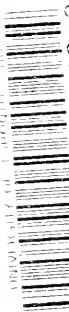


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The
Coventry Leet Book:
OR
Mayor's Register.

Early English Text Society.

Original Series, No. 138.

1909.

BERLIN: ASHER & CO., 13, UNTER DEN LINDEN.
NEW YORK: G. SCRIBNER & CO.; LEYPOLDT & HOLT.
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The
Coventry Leet Book:

OR

Mayor's Register,

CONTAINING THE RECORDS OF THE CITY

Court Leet

OR

View of Frankpledge,

A. D. 1420-1555,

WITH DIVERS OTHER MATTERS.

TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED BY

MARY DORMER HARRIS,

AUTHOR OF "LIFE IN AN OLD ENGLISH TOWN: A HISTORY OF COVENTRY
COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS."

PART III.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED FOR THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY

BY KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRÜBNER & CO., LTD.,

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1909.

ADDITIONS AND ERRATA.

- p. 628, note 1, for "the *Boke of Husbandrie* is sometimes attributed to him" read "the *Boke of Husbandrie*, sometimes attributed to him, appears to have been the work of his elder brother, John Fitzherbert, Lord of the Manor of Norbury from 1483 to 1531" (Sir Ernest Clarke).
- p. 781, for "Joh. Warde, mercer" read "Joh. Waide, mercer."

PR

III =

A:.

6213

Original Series, No. 138.

RICHARD CLAY & SONS, LIMITED, LONDON AND BUNGAY.

FOREWORD.

To the historian of social life this—the third and concluding—portion of the Leet Book proper will be of the greatest interest. It is true that, unlike its immediate predecessor, Part III has few of those vivid personal touches concerning the doings and character of the citizens, or the movements of royal folk, such as gave so distinctive a feature to the episode of Laurence Saunders or the chronicles of the Wars of the Roses.¹ As a set-off to this deficiency, however, local historians and philologists will be inclined to attach great value to the frequent occurrence of familiar names and of rare words, special characteristics of the formal and business-like entries of which Part III mainly consists. On the whole, therefore, the matter of this issue is so instructive that, though the manner of it is rather precise like the lawyer's than discursive like the chronicler's, this volume must be regarded as of equal, though divergent, value with that of its predecessors.

It is impossible in these few words to deal with the economic questions which beset England between 1496 and 1555. They must wait for the more ample space of the Introduction in the concluding volume. But one salient problem for the town-dweller appears with startling frequency in this volume and cannot be quite passed over—it is the adjustment of the opposing claims of the monopolist craftsman within the town and the stranger at the gate, a matter further complicated by the intrusion of the town employer and consumer.² The stranger appeared as workman, craftsman, buyer and seller, and found his liberty restricted in every capacity. As a workman, possibly residing in a neighbouring village, he competed with the native craftsman, carpenter,³ weaver⁴ and fuller⁵; as a buyer he came into conflict with the native purchasers of raw material, yarn,⁶

¹ See, however, for survivals of this literary spirit Roger à Lee's election, pp. 619-21; Henry VII's death, pp. 625-6; and Walgrave and Whitley, pp. 626-7.

² See p. 795.

³ p. 807.

⁴ p. 661 *et passim*.

⁵ p. 704.

⁶ p. 791.

meat,¹ hides² and tallow³; and as a seller with the native purveyers of victual.⁴ The orders of Leet concerned with the making and unmaking of the craft of butchers, and with the admission and exclusion of the "Warwick" members of that calling, are among the most instructive entries later scribes have preserved for us.

Though the information we gather from these pages concerns men rather locally than nationally famous, circumstances have so combined to keep their memories fresh that the mere mention of many is a thing that adds interest to the record. Such are the names of Bond,⁵ Ford,⁶ Pisford,⁷ Wheatley,⁸ who, from the permanence of their charitable foundations—associated as they are with Tudor buildings of rare beauty—have gained at least a local immortality; while the memories of Wade,⁹ Nethermyll,¹⁰ Swylyngton,¹¹ are likewise recalled by tomb or effigy in S. Michael's. The names of William Hopkyns,¹² Richard Sewall,¹³ Edward Dampore¹⁴—or Davenport—strike a familiar chord by reason of our acquaintance with the doings of their better-known collaterals or descendants, a remark applying with particular propriety to William Shelley,¹⁵—not a Coventry man though he served as recorder of the city—whose family a later scion has made famous all over the world.

Another recorder sprang from the historic Warwickshire line of Throckmorton¹⁶; another, Antony Fitzherberde—or Fitzherbert¹⁷—a relative of the Willoughbys of Middleton, was famous as a legal writer; while a third, also with local connections, Edward Saunders,¹⁸ is mentioned in the pages of the martyrologist, Foxe, and gains, through his brother Laurence, a certain interest. The author of the *Acts and Monuments of Martyrs*, whose wife's father and early patron was one Randall¹⁹ of Coventry, refers also to other citizens, Christopher Waren²⁰—or Warren—and Thomas Ryley,²¹ in connection with Glover, the martyr, and to Richard Hopkyns.²²

When we come to consider special words we note the unusual meaning, rare or early occurrence, of bowet,²³ strike,²⁴ forest iron,²⁵

¹ p. 637. ² pp. 585, 689 *et passim*.

⁴ pp. 717, 780, 795, 803. ⁵ p. 588.

⁸ p. 779. ⁹ Chris. Wade, p. 694.

¹² p. 598. ¹³ p. 724. ¹⁴ p. 796.

¹⁶ p. 806. ¹⁷ p. 628. ¹⁸ p. 764.

¹⁹ The name of William Randle occurs p. 721. Possibly this is Foxe's patron.

²⁰ p. 811. ²¹ *ib.* ²² *ib.* See also Astelyn, p. 694.

²³ p. 588. ²⁴ p. 657. ²⁵ p. 745.

³ p. 650.

⁶ p. 582.

⁷ p. 600.

¹⁰ p. 634.

¹¹ p. 642.

¹⁵ p. 635.

piece-work,¹ and maystyme.² Botomes³ has a Shakespercan interest. Among technicalities of the cloth trade we can only infer the meanings of bondyng⁴ and dobbyn,⁵ while wronghalf⁶ eludes inquiry. The use of the words ardolf,⁷ targes⁸—in connection with sport—and grand warrant⁹ in this volume is, as far as I have been able to learn, unique.

Some miscellaneous matter, together with the introduction, glossary and index, will form a fourth volume.

¹ pp. 773, 792.

⁶ *ib.*

² p. 787.

⁷ p. 719.

³ p. 796.

⁸ p. 690.

⁴ p. 639.

⁹ p. 684.

⁵ p. 646.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

1¶ [V. f. p. held on Thursday after Michaelmas, 12 Hen. VII.]

Ric. Lee, Joh. Gauge, Joh. Thrumpton, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Hen. Marler, Tho. Bailly, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. Hopkyns, Ric. Smyth, Tho. Bonde, Will. Tailour, Will. Worth, Geff. Arthem, Tho. Padland, Joh. Gryme, Ed. Hulcote, Joh. Mathewe, Joh. Hadon, Rog. Mason, Joh. Stronge.

[Edm. Barbour, Will. fletcher, sherman.]

[Orlained] that no maner persone dwelling within this Cite frohensfurth vexe, troble, assaute nor varie with eny his Neighbours withoute þe Citie in eny ffeire, market, or other place be measne of þe lawe feynyng matier ayenst hym or other wyse be which he myght take eny hurte in his persone, name or goodes, vppon peyn to lese at every default Cs. without pardon to þe vse of þe Condite to be aploied.

At þis lete were Joh. Tedde & Hobley presented that they had bought & sold in gret hidēs contrarie to þe ordenaunces peruppon made etc.²

At þis lete was graunte to Will. Nashe þe Grey-fre[r]-zate & ij gardeyns duryng his life, vt [p]atet in filaciis.³

HEN. MARLER, MAYOR, 1496 7.

4¶ [Election of a new mayor in Coventry on Saturday, Dec. 3. 12 Hen. VII. before Will. Roweley, formerly mayor of the said town and holding the place (*loco (sic) tenente*) of the office of mayoralty of the said town,—that office being vacant by the death of Joh. Dove formerly mayor of the seid town, who died (*dium suum clausit extremum*) on Saturday Nov. 26 last preceding, and Ed. Barbour and Will. fleccher, bailiffs of the said town.⁵]

Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Tho. Churchman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. Hopkyns, Ric. Aleu, Will. Tayllour, Joh. Gryme, Gal. Arthem, Tho. Maydford, Tho. Padland, Ed. Hulcote, Ric. Nores, Rob. Bowyer, Joh. Throughley, Tho. Grove, Joh. Whythed, Joh. Sissell.

¹ leaf 278, back. ² v. p. 557.

³ As in the files [of the Leet more fully] appears.

⁴ leaf 279. ⁵ "iuxta etc." follows.

"Concentre"
Oct. 6

Jury.

Sheriffs.

Orders of
leet.
Litigation
forbidden.

or 100s. fine.

The purchase
of hidēs
wholesale.

Grant of
land to the
common
sergeant.

"Concentre."

Electors.

{They elect H. Marler mayor until the next feast of the Purification. And this interval shall be accounted to him for a whole year, and for the remainder of his life he shall have as great privilege & liberty as he who has occupied the office for two years.]

Qui eligerunt (*sic*) Hen. Marler Maiorem, vsque festum Purificationis B. Marie virginis tunc proximo sequens. Et tempus illud stabit sibi pro vno anno integro, et decetero durante vita sua habebit tam grande privilegium & libertatem in omnibus sicut & ille qui officium illud per duos annos¹ integros in Ciuitate predicta preantea occupauit.

WILL. FORD OR FORTH, MAYOR, 1497.

"Conentre,"
Jan. 25.

• [2 Election of officers.]

Will. Roweley, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Tho. Bailly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Ric. Alen, Will. Hopkyns, Joh. Gryme, Gelf. Arthern, Tho. Maideford, Edw. Hulcote, Tho. Padland, Ric. Nores, Rob. Bowyer, Joh. Throughley, Tho. Grove, Joh. Whitehed, Joh. Sissell.

Officers.

[m. Will. forth; cor. Rob. Topelyf; ch. Will. Bromley, Joh. Smyth, peauterer; w. Joh. Clerk, Grocer, Joh. Saunders, capper; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Joh. Toures.]

SOLDIERS.

"dyn⁹,"
Mar. 1, 1497.

Mem. that þe iiijth day of March [12 Hen. VII] the Maire assemblyng his brether to þe nombre of xlvij because of a commaundement direct to them fro þe kynges grace be þe priue signet to be acertayned howe many persones fensibly arraied at þe kynges wages his grace shuld haue oute of þis Cite to attend vpon his grace in his viage roiall towards Scotland, at which tyme was graunted xl able persone[s] with a Captaign then named, Tho. Maidtford,³ to be fensibly arraied with jaketes & a standard to awayte vpon his grace at his wages, which shuld be prepared at þe cost of Craftes in þis Cite as foloweth.

There accom-
pany the
king on his
voyage to
Scotland

[Mercers and fishmongers 5 men; drapers and skinners 5 men; dyers and barbouris 3 men; smiths and cooks 2 men; girdlers 1 man; weavers, bowyers and fletchers 2

"40 souldiers
set forth by
Comp^{ys}."

¹ Marler had served previously, v. p. 503. ² leaf 280.

³ The same man who was wounded at Bosworth, v. p. 532.

men; whittawers, glovers and tanners 3 men; tailors and shearmen 3 men; corvisers 3 men; wiredrawers "with Humf. Belchier, Will. Overton, Ric. Crosseley & Wilkes" 1 man; wrights, pinners, tilers 1 man; bakers, millers, "with Joh. Pachet and Hen. Broune," 3 men; walkers and cappers 2 (4) men¹; butchers 3 men; cardmakers, painters, saddlers and masons, "with Ropers, berebruers and Hen. Crosse," 2 men; "fforreyns" 2 men.]

THE FIFTEENTH.

²Mem. that at þe parliament holden at Westmynstre [Jan. 16, 12 Hen. VII] there was there graunted to þe kynges grace towardes his viage roiall into Scotland ij hole xv^{es} & a subsidy amountyng to þe somme of ij hole xv^{es}; þe first xv & þe half subsidy to be payable þe last day of May then next folowyng; and the other xv & half subsidy to be paide the viij day of Nouembre then next folowyng, yf þe kynges grace went not into Scotland, & vppon oþer condicions as in the acte þerof made more pleyuly appereth. The seid ij xv to be levied after the olde vsage & custom vsed to levie & pay xv^{es}. And to þe subsidy amountyng to þe somme of ij hole xv^{es} there shuld no persone pay onlesse he myght spend xx s. be yere ouer all charges, or els þat he be worth in goodes x marc' ouer all charges not accomptyng his plate nor houshold. Which first hole xv^e & þe half subsidy was paide at þe day assygned & þe other half subsidy was pardoned, & þe ij^{de} hole xv^e was payable as appereth *proximo folio*.³

1497.

Two
fifteenths
and a
subsidy.
Half pay due
May 31.

half Nov. 8.

Here folowen the names of þe Collectours of þe first xv^e payable þe last day of May *anno xij^o II. vij.*

May 31, 1497.

[For the names of wards,⁴ hamlets⁵ and sums⁶ v. p. 406-7. The collectors' names are missing.]

¹ ij d. = 2d. in MS. ? a mistake. There are 39 men without any supplied by the walkers and cappers. ² leaf 280, back.

³ The first subsidy is given, leaf 280, back; the second (*proximo folio*) i. e. leaf 281.

⁴ "Wel-strete" given instead of "Bis-hop-strete."

⁵ "Asthul" and "Wodend" are not expressly named.

⁶ On p. 407 Weston is assessed at 2s. Here "Weston iiij s. pro Boyes-waste" occurs; but a smear over the first two strokes of the iiij s. looks like an intended deletion. On leaf 281 it reads "Weston pro Boyswast iiij s." No total from wards or hamlets on leaf 280, back.

Nov. 8, 1497.

¹ Here followen the names of the Collectours² of a hole xv payable³

[See above for names of wards, hamlets and sums. Total from the wards £50 0s. 8d. No total from hamlets.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Conentre."
Apr. 6

⁴ [V. f. p. held before Will. forth, m., Ed. Barbour, Will. flecher, b., on Thursday after the close of Easter, 12 Hen. VII.]

Jury

Will. Roweley, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braitoft, Joh. Gauge, Tho. Baylly, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygston, Tho. Chirchman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Will. Tailleur, Will. Hopkyns, Geff. Arthern, Tho. Maideford, Tho. Padland, Joh. Hadon, Edw. Hulcote, Ric. Jakson, Rob. Chambre, Will. Bromley, Joh. Saunders, Capper.

⁵ "for the
Cundites."⁵

⁶ "No brewer
to fetch
water,

They woll & ordeyn that no bruer nor Malt maker nor oþer person frohensfurth fet eny watir at eny of þe Cundites within þis Cite to brue ne to stepe, but only for dressing of mete & drynk, [or 20s. fine, half to the sheriffs, half to the eundnit at every default.] And þat prouision be made be Maister Maire & his Counceill that grates & lokkes be made to loke with all the Cundites in þe nyght, & persones named to kepe þe lokkes & to vnlok hit in þe mornynge; & to lok hit at certen tymes as can be thought resonable; and þat the Chamberleyns & wardeyns with þe comien seriant within viij daies next suyng make serche yf eny suspirals⁷ be in eny house, garden or other grounde within þis Cite. & that knowen they furthwith to be closed & stopped & non such to be suffered hereafter in no wyse nor for no money; and that euery person that hereafter can espie or prove eny persone offend contrarie to þe premisses & woll shewe hit to Maister Maire, or þe alderman of his warde, haue for his so shewyng & prouyng viij d. parte of þe seid forfeit etc.

nor no pipes
for prival
uses."

Informers
to haue s*id.*
reward.

¹ leaf 281. In both cases of the collection I have sacrificed chronology to subject matter. ² Not given.

³ Blank. ⁴ leaf 279. ⁵⁻⁵ Contemporary gloss.

⁶ Later hand. ⁷ = openings.

