar[ter]. And suche faltes as arr defectyve at this day ought to be made & repayred by theyse partyes hereafter forlowyng as apererth by a joyce boke therof made that ys to say

4The gild of Seynt Peter in Boston defectyve	x fote
Thomas Tylney defectyve	x fote
Tymer Grene defectyve	x fote
Thomas Tylney defectyve	xxv fote
The wyff of Thomas Hogekeynson defectyve	x fote
Castell & Allecar' defectyve	xx ^t fote
Lord Roose defectyve	xx fote
Thomas Tylney greatly defectyve	x fote
Thomas Tylney greatly defectyve	x fote
The gyld of Seynt George greatly defectyve	x fote
Sir John Copledyk defectyve	xx fote
The gyld of Corpus Christi defectyve	xx fote
Castell & Ellear' defectyve	xx fote
The gyld of our Lady defectyve	iiij rode
Thomas Tylney defectyve	xl fote
The prest of Newsted defectyve	xx fote
Castell & Ellear' greatly defectyve	viiij rod di'
Thomas Tylney defectyve	xx fote
Lord Roose defectyve	x fote
Castell & Ellear' defectyve	xx fote

¹ The form of this verdict is unusual, for it is signed and sealed like a "law."

² A mark precedes this name.

³ Four marks precede this name.

⁴ The following entries are written on the left-hand half of the folio.

The wyff of John Hogekeynson defectyve	v fote
Thomas Tylney defectyve	xl fote
Henry Jakeson defectyve	xx fote
The gyld of Seynt Peter greatly defectyve	xxj fote
Castell & Ellycar' defectyve	xxx fote
John Patryke of Babyngton defectyve	iiij rode
Castell & Ellycar' greatly defectyve	vj rode
The gyld of Corpus Christi greatly defectyve	iiij rodes
Thomas Tylney defectyve	iiij rode
Castell & Ellycar' defectyve	v rode
Sir John Copledyk greatly defectyve	iiij rod dim.
Lord Roose defectyve	iiij rode
Castell & Ellycarr' greatly defectyve	iiij rode ij fotte
Thomas Tylney defectyve	xxx ^{ti} fotte
The gyld of Corpus Christi defectyve	xj rod
Richerd Goodyng defectyve	iiij rode
Mr. Bate defectyve	xl fotte
William Daye defectyve	xxv fotte
Castell & Ellycarr' defectyve	vuiij rod
The gyld of Corpus Christi at the Lyttlemarshe End	vj rode
The fyrst sedyke next the towne end in the Quarter of Skyrbek	
Roger Hogekeynson of Skyrbek defectyve	x fote
Castell & Ellycarr' defectyve	iiij rode
Roger Hogekeynson defectyve	x fotte
[The ^s] gild of Corpus Christi defectyve . . . ¹	
² Castell & Ellycar' greatly defectyve	vij rods
Saint John of Newsted defectyve	xx fotte
Thomas Tylney defectyve	l fote
The gild of Seynt Peter greatly defectyve	iiij rod
Castell & Ellycarr' defectyve	xx ^{ti} fotte
Castell & Ellycarr' greatly defectyve	xx fote
The gild of Corpus Christi defectyve	xx fotte
The chuche [<i>sic</i>] of Skyrbek lyke	x fote
Thomas Tylney lyke	x fotte
Robert Lyttlybury for Sybsey landes lyke	xxx fote
Thomas Tylney greatly defectyve	x fotte
Castell' & Ellycarr' lyke	xx fote
The lord Roose defectyve	xx fote
Thomas Tylney greatly defectyve	xl fotte
Castell & Ellycar' lyke	xx fote
Roger Hogekeynson lyke	x fote
Thomas Tylney lyke	xxiiij fote
The gild of Seynt Petter defectyve	x fote
Thomas Tylney lyke	xx fote

¹ Four more entires follow (the last on the left-hand half of the folio), the names of which are gone and the distances illegible.

² The following entries are written on the right-hand half of the folio.

The gild of Corpus Christi lyke	xx fotte
Roger Hogekeynson lyke	xvij fotte
The pryor of Stykwold greatly defectyve	v fotte
Thomas Tylney defectyve	iiij rode
Thomas Browne greatly defectyve	iiij rode
Thomas Tylney defectyve	x fotte
John Patrik of Hogekeynson lyke	x fotte
Jeffrey Pynchebek greatly defectyve	xx fotte
The lord of Husse defectyve	xxx fotte
Thomas Tylney greatly defectyve	v fotte
Roger Hogekeynson very greatly defectyve	x fotte
Thomas Murre Mr Broune greatly defectyve	l fotte
The lord Husse defectyve	v fotte
Mr Broune & Hodekeynson greatly defectyve	xx fotte
The gyld of Corpus Christi lyke	vij rod' x fote
Mr Broune defectyve	xx fote
Corpus Christi gyld greatly defectyve	xx fotte
Mr Brown for Mr Hogekeynson like	xx fote
William Daye defectyve	xv fotte
Castell & Ellycarr' greatly defective	xx fotte
Thomas Tylney lyke	iiij rod'
The gild of Our Lady defectyve	xxx fotte
Thomas Tylney greatly defectyve	x fotte
Castell & Ellycarr' defectyve	iiij rode
John Patrik greatly defectyve	x fote
The lord Roose for lyke	(lx ^e) xl ^{ti} . . .
The lord Husse lyke	xx fote
Castell & Ellycarr'	. . .
The lord Welles . . . ¹	

[473.III.2]

66

([Skyr]bek Quarter [Faredy]ke The landholders) Item the sayd jures say that ther ys one fen bank belongyng to the Quarter of Skyrbek called Faredyke adioynyng uppon the Haven from a place called the Carte Whyle to the bound or bank of Wyberton whiche ys in greate ruen & decay both in heyght & bredd and yt ought to be made repayred exalted & amended from tyme to tyme by the lordes and land holders of the seyde Quarter of Skyrbek as of old tyme yt hath bene used & accustomed as appereth by a joyce boke of old therof made.

Item the seyde jures say that all other ther fen bankes belongyng to the seyde Quarter of Skyrbek ys lykewyse greatly defectyve to the great noyaunce of the cuntrye and that the seyde bankes ought to be made repared exalted & amended by the lordes & landholders of the seyde Quarter of Skyrbek as of old tyme yt haith bene accustomed.

(One gutter by Stevyn Clerk) Item the seyde jures say that one Steven Clarke of Boston dyd cutt one gutter and the bank of the grea[t] comon sewere called Hamond Bek by reason whereof the

¹ The rest of this folio is missing.

kynges hye wayes were drowned so that the kynges subiectes cold not have passage and was like to have surrounde the countrey to the great noysaunce of the kynges subiectes.

(*Skyrbek Gote Clowes by William Brown*) Item the seyd jures say that (the¹) great gote at Skyrbek Quarter called Skyrbek Gotte ys in great ruen & decay by reason of . . .¹ of clowes sett (by one William Browne¹) before the seyd gotte which clowes have bene the occacon of frett & decay of the seyd gote, whiche . . . were mete & convenyent that they shuld be taken up ageyn and the water to have the derect course with a were lett and the seyd gote ought to be made repayred & amended by the lordes & freeholders of Skyrbek Quarter and the lordes & freeholders (w^o) of the west syde of the water of Boston by acre sylver.

²In the next leaff and in this pece is conteyned the defaltes of the seebankes of Skyrbek Quarter, of the fenn bankes, of a gutter to be stopped, of the clowes to be taken upp, & Skyrbek Gote to be repayred.

The seyd jures say that one comon sewere in Wyberton ys in great ruen & decay for lak of dyking rodyng scowryng & clensyng, and yt ought to be dyked roded scowred & clensted from a place called Oldforth Brygg to the Shepp' Gate by the lordes & landholders of Wyberton aforeseyd.

Item the seyd jures say that the see bankes arr in great ruen & decay for lak of skyrtynge & exalting and they ought to be skyrted & exalted from tyme to tyme when nede shall requyre by the lordes & landholders of Wibberton aforeseyd as of old they have bene acustomed.

Item the seyd jures say that all the fenbankes belongyng to the towne of Wyberton arr in great ruen & decay in dyuerse & many places to the great noyans of the countrey for lak of exalting & reparyng of these seyd bankes & ought to be made exalted repayred from tyme to tyme so oft as ned shall requyre by the (lordes & la^o)

²In these iij artycles arre comprehended the defaltes of Wyberton aforeseid.

[473.III.3]

67

(*Frampton. 3. The comon sewer . . . lordes & others*) Item the sayd jures say that the comon sewer in Frampton ys defectyve for lak of dyking scowryng & clensyng and ought to be dyked roded scowred & clensted from tyme to tyme so oft as nede shall requyre by the lordes freholders & copyholders.

(*Pety dreines Greygose Flete. By the landes adioynnyng*) Item the sayd jures say that ther ys a petty drayne in Frampton aforeseyd begynnnyng at Hedley Dore called Gragose Flete whiche ys defectyve for lak of dyking & rodyng & scowryng and so comyth thorowe the landes of Stubbes and then over the way to Wormesley Grene from thens betwene the kynges hye way & the seyd Wormesley, and after

¹ The right-hand edge is in bad repair.

² These paragraphs appear to have been added later.

betwene Richerd Garrard & the kynges hye way, and so to turne downe by the heires of the duke of Suff' landes & the seyd Garrard and to come thorowe the seyd heires of the duke of Suff' landes, and then over the feld way, and so to goe betwene the landes of the lord of Stone Hall, and the heires of Nicholas Uppton and after to goe betwene the landes of the seyd heires of Nicholas Upton and the hedyng at south end of Worley Dale, and so to go betwene the landes of Thomas Josson and the kynges hye way and so to have the reddy passage to the comon sewer and yt ought to be dyked roded scowred & clenysed by the lordes freholders & copyholders adioynyng uppon the same so of as nede shall requyre.

(. . . *Tompytt*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys a petty drayn comyng from Tompytt, whiche goth betwene the landes of Robert Stevenson & the hye way and so betwene the landes of the sayd Robert Stevenson and Josson landes and then betwene the landes of William Cony & Ordying landes, and from thens to the comon sewer, whiche dreyn ys defectyve for [lak of^s] scowryng & clenysyng & ought to be done by the lordes freholders & copyholders adioynyng uppon the same.

(. . . & *Goldying*). Item the seyd jures say that ther ys an other petty dreyn betwene the landes of the heires of Nicholas Upton and the landes of William Goldying and betwene the landes of the same William Goldying & Thomas Josson and so by the landes of the sayme Thomas Josson & William Cony and the landes of the heires of Laurens Copledyk and so forth to the comon sewer, whiche seyd petty dreyn ys in ruen & defectyve for lak of dykyng & scowryng and ought to be dyked scowred & clenysed by the lordes freholders & copyholders adjoynyng uppon the same as oft as nede shall requyre.

(. . . the *Gooles*) Item the seyd jures say that the presedent of Mary Magdelen College of Oxford ought to kepe one petty dreyn so farr as yt shall goo thorowe the groundes runyng from the Gooles within the seyd lord shypppe betwene the xvj acres and the xxviij acres and so to go in to the moote and ther to kepe at the stowe one holle tree or elles the stowe oppen whereby the water may have the course and so to rune betwene the landes of the lorde of Stone Hall & the seyd presedent and so to goo over a stowe called Pastur Gate Stowe that ther yt may have reddy passage to the comon sewer, whiche (sewe^o) petty dreyn ys in (ry^o) ruen & decay for lak of dykyng & scowryng and ought to be dyked scowred & clenysed by the presedent & the lord of Stone Hall adioynyn uppon the seyd (comon^o) petty drayn so of as nede shall requyre.

([*Sando*]mefeld) Item the sayd jure say that ther ys an other petty drayn in Sandomeffeld whiche ys in ruen & decay comyng between the landes of the heires of Thomas (Fe^o) Loveles and the landes of Robert Jonyson and so betwene the land of the heires of Fraunces Claymond called Stubues and the landes of the seyd Jonyson and after to go betwene the landes of the mayre of Boston and the sayd Jonyson and so over the way at the Mylne Hyll Stowe

betwene the landes of the presedent of Magdalen College of Oxford and the landes of sayd Jonyson and so to go to the stowe in seyde moote that ther yt may have reddy passage to the comon sewer whiche petty dreyn ought to be dyked scowred & clensted by the lordes fre holders & copyholders for ther landes adioynnyng uppon the same from tyme to [tyme^s] so oft (y^o) as nede shall requyer.

Item the sayd jures say that ther ys one petty drayn in a certeyn feld called Short Toftes from a place called [Hamer¹] dreynnyng the kynges hie way, betwene the landes of the lord Wylloughby on the est and in Shorttoftes uppon . . . men on the west and uppon the duches & hir copartyeners & dyverse many moo on the north, and the [lord of²] Stone Hall and the heires of Nicholas Upton on the south and so roneth forby the hedyng [Worle Dayle²] and so to Graygose Flete & doth mete and runeth so to Stoke Brygg whiche petty drane ys defectyve for l[ak^s] . . . & clensing and ought to be dyked & clensted by the lordes & freholders & copy holders adioynnyng . . . tyme to tyme so oft as nede shall requyre.

[473.III.4]

68

(*Frampton 4 Seebankes Suff'*) Item the seyde jures say that my lady of Suff' hir coparceyeners shuld make the see bankes per-teynnyng to theym whiche arr in ruen & decay for lak of exalting & skyrtynge whiche ought to be doon by them so oft as nede shall requyre whiche bankes conteyneth xxxv rodes.

(*Frampton T. Browne*) Item the seyde jures say that ther ys one pece of a see bank (r^o) conteynge ten fotte whiche belongeth to Thomas Browne esquier that ys in ruen & decay for lak of exalting in height & bredd.

(. . . *Fen brydge by the inhabitans*) Item the seyde jures say that the fen brygge of Frampton ys in ruen & decay and yt ought to be made & repayred by the towneshyp of Frampton aforeseyd so oft as nede shall requyre.

(*Stokebrydge*) Item the sayd jures say that ther ys a brygge called Stoke Brygge in the kynges hie way in Frampton aforeseyd whiche ys in ruen & decay and ought to be made by the towneshyp of Frampton aforeseyd so oft [as^s] nede shall requyre.

(*[Lan]grake Lane Brydge*) Item the seyde jures say that ther ys a brygge in Langrake Lane in Frampton aforeseyd whiche ys in ruen and decay and ought to be made repayred & amended by the towneshyp of Frampton aforeseyd from tyme to tyme [so^s] oft as nede shall requyre.

(*[Sowegate B]rydge*) Item the sayd jures say that ther ys a brygge in a place called Sowe Gate in Frampton aforeseyd whiche ys in ruen & decay and ought to be made by the towneshyp of Frampton aforeseyd so oft as nede shall requyre.

(*[F]enbankes*) Item the seyde jure say that all the fen bankes belongyng to the towneshyp of Frampton aforeseyd ys in great ruen

¹ The bottom of this folio is defective, and the name is supplied from 473.VI.1d.

² Supplied from 473.VI.1d.

& decay both in height & bredd & ought to be made repayred & heyneid both in height & bredd by the (lordes¹) freholders & copyholders as off old tyme yt hath bene used & accustomed from tyme to tyme so oft as nede shall requyre, iiij fote in hythe (xiiij in bred^o) & xij fote in bredd.

¹These ij leves for Frampton doe conteyn the defaltes, wherof the foot ys for the seebankes, the suer, vj pety dreines, iiij bridges and for the fen bankes.

[473.III.5]

69

(*Kyrton 5 pety dreyn in Skeldyke by Lyttiburye & others*) Item the sayd jury sayth that ther ys a pety dreyn in Skeldyk going unto the Holde Mere which ys defectyve & ought to be amended by Thomas Littilbury esquyre Thomas Barnaby Roberte Stevenson & the heres of John Murre as off tymys as nede shall requyre.

(*Pety dreyn ther by . . . & others*) Item the sayd jury saythe that ther ys another dreyn in Skeldyke aforsayd going unto the ee which ys in decay & ruen & ought to be reparred & amended by Thomas Littilbury esquire Anthony Meres esquire Anthony Clamond gent. Thomas Stoward Thomas Pulles William Pury Richard Donyngton the heres of Craycroftes the College of Tateshall William Mabuson & be Peter Barnaby frome tyme to tyme so often as neede shall require.

(*Pety dreyn ther by F. Claymond & others*) Item the sayd jury sayth that ther ys a petty dreyn in Skeldyke aforsayd that ys not in sufficient dykyng and aught to be dykyd by Frauncis Clamond gent. and the heres of Craycroftes.

(*Petty dreyn ther from the crosse to the hollow stok by Pasmore & dyverse others*) Item the sayd jury saythe that ther ys a petty dreyn lying in Skeldyke aforsayd comyng frome Skeldyke crosse to the hollowe stocke & so frome the ee wych ys in ruyn & decay & aught to be amended by thyes men here folowyng frome tyme to tyme as often as nede shall require (that ys to say) Christopfer Pasmore Fraunces Clamond Thomas Grawe Thomas Waraner Roger Withynham the heres of Cracroftes Robert Stevenson & Rychard Robertes togytheres Thomas Perry William Pury William Typplar John Hubbert John Swane Wylliam Ordying Roberte Grave & the heres of John Mure. And so agayn frome the sayd to a gren of John Josson in Sandome alytyll athyssyede Honny Spotte. And haught frome thens to be mayd by theres of Brandon Wylliam Waraner Rychard Barnaby Wylliam Grave Thomas Perry & John Josson or the heres of Loveles as oft as neade shall require.

(*Dreynse defectyve in Kyrton Skeldyke by Hunt & others*) Item the sayd jury sayth that ther is a pety dreyn in Skeldyke aforsayd begyngyng at Robert Hunttes dore at (P^o) Colsons gate & so frome thens to the head dren namely the see gotte which ys in ruyn & decay, & aught to be reparred & amended by the sayd Robert Hunte

¹ This paragraph has been added in a different hand.

the heres of Humfray Pury the heres of Brandon Sir John Coopuldyke knyght Mr Cracrofte Richard Barnaby Thomas Littybury esquire Roberte Stevenson Saynt George gyld of Boston Thomas Waraner Thomas Stoward the heres of John Grawe Molton Haulle & the sayd Thomas Lyttybury esquire.

(*Petty dreyn in Wylyng Gate [by^s]*¹ *Lode & others*) Item the sayd jury saythe that ther ys a petty dreyn in Kyrton aforsayd goyng owte Wylyng Gayte to the comon sewer which ys deffectywe & in ruyn & decay to by mayd by the heres of John Lode the heres of lorde Taylbusse Humfray Hyeland the heres of Richard Smythe the heres of Roger Rouse Thomas Harvy & Anthony Merres esquire.

(*Petty dreyn ther [by^s] Stevenson & others*) Item the sayd jury sayth that ther ys a petty dreyn in Kyrton aforsayd gowying of Wylyngto[n^s] . . . to the comon sewer wyche ys deffectyve and aught to by repared & amended by Roberte Steven[son] Thomas Murre John Gelson Anthony Meres esquire & Phylype Clamond.

[473.III.6]

70

(*Quadryng fendykes The Newedyke*) In primis the jury sayth apon ther othes that ther Newedyke in certayn places frome Marlood to Westropestyle ys deffectywe & ought to be repared & amended from tyme to tyme so often as neade shall requyre by they lordes & free houlders & the inhabitants of Quadryng aforsayd.

(*[An]gote dreyn*) Item the sayd jury sayt that there ys a certayn felde dreyn leyng att Angotte wyche ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be repared & amended frome tyme to tyme so often as neade shall requyre (for the conveyance of the waters to the sey¹) by they lordes & free houlders & inhabitants of Quadryng aforsayd.

(. . . *sedyke*) Item a dyke cawled the sedyke betwexte the Stroppe Horne & the Merlude ys deffectywe in certayn places of the bankes wyche ought to by mayde & repared from tyme to tyme as often as neade shall requyre by the lordes free houlders & inhabitants of the same toune.

²Item the heres of Lambard Cherchew for a banke leyng agayne the uppe fen anynste the drowe contenyng ten rodes ys deffectyve.

(*[Hamon^s] Beck & stremes*) Item the sayd jury sayth that the comon sewer caulled Hamon Becke extendyng frome Marlood unto Lychefelde Corner ys in certayn places deffectywe wych ought to [be^s] dyked clenسد rodde & scowdered frome tyme to tyme (by the lordes freeholders & inhabitants of the same toune^o) & the say also that ther ys in the same sewer certan whersteades & brygges wyche dothe hynder the waters of ther passaye.

(. . . *bank . . . Westropbarres*) Also the seyde jury sayth that a comon bancke frome Westropebarres to the drowe mowthe ys deffectywe in certayn places wyche ought to be amendyd frome tyme to tyme so often as neade shall requyre by they bounders & hawners of the sayd banckes as it hath acoustomable byn downe.

¹ The left edge of this folio is defective.

² The left margin is torn and it is not possible to see whether anything is written against this entry.

(. . .) Item a tondome leyng of the northe syede of Quadryng (hede^e) (ee¹) frome (theyn^e) (Crayne¹) Bryge to Garlye Horstede ys defectywe in certan places & ought to be donne & amendyd by thyes men herafter folowyng that ys to say our soveraign lord the kyng for landes late bylongyng to the chauntre of Saynt Jhones in Quadryng.

Item Mr Booles for a pece of the (same¹) tondome.

Item Mr Nowell for a pece of the same tondome.

Item George Shefforthe & (Wylliam¹) Hyngrame for a piece of the same tondome.

Item ther belongyth to the same inhabitants of Quadryng ij rodes that ys defectyve & ought to be donne at the same tondome.

(. . .) Item the sayd jury upon ther othes say that ther fenne drene frome Dowhurne tho Boston we beyn chargyd from a styлле callyd Quadryn Styлле betwene Surfflete Fene & Quadryn to a plasse callyd Marlode betwene Donyntone & Quadryn . . . tho bye dykyd rodyd & huked by the lordes fre holders & the inhabytans of Quadryn aforesayd.

[473.III.6d]

71

¹In the pynned paper annexed is this conteyned

Item the seyde jure say upon ther othes that there gotte lyen betwen Langrake & Toft End ys in great ruyn & decay wech owte to be kard by the townsheps of Donyngton Bekirr & Quadryng for ther utterandes of there sayd waterres.

This leaff in this paper pynned here are wrytten for Quadryng doothe mention ther fendykes, Angote Dreyne, the seadyke, Hamon Beck, Hercheffer Bank, the other comon bank, the comon Dowhurn Dreyne, and the goote at Langrake.

Servehe for levy here for Donyngton & Bekir by the headeng this wynter weather.

[473.III.7]

72

(24 *Surfflett & Gosberkyrk* A bank att the bridge by the salcootes by Quadryng). Item the sayd jures say that ther ys one place of a bank of the common sewer of Quadryng nygh a brygg in Boston Gate at the saltcottes, at the end of an old ryver wher the salt water cometh in, whiche ys defectyve both in heygh & bredd and ought to be made repayred exalted & amended by the inhabitants of Quadryng and yt ys necessary to be made sex fotte hye at the leest for the defens of the rage of the salte water comyng & flowyng upp within seyde common sewer of Quadryng.

(*Laundes Damsted Sir John Tempest*) Item the seyde jures say that ther ys one place or damsted in Gosberkyrk in the aforeseid old ryver called Laundes Damsted whiche ys defectyve both in height & bred and ought to be made exalted repayred & amended by Sir John Tempest knyght for the defens of the salt water flowyng upp in the seyde old river and yt wold be made & heynd three fotte hyer at the leest.

¹ This folio is in a bad state of repair and has been much mended.

(*Sedykes viij places G.*) Item the seyd jures say that the see bank otherwyse called the seedyke of Gosberkyrk ys greatly defectyve in eight places where as the salt water at the surge & rage of the floodes doth vell & flowe over dyverse & many tymes whiche yf they be not amended woll putt the countrey in great daunger, whiche foreseyd sedyke ought to be made exalted repayred and amended by the lordes & land holders of Gosberkyrk aforeseyd.

(. . . *seegote by S. & G. acre sylver*) Item the seyd jures say that the see goote of Surflett & Gosberkyrk ys is ruen & decay and ought to be amended & repayred by the lordes & fre holders of Surflett & Gosberkyrk by acre sylver.

(*Seedykes in S. by S. & G.*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys two places within the seedyk of Surflett where ther hath two . . . lyen of old whiche ys defectyve for lak of height & ought to be made exalted repayred & amended by the inhabitants of Surflett & Gosberkyrk.

(*ij places by S.*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys other two places within the seyd seedyk of Surflett that ys to [say a^s] place at Comon Hurn and an other place att Newland Stowe whiche ys defectyve & ought to be repayred & exalted by the inhabitants of Surflett.

(*Burn sebankes v places joyce boke*) Item the sayd jures say that the bankes of the great ryver in Surflett called Burne Ee ys defectyve in fyve places that ys to say at John Pett dore at Robert Ovreys at Steven Burbagges and other places beyng John Styberd Dyke and an other certeyn bank in the seyd ryver belongyng to Mr Pagenham [for^s] lak of exaltynge & ought to be made repayred & exalted by suche persons as the joyce booke ther doth lymytt & appoynt.

(*[Beche^s] banke S. comon mynwork*) Item the seyd jures say that the Beche Bank from Grope Counte Lane End to the mylne at Surflett ys defectyve in certeyn places and ought to be exalted & repayred by the inhabitants of Surflett by common mynwork.

(*Clowes ther by S. & G. acre sylver*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys a payr of clowes sett in the seyd Beche at the seyd lane whiche ys defectyve & ought to be made repayred & amended by the lordes & freholders of Surflett^s & Gosberkyrk by acre sylver.

(. . . *north bank . . .*) Item the seyd jures say that the Beche Bank from Wynsover Lane to Wryghtbold of [the^s] north syde ys greatly defectyve in dyverses & many places where the water in wynter rowneth over & surrounds the feldes whyche seyd bank ought to be made exalted repayred & amended by the lordes & land holders of Gosberkyrk aforeseyd.

(*[Wryght]bold clowes . . . others of Boston*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys a payr of clowes sett in the Beche at Wryghtbold whiche ys defectyve [&^s] not kept & ordred as of old they have bene used that ys to say to be lett run & to goo as the Beche receyve yt yet to run over the bankes & surround the feldes whiche seyd clowes

ought to be made . . . amended & kepte suffycyent by the townshyppes of Burne Morton & other paryshes within . . .

[473.III.8]

73

(25 *Surflett & Gosberkyk Wm Goote for a holl' tree to be taken upp*) Item the sayd jures say that William Goottes hath & kepeth one gutter or holl' tree in the bank at Wryghtbold and taketh water owte of the comon sewer to the great noyans & hyndrans of the seyde sewer whiche the seyde jure thynkes yt mete that ys [*sic*] shuld be taken upp & no suche gutters to be suffred to take the water owte of the comon sewers.

(*The old fendyke by G.*) Item the seyde jures say that ther ys one old fendyke in Gosberkyrk under Barropere Parkes whiche ys defectyve in dyverse & many places for lak of exalting & ought to be made repayred exalted & amended by the lordes & freholders of Gosberkyrk aforesyd.

(*The Newfendyke by G.*) Item the seyde jures say that the Newfendyk of Gosberkyrk ys defectyve in dyverse places & ought to be made & repayred exalted & amended by the lordes & freholders of Gosberkyrke aforesyd.

(*Newdyke. Juseboke*) Item the seyde jures say that the fendyke of Surflett called the Newdyke ys defectyve & ought to be made repayred & scowred (f^o) by the lordes & freholders in Surflett accordyng as a joyce boke therof doth lymett & appoynt.

(*The north banke of the Parkes by landes adioynung*) Item the seyde jures say that the north bank of the Parkes ys defectyve for lak of exalting & ought to be made repayred exalted & amended by the lordes & land holders (have^o) havyng groundes buttyng & adioynyng upon the sayd bank.

(*[Ru]sgate clowes by S. & G. acre sylver . . . dammes to be taken upp*)¹ Item the seyde jures say that ther shuld be a payr of clowes made & sett in the common sewer of Rusgate called Rusgate Ee at a place called Heytoftes whiche shuld be made & repayred by the lordes & freholders of Surflett & Gosberkyrk aforesyd by acre sylver, and for lak of the seyde clowes to stop the rage of the fen waters ther hath bene serteyn dames cast in the seyde sewer for the stay of the seyde fen waters which dames doth land the seyde ryver to the great noyans of the countrey.

(*T. Irby . . . a holl' tree*) Item the seyde jures say that yt ys mete necessary & convenyent that Thomas Irby gent. shuld lay [one^s] holl' tree or pyshegote in the bank of the seyde Rusgate Ee of the south syde for the drayne of the water owte of the surres & other places, and nott to cutt any gutter in the seyde bank for the makyng [and^s] cuttyng of suche gutters ys a dystruccion to the hede drayn an occasion of landyng of the same.

(*Fen End Brydge*) Item the seyde jures say that there ys a brygge over the seyde sewer at the Fen End in Rusgate whiche ys defectyve & ought to be made repayred & amended from tyme to tyme so oft as nede shall requyre by the inhabitans of Gosberkyrk aforesyd.

¹ A hand drawn in the margin points to this item.

([*Cresy Hall* ^s]¹*bridge*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys an other brygg over the seyd sewere called Cresy Hall Brygg whiche ys defectyve & ought to be made & repayred by the inhabitans of Surflett aforesayd.

(*Wardegate Brige. G.*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys an other brygg over the seyd sewer called Wardegate Brygg whiche ys defectyve & ought to be made repayred & amended by the inhabitans of Gosberkyrk aforesayd.

(*The north banke cutt . . . def' by S.*) Item the seyd jures say that the north bank of the seyd sewer called Rusgate Ee (within the shyft of Surflett¹) hath bene cutt owte to the great noyans of the countrey & (of the^e) destructyon of the seyd sewer whiche the seyd jures say that ys nott mete nor necessarye that the bankes of the seyd great ryver shulbe so ordred . . . (the bankes of seyd sewer ys defectyve in dyverse places within the shyft of Surflett & ought to be repayred by the lordes & freholders of Surflett¹).

(*The south bankes by G.*) Item the seyd jures say that the seyd ee bankes from Wardegate Brygg to Cokerell Hough ys defe[ctyve] in dyverse & many places & ought to be made repayred & amended by the lordes & freholders of Gosberkyrk.

(*The north bank cutt by Quadryng*) Item the seyd jures say that the north bank of the seyd sewer nygh unto a place called Partyebrygg hath bene cutt owte in two places one of the est syde of Partyebrygg & an other of the west syde of the seyd brygg by some of the inhabitans of Quadryng or Quadryng Hundreth that hath landes nere ther adioynyng to the gr[eat] noyans of the countrey & destruction of the seyd sewere by reason of suche gutters cutting into the [bank^s].