[Ordained] that þe ordenaunce before made þat no bochour shall sell his hides in gret sale shuld stand in effect & be executory; ¹ and þat þe Tanners within þis Cite haue fre liberte to bye at all daies & tyme after þe hide is of þe bestes bak, so þat hit lye in þe market iij houres; and þat no straunger by no maner hides but on þe market daies, þat is to sey, Tewesday, Thursday & Seturday; and that frohensfurth nother on þe parte of þe Tanners, ne of þe bochours, ther be eny confederacy or prinate ordenaunce made amonges either of þe seid Craftes contrarie to þe ordenaunces afore made be lete, & which myght be hu[t]-full to ether of þe seid Craftes, or contrarie to þe comien wele, [or 20s. fine for every default, half to the sheriffs, and half to the conduit.]

"Betwix
Tanners &
Bochours
ordenaunce."

Hides to be
three houres
in the
market.

[Ordained] that Buttur & Johan his doughter shuld fynde suerte of theire gode demeasnyng hereafter.

2 "For But-
tour and his
doughtour." 2

[Ordained] at þe perticion of þe hole fleship of smythes that no man shuld set vp within this Cite to occupie be hym-self vnto þe tyme he were agreed with þe maistre of þe Craft, & to pay for his fyn xx.s., hit to be paide in iij 3eres be even porcions.

2 "For þe
Smythes." 2

3 ¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday before S. Edward King and Confessor, 13 Hen. VII.]

"Convent."
Oct. 19.

Hen. Marler, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Bailly, Tho. Chircheman, Ric. Lee, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Ric. Smyth, Will. Taillour, Will. Hopkyns, Joh. Duddesbury, Geff. Arthern, Edw. Hulcote, Tho. Padland, Joh. Darlyng, Tho. Maidford, Ric. Jakson, Will. Bromley, Joh. Saunders.

Jury.

[Tho. Grene, vyntoner, Will. Deister, Grasyer.]

Sheriffs.

[Ordained] that all maner persones that hereafter will haue the belles to ryng after þe decesse of eny their frendes they shall pay for a pell ryngyng with all þe belles ij.s., xx.d. perof to þe Chirchewark ⁵ & iiij.d. to þe Clerkes; and yf he woll haue but iiij belles xvj.d., xij.d. to the Chirch & iiij.d. to þe Clerkes. And as for iij belles every person þat will haue them to paye but iiij.d. to þe Clerkes. ⁶

2 "For
ryngyng
of belles." 2

4 "2s. a peale
5 bells, xx d.
a peale 4
bells." 4

¹ See p. 557. ²⁻² Contemporary gloss.

³ leaf 279, back. ⁴⁻⁴ In later hand. ⁵ *i. e.* repairs.

⁶ The church affairs are evidently managed by the corporation.

111 For the
Cundites¹ 2

[Ordayned] that every persone inhabityng within þe wardes of þe Croschepying, Smythford, Brodegate, Sponstrete, Erle-strete, & Bailly-lane hauyng & openyng a hall durre shall paye quarterly towardes the reparacion of þe Cundites ijd.,¹ every shop ob., every Cotage ob., the first day of payement to begyn at þe fest of Cristmas nex[t] comyng. And who-so denyeth payement of þat he is taxed, he to be distreined be þe Gaderers þerto assigned for the double þat he is taxed; and þe seid Gaderes to haue every of them for their labour every quarter iiij d.

112 For an
every hall
3 s. 6.

Here folowen the names of þe Gaderes thei assigned at þe seid lete :—

113 Collectors of
the rate.

Croschepying. John Peyntour, Ric. Stevenson.

Erle-strete. Hen. Hynde & Joh. Bradbury.

Brode-gate. Joh. Clerk, Rog. Bromley.

Bailly-lane. Ric. Shore, Ric. Garton.

Smythford. Ric. Baron, Will. Alen.

Spon-strete. Tho. Gates, Mores Smyth, Joh. Eyburn.

114 For þe
Comien
Ryver and
stretes.² 4

[Ordayned] that all maner persones hauyng grounde adioynyng to þe Ryuers of þis Cite that they sufficiently let clense þe seid Ryuers before their groundes betwix þis and þe fest of seynt Marten next comyng [or 6s. 8d. fine] þat to be levied oppon every person not perfourmyng þe seid ordenaunce be þe comien seriant & Crier for the tyme beying, and to þe vse of þe Cundite; and they to haue for their labour of every vjs. viij d. forfetyd xij d. And after þe Ryuer is so clensed every man frothensfurth to kepe hit clene before his grounde, vppon þe seid peyn. And that every persone takyng eny persone vppon his grounde beryng eny filth into þe Ryver, or if he fynde hym [blotted and illeg.] þat he haue cast into þe ryuer, then such person that taketh such offender haue auctorite be þis present lete to distreign such offendour, or take plege; and þat distresse or plegge to kepe vnto þe tyme he haue made satisfacion towardes þe clensyng of þe seid Ryuer, that to be demed be þe alderman of þe warde where such defalt shall hap to fall. And that all open & comien places as be adioynyng to þe seid Ryuer be sufficiently

115 The river to
be clensed,
the fines to
be levied by
the common
sergeant and
the crier.

116 Informers
may distrain
upon
offenders.

¹ "d" repeated.

²—2 Contemporary gloss.

made with pale or otherwyse *pat* no person may cast dong into pe Ryuers in such places. And that every person every Saturday fro hensfurth for ever let swepe the stretes before their groundes, & the dong furthwith to ber away. And yf eny person fayle eny Saturday in *pat* partie he to lose ij d. furthwith to be paide & gadered be pe *comien seriant* & Crier for the tyme beyng, which shall every Sunday at afternoon & pe Munday go thurgh pe towne to ouerse that hit be kept contiuielly & wokely, the seid officers to haue j d. & pe *oper j d.* to pe vse of pe Cundite. And yf eny person defendyng¹ refuse to pay ij d., & *pat* shewed to pe Maire for the tyme beyng be pe seid officers, then such person to paye iiij d., half to them and half to pe Cundite. And also hit is ordeyned *pat* the seid officers fayle not wokely to ouerse & execute duely & truly pe *premisses*, vppon pe peyn to lese iiij d. for every woke, that to be leviyd be the swirdberer & pe Meirs *seriant*, half to themself & half to pe Cundite.

The streets to be swept on Saturday

or 2d time

or on refusing 4d.

The officers are not to fail to make a weekly collection.

THE MAYOR'S ACCOUNTS.

² *Mem.* that Will. fforth, *Mayor* of pe Citie of Couentre, the Wensday next before pe fest of pe *Purificacion* of our Lady, the xijth zer of the reign of kyng Henre pe vijth at Couentre aforeseid before Joh. Wygston, the *Maister* of pe Trinite Gilde, Hen. Marler, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Tho. Bailly, R. Colman, Ric. Lee, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, & Joh. Paulland in pe Counceill-house in seynt Marie hall shewed & made a cler accompt of such money as he had reseeyued *pat* 3^{re} to pe vse of pe Cite.

Jan. 31, 1498.
The mayor

first, he reseeyued of Hen. Colyns, Bochoar, for a fyn xls. Item, of money gadered of *dyuers persons* in pe wardes of pis Cite for pe *reparacion* of pe Cundites viij li. Item, of Bakers & Bochoars & other *pat* offended contrarie to pe ordynaunces³ of pis Cite at *dyuers tymes* xxxix s. viij d.

received 49s. for a fine

68. 02. 04. for the conduits;

lines
£1 19s. 8d.

total
£11 19s. 8d.

Summa totalis receeyued xjli. xixs. viij d.

Of which somme was spent in lede & oder thynges

¹ denying. ² leaf 280, back.

³ A stroke of "n" missing.

Payments
£10 0s. 0d.
Balance
£1 19s. 8d.

necessarie for reparacion of þe Cundites as the seid Maire therz & then shewed openly before his seid Brethern more at large xli. & so þer rested vnspent xxxix s. viij d. Which somme of money the seid Maire then & there let put into a bag & left hit in þe Counceill house in þe Maires Bowet¹ ther.

He thus
departed
quit.

Et sic quietus recessit.

THO. BONDE, MAYOR, 1498.

"Coutente."
Jan. 25.

² ¶ [Election of officers.]

Joh. Wygeston, Hen. Marler, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Tho. Churchman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Joh. Haddon, Will. Tailour, Tho. Maydeford, Tho. Padland, Ed. Hulecote, Will. Pysford, Joh. Dwall, Joh. Sissell, Joh. Smyth, Baker, Joh. Througley, Ric. Nores.

officers.

[m. Tho. Bonde; cor. Rob. Topelyff; ch. Hen. Perkyns, David Chyrk, Corniser; w. Ric. ffoxale, Joh. Norton, Capper; mace, Hen. Walker; erier, Joh. Tours.]

THE BENEDICTINES' CHAPTER.

About July 2
the black
monks hold a
chapter here
and go on
procession.

³ This 3ere the Chaptur of blak monkes was kept at Couentre aboute þe visitacion of our Lady. And many of them cam on the Seturday at nyght, & some on þe Morowe & taried there vnto Wensday; at which day they had a general procession. And they came forth at þe south durre in þe Mynstere & toke their wey thurgh the newe bilyng downe þe Bailly-lane. And the Maire & his Brethern in their scarlet Clokes with all the Craftes in their best araye stode vnder þe Elme in Seynt Mighelles Chirchyard. And all þe pensels⁴ of þe Cite before them: wech pensels there went before the Crosse, & þe Maire with his Brethern & the Craftes stode styll till þe presidentes cam whom the Maire toke be þe handes & welcomed

The mayor
and others
stand under
the elm,

and welcome
them

¹ A box. Not given in this sense *N. E. D.*, which gives *bowet* = a lantern. But probably here the meaning is *box*, from F. *boite*, Mid. L. *boeta*.

² leaf 281. Another scribe, F. ³ Scribe B.

⁴ = streamers.

them to town, & so folowed þe procession ; which procession went down the Bailly-lane, & so forth as is vsually vsed on¹ seynt George day ; & so into þe Priory ; & there was a solempne sermon seyle, where the Maire there satte betwixt both presidentes, & after sermon doon they departed euery man to his loggyng & som with the Maire to dyner, as dyners of them did before. And so they departed furth of þe Cite etc.

and join the procession.

Be it had in mynde that ayenst their comyng the Maire satte as Clerk of þe market & made enquire of þe price of all maner vitailles & made a boke þerof ; & set hit vp on þe south durre in þe Mynster like as is doon when the kynges grace or my lordle prynce cometh to þe Cite. And ouer þat let make serch to þe aldermen in euery waide in all þe hostries of þe Citie that horsemet & mannes-mete shuld be accordyng to þe sisse sette, and þat they shuld not sell hit to excessyue lucre.

The mayor as clerk of the market makes a book of the price of victuals.

RECEPTION OF PRINCE ARTHUR.

² *Mem.* that this 3ere the Wensday the xvij day of Octobre anno xiiij^o Regis H. vij, prince Arthur, the first begoton son of kyng Henre the vijth, then beyng of þe age of xij 3eres & more, cam first to Couentre & there lay in þe priory fro Wensday unto þe Munday next suyng, at which tyme he removed toward London. Ayenst whos comyng was þe Spon-strete-3ate³ garnysshed with the ix worthy[s], and kyng Arthur then hauyng thus spech, as foloweth :—

Oct. 17.

[KING ARTHUR.] Hayle, prynce roiall, most amyable in sight !

King Arthur promises that

Whom the Court eternall, thurgh prudent gouernaunce,⁴
Hath chosen to be egall ons to me in myght,
To sprede our name, Arthur, & actes to auance,
And of meynys victorious to have such habundaunce,
That no fals treitour, ne cruell tirant,
Shall in eny wyse make profer to your lande.

¹ MS. son.

² leaf 281, back. Printed Sharp, *Mysteries*, 154-7, and Hardin Craig (E.E.T.S.), 116-18. I have adopted the form of stanza of the latter.

³ MS. 3arte. ⁴ A stroke of "n" too few.

the favour of
Pallas shall
help to sub-
due enemies.

And rebelles all false quarels schall eschewe,
Thurgh þe fere of Pallas, that favoereth your lynage
And all outward Ennyes laboreth to subdue,
To make them to do to yewe as to me dyd homage.
Welcome therfore, the solace & comfort of my olde age,
Prince perelless, Arthur, I come of noble progeny,
To me & to youre Chambre with all þis hole companye !

And at the turnyng into þe Croschepyng before Maister
Thrumpton's durre, stode þe barkers paiant well appareld,
in which was the Quene of Fortune with dyuers other
virgyns, whech quene has þis spech folowyng :—

Dame
Fortune

[QUEEN OF FORTUNE.] I am dame Fortune, quene called,
full expedient

To Emprours & princes, prelates, with other moo
As Cesar, Hectour, & Fabius, most excellent,
Scipio, exalted Nausica, & Emilianus also,
Valerius, also Marchus, with sapient Cicero.
E and noble men, breuely the truth to conclude, all
My favour verily had, as storys maketh rehersall ;

With-oute whom, sithen non playnly can prospere,
That in þis mutable lyfe as nowe procedyng,
I am come thurgh love. Trust me intiere
To be with yewe & yours Eviromore enduryng,
Prynce, most unto my pleasure of all þat ar nowe reyn-
yng ;

bids him
welcome.

Wherfore, my nowne hert & best beloved treasure,
Welcome to þis youre Chambre of whom ye be inheriture.

And the Crosse in the Croschepyng was garnysshed, &
wyne there rennyng, and angels sensyng & syngyng, with
Orgayns and othere Melody etc.¹ And at þe Cundyng, ther
was seynt George kylling the dragon, and seynt George
had this speche folowyng :—

¹ Sharp, p. 156, quotes *Chamberlains' Accounts*, made up anno
1499, lt. pd. for setting of the posts in þe Croschepyng, when þe
king (*sic*) was here, in gret ijs ; it. for takyng down of þe same
posts a-geyn x d ; it. for payyng in þe Croschepyng ther as þe posts
stode of viij yards viij d.

[SAINT GEORGE.] O most souerain lorde, be dy[vy]ne¹ s[er]vice
provision to be

The ruler of cruell Mars & kyng Insupportable!
Ye reioyce my corage, trustyng hit to se,
That named am George, your patron favorable;
To whom ye ar & ever shal be so acceptable,
That in felde, or Cite, where-so-ever ye rayne
Shall I neuer fayle yewe, thus is my purpose playn.

To protect your magnyficence myself I shall endeavour,

In all thynges that your highnes shall concerne,
More tenderly then I 3it did ever;
Kyng, duke, yerle, lorde, or also berne,²
As ye be myn assistence in processe shall lerne,
Which thurgh your vertue, most amorous knygh[t],
I owe to your presence be due & very right.

Like-wyse as þis lady be grace I defended,

That thurgh myschauunce chosen was to dye,
ffro this foule serpent whom I sore wouled;

So ye in distresse preserve ever woll I
ffro all parell and wyked veleny,
That shuld your noble persone in eny wyse distrayn.
Which welcome is to þis your Chambre & to me right fayn.

promises to
preserve the
prince, as he
delivered the
lady from the
toul serpent.

And this balet was song at þe Crosse:

A ballad.

Viuat le prynce Arthur.

Ryall prince Arthur,
Welcome nowe, tresur, } to þis your cite!
With all oure hole Cur,³ }

Sithen in vertue dere, }
Lorde, ye haue no pere, } as all we may see.
Of your age tendre, }

Cunyng requyred, }
All hath contrived, } your intelligence.
And so receyued— }

¹ Sharp suggests an omission, which does not appear in MS. Craig prints *divyne*.

² baron.

³ From F. cœur = heart.

That Yngland, all playn, }
 May nowe be right fayn } to their extollence.
 Yewe long to remain, }

Syng we þer foll all; }
 Also let us call } that he yewe defend!
 To God Immortal }

G. Immortal

defend the
prince

In this breve beyng }
 Youre astate supporting, } to your lyfes yend!
 And vertue ay spredyng, }

THE PRINCE AND LOCAL DISPUTES.

Oct. 18.
A present to
the prince.

¹ And vppon Thursday in þe mornyng the Maire with his Brethern cam vnto þe princes Chambre and there presented hym with a gilt Cup to þe value of x marc', & C marc' of gold therin, which was gadered in þe x wardes accordyng as þe xv^{te} is.