(*Drove Bridge by S.*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys one brygg over the common sewer called the Beche . . . Surflett att the (f^e) drove called the Drove Brygg whiche ys defectyve & ought to be made repayred [& ^s] mended by the inhabitans of Surflett aforesayd. [473.III.8d] 74

²Item the seyd jures say that the kynges hye way betwene (By^e) Bryggend in the partyes of Kesten to the . . . next Donyngton ys in great ruen & decay both for lak of (the^e) makyng of the bankes & for lak of repayre of certeyn brygges whiche of old tyme have been made in certeyn places of the seyd hye way so that the kynges (subiectes^e) subiectes can not have passage therby nor the water the derect course as of old ty[me] yt hath hadd to the great noyans both of the partyes of Kesten & the partes of Holland and the seyd hye way cawse & brygg ought to be made repayred & amended by the landes belongyng to the late sell of Seynt Savyor at Bryggend. [473.III.9] 75

(*Surflett & Gosberkyk Cawdewell milles. 26*) Item the seyd jures say that there ys two mylnes standyng upon the water of Cawdwell

¹ A piece of the left-hand edge of this folio is missing.

² This folio has been repaired, and two words written in the margin are illegible.

betwene Aslayby [&^s] Mylnethorp whiche doth stopp the water that yt can not have the derect course as yt ought of ryght to have be reason wherof the sewer ys landed & dystroyed, and also the countre in great daunger for lak of water bothe for their bodyes & ther cattell, whiche mylnes heretofore have been found & presented by dyverse verdettes that yt were mete & necessary for the welthe of the countrey that the seyd mylnes sh[ould] be taken upp that the water myght have the ryght course.

(*ij gutters at ij places*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys two gutters cutt owte of the seyd ryver that takes the water owte of the same one at Mylnethorp Barr & an other at Poynton Barr so that the water can not have the course to the utter dystruccion of the seyd ryver and great noyans of the countrey whiche they thynk (& that¹) yt ys not mete that suche gutters shuld be cutt owte of the ryvers to the great dystruccion of the same.

(. . . *dreyne for Byllyngborow for & others*) Item the seyd jures say that the (towe^e) towneshyppes of Bellyngbore Horblyng Donyngton & Quadryng have no draynes to convay the waters to the see butt doth burden the towneshypes of Gosberkyrk & (Quadryng^d) Surflett with ther water to the great noyans & daunger and also other townes in the partyes of Kesten that drayneth thorowe theym.

(*The Tondom Lode*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys one petty drayn in Gosberkyrk & Surflett called the Tondom Lode whiche drayneth owte of the Myddelfeld that ys in great ruen & decay for lak of dykyng rodyng scowryng & clensyng whiche ought to be dyked roded scowred & clensted, as dothe appere in an old verdytt therof . . . presented, that ys to say to be dyked scowred & clensted from the seyd Myddelfeld to a place called Swyn . . . Pyngle and so from thens to a place called the Craynes by all suche landes in Myddelfeld as drayn [into^s] the same and from the seyd place called the Craynes to Tathes Corner wher yt falles into the ee to be dyked, scowred & clensted by the inhabitants of Rusgate Wardegate & Belnies in the paryshe of Gosberkyrk . . . have ther landes drayned by the same.

(*North bank of [Baston^s] Dyke*) Item the seyd jures say that the north bank of the great ryver called Burne Ee otherwyse Baston Dyk ys defectyve in dyverse & many places betwene Burne & Pynchebek Towne End for lak of height & thykn[ess] to kepe the water within the chenell, for the savegard of the countrey, whiche bank (doth^e) ought to be m[ade^s] repayred, exalted & amended, by the towneshyppes of Pynchebek & Burne & other townes in the parties of Keste[n] as they have bene accustomed to be kept. And for lak that the seyd bank ys not kepte in good & sufficyent repayr the water breketh forth of the north syde & surroundses the fenes of Gosberkyrk & Surflett & dyverse fennes & countres ther adioynnyng to ther great noyans & daunger.

(*[South bank] of the Beche*) Item the seyd jures say that the south bank of a certeyn ryver called the Beche ys defectyve in

dyverse & many places betwene Wryghtbold & Wyndsover Lane for lak of exalting & heyning & ought to be made repayred & exalted by the inhabitans of Pynchebek. And also the seyde bank ys dyverse & many tymes owte & gutters made in the same by some of the inhabitans of Pynchebek to the great (now^c) noyans of the towne of Gosberkyrk & also of Surflett, and to the utter decay (of^c) and landyng of the seyde ryver.

¹Item the seyde jures say that the towneshyp of Surflett have a joyce bok of the fendyke called Surflett Newdyke whiche ys old & the names therof owte of remembrans & partely not trewe in some poyntes, wherefore the inhabitans prayth that they may have a newe boke made of the same.

Item the seyde jures say that the seyde towneshyp of Surflett have an other joyce boke of the great . . . in Surflett (whiche^c) called Burne Ee whyche ys old the the [*sic*] names therof owte of remembrans . . . boke wold lykewyse be renewe & made of suche mens hedes as have the groundes at ther . . .

Item the seyde jures say that ther ys a petty dreyn in Gosberkyrk & Surflett kalled Leyfen Lode whyche ys . . . ought to be dyked & clenched as of old tyme (yt¹) have bene used . . .

[473.III.9d]

76

²In these iij leaves for Surflet & Gosberkyrk note be made . . . the presentmentes specially the sedykes, the fendykes, the eau mayn sewer . . . ee, and the ij great dreins of Beche & Rusgate Ee, and ther . . . but most principally the bankes of Burn Ee bothe in Surflet, & iij . . . north parte of Baston Dyke.

Then for the seegote, the ij cheiff clowes, the third pair att the lane end, and for forgettyng the banks at the bryge by the saltcotes to the drein by Quadryng . . . gootes for his gutter, T. Irby for the hollow tree, the bankes cutt by Pynchebek and the Beke, & by Quadryng of Rusgate Ee.

The bridges defectyve in booth townes

The dreins in Rusgate Ee & in the Beck to be taken upp

Cawdewell mylles & the ij gutters

The lak of a dreyn in Byllyngborow & other townes

The Quadring dreyn & Leyfen Lode

And the lak of juse bokes.

[473.III.10]

77

Donyngton wardytt

³(*Donyngton 27*) Fyrst the said jurye sayth that wher ther was a verdytt and inquisition found at Boston in the parties Holland in the counte of Lyncoln the Monday next after the feast of Santt Peter Advinculay called Lamasse day that is to say the iiij day of August, the xxxvj yer of our soveringe Lord kinge Henrye the viijth by the grace of God of Englande Fraunce & Ierlandd kinge

¹ The margin and the marginal notes are missing.

² This folio has been much repaired.

³ Most of the marginal notes on this folio are either missing or illegible. See Dugdale, pp. 203-5.

deffender of the fayth & on erthe of the churche of England & also of Ierlandd supprym hedd, beffor Syr John Coppelldyck knyght, John Wyngffeld esquyar, George Sampoll esquyar, Thomas Hollandd esquyar, Nychollas Robettson Antony Ierby Richardd Ogle Thomas Brown Blasse Hollandd & John Bolls, comyssyonars & justis of our soveraign lordd the kinge, (too^o) & att all & syngler sewers brygges streames callssayes & trenshes of frysshe watters in the countie afforsaid, & to survey her & termen etc., & by the othe of Thomas Conye the younger, of Kerton, and his fellowes chargedd & sworn ytt ys foundd & presenttedd, that ytt ys nessyssary for the comonwelth comodytt proffett & savegardd, as well for (the^o) partt of the parties of Hollandd, that ys to say Quathering Donyngton & Beker as for the part of the parties of Kesten that ys to say Helperingham Swatton Byllingborowghe Horblyng Lyttell Holl, & dyvers other townes of boyth the said parties to have newe dran & sewere maid & dyckedd for the convaunce of the watter dessending outt of the said parties of Kesten, unto Helperingham Bek, & in to the fennes of the said parties of Kesten & . . . & the Eyght Hundryth Fene from a place calledd, the Grest at Helperingham Bek Endd aforeseid & from the said Bek Endd, next unto the said place, in Helperingham aforsaid in the said [county of^s] Lyncoln, over the fennes of Lyttell Holl & Beker aforsaid unto a place called Wragmanstak . . . aforsaid in the said countie of Lyncoln, & from the said place calledd Wragmanstak by . . . lymytts of Holl Dyck unto a sewere calledd South Eye in the Eight Hundryth (Fenn^o) Fe[n] . . . said parties of Hollandd & countie afforsaid & by the said South Eye unto a place calledd Gyl[l] . . . said Eight Hundryth Fen, & from Gylle Syke, aforsaid unto the goottes lying & . . . to the haven at Langrak owtt of the said viij^o Fen in the countie aforsaid, & . . . sewere to be dyckedd maid & bankedd from Helperingham Bek End, and from the said . . . calledd the Grest unto Gellssyk aforsaid, the half parte therof that ys to say the (. . .^o) . . . of the same, by the lords freholders tenantts & inhabyttauntes of Swatton Helperingham . . . aforsaid, & the other half parte therof, that ys to say the est parte of the same, by the lords . . . tenntes . . . tenntes & inhabyttauntes of Donyngton Quathering & Beker, aforsaid, & from the . . . aforsaid to the goottes, by the tenantes of the Eight Hundryth Fen. And ytt was then also . . . ytt was nesassery that the same shold be maid dyckedd & clensedd in manner & form . . . aforsaid before the fest of Santt Marten in wenter then next comynge, apon payn . . . freyholders & inhabyttauntes of every townshippe aforsaid to forfeitt xl s. Also ytt was . . . said, & presenttedd by the said jury that ytt was lyk wysse nessassery for the townes . . . savegardd aforsaid that ther shalbe maid & laydd eight small gotts calledd . . . the banks of the Haven at Langrak aforsaid in the sykes issuing owtt of the lowe . . . Fen calledd the Eight Hundryth Fene into the said Haven at Langrak aforsaid & . . . of the said gootts to conten in lynchhe xx^{xl} fowtt, & bredd & deppnes every way . . .

[473.III.11]

78

(28 *Donyngton iiiij by the viij C. ij by Donyngton & others. ij by Kerton . . .*) And foure of the same to be maid & keppt by the inhabyttauntes [and^s] the tenantes of the Eight Hundryth. And two of the same to be maid kepptt & laydd by the inhabyttauntes of Donyngton Quathering & Beker. And other two of the same gootts to be maidd laydd & kepptt by the inhabyttauntes of Swaton Helperingham Lyttell Holl Greatt Holl Hekyngton Byllingborowgh & Horblyng, & fowre of the same gootts to be laydd att the hyght of the watter, & other foure of the same to be laydd att the lowest of the water and lyk wysse the said gootts to be maid & laydd, in maner & forme afforsaid, beffor the feast [of^s] Santt Marten, apon payn of every towneshippe to forfeitt xl s.

(. . . *Robert Stevenson . . . mete [to^s] be done*) Item the said Robertt Stevenson & other his fellowes nowe sayth upon ther othes that the said dreine, ys nott madd nor dykedd (& bankedd^l) in maner & form as ys aforsaid, to the greatt hyndraunces of the tenant[s]. And the said jury sayth further that thay thynk appon ther comissaunces that ytt ys mett conveyantt & nessassary, that the same drane be maidd & dykedd (& bankedd^l) for the advancementt of the comon welth in maner & form as ys afforsaid.

(*Golldyk Bank by party & by persons*) Also the sayd jurye sayth, that ther ys one bank in Donyngton, called Golldyk Bank extending from a place calledd Marloode, unto a place calledd the Hyghe Brygg, of Bryggdyk, whiche ys fawttye, & in decay, & ytt (yought^o) ought to be maid rearyedd heyned & mendedd, by the persons hereafter following, Nychollis Bolls xv rood Mr Cawadd ij rood the vicare of Quathering iij [rood^s] Thomas Forandd ij rood, the chauntry (lands^l) of Our Lady in Quathering ij rood, the chauntry lands of Santt John in Quathering ij rood, (John^o) (John^l) Persson ij rood (roo^o) the heyres of Henry Smyth ij rood John Wortts . . . Wylliam Echerdd ij rood Wylliam Danyell & John Danyell v rood Jenytt Arkell iij rood Alles Pet . . . John Danyll the vecar j rood Wylliam Blankney j rood, John Frost iij rood Wylliam Godsman . . . Robert Jackson ij rood Thomas Cartter ij rood John Lemay j rood, Robert Hucheingson, ij [rood^s] John Johnson iij rood (John Jackson^o), Roger Ellwardd j rood William Jackson j rood, the heyres of Br . . . j rood Mr. Hall j rood William Kelsay ij rood Blase Toller ij rood John Brown j rood Robert Cawch j [rood^s] George Skott j rood John Neuton iij rood Mr. Hall (iiij^o) (v^l) rood, (the^o) Roman Chettells iiij rood, John Ranersth . . . John Snow v rood William Haryman iiij rood, William Toppleg, iij rood, Robertt Lawe j rood Mr Ha . . . Thomas Jackson, ij rood, William Haryman, iij rood, George Carver j rood Wylliam Chatters iij rood . . . Hilton, the elder, j rood, Humffrey Grandorg j rood Edwardd Mowlton, iij rood Thomas Jonson j rood . . . Haryman, ij rood John Sugar j rood Nychollis Johnson iiij rood, John Raner for Feld iij rood, Robert . . . ij rood John Fysher, j rood the said Fysher j rood, Humffrey Grandorg j rood William Jackson . . . ij rood, Richardd Love for Bullok,

j rood Richardd Love, iij rood, William Haryman ij rood, Richard . . . j rood, Robert Love j rood, John Robensson, ij rood Mr Hall ij rood, John Panter, ij rood Robertt V . . . j rood Andrew Blow j rood, John Whyttingham ij rood Roger Nottyng, j rood dim., Wylliam . . . John Sygraw, j rood John Roll ij rood, Robertt Underwatter, George Hilton ij rood, Richard Love . . . Hall j rood, John Toppman ij rood, Robertt Underwatter j rood, Richard Love j rood John Whyttingham . . . Wylliam Smyth iiij rood Thomas Bradshewe j rood the parsonage j rood John Frogor j rood . . . j rood Thomas Alger j rood Robertt Lathe ij rood Robertt Towller, j rood Thomas Jackson j rood . . . Hilton, j rood (Rob^o) John Frogar j rood dim., Mr Hilton j rood dim., the said Hilton j rood dim., John . . . j rood, John Medylton v rood, the heyres of Roger Hilton & Wylliam Oky ij rood, Grandorg j rood . . . Brown iij rood, Esaat of Biston ij rood John Ruckell j rood dim., Wylliam Brown, iiij rood, . . . Roger Hilton for Gaktost iij rood, John Sugar & Wylliam Benytt iiij rood Thomas Alger j rood . . . Wylliam Benytt, ij rood Thomas Telsson j rood dim., Mychell Haryson j rood, Thomas Raner . . . j rood Je Haryson j rood (Je Haryson^o) (Mr Hall¹) ij rood John Robensson j rood, John Raner j rood . . . Gren j rood John Raner ij rood Wylliam Robertt j rood, the heyres of Roger Hylton j rood . . . ij rood, Wylliam Oky ij rood Robertt Wryght iij rood, Grandorg j rood, Wylliam . . . ij rood . . . Roman Chettells (ij^o) iij rood (Thomas^o) Wylliam Garatt j rood Thomas Tellson . . .

[473.III.12]

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the heyres of Roger Hilton j rood Humffrey Grandorg j rood Je Grandorg, iij rood, John Oky j rood, Mr Hall iiij rood Robertt Smyth iiij rood, Roger Ellwardd¹ . . . rood, John Ellwardd j rood, the gyld of Boston iij rood, Sir Thomas Love prest v rood, yonge Chatters iij rood Boston gyld iij rood, Robertt Harysse ij rood, Richarts Chatters ij rood Mr Lyttelbery j rood dim., Mr. (Robert^o) Roberttson j rood, Nychollis Tomson ij rood, Boston gyld j rood Thomas Alger j rood Richard Wilsbey j rood, Sir Thomas Love prest j rood.

(*[Don]yngton [South]engfendyk . . .*) Furder more the sayd jury sayth that ther ys a certtan bank in Donyng[ton] callidd the Southengfendyck, extending from a comon way, lyng att the west end of Donyngton unto a place called Kymetoftstyll whiche ys fawtty, & in decay, & ytt ought to be mayd reparyedd henydd & mended, by thes persons, herafter following, John Telly ij rood Wylliam Toplege ij rood Nychollis Roberds v rood & two fowtt John Prokter, j rood Nychollis Tomsson iij rood Thomas Bryg, j rood Richard Love for Danyll lands ij rood dim., Robertt Underwater j rood Wylliam Jackson j rood John Jacks iiij rood Richardd Love j rood, Georg Hylton the eld[er] j rood the parsonage of Donyngton, j rood, John Roll iiij rood John Telly j rood Roger Nottange j rood Andrew Blouwe j rood Wylliam Smyth iiij rood, John Whyttingham John Meddylton, & Grandorg ix rood John Swan xvij rood, Wylliam Chatters iiij rood, Mr Hall ij rood dim., John Sugar ij

¹ A hole made for the string has removed the numeral.

rood dim., & v fowtt, John Dalls & John Wryght v rood, Nychollis Jonson, iiij rood, Mr Hall iij (rood^s) the heyres of Henry Robertt, ij rood & ij fowtt, Roger Ellward iij rood, Quathering the lands of the chauntry of Santt Johns in Quathering, ij rood, Richard iij rood dim. Robertt Snall iij rood dim. Richard Sheppard ij rood & two fowtt, Bealls lands iij rood, Thomas Jonson iiij rood.

(*Comon sewer*) Also the said jurye saythe that ther ys a comon sewere in Donyngton, extending from a place calledd Hyebrygg of Bryggdyck, unto a place called Bycker landd, which is fawttye & nott dyckedd & skowredd as ytt ought for to be, & ys a greatt hyndr[ance] to the passage of the watter & stream, & ytt owght to be dyckedd skowredd, & keptt rodyd, by thes persons hereafter following, the lords of the manor of Wyks lx roods . . . lords for Frampton, xx^{ti} roods the kinge & quens maisties for lands somtyme belongyng to the monystory of Peterborowghe, (iij^o) lx roods, the monystory of Netley . . . the monystorey of Usselton, vj rood, the manor of Bemond xxxiiij^{ti} rood, Sir John Tempasset, v rood, Sir Edwardd Dymmok, xij rood, Andrewe Notwell esquier xx^{ti} rood, the heyres [of]^s Nychollis Roberttson, xij rood, Nychollis Bolls xv rood, Mr Hall for Rosse vij rood Henry . . . iij roods (R^o) Humfrey Lyttelbery iij roods, Steven Bardnay, j rood, Wylliam Prokter vj roods . . . roods Allen Gusse, iiij roods, Wylliam Benytt j rood, Wylliam Knyght iiij rood John . . . Thomas Hall ij roods Rauff Towller, two rood, Wylliam Lynssay of Spalding . . . gyld of Boston, xv rood Grandorge for Chekyr xv rood, John Mydylton vj rood Je iij rood, [the^s] gyld lands of Gosbarkyrk, iij rods, Roman Chettells v roods, the chauntry of Swynshed j rood, the heyres of Henry Brown viij rood, the monystory of Buttlay, j rood dim., Wylliam . . . iiij rood, John Rudd j rood Wylliam Wagon, ij rood, the heyres of Thomas Rooper, ij rood, John . . . Robert Smythe, vj rood, Robertt Garratt j rood Robert Bowdd ij rood, Richardd Love for bowth . . .

(. . . *dyke*) Item the said jurye sayth funder that the kings way & callsay calledd Bryggdyk [which^s] doyth extendd, from a place calledd Santt Savyors att Brygge endd in the parties of K[esteven] unto a bryge calledd Holland Brygg (u^o) nye unto the towne of Donyngton, in the parties [of^s] Hollandd, whiche said hye way & callssay ys nott suffycenttly maidd, & reparyedd [in^s] dyvers places, whiche ys in greatt rewen & decay (& also dyverses brygs ther upon mynd¹) to the greatt & inestemable damage hynderaunce & perell of the kings leyg peppell therby passing, & to the inhabytauntes [of the^s] countrey ther adjonyng, whiche said hye way & callssay (that ys bryggs) aforsaid ought [to^s] be repar[ed] . . . & mad & mendydd, by the lands called Sant Savyors att Brygg Endd aforsaid. [473.III.12d]

(. . . *new dreyn . . . gottes*)² In these thre leaves for Donyngton is conteynd a new drein, & for viij pysegottes, ij . . . & Brygdyke.

¹ This folio is defective at both right and left hand edges.

² This folio has been repaired and the writing on it is hardly legible.

This drein serveth to be a goodly thyng yf ytt myght be . . . making therof all both jurys do agree butt Swynneshed Byker Quadryng & . . . semeth . . . in Quadryng to save charyngs.

Item Skyrbek Wyberton & Gosberton agreement restes upon the . . . of holdyng the . . . whiche William Haryman thynkes . . . nott be butt other thynkes ytt may be . . .

. . . that for another conteinmen making fenbankes . . . of Kyrton . . . that ther should be nede as of old ther have used . . . Wyberton, and Fossddyk & Algarkyrk wold make by dreyns whiche yf they have ben yt ys well or ells not to alter in eny wyse . . .

And the great . . . ys for Kyrton Fen bankes made by the freholders . . . other . . . lordes that ys not to be . . . but . . . for they say that a . . . soo may . . . as the inhabitan . . . to shall have as much lake as ther . . . had is . . . so that the lawe . . . shall in that poynt as ther have . . . devydyng the charge of a . . . departed to the yssues & landholders for that part not . . .

Thyrtye leaves with the fyrst pen & the fyrst leafe . . . and xxix of them fully wrytten.

[473.III.13]

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(6 *Kyrton Petty dreyn from Wyllyngton by Taylor & others*) Item the sayd jury sayth that ther ys a petty dreyn gowyng (owte¹) of Wyllyngton to the common sewer and aught to be reparred & mayd by Richard Talior William Pury Anthony Merres esquyre the heres of Rouse & Thomas Harvy.

(*Petty dreyn ther by Parson & others*) Item the sayd jury sayth that ther is a petty dreyn gowyng owte of Wyllyngton to the comon sewer & ought to be reparred & amended by John Parson the heres of Roger Wyllyamson John Jacson Mr Haynsworthe John Mure & George Heland.

(*Petty dreyn there by Lyttelbery & others*) Item the sayd jury sayth that ther ys an other petty dreyn goyng owte of Wyllyngton to the comon sewer & aught to by reparred & amended by Roberte Lyttelbury gent. Alen Gusse Edward Fyelde John Gybbon John Jacson Phylype Trobake & John Mure.

(*Petty dreyn in the marketsted by John Bete & others*) Item the sayd jury sayth that ther ys a petty dreyn in the Marketsted of Kyrton aforsayd going frome a pece of land of the heres of John Baytte of Boston & frome the landes of Wyllyam (Pury¹) unto the comon sewer which ys in ruyn & decay & ought (to¹) be dyked & scowered by (the^o) John Bayte William Pury & Roberte Foolle frome tyme to tyme as often as nead shall requyre.

(*Fystharmen to mayke no werested or dammes in the fen*) Item the sayd jury (say¹) that ther shall no fystharmen of none of all the Eight Townnes nor Brothertofte make any weresteades nor dammes for any man of nettes or leppes to be layd in within the feyn wherby the water shalby leytted to have ther ryght course & passaye upon the payn of every werested so mayd & founde x s. to by levyd & payd of the gudes of any suche offenders to the chyff lordes of the soylle.

(*The mayn syke to by dykyd by Brothertofte . . .*) Item the sayd jury say that all the comoners & cowchers within Brothertofte aught of ryght to dyke the mayn syke frome a place (caulled¹) Gylesyke mouthe to Ambrehyll Ende frome tyme to tyme as often as neede shall requyre.

[473.III.14]

81

(7. *Kyrton Petty dreyn . . . Rustyng & K. yng to be dykyd by dyverse*) Item (leyng^o) one pety dreyn leyng in the the [*sic*] tounes and felde betwyxte Rustyng yng & Kyrton yng ys in ruyn & decay & ought to be dykyd & clensted be the land holders of the gylde of Frampton the land holders of (M^o) Molton Halle Roberte Lyttylbury gent. Roberte Stevenson John Persey & Wylliam Wylloughby esquyre.

(*Pety dreyn to Forefen Gayttes & Meres by the ioyners thereon*) Item an other pety dreyn leyng betwext Kyrton ynges & Rustyng & descendyth frome a comon way ledyng to Forefen Gayttes & frome the sayd gayte to Lee Merres & frome the sayd Lee Meres to the comon sewer of Kyrton cawled Lee Ee & ought to be dyched & clense so ofte as neade shall requyre be the land holders joynyng of the dykegrawes of the same dreyn.

(*Merres Bryge [by the^s] inhabitantes Le Meres*) Item a brige cauled Lee Meres Bryge extendyng over the comon sewer cauled Lee Ee ys in ruyn & decay & ought to be repaired & sufficiently mayd (in breade & hyght¹) for the kynges subiectes to passe over the same sewer by the inhabitautes of one parte of the same toune of Kyrton cauled Le Merres so often as neade shall requyre by the syght of the same wynteyn.

(*Merres Way by the inhabitants there*) Item the sayd jury sayth that a comon way cauled Meres Way ys in ruyn & decay for lacke of reparyng of the same way so that the kyng lege people cannot have the passayge to the churche & other places nessessary for ther bussynes within the toune of Kyrton aforsayd wyche way ought of ryght to by mayd by they inhabiters of the same gayte so often as neade shall requyre.

(*Markydsted Layn by the inhabitants of K.*) Item the jury sayth that a comon layne cawled Markydsted Layn ys in ruyn & decay for lacke of reparry of the sayme way so that the kynges lege people can not passe with ther caryage wyche way ought to be repaired & amendyd so often as nede shall requyre be the holle inhabitants of the toune of Kyrton aforsayd by comon myn worke.

(*Pety dreyn from Meres through Willoughby by W.*) Item a pety (dreyn¹) in Kyrton aforsayd frome a place cawled Le Meres Gayte aforsayd thorowe the land of William Wylloughby esquyre & so to the greate sewer called Le Ee ys deffectyve & in decay and ought to be dykyd scowered & clensted by the sayd Wylliam Wyloughby so often as nede shall requyre.

(*Fen bankes by freholders*) Item the sayd jury saythe apon ther othes (that¹) the the [*sic*] fene (bankes¹) in Kyrton aforsayd ar in ruyn & decay in dyverse places for lake of exalteyng inhaunsyng

& reparyng as hereafter folowyth (in height iiij fote in bred (xvj fote^o) iiij fote^l) William Pury ij dykes contenyng lvj^{tt} fote Thomas Persey xxviiij^{tt} (fote^l) the heres of Rychard . . . xxviiij^{tt} Anthonyng Coney xxviiij^{tt} John Persey x foote Master Anthony Meres x foote Sir . . . Tonard xij^{tt} foote the gyld of Frampton xij^{tt} John Rooss xij fote Thomas Clay iiij rodes ix f[ote] . . . Anthony Coney iiij rodes & iij footes the colege of Tatishalle iiij rode & iij fote the heres of Sym[on] Grawe xv^{tt} fote Thomas Perry xv fote Mr Cra-crofte viij fote the heres of Bailly viij^{tt} fote Robert H . . . x fote Richard Longnay x fote my lady Talbuse xxx^{tt} foote Mr Anthony Meres xlv^{tt} our s[overaign lord^s] the kyng ij dykes lxxx foote Sir Wylliam Tonwe xv^{tt} foote the gylde of Frampton xv^{tt} foote . . . Coplay xv^{tt} foote as yt dothe aperre be jousse bokes belongyng to the same tou[ne] aforsayd.

[473.III.15]

82

(8. *Kyrton. Comonerer not beyng free houlders charged with the fen bankes*) Item the sayd jury saythe apon ther othes that all the comonerer within the toune of Kyrton not hawyng (no fre-hould^l) nor byyng no free holders shalbe (g^o) charged in the fenas as hereafter folowyth that ys to say the comonerer of Le Markydsted shall have (aproved^o) be the discession of the dygrawes v rodes the comonerer within the vyntayn of Wyllngton xij^{te} rodes, the comonerer of Lee Merres v rodes, the comonerer of Lee Ee Dyke & Kyrtonholme xij^{tt} rodes, the comonerer of Skeldyke xij^{tt} rodes & all theys take layde & apoynted be be the dyscession of the iiijth dycke grawes.

(*Podmer Horne. Comon way the K. by Sempringham*) Item the jury sayth that our sovereign lord the kyng by the ryght of his dissolwed monestary of Sempringham ought to mayke & amend reparre & maynteyn a comon way at Podmer Horne at Brothertofte for the passage of hys graces subiectes within the viij C of Kyrton Frampton Wibberton Sutterton Algarkyrke & Fosdyk Swynshed & Wygtoft for the reparryng making & maynteynyng of the hawen bank & other dykes & bankes in Holland aforsayd belongyng to the sayd viij C.

(*Hamon Bek sewer the owners of the west side of the water S. & W. A. F. S. W. & S.*) Item the sayd jury sathe that a comon sewer caulled Hamonbeck frome Skyrbeck Goote to the boundes (bew^o) betwext Frampton & Wybberton ys in ruynes & decay & ought to be dyked roded & censed by (Skyrbecke & Wibberton^o) the land-houlders & lordes (of the west sydes of the water of Boston^l) of Skyrbeck & Wibberton aforsayd and that the same dreyn frome the boundes of Kyrton to (the uttermost boundes of Bycker^o) (Broude Dyke mouth^l) ys in ruynes & decay & ought to be roded scowered & censed by the lordes & landholders of Algarkyrk Fosdyk Sutterton Wygtofte & Swynshed (& Byker^o) aforsayd.

(*S. Brige . . .*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys a brygg over the seyd sewer called Hamon Bek at Swynneshed ys in good & sufycient repayr . . . 'it shuld be repayred.

¹ This sentence has been added in another hand.

(*K. H. Bridge inhabitants of S., A. and F.*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys another brygg over the seyd sewer at Kirton Holme whiche ys defectyve & ought to be repayred & amended by the inhabitantes of Sutterton Algerkyrk & Fosdyke.

(*Kyrton by C. of Kyrton*) Item the seyd jures say that ther ys an other brygg called Kyrton Brygg over the seyd sewer whiche ys defectyve & ought to be made repayred & amended by the comoners of Kyrton aforeseyd.

(*Frampton by F.*) Item the sayd jures say that ther ys an other brygg at Frampton End called Frampton Brygg over the seyd sewer whiche ys defectyve & ought to be made & amended by the townshyp of Frampton.

[473.III.15*d*]

83

The content of Kyrton presentment is conteyned in these viij hole leaves & ij peces whereof the effect consysted for the see bankes the see goote, the cryke or flete, the comon sewer from Hamon Bek, Hamon Bek sewer, xv pety dreanes, & the inquisyton there, iiij bridges in Kyrton iiij bridges over Hamon Bek, to be placed ij of them in Swynshed & Frampton (...¹) and ... ther is other comon ways Mereswey, Marketsted Lane & Podmer Hern.