Oct. 19.
Mayors
complaint
to prince
Arthur of
the prior,

And on þe Morowe the Maire presented a bill to þe seid prince desiryng he þe same that he wold please to desire þe priour of Couentre to pay at his desire the Murage money which he had with-drawen þe space of xx yeres: and also shewed his grace be the same bill howe the Citezenis of Couentre were troubled be there merchandisez in Bristoll, Gloucestre, & Worcestre & compelled to pay tholl & oþer customez contrarie to their liberteez. Vppon which bill lettres went out to Bristoll, Gloucestre & Worcestre desiryng be the same þat the seid Citezenis of Couentre myght passe fre without eny custome paying after their liberte, or els they to apper at London crastino S. Martini³ þen next folowyng etc. And vppon þis þe priour & his Couent were bounde to my seid lord prince in v^c li. to abide þe awarde of my lordes of Lincoln & Couentre & oþer of þe Councell of þe seid prince etc. and in like wyse the Maire & Comnalte bounde to þe seid prince in like some; þe transcript of which obligacion here ensueth. And the obligacions both remainen in þe keypyng of þe seid prince.

A of Bristoll,
Chester,²
Worcester,
A Gloster.¹A bond
in £500

as follows.

[Let all know by these presents that we Tho. Bunde, Mayor of the city of Coventry, Nouerint vniuersi per presentes nos, Thomam Bunde, Maiorem Ciuitatis Couentrie, & eiusdem Communi-

¹ leaf 282.² An error. See p. 549.³ The morrow of S. Martin.

and the community of the same, with unanimous consent and assent are held and firmly bound in £500 of legal English money to Arthur, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall and Earl of Chester, the eldest son of the most illustrious Henry VII, King of England, France, and lord of Ireland, payable to the same prince or his attorney at All Saints (Nov. 1) next coming after the date of these presents; to make which payment well and faithfully we bind ourselves and our successors by these presents sealed with our common seal. Given on Oct. 21, 1498.]

The condicion of þis obligacion is such that whereas certayn trauers is dependyng betwixt þe withinbounden Maire & Cominalte on the on partie and þe priour & Couent of þe Monasterie of our Lady within þe Cite of Couentre within-specified on þe oþer partie of & for the Murage of the same Citie yf the seid Maire & Cominalte stand, obeye, & performe thawarde, rule and Jugement of þe reuerent ffadirs in God William, Bisshop of Lincoln,² president of þe prynces Counceill, John, Bysshop of Chestre³ & other of the same Counceill of in and vpon the said traaverse so that þe seid lord president, Bisshop of Chestre, & other as aforesaid make awarde in the same be þe fest of seynt Andrewe next comyng after the date hereof that then þis obligacion to be voide or els to stand in streng[t]h & vertue.⁴

Vpon which obligacion sealed Ric. Braytoft, & Ric. Coke, late Maire of þe seid Cite, & Joh. Boteler, styward,

tatem vnanimi¹ consensu & assensu teneri & firmiter obligari Arthur, Illustrissimi Henrici septimi Regis Anglie & francie & domini Hibernie primogenito, principi Wallie, duci Cornubie ac Comiti Cestrie in quingentis libris legalis monete Anglie solum nullis eidem domino principi aut suo certo attorney in festo Omnium Sanctorum futuro post datam presentium: ad quam quidem solutionem bene & fideliter faciendam obligamus nos & successores nostros per presentes sigillo nostro communi sigillatas. Datum xxj^a die Octobris a. r. r. Hen. septimi quartodecimo.

A controversy concerning the prior's murage having arisen,

both the prior and the mayor agree to abide by arbitration.

Judgment to be delivered Nov. 30.

Braytoft and others go to London

¹ One stroke of "m" is missing.

² William Smith, formerly Bishop of Chester.

³ John Arundel; the bishops of Coventry and Lichfield were occasionally called by this title.

⁴ On previous disputes about murage see above, p. 447 *et passim*.

Nov. 9 ready
 8 and stay
 until Dec. 1.

on Nov. 28
 the award is
 made.

there were sent to London for the parte of þe seide Citie to sue for þe seid Cite in & for þe premisses; and they cam to London the Thursday þe ixth day of Novembre & continued there vnto þe first day of Decembre þen next folowyng; within which tyme, þat is to sey, the Wensday before þe fest of seynt Andrewe, the warde was made & gyllen vp be þe lordes betwixt þe priour & þe Cite in writyng accordyng as hereafter sueth the transcript þerof; which awarde is vnder þe seals of the seid Bissshops & the couent seall set to þat parte þat the town hath, & to þe oþer parte remaynyng with þe seid priour þe comien seal of þe Towne.

DISPUTE WITH BRISTOL.

Bills concern-
 ing the tolls
 with Bristol,
 Gloucester
 and Wor-
 cester.

And as-for þe matier touchyng þe liberteez etc. ayenst Bristol, Gloucester & Worcester þe seid Ric. Braytoft, Ric. Coke & Joh. Boteler, presented vnto þe lordes of þe princes Councell iij seuerall billes, the tenures wherof hereafter suen:—

To þe Prynce.

Coventry
 anciētly
 toll-free.

In þe most humble wyse compleynyng shewen vnto your grace Tho. Bande, Maire of þe Cite of Couentre, Rog. Wode, Will. Barbour, shirrifis & Baillyfs of þe seid Cite, and the comiens of the same, that where they & all theirre predecessours, fro þe tyme that no mannes mynde is, haue vsed to be fre, quyte & discharged be all the roialm of Ingland, as-well be lande as be water, within Citez, Boroughes, Townes and withoute, of all maner Toll, pontage, pykage, passage, pavage, stallage, murage, kayage and all oþer Imposicions, charges & seruitudes, whech libertez, priuileges & francheises the seid Maire, shirrifis, ballifs, and Cominaite, and all theirre predecessours, and all Inhabitautes in Couentre aforeseid, haue peasibly be all the seid tyme vsed and enjoyed vnto þe tyme that the vj day of Aprill the xiiijth yere of þe reign of oure souerain lorde, kyng Henre þe vijth, and dyuers tymes afore Ric. Jakson and Ric. Pova of Couentre aforeseid, Merchautes, and many oþer of the seid Cite of Couentre resortyng to þe Towne & havon of Bristoll for wyn, wax & Iron and other Merchaundisez

to be had and bought there were be¹ Late
Baillif of the seid Towne at Bristol aforesaid at a place
there called the key wrongfully distreyned be their seid
Merchaundisez and compelled to paye for every Ton tyght²
iiij d., ayenst all right and contrarie to their liberteez &
fraunchisez aforesaid; which in tymes past alwayes have
ben allowed them in the seid Towne of Bristol; whereof
þe seid Maire, shirriifs, Baillifs & Comiens of þe Cite of
Coentre praye reformation & remedy in þat partie. And
they woll euer pray to God for your grace.

And like billes, mutatis mutandis, were put In ayenst
Gloucestre & Worcestre. Howe-be-it in Gloucestre they
challenged there toll for passyng the streame etc.³ Vppon
which billes was this ordre taken be þe lordes & assent of
þe parties that ij of þe merchautes of Coentre with a
lerned man shuld resorte to Bristol, Gloucestre & Worces-
tre there to haue louyng communicacion betwixt them, &
þeruppon to take yend in þat partie yf they so coude, &
yf not then they to shew their myndes to þe Recordours
of þe seid places, they to take yend yf they Coude, & yf
no then they to resorte vnto þe Councell eft-sones etc.

1. The w
2. or 800
3. or 100
4. or 100
5. or 100
6. or 100
7. or 100
8. or 100
9. or 100
10. or 100

Toll at
"Gloucestre,
Worcester"

Two
Coventry
merchants
and a lerne d
man try to
haue loyng
communicac
ion with the
towns in
question.

THE PRIOR'S MURAGE.

⁴To all *Christien* pepull to whome this present writyng
shall come; here or see, William by the grace of God
Bysshop of Lincolne, John by the same grace Bisshop of
Coentre and Liehefeld and other of⁵ the Counsell lerned
of Arthur first begoton sonne of kyng Henrē the vij, Prince
of Wales (etc.), arbitrouns indifferently chosen & named
bitwen Richard,⁶ Prior of the monastery of seynt Maue
in the Cite of Coentre & the Coment of the same on the
one partie and Thomas Bonde, Maire, & the Cominalte of
the same Citie on the other partie, witnessith that where-as
diuerse discordes and wariaunces were late moved & had
bitwen the seid parties of & vppon x li. of a yerely somme
which the seid Maire & Cominalte claymed of the seid

"Coentre."
"Murage
paid by the
prior's land."
The Bishops
of Lincoln
and of
Coventry

¹ Blank.

² = weight. v. *E. D. D.*

³ On the carriage of goods down the Severn v. *Rob. Parl.*, v. 569.

⁴ leaf 282, back. Another scribe, F.

⁵ "of" repeated.

⁶ Ric. Shaw.

priour & Couent for the Murage of the seid Citie; for the peasing therof the seid parties haue compromytted theym to abyde thawarde, ordinaunce & iugement of vs the said Bisshopes & Counsaill lerned of the seid high & myghty Prince to awarde, ordeigne & deme of & vppon the ryght title & possession of the seid annuell somme of x li. and the arrerages of¹ the same, as by their seuerrall obligacions theruppon made more pleynty appereth. And we the seid arbitrouns takyng on vs the labour & payne to awarde, ordeigne & deme of & vppon the *premisses*, calling afore vs the said parties, hering & seing all their titles, answers & other their alegiaunces & their Evidences & *proves*, *conseryng* the same by good, long & gret deliberacion by thassent & also at the speciall request & desire of both the seid parties awarde, ordeigne & deme of & vppon the *premisses* in the maner & fourme folowyng:—

acting as arbitrators in the dispute about murage

have decreed that the prior shall pay according to the rate of the other citizens for murage until the walls be made,

That is to sey, furst we awarde, ordeigne & deme that from the daie of the date of this *our present* awarde forth the seid priour & Couent & their successours shall bere & paye ratabully with the Citesyns of the seid Citie to the forseid murage & making of the seid¹ walles abowte the seid Citie vnto such tyme as the same walles be fully made vp and accomplished: that is to sey, yerely x li. at the fest of All Sayntes, when the seid Citesyns & all other having londes & tenementes within the same Cite shall proporecionably be charged after the rate of the quantite of their seid londes & tenementes to the same murage; provided alwey that if any the seid Citisens or other personnes having londes & tenementes within the same be herafter ratid and assessed to a lesse somme of money than they now bee, that than the seid priour, Couent & their successours shal-be in like fourme lesse ratid & abatid of payment of the seid somme of x li., accordyng to the abatment ratabully of the seid Citizens & other persones for their londes & tenementes within the same Citie.

i. e. £10 a year,

which sum is to be used for murage,

Also we awarde (etc.) that the seid money thus assessed & gadered for the making of the walles of the seid towne shal-be duely apployde to the same vse & entent & to non other charges nor besynesse of the seid Cite; and that

¹ Deletions.

yerely ther shal-be a due accompte therof made afore certayn indifferent auditours, wherunto the seid priour & his Successours shal-be made pryvey, if they so desire.

Also we awarde (etc.) that the seid priour, Couent, their successours nor their tenautes shall not hereafter be charged for the *londes & tenementes* of the seid priour & Couent ouer the seid x li. be yere onles they purches any more *londes & tenementes* within the walles of the same Citie, and that the seid priour & Couent nor their successours shall not be charged nor chargeable to the payment of the seid x li. noo lenger but vnto such tyme as the seid Murage & walles aboute the seid Citie be accomplisshed & made, except & sauyd that the priour & Couent after the rate of their *londes & tenementes* their shal-be contributores with the seid Citesyns to¹ reparacion & amending of the same walles,² as other *persones* having *londes & tenementes* within the seid Citie shal-be charged, & that the seid money so assessed & gaderid shal-be duely imploied to the reparacion & amending of the same walles of the seid Cite, and auditours therupon to be sett,³ as it is aboueseid, & þat þe seid priour & his successours be made pryvey to þe seid assessing & to the accomptes therof to be made, as it is abouesed.

until the work be accomplished, after which time the prior shall only be liable to charges for repairs,

and account thereof shall be rendered.

Also we awarde (etc.) þat þe seid Maire & Cominalte & their successours shall haue & reteigne yerely x li. of such *sommes* of money on the seid priour, Citezens & other hauyng *londes & tenementes* within the same Cite from the fest of Saint Michell tharchaungell last passed afore this oure awarde vnto thende of v yeres than next folowyng & noo lenger; which x li. so reteigned shall goo towarde the charge of the Chamberleyns of the seid Cite, which haue laied out in tymes passed more money to the making of the seid walles than they haue received for the same.

£10 to be retained yearly to pay up the chamberlains who have laid out more money than they received.

Also we awarde (etc.) that the seid Maire and Cominalte shall not hereafter aske ner haue any arrerages of the seid yerely *somme* of x li. vnpaid by the seid priour afore the date of this oure awarde but l li., which l li. the priour and Couent shall paie to the seid Maire & Cominaltie to haue their good willes & favours, that is to sey, in the fest of the

The prior to pay £50 of arrears.

¹ MS. te.

² Deletions.

³ or "seit."

£10 at Can-
dlemas;

£10 at
Lanmas
until it be
paid up.

Nov. 28. 1498.

Purificacion of oure Lady next comyng aftur the date of this oure awarde x li., and at the fest of saint Petur called *Ad-uincula* then next ensuyng other x li., and so x li. yerely at the same festes vnto the seid li. be fully contented & paid. In witnesse wherof both we the seid Arbitroures and the forseid parties to thies present indentures interchaungeable haue putte their Seales, that is to sey, the seid priour & Couent the Comen Seale of their said howse, & the seid Maire & *Cominaltie* the Comen Seal of their seid Citie. Yeven the xxviiijth day of Nouembre in the xiiijth yere of the roigne of the seid king.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Couentre."
Oct. 9. 1498.

¹[V. f. p. held before Tho. Bonde, m., Tho. Grene, Will. Deyster, b., on Tuesday after the octave of Michaelmas, 14 Hen. VII.]

Jury.

Joh. Wyggeston, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Will. Rowley, Tho. Chirchman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. floorth, Joh. Haddon, Ric. Smyth, Tho. Maydford, Joh. Gryme, Joh. Duddesbury, Galf. Ardern, Tho. Padland, Will. fletcher, Ed. Hulcote, Will. Taillour.

Sheriffs.

[Rog. Wode, dyer, Will. Barbour, capper.]

WILL. HOPKYNS, MAYOR, 1499.

"Couentre."
Jan. 25.
Electors.

²[Election of officers.]

Tho. Chirchman, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wyggeston, Will. Rowley, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. Taillour, Galf. Ardern, Tho. Maydford, Edw. Hulcote, Edw. Barbour, Will. fletcher, Ric. Hassale, Tho. Grove, Joh. Throughley, Joh. Syssell, Rog. Mason, Will. Wyggeston.

[m. Will. Hopkyns; cor. Rob. Topelyff; steward, Joh. Boteler; ch. Edm. Deyster, Grasear, Will. Birdlyme; w. Nic. Burwey, Joh. Humfrey, dyer; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Joh. Toures.]

¹ leaf 283.

² leaf 283, back.

ATTORNEY.

[Monday, Aug. 19, 1499, before the mayor and others, Joh. Castell was admitted as attorney for the mayor and bailliffs in the Exchequer, taking the fee and wages due as of old. And he took the oath.]

Mem. quod die Lune xix die Augusti a. r. r. H. vij xiiij^{mo} apud Coventriam Coram prefato Maiore¹ ac Tho. Chirchman, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Roweley, Rob. Grene, Johannes Castell admissus fuit attorney pro Maiore & Baillis ville de Coventria in Curia domini Regis de Scakkario capiendū feodum & vadium ex antiquo debitum. Et juratus est.

JOH. HADDON, MAYOR, 1500.

²[Election of officers.]

Rob. Grene, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Bailly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygston, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chirchman, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Joh. Dwale, Will. Taillour, Tho. Maideford, Ric. Jakson, Ed. Barbour, Tho. Grene, Ric. Nores, Joh. Strong, Ric. Lansdale, Ric. Hassale.

[m. Joh. Hadon; cor. Rob. Topclyff; ch. Tho. Kervyn, Daud Blakwall; w. Ric. Marler, Joh. Hardwen; mace, Hen. Peyntour; crier, Joh. Toures.]

"Coventree,"
Jan. 25.
Electors.

Officers.

THE COUNCIL.

Hit is ordeyned at þis eleccion that the Maire kepe Councell wokely ones in þe woke specially on þe Wensday, and that þe Maires *seriant* warne the Mares Brethern every Tewesday to be at seynt Mari-hall at þe Councell vppon þe Wensday without þe Maire *commaunde* þe contrarie, vppon peyn of þe seid *seriant* to lese at every tyme he doth þe Contrarie iiij d.

"A Councell to be held weekly on Wensday."

THE BRISTOL AFFAIR.

Mem. that þis in Estur *terme* was þe matier in variaunce betwixt þis Cite & Bristoll³ as-touehyng kayage claymed

"Variaunce between Bristoll &

¹ "This mayor strove greatly against this town (*sic*) of our Lady." *Annals* quoted in Fretton, *Whitefriars (Proc. B'ham and Mill. Institute)*, 10. There was an image of the Virgin kept in the Lady Tower by Whitefriars on the London Road.

² leaf 285. Scribe B. John Whitehed, Joh. Raynold bailiffs.

³ See above, pp. 592 *sqq.*

Coventry
settled by
indenture."

be þe Baillifs of Bristol, determyned be þe Recordours of both places, as appereth be writyng indented vnder the comien seals of both Townes; wherof þe on partie sealed with þe comien seall of Bristol remayneth in þe Tresorye in seynt Marie hall, & the copie þerof is registred in the boke wher þe Copie of þe Chartirs be registred, remaynyng with þe Styward etc.

WILL. PISFORD, MAYOR, 1501.

¹ Hs.

• [Election of officers.]

"Civitas
Coventre,"
Jan. 25.
Electors.

Joh. Padland, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Bailly, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygston, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Will. fforth, Tho. Bonde, Will. Hopkyns, Geff. Ardern, Edw. Hulcote, Edw. Barbur, Will. Barbour, Ric. Nores, Joh. Sissell, Tho. Grove, Ric. Lansdale, Will. Burglen.

Officers.

[m. Will. Pisford;² cor. Rob. Topcliff; ch. Ric. Burwey, Tho. Turnour, Jun.; w. Tho. fforth, Nic. Heynes; mace, Hen. Peyntour "*super suam bonam gesturam*;" crier, Joh. Toures.]

"A common
box."

Wherch Will. Pisford in hys tyme be þe advyce of þe Counceill ordred a Comien box to be had in þis Cite, which he ordeyned of his cost, & let set hit in þe Counceill house in seynt Mary hall; in-to which boxe for a goode begynnyng Ric. Coke & Joh. Boteler, executors of þe testament of Sir Joh. Gilbert, late viker of both parish Churches in Coventre gaffe xls; and ouer þat þe seid Joh. Boteler of such money as he had rescoued of printices.³ To which box is made v keyes, the Maire for the tyme beyng to haue on of þeym, & þe iiij other to be in kepyng of iiij Comieners that haue not be in offices of wardeyn & chamberleyn, & they iiij to be Chosen be x comieners, they x to be Chosen be þe Meire &

The executors
of the will of
the "on
Vicker of
both
parishes"
give 40s.

Boteler more.

"5 keyes"
are made;
to be in the
keeping of
4 commons
chosen by 10
others.

¹ leaf 286, back. The first time these symbolic letters appear here. Baillifs, Joh. Stronge, Ric. Hassale. Coventry is here described as "*ciuitas sine villa*."

² Part founder with Ford of the Grey Friars' hospital, which is still in existence. For Pisford's will, see Dugdale (1730), 184-5.

³ Blank. Boteler as steward kept the book wherein the names of apprentices were entered. See above, p. 560.

his Councell for the tyme beyng, þat is to sey in euery of þe x wardes in Couentre j to be named. And these order (*sic*) to be kept frohensfurth for euer as often as eny of þe seid Comieners be called into office or happe to deceesse or oþerwyse be remoued. And for þe begynnynge of þis ordre the seid Maire let chose be þe advice of his Councell þe x persones of þe x wardes in Couentre, that is to sey, Tho. Mosell, draper, Ric. Semyng, draper, Will. Wycam, draper, Hen. Grey, draper, Will. Banwell, Mercer, Joh. Plesantyn, mercer, Tho. flarman, smyth, Will. Brigges, Capper, Will. Huet, Baker, & Ric. Pova,¹ Mercer. Whech x let chose & name þes iiij persones folowyng to haue þe keyng of þe keyes; to whech iiij persones þe seid Maire delyuered to euerych of theym a key, þat is to sey, Joh. Wodnet, dyer, Will. Carter, taillour, Will. Briggez, Capper, & Ric. Pova.

one from each of the respective wards.

RIC. JAKSON, MAYOR, 1502.

² Ihs.

[Election of officers.]

Jan. 25.

Will. fforth, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Baylly, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygston, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bande, Joh. Hadon, Will. Taillour, Gal. Ardern, Edw. Hulcote, Tho. Padland, Tho. Turnour, Rog. Wode, Ric. Nores, Joh. Sissell, Will Hardy, Tho. Grove.

Electors.

[m. Ric. Jakson; cor. Rob. Topelyff; ch. Hum. Grene, Alan. Ruyley; w. Hugo Dawes, Ric. Dadynton, draper; mace, Hen. Feynter; crier, Joh. Toures.]

Officers.

RIC. COKE, MAYOR, 1503.

³ Ihs.

¶ [Election of officers.]

Tho. Band, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Tho. Baylly, Will. Roweley, Ric. Lee, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. florde, Joh. Haddon,

"Civitas Couentre." Jan. 25. Electors, 25 names.

¹ See above, p. 594.

² leaf 288, back. Ric. Lansdale, Joh. Saunders, bailiffs.

³ leaf 290, back. Bailiffs, Joh. Hardewyn, Joh. Norton

Tho. Padland, Will. Taillour, Rog. Chambre, Tho. Turnour, Will. Barbour, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Strong, Joh. Sissell, Tho. Grove, Will. Hardy, Ric. Nores, Tho. fforde, Nic. Heynes.

Officers.

[m. Ric. Coke; cor. Rob. Topelyff; ch. Ric. Wilson, Will. Perkyngs, Baker; [w.] Will. Barnwall, Will. Briggess, Capper; mace, Hen. Walker upon his good conduct; & Hugh Johnson crier, upon the condition that present and future sheriffs shall pay yearly to Joh. Toures, who before this occupied the crier's office, during his life 13s. 4d. at the four terms of the year by equal portions, from the fee of the said Hugh or of any other occupier of the office during the said John's lifetime.]

Pension for the retiring crier taken from the new crier's fee.

THO. PADLAND, MAYOR, 1504.

¹ Ihs.

"Civitas Couen're." Jan. 25. Electors.

¶ [Election of officers.]

Joh. Hadon, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Tho. Bailly, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Ric. Lee, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bande, Will. Pysford, Tho. Turnour, Will. Taillour, Edw. Hulcote, Rog. Chambre, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassale, Joh. Sissell, Ric. ffoxale, Tho. Grove, Will. Hardy, Humf. Grene, Tho. fforde.

Officers.

[m. Tho. Padland; cor. Rob. Topeliff; ch. Tho. May, Grasiour, Tho. Estelen; w. Hen. Rogers, vyntener, Tho. Waren, dyer; mace, Hen. Peynter, crier, Hugh Johnson.]

THE TANNERS.

Nov. 21. "John Botellar, stuard, one of the Company of tanners, discharged of this keeping of the Craft, ³ paying a ffine."³

² Mem. pat² In the Counceill holden in Seynt Mary hall þe xxj^{ti} day of Nouembre [20 Hen. VII], there beyng present þe seid Maire, Hen. Marler, Ric. Coke, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Ric. Lee, Tho. Bailly, Tho. Chircheman, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Joh. Hadon, Ric. Jakson, in þe matier beyng in variance betwix þe ffeliship of þe Tanners & Joh. Boteler, which feliship had chosen þe seid Joh. Boteler for on of þe keepers of their Craft, which to

¹ leaf 292, back. Bailiffs, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey.

²⁻² Added later in another hand.

³⁻³ In the 17th-century hand usual in marginal annotations.

take vpon hym þe seid Joh. Boteler refused,¹ & ther shewed¹ that he was discharged be þe hole Craft at þe tyme he was receyued into their feliship of that charge & all othere charges, whils he liffed, conceideryng þe office he had etc.; for which discharge he hath payde zerey xij d. & where the oper of þe company paye but ijs. For which discorde to be appeised hit was ordred be þe seid Counceill at þat tyme that þe seid Joh. Boteler, conceideryng þe charge he had dayly with þe officez of stywarship & Townclerk of þe Cite, that he shuld frohensfurth be discharged of Maistership & keper of þe seid Craft for euer and all oper charges longyng to þe seid Craft, as offerynges,² assembleez & other metynges & charges sauynge only that he shall kepe & obserue all goode & resonable ordinancez made & to be made that shal-by (*sic*) godly & expedient for þe comien wele of þe seid Craft; ffor which discharge þe seid Joh. Boteler shall paye in hand vjs. viij d. & euery zere after whils he occupieth þe Craft ijs., & euery vij zere hereafter whils he liffeth & occupieth þe Craft to pay vjs. viij d. in name of a ffyn for þe discharge afore-rehersed etc.

JOH. DUDESBUY, MAYOR, 1505.

³ I h s.

[Election of officers.]

Will. Pysford, Hen. Marler, Ric. Coke, Ric. Braytoft, Ric. Lee, Tho. Bailly, Rob. Grene, Tho. Chircheman, Joh. Padland, Will. Shore, Will. ffoorde, Tho. Bonde, Joh. Hadon, Ric. Jakson, Tho. Wardelowe, Joh. Darlyng, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassale, Joh. Hardwyn, Joh. Clerk, Will. Hardy, Ric. Nores, Tho. Groue, Th. ffoorde.

[m. Joh. Dudesbury, skynner; cor. Tho. Rastell; ch. Hen. Sampson, dier, Joh. Nix, Grasier; w. Joh. Hoton, mercer, Tho. Smyth, draper; mace, Hen. Peyntour; crier, Hugh Johnson. And the aforeseid Joh. Hoton died

¹ deletions. ² *i. e.* at mass.³ leaf 294. Scribe B. Bailiffs, Ric. Marler, Ric. ffoxale. On the play of St. Crytyan or S. Christian played in the Little Park this year see Sharp, *Mysteries*, 10; Craig, *Two Corpus Christi Plays*, xxi.

"Civitas
Concentric."
Jan. 25.
Electors.

Officers.

within this year, and in his place Joh. Dixon was elected, which Joh. Dixon died also within the said year.¹]

THO. WARDELOWE, MAYOR, 1506.

² [Election of officers.]

Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Tho. Baylly, Will. Shore, Rob. Colman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. ffoorde, Tho. Bande, Will. Pisford, Joh. Hadon, Joh. Strong, Joh. Darlyng, Rog. Chambre, Ric. Hassale, Joh. Hardwyn, Joh. Clerk, Ric. ffoxale, Ed. Hulecote, Ric. Nores, Tho. Warle, Rob. Dadyngton, Will. Banwell.

[m. Tho. Wardelowe, Grasiour; cor. Tho. Rastell; ch. Joh. Payn, dier, Joh. Eyburn, Tanner; w. Ed. Hadley, Will. Wykam. And as to the election of a common sub-bailiff-at-mace & crier the election of them is referred to the mayor and his council to be held on Wednesday next following. On which day the said Joh. Duddesbury, m., and his council, viz. Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Tho. Bailly, Tho. Chircheman, Joh. Padland, Rob. Grene, Will. ffoorde, Will. Pisford and Tho. Bande, elected and named Hen. Peyntour common sub-bailiff on his good behaviour & Ric. ffreyby, crier.]

" Civitas
Coventrie "

Jan. 25.

Officers.

Jan. 28.

Hen. Peyn-
tour, mace,
Ric. Freyly,
crier.

[And further at the same council they made an ordinance because hitherto the mayor for the time being at each court of the lord king held in the said city sat alone without the council of his brethren the aldermen; therefore it was ordained that for the future at each court to be held in the said city there shall sit with the said mayor at least two of his brethren as his counsellors and coadjutors and assistants

Et ulterius ad eundem Consilium ordinaverunt pro eo quod Maior pro tempore existens preantea ad quamlibet Curiam domini Regis in dicta Ciuitate tenta[m], sedebat³ solus sine concilio suorum confratrum 'alderman.' Ideo tunc ordinatum fuit quod decetero in futuro ad quamlibet Curiam tenendam in dicta Ciuitate sedebunt cum dicto Maiore duo ad minus de suis confratribus tanquam suis conciliariis & co-adiutaribus (sic) & sibi assistentibus vsque ad finem Curie predictae. Et ad tunc & ibidem

¹ 1504 was a year of plague in London. The deaths of wardens within the year suggests an epidemic in Coventry.

² leaf 296. Bailiffs, not elsewhere named, Nic. Burwey, Joh. Smyth. Scribe B.

³ "valde" deleted.

until the close of the said court. And then and there they appointed which of them shall begin and how they shall keep their turn for the future, that is to say on Tuesday next after Candlemas (Feb. 3) J. Duddesbury and R. Jakson, M. G. S. T., are assigned for that court; and for the next following R. Marler, R. Cooke. And for the third T. Bailly and R. Colman; and the fourth R. Lee and T. Churchman; and the fifth R. Green and J. Padland; and the sixth Will. Ford and T. Bonde; and the seventh J. Hadon and Will. Pisford. And thus to keep their turn for ever.]

limitauerunt qui eorum incipient & quomodo suum cursum imposterum¹ tenerent, videlicet ad proximam Curiam tenendam, videlicet die martis proximo post festum Purificationis B. Marie proximo futurum, Joh. Duddesbury nunc Maior & Ric. Jakson, M.G.S.T., assignati sunt pro Curia illa: Et ad Curiam tunc proximo sequentem, Ric. Marler & Ric. Cooke; Et ad terciam Curiam, Tho. Bailly & Rob. Colman; Et ad iiii^{am} Curiam Ric. Lee & Tho. Churchman; Et ad quintam Rob. Grene & Joh. Padland; Et ad sextam Will. foorde & Tho. Bonde; Et ad septimam Joh. Hadon & Will. Pisford. Et sic custodiendo cursum eorum vsque in sempiternum.

ROB. GRENE, MAYOR, 1507.

² ¶ [Election of officers.]

“Conentre.”
Jan. 25.
Jury.

Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Will. Shore, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Edw. Huleot, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whithed, Joh. Darlyng, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwyn, Joh. Humfrey, Ric. ffoxall, Ric. Nores, Joh. Syssell, Tho. Grove, Tho. Warde, Will. Harly, Tho. fforth.

[m. Rob. Grene; cor, Joh. Rastell; ch. Tho. Kelyngworth, Will. Dawson; w. Will. Wykam, Joh. Morse; mace, Hen. Peynter.]

Officers.

³[And as to the steward they wish to consider until Candlemas; at which day by the advice of the new mayor they elected J. Porter steward. And he took the oath.]

Et quoad senescallum volunt se aduisare vsque festum Purificationis B. Marie etc.; ad quem diem elegerunt (sic) per consilium noui Maioris Joh. Porter⁴ esse⁴ senescallum; & iuratus est etc.

¹ One stroke of “m” missing.

² leaf 297.

³ Margin has “Joh. Porter chose steward.”

⁴ In a later hand.

ORDERS OF COUNCIL.

"For election
of the
wardens."

Memorandum that it is agreed at this Eleccion for-asmoch as heretofore they haue vsed yerely to chose newe wardens so that the reparacions of the Townesland was not repaired for cause they were dysmysse^d euery yere, so that the newe wardleyns were eu^{er} to seke and euery man wold repare¹ at his pleasur: And therfor hit is ordened þat from hensforth for eu^{er} þat oon of the old wardleyns shall continue another yere, and a newe to be chosen to hym, so þat eu^{er} oon of them shall continue ij yeres.

"Mr. Lee
xlii.
Mr. Church-
man free
fro all
offices."

Also for-asmoch as *Maister Lee & Maister Churcheman* han graunted to the vse of the Condit of this Cite to be aployd, the seid Lee xlii. and the seid *Maister Churchman* vj fowder² lede for þat cause, þat fro-hensfurth for eu^{er} they shuld be discharged to be called or elect to eny office of Charge within this Cite, which grauntes the have bounde them to performe & pay; therfor at this eleccion they haue discharged them and for the more suerty they haue graunted to them þat at the next lete hit shal-be conferme^d be auctorite of lete. And also *Maister fforth* by *Maister Cooke* in lyke wyse at that tyme graunted to the same vse xlii. to be pardoned of the seid office vnto the next tyme þat his turne aftur his aunciente³ shall come to hym etc.

Mr. Forth
also excused
office.

LEET.

"Couentre."
Apr. 20.