The fen bankes to be don by the freholders & comoners not freholders inhabiting in Kyrton (... in that behalf ... do not ...¹) ... the great ... of the jures in ... by ... & by Algerkyrk & Fosdyke etc. Item not weres butt that the old costome ther be ... shall take place, for weres in the fen & dammes, for the mayne syke ... dreynes.

[473.III.16]

84

(9. *Kyrton petty dreyn by the landes of Lyttlybury & others by them that butt*) Item the sayd jury sayth upon the othe that a pety dreyn leyng betwexte the landes of Mr Thomas Littilbury of Stanesbye esquyre Phylpe Clamond gent. & Anthony Broune esquyre is in ruyn & decay for lacke of scowryng of the same dreyn & aught to be repaired dyched scowered & clensed be the sayd Thomas Phylpe & Anthony for suche land as (they¹) have buttyng agenste the sayd dreyn.

(*Marketsted Brige by the hole inhabitants of K.*) Item the sayd jury sayth that a bryge in Kyrton aforsayd extendyng over the sewer in Kyrton aforsayd cawled Marketsted Brige and the sayd brige ys a comon way for all the kynges subiectes with cartes & cariage ower & by the same is in ruyn & decay & aught to be mayd by the inhabitauntes of Kyrton aforsayd.

(*Stone brige lykewyse*) Item the sayd jury say that a stone bryge in Kyrton aforsayd caulled Townneshend Brige goyng ower the comon sewer in the kyng hye way ys in ruyn & decay for deffaute of stone worke & aught of ryght to be repaired & amendyd frome tyme to tyme as often as neade shall requyre by the holle inhabitauntes of Kyrton.

(*See gotte by landholders [by^s] acre sylver*) Item the say jury say that the see gotte in Kyrton is in ruyn & decay bothe for lake of a lande dore & also of a floode dore & other bothomyng within the sayd gotte, and awght at all tymes to be mayd & repaired from tyme to tyme as oft as neade shall requyre be they landholders & lordes of the same toune of Kyrton by acre sylver.

(*The Crycke or Flete . . . C. menwork*) Item the jury say that the cricke that goethe frome the goetmowthe to the faulle into the see ys in ruyn & decay bothe in breade & depnes & saith that yt is nessessary to by dykyd xij fote wyde at the tope & v fote wyde in the (bre^o) bothome & iij spyte depe & aught to by dyked clenسد & scowred frome tyme to tyme as oft as neade shall requyre by the (lordes & land holders of Kyrton aforesayd by acre sylver^o) inhabitants of Kyrton aforesayd by comon menwork.

(*See banckes by acre sylver*) Item the sayd jury say that the see banckes of Kyrton in dyvers & many places be in ruyn & decay bothe in heght & breade & aught to by mayde & banckyde frome tyme to tyme as oft as neade shall requyre by the lordes & the land holders of Kyrton aforsayd by acre sylver.

(*Comon seuer to Hamon Becke acre sylver*) Item the sayd jury saythe that the comon sewer in Kyrton aforsayd frome Hamon Becke to the see gote is in ruyn & decay and aught to by dyked rodyd scowred & clenسد from tyme to tyme as oft as nede shall requyre by the lordes & lande holders of Kyrton aforesayd by acre sylver.

[473.III.17]

85

(10. *Algarkyrke and Fossedyke. Sedykes Cromerehurn by A. & F.*) Item the seyde jurye doo saye apon thayer othes thatt the worste sedyke of Algarkyrke and Fossedyk ys in ruine & decay frome a place called Cromerehurne and soo towards the est to ane olde goyng downe to the Wysche & haught to be repaired and maied by the lordes landes gentyllmense landes and all the landes & landeholderse within the parysch of Algarkyrke & Fossedyke everye acre to make a fote that ys to saye xij yences as apereth by a new sedyke boke nowe mayed as here after folowyth.

Item thaye saye thatt the best sedyke of Algarkyrke & Fossedyke aforesaid bigynneth att Cromar hurne aforesaid att the fyrst ende of the seid worste dyke & so toward Sotertone Gote & thane leveth & then begyneth att a place called Kyrketon Goolle att the inmarche corner & so towards the sowth to the last ende of the warste dyke and ys defectyve and haughte to be repaired & maid by the lordes landes gentyllmense landes and all the landes & lande holderse within the seid parysch of Algarkyrk & Fossedyke everye acre to make (fyve fote & a halfe^o) (vij fote¹) as apereth by the seid sedyke boke aforesaid.

(. . . & many wayes . . . F.) Item the seid jury saye thatt there ys dyvers & many wayes called common wayes in Fossedyk in (dyvers^o) places between the church & the see banke which be in ruene & decay & aughte to be mayed by the inhabytanse of Fossedyke aforesayd.

(*[Petty drain^s] from Mylnhillfeld . . . landes ioynnyng*) Item the seid jury say thatt there ys a petty drayn frome a place called Mylnhyllfelde est uppon Fossedyke ys in ruyn & decaye & aught to be dyckede & clensede by the landes thatt lyethe agayense ytt as hathe bene acustomed to be donne before tyme.

(*[Petty drain^s] at Spaldyngate*) Item the seid jury say thatt there ys a petty drayn begyneth att Spaldyng Gate and so comethe thorowe Galle felde & frome thens to Colpytt felde & so forth to the hede drane ys also defectyve in dyvers places & augh to be dyckede & clensede as ofte as nede shall requere by the landes that lyethe agayense ytt as hath bene acustomed before tyme.

(*Hedynges A. & F.*) Item thaye saye thatt the inhabitauntes of Algarkyrke & Fossedyke haught to kepe thayer hedynges & other defence for the defendyng of Kyrketon waters and Sutterton waters.

(*Colderbridge [bys^s] A.*) Item the seyd jury say thatt one bryghe called Colderbryghe ys in ruyne & decaye and (ha^c) haughte to be mayde by the inhabytance of Algarkyrke as hath bene acustomed.

(*. . . reyn*) Item thaye saye thatt one petty drayne goynge frome Clayengegarthe & so thorowe Myddlemarsche felde ys in ruyne & decaye and haught att all tyme & tymes as ofte as nede shall requere to be dycked and clensed by Syr John Copledycke knyght & William Ordying and so betwene the landes of Symonde Halle & the parson of Algarkyrke & the landes of Thomas Hunyng & the landes of the seid William Ordying and the landes of the seid Thomas Hunyng and anence the landes of Cristofer Pasmer & the landes of the seid Thomas Hunyng & the landes of the seid William Ordying & the landes of the seid Thomas Hunyng and the landes of William Hunyng of London & so over the heye way att Hypetofte Crose and so betwene the landes of the seid William Hunyng & Nicholas Bray & the landes of Thomas Bawdwyne & John Smyth of Dousbe & so over the hey waye & then betwexte the landes of Richard Dowce of Freson & so goethe to Wyll' felde & by Welbe Hall in Fossedyke and so to the hede drane and haught so forward to be kepte and [473.III.18] maynteyned by the landes thatt lyeth ageynste the seid dreyn as hath bene acustomed before tyme.

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(11. *Algerkyrk Fossedyk. Pety drein by the landes adioynnyng*) Item they say thatt ther ys one other petty drane which begynnyth betwene the landes of Frances Hunyng & the landes of the chantre of Algarkyrke & the landes of Thomas Hunyng Symond Halle Cristofer Pasmer John Pulvertoft & the seid Thomas Hunyng & so falleth into the other petty drane which ys in ruyne & decaye and haught to be dycked & clensede as ofte as nede shall requere by the (landes^c) seid mense landes before reherseded lying anence the seide petty drayne.

(*. . . comon weyes in Algerkyrk*) Item they saye thatt dyverse & manye coman weyes in Algarkyrke are in ruyne & decaye and haught to be amendid & mayed frome tyme to tyme as ofte as nede shall requere by the inhabytance of Algarkyrke aforeseid as hath bene acustomed.

(*Harryngton . . . hollow tree Crabdam dreyn landes ioynnyng*) Item they saye thatt Master James Haryngton haught to kepe one hollowe tree in his grounde latt Peter Gauntes liyng in one petty draine for Crabdam Ende which (drane¹) ys in ruyne & decay and haught to be dycked & clensed by the landes thatt lyeth anence ytt as hath bene acustomed to be kept as ofte as nede shall requere.

(*[Fore]fengate S. A. & F.*) Item the seid jury say thatt the inhabytance of Sutterton Algarkyrke & Fossedyke haughte to kepe one suffycyente fence att Forfeneyate called Symond Were as thay have bene acustomed to kepe.

(*Fen bankes . . . height & breid . . . S. A. & F.*) Item the seid jury say thatt the fene banckes in the west syed of the Lowe Fene frome the Horne unto Welloughe Boothe be in ruyne & decay bothe in heighte & brede and aughtt to be mayde in brede xij foote and in height iiij fote by the inhabitantes of Sutterton Algarkyrke & Fossedyke as hath bene acustomed.

(*Crostoft by Syr John Copledyk*) Item the seid jury say thatt there ys one pasture called Crostofte of Syr John Coopledyckes knyght liyng in Algarkyrke in Colderende which aught alwayese to be kepte in suffycyente defence anence the comane waye frome the entryng of Lepomefelde agaynste the seid coman waye unto the entryng of Kyrketon by the seid Syr John Coopledicke knyght att all tymes as ofte as nede shall requere.

(*A petty drein in F. by landes adioynnyng*) Item the seid jury say thatt there ys a pete drane in Fossedyke comyng frome the landes of Master Huntstones latte the corporacyon of Boston & so over the heye waye & so by the landes of Master Nicholas Robertson & so to a place called Welbe Hall in Fossedyke & so to the hede drane between the landes of Mr Nicholas Robertson & Thomas Welbe & haught to be dycked & clensed by the landes lying anence the seid petty drane as hath bene acustomed so ofte se nede shall requere.

(*Hollow tree*) Item they say thatt there ought to be a holowe tree kepte (be^o) in the seid petty drane between the landes of Master Huntston & Mr Nicholas Robertson in the coman heye waye by the inhabitanc of Fos[sedyke] aforeseid att all tymes whan nede shall requere for the passage of the watter.

[*Endorsed*] :—Screps' in anno domini 1555.

[473.III.19]

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(12. *Algerkyrk & Fossedyke petty drein from Armondes by the landes adioynnyng*) Item the seid jury say thatt there ys a petty drane comyng frome Thomas Armondes between the landes of John Smyth of Dousebe & William Swan & the seid John Smyth & Richard Arkyll and John Armond & so by the coman hey way before Richard Arkyll dore & so betwen the landes of the seid Richard Arkyll & Thomas Atkinson & so to a place called Contwayfeld & so to the hede drane which ys in ruyne & decay and haught to be dycked & clensed by the landes that liyeth anence the seid drane soo ofte as nede shall requere.

(*Arkyll hollowtree*) Item they say thatt Richard (Arl^c) Arkyll aught to kepe a holow tre in his yatte stede between the coman hey way & hes grownde in the same petty drane for convayense of the wayter att all tymes whane nede shall requere.

(*A petty drein from Robertson landes [by^s] landes adioynyng*) Item the seyde jury say thatt there ys a petty drane comyng frome the landes of Mr Nicholas Robertson & Nicholas Armond & so over the coman way betwene a pece of lande of John Coney called Edburte Acre & John Andrew & so over the coman way betwene the landes of the seid John Andrew & one pasture of Mr Merese called Gylles & so to the hede drane which ys defyctyve in dyverse places and aught to be dycked & clenched by the landes that lyeth anence the seid drane as hath bene acustomed so ofte as ned shall requere.

(*Pety dreyn Shallok lykewyse*) Item the seyde jury say ther ys a petty drayn comyng frome the landes of the heres of William Shaloke att Nevell Dame & so over the way & betwene the landes of the herese of Thomas Irbe of Molton & Phelype Troboke & soo to a pasture of John Smyth of Dousebe called Malhome & soo over the hey way betwene the landes of the herese of Bolles of Quadryng & so there one Mr Nicholas Robertson grownd & so to the hede drane which ys in decay & ought to be dycked & clenched by the landes that liyeth anence the seid draine soo ofte as nede shall requere.

(*Sutterton Gote by Sutterton acre sylver*) Item the seyde jury say thatt Sutterton Goote ys defyctyve and haught to be layed loweare by a foute for the passage of the water which aught to be repaired (b^c) and amended by the lordes landes gentyll menses landes & all the landes & landeholders within the parysch of Sutterton by acre sylver as hath bene acustomed so oft as nede shall requere.

(. . . *hede drein of A. & S. acre sylver*) Item the seyde jury say thatt the hede drayne of Algarkyrk & Fossedyke begynneth att Spaldyng Gatte & soo to Colder Bryghe & soo to Mandyke & frome thense to Cuntewade & then to Bryghhouse Bryghe and soo to the goote att Fossedykestowe which aught to be repaired & amended att all tyme and tymes soo ofte as nede shall requere by the lordes landes gentyllmense landes and all the landes and lande holders within the parysch of Algarkyrke and Fossedyke (as^c) by acre sylver as hath beyn acustomed before tyme.

(. . . [*Alg*]arkyrk) Item the seyde jury saye thatt there aught to be a foute bryghe over the comane suer att a place called Nether Stath and another (foote¹) bryghe to be mayed att a place called Cuntwade over the same drane for the pasched of foute folke which aught to be kepte & maintayned by the inhabytance of [*Algar*]kyrke aforeseyd.
[473.III.20] 88

(13. *Algerkyrk & Fossedyk.*) THYS YS THE SEDYKE BOOKE OF ALGARKYRKE AND FOSSEDYK and this ys the worste dyke and beginneth att Cromer Horne and so towards the east to anolde gate downe to the Wasche & to make for every acre a foute.

Mr Nicholas	xvj ^{xx} & xvj acres iij	xvj rodes xvj foote
Robartson	rodes	ix inches.
The heres of Thomas	xxxviiij acres dim.	xxxviiij foote dim.
Irbye		
Robart Jollyson	xxij acres	xxij foote
Richarde Pantre	x acres	x foote
John Proctor	x acres	x foote
William Bennacle	x acres	x foote
Richarde Hawsson	xiiij acres	xiiij foote
Stephen Alynson	vj acres	vj foote
Mr ¹ Richarde Bolles	xxxj acres & iij rodes	xxxj foote ix inches
Richard Arkylle	xvij acres & dim.	xvij foote dim.
The heres of Bolles	vj acres	vj foote
of Quadryng		
Thomas Kyngson	one acre & dim.	one foote & dim.
John Clarke	ij acres & dim.	ij foote & dim.
John Andrewe	iiij acres & iij rodes	iiij foote & ix inches
Cristofer Robarde	v acres	v foote
John Caris	ij acres & dim.	ij foote & dim.
Robert Dorbake by	vj acres	vj foote
his wyfe		
Stephen Wyborne	iiij acres iij rodes	iiij foote ix inches
The hereys of John	ij acres	ij foote
Stowe		
The heyres of	vj acres	vj foote
William Shaloke		
Martyn Knot	viiij acres & dim.	viiij foote & dim.
William Swane	xxx acres & iij rodes	xxx foote & ix inches
Thomas Armond	xv acres	xv foote
Nicholas Armond	vj acres & dim.	vj foote & dim.
John Armond	v acres	v foote
Richard Ramsay	iiij acres & one cotage	iiij foote
Richard Brandon	x acres	x foote
John Conye	xiiij acres (& iij rodes ^c)	xiiij ² foote (& ix inches ^c)
Mr Leonard Irbye	xij acres	xij foote
John Pasmar	ij acres & dim.	ij foote & dim.
The heyres of	v acres	v foote
Thomas Loveles		
The heyres of	vij acres & dim.	vij foote & dim.
Nicholas Upton		
Thomas Ropar	vj ^{xx} & xj acres	vj rodes xj foote
Richard Dowse	xxx acres & iij rodes	xxx foote ix inches
Mr Wyllowbye	x acres	x foote
Mr Thomas Browne	xij acres & iij rodes	xij foote ix inches
The heyres of	xvj acres	xvj foote
Mr Gooddyng		

¹ " Mr " is written in the margin.

² " xiiij " corrected from " xij."

[473.III.21]

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(14. *Algerkyrk & Fossedyk*)

'The hereys of	iiij acres & dim.	iiij foote & dim.
William Wormsley		
Frances Meres	v ^{xx} & xv acres	v rodes & xv foote
George Pryckfelde	xliij acres	xliij foote
John Smyth	xxxviiij acres	xxxviiij foote
Symon Halle	xix acres	xix foote
Mr Richard Wollmar	xvij acres	xvij foote
Cristofer Gryse	xxv acres & j rode	xxv foote & iij inches
Thomas Gryse	iiij (fo ^c) acres	iiij foote
William Hunyng	viiij acres & dim.	viiij foote & dim.
The hereys of	xiiij acres	xiiij foote
Thomas Hunyng		
In coman sedyke to	be maid by Algarkyrk & Fossedyke	v rodes
Thomas Hunyng	xxxvj acres	xxxvj foote
Cristofer Pasmar	xxiiij acres	xxiiij foote
John Gebbon	lxx acres	iiij rodes & x foote
John Pulvertoft	lx acres & j rod	iiij rodes & iij inches
Thomas Tollar	xxj acres & dim.	xxj foote dim.
Humfraye Grandyshe	x acres	x foote
Richard Tomson	lix acres & dim.	lix foote & dim.
Robert Stephenson	ij acres	ij foote
Stephen Felde	xv acres	xv foote
John Felde	xv acres & iiij cotages	xix foote
Thomas Welbe	lj acres & dim.	lj foote & dim.
Richard Welbe	x acres	x foote
Mathe Wylsson	iiij acres	iiij foote
Alyne Helande	ij acres & iij rodes	ij foote ix inches
William Pallyng	iiij acres & dim.	iiij foote & dim.
Thomas Atkynson	x acres	x foote
Thomas Knot	v acres	v foote
Robert Knot	iiij acres & dim.	iiij foote & dim.
Philyp Troboke	xxij acres & j rode	xxij foote & iij inches
Nicholas Braye	one acre & iij rodes	j fote & ix inches
Frances Hunyng	xxxviiij acres & j rode	xxxviiij foote iij inches
Robert Shepparde	ij acres	ij foote
William Knot	iiij acres	iiij foote
Nicholas Trese	xj acres	xj foote
Hewgh Ordying	iiij acres	iiij foote
William Alygere	iiij acres & dim.	iiij foote & dim.
Frances Coney	iiij acres	iiij foote
Richard Felde	xxj acres & dim.	xxj foote & dim.
George Haryman	xix acres & dim.	xix foote & dim.
The heyres of	lix acres	lix foote
Dallylande		

¹ The following entries are written on the left hand half of the folio.

Roger Whyttyngam	iij acres	iij foote
¹ Edward Elson	ij acres & dim.	ij foote & dim.
(Gregory Barytt	j acre & j rode	j foote iij inches ¹)
Cristefer Gebbon	iiij acres & j rode	iiij foote iij [inches ^s]
John Gebbon (gott ¹)	xv (acres ¹) & dim.	xv foote & dim.
John Dykeson	j acre & j rode	j foote iij inches
Richard Marchande	j acre & iij rodes	j foote & ix inches
The chantrre of Kyrketon	iij acres	iij foote
Emry Pawle	iiij acres	iiij foote
The heyres of Bate	v acres	v foote
The manor of Bewselace	vj ^{xx} & v acres	vj rode & v foote
Mr James Haryngton	xlviij acres j rode	xlviij foote iij inches
Nicholas Looke	j acre & j cotage	ij foote
The heres of Bysshoppe	j acre j rode	j foote iij inches
Mr Humfray Lyttelburye	j acre & dim. j cotage	ij foote
Olyver Connye	one cotage	one foote
² Thomas Lee	one cotage	one foote
The heyres of John Rasch	one cotage	j foote
Thomas Looke	dim. acre	vj inches
William Rogerson	j acre	j foote
Peter Osterbye	j acre & j rode	j foote iij inches
The church howse of Fossedyke	iij rodes	j foote & ix inches
(Cristofer Rallatt	one cotage	j foote ^e)
Thomas Perrye	one cotage	one foote
Thomas Gateley	one cotage	one foote
James Wyborne	one cotage	one foote
The heyres of Rallatt	one cotage	one foote
John Troboke	dim. acre	vj inches
William Warner	dim. acre	vj inches
John Alyne	dim. acre	vj inches
Nicholas Cottom	dim. acre	vj inches
William Wattes	dim. acre	vj inches
The chantrre of Sutterton	dim. acre	vj inches
The chantrre of Gosberton	dim. acre	vj inches
Richard Felde	ij acres	ij foote
Castyll & Elderkar	xiiij acres	xiiij foote
William Ordyng	xxvj acres	xxvj foote
George Clamand	v acres	v foote

¹ The following entries are written on the right half of the folio

² Before " Thomas " has been written faintly " Roger."

The kyng	xiiij acres	xiiij [foote s] ¹
The chantre of Algarkyrke	xlj & dim.	x . . .
The parson of Algarkyrke	(xxiiij ^o) (xxx ¹) acres ij rodes	xxix ² [foote vj inches s]
Sir John Copledeyke	lxx acres	. . . rodes & x foote
Mr Antony Brown	lxviiij acres	. . . rodes viij . . .
Mr William Huntston	viiij ^{xx} & xvj acres	viiij rodes & xvj [foote s]

[473.III.22]

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(15. *Allgerkyrk & Fossedyk*) THE BESTE DYKE OF ALGAR-
KYRKE AND FOSSEDYKE and [sic] begynnethe att Cromer-
horne and levethe att Sutterton Gote & begenneth att Kyrton Goole
att the inmarsh corner & so towarde the sowthe to the end of the
worst dyke and to make for everye acre (fyve foote and halfe^o) vij
foote.

Mr Nicholas Robartson	xvj ^{xx} & xvj acres & iiij rodes	iiij ^{xx} & xij rodes xij foote j inch & dim.
The heyres of Thomas Irbye	xxxviiij acres & dim.	x rodes xj foote & ix inches
Robarde Jollyson	xxij acres	vj rodes & one foote
Richard Pantre	x acres	ij rodes & xv foote
John Procter	x acres	ij rodes & xv foote
William Bennacle	x acres	ij rodes & xv foote
Richard Howseson	xiiiij acres	iiij rodes & xvij foote
Stephen Allynson	vj acres	xxxiiij foote
Mr Richard Bolles	xxxj acres & iiij rodes	viiij rodes xiiij foote & vij inches & dim.
Richard Arkle	xvj acres & dim.	iiij rodes x foote & ix inches
The heyres of Bolles of Quadrng [sic]	vj acres	xxxiiij foote
Thomas Kyngson	one acre & dim.	viiij foote & iiij inches
John Clarke	ij acres & dim.	xiiij foote & ix inches
John Andrew	iiij acres & iiij rodes	xxvj foote & one inch dim.
Cristofer Robert	v acres	xxvij foote & dim.
John Carys	ij acres & dim.	xiiij foote & ix inches
Robert Dorbake by his wyfe	vj acres	xxxiiij foote
Stephen Wyborne	iiij acres & iiij rodes	xxvj foote & j inch dim.
The heyres of John Stowe	ij acres	xj foote
(Martyn Knotte William Swane ^o)	viiij acres & dim.) vj acres	xxxiiij foote
The heyres of William Shaloke		

¹ The right-hand bottom corner of this folio is damaged.

² "xxix" has originally been written "xxiiij."

Martyn Knotte	vij acres & dim.	xlvj foote & ix inches
William Swane	xxx acres & iij rodes	vij rodes ix foote & j inch dim.
Thomas Armond	xv acres	iiij rodes ij foote & dim.
Nicholas Armonde	vj acres & dim.	xxxv foote & ix inches
John Armonde	v acres	xxvij foote & dim.
Richard Ramssay	iiij acres & one cotage	xix foote & iij inches
Richard Brandon	x acres	lv foote
John Conney	xij acres & iij rodes	iij rodes x foote j inch & dim.
Mr Leonard Irbe	xij acres	iij rodes & vj foote
John Pasmer	ij acres & dim.	xiij foote & ix inches
The heyres of Thomas Loveles	v acres	xxvij foote & dim.
The heyres of Mr Upton	vij acres & dim.	xlj foote & iij inches
Thomas Ropar	vj ^{xx} & xj acres	xxxvj rode & vj inches
Richard Dowse	xxx acres & iij acres	vij rodes ix foote j inch
Mr Wyllowbye	x acres	lv foote
Mr Thomas Brown	xij acres & iij rodes	iij rodes v foote j inch
The heyres of Mr Gooddyng	xvj acres	iiij rodes & viij . . . ¹
The heyres of William Wormsley	iiij acres & dim.	xxiiij foote & ix inches
[Fr]ances Meres	v ^{xx} & xv acres & iij rodes	xxxj rodes xvj foote vij inches
[473.III.23]		91
(16. <i>Algerkyrk & Fossedyk</i>)		
George Pryckfelde	xlv acres iij rodes	xij rodes xj foote vij inches & dim.
John Smythe	xxxvij acres	x rodes & ix foote
Symond Halle	xix acres	v rodes iiij foote & dim.
Mr Richard Wolmer	xvij acres	iiij rodes xiij foote & dim.
Cristofer Gryse	xxv acres & one rode	vj rodes xviiij foote x inches & dim.
Thomas Gryse	iiij acres	xxij foote
William Hunyng	vij acres & dim.	xlvj foote & ix inches
The heiryys of Thomas Hunyng	xiiij acres	iij rodes xj foote & dim.
Thomas Hunyng	xxxvj acres	ix rodes & xviiij foote
Cristofer Pasmar	xxiiij acres	vj rodes & xij foote
John Gebbon	lxx acres	xix rodes & v foote
John Pulvertoft	lx acres	xvj rodes xj foote iiij inches & dim.

¹ Both edges are torn and defective.

Thomas Tollar	xxj acres & dim.	v rodes xviiij foote & iij inches
Humfray Grandyshe	x acres	ij rodes & xv foote
Richard Tomson	lix acres & dim.	xiiij rodes xij foote & iij inches
Robert Stephenson	ij acres	xj foote
(John ^c) Stephen ¹	xv acres	iiij rodes ij foote & dim.
Felde		
John Felde	xv acres iiij cotages	v rodes iiij foote & dim.
Thomas Welbe	lj acres & dim.	xiiiij rodes iij foote & iij inches
Richard Welbe	x acres	lv foote
Mathew Wylsson	iiij acres	xvj foote & dim.
Alyne Haelland	ij acres iij rodes	xv foote one inch & dim.
William Pawlyne	iiij acres & dim.	xix foote & iij inches
Thomas Atkynson	x acres	lv foote
Thomas Knot	v acres	xxvij foote & dim.
Robert Knot	iiij acres & dim.	xxiiiij foote ix inches
Phelype Trobake	xxij acres & one rode	vj rode ij foote iiij inches & dim.
Nicholas Braye	one acre & iij rodes	ix foote iiij inches & dim.
Frances Hunyng	xxxviiij acres & one rode	x rodes x foote iiij inches & dim.
Robert Shepparde	ij acres	xj foote
William Knot	iiij acres	xvj foote & dim.
Nicholas Trese	xj acres	iiij rodes & iij inches
Hewghe Ordying	iiij acres	xxij foote
William Alyecar	iiij acres & dim.	xxiiiij foote & ix inches
Frances Coney	iiij acres	xxij foote
Richard Felde	xxj acres & dim.	v rodes xviiij foote & iij inches
George Haryman	xix acres & dim.	v rodes vij foote iij inches
The heires of Dallylande	lix acres	xvj rodes iiij foote & dim.
Roger Whyttingam	iiij acres	xvj foote & dim.
Edwarde Elson	ij acres & dim.	xiiij foote & ix inches
Gregory Baryte	one acre & one rode	vj foote x inches & dim.
Cristofere Gebbon	iiij acres & one rode	xxiiij foote iiij inches & dim.
The heires of John Gebbon	xv acres & dim.	iiij rodes v foote & iij inches

¹ " Stephen " is written in the margin.

[473.III.24]

(17. *Algerkyrk Fossedyk*)

John Dykeson	one acre & one rode	vj foote x inches & dim.
Richard Marchande	one acre & iij rodes	ix foote vij inches & dim.
The chauntre of Kyrketon	iij acres	xvj foote & dim.
Embre Pale	iiij acres	xxij foote
The heires of Bate	v acres	xxvij foote & dim.
The maner of Bewsolaces	vj ^{xx} & v acres	xxxiiij rodes vij foote & dim.
Mr James Harryngton	xlviij acres & one rode	xij rodes xix foote x inches & dim.
Nicholas Looke	one acre & one cotage	xj foote
The heires of Bysshoppe	one acre & one rode	vij foote & iij inches
Mr ¹ Humfray Lyttelburye	one acre & dim. & one cotage	xiiij foote & ix inches
Olyver Coney	one cotage	v foote & dim.
Thomas Lee	one cotage	v foote & dim.
The heires of John Rasse	one cotage	v foote & dim.
Thomas Looke	dim. acre	ij foote & in inches
William Rogerson	one acre	v foote & dim.
Peter Osterbye	one acre & one rode	vj foote x inches & dim.
The church howse of Fossedyke	one cotage & iij rodes	x foote ij inches & dim.
Cristofer Rallett	one cotage	v foote & dim.
Thomas Perrye	one cotage	v foote & dim.
Thomas Gatelee	one cotage	v foote & dim.
James Wyborne	one cotage	v foote & dim.
The heires of Rallatt	one cotage	v foote & dim.
John Trobake	dim. acre	vj foote & ix inches
William Warner	dim. acre	ij foote & ix inches
John Alyne	dim. acre	ij foote & ix inches
Nicholas Cottome	dim. acre	ij foote & ix inches
William Wattes	dim. acre	ij foote & ix inches
The chauntre of Sutterton	dim. acre	ij foote & ix inches
The chauntre of Gosbertowne	dim. acre	ij foote & ix inches
Richard Felde	ij acres	xj foote
Castyle & Elderkyre	xiiij acres	iiij rodes & xvij foote
William Ordynge	xxvj acres	vij rodes & iij foote
George Clamente	v acres	xxvij foote & dim.

¹ " Mr " written in the margin.

The kynge	xv acres	iiij rodes ij foote & dim.
The chauntrye of Algarkyrk	xlj ¹ acres & dim.	xj rodes viij foote & iiij inches
The parson of Algarkyrk	xxviij acres & iiij rodes	vij rodes xix foote j inches [<i>sic</i>] & dim.
Syr John Copeldyke	lxx acres	xix rodes & v foote
Mr Antony Browne	lxviij acres	xviij rodes & xiiij foote
Mr William Honnes- ton	viiij ^{xx} & xvj acres & one rode	xviij rodes ix foote iiij inches & dim.

The comon sedyk belongyng to Algarkyrke and Fossedyke lyeng anence Mr. Browne in marshe frome² . . . Goole to the numbere of vij^{xx} and tenne rodes.

[473.III.24d]

93

The defaltes of Algerkyrk & Fossedyke be conteyned in the three fyrst leafes & there (iiij^o) 6 last leaves be of the seedyke boke. Whereof they be ioyned in the sedykes, in the pety dreanes, in the hedyngs, in the Forefengottes, in the fen bankes, in the heade dreine. Then is there hollow trees, Crostoft pasture to be found. Then is there for Fosedyke onely dyverse wayes, one pety dreyn, one hollow tree. And for Algerkyrk onely, comon wayes, ij fotebridges, Colderbridge and ioyned with Sutterton as in the booke.

Then Sutterton is ioyned with theym in the Forefen Gotte, in the fen bankes. And Sutterton onely to Sutterton Gote.

[473.III.25]

94

(18. *Sutterton Suer*) Item the sayd jur' sayth that the comon sewer in Sutterton ys defectyve for lak of dykyng clensyng rodyng & scowryng and ought to be dyked clensed roded & scowred from tyme to tyme as oft as nede shall requyre by the lordes freeholders & copyholders by acre sylver.

(*Brownford Brygge*) Item the sayd jures say that a brygg called Brownford Brygg in Sutterton aforeseyd ys in ruen & decay and ought to be made repayed & amended from tyme to tyme by the inhabitans of Sutterton by comon myn work.

(*Pety dreanes att Meadefeld fotebridge & bankes the inhabitans of S.*) Item the seyde jures say that ther ys a pettye drayn dyssendyng from a certeyn feld, called Meade feld & Longlandes in Sutterton aforeseyd ys defectyve and landed at a certeyn place called Mallengate for lak of dykyng by the space of xl rodes and also one fote brygg over the sayd pettye drayn at a place called Randwalles ys lykewyse in ruen & decay whiche brygge & pettye drayn ought to be made & repayed dyked scowred clensed & banked by the inhabitans of Sutterton aforeseyd by comon menwork from tyme to tyme s[o o]f[t] as nede shall requyre and so the sayd drayn ought to dyssend from Randwalles by the way syde and betwene a pasture of iiij acres & vij acres of John Bennacles and so by vij acres pasture & the feld called Kyrk Styght and betwene the vij acres & foure acres of Mr Brown & so to the hede sewer.

¹ Corrected from "xlxj."

² The bottom of this folio is torn and worn.

(. . . at Moresgate by S. A. & F.) Item the sayd jures say that ther ys an other drayn comyng from Symon Were in Moryesgate to a place called Acrelandsstow and from Acreland Stow to John Dykenson house now John Bennacle house ys in great ruen [&^s]¹ decay in certeyn places & ought of ryght to be dyked scowred & clensted from ryme to tyme so oft as nede [shall^s] requyre by the inhabitans of Sutterton Algerkyrk & Fosdyke by comon men workes.

(A drove way in S. W. & S. [by^s] the inhabitans) Item the sayd jures say that a drove way in Sutterton (nigh^o) Wygtoft & Swynneshed from a place called the str . . . in Sutterton aforesed to a place called Acreland Stow and from thens to a place called Symond Were in Wygtoft aforesaid ys in ruen & decay for lak of exalting with sand & clay and ought to be repayred exalted & amended by the inhabitans of Sutterton Algerkyrk & Fosdyke from tyme to tyme so oft & as nede shall requyre by comon men work.

(The stone bridge in Fyshemerend by S. A. & F.) Item the sayd jures say that ther ys a stone brygg in Sutterton (of^c) over the comon sewer of Sutterton Algerkyrk [&^s] Fosdyke in a place called Fysshemere End in Sutterton aforesyd and ought to be repayred from tyme to tyme as oft as nede shall requyre by the inhabitans of Sutterton Algerkyrk & Fosdyke.

(The kynges hye wey by Algerkyrk & by S. & A.) Item the seyde jures say that the kynges hye way in Algerkyrk from Laurens Brygge in Sutterton a pece of land of Rog[er] Whyttingham ys in great ruen & decay so that the kynges subiectes can not have their passage and ought to be repayred exalted & amended by the inhabitans of Algerkyrk and the seyde way from thens to a place called Ledebetter Land End ys lyke wyse in ruen & decay and ought to be amended by the inhabitans of Sutterton & Algerkyrk.

(P. dreyn in Walldyke feld [by^s] the K. & Q. & G. G.) Item the seyde jures say that a certeyn petty dreyn in Walldyk feld for the draynyng of landes ther ys in ruen & decay & ought to be dyked & scowred by the kyng & quenes majesties & one George Grene.

(The Gote Cryke or Owtefall by Sutterton) Item the seyde jures say that the Gote Cryke or Owtefall from the gote to the see ys in ruen & decay & ought to be dyked scowred & clensted from tyme to tyme so oft as nede shall requyre by the inhabitans of Sutterton aforesyd by comon menworke.

The detaltes here doo aperteyn to dyverse townes as is here apparent but for Sutterton to amend is the comon suer, Brownford Bridge, the petty dreyn² . . . the fotebridge, & the bankes, and the Goote Cryke or owtefall, a thyrde parte in Moresgate dreyn, lykewyse in droveway, & in the Ste . . . the hye way.

The petty dreyn in Walldyke feld to be dyked as appereth.

[473.III.25d]

95

And by the bokes of Algerkyrke & Fossedyke Sutterton is ioyned with F. A. as there appereth.

¹ The right edge of this folio is in a poor state of repair.

² The bottom of this folio is damaged.

And Allgerkyrke & Fossedyk be ioyned in this boke to theym in the Fendyrke att Moresgate, & att the bridge in Fysshemerend.

Algerkyrke onely is ioyned in the hye wey with Sutterton and owt to doo parcell therof by the delf inh[abitans].

And Weygtoft & Swynehed be ioyned in Sutterton drovewey.

[473.III.26]

96

(19. *Swynshed and Wygtoft Bankes of Kyme Dyke in height & bread by S.*) Item the seyde jurye sayth upon theyr othes that the bankes of the common sewer cal[led] Keyme Dyke be defectyve in heyght and breadeth from a place called Wyllow Booth unto Flete Ende and owght to be repayred and amended in heyght iiij foote and in bredeth xij foote and so from tyme to (tyme¹) be amended by the inhabytantes of Swynshed aforesayd. (Item they say^e)

(*The same bankes by W.*) Item they sey the bankes of the seyde comon dreynne frome Flete Ende to Gose Goole be lykewyse defectyve in heyght and bredeth and owght to be repayred and made in heyght (and b^e) iiij foote and bredeth xij foote and so from tyme to tyme to be amended by the inhabytantes of Wygtoft aforesayd.

(*Dykyng the viij Townes*) Item they sey that Keyme Dyke ys defectyve frome a place called Wyllowgh Booth unto Goose Goole and owght to be dyked by the Eyght Townes and the maner to be cast on the este syde so owght as it nedeth dykyng.

(*Comon drean by acre sylver S. & W.*) Item they sey that the comon dreane lyeng betwext Swynshed & Wygtoft aforesayd ys defectyve in dykyng frome a place called the Rendles unto the goot and owght to be dyked by the lande holders of Swynshed and Wigtoft afore seyde by acre sylver.

(*A wey bridge . . .*) Item they sey there ys a brydge leyng by the late abbey yeates in Swynshed aforesayd that ys defectyve for stone and owght to be repayred and amended by the landes parteynyng to the late monasterye of Swynshed afore sayd.

(*ij bridges by S.*) Item they sey there be ij brydges one called Catebrydge and the other called Muskle (Dyke¹) Brydge that be defectyve & in ruyne for defawte of tymber worke and owght to be repayred and amended by the inhabytantes of Swynshed afore seyde.

(*The gote of [S.^s] & W. by acre sylver*) Item they sey that the goote belongyng to Swynshed and Wygtoft afore seyde ys defectyve in tymber worke for the defence of salte waters and owght to be repayred by the lande holders of Swynshed and Wigtoft afore seyde by acre sylver.

(. . . dreyn . . .) Item the said jurye saith there is a drayne in decay called the Skirth in Hollon Fenne . . . and owght to be diked by the Eight Hundreth rodde and skowred so oft as it [require^s] by the said Eight Hundreth from a place called Bakentoft Hill unto a place called Andrew Graves every hundreth like mutch according to the¹ . . .

¹ This folio is torn.

¹And the seyd jures say that ther ys a heddyng in Swynshed at a certeyn place called Westynges . . . the conveyans of the water owte of the West Mere into the Est Mere as of[t] as nede . . .

[473.III.27]

97

(20. *Swynshed & Wigtoft ij bridges by W.*) Item the sayd jurye sayth that there ys ij brygges the one called Lynam Brygge and the other Catkate Brygge they ar suffycyentlye repayred and owght to be made and mended by the inhabitauntes of Wygtoft afore sayd.

(*j bridge in Hasperton by S.*) Item there ys an other brygge lyeng in Hasperton suffycyentlye repayred and owght to be made and mended by the inhabytauntes of Swynshed afore seyde.

(*j bridge in Sutterton by S. & W.*) Item there ys an other briggge lyeng within the parryshe of Soderton at Spyttele Crosse owght to be repayred and mended by the inhabytauntes of Swynshed and Wygtoft afore sayd after the rate of there olde use and custome.

(*ij pety dreannes [by the lands^s] adioynnyng*) Item there ys ij petye dreanes lyeng in Holflett felde goyng frome (S^c) Stallome and so by Cappe Rygges and there over the wey into the West Mere & every man to clense the same ageynst hys owne grounde.

(*Another*) Item there ys an other petye dreane that gothe through betwene the landes of Wyllyam Bennet and the lande of Mr Wyllowghbye and over the wey at the stone and so into Hethe Dyke and so into the landes of the forsaid William Bennet gow[eth] . . . to the Este Mere.

(*A dam at Stagge Yate . . . oppen . . . & by . . . dystressyon*) Item there ys a dame at Stagge Yeate Ende into Este Thorppe Comons and so into the Hethe Dyke and so to the Este Mere hathe byn always accustomed to be cutt open as ofte as nede shalle requyre.

(*Another dam lykewyse . . . shuld kepe the . . .*) Item there ys an other dame lyeng in Hasperton at Jacke Pytte hathe byn accustomed to be cutt open as ofte as nede shall requyre.

(*The West Calcey in the fen . . . by . . .*) Item the seid jury say that a comon banke or calcey callyd the West Calcey in Holand Fenne [in a^s] place callyd Fendyke ledynge frome & by the land of Thomas Holland esquier callyd the Rushes . . . Calcey ledes frome the Fendyke to a place callyd Holedyke wher nott onlye the kynges subiectes hathe [been^s] accustomed to have ther passages by the same to Lyncoln & other places (in the¹) parties of Kesten in the seid [county^s] of Lyncoln butt also hathe bene a defence for the fresshe wates dessendynge owtt of the hey cuntrye [to]wardes Holland Fenne aforeseid wyche is nowe in ruyn & (dek^c) decay & that the same calcey [ought^s] & of ryghtis wont to be made by the viij C. of Kyrton Wyberton Frampton Fosdyke Algerkyrke Su[tterton] Wygtoft & Swynshed accordynge to an old order.

¹Item they say that the land holders & inhabitants of Great Holl & Hekenton ought to dyke from the caw . . . and kepe as well other draynes as the drayne they have bene accustomed to a certeyn place called . . . and from thens to the horn betwene the Rakes & Hekenton

¹ The marginal heading to this paragraph is illegible.

Fen for the conveyance to the gootes at Langrake of ther own costes & charges.

[473.III.28]

98

(22. *Bykar Almaynbeck Hamonbeck*) Item the sayd jury sayth apou ther oathes that a comon dreyn or sewer caulled Almayn Beck ys defectywe & in decay in many & dyverse places wyche ought to be dykyd & kepte in sufficient reparrer with dykyng rodyng & bankyng so often as neade shall requyre by the lordes & tenandes frehoulders & copyholders belongyng unto the same toune of Bykar aforsayd.

In primis our soveraign lord the kyng for his monestary of Swynshed

x^{ti} rodes

Item the prior of Buttlay for the (parsonage^o) (coyuntrey¹ &^o) of Bykar

xvj^{ti} rodes

Item the kyng for the (parsonage^o) (countrey¹) of Bykar

xviii rodes

Item the dewke of Rychemond

xij rodes

Item Sir Roberte Taylbus

viiij rodes

Item Mastre Yrby for the landes of Adam Lee

x rodes

Item the heres of Roger (Hold^o) Hollander

ij rodes

Item Nicolis Jacson the yonger

j rode

Item Thomas Wormyslay

ij rodes

Item Simon Haulle

iiij rodes

(*The Newdyke*) Item the sayd jury sayth that the Newe Dyke between Donyngton Fen & Bykar Fen ys in ruyn & decay in many & dyverse places which ought to be dyked bankyd [and^s] hooked by the inhabitauntes of Bykar aforsayd so often as neade shall requyre.

(*Byker Dyke*) Item the sayd jury saythe that ther ys one comon dyke caulled Bykar Dy[k] wyche ys in rewyng & decay & ought to be dyked roded & banked b[y] they inhabitayres of Bykar aforsayd by comon myn worke.

(*Byker Ee*) Item the (sayd¹) iury sayth that the comon (lee^o) ee in Bykar aforsayd ys in r[ui]n & decay in many & dyverse places & ought to be dyked roded & clen[sed] by the inhabiters of Bykar aforsayd.

(*The feld drayn*) Item the sayd jury saythe that the felde dreyn (rownyng^o) (comyth¹) into the comon [sewer^s] of Bykar & neadyd none other conveyance of the water.

(Item the sayd jury sayth that one dyke caulled Bykar^o)

(*One raught of Hamon Beck Q. D. B. H. & . . .*) Item the sayd jury sayth that one rawghte parte of Haymon Becke caulled Mr H . . . rawghte is deffectyve bothe for dykyng rodyng & bannkyng & oughte to [be^s] dyched roded & bannked by Quadryng Donyngton Bykar Horblyn & . . .

[473.III.28d]

99

(*ij werestedes*) In the paper . . . to this is this conteyned. Item the seyde jury say upon ther othes that att the seyde Hamon Bek there ys ij where . . . called the Brigge and bothe deffectyve & to narrow by vij fote & also . . .

In this leaff & . . . for Byker ys conteyned the defaltes in Hamon Beck, Newdyke, Byker Dyke, Byker Ee, the feld dreyn . . . rought, & the ij werestedes.

[473.IV.1]

100

(*Skyrbek*) The verdythe of the dykgravys of the wapentak of Skyrbek in the partes of Holland in the county of
Lincoln

An inquisition takyn at Swynsed the xxiiij day of July in the first & seconnd yers & reignes of Phyllyp and Mary by the grace of God kyng & quene of England Fraunc Neaples Jerusalem and Iareland defendors of the faithe prynces of Spayne and Sicilie archdukes of Austrige dukes of Myllon and Brabant countes of Haspurge Flanders and Tiroll before Richard Ogle esquier Adlard Welby Thomas Holland Thomas Browne Gregory Wolmer Symond Hall Robert Lyttelbery comysioners of our sovereign lord & lady the kyng and quene of the sewers in the partes of Holland in the county aforsaid assigned by the othes of Antony Claymond and (hys fellowes^e) (& Richard Robynson the^l) fellowes which be sworne whiche do say apou ther othes in manner & forme folowyng

(*Skirbek Ryngle Herne Seebankes v^{xx} fotes dim. Wm Hunston*) First the said jury say apou ther othes that ther ys v skore fott dim. of sedyk lyyng the parryshe of Skyrbek at Ryngle Herne whiche ys in ys in [*sic*] rewyn & deokay whiche ought to be amended & repared by Wyllyam Honnston esquier for landes layt belongy[ng^s]¹ to the gildes of Boston.

(*xxx ff'*) Also the said jury say, upon ther othes that ther ys xxx fott layt belongyng to the gild of Corpus Christi which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be [repaired^s].

(*vj ff' Robert Lyttelbery*) The said jury say apou ther othes that ther ys vj fott of sedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be repared & amended by Robert Lyttlebery esquier for landes layt John Robynsons.

(*xxj ff' ²Knevytt*) The said jury say apou ther othes that ther ys xxj foot of sedyke lyyng at Ryngle Herne whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended & mayntenyd by one Mistris Knevytt.

(*i ff' heres Richard Goodyng*) The said jury say apou ther othes that ther ys ix fott of sedyke lyyng at Ryngle Herne which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the haris of Richard Goodyng.

(*[x]liiij ff' Leonard Castyll*) The said jury say apou ther othes that ther ys xliiij foot of sedyk lyyng at Ringle Herne which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended & mayntenyd by the haris of Lenard Castyll.

(*xij ff' Robert Crathorn*) The said jury say apou ther othes that ther ys xij fott of sedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended & mayntened by Robert Crathorne of Boston.

¹ The left-hand edge has been repaired.

² The left-hand margin has been repaired, and it is not possible to see whether there is anything before the surname.

(*xij ff'* [Thomas^s]¹ *Bersuthen*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xij foot of sedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne which ys in rewyn & decay & ought to [be^s] amended & mayntened by Thomas Bersuden of Boston.

(*lx ff'* *A. Robertson*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys lx fott of sedyk lyyng at Ryng[le^s] Herne which ys in rewyn & decay & ought to [be^s] amended by Antony Roberts[on] esquier.
[473.IV.2] 101

(*2 Skyrbek Seebankes at Rynglehyrn lx fote L. Ferwater*) Also, the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys a pece of sedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne contenyng (x^o) lx fott which ys in grett rewyn & decay & ought to be repared and mayntenyd by the lord Ferwater.

(*xxx ff'* *John Randall*) Also, the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xxx fott of sedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne whiche ys in grett rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by John Randall of Boston.

(*xxx ff'* *T. Broun*) Also, the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xxx fott of seedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne which ys in grett rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by Thomas Browne of Fysh-toft esquier.

(*xv fote J.*) Also, the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xv fott of sedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne which ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be repared by the lord of St Johns.

(*xxx ff'* *Robert Mahew*) Also, the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xxx fott of sedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne which ys in decay & ought to be amended & repayed by Robert Mahew of Bullingbrok gent.

(*xviij ff'* *Alice Busterd*) Also, the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xviij fott of sedyk lyyng at Ryngle Herne which ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by one Alice Busterd wido of Fyshtoft.

(*vj ff'* *heres W. Mershe*) Also the said jury say (s^o) upon ther othes that ther ys vj fott lyyng at the said Ryngle Herne which ys in decay & ought to be amended by the haris of Wylliam Merche.

(*Crowne Herne Seebankes vj ff'* *T. Broun*) Also the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys vj fott of sedyke lyyng at Crowne Herne whiche ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be amend [*sic*] by Thomas Brown of Fyshtoft esquier.

(*xv ff'* by *L. Castyll*) Also, the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xv fott of sedyk lyyng at Crowne Herne which ys in decay & ought to be amended by the haris of Lenard Castyll.

(*Buldok Herne xl ff'* by *lord Teilboys*) Also the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xl fott dim. lyyng at Buldok Herne which ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by the the [*sic*] haris of the lord Taylby.

(*xviij ff'* *Wm Hunston*) Also, the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xviij fott of sedyk lyyng at Buldok Herne whiche [*is^s*] in rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by Wylliam Honnston esquier.

¹ The edges of this folio are decayed.

[473.IV.3]

102

(3 *Skymbek seebankes Baldok Hyrn John Randall xxiiij ff'*) Also, the said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys (xxx^c) xxiiij fott of sedyk lyyng at Baldok Herne which is in rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by John Randall of Boston.

(*Frontages by theires J. Almonson*) Also ther is sertayne frongtag which ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be mended & repayed by the haris of John Almonson.

(*Rygdyk xxij ff'*) Also, the (sayd^c) sayd jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xxij fott of sedyk lyyng in Rygdyk which ys in decay, & ought to be amended by landesholders layt the abbay of Vevysby.

(*vj ff'*) Also, the said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys vj fott lyyng in (d^c) the said dyk which ys in rewyn & decay which layt belonged to the abbay of Kirksted.

(*vij ff' A. Robertson*) Also the said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys vij fott dim. lyyng in Rygdyke which is in decay & ought to be mended by Antony Robertson esquier.

(*Boston & Skymbek Holmes Gote for the seebay*) ¹Also, the said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a goott lyyng in the Holmes within the parryshe of Boston latly new maid, which ys for lacke of a seebay, ys in decay & ought to be amended by the landowners of Boston & Skymbek.

(*The comon sewer by frontagers*) ¹Also the said jury say apon ther othes that the comon sewer lyyng betwixt Boston & Skymbek which ys in decay for lacke of dykyng & skoryng & ought to be amended by the frontyers of the parryshes of Boston & Skymbek.

(*Bargate stonebridge*) ¹Also the jury [say^s] apon ther othes that ther ys a stone bryge lyyng at Bargatt End betwixt the parryshe of Skymbek & the parryshe of Boston whiche ys in grett rewyn & decay & ought to be maid & amended the stone wark by the inhabytors of Boston and the erthe worke by the inhabytors of Skymbek.

(*A brydge att Hollybreds Dayll*) ¹Also, the said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a bryge of tymber lyyng in a (layne^c) (place¹) callyd Hollybred Dayll betwixt the parryshe of Skymbek & the parryshe of Boston whiche (ought to be^c) ys in grett rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by the inhabitants of Boston & Skymbek.

²(*Skymbek*) ¹The effect of the presentmentes of these thre leaves is for Skymbek seebankes at Ryngle Hyrn, Crowneburne, Baldokhurn, Almonson frontages, and Rygdyke defectyve as appears partycularly.

(*Boston & Skymbek*) ¹And for Holmes Gote seebay, the comon sewer betwixt Boston & Skymbek, and for ij bridges to be repayed, as appereth in the presentmentes.

[473.IV.4]

103

(4 *Fyshtoft seebankes ix fote E. Salter*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys ix fott of sedyke lyyng in Fyshtoft which ys

¹ A hand in the margin points to this item.

² This paragraph and the next have been added in another hand.

in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended & mayntenyd by (the^o) Elezabeth Salter.

(*xl ff' Robert Warner & alia*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xl fott of sedyk lyyng in Fyshtoft which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Robert Warner Wylliam Kellett & Robert Certer.

(*xxvij pertes Knevytt*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xxvij perches of sedyke lyyng in Fyshtoft which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by (Mr Ken^o) Mistres Knevytt.

(*xxvj ff' S. Mawer*) Symond Mawer [*blank*] xxvij fott.

(*xiiij perties Wm Hunnston & alia*) The said jury say that ther ys a pece of sedyke contenyng xiiij perches which ys in deokay & ought to be amended by Wylliam Honnston esquier Thomas Browne esquier & (the haris of Peter Blaxter^o) Richard Bryges.

(*John Perrow xviiij ff'*) John Perrow of Boston xviiij fott to be maid in maner & forme aforsaid.

(*S. Sharp xviiij ff'*) Symond Sharp xviiij fott to be maid in maner & forme aforsaid.

(*T. Pannell ix ff'*) Thomas Pannell gent. ix fott to be maid in (m^o) maner aforsaid.

(*Shallok iij pertis*) (Elaysbeth^o) Esabell Shallok iij perches to be maid in maner aforsaid.

(*Richard Busshe xij pertis*) Richard Bushey of London xij perch to be maid in maner aforsaid.

(*ij pertes*) The prior of Frestone ij perches to be maid in maner & forme aforsaid.

(*Mayhew & alia xxv*) Mr Mahew & Mr Hampcottes xxv perches to be maid as ys aforsaid.

(*Mr Kydd ix ff'*) Wylliam Kyd of Boston ix fott to be maid in maner & forme aforsaid for seebankes as appereth.¹

(*Toft Fene End The ingdyke*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a (sedyk^o) (ingdyk¹) lyyng betwixt Foullys Gayt End, and the Preor Cott which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Toft Honndreth.

(*The waredyke*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a wayredyke lyyng in the Fenne End, and the Preor Cott, to Wylliam Daynes which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Fyshtoft Honndreth [*sic*].

²This leaff is holly for seebankes of Fyshtoft. And for the ingedyke & the waredyke of Toft Fen End.

[473.IV.5]

104

(*5 Freston Waredykes*) The said jury say apon ther othes that the wayrdykes in Freston frome Toft Sedyk to Rodyke Gappe ys in rewyn & deokay and ought to be amended and mayntenyd by the land awners of Freston aforseid.

(*Clay Sedyke*) The said jury say apon ther othes that the sedyke callyd Clay Sedyke lyyng in Freston frome Rodyke Gappe to Fysher

¹ " for seebankes as appereth " has been added in another hand.

² These last two sentences have been added in another hand.

Steght, which ys in rewyn and deokay and ought to be amended & mayntenyd by the land awners of Freston aforesaid.

The said jury say upon ther othes that the Clay Sedykes lyyng in Freston frome Rodyk Gappe to Fysher (Herne^e) Streght ys in rewyn & deokay because of fedying of shepe horsse & beastes of the said sedykes (for the space of iij yers¹).

(*A graft booke*) The said jury say upon ther othes that they lake a graft bowk in Freston which ought to be maid by the land awners of Freston aforesaid.

¹Freston presentments in iiij artycles for the waredyke, Clay Sedyke & for a graft booke.

(*Butterwyk Seedykes*) The said jury say, upon ther othes that the sedykes in Butterwyke frome Benyngton Gott to Butterwyk Gott, ys in rewyn & deokay which ought to be amended & mayntenyd by the land awners of Butterwyk aforesaid.

(*A sedykebooke*) The said jury say upon ther othes that thay lack a sedyk bouk in Butterwyk which ought to be maid by the land awners of Butterwyk (Honndreth¹) (aforesaid^e).

(& to spare fedying) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther shall no shep be kept on Butterwyk marshe (from the old gott hylles to ther comon sedyk¹) for the space of one holl yer next in-sewyng.

¹Butterwyk presentments in iij artycles as before for the seedykes, sedykebooke, & for sparyng of fedying for a yere ut precatur.

[473.IV.6]

105

(6 *Benyngton Seedykes xliiij ff' Newlandes John Cokler*)

Item the said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xliiij fott of sedyke lyyng in the see fild callyd Newlandes whiche ys in grett rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by John Cokler of Benington aforesaid.

(*lj ff' Wm Quadryng*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys lj fott of sedyke in the said Newlandes whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Wylliam Quadderryng.

(*xiiij ff' heres Roose & Penson*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xiiij fott of sedyke lyyng in the said Newlandes which ys in rewyn and deokay & ought to be amended by the haris of Roose and Penson.

(*vj ff' Duk Richmond*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys vj fott of sedyke lyyng in the same whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the duke of Richmond.

(*xj ff' J. Dandyson*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys xj fott of sedyke lyyng at the same which ys in rewyn & deokay and ought to be amended by John Dandyson.

(*vij ff' heres Wm Botheby*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys vij fott of sedyke lyyng in the said Newlandes which ys in grett rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the haris of Wylliam Bothby.

¹ This sentence has been added in another hand.

(vij ff' heres W. Buttler) The said jury say apon ther othes ther ys vij fott of sedyke lyyng in the same Newlandes which ys in grett rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended [by^s] the haris of Wylliam Buttler.

(xiiij ff' John Wryght) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xiiij foot of sedyke lyyng in the said Newlandes which ys in grett rewyn and deokay & ought to be amended by John Wryght.

(x ff' J. Pynchbek) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys x fott dim. of sedyke lyyng in the said dyke which ys in deokay & ought to be amended by John Pynchbeke.

(vj ff' T. Sylom) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys vj fott of sedyke lyyng in the said Newlandes which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Thomas Sylome of Benyngton.

(ix ff' Henry Pedder) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys ix fott of sedyke lyyng in the said dyk callyd Newlandes whiche ys in rewyn and deokay & ought to be amendyd by Henry Pedder.

(x ff' John Pucle) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys x fott of sedyke lyyng in the said dyke which ys in grett rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by John Pucle.

(x ff' A. Abram) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys x fott dim. of sedyke lyyng in the said dyke which ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by Agnes Abrame.

(xxix ff' heres G. Ryby) The said jury say apon ther other othes that ther ys xxix fott lyyng in the said (la^o) dyke whiche ys in rewyne & deokay & ought to be amended by the haris of Georg Ryby.

[473.IV.7]

106

(7 Benyngton Seedykes Newlandes xj fote T. Fedler) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xj fott of sedyke lyyng in the said Newlandes which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Thomas Fedler.

(xj ff' Robert Clerk) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xj fott of sedyke lyyng in the said Newlandes whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Robert Clarke.

(xviiij ff' T. Pakharnes) The said jury say, apon ther othes that ther ys xviiij fott of sedyke lyyng in the said dyke whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Thomas Pakharnes.

(v ff' W. P.) The said jury say, apon ther othes that ther ys v fott of sedyke lyyng in the said dyke whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Wylliam Pakharnes.

(viij ff' Wm House) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys viij fott of sedyke lyyng in the said dyke whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Wylliam Housse.

(xiij ff' Ric. Williams) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xiij fott of sedyke lyyng in the said dyke which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Rychard Wylliams.

(v ff' Wm Pucle & Alice) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys v fott of sedyke lyyng in the said dyk which ys in deokay & ought to be mended by Wylliam Pucle & Alice.

(*xxxiiij ff' Pecele*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xxxiiij fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke, which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended of Pecele.

(*xxvij ff' Wm Wryght*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xxxvij fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke whiche ought to be amended by the haris of Wylliam Wryght.

(*xxxiiij ff' John Stedman*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys xxxiiij fott of sedyke which ys in rewyn and deokay & ought to be amended by (Thomas^c) (John^h) Stedman.

(*xxxiiij ff' T. Stedman*) The said jury do say, apon ther othes that ther ys xxxiiij fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Thomas Stedman of Benyngton aforsaid.

(*xviiij ff' L. Quadryng*) The said jury say apon ther othes, ther ys xviiij fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended [by^s] Lyon Quaderryng.

(*vj ff' A. Faes Th. Page*) The said jury say apon ther othes ther ys vj fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke which ys in grett rewyn & deokay & oughte to be amended by Agnes Faes and Thomas Page.

[473.IV.8]

107

(*8 Benyngton Newlandes seedyke xvj ff'*) The said jury say apon ther othes ther ys xvj fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the gild of Our Lady.

(*viiij ff' J. Monson*) The said jury say, apon ther othes ther ys viiiij fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke whiche ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by John Monson.

(*x ff' Wm Stedman*) The said jury say, apon ther othes, ther ys x fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Wylliam Stedman.

(*xxvij ff' Richard Pynchebek*) The said jury say, apon ther othes ther ys xxvij fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Richard Pynchebeke.

(*xiiiij ff' John Lek*) The said jury do say apon ther othes ther ys xiiiij fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyke, which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by John Lek of Boston.

(*xxj ff' Richard Tatersall*) The said jury say, apon ther othes ther ys xxj fott of sedyke lyng in the said dyk which ys in grett rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Richard Tattersall.