⁴ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Rob. Grene, m., Nic. Heynes, Will. Wigston, b., on Tuesday before S. George's day, 22 Hen. VII.]

Jury of 31.

Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Will. Shore, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Tho. Churcheman, Joh. Padland, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Tho. Wardlowe, Tho. Turnour, Joh. Darlyng, Edw. Hulcot, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whithed, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Har-

¹ MS. *repare*.

² fother = a load; a definite weight of lead: now usually 19½ cwt.

³ MS. *aunciente*. Evidently seniority played a great part in putting men in honourable places.

⁴ leaf 297, back.

wyn, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Ric. ffoxall, Joh. Smyth, Ric. Nores, Tho. Grove, Will. Dawson, Humf. Grene, Ric. Wylson, Hugo Dawes, Ed. Hadley, Tho. fforth.

Mem. [ordained] that the Craft & ffeliship of Bakers shal-be contributoryes & Charged from hensforth *with* the Craft & feliship of Smythes and to pay yerely to them toward theyre pagent at Corpus *Christi* tyde xiijs. iiijd. and so to contynewe from hensforth yerely etc.

"Bakers to contribute ffie. 1d. yearly to the smiths pageant."

[Ordained] for a *Comien* wele of this Citie that *every* alderman of this Citie take *with* hym vj of the most discrete *persons* & of the most honest *within* their ward to serch and loke what *every* man will gyffe towards the makyng of the Comlyte, and all such *summys* as shal-be graunted to *certyfe* Maister Maire & his brethern at a *certen* day.

"Conduct."

["Ordened"] that the Maister of the Trinite yelde well & sufficiently make the broken *paymentes* of the Trinite Gyld grounde of this halfe the feist of Seint Michell tharchaungell next comyn at the Gyldes Cost. And yf it be not made be that day to make hit at his owen Cost immediatly [or 6s. 8d. at every default] and the Maister of *Corporis Christi* Gyld and the wardeyns¹ in lyke wyse. Also all other men that they make ther *pavementes* by the same day [or 6s. 8d. at every default.]

"Pavements to be Amended by occupiers of Houses."

[Ordained and agreed] that Maister Maire with iiij or vj of his brethern twyse a yere goo a-bowte the towne wall and se what *fawtes* be ther and se them mendyd by his *discrecion* etc.

"Repair the wall."

[Ordained] that Ric. Nores, cardmaker, shall not from hensforth be sworn upon any *Jure* or inpanelid of any enquest, but to be therof *vtterly* discharged for his gret age & ffebulnesse from hensforth for *ever* etc.

R. Nores discharged from serving on juries."

[Ordained] that the ffeliship of Cornesers shal-be contributory & chargeable *with* the Craft of Tanners yerly from hensforth and to pay xiijs. iiijd. And to begyn theyre payment of the hole at Corpus *Christi* tyde next comyng, and so forth yerly at *every* Corpus *Christi* tyde to pay xiijs. iiijd. etc.

"Tanners pageant."

¹ Interesting presentment of city officials. Cf. pp. 293-6.

"Bochers &
whittawers
to Repaire A
pageant"

[Ordayned and agreed] that from-hens-furth the feliship & Crafte of Bochers shal-be yerly contributorye to the feliship of whittawers toward there pagent at Corpus *Christi* tyde xvj s. viij d. and so to continue yerly forth lyke as they dydde afore etc.

SOLDIERS.

June 8, 1507.
"20 souldiers
Retained thro
the King's
seruis by
Indenture."

¹This indenture made the viij day of June in the xxijth yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lord kyng Henry the vijth betwen Rob. Grene, Maire (etc.) on the oon parte & Joh. Richardson, weuer, Joh. Bradshawe, taillour, Will. Harre, plumer, Tho. Yate, taillour, Rauffe Tomson, carpenter, Miles Ale, tanner, Raufe Swetnam, carpenter, Joh. Braynsford, carpenter, Rauffe Craddock, taillour, Rob. Barton, Carver, Geo. Skelton, sherman, Rob. Hamond, corniser, Hen. Snodon, sherman, Tho. Gyttyns, glover, Tho. Braynsford, sherman, Hugh ffelse, tanner, Wal. West, capper, Will. Stevynson, weuer, Joh. Tylston, capper, and Jas. Badeley, corniser, sowdeers, appoyntid to do the kinges grace seruice of warre, of the other partye, Witnesseth that the seid sowdeyers above-namyd han promysed & grauntid & by these presentes promisen & graunten to the seid Maire that they and euery of them shal-be at all-tymes redy & in a redynesse a-pon a dayes warnyng to doo the kinges grace, our soueraigne lord, seruice of warre at his graces wages as well *within* this his noble realme as elsewhere, when-sume-euer and as often as the case shall require, horsed & harnysed at the costes & charges of the seid Citie of Couentre. All which Couenants well & truely to be performed & kept of the parte of the above-namyd sowdeers, the seid sowdyers bynde them, and euery of them by these presentes. And ouer that vppon payn of imprisonment there to remayne at the kynges pleasur. In wisse wherof to the oon parte of this Indenture with the seid Maire remanyng the above-namyd sowdyers there sealls haue sette. At Couentre the day & yere above-seid.

¹ leaf 298. Scribe of C. type.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

¹[V. f. p. held on Tuesday after S. Dionisius' day, 23 Hen. VII.] Oct. 12, 1507.

Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Ric. Lee, Tho. Churcheman, Joh. Padland, Will. forth, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Tho. Wardlowe, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Turnour, Joh. Strong, Ric. Smyth, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Darlyng, Joh. Saunders, Rog. Chambur, Ric. ffoxall, Joh. Whithed. Jury of 21.

[Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers.] Sheriffs.

Mem. that Joh. Bonde hath brought in at this day xx s. which his fader gaffe therto accordyng to the wyll of his seid ffader.² Joh. Bond's father's will.

³Also it is ordeyned at this lete that on Joh. a Woode, mercer, let on-couere the Redde diche, which renneth through his gardeyn to the grete noyauunce of his neighpours⁴ . . . by-twene this and Cristenmas next comyng, apou the peyn to forfeyte xl s., the on half to the Chamberleyns of the Citee ant⁵ the other half to the comen boxe etc. "Cleansing Red ditch."

[Orldained] that the Chamburleyns and Wardeyns of this Citee fromhensforth tweyes a yere, that is to seye at euery lete, bryng in a byll of all such ffawtes and noysoonces as be withyn there office, apou the payne of fforfetur of euery of them xx s., which shal-be receyvid of them apou their accompt, the on half to the Shirrefs, the other half to the comen boxe etc. The chamberlains and wardens to bring in a bill of faults and nuisances.

THE PRINCESS'S MARRIAGE.

⁶A Copie of the obligacion wheryn the Citee of Couentre with other diuerse Citees stondith bounde for the mariage of my lady Marie to the duke of Burgoyne.⁷

¹ leaf 293, back. ² The founder of Bablake Hospital.

³ Scribe G.

⁴ Evidently an omission; supply "he must cover it again," or words to that effect. ⁵ = and.

⁶ leaf 301, back. This treaty was signed at Calais Dec. 21, 1507. Heavy penalties being attached to the breach of the engagement, the leading nobles and towns of England and Flanders were securities for the forfeitable sum.

⁷ Mary (1496-1533) was betrothed to Charles, grandson of Maximilian, afterwards Charles V. The marriage never took place, the princess marrying (1) Louis XII, (2) Brandon, Duke of Suffolk.

[To all and sundry to whose knowledge the present letters shall come, We, the Earls of Arundel, Oxford, Northumberland, Surrey, Shrewsbury,

Essex, Derby, Lords Herbert,

Daere, Berners, Mountjoy Darcy, Conyers, and Stafford, and also constables and com-

munities of the cities, forts and

towns of London, York, Coventry, Norwich, Exeter, Chester,

Worcester, Bristol (etc.) [send] greeting.

[Whereas there is contained amongst other things in a certain treaty of the date Dec. 21, 1507, between the most illustrious, excellent and potent prince, our most dread lord Henry, by the grace of God King of England and France and lord of Ireland, on the one side, and the most sacred prince, Maximilian, by the favour of the divine mercy then King of the Romans but now elected as the ever august Emperor of the Romans, as well King of the Romans as

Vniuersis et singulis ad quorum noticias (*sic*) presentes libere peruenirent, Nos, Tho. Comes Arundellie,¹ Joh. Comes Oxoniæ,² Hen. Comes Northumbriæ,³ Tho. Comes Surrey,⁴ Geo. Comes Salopie,⁵ Hen. Comes Essexie, Tho. Comes Derbeie,⁷ Carolus Somerset, dominus Harbart, Tho. ffyneux dominus Daere,⁸ Joh. Boucher, dominus Berneys,⁹ Will. Blount, dominus Mountgoy,¹⁰ Tho. Darcy, dominus Darcy, Will. Conyers, dominus Conyers,¹¹ et dominus Hen. Stafford, nec non Maiores, aldermannes, vicecomites, balliui, Constabularii et Communitates Ciuitatum, opidorum (*sic*) et villarum Londonie, Eboraci, Couentrie, Norwiche, Exoniæ, Chestre, Wigornie, Bristollie, Southampton, Boston, Hull and Newcastle, salutem.

Cum in quodam tractatu de data vicesimi primi diei Mensis Decembris A.D. Millesimo quingentesimo septimo inter Illustrissimum, excellentissimum et potentissimum principem, dominum nostrum metuendissimum Henricum D. G. Anglie & francie Regem & dominum Hibernie ex vna parte, et sacratissimum principem

Maximiliauum, diuina fauente clemensia tunc Romanorum Regem nunc vero electum in Romanorum Imperatorem semper augustum etc, tam ut Regem Romanorum quam ut auum paternum et legitimum tutorem

¹ Tho. Fitz Alan.

² Joh. de Vere.

³ Hen. Algernon Percy.

⁴ Tho. Howard.

⁵ Geo. Talbot.

⁶ Hen. Bourchier.

⁷ Tho. Stanley.

⁸ Fienes.

⁹ Bourchier, Lord Berners.

¹⁰ Mountjoy.

¹¹ blank.

the paternal grandfather and lawful guardian, governour and administrator of the goods and person of the most illustrious and serene Charles, Prince, by the same grace, of Spain, both Sicilies and Jerusalem, and the same prince by the authority and express consent of the same King of the Romans as grandfather (etc.) aforesaid, Archdukes of Austria, Dukes of Burgundy, Brabant, etc. Counts of Hapsburg, Flanders, Artois, Lords of Slavonia, Mechlen, etc. and the most serene and far-famed Lady, Margaret¹ of Austria and Burgundy, dowager Duchess of Savoy, the most dear aunt of the Prince of Spain, on the other side, by their ambassadors therupon fully authorized, constituted and deputed, in order to have, contract and solemnize the marriage, with God's will, arranged, agreed on and concluded, between the aforesaid illustrious Prince of Spain and the most serene and famous lady, Lady Mary, most beloved daughter of our most dread lord, the said King of England etc. and by the said King of England, Emperor, Prince of Spain, and lady duchess by their distinct and separate letters patents, sealed

gubernatorem et administratorem corporis et honorum Illustrissimi ac serenissimi principis Caroli, eadem gratia Hispaniæ, utriusque Cæciliæ & Jerusalem, et eundem principem Hispaniæ, auctoritatem (sic) tamen et expresso consensu eiusdem Regis Romanorum, ut aui ac Tutoris, gubernatoris ac administratoris predicti, archiduces Austriæ, duces Burgundiæ, Brabantiæ etc., Comites Hapsburgensis, Flandriæ, Arthesiæ etc. dominos Sclavoniæ, Mechleniæ, etc., ac serenissimam et preclarissimam dominam

Margaretam Austriæ & Burgundiæ, viduam ducissam Sabaudicæ (sic), prefati principis Hispaniæ amitam carissimam, partibus (sic) ex altera, per oratores suos hinc inde sufficientes autorisatos, constitutos et deputatos pro matrimonio inter prefatum Illustrissimum principem Hispaniæ et serenissimam ac prec[is]arissimam dominam dominam Mariam, dicti Regis Angliæ etc, domini nostri metuendissimi filiam carissimam, Deo dante, habendo, contrahendo & solemnizando nuper conuento, concordato & concluso Et per

dictos Angliæ Regem et Imperatorem ac principem Hispaniæ et dominam ducissam per suas distinctas & separatas literas patentes magnis sigillis suis sigillatas et manibus suis subscriptas, confirmatas, ratificatas et approbatas, inter cetera contineatur

¹ Daughter of Maximilian and regent of the Netherlands. A marriage arranged between Henry VII and this princess was never accomplished.

with their great seals, subscribed with their own hands, confirmed, ratified, and approved, is contained that within 40 days from the time when the Prince of Spain shall have completed the fourteenth year of his age the aforementioned prince and the Lady Mary shall by word of mouth actually and in fact contract marriage, and duly celebrate the same in the place, manner and form specified in the said treaty;

[And that our most dread lord, the King of England aforesaid, shall take steps effectually that not only we, the above-named earls, barons and lords, by our valid and effectual letters patent, sealed with the seals of our arms, and subscribed with our hands, shall bind ourselves, our heirs and successors, and all and singular our goods, moveable and immovable, whether they be found by land or sea, but also that we the aforesaid mayors, aldermen, sheriffs, constables, and communities of cities and towns, both in our corporate capacity and as private persons, present and future, with provision that the corporate obligation shall not decrease the personal obligation, nor the contrary, by our authentic, valid and

quod prænominati princeps Hispanie et domina Maria infra quadraginta dies proximo et Immediate sequentes

postquam dictus princeps Hispanie quartum decimum etatis sue annum perimpleverit, Matrimonium per verba inde presenti realiter et cum effectu contraherent¹ et Idem matrimonium in fac[i]e ecclesie debite solemnizarent locis, terminis, modisque et formis in dicto tractatu specificatis;

Quodque metuendissimus dominus noster Rex Anglie predictus curaret et realiter et cum effectu faceret quod non solum nos supranominati Comites,

barones, et domini per literas nostras patentes validas et efficaces, sigillis armorum nostrorum sigillatas et manibus nostris subscriptas, obli-geremus nos, heredes et successores nostros ac omnia & singula bona nostra mobilia et Immobilia presentia ac futura ubicunque per terram vel per mare fuerint reperta, verumeciam quod nos predicti Maiores, aldermani, vicecomites, ballivi, constabularii ac Communitates Ciuitatum, opidorum et villarum predictarum, tanquam corpora et collegia ac eciam tanquam particulares persone que nunc sunt et pro tempore erunt, Ita quod obligacio corporis seu collegii non deroget obligacioni particulari, nec econtra, per literas nostras patentes & auctenticas, validas et efficaces, sigil-

¹ deletions.

effectual letters, sealed with our common seals, shall bind ourselves, our heirs and successors, and all our cities and towns and all and singular citizens and townfolk for the time being, and our communities of the same, and all and every our goods, movable and immovable wherever they may be found, to the King of the Romans, now (etc.) and to the Prince of Spain, their heirs and successors, under the penalty of 50,000 golden crowns (over and above the sum of 250,000 in which the abovesaid our most dread lord, King of England, and the most illustrious and serene Prince Henry (etc.) son and heir of the same King of England, shall bind and oblige themselves to the aforesaid emperor as grandfather (etc.) and to the Prince of Spain, in the name of a penalty by virtue of the said treaty), that the said marriage between the aforementioned Prince of Spain and Lady Mary, when they shall have reached a marriageable age, shall be accomplished in the place (etc.) specified more fully in the said treaty ;

[And that if it shall happen through the Lady Mary, or her parents, or any of them, or any one else, or by any occurrence, except it be on the Prince of

lis nostris *Communitatibus* sigillatas obligaremus nos, heredes et successores nostros, ac omnes Civitates, villas et opida nostra, omnesque et singulos Cives et opidanos pro tempore existentes ac *Communitates* nostras eorumque, et nostra omnia et singula bona, mobilia et Immobilia presentia et futura ubicunque fuerint reperta, prefato tunc Regi Romanorum, nunc vero electo Romanorum Imperatori et principi Hispanie, heredibus et successoribus suis, sub pena quinquaginta Millium coronarum auri (preter et ultra summam ducentarum et quinquaginta Millium coronarum auri quaprefatus metuendissimus dominus noster Rex Anglie ac Illustrissimus et serenissimus princeps Henricus, princeps Wallie, dux Cornubie et Comes Cestrie etc. filius et heres eiusdem Regis Anglie, prefato Imperatori ut avo et Tutori predicto et principi Hispanie antedicto nomine pene virtute predicti tractatus sese obligarent et astringerent) quod dictum Matrimonium inter prenomi-

principem Hispanie et dominam Mariam eam ad maturam et legitimam nubendi etatem pervenerint locis, terminis, modisque et formis in dicto tractatu plenius specificatis debite perficiantur (sic) et cum effectu :

Quodque si forte¹ per prefatam dominam Mariam, vel parentes suos vel eorum aliquem aut alium quemcumque, aut per quemcumque modum vel eventum preterquam per prefatum

Supply "steterit" : see below, p. 616.