(*Severall sedykes*) The said jury say apon ther othes that the sedykes lyng in Benyngton frome the sedyke of the lord Burrow, to the sedyke of Mr Fryskeney buttyng of Dayll Graft whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton aforsaid.

(*Lyke sedykes*) The said jury say apon ther othes that the sedykes lyng in Benyngton aforsaid frome the south end of the sedyke of the haris of Nycolas Lee, to the north end of the sedyke of John Westland ys in grett rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton aforsaid.

(*The new sedyke Lyon Quadryng & others*) The said jury say apon ther othes (ther ys^e) that the sedyke lyyng in Benyngton at the sowthe end of the new sedyk frome the haris of Thomas Bothby of the northe syd of Shipcott Gape, whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Lyon Quaderryng John Cokler Mychell Cokler Wylliam Quaderryng & the haris of Nycolas Lee.

(*Att Grene End*) The said jury say apon ther othes, that the sedykes lyyng in Benyngton at Grene End, frome the sowth (syde^e) end of the haris of Nycolas Lee, to the northe end of Mr Thomas Darby sedyke, which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton aforesaid.

[473.IV.9]

108

(9 *Benyngton Seedykes att Lytelbrydge*) The said jury say, apon ther othes that the sedyke lyyng at Lyttell Bryge in Benyngton frome the sowthe end of John Westland sedyke to the northe end of Mr Gooderryke sedyke which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton.

(*Cranemyer Sedyke*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a sedyke lyyng in Benyngton in Cranemyere frome the est (end^l) of the sedyke of the haris of Nycolas Lee, unto the west end of the sedyke of Mr. Gooderryke which ys in rewyn & deokay and ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton aforesaid.

The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a sedyke lyyng in Cranemyer in Benyngton frome the est syd of the sedyke of Mr Gooderrykes to the comon gape at the goott, which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton aforesaid.

(*See Feld or Newlandes*) The said jury say apon ther othes that the sedyke lyyng in Benyngton, frome the syd dyke of the seffield callyd Newlandes whych ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton aforesaid.

The said jury say apon ther othes, that the sedyke lyyng in the se feld of Benyngton frome the sowthe end of the sedyk of the haris of Richard Sheperd of the north syd, of Thomas Stedman, whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton aforesaid.

(*x & xiiij ff'*) Also, the said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a pece of sedyk lyyng in the se feld of Benyngton contenyng x and xiiij fott which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the land awners of Benyngton aforesaid.

(*lx & viij ff' lord Burrow*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a pece of sedyke in the said (se^l) feld of Benyngton contenyng lx and viij fott whiche ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by the lord Burrow.

(*lvij fote Christopher Tamworth*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a pece of sedyk lyyng in the said dyk contenyng lvij fott which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended by Christofer Tamworth gent.

(*The crike att Newlandes to be dammed by frontagers*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a cryk in Benyngton lyyng at Newlandes Herne which is in rewyn & deokay (&^o) for lacke of dammyng which ought to be amended by the frontagers next adioynyng apon the said [cryk^s].¹

²The effect of Benyngton presentments of iiii leaves are for Newlandes seedykes & thereabowtes, . . . Lyttlebridge, Cranemyer, and for the damme of the cryke at Newlandes Hyrne.

[473.IV.10]

109

(10 *Leverton Seebankes*) The said jury say apon ther othes that the sebankes lyyng in Leverton, frome Hall Marshe, to the Old Marshe ys in rewyn & deokay and ought to be amended by the land awners of Leverton aforsaid.

(*Seedykes*) The said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys serayne (heik^o) (yle¹ & ^o) se crykes lyyng in Leverton whiche ys in rewyn & deokay as yt doth apere in our old bouk which ought to be amended by the land awners of the same.

(*The hed graft*) The said jury say, apon there othes ther (ys^o) a hede graft in Leverton ys in rewyn & deokay frome the new clowys to the gott, for lacke of dykyng & skoryng & ought to be amended by the land awners of Leverton aforsaid.

(*A wateryng pytt*) The said jury say apon ther othes, that ther ys a pytt lyyng in Leverton in a place callyd Holmes which ys very nesscessary for men cattall to drynk at, & (say^o) sertayne men do wyshe ther shepe in the said pytt which we thynk ys nott mett.

³Leverton presentmentes in iij artycles as apereth.

[473.IV.11]

110

(11 *Leeke Gott scottes*) Also, the said jury say apon ther othes that (ther ys^o) the gott skottes ys (in Leek¹) in decay & ought to be amended by the inhabitans of Leek aforsaid.

(*The hedendes of the sewer*) Item the said jury say apon ther othes that the hed (dykes^o) (endes¹) of the comon sewer is in decay and ought to be amended by the landawners of Leek.

(*Claydyke*) Item the say jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a dyke callyd Clay Dyke whiche ys in rewyn & decay & ought to [be^s] amended by the land awners of Leeke aforsaid.

(*A bancke*) Item the said jury say apon ther othes that ther (ys a¹) banke in Leeke which ys in grett rewyn & decay frome Symon Housse to Benyngton Bryges whiche ought to be amended by the land awners of Leeke.

(*Weke Heryng Dyke*) Item the said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a dyk in Leek callyd Weke Heryng Dyke, which ys in grett rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by land awners of Leek aforsaid.

(*Sandyforth Dyke*) Also the said jury say apon ther othes that ther ys a dyk callyd Sandyforthe Dyke which ys in rewyn & decay & ought to be amended by the land owners of Leek aforsaid.

¹ The right-hand bottom edge of this folio is defective.

² This paragraph has been added in a different hand.

³ This sentence has been added in a different hand.

(*For a new gote*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys a gott lyyng in Leek, which ys in rewyn & deokay, which ys not able to do hus no good without anew, the gott which ought to be maid by the land awners of Leek aforsaid.

¹Leeke presentmentes in vij artycles.

[473.IV.12]

111

(12 *Wrangle The dreane*) The said jury say upon ther othes that the drene of Wrangle frome (the^o) Pynder Brygge to the gott, ys in rewyn & deokay for lacke of dykyng whiche ys (in^o) ought to be amended by the land awners of Wrangle aforsaid.

(*Pynder Bridge*) The said jury say, upon ther othes that ther ys a bryge in Wrangle callyd Pynder Bryge which ys in rewyn & deokay for lacke of tymber work which ought to be amended by the land awners of Wrangle aforsaid.

(*Benyson & Fendyke Bridges*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys ij bryges the one callyd Benyson Bryge & the other callyd Fendyke Bryg, which ys in rewyn & deokay for lack of tymber worke (which ys in rewyn & deokay^o) & ought to be amended by the land awners of Wrangle aforsaid.

(*iiij clowys*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys iiij clowys lyyng in Wrangle which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended as ys aforsaid.

(*The Fendyke*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys a fendyke lyyng in Wrangle which ys in rewyn & deokay frome the manor of my lord Sheffield to the ground of Richard Stevynson which ought to be amended by the land awners of Wrangle.

(*Gott skottes*) The said jury say upon ther othes that ther ys sertayne gott skottes lyyng in Wr[angle]² which ys in rewyn & deokay & ought to be amended as ys aforsaid.

(*Precatur lex quia non dicit plene . . .*) The said jury say upon ther othes, that ther ys a gott lyyng in Wrangle callyd Symond Gott, which ys in rewyn & deokay, for tymber worke & dykyng which ought to be amended & mayntenyd by the sooke of Bullyng-broke.

³Wrangle presentments in vij artycles whereof the last to be spared for the lack thereof . . . made for the enquiry therein.

[*Endorsed*.:]—Skyrbek wapn' anno regis H. VIII regis E. VI anno regis Ph' & regine Marie Vered' Anthonii Cleymond & aliorum jur' preposit' & Ricardi Stevenson & sociorum jur' preterillorum de Skyrbek inter primum festum Magdalene 1555 & primum ac secundum regis & regine . . . et Marie annum 1. 2 yer 1554.

[473.V.1]

112

An inquisycyon taken at Skyrbecke in the partyes of Holland in the cownty of Lincoln the xijth day of June in the fyrst yere of the reynge of our soveraygne lady Elyzabethe by the grace of God quene of Yngland Fraunce & Ireland defendor of the faythe etc. before [blank] Comysysoners of our seyde soveragnge lady the quene to the

¹ This sentence has been added in a different hand.

² The right-hand edge of this folio is damaged.

³ This sentence has been added in a different hand.

sewers streames gotes brydges calces hygheways etc. within the partyes & cowntyte aforseyd by the othes of Thomas Gregby of Leake yoman John Gudrycke of Wrangle yoman Wylliam Abram of Benyngton yoman & others beyng sworne whyche say upon ther othes that certeyne peaces of seadykes lying in Skyrbecke at a place ther called Rygdyke ar defectyve & in decay for lacke of hedgyng fylling or (bresg^c) brestyng with manor or soddes & aught to [be^s] repayred & amended by thysse persons whose names ensuythe for ther landes ther, that ys to say, John Copelay ix foote, Mr Phelyp Tylney vij foote Thomas Sowthen in one place vij foote & dim., & in an other place ther xv foote, and¹ . . . heyres of Mr Goodynge xij foote.

Item they say that ther ys other certeyne peaces of seadykes in Skyrbecke afor[said] . . . at a place there called Balldyke Hurne whyche ar defectyve & in decay for lack of . . . or fylling with manor or soddes & aught to be repayred & amended by thysse persons . . . names ensuythe for the landes lyng ther that ys to say, Rycharde Brygges xij . . . the manor & burgenses of Boston in one place xviii^{ti} foote, & in an other place . . . John Randall of Boston xxiii^{ti} foote, Mistress Foxe xxiii^{ti} foote & Wylliam Almondson . . . frontage ther xl foote.

Item they say upon ther othes that dyvers others peaces of seadykes lying in Skyrb[eck] . . . at a place ther called Ryngle Hurn, ar defectyve & in decay for lacke of hedgyng . . . or brestyng with manor or soddes & also in heyght, from the seadyke of Thomas P . . . the seadyke of John Jacson, & aught to be repayred mayd & amended by the [land^s] awners for ther landes in Skyrbecke accordyng to the seadyke booke of the same . . .

Item they say that one cryke in Benyngton extendyng from ther goote down [to^s] the sea ys defectyve for lacke of dykyng as well in wydenes as depenes & a[ught to be^s] dyked & clensted by the inhabytauntes of the same towne.

(. . .) Item they say upon ther othes that a certeyn comon sewer in Leverton . . . defectyve for lacke of dykyng clenstyng & skoweryng, from the . . . the seagote ther, and aught to be dyked clensted, & skow[ered], by the . . . for ther landes lying in the same towne of Leverton, by ag . . . by the ratte of suche valew for eny acre as wyll suffice the doying there . . . as to be maynteyned in dykyng from tyme to tyme and to be roded by . . .

(. . .) Item they say upon ther othes that ther ys certeyne peaces of . . . lying in Wrangle whyche ar in decay bothe in hyght . . . repayred & amended with manor by thysse persons whose names . . . Mr Wylliam Reade gent. x^{ti} foote, Wylliam Maldson xxx^{ti} foote, . . . Maldson, xxx^{ti} foote, John Warde xx^{ti} foote, Wylliam Reade . . . fendyke ther for the landes of Alan Jefray xx^{ti} foot . . .
[473.V.2] 113

(. . .) Item the said jury thynk yt necessary & mete that no swyn shall hereafter goo at large within eny (ofⁱ) the comon felde or

¹ The right-hand edge of this folio is defective.

feldways or eny other places (within Boston & Skerbek¹) wher yt ys possyble the same swyn to do eny hurt, for therfor that yf yt be suffered that (yt¹) shall rebond to the great damage hurt & hyn-draunce of the kynges lege people in subvertynge the sebankes or eny other bankes within the said townes of Boston & Skerbek.

And further that Antony Robertson of Boston (gen^o) in the countie of Lincoln gentleman the xvj day of February in the xxxiiij yere of kyng Henry the eight or ther aboute, when that one Rycherd Tonerd & John Colby dyd ayde the kynges dykreeves in executyng of ther offycers accordyng to ther bondon dutie (& alle^o) uppon hys extra . . . & malycyous mynd come in a summe & he (at that tyme¹) beyng baliff to Mr Fremingham by the vertue of hys offyce, as he said, dyd discharge the said Tonerd & Colby of ther ferm that ys to say of ther pastures, and at the tyme by the payement of the said Antony one John Skilers then & ther dyd mak affray ageynst (Richerd^o) (John¹) Tonerd son of the said . . .¹ because he found hym uppon the said pastures (but^o), as he said, but the spesall cause was because he lykewise dyd ayde the said dykereve in executyng hys said office, whych th . . . yt be suffered (ther myht now with take^o) (yt wyll make . . . more . . . & cerefull¹) uppon them to do the kynges eny . . . in eny . . . offyce that they be no better ordered.

And that one Thomas Brown gent. hath uppon hys malycyous mynd estoped uppe . . . pety dreyn lynge (be^o) at a place called Boston Garth so that the water runnyng . . . cold not have hys curse & recourse for dreanyng (of¹) the bakysyde of the sedykes of (Boston^o) Skerb[ek] whych said dreyn the dykreve opened & scowred for the dre[n]yng of the said sebankes & . . . comon welth of the countrey.

And forther they say that Blase Holland gent. one of the kynges justyces of peace in . . . in the countie of Lincoln dyd agenyst all ryght & good consyence & ageyn . . . of the realm (as they suppose¹) comytt to warde one Wylliam Brynkeley of (Boston^o) (Skerbek¹) then beyng . . . that is to say a dykreve, because in the kynges cause & for the comon welth of . . . a resonable sort & facyon sygned as towchyng hys said offyce, intyndyng of . . . what he might resonable doo by the vertue of hys said offyce, to the g . . . expensy of the same, William Brynkeley, & contrary to hys offyce.

And forther they thynk yt mete & convenyent that (many^o) (every¹) of . . . every other person that ys to say gentlemen & other yoman shold . . . most bondon dutie to our said soveraign lord the kyng (to^o) stande . . . presented by eny jury for the kyng to stand in ytt accordyng to ryg[ht] . . . said justyces nor non of them nor non other shuld other openly or prively maynte . . . ageynst the kyng as towchyng eny verdytt, and that a lawe shall be ma[de] . . . upon a resonable forfeiture to the kynges use ageynst all such offenders maynteyners & . . .

[473.V.3]

114

The verdit and presentment of the preterilles queast of Skirbecke in the partes of Holland in the countie of Lincolne.

¹ Parts of the right-hand edge of this folio are missing.

(*[W]apen' de [Ski]rbecke*) An inquesicion taken at Boston the ixth daie of August in anno regni regine Elizabethhe dei gratia Anglie Frauncie Hibernie fidei defensor etc. primo before Leonarde Ireby John Man (and^e) Anthony Robertson (George Foster & Umphray Litlebury^l) farmers comysshioners of the sewers in the partes of Holland in the countie aforesaid assigned by thothes of John Merryll James Wilkinson and others which be sworne and saye upon ther othes in manner and forme following viz.

(*Skirbecke*) First the saide jurye saye that the see banckes from the southe ende of Ringle Horne un[to] the northe ende of Rig-dike is defectyve & in great ruyn and decaye aswell in higthe as in breadthe & ought to be done and amended by the lande owners of Sk[irbeck] aforesaid (which^e) And that there be pettie dreanes in the said townshipe fawtie which shalbe made up and amendid on thisside the feast of All Saintes next comyng upon payne for every fote not being amendid at the daie and tyme above lymitted . . .

Item the said jurye saye upon their othes that there is certeyne seabankes fautie and . . . greate decaye in Fishetoft aforesaid which ought to be maide and done by the . . . Southen William Tupham and John Parrowe for suche landes as thaye have . . . of Toft aforesaide, whiche faultes shalbe amended and done by the . . . on thisside the feast of All Saintes next comyng upon payne for every . . . amerded at the daie above lymytted . . .

(*Sea . . .*) Item the said jurye saye upon their othes that the sedikes from . . . to Fishers Stight is in ruyn and decay and ought to be amer[ded] . . . the lande owners there which faultes shalbe amerded on thissid[e] . . . All Seintes next comyng upon payne for every fote not being . . . at the daie above lymytted . . .

(*[Butterwic]ke*) Item the said jurye saye that there is a gote called Butterwike Gote . . . great hurte of all the countrie if spedie repaire be . . . there which owe to do it, wherfore the saide gote . . . done on thisside the feast of St Mighell therc' which sha[lbe] . . . next comyng upon paine of l li . . . holders there.

Item the said jurye saie that the mayne dreane frome old . . . in greate decaye and ought to be amended by the . . . saide faultes shalbe amended on thisside the feast of All [Saints^s] [p]ayne for every fote not being lawfully a mended at the d[ay] . . .

Item the saide jurye saye & every of them saithe upon their othes . . . the township of Benington aforesaide oughte to make a . . . diddyl mylne for the avoyding of all daungers and for the necessa[ry] . . . hole countrie, using the waye with their cattall or otherwise which . . . on thisside the feast of the birthe of our lorde God next comyng . . .

[*Endorsed :-*] Skyrbek preterill' anno primo regis E.

[473.V.4]

115

(*Wapen' de Skyrbek*) The verdyt of the dykegraves of the wapent' of Skyrbek in the parties of Holland (in^s) the county of Lincoln.

An inquisition taken at Skyrbek in the county of Lincoln the second day of September in the fourth yere of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth by the grace of God quene of England Fraunce & Ireland defendor of the faith etc. before Thomas Holland Edmond Hall Adlerd Welby Leonard Irby John Man William Wesnam mayr of the borough of Boston & Thomas Welby justices of the suers in the partes of Holland in the county of Lincoln by the othes of John Reder Thomas Knyght & other ther fellows which be sworn & sayn upon their othes [in manner ^s] & form folowing.

(*Skyrbek*) Fyrst the seid jury sayn that their ar many sebankes in Skyrbek that be falty & in gret ruyn . . . in hight as in bredth & ought to be amended by the land owners of Skyrbek aforseid, which . . . scedule hereunto annexed.

(*Fysshetoft*) The seid jury sayn upon their othes that ther is certen sebankes falty & in decay in Fysshetoft . . . to be repayred as foloweth.

The heyres of Thomas Broun esquier & Thomas Sowthen ought to repayre ten gaddes by the . . . in Toft sedykes	lxxxx foote
John Parro ought to repayre in the same sedyke	xviiij foote
The heyres of William Bower ought to repare in the same sedyke	xviiij foote
The heyres of Richard Dowse ought to repayre in the same sedyke	xviiij foote
Richard Busshe ought to repayre in the same sedyke	xx foote
Mathew Amcottes ought to repare in the same sedyke	x gaddes cont' lxxxx . . .

(*Butterwyke*) The seid jury sayn upon their othes that ther is certen sebankes falty & . . . & ought to be repayred as foloweth.

Item that a cryke in Butterwyke abbutting upon the sedyke ther is in decay & . . . frontagers adioynyng next upon the same.

(*Donyngton*) The seid jury sayn upon their othes that ther is certen sebankes falty & . . . & ought to be repayred as foloweth.

Item they say that a cryke in Donyngton in Newlandes Hyrn is in decay & ought to be . . . next adioynyng upon the same.

(*Frempton*) The seid jury sayn upon their othes that they have nothing to present . . .

(*Leek*) The seid jury sayn upon their othes that they have nothing to present by . . .

(*Le[ver]ton*) The seid jury sayn upon their othes that they have nothing to . . .

(*Wrangle*) The seid jury sayn upon their othes that one pety dreyn goyng from . . . by Simon Hopster, & William Pykering so that the water can not have his full course . . . (& scowred by the said Simon & William.†)

Item that one other pety dreyn goyng from Sempringham land to the said gote is in decay . . . the frontegers of the same.

Item that certen fendyke bankes be defectyve & ought to be repayred by William Wyl . . .

Item that Simon Hopster is falty for that he hath dyked a dyke at the crykes . . . sebankes and they think it mete that the said Simon do make a dame . . . of the same bankes.

Item that ther is a pety dreyn goyng from Flete Pytt to the see gote betwene the . . . Pykering which ought to passe through the ground of the heyres of Richard Do . . . in the dyke bank of the said Dowse at the charge of the seid Henby (William Robert & . . .¹) (& that^c) that . . . same.

[*Endorsed* :-] Veredictum preterillorum de Skirbecke.

[473.V.5]

116

The faltes of the sebankes in Skyrbek in the county of Lincoln presented the [*blank*] day of [*blank*] in the fourth yere of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth by the grace of God quene of Ingland etc. by the dykegraves quest of the same wapentake.

The inhabitantes of the west syde of the water is found fectyve for not repaying lxx foote that they ought to repayre.

(*Rygydyke*) ¹The heyres of Mr Broun for xlvj foote dim.

Mr Castell	ix foote
Mr Thomas Tylney	ix foote
Thomas Wright & William Almonson	ix foote
Robert Pulvertoft	vj foote
The heyres of Kyngerby	vj foote
William Almonson	vj foote
The lord Barners	one foote dim.
Thomas Tylney	vij foote dim.
The lord Barners & the lord Sheffield	xxiiij foote
John Copland	ix foote
Thomas Tylney	xij foote
The heyres of Harwell	vj foote
The towne of Boston	ix foote
Thomas Sowthen	vij foote dim.
Adlerd Clay	iiij foote
John Stamper	vj foote
William Rudder	vj foote
John Stamp	xij foote
Thomas Tylney	xvj foote dim.
The heyres of Gooddyng	xij foote
The lord Mountegle	vj foote
William Almonson for his frontage	xl foote
(<i>Newdyk</i>) William Almonson for his frontage	lxx foote
Clement Hunston	vj foote
(<i>Longrayke</i>) Mr Robert Carr	xij foote
Leonard Castell	xij foote
Thomas Sowthen	xxiiij foote
Thomas Ogle	xxx foote

¹ The following entries are written in the left-hand half of the folio.

Antony Robertson	xlij foote
Nicholas Robertson	xviiij foote
William Almonson	xv foote
¹ The lord of Molton	xxx foote
² (<i>Rynglehyrn</i>) The lord of Seynt Johns	lxxx foote
Mr Castell	vj foote
The town of Boston	iiij foote
The heyres of Littilbury	vj foote
The heyres of Harwell	vj foote
Antony Robertson	vj foote
³ Antony Cleymond	vj foote
[<i>Endorsed :-</i>] Skirbeck wapen' anno iiiij ^{to} Eliz. regine.	
[473.VI.1]	

117

Frampton

(9.) Item the said jury say ther is a pety dreane leyng at Hedley Dore, called Gray Gosse Flet which is defectyve, and so cometh thorough the landes of Stubes, and then over the way to Wormesley Grene, from thence to have redy way betwene the kynges hie way & the said Wormesley, and after to go betwene Richard Garrat & the kynges hie way, and so to torne downe by the heires of the duke of Suff' landes & the seid Garrat, and to come thorough the seid heires of the duke Suff' landes, and then over the feld way, and so to go betwene the landes of the lord of Stone Hall, and the heires of Nicholas Upton esquier, and after that to go betwene the seid heires of Nicholas Upton landes & the hedying of Southe End of Worledale, and so to go betwene the landes of Thomas Josson & the kynges hie way, and so to have the redy way to the comon suer, and it ought to be dyked by the lordes freholders lyeng agaynst it as oft as nede shall requier.

Item the said jury say their is a pety dreyn comyng frome Tompit which is defectyve & goyng betwene the landes of Robert Stevenson & the townes hie way, and so goyng betwene the landes of the seid Robert Stevenson & Josson landes & then commyng betwene the landes of William Cony & Ordyng landes and from thens to the comon suer and it ought to be dyked by the lordes freholders, & copyholders agaynst it as oft as ned requyreth.

Item the seid jury say their is a petty dreyn which is defectyve leyng betwene the landes of the heires of Nicolas Upton esquer, and the landes of William Goldyng, and betwene the landes of the same William Goldyng & Thomas Josson, and so by the landes of the same Thomas Josson & William Cony, & the heires of Lawrence Copelday, and so forth to the comon suer & it ought to be dyked by the lordes freholders & copyholders agaynst it as of as nede requyreth.

Item the seid jury say that the President of Magedelyne Colledge of Oxford ought to kep one pety dreane so fare as it shall go thorowe his grounde comyng frome the gooles within the seid lordship be-

¹ This is the last entry in the left-hand half of the folio.

² The following entries are written in the right-hand half of the folio.

³ This is the last entry in the right-hand half of the folio.

twene the xvj acres & the xxviiij acres & so to go within the motte & their to kep at the stow an hollow tre or elles the stow oppen wherby the waters may have their course, & so to rune betwene the landes of the lord of Stone Hall & the seid President & so to go over by a stow called Pasture Gate Stow that their it may have redy passage to the comon suer & it ought to be dyked scowred & clensted by the seid President & the lord of Stone Hall lyeng ageynst it frome tyme to tyme as oft as nede shall requier.

[473.VI.1d]

118

Item the said jury say that their is an other pety dren in Sandome feild which is in ruine & decay comyng betwene the landes of the heires of Thomas Loveles & the landes of Robert Jonyson, & so betwene the landes of the heires of Francis Claymond gentyلمان called Stubues & the landes of the seid Jonyson, and after to go betwene the landes of the mayre of Boston & the seid Jonyson, & to go over the way by Myln Hill Stow betwene the landes of the President of Magdelen Colledge of Oxford & the landes of the seid Jonyson, & so to go to the stowe in the sayd motte that their it may have redy passage to the comon suer, and it ought to be dyked (of^c) (by^l) the lordes freholders & copyholders of Frampton afforseid for their landes lyeng ageynst it from tyme to tyme as oft as nede shall requier.

Item the seid jury say that their is one pety dreane lyeng in a certayn feild called Short Toftes frome a place called Hamer dreanyng the kynges hie way which is in ruine & decay & lyeth betwene the landes of the lord Willowby on the est and in Shortoftes upon dyvers men on the west & uppon my lady duches & her coparteyners & diverse many mo on the north, and the lord of Stone Hall & the heires of Nicolas Upton gent. on the south, & so runeth forbye the hedynges of Worly Dayle & so to Graygoseflet & doth mete & runeth so to Stoke Brig, and ought to be dyked by the lordes & freholders & copy holders lyeng ageynst it of Frampton afforseid frome tyme to tyme as oft as ned shall requier.

Item the seyd jury say that my lady of Suff' & her coparteyners should make the se bankes perteynyng to them which are in ruyn & decay & ought to be made by them so often as nede shall requier which conteyneth xxxv roodes.

Item the said jury say that the se bankes conteynyng ten foote perteynyng to Thomas Brown gent. ar in ruyn & decay & ought to be made by them.

Item the said jury say that the Fen Brig of Frampton is in ruyn & decay & it ought to be made by the townshipp of Frampton afforseid so oft as nede requyeth.

Item the sayd jury say that their is a brigg called Stoke Brig in the kynges hy way in Framton aforseyd which is in ruine & decay & ought to be made by the township of Frampton afforseid as oft as ned shall ned [sic] requier.

[473.VI.2]

119

Item the seid jury say that their is a brigg in Langrak Layn in

Frampton afforseid which is in ruyn & decay & ought to be maid by the township of Frampton afforseid from tyme to tyme as oft as nede shall requyer.

Item the sayd jury say that their is a brig in a place called Stowgat in Frampton afforseid which is in ruyn & decay & ought to be made by the township of Frampton afforeseid so oft as ned shall requier.

Item the seid jury say that all the fen bankes belongyng to the township of Frampton is in great ruyn & decay both in hight & in bredth & ought to be made repayred & highned both in hight & in brede by the freholders & copyholders as of old tyme it haith bene used & as accustomed from tyme to tyme.

¹Item they say that the owtt fall of ther fre gott to the se ys to stratt, that the watter cannott have his full course, which ought to be reparyed & mended by the inhabytors of Frampton.

[*Endorsed* :-] Vardit for the dykegraves of Kyrton [*sic*]

[473.VI.3]

120

Item the seyd jure say that one comon sewer in Wyberton ys in ruen & decay for lak of dykyng rodyng scowryng & clensyng and ought to be dyked roded scowred & censed so of [as^s] nede shall requyre from a place called Oldforth Brygg to Sheperd Gate by the lordes & landholders of Wyberton aforeseyd.

Item the seyd jure say the see bankes arr in great ruen & decay in sundry places for lak of skyrtyng & exaltyng and ought to be skyrted & exalted from tyme to tyme when nede shall requyre by the lordes & landholders of Wyberton aforeseyd as of old yt hath bene accustomed.

Item the seyd jure say that all the (feb^e) fen bankes belongyng to the towne of Wyberton arr in certeyn places in great ruen & decay to the great noyans of the contrey for lak of exaltyng & reparyng of the seyd bankes and ought to be made exalted & repayred from tyme to tyme so of as ned shall requyer by comon mynworkes.

Item they say that ther ys one petty drayn in the south feld and other ther petty drayn in Wyberton aforeseyd arr defectyve and ought to be dyked scowred & censed by all suche landes as doo adioyn upon the seyd petty drayes.

Item they say that Wybarton Skottpytts ys in rewen & decay & [*sic*] owght to be reparydd & a mended, by the land holders of Wyberton aforsaid.

Item the seyd jure say that ther ys a place in the fen called Boston Gole ys defectyve & ought to be made & repayred by the inhabitants of Boston of the west syde of the water.

(. . .) Item the seyd jur say the fen (dyk^l) bank of Skyrbek Quarter from Lychefeld Brygg to Skyrbek Goote ys in ruen & decay and a dystrucion to the countrey and ought to be made repared exalted & amended by the lordes and land holders of Skyrbek Quar[ter^s].

¹ This sentence has been added in a different hand.

[473.VI.4]

121

1. . . say upon ther othes that the bankes of the comon sewer called Kyme Dyke be defectyve in height & breade from [a^s] place called the Rakes ought to be banked by Sutterton Algarkyrke & Fosdicke & the one halfe . . . the dyke to be . . . iij townes the other halfe to be dyked by the inhabytaunces of Hekenton accordyng to the old cus[tom].

Item frome Wyllowght Bothe unto Flete End owghte to be banked by the inhabytaunces of Swynneshed.

Item frome Flete End unto Gose Gowle owghte to be banked by the inhabytaunces of Wygtoft accordyng . . .

Item they say that the same Kyme Dyke frome the seid Wyllowght Bothe unto Gose Gowle owghte to be dyked clenسد & scoured frome tyme to tyme so oft as nede requireth by the commyners of the Eight Townes every towne ther part accordyng to the old custom.

Item they say that ther ys a place called Hubberd Sicke frome Androwegrave unto the Haven & is defectyve & ought to [be^s] repayred dicked & clenسد frome tyme to tyme as oft as nede shall requier by the inhabytaunces of Dockdickhill belongyng to Swynneshed & bye the inhabitaunces of Brothertoft.

Item they say that the Rakes Dyke frome the Horne unto Bayber Bowthe owghte to be dyked by the inhabytaunces of the Eight Townes the one half beyng the est parte, the other halfe beyng the west parte owght to be dyked by the inhabytaunces of Hekenton accordyng to the old custome.