Spain's part, or through his death or the death of either of the contracting parties (which God forbid) that the said marriage by word of mouth within forty days (etc.) shall not be contracted in the manner (etc.) and solemnised according

to the rites of the Church, then and in that case we, the earls (etc.) aforesaid, our heirs and successors, shall be bound to pay to the aforesaid King of

the Romans, and to the Prince of Spain, their heirs or successors, without delay or excuse the said sum of 50,000 gold crowns, and every part of it, as a penalty for the same breach of contract;

[And that it shall be lawful for the same king (etc.) and the Prince of Spain, their heirs (etc.) to levy and distrain upon, seize, possess and keep all and singular our goods movable and immovable of the said earls

(etc.) mayors (etc.) our heirs (etc.) wheresoever by land or sea they may be found without challenge or resistance whatsoever:

[We, therefore, the earls

*principem Hispanie, aut eius mortem, vel per mortem alterius contrahentium (quod Deus auertat)*¹ *quominus dictum matrimonium per uerba de presenti infra quadraginta dies post complimentum*² *quartumdecimum etatis eiusdem principis annum proximo et immediate sequentes contrahatur modis, terminis, locis, ac formis in supradicto tractatu specificatis [et] in facie ecclesie solemnisetur, tunc & in eo casu nos Comites, barones, et domini, maiores, aldermanni, vicecomites, balliui, constabularii et Communitates predicti, nostrive heredes et successores, dictam summam quinquaginta Millium coronarum auri et quamlibet eius partem in penam eiusmodi repudiacionis dicto tunc Romanorum Regi, nunc vero electo Romanorum Imperatori, et principi hereditibusve aut successoribus suis sine dilacione aut excusacione quacunq[ue] soluere tenerentur (sic);*

Quodque eciam lic[er]et prefatis tunc Regi nunc vero (etc.) et principi Hispanie suisve hereditibus et successoribus dictam summam quinquaginta millium coronarum auri et quamlibet eius partem de & super omnibus & singulis bonis mobilibus et Immobilibus nostris dictorum Comitum (etc.) Maiorum (etc.) hereditumque (etc.) nostrorum vbicunq[ue] tam per terram quam per mare fuerint reperta sine contradiccione aut recistencia quacunq[ue] libere exigere, leuare, capere, possidere et detinere:

Nos igitur, Comites (etc.) necnon

¹ ? an omission.

² *sic.* Read "completum," as below, p. 616.

(etc.) mayors (etc.) desiring to obey and please the foresaid our most dread lord not only in the premisses, but also in all other things wherein we can or should, and desiring a prosperous and happy ending for so holy an affair not only for us, but also for the benefit of peace of both sides, and an affair most advantageous for the realms, countries, lordships, and all their subjects and the whole commonwealth of the Christian religion, do bind and oblige, according to the tenor of these presents, as well ourselves, earls (etc.) our heirs (etc.) and all and singular our goods (etc.) and also ourselves, mayors (etc.) as well in our corporate and personal character (so that the obligation of corporate bodies shall not diminish the obligation of individuals, nor the contrary) our heirs (etc.) cities (etc.) our citizens for the time being, all and singular our goods

(etc.) to the aforesaid emperor (etc.) and Prince of Spain, their heirs (etc.) in 50,000 gold crowns in which the King of England (etc.) and the Prince of Wales (etc.) as is aforesaid, shall bind and oblige themselves in order that the said marriage between the aforesaid

Maiores, abdermanni, vicecomites, balliui et Constabularii supradicti, cupientes prefato domino nostro metuendissimo non solum in premissis verum etiam in aliis omnibus quibus possumus, vel debemus, obedire et complacere, Reique tam sancte tam honorifice non nobis solum set et bono pacis utriusque partium predictorum ac Regis patriis, dominis & subditis vniuersis ac totius religionis cristiane reipublice et vtil[issi]me prosperum et felicem exitum etc., Non mediocriter affectantes et desiderantes, tenore presentium obligamus et astringimus tam nos Comites, Barones (etc.) heredes (etc.) nostros ac omnia & singula bona nostra (etc.), quam etiam nos Maiores (etc.) et Communitates tanquam corpora et collegia et tanquam particulares personas que nunc sunt et pro tempore erunt. Ita quod obligationes corporum seu collegiorum non derogent obligationibus particularibus nec e contra, heredes (etc.) nostros, Ciuitates, villas et opida nostra, omnesque et singulos Ciuces ac opidanos nostros pro tempore existentes ac omnia & singula bona nostra (etc.) vbicunque fuerint repta, prefato Imperatori vt auo et Tutori predicto et supranominato principi Hispanie heredibus (etc.) suis in quinquaginta Millibus coronarum auri qua prefatus metuendissimus dominus noster Rex Anglie et prefatus Illustrissimus et serenissimus princeps Wallie, ut predictum est, sese obligarent et

¹ leaf 302.

Prince of Spain and the Lady Mary when they come to a marriageable age shall be duly performed according to the said treaty.

[And if it shall happen through the Lady Mary's doing (etc.) or through any occur-

rence otherwise than on the Prince of Spain's part or by his death or by the natural death of either of the contracting parties (which God forbid) that this marriage (etc.) may not be celebrated, then and in that case we the aforesaid

earls (etc.) mayors (etc.) acknowledge that we will pay or cause to be paid to the afore-

said guardian and Prince of Spain the said sum of 50,000 crowns of gold (etc.), and we promise by these presents to

pay or cause it to be paid to the said emperor (etc.) and Prince of Spain or either of them (etc.) as a penalty for the same breach of engagement without any delay or excuse whatever.

[We will also and grant by

astringerent quod dictum matrimonium inter prenominatum principem Hispanie et dominam Mariam cum ad legitimam¹ nubendi etatem pervenerint iuxta formam dicti tractatus debite perficietur.

Et si forte steterit per dictam dominam Mariam vel parentes suos vel eorum aliquem aut quemcumque alium aut per quemcumque modum vel eventum preterquam per prefatum principem Hispanie aut eius partem vel per mortem naturalem alterius contrahentium (quod Deus avertat) quominus dictum matrimonium per verba de presenti infra quadraginta dies post completum quartumdecimum etatis eiusdem principis annum proximo sequentes modis (etc.) in predicto tractatu specificatis et contentis et in facie ecclesie debite solemnizetur. Tunc et in eo casu nos predicti Comites (etc.), Maiores (etc.) predicti fatemur et recognoscimus Tutori predicto et prefato principi Hispanie dictam summam quinquaginta Coronarum auri et quamlibet eius partem. Promittimusque per presentes quod eandem summam quinquaginta Millium Coronarum auri dicto Imperatori ut antea (etc.) predicto et prefato principi Hispanie vel eorum alteri heredibusve (etc.) in penam eiusmodi repudiacionis sine dilacione aut excusacione quacunque solvemus solvive faciemus; Volumusque et per presentes concedimus pro nobis dictis Comitibus (etc.) Maioribus (etc.) heredibus (etc.) quod in.

¹ MS. has a stroke too many.

these presents for ourselves (etc.) our heirs (etc.) that in the case of the breach aforesaid

and the non-payment of the sum aforesaid it shall be lawful for the said emperor (etc.) and aforesaid Prince of Spain or their heirs (etc.) the said sum (etc.) to levy freely upon our

persons and goods (etc.), keep, possess and detain without challenge or resistance.

[We renounce expressly and as a legal compact under the names and qualities given above all and singular exceptions of law and fact and other defences and benefits of law and fact, and generally all appeals, pleas, challenges and benefits of laws and canons by which we may be aided against the premisses or any of them, or other exceptions or defences whatever whereby we may be protected, and in particular we renounce the exception of the non-payment of the penalty by the principal contractors or their kinsfolk at the espousals and matrimony, and (we renounce the benefit of) the law saying that a general renunciation is not binding unless a special one has preceded it.

[Provided that in case the

casu predicto repudientis et non solucionis summe predicte licet per dicto Imperatori ut anto (etc.) et per nominati (sic) principi Hispanie suisve hereditibus (etc.) dictam summam quinquaginta Millium Coronarum auri et quamlibet eius partem de & super personis, bonis mobilibus et Immobilibus nostris, hereditibus (etc.) Communitatum, Civium, et opidorum nostrorum ubicumque (etc.) sine contradiccione aut resistencia quacunque libere exigere, levare, capere, possidere et detinere.

Renunciamus in hac parte expresse et in vim pacti sub nominibus et qualitatibus quibus supra omnibus et singulis tam Juris quam facti exceptionibus et defencionibus aliisque Juris et facti beneficiis et generaliter omnium legum et canonicum (sic) appellacionibus, querelis, provocacionibus et beneficiis quibus contra premissa seu ipsorum aliqua nos Juare possemus seu alias quomodo-

libet¹ tueri et presertim exceptione pene non soluende per principales contrahentes vel eorum parentes in

sponsalibus et matrimoniis apposite ac Juridicenti generalem renunciacionem non valere nisi processerit specialis.

Prouiso tamen quod casu quo

¹ Contraction for *-is* follows.

said marriage between the aforesaid Prince of Spain and the Lady Mary is contracted and duly solemnised, or if it should happen that the aforesaid marriage be not contracted and solemnised by reason of failure on the part of the Prince of Spain (etc.) or his death or the death of either of the contracting parties (which God forbid) or otherwise than through the action of the Lady Mary and her side, or if the aforesaid sum of 50,000 gold crowns in these cases or in any of them has been fully paid, our present letters shall be quashed and be of no moment nor efficacy, and shall be restored to us in good faith by the abovesaid emperor, the Prince of Spain, or either of them, or their heirs (etc.), ambassadors, or proxies deputed to that end. In faith and testimony of all and singular we, the earls (etc.) have signed and sealed with the seals of our arms these our present letters patent, we indeed the mayors (etc.) have caused to be corroborated, and corroborated (the same) with the common seals of our cities and towns.

dictum matrimonium inter prefatam principem Hispanie et dominam Mariam contrahatur et debite solemnizetur, aut si per prefatum principem Hispanie vel parentes suos, vel eorum aliquem aut alium quemcumque aut per mortem alterius contrahendum (quod Deus auertat) per quemcumque aliam modum vel euentum preterquam per prefatam dominam Mariam aut eius partem steterit quominus dictum matrimonium locis (etc.), ut prefatur, contrahatur et solemnizetur, vel si predicta summa quinquaginta millium coronarum auri in casibus predictis vel eorum aliquo plene fuerit soluta, presentes nostre littere tanquam casse et irrit[e] nulliusque momenti aut efficacie [et] nobis per prefatum Imperatorem, principem Hispanie vel eorum alterum, eorumve heredes et successores aut eorum oratores vel procuratores ad hoc deputatos bona fide restituantur. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem et testimonium presentes litteras nostras patentes nos Comites, barones¹ et domini predicti manibus nostris signauimus et sigillis armorum nostrorum sigillauimus, Nos uero Maiores, aldermanni, vicecomites, balliui, constabularii et Communitates Ciuitatum et opidorum predictorum sigillis Communitatis nostris fecimus communiri et communiuimus.

¹ MS. barores.

RIC. SMYTH, MAYOR, 1508.

1^c [Election of officers.]

Joh. Duddesbury, Hen. Merler, Tho. Bayly, Ric. Lee, Joh. Padlonde, Tho. Churchman, Will. ffoorth, Joh. Had- don, Will. Pysford, Ric. Jakson, Tho. Wardelowe, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Derlyng, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Herdwen, Ric. Merler, Ric. ffoxhale, Will. Wygston, Rog. Chambur, Edw. Hulecote, Ric. Nores, Joh. Cysyll, Tho. fforth, Will. Banwell.

[m. Ric. Smyth; cor. Joh. Rastell; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. Hyll, Ric. Ryse; w. Will. Rokardyne, Hen. Wall; crier, Ric. fferaby; mace, Hen. Walker.]

Mem. it is agreed at this eleccion that the above-namyd Hen. Walker, *comen seriant*, shall kepe clene the Grey-ffrere yate, as well within as *without*, vnto a *certeyn* place callid the watryng-place; and in like-wyse the Cook- strete yate; and yf he do not to set in on his wages the caryng a-way therof etc.

"Civici-
Conventus,"
Jan. 25.

Officers.

The common
sergeant to
keep cleane
Grey-friar
and Cook
Street gates

ROGER A LEE.

Mem. at this eleccion ther was on Rog. a Lee, Baker, elect & chosyn in-to the office of the Chamberleynship for the yere ffoloyng; which *Roger*, as sone as he herde he was chosen chamberleyn, came before *Maister* Meyre & his brethern, and shewid them he was not abull to occupy the seid Rome, and prayed them he myght be dischargid. Wheruppon ther was made fether inquire of hym whedir he were abull or noo. And ther it came to knolege afore them all that the seid *Roger* had *with* his wif, een John Pachettes doughter, in rely money & plate xxx li., and also it was right well knowen that he hadde right largely of his owne, or els the seid Joh. Pachet wold not haue maried his doughter to hym; and also the seid *Roger* was for-boron and put of from the seid office by the space of iij yere afore at the instaunce of the seid Joh. Pachet; and so it was thought he was able y-nought for the rome,

2 "Rog. a Lee
chosen
Chamber-
laine."

"Refused"
the office,

though the
extent of his
wife's dowry
points to his
being a man
of substance,

and able to
fill it,

¹ leaf 300. Scribe G. The mayor is described as "Major Ciuitatis siue ville."

² The marginal annotations are here through lack of space written at the foot of the leaf.

if he wold. And *per* he was loungly entretid by dyuerse of my seid maisters, that is to sey, by Maister Rob. a Grene then Meire, Maister Will. floorth, Maister Joh. Haldon, Maister Will. Pysforde, Maister Ric. Jakson, to take the office appon hym, and they wold see he shuld haue no lose therby, but a forberying a litell money for a tyme. Also they offerid hym to lene hym certeyn money tyll such tyme as he had gaderid it up a-geyn of the seid office, and so no lose to hym. Yet not-with-standyng all thes offers he vtterly refusid the seid office and wold not take it upon hym in no wyse.

Wheruppon Maister Meire & his brethern seyng his obstynacye and frowardnesse, commaundid hym in peyne of a C li. that he shuld not depart the Citee nor inbesell¹ noon of his goodes out *perof*, and also to be foortheomyng at all tymes afore Maister Meyre & his brethern when he shal be send fore, upon the peyne afore rehersid, and answeere to such thynges as shuld be leyed to his charge.

And after upon Candlemas day next foloyng Maister Meyre with Maister Ric. Smyth, then newe elect meire, and my maisters, the aldermen, went in-to seynt Mary hall a bowte ix of the klok, with such *oþer* officers as then & ther shuld be sworon, and take *per* charge accordyng to the olde custome of the cite afore-tyme vsid. And then & *per* in opyn audiance the seid Rog. a Lee was callid thryes solemply to com in and exercise the seid office of chamberleynship of the Citee which he was elect & chosyn in. And the seid Roger cam not but made defaute. And after that the seid Roger was callid a-yen thryes solemply to come and occupy the seid office upon peyn of C li.; and the seid Roger cam not, but eftsons made defaute. Wheruppon Maister Rob. a Grene, then beyng meyre, by the aduyse of my maisters, the aldermen, cawsid a newe election of xxiiij accordyng to the olde custome; which xxiiij aforenamyd went into the counsell house and ther immediatly chosyn Tho. Hyll afore-namyd to be an of the Chamberleyns in the stede of the seid Rog. a Lee.

And then within a while after this new election the

¹ = convey away secretly.

² This gloss is incorrect; Roger was only bound over in £100.

in spite of
persuasion
of officers
of a loan

he persists in
his refusal.

He is ordered
on pain of
£100 not to
embezzle any
of his goods.

Feb. 2.
The officers
come to S.
Mary's Hall,

and Roger is
solemply
summoned,

was called 6
times,
Refused;
fined 100 li.²
sic.

seid Rog. a Lee cam in-to the hall; and as some as *Maister* Meyre saw hym he commaundid hym to warde, *per* to remain vnto such tyme as they wold be adyysed what punyschement he shuld haue for his mysdemener, and also for the *parlous* example that he hath shewid¹ to other in like cas so to do, which was *never* seyn afore. And after at the especiall instaunce of his freymbes the seid Roger was let to bayll to *cortayn* of his frembes, which were bounde for hym to *Maister* Meyre in an obligacion of a Cli. upon condicion that he shuld be fourth-comyng afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern at eny tyme when he shalbe callid, and also to pay such fynes & *mercimentes* that shall hereafter be sett appon hym for his seid mysdemener & yl-example. And after the Wennysday the xxiiij day of May the xxiiij yere afore-rehersid at seynt Mary hall a-fore *Maister* Meire, *Maister* Duddesbury M.G.S.T.,² *Maister* Merler, *Maister* Grene, *Maister* Baylly, *Maister* Churcheman, *Maister* Padlonde, *Maister* Haddon, *Maister* Pysford, *Maister* Saunders, *Maister* Strong, *Maister* Hassall, *Maister* Hulcote, *Maister* Barbour, *Maister* Clerk, *Maister* floxhale, *Maister* Grove, *Maister* Rogers, *Maister* Heynes, the foreseid mater was spokyn of amonges them all; and there they were fully agreed that the seid Rog. a Lee for his mysdemener and also for the yll example that he had giffen to oder shuld pay for his ffyne xx li. of lawfull money to þe behoof & *profet* of the seid Citee, and yet not to be dischargid of the seid office for euer but to be at the plesure of *Maister* meyre & his brethern when they list to call hym to the seid office etc.

and imprisoned.¹

May 24, 1508.

39 20li. paid for Refusing to be Chamberlin, & yet liable to serue when Again Elected."
"Roger Lee flyned for Refusing to be Chamberleyn."³

LEETS.

⁴ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Ric. Smyth, m., Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, b., on Tuesday after the feast of SS. Philip and James, 23 Hen. VII.]

Joh. Duddesbury, Hen. Merler, Rob. Grene, Tho. Baylly, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Ric. Jakson, Tho. Wardlowe, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric.

"Conentre." May 2.

Electors.

¹ leaf 300, back.

² "maister of Trinite gilde."

³⁻³ These two glosses are in different hands; hence tautology.

⁴ leaf 301.

Hassall, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Derlyng, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Clerk, Ric. Foxhall, Will. Wygston, Hugo Dawes, Tho. floorth, Joh. Mors, Will. Dawson, Tho. Kelyngworth, Ric. Ryse.

Orders
of lect.
Tho. Empson
elect-ed joint
recorder.

first, at this lete we amytt, elect, & chese *Maister* Tho. Empson to occupy and be in the office of Recorder in the Citee of Couentre ioyntly with *Maister* Sir Ric. Empson, his flader; and he to occupy the seid office in the absens of his flader as Recorder of the Citee etc.

Draught-
houses to be
removed or
20s. fine;

Item, [ordained] that the shirreffs goo & vewe the *Comen* diehe behynde the Peock¹ in the Crosse-chepyng that gooth from *Maister* Hen. Merlers vnto the West-orchard, and see that the draughtes be takyn a-wey betwene this and Midsomer next, apou [peyn] of every man that hath eny draught there after Midsomer to leese xx s., and if the shirreffes see this not doon they to lese for þer nondoyng xx s. Also it is ordeyngned in like cas that no man haue eny draughtes or oder noyaunces in the Red-diehe from *Litell-parke-strete* to the Jurdenwell, nor no grates except such as woll kepe out muk; and that the *Couer* no place of the seid dieh or gutter, which of olde tyme hath be kept opyn, in peyn of every man doying the contrarie for every defaute to forfeit xx s., wherof vj s. viij d. to the shirreffes, vj s. viij d. to þe *Comen* boxe, and vj s. viij d. to the Chamberleyns. And if on Joh. a Woode, or the owner of the grounde, cast not opyn the *Comen* diehe as of olde tyme it hath be vsid by-twene this a[n]t Midsomer next to loose xx s. to be levyed in forme afore-rehersid etc.

"Comen
shores
Clensed."

The Red-
ditch not to
be covered
or 20s. fine.

Also it is ordeyngned at this lete that *Maister* Meire & his brethern shall ryde the Circuyte of the fraunchese by-tweene this and Michelmas next comyng.

"Ride the
boundes of
the Countie."

[Ordained] at this lete that Hen. Peynter, *comen* seriant, shall make clene, and see boron a-wey all such muk as lieth without the frere-yate to the *Comen* noysaunce, as it was commaundid hym at the last lete by-twene this & Whitsontyde next, uppon peyne of forfeiture of his office; and that the seid Henre every Saturday wayte apou the

"Comen
seriant"

¹ This inn existed until comparatively recent times.

Chamburleyns to see þæt werkmēn payed, that the seid Chamburleyne shall pay for the *Comen* wele of the Citee, and also to wayte upon theym at all tymes requisite when they goo to gedir their murage money, upon peyn afore-rehersid.

to wāt
þe Chan-
celler.

¹ ¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day 24 Hen. VII.]

"Centre
Oct. 16."

Joh. Duddesbury, Hen. Merler, Rob. Grene, Tho. Bayly, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Turner, sen., Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Rog. Sutton, Rog. Chambur, Ed. Huleote, Joh. Whitehede, Ric. Merler, Ric. ffoxhall, Nic. Burwey, Will. Wygston, Hen. Wall, Ed. Hadley, Tho. Hyll, Ric. Ryse.

[Humf. Grene, Dyer, Hen. Perkyns, Grasyer.]

Sherrifs.

first, [ordained] that all such officers as longyn to the breusters yelde² and the stresse-rolles, and also the shirreffs officers, that thei shall from-hensforth fynde sufficient suerty to the sherriffs for executyng there offices and also for there good attendaunce.

"Sergeantes
to find
suretys for
their places &
behaviouris."

Also [ordained] that if eny straunger hereafter be disposid to dwell in this Citee, what craft so euer he be of, that he shall dwelle frely *within* the Citee xij monethes & a day *without* any assesment of the maister of the craft of the occupacion that he is, upon the peyn of xls., but at his fre wyll.

"Strangers
to be free."

[Ordained] that no boocher nor odur of the Citee suffre eny Mastyf dogges to goo at large after vij of the klok at nyght in the wynter and viij of the klok in *somer*; and in the morenyng vij a klok in wynter and v a klok in *somer*, [or 3s. 4d. fine at every default, "holf" to the common box.]

"Mastyffe
Doggs."

[Ordained] that no man fromhensforth by eny barley or odur greyne at the Townes-ende or els-where, but in the *comen* Market, or at his own durre, upon peyn of euerij quarter so bought to leese xx d., the on half to the *Comen* boxe, the other to the shirrefes.

Barley to be
bought in the
open market.

¹ leaf 304.

² The city officers apparently collected a quarterage from the victuallers, Corp. MSS. A. 3 (b), leaf 61. v. *supra*, p. 234, and Introduction.

N. 56.
The price
of shoes,
1162

[Ordayned]¹ that *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng shall call to hym vj or viij of his brether and se the reformation of the price of shoon, botewes² and botes; and also to reforme tanners³ as the case shall require etc.

"Against
paying malk
in Crosse-
cheping."

[Ordayned and enacted] that Tho. Warde, baker, from hensforth for dyverse consideracions shall be dischargid of the office of shirrefwyke of this Citee for ever, payng for his ffyne x make to the making of the conduyte.

Also it is ordeigned at this lete that noon of the inhabitantes of the Crosse-Chepyng ley eny muk or swepynges in the market place ther tyll the ffryday at nyght for that it may be caried a-wey on the morow, upon the peyn of euery defaute iijj d., wherof the ffynder to haue for his labourer j d., and the residue to the *comen* boxe.

"Sheriffes
not leyving
be amerce-
mentes."

[Agreed and ordained] that the shirrefes for the tyme beyng that if they levey not all the *amerceimentes* that be assessed at the letes that they shall forfete as much money, and that to be leveyed of the shirrefes to the vse of the *Comen* boxe for euery defaute etc.

RIC. MARLER, MAYOR, 1509.

"Cintias
Coentree,"
Jan. 25.

4 ¶ [Election of officers.]

Rob. a Grene, Hen. Merler, Tho. Bayly, Ric. Lee, Joh. Padlonde, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Haddon, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Hardwen, Ric. ffoxhale, Joh. Derlyng, Rog. Chambur, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Joh. Cesyle, Will. Wykam, Ric. Nores, Tho. Hyll, Will. Rocardyne, Hen. Wall, Ric. Ryse.

Officers.

[m. Ric. Merler; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. ffarman, Joh. Crampe; w. Joh. Bonde, Tho. Whyte; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

EASTER LEET.

"Coentree,"
Apr. 17.

5 ¶ [V. f. p. held before Ric. Merler, m., Hum. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, b., on Tuesday after the close of Easter, 24 Hen. VII.]

¹ Leet spelled "let" here. ² = A short boot.
³ "as of" inserted in MS. ⁴ leaf 305.
⁵ leaf 305, back.

¹ Rob. Grene, Hen. Merler, Tho. Bayly, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pystford, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Will. Wygston, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Saunders, Ed. Hulcote, Joh. Humfrey, Ric. floxhale, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehede.¹

² first, [ordained] that the feliship and occupation of Cornesers fromhenstürth shall pay & bere *with* the craft of Tanners toward ther charges xiijs. iiijd. in lyke wise as *Maister* Ric. Smyth did commaunde them when he was Meyre³ tyll hit be better enquerid of etc.²

Order of Just.
Counsellors and
Tanners
1529-30

CHRONICLE.

⁴ *Mem.* that this yere dyed kuyng (*sic*) Henry the vijth the xxij day of April; and he graunted before his doth a generall pardon of all maner of lawte tresons, pety tresons, felonyes, Roberyes etc. And after his deth his son kuyng Henry the viijth ratyfiyd and confermid the same with more larger wordes for all maner of trespasses, brekyng of statutes, mysvsyng of offices *with dyuerse* oder articles doon before the xxij day of April then begymyng his Reyne etc. And the seid Henry the vijth dyed at Rychemount the day afore-rehersid and was brought to London in-to Pollys *with* many nobles of the Realme & grete nombre of torches and a grete nombre of peple both on horsbak & afote. And after iij dayes beyng in Polles he was brought to Westmynster; and ther he lieth & his quene Elizabeth *with* hym in a newe chapell which he causid to be made in his lyffe: on whoos saule *Jhesu* haue mercy. And his son kyng Henry the viijth was crownyd the same yere at Westmynster the Sondag next after Midsomer day. And the same yere ther was an heyre *determyner*⁵ throw-out Ynglond; and ther came *dyuerse*

"King
Henry VII
died"
Apr. 22.
He granted a
pardon which

his son
lathed,

The late king
lay in state at
St. Paul's and

was buried at
Westmynster,

on whose soul
Jesu have
mercy!
Henry VII
is crowned
July 1.
An oyer and
terminer
held through-
out the
kingdom.

¹⁻¹ Transposed. In the MS. the first order precedes the jury list.

²⁻² Transposed. ³ *i. e.* in 1508.

⁴ leaf 305. See for Henry VIII's charter of pardon Corp. MSS. B. 55.

⁵ an eyre of justices of oyer and terminer = special courts held by commissioners to hear and determine certain causes.

commyssioners to this Citee of Couentre, that is to sey, *Maister* Joh. flyssher, on of the *Justices* of the comen place, and *Maister* Guy Palmer, the *kinges seriaunt*, Sir Ed. Raleigh, knyght,¹ Sim. Dygby of Colshull,² Ric. Hungerford,³ esquier. And the Meyre of Couentre was the cheef *commyssioner* for the Citee, & was namyd by his name, Ric. Merler, Meyre of the Citee of Couentre, and he kept the chere thre dayes in the Jeyll halle contynually etc.

WHITLEY AGAIN.

June 10.

Laur
"Walgrave"complains of
wrong done
by the
comoners
of Coventry
in certain
fields.

¹ *Mem.* that the xth day of June this same yere ther cam on⁴ Laur. Walgrave of Whitley afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern & made a grete seyng to them that he had grete wrong in *correynt* flyldes a this half Whitley by the comens of Couentre, and that he wold compleyne fferther if he had no remedy theryn. Wheruppon *Maister* Meyre & his brethern let make a-seemble at seynt Mary hall of the most honest *commyners* of the Cite to the nombre of *xlviij persons* or moo: and ther the Meyre shewid them of the troubles mynde of the seid Laurence, & how he was disposid toward the Citee.

An assembly
in S. Mary's
Hall agreesto support
the corpora-
tion in any
action.

And ther it was conduccid & agreed by all the hoole assemble at that tyme that the seid Laurence shuld be answerid to eny thyng that he wold ley to the charge of the Citee in-soo-much that *every* man that was *per* offered to bere ther *parties* in money to defende his froward mynde & malice, and so was the answeere gyffen to hym by *Maister* Meyre that he shuld be answerid to eny thyng that he wold sey or do.

Walgrave
withdraws,
and June 25

And then the seid Laurence advysed hymself better and toke counsell of his flyndes and came ayen in-to the counsell howse a-fore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern the *xxviiij* day of the same moneth and *with* feyre wordes

¹ Of Farnborough, Warwickshire. *v.* Dugdale, 382.

² *v. ib.* p. 720.

³ The Hungerfords held Woodcote near Warwick. Ric. Hungerford was also a lessee of the manor of Brailes, *ib.* 190, 397.

⁴ leaf 306, back.

⁵ It is difficult to distinguish this scribe's a from o. Is it on or an, answered or onswered, apou or opou?

shewyng that he was on of the Citee, & that he wold be loth to make ony besynes *with* hit. And if it wold please *Maister* Meyre & his brethern to gif hym a *certeyn* money he wold bryng in the euidences of the same *flyldes*, so that the Citee shuld be out of stryf for *euere*. And it was answered to hym *pat* if he had eny such euydense or wrytyng if he brought them in he shuld haue the good love of the Citee, but as for eny other gif they know not wherfore; but if he wold doo so kyndly to bryng them in he shuld be kyndly dalt *with*hall. And then he wold nedes know what he shuld haue. And he was answerid by *Maister* Meyre be-fore his brethern in the counsell howse that he shuld haue a potell of wyne, & if it were a galon it was well, & more he shuld not haue by *promyse*, but as they founde hym kynde so they wold loke appon hym. And if he list to bryng them yn thus he shuld haue good thanke, and if not then to kepe them and do his best.

proposes to surrender his evidence for a consideration.

The mayor cannily offers only a pottle of wine—and thanks.

And then after the ixth day of July the seid Larence brought in ij boxys of euydens, amonges the which ther was a *tripartite* exemplified vnder the kynges brode seall, the which he wold haue had a-geyn. And it was answerid him if he list to see hit if he came at eny tyme resonable he shuld see it *with* good wyl. And then *with* his feyre peynted wordes and his insessaunt labour he hadde of *Maister* Meyre & his brethern at on¹ tyme & other to the some of _____,² the which was more then *euere* he deseruyd or *euere* woll etc.

After Jul. 9 Walgrave brings in his evidence

and gets something from the mayor therefor with fair painted words. "Variance About heild on this side Whitley ended."

MICHAELMAS LEET.

[³ V. f. p. held on Tuesday after Michaelmas, 1 Hen. VIII.]

"Conentre." Oct. 2.

Rob. Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Will. Wygston, Joh. Clerk, Tho. Turnour, sen., Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Saunders, Edw. Hulcote, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehedde, Joh. Hardwen,

¹ See note 5 on p. 626.

² Blank.

³ leaf 306.

Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, Tho. Harman, Joh. Cramp.

Sheriff.

[Tho. floorth, Will. Perkyngs.]

Orders of
lect.
"Bounds of
County."

[Ordnained] that *certayn persons* shall goo & see the Meres and boundes of the shire of Couentre: and there as lacketh eny merestones to set newe in all such p[1]aces. And the namys of them that be namyd to ryde heraftur foloyn, that is to sey, *Maister* Rob. Grene, *Maister* Joh. Padlonde, *Maister* Joh. Haddon, *Maister* Will. Pysford, *Maister* Ric. Jakson, *Maister* Ric. Smyth, *Maister* Tho. Turnour the elder, *Maister* Tho. Grove, *Maister* Joh. Boteler, Tho. Harman, Joh. Cramp, Joh. Bonde, Tho. White; and they to ryde as sone as may be conuenient, and, if it may be, on Thursday next etc.