Item they say that the west caysey frome Ha[l]e² Dike to Swynneshed Northend owght to be sufficyently banked by the inhabitaunces of the Eight Townes every towne the parte accordyng to the old custome.

Item they say ther ys a dyke called Brand Dike frome the eshere unto Wragmer Stake owght to be fenced & the maner to be caste on the north syde by the inhabytaunces of the Eight Townes accordyng to the old custome.

Item they say the comon drayne leyeng betwixte Swynneshed & Wigtoft is defectyve in diking frome a place called the Ren . . . unto the gotte & owght to be dyked by the land holders of Swynneshed & Wigtoft.

Item they say that the Est Mere of Swynneshed & Wigtoft aforseid is defectyve & not sufficyent in dykyng frome Kytcate Brige unto a place called Fyshemer End (End^o) & owght to be diked & clenسد joyntlye by the land holders of Swynneshed & Wigtoft aforseid.

Item they say that ther ys a stowe or dame called Acreland Stowe lyeng at Fyshermere End which owght . . . to rune frome myd Marche day unto myd Aprill for the convayaunces of the water of Swynneshed & Wygtoft to the dreane of Sutterton Allgarkyrke & Fosdick accordyng to the old custome.

¹ The condition of this folio is poor.

² There is a hole in the folio.

Item they say that wher certen dames are cast ne Meres Gate by the inhabytaunces of Sutterton Algarkyrke & Fosdike . . . be cutte open frome mydmarche to myd Apryll for the conveyances of the water of Swynneshed & Wygtoft to Acrelandst[ow].

Item they say that the fence at Symon Were belongyng to Swynneshed & Wigtoft is in ruyng & decaye & owght to be made by the inhabytaunces of Swynneshed & Wygtoft by the inhabytaunces fenhowses of bothe parysshes.

[473.VI.4d]

122

Verdictum wapen' de Kirton 1562.

Wherein the clowes at Lowegate in Surflete are sett to be mayd.

1599	41	1583	24
1598	40	1582	23
1597	39	1581	(23 ^c) 22
1596	38	1582	21
1595	37	1581	20
1594	36	1580	19
1593	35	15(97 ^c)	18
1592	34	1576	17
1591	33	1575	16
1590	32	1574	15
1589	31	1573	14
1588	29	1572	13
1587	28	1571	12
1586	27	1560	11
1585	26	156	10
1584	25		9

[473.VII.1]

123

Anno domini 1563

A verdyth off the sewers off the dygraves inqueste wythe in the weapontade off Ellowe in the parties off Hollande in the countye off Lyncoln at . . . sessions of the seweres holden at Spaldyng the xj daye of June in the fyfthe yere off the (rayne¹) off quine Elysabeth and in the yere of ower lorde God 1563.

(*Sutton in Hollande*) Roger Morrey and hys fellowes upon there othes saythe that the olde gote off Sutton is vacante and voyde and not worthy to be kept nor meanteynynd.

(*A sewer or ee*) Item the sayd jurye saye that it is mete and nessarye for the townshype off Sutton to have on ee or sewer fourthe of the grette ee or sewer off Sutton frome a sartene plasse theyre betwene the lands off John Gamell be the ryght of his wyffe assewell on the este as on the weste and so to passe by the lands of Antonye Edmonde untill yt comme to Spensars Drove and theyre to be cutte over the sayd drove and to falle in to a dytche on the este syde of the lands of the heyres off John Alen. And so to runne to a place called Cotts Hyrne and theyre a newe ryver to be made twelve foote wyde in the myddest of the waye unto a howsse of John Man esquire,

and theyre the sayd Gote to be over and to falle into the northe syde off Gryne Dyke and then to passe to a playssse called Danyell Gotte, and to be cutte over the sayd gote at Sir Thomas Alen Stowe and theyre to runne betwene the lands of the sayd Sir Thomas Alen and the lands of the heyres off John Wourshyppe, and then the sayd ryver or sewer to torne plene easte and so to runne betwyne the lands (of¹) the heyres of the forsayd John Worshyppe and the lands off Robert Barwythe untill it comme unto the saye bangke and theyre to go under the sea bangke (in¹) to the newe gotte off Sutton.

(*ij newe brygges*) Item the sayd jurye saye that too newe brygges owght to be made ower the sayd newe sewer the one at a playssse callyd Cottis Hyrne and the other ower Danyell Gatte, and further the saye that sarten other bryggs in the sayd towne off Sutton are defectyve and in deykye as followythe Markes Brygges the brygge at Harrye Dayes Thrustones Brygge Nunnes Brygge Dyesgatte Brygge Newe Brygge Caygotte Brygge Sowetters Brygge Vykers Brygge Chappell Brygge Brownes Brygge Lomes Brygge Boconse Brygge Soulchers Brygge Gravys Brygge Sconnes Brygge Harcroftes Brygge Horsemer Brygge Ravens Brygge Kelsayes Brygge Fyrshes Brygge Monnkes Brygge Redes Brygge Momforthe Brygge Wyllowedyke Brygge Ganocke Gatte Brygge Halle Brygge Lutton Gatte Brygge Lyttel Ee Brygge Mylle Brygge Garnars Brygge at Teylyeres Drove Ende and owghth to be made and reparyd to be quines maiesties lordes and other that have lands wythe in the townshyppe off Sutton by acker monaye so often and manye tymes as nede shall require acordyng to ower olde ancient custome usyd tyme (with¹) owte mynde of man.

(*ij newe brygges*) Item the sayd jurye saye that the newe g¹ . . . and the newe sewer theyreto belongyng owght to be made and dytched be acker monay [a]s affouresayd.

(*Joyesse in the newe dreane*) Item the sayd jurye doo praye that the quines maiestie maye be josed in the sayd newe sewer or drayne for foure hundrythe acres off pastures layte belongyng to the dys-solvyd monasterye off Spaldyng and for fyfthe and foure acres of pasture layte belongyng to the dyssolved monastr[y] of Castell Acker and all other lands frome the dytche ende off the afforsayd John Gunell unto the vacante gotte befoure namyd for everye acker tenne foote acordyng to ower olde auncient custome as it douthe more playnlye apere in ower auncient joyesse bookes. (And the reste of the newe drene to be dyched by acker monaye (to the gote warde frome tyme to tyme¹)).

(*Pettye fennes*) Item the sayd jurye saye that sucche pettye fynnes as shalbe thowght good be the beylyffe of Sutton aforesayd and other of the inhabytans of the same towne for to be kepte for the mayntenans of [the^s] sayd grete fynne shalbe kepte repared and mayntenyd be the inhabytans of the hole townshyppe of Sutton be theyre comen meynwyrke as often and manye tymes as nede shall require.

¹ There is a hole in this folio.

[473.VII.2]

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(*Brygges over the sayd fenēs*) Item the sayd jurye saye that everye man sh[all] make sufficient brygges over the sayd fynnes for theyre cattell and shyppes to goo ower wythe owtte hurtyng off the sayd fynnes unpone sucche paynes as shalbe thowght good be the justyces off the sewerer for the tyme beying.

Item the sayd jurye saye that the inhabitans off Gednaye make dayfauhte in kyppying of theyre heydyngs frome a place callyd To-goods to Garnesgate and so one the northe syde of Styncken Drove unto a (stowe¹) off John Man esquire at Cleypooles Ende and so to the gotte.

(*Comen myn wyrkes*) Item the saye jurye saye that yt is meyte and of olde custome it owght that all owners farmers and all other that have anye profittyte off the comen wythe there cattell shall comme hollye to theyre mynwyrkes in Sutton as offten and manye tymes as yt shalbe warned be the dyggrawes and that everye pore man beying a cotygar, and havng no cattell shall comme and doo the thyrde mynwyrke as often and manye tymes as it shalbe warnyd be the sayd dyggrewe for the tyme beying as is aforesayd.

(*A wardyke*) Item the sayd jurye saye that theyre is a serten wardyke frome Sutton Owtbroken be Crosse Gatte unto Sowtteres Brygge and so fourthe unto Brownes Brygge defectyve in sondrye playssys and owght to be made by comen mynwyrke of Sutton Saynt Marye, as often as nede shall require.

(*The fenedyke*) Item the sayd jurye saye that the fenne (dycke¹) frome Margerye Pytte at Tydesyde to Wayettes Gottes Ende is defectyve in sondrye placis and owght to be made be the comen mynwyrke of Sutton Sant Maryes as often and mynye tymes as nede shall require.

(*Oldegotte and Brodgate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Oldegote Brodegotte and Nettelbedegotte are defectyve in manye plasses and owght to be exallted made and mendyd be the comen mynwyrke off Sutton (as is aforesayde^e) Saynt Marye so often and manye tymes as nede shall require.

(*A pettye drene*) Item the sayd jurye saye that there ys a serten pettye drene in Sutton wyche begenys at Owtebroken and so to Pryors Falle is defectyve for lacke off dyckyng whyche owghte to be dycked and scourd be all those that have anye lands abutting or jonyng thereon as often a[s] ned shall require.

(*Caygate Dyesgate Chylderhowsgate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Caygatte in sarten placis and Dyesgate (Mantensgate^e) Chylderhows Gatte and Battemans Gatte are defectyve wyche gaytts owght to be made be all those that have anye lands jonyng (of^e) or buttyng off anye off the sayd gattes befoure namyd as often as nede shall require (and that bouthe sydes of the sayd gates are to be chargyd a lyke¹).

(*Gervysgate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that thyre is (one^e) a waye called Gervys Gatte in Sant Marye Horne ys defec[tive] for

lacke off heythe and further the saye that Garnes Gatte is defectyve for lacke of heythe frome Gednaye Crosse to a paster of the heyres of Robert Alen called Jackes medowe wyche gattes owtt to be made (be¹) the comen mynwyrke of Lutton as often as nede shall require.

(*Lands one the northe syde of Yngley*) Item the sayd jurye saye that all those lands that lye one the northe syde off Yngley Dogdrove and Horsemere owght to make theyre heddyng agaynst Gednaye Ee and that everye man owght to make ther heddynges or cloutts fyve foote wyde in the bottom unpon sucche paynes as comysynors of the seweres shalle . . . the tyme beyng (throwghte (the^o) Sutton¹).

Item the sayd jurye saye that all . . . lye one the northe syde of Yngley Dogdrove and Horsemere shall dyke . . . and clense Lutton Ee frome Togoods Newefendycke everye man agaynst his own land as often and manye tymes as nyde shall . . .

(*Dunell Drove Scallesgate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Dunelles Drove Scallesgatte and Barlengs Drove owght to be made be all hav- . . . lands that lye one the sowghthsyde of Duneles Drove Scallesgatte and Barleynges Drove frome Ger[vys] Gatte (in¹) to Newe Fendycke everye man agaynste his one so often and manye tymes as nede shall require.

(*Lands on the sowght syde [of Yngley]*) Item the sayd jurye saye that all those lands that lye one the sowghte syde off Yngley Dogdrove and Horsemere and also all those lands that lye one the northe syde of Scalles Gote and Barlenges Drove owghtte to dycche rode and scoure Frerys Ee from Horsemers Brygge to Newefendycke every man agaynst hys one lands so often and many tymes as nyde shall require.

(*Deyfaults in Yngley*) Item the sayd jurye saye that John Brokehowsse hath xiiij rods defectyve in Yngley John Man . . . v rods Harrye Blancke vj rods John Brockehouse iiij rods wyche owght to be made be thyse before namyd so often and manye tymes as nede shall require. (John Nygall and Rychard (Ma^o) Man v rodde¹) Wylliam Bladen ix rodde¹ in lyke defaulte for lacke of exatyng.

[473.VII.3]

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(*Horsmere*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Horsemere is defectyve for lake [of^s] heythe that is to saye John Blanke xij rods the same John xx rods John Man esquire x rods the quines maiestie as be hyr dyssolved monestrye of Castell Aker xij rods Adlarde Welbye esquire vj rods John Man esquire for lands late Delalanes xxiiij rods the sayd John Man esquire xxx rods John (Blanke^o) (Drove¹) x rods Dune Bellyngham gent. xj rodes Lawrence Wryght iiij rodes (Rychard Welbye of Hallstye wyche ys not^o) (John Elme vj rodde¹) for lands layte Mr¹) Welbye of Hausted Adlerde Welbye esquire vj rodde¹ Wylliam Dyggleyll x rodde¹. All thyse faultes owght so to be made (before^o) be all thyse befoure naymyde.

(*Dunells Droufe*) Item the said jurye saye that Dunelles Drove ys defectyve and that John (Man¹) esquire (hathe¹) viij rodes agaynste Church lande the sayd John Man esquire xvj rodde¹ and also too

rodds in Dunyddellstowe at the Sprengyards End wyche owght to be exalted and mendyd be the sayd John Man (esquire and othes befoure namyd¹).

(*Scallesgate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Scalesgatte ys defectyve in serten placis and (owghte¹) to be made be thyse heyre innamyd be ther porssions John Man esquire hathe xvj rodds ageynste Bulleslande Mr Bolton iiij rodds the sayd John Man xiiij rodds Thomas Ryche vj rodds the sayd John Man esquire x rodds Wylliam Bladen xj rodds for lacke heythe (and owght to be made by thyse before namyd¹).

(*Barlengs Drove*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Barleynges Drove is defectyve in manye playsses for lacke of heythe. The quines maiesties hathe xxx rodds for Monnckes Fyelde Symonde Cutte x rodds Wylliam Bladen vj rodds Symonde Cutte viij rodds Thomas Wytton xij rodds the chauntrye of Sutton iiij rodds John Brytte iiij rodds Dune Bellyngham gent. viij rodds wyche owght to be exalltyd and mendyd be thyse (before naymyd the heyres of John Wylkyng ij rodds Thomas Ryche iiij rodds John Downesdaye vij rodds Thomas Burton iiij rodds¹).

(*Sutton Gate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Sutton Gatte Bellesdrowe Bawdynges Drowe Telyares Drowe Byrdes Drowe Sandygatte and Gouge Gatte are in grett rewen for lacke of heythe and bredde and owght to be made exaltyd and mendyd be all thowsse that have anye lands abutting in anye of the sayd gattes or drowes everye man agaynste his one lands as often and manye tymes as nede shall require¹).

(*The fen dyke*) Item the sayd jurye say that the fyndycke betwexte Sutton and Sant Jamys frome Harrye Wryght unto Preyeres Laythe is defectyve for lacke of heythe & owght to be exalted made and mendyd be the comen (my^c) mynwyрке of Sant Jamys so often and manye tymes as ned shall require.

(*The olde fen dyke*) Item the sayd jurye saye that the old fen-dyke frome a place called Godsmangettes unto Tydde Hyrne ys defectyve for lacke of heythe and brede and owght to be amendyd be the inhabytans off Sant Jamys by theyre comen mynwyрке so often and manye tymes as nede shall require.

(*The waye frome Ravensdyke*) Item the sayd jurye saye that the hey waye frome Ravensdycke unto Jeyes Crose is defectyve in serten places for lacke of heyghth and brede and owght to be mendyd by the inhabytans of Sant Jamys by theyre comen mynwyрке so often and manye tymes as nede shall require.

(*Tyddes Syde*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Tydde Syde frome Masterdykes Ende unto Wyllowe Dyckes Ende is defectyve in dyvers placis for lacke of heythe and b[rede and] owght to be amendyd by the inhabytans of Sant Jamys be there comen mynwyрке . . . as nede shall require.

(*[S]utton Grete Flette*) Item the sayd jurye saye . . . from Sutton Gootes unto the lowe wate[r] or owtte falle to the saye is in grett rewen . . . [b]y reson of the landyng wythe syltte . . . sayd grette

flytte so that the water off Su[tton c]anote passe to the saye as it hathe downe where . . . we thyngke it good and nessessarye to have a clowe to take in the floude watter in some convenient playce to scoure the sayd grette flette or feynne and the coste, and charggs to be donne be quines maiestie, lordes tenants, and land holders, that have anye landes within the towne of Sutton be acker monaye so often and manye tymes as nede shall require frome tyme to tyme.

(*Bailman [Gayte]*) Item the sayd jurye saye John Danyns hathe viij rodde in Bayttemanes Gayte defectyve for lac[k] of heyght and bredde John Elme ij rodde in lyke defaulte Wylliam Bladen one rodde in defaulte Rycharde Marchant one rodde in lyke defaulte.

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(*Chylder Howsgate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Anttonye Edmonde haythe vij rodde in Chylderhossegatte defectyve for lacke of heyghte and bredde as well one the este as one the weste Wylliam Worshyppe vij rodde in lyke defaulte Margarette Croue for landes layte Rychard Worshyppe one rodde Rycharde Nycolsonone one rodde oute the heyres of Robert Wryght one rodde the sayd Anttonye Edmonde iij rodde (John Lowden^c) Robert Skotterell iij rodde the sayd heyres of Robert Wryght iij rodde Rychard Renton ij rodde in lyke defaults and owght to [be^s] exaltyd and mendyd be all thysse befoure namyd as the the [*sic*] be presentyd.

(*Defaults in Dyesgate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Wylliam Edmonde hathe vj rodde in Dyesgaytte defectyve for lacke of heythe and bredde one bothe sydds of the waye the sayd Wylliam Edmonde ij rodde in lyke defaultes the quines maiestie iij rodde in lyke defaute Robert Rogeman iij rodde in lyke defaute Thomas Sowtter iij rodde Houmffre Harpley vj rodde Lawrence Sowtter iij rodde Robert Hylle iij rodde Wylliam Glepps vj rodde the heyeres of Wylliam Bynderslawght vj rodde Wylliam Gleppes vj rodde the sayd (S^c) heyres of Bynderslawght ij rodde Robert Rogeman ij rodde Wylliam Edmonde ij rodde the lands layte Leysse iij rodde John Dayens (ij^c) vj rodde Gource Partrygge gent. vj rodde John Rogeman viij rodde the heyeres of Bynderslawghte vij rodde in lyke defaute wyche owghtte to be made be all thysse befoure namyd be ther persions.

(*Kayegate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Keygatte (ys^t) defectyve for lacke of heythe and bredde and that Wylliam Edmonde hathe vj rodde Thomas Edmonde iiij rodde the sayd Thomas iiij rodde Robert Hylle vj rodde Wylliam Browne vj rodde John Dyesdale iij rodde John Gunell ij rodde Lawrence Sowetter iij rodde Robert Hylle vj rodde Wylliam Worshyppe vj rodde John Rentton iij rodde Robert Rogeman ij rodde the heyeres of Bynderslawght iiij rodde Dune Bellyngham gent. ij rodde wyche owght to be made be all thysse befoure namyd.

(*The saye bangke*) Item the sayd jurye saye that the saye bangke otherwayes called the sedyke forome Gadney Marsche to Tydde Marsche ys defectyve in manye playcis and owght to be made bothe in heyght and brede with gud brestyng and bankyng and exaltyng

as nedde shall require frome tyme to tyme be the comen mynwyrikes of the holle towneshyppe off Sutton as often and manye tymes as nede shal require.

(*Sowthe Ee bangke*) Item the sayd jurye saye that a joyesse bangke in Sutton called Sowthe Ee Bangke wyche begynnes at Gadnaye heddyng and endythe at Tydde Bangke wyche ys defectyve (in¹) serten playsys the quines maiesties for hyr demenes of Gannocke iiij rodde Rychard Marchant and his peyres ij rodde Wylliam Hoppynson and hys peares ij rodde Robert Rawlet and hys peares ij rodde Emme Porye and hyr peyres ij rodde Wylliam Browne and hys peares foure rodde John Man esquire foure rodde Adelerde Welby esquire viij rodde Gourge Monfourthe esquire foure rodde the hyeres of Symond Thrustone and there peyres ij rodde the quines maiestye for hur lands layte Sant Edmonds churche fyve rodde Edwarde Johnson and his peyres ij rodde the quines maiestye for hur maner of Barlengs and Castelacker lands foure rodde the heyres of John Wylkyng (and his peares¹) ij rodde Robert Bayteman and hys peyres ij rodde the heyres of Robert Alen and ys peyres ij rodde Robert Hylle and hys peyres ij rodde James Balder and (his¹) peyres ij rodde John Rawley and his peyres ij rodde wyche be defectyve for lacke of heyght and bredde and brestyng and owght to be done be all thysse before namyd as the be presentyd be ther porsions.

(*Lutton Gate*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Lutton Gayte in the Fene Ende ys defectyve in menyse playssis for lacke of heyght and brede wyche owght to be made be all¹ . . . be presentyd the heyres of Robert Cutte twentye rodde the quines maiestye xl rodde . . . xij rodde Robert Rawlet iiij rodde Lawrence Teryngton iiij rodde the hey[re]s . . . xxx rodde Thomas Johnsons x rodde wyche owght to be made be all . . . as the be presentyd . . . Sowght Ee to Sante (End^o) (Edmonde¹)² . . .

[473.VII.5]

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(35. *Gannocke Gaytte*) Item the sayd jurye saye that Gannocke Gate ys defectyve for lacke of heyghte and brede and owght to be made be the lands one bothe syde the waye frome tyme to tyme.

(*Heddyng*) Item the sayd jurye saye that sarten of the afforesayd Lutton heddyngs (or crests¹) be in grette rewen and decay and owght to be made be all thysse heyrein namyd ther porsions Thomas Wylliamsone one rode the heyres off Roger Clarke ij rodde Hewe Northowe ij rodde Harry Ganser xv rodde Rychard Sylvester vij rodde Wylliam Seman vi rodde John Rawlen viij rodde the heyres of Wylliam Porye xvj rodde Robert Tomsone one rodde Thomas Johnsons v rodde Edwarde Johnsons xx rodde Robert Raulette viij rodde John Hardye and Nycolas Hurte vij rodde Lawrence Terynton ij rodde Gourge Partrygge gent. xl rodde the heyres of John Wylkyng vij rodde Adelerde Welby esquire viij rodde Jamys Balder vj rodde Wylliam Bladen fyfthe rodde the comen heddyngs ij rodde wyche

¹ Hole in folio.

² There was originally at least one more line of writing, and it is possible that the bottom of the folio has been torn off.

be in grette rewen and delkaye for lacke of heyght and brede and owght to be (madeⁱ) frome tyme to tyme be all thysse before namyd lands.

(*Fendycke*) Item the sayd jurye [say^s] that the fendycke betwexte Sant Jamys and Sent Edmonds ys fectyve for lacke of heyght and brede and owght to be exaltyd bothe in heyght and brede (beⁱ) the comen (mynwyrkⁱ) of Sant Edmonds.

(*Heddeyngs*) Item the sayd jurye saye that the hedyngs frome Togoodds to Newfendyke be defectyve as heyre after followythe Adelerde Welby esquire [*blank*] John Callowe vij rodde John Blanke vij rodde vij rodde [*sic*] John Brockehouse ij rodde Thomas Bayteman dim. rodde Harrye Blanke iij rodde Rychard Man one rodde Wylliam Pertrye ij rods Rychard Man ij rodde John Blanke iij rodde Harrye Blanke one rodde John Nygall and Rychard Man ij rods Robert Ackers one rode John Brockehowse x rodde the sayd Robert Ackers fyve rodde all the afoure namyd hedyngs owght to be made f [*sic*] bothe in heyght and brede be all them befoure namyd as the be presentyd.

(*Tydde hedyngs*) Item the sayd jurye saye that the towneshyppe off Tydde Saynt Marye make dafaute in kyppying off there hedyngs frome Pryors Laythe to the sedyke wyche hedyngs the sayd towneshype of Tydde have bene chargyd with tyme with owte mynde of man as hyt dothe apere to good recorde in wrytyng (in Sutton¹).

Item the sayd jurye saye (that¹) a comen gaytte or waye frome Margerye Pytte be Crosgate and so to the sedyke ys defectyve in manye plasis wyche waye owght to be made be the comen mynwyrke of Sutto[n] Sant Mare.

[*Endorsed* :—] 1563

[473.VII.6]

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Preponit in caulr'

(*Sutton St James . . . drane . . .*) Item the saide jurey saithe that ther ys [a dr]ayne ledдынge frome Brode Gate in . . . St Maries in to the ee betwexe the sheiars and owght for [to be^s] . . . rodiede and scowrede so ofte and maney times [as^s] nede shall requere by all those that have aney landes in Swtton by acar sylvar.

(*Briges vacat*) Item the saide jury saithe that ther ys a brige in Sutton syde owar Badegate ys defectife and that yt and all other briges in Swtton wyche be owar aney grete rivar or petey drayne for to be reparede and amendiende by acar silvar.

(*Gates Respect'*) Item the saide jury saithe that Bade Gate frome Maistardikes Ende unto the fendike ys defectife in sartaine placis for haithe and bredde and ought for to be made by coman menevarke by the inhabitaris of St James.

(*Gates Respect'*) Item the saide juri saithe that frome Bacons Brige unto Rawnes Dike, and Brode Gate frome James Crosse unto the fendike, and frome Godesmans Gittes unto the fendike ys in sartaine placis defectife for haithe and bredde and owght for to be maide by coman menevarke as ys afore saide.

(*Gates sub pena minore ante Micaelem'*) Item the saide jurey saithe that the heie waye ledinge frome St Marie Howrne Crosse unto Bacons Brige and frome Maistar Dikes Ende unto Bacons Brige ys in sartaine placis defectife for haithe and bredde and owght to be maide by coman menevarke as ys aforesaide.

(*Gates ante the iiij August sub pena minore*) Item the saide jurey saithe that Horsemar Drowe, Barlynges Drowe, Inley, Scales Gate and Doneyles Drowe, ys in sondrey placis defectife for haithe and brede and owght for to be maide by all those that hawe aney landes lyenge of the sowthe side of the saide drowes.

(*Gates Sondry gat ante primum Augusti sub pena minore*) Item the said jurey saithe that Suttons Gate Belles Drowe Balkyns Drowe Taylyars Drowe Byrdes Drowe Sandy Gate, and Gowgegate ys in sartaine placis defectife for haithe and bredde and owght for to be maide by the frowntegars of bothe seides.

(*Cloves Togoods & Thurstons ante festum Michcalis sub pena in lege generale*) Item the saide jurey saithe that yt ys mete and nessassary that two payar of clowes or sheittes for to be maide & sett the one paiar at a place callede Togoodes and the other paiar at Thwrstons Brige & the saide clowes for to be maide & sett by the quenes maieste & all other that have aney landes in Sutton by acar syllvar.

(*Drayn Fiat*) Also the saide jurey saithe that ther ys a petey drayne ledlinge of the vest seide of Taylyars Drowe frome the Brode Gatte in St James to the Brode Gate in Tidde St Marie for to be rodeide dikede & scowred by frontegars.

(*Heddings ante Michaellem sub pena in lege generale*) Item the saide juri saithe that the heddines frome Togoodes unto Rawnes Dike & frome Rawnes Dike unto the Fendike in St Edmonds ys in sartaine placis defectife for haithe and brede and owght for to be maide by the frontegars.

(*Draines and stampes the . . . & stampes . . . lege generale*) Also ve saye that all the petey draines within our towne owght for to be rodeide & scowrede accordinge to our owlde anchente cowstome either by angles joysementes or frontegars & that all veares or stampes in aney of our coman seuars for to be maide xij foote vyde (upp^o).

(*Stampes ut in lege generale*) And that no stampe shalbe kepte in no pety draine undar viij fote wide.

(*Botes ut antea sub pena antea*) And that no man shall drawe aney bote ovar no ware dyke or joyse banke to the noyans of the saide banke.

[473.VII.7]

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Preponit in C

(*Sutton Sanctie Edmonde ante Micaelem sub pena maiore*) Item we saye that Sowethee is defective for lake of heith and brede in certen playces that is to saye frome Tedde Banke to Lutton heddinges and ought to be (f^o) made as the jose boke doth appare.

(*Lutton heddinges ante Michaellem sub pena ut antea*) Also we saye Lutton heddinges from Sowthe (Ey¹) to the Findike is defective for lake of heith and bredth in manye and sondry playces and ought to be made by the frontiges of the este side.

(*Lutton Gate die eodem et pena eadem*) Also we saye that Lutton Gate from Sowthee to the Findike is defective for lake of heith and bredth in many and sondry playcese and ought to be made by the frontiges of the este sid.

(*Halgate in many and sondrye playces ante pres' in anno 1577 sub pena predicta*) Also we saye that Halgate from Sowthe to the Findike is defective for lake of heithe and bredh and ought to be made by the frontigis of the bothe (sid^o) sides.

(*Brode Gate . . . ante Michaellem sub pena minore*) Also we saye (that Brodgate¹) from Sowthee to the Findike is defective for lake of heith and bredth in manye sondry playcese and ought to be made by coman minworkes.

(*Gannake Gate ante Michaellem in anno 1577 sub pena in lege generale*) Also we saye that Gannake Gate is defective for lake of heith and bredth from (Sowthe^o) (Willodike¹) to Findike in many (n^o) and sondry playcerse and ought to be made by the frontages of the bothe syddes.

(*Willodike ante Michaellem sub pena maiore*) Also we saye that Willodike from the Findike to Carres Corner is defective for lake of heith and bredth in manye and sondrye playcese and ought to be made by the frontiges of the west sid.

(*Willodike eodem die et eadem pena*) Also we say that from Carres Corner to Sowthee is defective for lake of heith and bredth in manye and sondrye playcese and to be (na^o) made by digryes minworkes of Sutton side in Sancti Edmunde by the helpe of one (yerly¹) meane-work of (Sutton^o) (Tydd¹) St Mary.

(*Crose gates . . .*) Also we saye that the crose gatis that lede from Lutton Gate to Hal Gate and from Halgate to Brode Gate and so to Gannake Gate is defective for lake heith and bredth in manye and sondre playcese and oughte to be made by (mynworkes^o) coman mynworkes.

(*Fendike dygrey sub pena in lege generale*) And also we saye that the Findike from Lutto heddinges to Halgate is defective fore lake of heith and bredth (and ought to be^o) in manye and sondry playcese and ought to be made by mynworkes of Lutton side.

(*Findike . . . die . . .*) Also we saye that the Findike from Halgate to Wyllodike Yeate is defective for lake of heith and bredth in many and sondrye playcese and ought to be made (b^o) by digrye (minw^o) mynworkes of Sutton side.

(*Ventes*) Also we saye that we have foure ventes into Saint James and that we (thinke^o) thinke it mete and nessecarye that the water shale rone at al times to the seeword when it wole.

(Also we s] saye that we thinke it mete and nessecary to have towre pare of clowse at . . . that is to saye one pare at Lutton Gate Brige ande the other pare . . . Brige and the sayd clouse to be made by acar sylvar by (L^o) al them that . . . land in Lutton.

[473.VII.8]

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Preponit

[Al]so we thinke it mete and nesscary (to have¹) tow e shites oure our whort lannes the one at Lutton Gate Bryg [and ^s] the other pare at Mule Brege for the holdinge of the watar to the see worde.

Also we saye that we thinke it mete and nesecary to kepe a drane in the pettie drane of the weste syde of Lutton Gate landes of Thomas Jonson siwer wiche is a place mete and to kepe the watar to the see word.

(*Respect'*) Also we saye that we thinke it mete and nesecary to have a gottere cute one Brod Gate and Hal Gate under the Findike where by the watar of Lutton side maye have passhage to the gote bitwne the shierse.

(. . .) Also wee do saye that the goote betwene the shyres ought to be repared and mantained by acre silver of Sutton.

[473.VII.9]

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Flette varddyd

A notte of all the dafaltes within Flette and presented by the dygrvys queste the v yere of the reinene of our moste grassus qweine Elizabethhe.

(*Sowght Eye banke*) Furiste the sayd jurye sayght by ther othe the banke caullyd Sowght Eye Banke within Flette owght to be mayd and amendyd at all tymes by the qweines maieste & the lordes & inabytteres of Flette aforesayd by juiste as moere planly aperythe by a juiste bowokke.

(*The comman suer*) The sayd jurye sayght that the coman suer (of Flete¹) frome Sowght Eye Bankke tyll Mages Eyes Ende (ys evayle in dyverse places of the same and¹) owght to be dyked or clanssed at all tymes xij foytte wydde and vij speytte depe by aker syllver provydyd allwhays that the fenend watar by yownd Ravenes Brykes shaull roine allwhays in a plays caullyd the Oelld Eye onder Gedney Dellve.

(*The Oelld Eye This is respectyd to ower masters the Comissioners and the Comissioners have ordyred the . . . Mr Welby & Mr . . . to survey & testyfy to the coste*) And then dareklye to the goytte. And yffe the sayd fenend watter wyll roinge in the sayd Oelld Eye then the sayd Oelld Eye ys to by (dygkette^o) (dycked¹) and clanssed at all tymes by aker syllver. And yffe ut shall be thogt be the syght of Mr Addeler Welbe and Mr Man that the sayd Oelld Eye ys notte a good dreine for the fenend watar then the sayd Oelld Eye owght to be dygkette & clanssed from Ravenes Brygkes to Dollesdygke by all thoyse that haythe anye landes line betwen the riveye & the sayd Oelld Eye in the felld callyd Bellsshare by aker sylv[er] & the sayd Oelld Eye from Doellesdyke to Bronslan Baeres owght to be dykkyd ix foytt wyde & ij speytte depe by all thoyse that haythe anye landes liyne betweene Broynes land & Dollesdyke in a feelld caullyd Marssdykes by akersellver & the sayd Oelld Eye frome Broynes land Baeres to Pound Reyges Ende owght to be dykette ix foytte wyde & ij spette deype by all thowysse that haythe anye landes liyne agenste the sayme everye man agenste his oyn.

(*Brygkes*) The sayd jurye sayght that ther ys within the towne of Flette viij brygkes that ys to saye ij brygkes cawlyd Hargatte Brygkes & one brygke caullyd Kynges Brygke & one brygke caullyd the Churche Brygke & one brygke caullyd Proydfoytte Brygke & one brygke caullyd Benys Brygke & one brygke caullyd Scaelles Brygke (of new to be made¹) & one brygke at Flette Common caullyd Flette Stokke (to be repayred and amended¹) which owght to be mayd or amendyd at all tymes by aker syllver with a sheytte at the sayd stoke (and which owght to be . . . clanyssed at . . . seroytte and at a placysse . . .).

(*Clowysse*) The sayd jurye sayght that ther ys within the sayd townne iiij paere of clowysse that ys a paere of clowysse at the marces & a paere of clowysse at Myll Brygke & a paere of clowysse at Revenes Brygke & ther ought to be a paere of clowysse at Pound Reygkes Ende (if the water go that wate ag¹) for the retornnyng of the Fenend water and owght to be mayd or amenddyd at all tymes by aker syllver.

(*Goytte*) The sayd jurye sayght that the goytte within Flette ys deffectetyffe with settyng feines of Gednye (marse¹) & Olbyche (marse¹) which aer commonly keptte at this day by the townne of Flette & owght to be mayd or amendyd & the feynes ought to be dykkytte or clanssyd at all tymes by aker syllver (by the towne of Flette¹).

(*Heyddynges frome Ravenes Brygkes agenste the Oelld Eye*) The sayd jurye sayght that all the hayeddynges frome Ravenes Brygkes to Dolles Dyke agenste the Oelld Eye ys defferketyffe & ought to be mayd or amendyd at (all¹) tymes by all thowysse that haygh any landes liyne under the sayme everye man agenste his oyne & frome Dolles Dygke to Hargotte Brygke the haedynges agenste the Oelld Eye ys defferketyffe & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by all thowysse that haythe anye landes liyne under the sayd Oelld Eye everye man agenste his oyn.

(*Heyddynges agenste [com]mon suer*) The sayd jurye sayght that all the hayeddynges frome Ravenes Brygkes or Crayste to the clowysse¹ . . . the marce of borthe sydes of the common suere caullyd Flette Eye (ys defferketyffe &¹) owght to be mayd in hayg[ht and] breyd by all thowysse that haythe anye landes or gronde liyn agenste the sayd comman suer e[very] man agenste his oyn.

(*Sowght Eye Streme*)² The sayd jurye sayght that the mayn streme caullyd the Sowthe Eye ys in dakaye for lake of dygkyng and clansshyng for ut ys allmoste landdyd uppe and owght to be downne by the . . . or his tennantes for the laytt dyssollvyd howysse of Thornne.

The sayd jurye sayght that ther ys within the towne of Flette sertyn comman hay whays which ys deffe[ctive] & owght to be mayd at all tymes by coman menworkes by the hoylle toune of Flette

¹ The bottom of this folio is in poor repair.

² A hand drawn in the margin points to this entry.

(. . .¹) whan . . . furiste Lowgatte Este Gaytte Scaryff Gatte Ork-kulles Gaytte Jokkelles Gaytte Ravenes Gaytte Mylle Gaytte and Dollesdykk and Ravenes Dygkke a comman waye frome the coiste of Gednye to the coiste of Holbyche caullyd Spawlldyng Gaytte & another waye frome Hargatte Croyss to Steppying caullyd the Whaysse Waye & a waye caullyd Leneg Gaytte.

[473.VII.8d] The sayd jurye sayght that ther owght to be a paer of clowse or shette at a plaise (of the coman suer¹) (at . . .^o) betwene my lord of Sussex one the weste & one parte of Thomas Fysshar caullyd Saweres one the est ought to be mayd or amendyd at all tymes by akersyllver (& the coiste o^o) of the hoyll toune.

[473.VII.10]

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(23 *Flette Land Mere frome Sowght Eye to Ravynes Brygkes*) The sayd jurye sayght that Jhon Coker and Lauranse Wrytte for a cloyse of Mr Hary Pretton onder Sowght Eye Bank ys defecketyve there scower rodes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Jhon Coker and Laurans Wrytte.

The sayd jurye sayght that Wylliam Coker Jhon Coker Frances Paternoster Robertte Mattsson Jhon Fysshar Jhon Jhon [*sic*] Baresvell os defecketyve in the sayd Landmeer for a cloisse of my lord of Sussex xxj^{ti} rodes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd tennantes above namyd.

The sayd jurye sayght that Wylliam Coker for a cloisse of Mr Harryntones in the sayd Landmeer ys deferketyve x rodes & owght to be mayd in hayght and breyd by the sayd Wylliam Coker.

The sayd jurye sayght that Laurans Wrytte for sertying copy heolldes liyn onder the sayd Landmeer ys deferketyve iij^{xx} rodes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Laurans Wrytte.

The sayd jurye sayght that the toune of Flette for a sertying comman liyng onder the sayd Landmeer ys deferketyve lvij^{ti} rodes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the hoyll tounesheppe of Flette by coman menworkes.

The sayd jurye sayght that the heres of Rycharde Dysnye gentt. for a serttung groynd liyng onder the sayd Landmeer ys defeketyve xxvj^{ti} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght and breyd by the sayd heres or ther tennantes.

The sayd jurye sayght that Jhon Troytte for a sertying of his oin land liyn onder the sayd Landmeer & ys deferketyve xxxvij^{ti} roydes and ought to be mayd in hayght and breyd by the sayd Jhon Troytte.

The sayd jurye sayght that the parsson of Flette for one pisse of groynd liyn onder the sayd Landmeer ys deferketyffe xiiij^{ti} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd parsson or his tennantes.

The sayd jurye sayght that Jhon Troytte for a serttyng groynd liyn onder the sayd Landmeer which hey holdyght of the queines maieste & Humfre Bonfelde esquier & ys deferketyve xxvj^{ti} roydes & ought to be mayde in hayght & breyd by the sayd Jhon Troytte as tennantes to the sayme.

The sayd jurye sayght that John Coker William Coker Frances Patternoster Robertte Mattesson Jhon Fysshar Jhon Troytte Jhon Loyvell for a serttyng cloyse of my lord Sussex liyng onder the sayd Landmeer (ys defecketyve iiij footte & x roydes^l) & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd tennantes for the sayd cloyse.

The sayd jurye sayght that Jhon Coker Frances Patternoster Jhon Fysshar Robartte Mattesson for a serttyng cloisse of Mr Harynton liyn onder the sayd Landmere ys defecketyve iij soower v roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd tennantes.

The sayd jurye sayght that the quienes maieste & Humfre Bonfeeld for a serttyng cloisse liyng onder the sayd Landmeer caulld the Burntte feylld ys defecketyve iiij^{xx} vij roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the londhold[ers] to the same.

The sayd jurye sayght that the toune of Flette for ij littell peyssys of common in too playsses of the sayd Landmeer and ys defecketyffe iiij^{xx} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the hoyle tounnesheppe of Flette by coman menwerkes.

The sayd jurye sayght that Symonde Broing for a serttyng groyndes agenste the sayd Landmeer in one plaisse which hay holddyg of all the three lordes of Flette by laisse & ys defecketyve ij hunder iiij^{xx} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Symond Broyne.

The sayd jurye sayght that Jhon Negall for serttyng copy holldes liyn onder the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve xxx^{ti} royds [and^s] owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Jhon Negall.

The sayd jurye sayght that Symond Broyne for serttyng groyndes onder the sayd Landmeer in other too peisses . . . hoelldyght of all the there lordes of Flette by laisse & ys defecketyve a hunder v^{xx} roydes & owght to be mayde . . . & breyd by the sayd Symond Broyne as tennante to the sayme.

(. . . *landmcer*) The sayd jurye sayght that Laurens Clarke for a serttyng peisse of groind liyn onder the sayd Landmeer ys def[ective] . . . & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Laurans Clake or his tennantt for the saym.

[473.VII.11]

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(*The Landmeer frome Ravenes Dyeke to Grontes Wallles*) The sayd jurye sayght that Anys Coke for a peisse of Mr Harryngton liyn agenste the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve xxix rod[es and] owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd be the sayd Annys Coke tennante to the sayme.

The sayd jurye sayght that Mr Man for a serttyng peisse of groynd liyn agenste the sayd Landmeer of the quienes maieste ys defecketyve xxj^{ti} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Mr Man or his tennante for the sayme.

The sayd jurye sayght that Crystover Wylkynsson for a serttyng peisse groynd liyn onder the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve iiij^{xx}

v rod[es] & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Christover Wylkyngsson or his tennante.

The sayd jurye sayght that the quienes maiste & Humfre Bonfeldd esquier for a serttyng peisse caullyd Weddowes Lane liyn agenste the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyffe xix^{ti} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by Thomas Greine & Wylliam Cramper as tennanttes to the sayme.

The sayd jurye sayght that Jhon Thornton for a serttyng cloisse of Mr Harryntones liyn onder the sayd Landmeer & ys defecketyve (xxij^{ti} roydes¹) & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Jhon Thornton as tennante to the sayme.

The sayd jurye sayght that Jhon Lovys for a serttyng peisse of groynd of my lord of Sussex liyn onder the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve xv^{ti} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Jhon Lovys as tennante to the sayme.

The sayd jurye sayght that Cuttbarte Jaxsson for a peisse liyn agenste the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve iij roydes & owght to be mayd in heyght & breyd by the sayd Cuttebard Jaxsson.

The sayd jurye sayght that the queines maieste & Humfre Bonfeldd esquier for a serttyng peisse of groynd liyn onder the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve viij roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by Jhon Thorntton and Rychard Hollden as tennanttes to the sayme grond.

The sayd jurye sayght that Jhon Thorntton for a serttyng peisse of groynd liyn agenste the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve iij roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd Jhon Thorntton as tennanttes to Mr Harryngton.

The sayd jurye sayght that Sir Wylliam Cordwell for a serttyng groynd liyn agenste the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve viij roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by Thomas Greyne as tenante to the sayme by yeres.

(*The landmeer*) The sayd jurye sayght that my lord of Sussex for a serttyng groynd liyn onder the sayd Landmeer is defecketyve iij^{xx} roydes & owght to be mayd by the sayd lord or the tennante to the sayme in haygh & breyd.

The sayd jurye sayght that the toun of Flette for a serttyng coman caullyd Flette Landmeer ys defecketyve xxx^{ti} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the hoyll tounesheppe of Flette by coman menworkes.

The sayd jurye saygh that Robarte Thorppe for a piess of his oine lande liying onder the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve xxij^{ti} roydes & owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd the sayd Robartt Thorppe.

The sayd jurye sayght that the heres of Symond Whytte for a peisse liyn agenste the sayd Landmeer ys defecketyve xx roydes (& ¹) owght to be mayd in hayght & breyd by the sayd heres.

The sayd jurye sayght that Robarte Thorpepe for a peisse of groynd liyn onder the sayd Landmeer & ys defeckete[ve and] owght to be mayd in hayght and breyd by the sayd Robarte Thorppe.

(. . . *ome Gronges Walles . . . Spawlldyng Gatte*) The sayd jurye sayght that for a savyche as ther was never no landmeer nor creyste frome a plaisse ca[lled] Gronges Walles to Spawlldyng Gaytte one the owtte reing of the sayd toune (of¹) Flette (the jurye¹) hayght th . . . yt good that ther be ercktyd & mayd a new landmeer one the outte reing of the sayd toune for the dis- . . . of Holbyche whatter frome Flette frome the sayd Gronges Waulles to Spawlldyng Gaytte . .

Jurye sayght that the sayd new landmeer shalbe erettyd and mayd this furiste tyme by aker syllv[er by^s] the hooll toune of Flette & after yt be onese mayd by akersyllver the sayd jurye sayght that . . . mayd forever hereafter by fonttagers as all the reiste of the sayd landmeer ys everye man a . . . oine as ayght by a nolld tyme tyme withoutte the mynd of man.

(. . . *-edyeng*) The sayd jurye sayght that ther ys within the toune of Flette x pette dreines which drenes ought . . . clensshyd & scowryd at all tymes by all theisse that hayght anye landes liyn of bogh . . . everye man agenste his oyne for the whatter in everye feylld & partte of the sayd . . . [c]oman suer.

[473.VII.12]

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Anno quinto Elizabethhe regina Anglia etc.
et anno domini MDLXIII, 1563

(7 *Holbeche Southe Eye* 1) First the sayd jurye saythe theyr ys in Holbeche in a banke called Southe Eye banke iiij rodes defectyve for lake of height & bredthe the whiche ought to be exallted repared & amended by the quene our soveraynge ladye for hyr landes layt the house of Spauldyng. Item Mr Lytelbury is def. j rod. di. Item Sancte John College ij rodes def. in lye cayse. Item Mr Davye for Welbye of Halsted ij rodes def. Item Mr Carsay ij rodes def. Item William Burnet j rod def. Item theares of Harwelle pro Welbye ij rodes defectyve.

(*Shepe Eye Dyke in Holbech* 2) Item the sayd jurye saythe that there is a bank called Shepe Eye iij rodes defectyve for lacke of hyght & bredth and ought to be exalted repared & mayd by Mr Lytlebury. Item Mr. Davye & Mr Welbye for Meres ij rodes defectyve. Item Mr Knevet ij rodes def. Item the Quens College in Cambrege ij rodes def. Item Mr Barrinton ij rodes defectyve. Item Mr Carsaye for Tatyshalle College iij rodes def. Mr Grandyshe ij rodes vij pedes def. Item theares of Sugar ij rodes iiij pedes def. Item the hares of Carten ij rode def. Item William Burnet (j rode & ¹) vij pedes defectyve. Item Mr William Callow ij rodes defectyve. Item theares of Mr Harwell iiij rodes def. Item theares of Cayr j rod def. Item Mr Cornewalle ij rodes defectyve. Item Mr Pullvertofte off Waplod dim. rode defectyve in lyke maner as afoyre.

(*Comone Dike in Holbeche* 3) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther is a bank called Comone Dyke is defectyve in diverse places and ought to be exalted and mayd hygher by the land holders of the landes in Holbeche as aperethe by a ioyst book ther of maid acording to the ould awncent custom.

¹ The bottom of this folio is in poor repair.

(*Ravens Dyke in Holbeche* 4) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther is (in¹) a bank called Ravens Dyke v rodes defectyve for lak of heght and bredthe and ought to be exalted repared & maed by the lord Dakeres. Item Mr Lytleburye v rod def. Item Mr Knevet iij rodes def. Item Mr Goodyng & Mr Stowe j rod def. Item Mr Barrynton j rod def. Item Mr Davye for Rydalle iij rodes defectyve. Item Mr Rychard Ordyng for Tybot ij rodes def. Item the quene our soverayng (ladye¹) for Crowland vij rodes def. Item the quene for Spauldyng vij rodes def. Item the bysshope of Lyncoln ij rodes def. The quene for Brydlenton ij rodes def. Item the sayme for Tetforthe ij rodes def. Item the comonte (of Holbyche of¹) the west syed of Ravens Dyke ij rodes dim. def. Item the comonte one the est syed j rod dim. def. Item Mr Davye & Foster for Sergeantes v rodes def. Item Mr Carsaye j rode defectyve. John Thacker of Dametes j rod def. Item Mr Pulvertofte of Dorset ij rodes def. Item Henrye Jellowe iij rodes defectyve. Item Mr Rychard Ordyng for Tygo iiij rodes def. Item [space] Barneston ij rodes def. Mr Davye (for^c) for Waryng j rod def. Item Mr Davye for Lottes ij rodes def. Item Mr Cornwelle v rodes def. Item Mr Davye ij rodes x pedes def. Item the haeres of Glover j rod. def. Symond Whyet ij rodes def. Item Mr Covelle v rodes xvij pedes def. Item John Marten for Bare vj rodes def. Item Mr Halltoft iiij rod v pedes defectyve. Item the lord Wentforthe and the lordes of Flet ij rodes viij pedes def. Item theares of Branche iij rodes vij pedes def. Item Bargans and Wylsay iij rodes def. Item the comonte of Holbeche x pedes def.

(*Hirdeltry Dike in Holbeche* 5) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther is a banke called Hirdletrye Dyke iij rodes of the lord Dakeres defectyve for lake of hyght & bredthe & ought to be exalted mayd and repared by the sayd lord. Item Mr Knevet xiiij rodes def. Mr Whytepole for the Quens Colleg in Cambryg iij rodes def. Item Mr Goodyng & William Stowe iij rodes def. Item Baude and Barynton xv rodes def. Item Mr Davye for Welbye vj rodes def. Mr Davye for Kyddalle ij rodes def. Item the quene for Crowland viij rodes def. Item theares of Upton iij rodes def. Item the comontye of Holbeche j rod def. Item Mr Carsay iiij rodes def. Item the bysshope of Lyncoln ij rodes def. Item theares of Carton iij rodes defectyve. Item John Thacker of Dametes iiij rodes def. Item William Burnet ij rodes def. Item theares of Suger iij rodes def. Item Garner (& wedo Thome Ogle¹) ij rodes def. Item Mr Davye for Lottes iij rodes def. Item Henry Jellowe iiij rodes def. Item theares of Mr Harwelle xiiij rodes def. Item Mr Davye for Waryng iiij rodes def. Item Mr Rychard Ordyng for Tigo iiij rodes def. Item Mr Davye for Sybsaye ij rodes def. Mr Davye for Holbeche Hyrne chapelle v rodes def. Item Mr Pulvertoft of Dorset vj rodes defectyve.

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(*Hirdeltrye Dyke*) Item Mr Davye for Sergentes vj rodes def. Item Mr William Callowe for frontayge ix rodes def. Item Mr

Gybon v rodes def. Item theares of Symond Whyet vj rodes def. Item Mr Cornwell v rodes def. Mr William Callowe for Fyeld ij rodes def. Item theares of Bradowe ij rodes def. Item William Cramper v rodes def. for his frontayg. Item Mr Ryed of Boston j rode def. Item theares of Glover iiij rodes def. Item Mr Covelle vij rodes def. Item John Marten for Bare v rodes def. Item theares of Thomas Haltoft iiij rodes def. Item John Thacker for Hillaythes vij rodes def. Item the lordes of Fleyte ij rodes def. Item Mr Dysnaye iiij rodes def. Item Mr Davye for Tofte ij rodes def. Item Bargayns and Willsaye ij rodes def. Item the comontye of Holbeche ij rodes def adioyning uppon Flett Landmere.

(*The great ryver* 6) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther is many places in the great ryver def. for lake of dyken clensyng & scowryng frome Comone Bridge to Chalens Fyeld corner otherwise called the Eyes Ende and in dyveres other places frome Chalens Fyeld corner to boyth the gottes and ought to be dyked clensted & skowed frome tyme to tyme be acresylvere.

(*Brydges* 7) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther is serten brydges that ys to say Church Brydge, Hye Crosse Brydge & Saterdaye Brydge & Madens Brydge is in ruinge and decaye and ought to be maed repaired and mended by acre sylver accordyng to the oulde auncient custom.

(*Clowes* 8) Item the sayd jurye saythe that yt is meyt & necessarye for the inhabytans of Holbeche to have a payr of clowes at Saterdaye Brydge or ellse at sum other place wheyr the sayd inhabytans shall thynke most convenient to kepe the rayge of the water whene ned shalbe, and the saime to be maed by acre sylver, the whiche (for said¹) clowes to be and set at Ravens Dyk Brydge.

(*[Kow]fyeld Gott* 9) Item the sayd jurye saythe that theyr ys a gott in Holbeche called Kowfyeld Gott is clearlye decaed and landed up because the Flett is landed up and the oute fynes by the great sylt of the see.

(*Hedyngs* 10) Item the sayd jury saythe that the hedynges frome Comone Dyk to Asgardyk off the west syed of the Eye is defectyve and ought to be maed and so kept, by every land holder that buttes upone the sayme when drye yeres wyll serve.

(11) Item the sayd jurye saythe that the hedynges of the west syed of the Eye frome Asgardyke to Gygellydyke is defectyve and ought to be maed and so kept by the landholders buttyng off the sayme.

(*Barres* 12) Item the sayd jurye saythe that yt is lawfulle for everye mane to sett a payr of barres upone his hedynges wher he is charged or off any other joyste bank for savyng the banke frome the frete off cattelle.

(13) Item the sayd jurye saythe that the west syed off the Eye frome Gygellydyke to Ravens Dyke is defectyve and ought to be maed repaired and mended by comone mynwork by the habytans of Holbeche.

(14) Item the sayd jurye saythe that frome Ravens Dyk to Hyrdletrye Dyk one the west syed of the Eye is defectyve and ought to be mended and repared by the inhabytans off Holbeche by comone mynworkes.

(15) Item the sayd jurye saythe that frome Hyrdletry Dyke to j hoise of Mr Ogelles layt Blyttes one the west syed of the Eye ys defectyve and ought to be mayd by the land holders that buttes upone the sayme accordyng to the auncient custom.

(16) Item the sayd jury saythe that (the hedynges¹) one the est syed of the Eye frome Flett Landmeer to Ravens Dyke is def. and ought to be maed repared and mended by the land holders that butes upone the (accord^c) sayme accordyng to the auncient custome.

(17) Item the sayd jurye saythe that (the hedynges¹) upon the est syed of the Eye frome Ravens Dyk to Hirdletrydyke is def. and ought to be maed repared and mended & so kept by the land holders that buttes upon the sayme accordyng to the auncient custom.

(18) Item the sayd jurye saythe that the waye of the est syed of the Eye frome Hirdletrye Dyke to John Randes is def. and ought to be maed repared and mended by comone mynworkes by the inhabytans of Holbeche.

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(*Hedynges* 19) Item the sayd jurye saythe that all the hedyng dykes of the est syed of the Eye frome John Randes to Churche Brydge and frome Churche Brydge to Washegayt & frome Washegayt to boythe the gottes is def. agaynst the great ryver and oight to be kept with dames and clowes everye mane agayst his owne roynyng upone the rever.

(20) Item the sayd jurye saythe that upon the west syed off the Eye frome bothe the gottes to Washegayt & frome Washegayt to Churche Brydge & from Churche Brydge by the ryver syed to a close called Senseser Yearde all the hedyng dykes is def. and ought to be maed and so kepte with dames and clows as is aforsayd by everye landholder that butes of the saym.

(*West petye drayne* 21) Item the sayd jurye saythe that the West Petye Drayne frome the obbet land some tyme Blyttes and the landes of Tetforthe and so to Apes Brydge is def. for lake of dykene & rodyng clensyng & skoweryng & ought to be repared dyked clensed roded skowered by the owners of the landes buttyng upon the sayme accordyng to the auncient custome.

(22) Item the sayd jurye saythe that the sayd West Petye Drayne frome Apes Brydge to Further Ouldgayt & frome Further Ouldgate & so by Blacke Welle Cott & so into the ryver is def. for lake of rodyng clensyng skoweryng & dyken and ought to be roded clensed skowred and dyked by everye landholder buttyng upone the sayme.

(23) Item the sayd jurye saythe that the sayd West Petye Drayne frome Hirdletrye Dyk to Further Ouldgayt and so to on house of Mr Ogelles latte Blyttes & so into the ryver ys def. for lake of rodyng dykene clensyng and skoweryng and ought to be roded clensed dyked and skowered by everye land holder that butes upon the sayme.

(*Est Pety Drayne* 24) Item the sayd jurye saythe that theyr is a drayne called the Est Petye Drayne frome a place called Tylles unto a brydge nyghe Robert Thorpes house is def. and ought to be repaired clensed roded dyked and skowered by the lande holderes that buttes upone the sayme accordyng to the auncient custome.

(25) And the sayd jurye saythe that all the other petye drayns of the est syed of the Eye is defectyve for dykene, rodyng, clensyng and skoweryng and ought to be dyked roded clensed and skowred by the landholders byttyng upon the saym.

(26) Item the sayd jurye saythe in lyke maner that all other petye drayns upone the (other petye^e) west syed of the Eye is def. for dyken rodene clensyng and skoweryng and ought to be dyked roded clensed and skowered by the land holders buttyng upone the sayme.

(27) Item the sayd jurye saythe that theyr is dyveres hedynge in the divisyone betwene Holbeche and Qwaplod frome the comone see dyke to Spauldyngayt is defectyve for lacke of heght & ought to be maed indeferentlye by the inhabytans of Holbeche and Qwaplod.

(*Hedesman* 28) Item the sayd jurye saythe that wheras enye hedes man havyng within his hundr(e¹) the diveres peres & hunderares or helperes that upone monissione gyvene by the hedes mane or his deputye to his sayd helperes or hundereres to run to helpe to make anye suche bankes as the hedes mane is charged with & they doe not run that thene yt shalbe lawfulle to all suche hedesmen to distrayne everye suche pere or hunderer for syche charges as they or every of ther partes shalle aryse unto, for anye suche dyk or bank maken & the rest of the monye remanyng of the dystres to repaye to the awn-eres of enye suche dystres so takene so that the bank therby may be presentlye mayd.

(29) Item the sayd jurye saythe that yt shalle be lawfulle for every dygrayve after monysson gyvene to the hedes mane to make his dik, by a resonable day & doethe not mak the sayme, that thene yt shalbe lawfulle to the dygrave to distrayn the same hedes man for the maken of the sayme banke, and the dygrayve to have for his payns therin taken every day viij d., that he or they shalle attend for the maken of eny just banke, over and besyde the charges laid forthe by the sayme officer or dygrave for the maken of the sayd banke.

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(*[M]amer Gayt* 30) Item the sayd jurye saythe that theyr ys a gate in Qwaplod called Mamer Gate frome a house of Mr Ogelles layt Hyndes is def. for lake of heght, frome the sayd house to Further Ould Gayt and ought to be maed exallted repaired and mended frome tyme to tyme by the inhabytans of Qwaplod by comone mynwarke accordyng to the auncient custom.

(*Crayns Gayt* 31) Item the sayd jurye saythe that theyr is a gayt called Crayns Gayt frome Further Ould Gayt to Hyrdletrye Dyke ys in ruing and decaye for lake of heght and ought to be mayd exalted repaired and mended by the inhabytans of Holbeche by comone mynwarke.

(32) Item the sayd jurye saythe that Crayns Gayt frome Hirdle-trye Dyke to Ravens Dyke is in ruing and decaye for lake of heghte and ought to be exalted repared and amended and so kept by the inhabytans of Holbeche and Qwaplod by comone mynwarkes.

(*A clowe in Qwaplode* 33) Item the sayd jurye saythe that theyr is a clowe at a place called Gayse Hurne in Qwaplod whyche ought not to rune at anye tyme before Qwaplod Eye syedes be sufficientlye exalted & heghned, frome Gayse Hyrne to Spauldyng Gayt of the bothe sydes of the sayd Eye, whiche ought to be exalted & heghned by the land holder abutting of the sayme Eye in dyveres places and by the inhabytans of Qwaplod by comon mynwarkes (in . . . places¹) and by house rodes in other places as apereth by the recordes remanyng in the sayd towne of Qwaplod, accordyng to ther auncient custom.

(*Lyttell Porsand Banke* 34) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther is a banke in Qwaplod called Lyttelle Porsand Bank extendyng from Shepe Eye Stowe to the clowse at Gays Hurne & frome Gayse Hurne to Catche Could Corner is in great ruing and decaye for lak of heghte whyche ought to be exalted & heghned as apereth by Qwaplod just booke accordyng to the ould auncient custome, upone suche paynes as the comyssyoneres of the sueres shall thynke goode.

(. . . *great ryver . . . the eye* 35) Item the sayd jurye saythe that the great ryver called Southe Eye ys defectyve frome Dousdaylle house to Flett Land Mere corner for lak of haffyng & rodyng of Thornaye Fene syed, whyche ought to be haffed roded & censed by the quene our soveraign ladye or elles be the lord of Bedforthe or his tenantes as haythe bene of ould tyme accustomed.

(*Barres* 36) Item the sayd jurye saythe that one payr of bares ought to be set upon Shepe Eye for the quene our soveraign ladye for Qwaplod, and one other payr for the lord Dakeres in Holbeche to be set upone the sayd banke, and kept barred (frome the fest of St Marten in wynter to the Annuntiation of our Ladye and lenger yf ned shall require by any great doune faulle of water¹).

(37) Item the sayd jurye saythe that one payr of barres ought to be maed and so kept and sett upone the Southe Eye banke for the quene our soveraign ladye for Qwaplod, and one payr to be mayd and set in the sayd Southe Eye bank for the lord Dakeres in Holbeche, as ys aforsayd.

(*Lowe Dyke* 38) Item the sayd jury saythe that theyr is a dyk called Low Dyk extendyng frome Catchcould Corner to Brotherhouse is in great ruing and decay and ought to be maed exalted repared and mended by the inhabitans of Moulton, Westone and Spauldyng as yt haythe hertofoyr beyne accustomed, tyme (with¹) out (of^c) mynd of mane.

(*[Mou]lton Caunsay* 39) Item the sayd jurye saythe that theyr is a dyke called Moulton Caunsye extendyng frome Lowe Dyke to Gouldyke next to the clowes at Moulton Eyes and is in great ruing & decaye for lake of heght and bredth whyche ought to be exalted & heghned by the inhabytans of Moulton by comone mynewarkes & by the landes holderes abutting of the sayme.

[473.VII.16]

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(21 [*Asg*]ar Dike 40) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther is a dyke called Asgardyke in great ruing and decay for lak of heght and bredthe and ought to be maed in heghte & bredthe, fyrst be acre sylver and thene ever after to be maed by a joyst booke as yt haythe bene used before tyme, whene drye yeares wille serve.

[[*Bar*]res 41) Item the sayd jurye saythe that yt shalbe lawfulle for every mane beyng charged with anye bankes or hedynges to barre and shutt uppe every suche bank for the better kepyng of the sayme ether with barres or hedges & especiallye in wynter, & to sett suche quyke settes for the better mayntanyng of the sayme bankes herafter as shall seme best & convenyent to the awner of everye suche bankes.

[[*E*]st Pety Drayne 42) Item the sayd jurye saythe that one petye drayne in Damgayt called the Est Pety Drayne which ledethe frome Hyrdletrye Dyke to Matmergayt End whyche ought to falle in frome the petye drayne to the mayne drayne ward betwene the landes of Goodyng and Stowe northe & the landes of John Davye & Fraunces Boulton gent. southe & so to the landes of William Foster & Baude and Barryngton southe, & so to the hye waye & over the way betwyxt the landes of Baude and Barryngton in to the comone ryver and there to falle in & no other ways.

(*Slaker or clowe* 43) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther shalbe a slaker or clowe laid at the est end of Holbeche comone dyke wheras the comone brydge nowe lyethe, of iiij footes wyed & that the sayd clow or slaker shalle rune at all (tymes^e) suche tymes in to the comone suer of Holbeche, as the clowe or slaker doethe that shalle lye in Qwaplod comone dyke & rune into Qwaplod comone suer by a petye drayne of the est syed of the banke next Lytle Poursande and not other wyse, for the socayg of Southe Eye & Shepe Eye that sokethe in to Holbeche & Qwaplod comone ought to be drened as well by Qwaplod as by Holbeche, & that the sayd clowe or slaker ought to be maed & renned frome tyme to tyme by acre sylver.

[[*Hedy*]nges 44) Item the sayd jurye saythe that the hedynges of the est syed of the sayd pety drayne extendyng frome Qwaplod comone dyk to Qwaplod Eys End next to Gayshurne, by the whyche petye drayne the comone water shall descend in to Qwaplod Eye shall be frome tyme to tyme mayd by the land holderes buttyng upon the sayme.

[[*We*]rstedes 45) Item the sayd jurye saythe that ther shalbe no were stede mayd or kept with in the commone suer of Holbeche under xij fottes wyed, and that everye man that kepethe enye were (in the same suer shalle rode iij rodes of every syed of the sayd were¹) next adioynynge to the sayme were, frome tyme to tyme, so that the water at eny tyme in the sewer be not letted or hyndered, upone suche payne as shalle be appoynted by the Commyssyoneres.

(*Common Waye* 46) Item the sayd jurye saythe that wher any comone gayt hedyng or commone waye dothe lye abuttyng of the

commone sewer, the sayd gayt hedyng or way syed shalbe at all tyme & tymes, be [sic] sufficientlye exalted repared & amended by the inhabytans of Holbeche by commone mynwarke.

[473.VII.17]

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(11 *Moulton*) the verdyt of Edmonde Brymstone John Wolsey Nycholas Brybage John Hurst and John Ellyngton dykraves¹ . . . the fyfte yere of the reign of oure sovereign lady the queene Elizabeth etc.

(*Moulton Ses Ende A vyew by the . . . before the . . . of July next. The dreyn dyked. Est Fen to runn*) In primis the seyde jure sayth that wher there ys at Moulton Ses Ende (tow^o) two hollowe trees the one to take and dreyn the Est Fen, and the othere the West Fen for the mayntenauns of the commen swer, wherby the dreyn may contynually run to the mayteynauns of the gote with water, and for lack of water contynually rynnynge out of the seyde hollowe trees, the seyde gote ys almost forworn & syltyd with the salt water, as also the seyde dreyn from the Ses Ende unto Brodwater ys also forworn for lack of dykynge clensynge and skoweryng that the bankes wyll not bere no grett water to take awye the rage of the water in the Est Fen & West Fen when eny necessaryte doth . . . wherfor of necessaryte the seyde dreyn may be letted out, and that the dreyn may be dyked by the lordes and land holders by acre sylver, as also the hollowe tre of the Est Fen syde may contynually run, and the West Fen to serve in necessaryte of water for the seyde dreyn as also for the releiff of the hole inhabitans of Moulton.

(*The crest to be a joyse banke 5^{to} Eliz.*) ²Item also we sey that wher there ys a crest or banke betwene the Est Fen and West Fen hath byn to be made by the fermors owners & tenauntes of the groundes within the seyde Est Fen, as also by a commen menworke of the hole towne for theyre commen there, that nowe foras moche as hertofore the seyde Est Fen hath not byn charged with noe (b^o) joyse bankes nor with acre sylver nor no charge within the seyde towne, wherfor that (he^o) from hensforth the seyde Est Fen may with all the landes therein conteyned rate lyke be charged to make and mayntene the seyde grest of banke (called the Cawsye¹) in the name of theyre joyse banke, for that the hollowe tre may contynually (run and¹) dreyn the Est Fen as also to be charged with acre sylver as othere landes within the seyde ys charged.

(*Fen groundes and town groundes equally charged Moulton*) ²Item we sey that wher there ys a newe gote erectyd and made by the inhitauntes of Moulton to theyre grett charges specyally for the dreynynge of the loue groundes in Moulton to the number of one (t^o) thousand acres and more, (the^o) and that they that are owners of the seyde fen groundes are charged in acre sylver but with one peny an acre when the hy groundes be charged with two penes an acre whych the inhitauntes of Moulton doth fynd them fore ground therwith, whych ys contrary to all lawe reason or consciens, and also

¹ This folio is in a poor state of repair.

² A hand drawn in the margin points to this paragraph.

contrary to all other townes within the Ellowe whych be charged with as moche in acre sylver in fen groundes as the hy groundes are, and that from hensforth the seyde fen groundes to be equally charged with the hy groundes.

(*A pety dreyn*) Item the seyde jure sayth that from Moulton Ee on the west syde thereof under the seedike unto Beryholmes Corner to be taken for ever hereafter & to be used & kept as a pety dreyn, and that all owners fermors & tenauntes that have eny passege over the seyde pety dreyn do make bryges over the same, as also a substancyall hollowe tre to be leyde, at Mersholmes Stowe ledyng to (m^c) Norndowes at the proper costes and charges of the lordes fermors of the marshes there to dreyn the water betwene Moulton Ee & the seyde Mersholmes & to pass unto the dreyn late called Weston Mere, and that all owners tenauntes & fermors that have eny landes buttyng on the same pety dreyn to rode skower & clense the same as ought as nede shall require, whych pety dreyn ys nowe in grett ruyn and decay for lack of rodyng and clensyng the same.

[473.VII.18]

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(*12 Acre sylver & dykyng the dreyn This ys respected to the Commyssyoneres that befoure made dyscression*) Item we sey that forasmoche as the statute of sewers doth geve unto all dreynes whych doth or . . . dreyn eny landes medowes pasturs or fen groundes to be charged & of ryght ought to be charged with acre sylver, as also with rodyng scoweryng and dykyng of the seyde dreyn, by whych the landes medowes pastures or fen groundes do dreyn or may dreyn, that nowe forasmoche as the township of Moulton hath made and erectyd one neue gote within the parishe of Spaldyng, wherby there be divers newe groundes that shalbe dreyned in the northsyde of the seyde dreyn from Beryholmes Corner unto Wykmere that the seyde (d^c) groundes from hensforth may be charged with acre sylver to the seyde dreyne for the dykyng rodyng skoeryng & clensyng thereof as ought as ned shall require.

(*Bellesmore*) Item the seyde jure sayth that there ys a banke called Bellesmore Dyke betwyxt the seyde Bellesmore & Weston Turpyttes ys defectyve & in decay & ought to be repayred in suffycient heyght and breth by the quenes maieste or by the tenauntes or fermor of Bellesmore.

(*Goldyke*) Item the seyde jure seyth that there ys another banke called Goldyke lying betwene Moulton Fen and Weston Turpyttes in grett ruyn and decay from Goldyke to Dowedyke (viz. vj score rode & more¹) and ought to be repayred exalted and mendyd by the quenes maieste as in the ryght of the late lord markques or by fermor therof.

(*Gole dyke*) Item we sey that Gole Dyke ys defectyve in divers places & ought to be repayred & mendyd by our sovereign lady the quene & othere accordyng to a joysboke remaynyng in the town of Moulton.

(*Lowedyke and Garnersdike*) Item we sey that Lowedyke and Garnersdyke ys defectyve (for lacke of height & bread¹) in diverse

places & ought to be repayred & mendyd by our sovereign lady the quene & others accordyng to a joysboke remaynyng in Moulton.

(*Memento*) (Bankes to be made suffyciently in height & breadthe with all spede possyble uppon syche paynes as the Commyssioners shall thynke good.¹)

(*Pety dreynes*) Item we say that there ys diverse pety dreynes aswell falling yn to Moulton Ee as into Weston Mere nowe the commen sewer of Moulton are in grett ruyn & decay for lacke of dykyng scoweryng & clensyng & ought to be dyked clensed & scoweryd by all men lyng or buttyng on the same dreynes, and that all places where they shall fal into the ees to be kept suffyciently banked for drounyng of the feld untill suche tyme in wynter as the pety dreynes wyll run out of the feld.

(*The commen sewer bankes. Memento*) Item the sayd jure seyth that the commen sewer bankes called Moulton Ee sumtyme called Weston Mere be in divers places on the est side of the seyde of the sewer ys defectyve in heyght & bredth & ought to be repayred & mendyd by the inh[ab]itauns of Moulton by commen meynworkes as also the commen sewer bankes called Moulton Ee from the clowes to Neue Brige on both sides the ee ys defectyve in heyght & bredth & ought to be repayred heynded & mendyd by the inh[ab]itauns of Moulton by commen meynworke, and from Neue Brige to Nycholles Brige on the west side of the seyde sewer ought to be repayred heynded & amendid by the inh[ab]itauns of Moulton by commen meynworke, and from Neue Brige on the est side of the seyde sewer ys also defectyve to Nycholles Brige & ought to be repayred heynded & amendid by the land holders and fermors buttyng on the seyde sewer, from Nycholles Brige on the est syde to Brusters Brige ys also defectyve & ought to be repayred heynded & mendyd by the inh[ab]itauns of Moulton by commen meynworke. Also they sey that from Herbys Grene Ende to Lowgate Brige on the est side ought to be made by the inh[ab]itauns of Moulton by commen meynworke and the est of the seyde sewer bankes by the frowtegers buttyng on the seyde sewer.

(*Memento*) All thes faultes above declared to be done with spede, uppon suche paynes as shalbe thoght by the Commyssyoneres. Item yt ys fully agreed by the hole jure that the clowes lying at Mollton (End^o) Eyes End for drenyng of (Moltone and that¹) the Est Fen & West Fen and the clowes that lye there at Molton Meres End, lately Weston Mere for the dreynyng of Weston Torre Pyttes shall have from hensforthe contynewally, escept for a sarteyn (wylle whyle^o) myne, that the said Molton Eye or Molton Mere be dyked (or clensed¹) & not other wyse for forsaid (m^o) clewes at Molton Eye End and the clowes at Molton Meres End shall not for eny other cause hereafter be stopped, for the cuntrye (under . . . ¹) therby be at all tymes in the rage of eny watars in danger of drownyng.

[473.VII.19]

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(*Hedyngs*) Item the sey that there ys place ayenst the pety dreyn between Marsholmes Stowe and Dommor' feld that ys in decey for

lack of heyght and brethe and ought to be repayred heynd and mendyd by Thomas Welby gent. John Sheppard gent. Anthony Egar John Showthing John Lewes & other & ought to be made by them.

Item we sey that it ys leffull and necessary for the inh[ab]itaunts of Moulton for to make & stope all the water that shall dystend or cum on the west side of Moulton Ee to have hys course to Weston Mere & there to fal in.

(*Asgardyke*) Item the seid jure saith that there ys a dyke or banke called Asgardyke ledyng from Moulton sidyke to Whaplod Ee & so over the Ee to Holbych Ee whych has byn a banke of most auncyent defence of Whaplod & Holbyche whych ys in grett ruyn & decay & ought to be repayred dyked & exalted and mendyd by the townshypes of Whaplod and Holbyche.

Item they say that Fawkens hedying at Michelmas next shalbe clerly stoped up and Moulton Mere late called Weston Mere shall falin betwen Beryholmes and a pastur nowe in the tenure of Rauff Bygott and so into a dyche betwen John Covell gent. and the seid Rauff Bygott and so over Hall Gate thorowe a diche betwen Mr Purley and the seid Mr Covyll and so thorowe one old ee to a dyche by the northend of xx^{ti} acres and so over Sandy Drove and so into a dyche betwen Covell and Old Gote Lees and to Long Hilles Ende and so into a dyche in Pytffylde betwen the landes of Mr Harryngtons on both sides and so to falin into Wykmere and so to the newe gote nowe erected and made aswell by the assent and consent of the inh[ab]itaunts of Spaldyng and Weston as by the inh[ab]itaunts of Moulton. And thys to be done at the costes and charges of the inh[ab]itaunts of Moulton by acre sylver, and there (to have¹) a dame in Wykmere at the faling in of Moulton water.

Item also they sey that Wykmere shall fallin a dyche of the northside of the dame abovesed, betwen Cote medowe and Grett Howenrest being both the proper groundes of John Harryngton esquier and so to there gote and thys to be done at the costes and charges of the inh[ab]itaunts of Weston by acre sylver.

(*Belgate Ee*) Also the seid jure seith that Belgate Ee shalbe retourned at Wydikes Ende thorowe the seid Wydikes to the southe ende of xx^{ti} acres and so thorowe the gyte into Wykmere and so to there gote and thys to be done afor Mychelmas next at the costes and charges of inh[ab]itauntes of Weston by acre sylver.

(*Nycholles Brige*) Item the seid jure seyth that Nycholles Brige ys in gret ruyn and decay and ought to be repayred made and mendyd by the (inh[ab]itaunts of^o) lordes and landes holders of Moulton by acre sylver.

(*Two paire of cloues*) Item we sey that it is necessary and convenyent to have two payre of cloues for the defence of the salt water viz. one payre at Brouns Brige and another payre at Nycholles Brige or in some convenyent place nere unto the seyde briges and they to be made at the costes and charges of the lordes and landholders of Moulton by acre sylver.

(*Weys in the common sewere*) Item we sey that no man make nor occupy no weyrested in the commen sewer except it be xij fote wyde apon (a^o) (suche¹) payn (by your^o) (as shalbe thought good by the¹) distressions to be sessed of the Comyssoneres.

Item we sey that the commen sewere at Mr Welby Brige ys strattyd by reason of (a¹) dounge hill that hath born down the hege there into the sewer.

Item the holle jure saith that the bankes in Molton called the Cauusey (ys^o) exstendyng from Molton Lowe Dyke of the south to Moltone Eyes End next the cloues ys (nowe¹) in greate ruyng and decay for lacke of height and breade with good menar (d^o) which ought to be exalted and heighned with good meanare by the inhabytauntes of Molton for there comon ground ther and by the land holders which have eny landes lying within the Est Fene of Molton. [473.VII.20] 142

The dykegreves verdyt at the sessyons of sewars holden at Spaldyng in the vth yere of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth by the grace of God quene of England etc., anno domini 1563.

(*Whaplode* 1) ¹Imprimis the sayd jurye saythe that Southe Eye ys defectyve for lack of rodyng from Dowsdale to Parkyns Cote of Thornay side, and ought to be amended by the quenes charge, or her fermors.

(2) Item the sayd jury saythe that greate Ship Eye Banck ys defectyve in highte and breadthe, from Ship Eye Stowe to Podyche Cloote in dyvers places, which ought to be amended by joycement as followethe, Mr Littlebery viij roode, Mr Ogle for Hew Byrde ij rode, Mr Pratt ij roodes, Thomas Thacker ij roode, the lord Wentforthe ij roode, Mystres Irby for Sergeantes j rode, Mr Pulvertofte of Whaplode iiij roodes, the chauntry of Tyd iij roodes, Wylliam Callow gent. for Mr Reedes ij roodes, the quenes maiestie for the late pryor of Spaldyng vj roode, Gilbert Pynchebeck iiij roodes, the heres of Teryngton iij rood, the heres of Symond White iij roodes, Mystres Irby for Elles iij roodes, John Freman of Molton iij rood, Richard Nycoll iij roodes, Mr Purlay iij roodes.

(3) Item the sayd jury saythe that, Lytle Ship Eye banck ys defectyve in highte and bredthe, and oughte to be amended by joycement as followethe, Mr Lytlebury iij roodes, the quene for Crowland vj roodes, Henry Hunston gent. j roode, Wylliam Callow for Waryng iij roodes, Richard Ordying gent. for Barbers ij roodes, Thomas Thacker iij roode, Mr Ogle for Harvis j roode, Mystres Knevitt xxx roodes, William Kedby vj roodes, Mr Ogle for Symond Calow, iiij roodes, Pereson for Walton j rode, the lorde Wentforthe j roode, Mr Covell viij roodes, Mr Covell for Porters ij roodes, Mr Purlay viij roodes, Mr Pratt for Pipwell j rood, Richard Ordying gent. for Haltoft (v^o) iiij roodes, Mr Gibon for Peakes ij roodes, Mystres Irby j roode, Nycholas Wylliamson ij roode, lorde Dacres ij roode, the lordes of Molton ij roodes, Richard Thomas j roode, Symond

¹ A hand drawn in the left-hand margin points to this paragraph.

Sycklebruce j roode dim., the college of Cambridge and Mr Barington iiij roodes, Mr Pulvertofte of Dore ij roodes, lady Launde ij roodes, Mr Gamble for land late Robert Rosse iiij roodes, Mr Purlay j roode dim., the lordes of Molton v roodes.

(4) Item they say that one banck cald Whaplode Syde Dyke from St Katheryns Stone to Molton Fen ys defectyve in serteyn places in highte and breadthe, which ought to be maid and amended by joysement (of^c) as followeth, Mr Lyttelbery xij roodes, Wylliam Scarlet vj roodes, William Tasche j roode, the quenes maiestie for Crowland xxx roodes, Mr Pratt for Parcote iiij roode, Henry Hunstone gent. v roodes, Mr Ogle for Hew Byrde ij roodes, Mr Callow gent. for Waryng v roodes, Thomas Thacker v roodes, Mr Ogle for Harves ij roodes, Thomas Capitt vij roodes, Mr Knevitt xx roodes, the lord Wentforthe ij roodes, Mr Covell iiij roodes, Mr Purlay ij roode, Mr Richard Ordying for Haltoftes x roodes, Mr Pratt for Pipwell j roode, Mr Gibon for Peake viij roode, Mr Pulvertofte of Whaplode ij roode, the chauntry of Tyd iiij roodes Nycholas Wylliamson j roode, Thomas Mayne ij roode, lorde Dacres ij roodes, the lordes of Molton xij roodes, Richard Thomas iiij roode, Symond Sycklepryce j roode, the (lorde^c) college of Cambridge and Mr Baryngton iiij rod, Wylliam Wylsby of Spaldyng ij roodes, Mr Pulvertofte of Dorc' v roodes, the lordes of Molton ij roodes, Mr Gamble for Roses ij roodes, Wylliam Callow gent. for Mr Reedes landes ij roodes, the quene for Spaldyng, iiij roodes, Wylliam Tasche for Welbys vj roodes, Henry Hunston gent. ij roodes, Gylbert Pynchebek ij roodes, the heres of Teryngton ij roodes, the heres of Symond White iiij roodes, Mystres Irby one roode, John Freman of Molton ij roode, Mr Purlay j rood, the lordes of Molton viij roode.

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(5) Item they say that Ravensdyke from St Kateryns Stone to a pasture cald Goole Medow ys defectyve in highte and bredthe, and oughte to be maid and amended by joycement as followethe Mr Tasche ij roode, the quene for Crowland vj roodes, Mr Ogle for Byrde ij roodes, Thomas Thacker iiij roodes, Mr Ogle for Harvis ij roodes, Thomas Harvy for Capytt v roodes, Mr Knevitt xx roodes, Robert Pereson for Walton iiij roodes, Richard Ordying gent. for Barbers iiij roodes, Mr Covell xij roodes, Mr Pratt for Pipwell vj roodes, Mr Ordying for Haltoftes iiij roodes, Mr Gibon iiij roodes, Thomas Thackeston ij roodes, Nycholas Wylliamson iiij roodes, Thomas Mayne iiij roodes, lord Dacres iiij roodes, lordes of Molton ix rood, Rychard Thomas iiij rood, the college of St Johns in Cambridge and Mr Baryngton ij roodes, Mistres Irby for Pryckafeld iiij roodes, Mr Pulvertofte of Dorc' iiij roodes, the lordes of Molton iiij roodes, lady Lawnde ij roode, Mr Gamble for Robert Rose ij roodes, Wylliam Callow gent. for Mr Reede ij roodes, the quene for Spaldyng ix roodes, Henry Hunston gent. ij roodes, William Tasche for Welbys x roodes, Mystres Irby for Ellys iiij rood, the heire(s^d) of Teryngton iiij roode, the heires of Symonde White iiij rood John

Freman of Molton iiij roodes, Alexander Symson iiij roodes, the lordes of Molton vj roodes.

(6 *This (is¹) referred to the judgment of the Commyssoneres entyll a traverse be tenderd and followyd afoot and tryd, the execucion to be as yt ys here resolved*) Item they say that Randall Dyke extendyng from St Kateryns Stone to a pasture of the lordes of Molton ys defectyve in highte and breadthe which ought to be amended by Whaplode and Holbiche by comon meneworke.

(7) Item they say that the sayd Randall Dyke from the sayd low pasture, to Molton Hall Stowe, ys defectyve in highte and breadthe, and oughte to be mayd and amended by the lordes of Molton Hall.

(8) Item they say that there ought one paire of clowes to be sett at Gayeshyrne, to dreyn the water forthe of Litle Porsam into Whaplode Eye, when the sayd water may be kept within chenell.

(9) Item they say that the townshippe of Whaplode ought to have a slaker of the water forth of Whaplode common, in to the pety dreyn that lyethe under the este side of Shipp Eye (of iiij foote wide¹) and the said water to be taken in at Gayeshyrne, and that the clowse be layd thorough Common Dyke in Mr Knevittes bank, at the costes and charggs of Whaplode in this the same to rune contynwillye.

(10) Item they say that the west side of Whaplode Eye from Gayshyrne to Symondes Bridge ys defectyve in serteyn places in highte and breadthe and ought to be maid and amended by Whaplode by common meaneworke.

(11) Item they say that the este side of Whaplode Eye from Gayshyrne to Asgarsdyke ys defectyve in highte and breadthe, which ought to be maid and amended by the fruntagers thereof.

(12) Item they say that the este side of Whaplode Eye from Asgarsdyke to Gegills Dyke ys in ruyn and decay which ought to be mayd and amended by common meaneworke, of Whaplode.

(13) Item they say that the este side of Whaplode Eye from Gegills Dyke to Semans Brige ys defectyve in highte and breadthe, and ought to be mayd and amended by Mr Cony of Basyngthorpe and Humfrey Lyttlebury gent.

(14) Item they say that the este side of Whaplode Eye from Seamondes Brige, to Dykes Brige ys defectyve in highte and breadthe, which oughte to be amended by fruntagers, except iiij roodes at Wylsays Crosse which oughte to be mayd and amended by common meaneworke by Whaplode.

(15) Item they say that one bank cald Asgarsdyke belongyng [to ^s]¹ Whaplode ys in ruyn and decay which ought to be mayd and amended by comon mynwyrke of [Whaplod]e.

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(15 [*sic*]) Item they say that the west side of Whaplode Eye from Semans Brige to Dykes Brige ys defectyve in highte and breadthe which oughte to be once mayd by thenhabitantes of Whaplode, and

¹ The bottom of this sheet is defective.

then to be so kept by the house roodes and landholders of Whaplode afforesaid.

(16) Item they say that one gate cald Maumergate, from the Ferther Old Gate to the house late Hyndes, now Mr Ogles, ys in ruyng and decay which ought to be maid and amended by the township of Whaplode by common meaneworkes.

(17) Item they say that thenhabitantes of Holbyche oughte by common meaneworkes to make Craynsgate from Further Old Gate to a place cald Coles at Hurdletre Dykes End.

(18) Item they say that Whaplode and Holbyche oughte to make Craynsgate from Coles to Ravensdyke by common meaneworkes.

(19) Item they say that Molton Low Dyke from Catchecold to the new cawnsey ys in ruyng and decay, which ought to be mayd and amended by the quenes maiestie, and by other joycers.

(20) Item they say that one cawnsay cald Newcawnsay from Lowdyke to the clowe at Molton Eye Corner ys in ruyng and decay which oughte to be maid and amended at the quenes charge (chargs of Mr More¹) and (otheres of¹) the township of Molton.

(21) Item they say that one bridge cald Symondes Bridge ys in ruyng and decay, and oughte to be maid and amended by acresylver.

(22) Item they say that one bridge cald Dykes Bridge ys in ruyng and decay, which oughte to be mayd and amended by acresylver.

(23) Item they say that one bridge cald Ropers Bridge ys defectyve whiche oughte to be mayd and amended by acresylver.

(24) Item they say that one bridge cald (Ropers^o) (Calowes¹) Bridge ys in ruyng and decay, whiche ought to be mayd and amended by acresylver.

(25) Item they say that Common Dyke in Whaplode ys defectyve in dyvers places from Ship Eye Stow to Holbyche common bank, which oughte to be maid and amended by joycers.

(26) Item they say that the heddynges ought to be kept from Common Dyke to Gayshyrne over the este of the pety dreynne at all tymes when the water runnethe forthe of Whaplode common by the fruntagers therof.

(27) Item they saye that yt is lawfull that every heddes man shall strayne his doseners so often as he shall nede for the makinge of severall bankes in Whaplode and to be praysed and solde by two indifferent men, and the stresse so taken to be broughte to any of the (iiij¹) lordships in Whaplode.

Item the said jure (sayth¹) that ther ys a sarteyn pece of Ravensdyke (otherwyse called Goule Dyke¹) between the devysyon of Whaplod and Holbyche between the jussebanckes ther which ought to be made at all tymes when nede shall requyre by acre sylver of (the^o) (of¹) of the acre(s)^o as appere by an old record by these person herunder wrytten that ys (and^o) to say xl acres late Flottes and xij acres acres [*sic*] of Mr Irbye late Halltoft, which percells of groundes are not other wyse charged but onely to that.

Item the sayd jurye saye that it shalbe lawfull for the dyggreves of Whaplode or who shall be churrgyd elrse shalbe charged so¹ . . . Ee sydds to sette barres or heggs apou the same ee syds so often a[s n]ede for the savigarde of the sayd ee bryngkes.

[*Endorsed* :—] 1568 [*sic*]

[473.VII.23]

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¹. . . that ther ys a bank called Call . . . and Weston Turpytes ys defecty and in decay and ought to be repayred . . . the quenes maiestie or by the tenantes or fermor thereof.

(*Gole Dyke*) Item the seid jure saith that there ys a nothere banke called Gole Dike lying betwen Moulton West Fen and Weston Turpyttes ys defecty and in decay from Lowdike to Goldike and ought to be repayred exalted and mendyd by the quenes maiestie as in the right of the late lord markques Dorset or by the fermor therof.

(*New Cawsey Respectuatur 2^{oo} Eliz.*)² Item we present the Newe Cawsey from Lowdike to Goldike ys defectyve for lacke of . . . same and ought to be heynd and diked by all those that have landes within the E . . . townshipe dothe theyre meynworth day every land holdere in the East Fen . . . there.

(*Lowe Dike Gole Dike and Garnerdike*) Item we present that Lowdike Gole Dike and Garnerdike ys defectyve in divers places and ought to be repayred and mendyd by our sovereign lady the quene and othere accordyng to a joyse boke remaynyng in the towne of Moulton.

(*A newe payer of cloues at Turpyttes*) Item we present that the cloues at Turpyttes Cornere fallyng the watere therof into Weston Mere now called Moulton Newe Eee ys in ruen and in decaye and ought to be newly made by the land holderes of Moulton by acre sylver.

(*Turpytes Corner to Tunes Brige*) Item we present that Weston Mere nowe Moulton Newe Eee from the colves at Turpittes Corner ys defecty and in ruen for lacke of dykyng (and ought to be dyked by t^c) to Tunes Brige and ought to be diked by the inh[ab]itauntes of Moulton by acre sylver.

(. . . *Eee* . . .) The seyde jure sayth that the common eee bankes called Moulton Eee are defectyve in divers places in heyght and brethe and ought to be repayred heynd and mendyd by the inh[ab]itauntes of Moulton viz. from Moylton Eees Ende unto Newbrige on bothe sides the Eee by comen meynworke, and from Newbrige to Nicolles Brige on the est side of the Eee to be made heynd and mendyd by the land holders and fermors buttyng on the same, and from Newbrige to Nicolles Brige on the west side of the Eee by comen meynworke, and from Nicolles Brige unto Garners Brige on the est side by comen meynworke, and from Nicolles Brige (unto^c)

¹ The condition of this folio is poor.

² A hand drawn in the left-hand margin points to this note.

on the west side of the Eee unto a pyngell ende on the northe of Anthony Heydon to be made heynd and mendyd by the land holderes and fermores buttyng on the same, and from the northe ende of the same pyngell on the west unto Browns Brige to be made by commen meynworke, and from Brouns Brige on the west unto the gotte by the land holders buttyng on the same, and from Garneres Brige on the est side unto the northe ende of Herbys Lytyll Grenes Ende by the land holders buttyng on the same, and from Herbys (G^o) Lytyll Grenes Ende on the est side unto Lowgate Brige by commen meynworke, and from Lowgate Brige unto the gotte on the est side the Eee by the landholders buttyng on the same.

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SOMERSET

Minchin Buckland
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