The wall
and ditch.

[Agreed] that *Maister* Meyre and *certayn* of his brethern by-twene this & Saturday next comyng goo and veve the Towne Wall; and to see the *Comen* noysaunzses in the Towne dyeh, and make reformation *perof* by there discrecions etc.

THE RECORDER.

[Ant. flitzherberde¹ was elected recorder of this city in the time of Ric. Merler about the end of his year.]

JOH. SAUNDERS, MAYOR, 1510.

² ¶ [Election of officers.]

"Civitas
Conentrie."
Jan. 25.

Ric. Smyth, Tho. Baylly, Ric. Lee, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde,³ Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chambur, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Derlyng, Joh. Whitehede, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, Tho. Harman, Joh. Crampe, Ric. Nores, Hugh Dawes, Will. Wykam.

¹ Empson was executed after the death of Henry VII. Fitzherbert (1470-1528) was the author of numerous books on legal matters: and the *Tokc of Husbandrie* is sometimes attributed to him, v. *Eng. Hist. Rev.* ix., p. 305. His wife was daughter of Sir Hen. Willoughby of Middleton (Mr. Stevenson) and Wyken, see Dugdale, 88.

² leaf 307. No mention of the recorder.

³ See his will in Dugdale (1730), 184-5. He was associated with Ford in the foundation of Ford's or Greyfriars' Hospital, which is still standing.

[m. Joh. Saunders; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Ric. Heryng,¹ *grocer*, Will. Tylet; w. Tho. Rowley, Ric. Kemsey; mace, Hen. Peynter; crier, Ric. Heryby.]

Officers

Mem. it is agreed at this eleccion that the Comen seriant shal-be sworon that he shall make a true accompt every yere of all the vacande grounde a-bowte the Citee to Maister Meyre & his brethern when the Chamburleyns make theire accompt; and also he shall gif his due attendaunce apou the Chamburleyns, as well the olde as the newe, at all tymes to execute *per office* without takyng eny thyng for his laboure but mete & drynk, in peyn of forfeiture of his office.

"Comen seriant."
"Comen seriant to waite on the Chamberlins for his diett."

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[² V. f. p. held before Joh. Saunders, m., Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, b., on Thursday after the close of Easter, 1 Hen. VIII.]

"Conentre."
Apr. 11.

Ric. Smyth, Rob. Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlande, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Turnour, sen., Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Sutton, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Derlyng, Joh. Whitehede, Joh. Humfrey, Ric. ffoxhale, Tho. Grove, Nic. Heynes, Ed. Hulecote, Ric. Heryng.

first, [ordained] that every alderman in his warde as oft as he thynketh necessarie shall take too or thre Constabuls *with* him and make serche in his warde for all them that kepe mysrule in *per* howses, and such as they fynde fawty to comyt them to warde or oder punyshement as they thynke is necessarie for them; and if they wyl-not mende by that, then to cause them to bannysh³ the Citee. And also the seid alderman shall gif knolege to *per* londlorde or to his baylly if the londlorde be absent that they warden⁴ all such suspect persons to departe from there tenure and to set there well-disposid persons etc.

"Aldermen search in their wards"

and banish thence undestrables.

[Agreed] that no inhabitaunt or Citezen within the

¹ Probably an ancestor of the Puritan divine, Julines Herring.

² leaf 308. ³ = to be banished. ⁴ = warn.

"For gre-
h, un, dea."

Citee or the suburbes of the same kepe eny greunde¹ or grey bech² from this day forward, but if he may dispende xls. by yere above all charges, apou [the peyn] to forfeite for the first fawte xld., the secunde vjs. viijd., and euery defawte after xs., this peyn to be leueyed by the sheriffes, the oon half to ther owne vse and the other half to the comen boxe. And this to be executyd without eny fauour accordyng to the actes of parlement etc.

"Conentre,"
Oct. 1.

³[V. f. p. held on Tuesday after Michaelmas, 2 Hen. VIII.]

Ric. Smyth, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerk, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Whitehede, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, Hum. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Will. Wykam, Ric. Heryng, Will. Tylet, Ric. Kemsey.

Sheriffs.

[Tho. Waren, Dyer, Tho. Astley, Baker.]

Orders of
Leet.
"viiij per-
sones in
euerie
warde" to

[Ordayned] that *Maister* Meyre that now ys shall euery weke on day in the weke shall let call afore hym viij persons of substaunce within a warde, shewyng to them for a substaunce or stok to be hadde within this Citee for such certayn Charges that casuall shall come vnto the Citee; that it is thought euery warde shal-be comenyd with by viij of the substaunce of such warde what enprowement⁴ myght be hadde in the Comen-ffe⁵ or other opprowment⁶ or profite myght ryse vnto the Comen Weele of the Citee as haue be made afore-tyme, as of receuyng of prentyses & such other; and to know the good myndes of euery warde in the premysses; or if eny other wyse wey myght be founde for the inrese of such stok, as is afore-seid. And that the seid viij persons shall make relacion to *Maister* Meyre of there myndes; and that euery weke *Maister* Meyre let call viij persons vnto the tyme that all the x wardes be perused.⁷

report to
the mayor
any scheme
for the
improvement
of the city
and the
increase of
s funds.

¹ ME. grehunde. ² Female of grey-hound.

³ leaf 308, back. ⁴ = improvement. ⁵ or ? Comensee.

⁶ Approvement = profit, esp. profit arising from the enclosure of common lands.

⁷ peruse = to go through in order.

JOH. STRONG, MAYOR, 1511.

¹ ¶ [Election of officers.]

Ric. Merler, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Rog. Chamber, Joh. Whitehede, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Rogers, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. forth, Will. Perkyns, Ric. Heryng, Will. Tylet, Tho. Rowley, Nic. Kemsey, Ric. Nores, Will. Banwell, Will. Brygges.

"Civitas
Coventrie."
Jan. 25.

m. Joh. Strong; rec. Ant. ffitzherberde; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Nic. Hobson, Tho. Goppeshyll; w. Joh. Hopkyns, Tho. Burden; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. fferaby.

Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

² ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Strong, m., Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, b., on Tuesday after the close of Easter, 3 Hen. VIII.]

"Civitas
Coventrie."
Apr. 29.

Ric. Merler, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Saunders, Rog. Chambur, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Whytehede, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. forth, Will. Perkyns, Ric. Burwey, Nic. Hobson, Tho. Gopeshyll, Joh. Smyth, Ric. Nores, Ric. Heryng, Will. Brygges.

[Ordned] that where the Comen dyches & Comen gutters of the Citee byn gretely anoyed³ with eastyng of muke & filth in them and also in swepyng of ther fylth in-to the same by dyuerse yll-disposid persons, contrarie to all good rule of the Citee; therefore it is ordeyned (etc.) that every persone that is fromhensforth takyn with eny such fawte shall pay for every defaute ij. d. to the Comen boxe and a peny to the constable for his fyndyng; and that every persone fromhensforth after there swepyng bere a-wey the same, apon the same peyn.

Orders of
Leet.

Filth in the
river.

2*d.* fine.

[Ordned] that no man fromhensforth cast yn-to the

The river.

¹ leaf 309. New recorder mentioned as to be elected.

² leaf 309, back. There is an illegible heading to this page.

³ annoy = to affect injuriously (*N. E. D.*).

comen Ryuer eny nank or filth, or in eny other maner streite or stop the same with eny maner of thyng, he to lese fromhensforth for enery defaute xld., iij s. to the comen box, & iij d. to the constable that fyndeth it.

Fis' water.

[Ordayned] that no man cast owte eny fflyshwater that fflysh hath ben watered yn after iij of the Clok in the mornyng & afore ix of the clok at nyght, [or 2d. to the common box and 1d. to the constable that finds it.]

"N' fflysh-monger to buy butter to sell."

[Ordayned] that no fflyshmonger within this Citee by butter to sell but only for his owne howse, apou peyn to forfete for enery defawte iij d. to the comen box and to the constable that fyndeth the defawte.¹

Bakers, butchers and fflyshmongers not to sell candles.

Also it is ordeyned that no baker, bocher, nor fflyshmonger, nor noen such vitaler make nor by eny candell to sell but onely for *per* owne howses, apou the peyn of xx s. to the comen box; and the constable that fyndeth the defawte to haue of the same xij d.; and such stuf as they haue now to vtter hit by-twene this and Whitsunday next comyng. apou the same peyn; and also that no chaundler Wynter nor *somer* sell no candell a-bove a peny a pounde, apou the peyn afore-rehersid etc.

"The gaoler to Attend the mayor and to take no fees for lodging in the Common Gaole."

Also apou a byll of compleynt put in at this lete by my maisters, the Shirrefs, a-yenst the Jayler how he gaf not his attendaunce apou *Maister* Meyre and them as he ought to do, and it was seid by² hym that he toke larger fees of prisoners then he shuld do: wherefore it is ordeyned (etc.) that enery Jayler of this Citee fromhensforth shall gif his diligent attendaunce apou *Maister* Meyre as [? at] such tyme as *oder* officers doo, except it be for charge of prisoners; and also that he shall take no fee of no man but such as come within the Jayle as prisoners; and also to take nothyng of eny prisoner for no chamber but only for his owne chamber, apou the peyn of lesyng of his office.

"Citas Concentric," Oct. 2.

² ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Strong, m., Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, b., on Thursday after Michaelmas, 3 Hen. VIII.]

Ric. Merler, Rob. Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Pad-

¹ ? How is the fine apportioned? ² = about, concerning.
³ leaf 310, back.

londe, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Saunders, Rog. Chambur, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Whithede, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyngs, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyngs, Joh. Smyth, Tho. Gopeshyll, Nic. Hobson, Joh. Hopkyngs, Tho. Burdon, Ric. Kemsey, Will. Brogges, Ric. Herryng.

[Hugh Dawes, Draper, Tho. Turner, Grasyer.]

[Ordayned] that all such groundes, closys, lesues,¹ & pastures that the xlvij men which were chosen by the hoole body of the Citee to rewe all the comen fyldes abowte the Citee, and byn agreed which may be takyn in at Lammas leuyng sufficient Comen²; that they shall be takyn in at Lammas & kept severall for the comen wele of the Citee; and the profete of that half yere comyng yerly to be applyed for the comen wele of the Citee; and that they shall soo be vsid accordyng to theyre agreement as long as the Comens be thus content, sauynge every manys right. And he that vseth hym contrarie to this act or breketh eny parsell therof to forfeit for every defaute vjs. viij d. to be payed to the comen box and gederid by them pat he lymyted to gedur the rent of the same groundes, prouyded allwey that it is agreed by the seid xlvij; & also by the xxiiij at this lete³ that the Chamberleyns for the tyme beyng shall every yere breke opyn at Lammas all the seid closis & pasturis recordyng it for per Comen and then incontynent to be inclosid ayen.

[Ordeyned] that no capper nor Sherman from this day forward flock,⁴ myle or presse cappe or cloth, upon the peyn for every defaute xxs. to be leueyd in forme foloyng, that is to sey, vjs. viij d. to the Meyre, vjs. viij d. to the Churchwardens, vjs. viij d. to the Comen box.

RIC. HASSALL, MAYOR, 1512.

⁵ ¶ [Election of officers.]

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury,

Sheriffs.

Orders of leet. By direction of "xlvij" men, chosen by the whole body of the city, a certain proportion of the "Comens" are to be "taken in"

but pro forma opened every Lammas day.

Cappers and shearmen not to mill cloth.

"Cinitas Couentrie," Jan. 25.

¹ = meadows.

² This scheme must have arisen from a desire to improve the city finances. See above, p. 630.

³ Supply "it is ordeyned," or words to that effect.

⁴ Flock = to cover cloth with flock or wool dust, v. *N. E. D.*

⁵ leaf 311.

Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Ric. Hassall,¹ Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehede, Humf. Grene, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Will. Wykam, Nic. Hobson, Joh. Hopkyns, Tho. Burdon.

Officers.

[m. Ric. Hassall; rec. Ant. flitsherberde; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Ric. Townesende, Rog. Wales; w. Jul. Nethyrmyll,² Tho. Dode; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. fferoby.]

EASTER LEET.

"Civitas
Conventiva."
Apr. 29.

³ [V. f. p. held before Ric. Hassall, m., Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, b., on Tuesday before S. George's day, 3 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Ric. Townesende, Rog. Wales, Will. Tylet.

Orders of
leet.
Bakers not
to be lallow-
chandlers.

[Ordnained and enacted] that all such bakers and euery othe[r] occupacion that were dischargid by leete to occupy or vse the occupacion of Talough-chaudelers that they shall forfeyt the peyn that was made therfore the last yere in *Maister Stronges* tyme then beyng meyre if they medle therwith.⁴

"Assiz off
water."

[Ordnained] that Will. Perkyns, Baker, shall mende thassise of his myll dame, callid Crowe-mylle,⁵ and kepe the water there in a resonable course after the olde assise, by-twene this & Holy-rode day⁶ next coming, [or 20s. fine.]

Sea-fish

[Ordnained] that no *persone within* the Citee take up no sse ffysh by the panyer nor by the seme,⁷ but only take

¹ John S deleted. It is curious that the mayor's name should be among the electors.

² Died 1539, and buried in S. Michael's, where his tomb may be seen. The Christian name is here written *Julinum*.

³ leaf 311, back. ⁴ v. p. 632.

⁵ Name perpetuated in Crow Lane. ⁶ Sept. 14.

⁷ = a load for a pack-horse, *i. e.* 8 bushels.

for there cutting if they cut eny viijd. for a seme [or 6s. 8d. fine each time]; and pat no mon nor woman cut no ffysh, but those persons here-writen, that is to sey, Tho. Hobbons, Joh. Colman, Joh. Alysaunder, Laur. Yrelonde, Joh. Halle, Joh. Leeke, Joh. Moseley, or els the ffysshers them-selff [or 6s. 8d. fine each time, half (the on half) to the common box and half to the sheriffs.]

only to be cut by these persons.

[Orlained] that no man nor woman by eny ffresh-water-fysh in the market to sell ayen, but only the bryngers therof to sell it them-self, apon peyn of euery defaute xijd., and at the secunde defawte to pay the peyn and also goo to prison tyll he haue made fyn. Also that no ffyshmonger [buy] no more butter but such as shall serue themselves, apon the peyn pat is lymyted in a lete afore this therof made.¹

Freshwater fish not to be bought to sell again.

"Fishmongers not to buy butter to sell."

THE RECORDER.

Mem. that in the ffest of the translacion of seynt Swythyn [4 Hen. VIII] *Maister* Antony ffitzherberde then Recorder of the Citee of Couentre cam unto *Maister* Ric. Hassall, [mayor] at seynt Mary hall and shewid to the seid *Maister* Meyre & his brethern that he had so grete besynesse by reason that he was *seriaunt* of the lawe that he cowde not nor myght not occupy the Rome of Recordership of the seid Citee as he was bounde to doo, and prayed them that they wold take a newe in his Rome, and shewed them on his consciens & honeste that he knew no man so mete for the rome as was on Will. Shelley,² a gentylman of good consciens and well lernyd in the lawe of the londe. Wheruppon the seid *Maister* Meyre & his brethern, heryng the good report of the seid *Maister* Will. Shelley and also hauyng diuerse *lettres* send to them, as well from the Kynges grace as from oder diuerse grete lordes, haue chosen the seid Will. Shelley to be theyre Recorder the same day afore rehersid. At which eleccion

Jul. 15. Fitzherbert resigns the recordership, and recommends

as his successor Will. Shelley,

who is accordingly chosen.

¹ r. p. 632.

² This recordership not mentioned in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* Shelley (? 1480—? 1549) rose to be recorder of London and justice of the common pleas. The poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley, was descended from one of his brothers.

these persons vnder-written were at *with* all there full consent & agreement :—

Ric. Hassall, m., Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Tho. Grove,¹ Hugh Dawes, Tho. Turner,¹ Joh. Clerk, Joh. Hardwen, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whithede, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Rogers, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Joh. Boteler, Joh. Porter, Ric. Townesende, Jul. Nethirmyll, Tho. Dodde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Banwell, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wykam, Tho. White, Tho. Hyll, Will. Dawson, Will. Kemsey.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

² ¶ [V. f. p. held on Monday after Michaelmas, 4 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Hadden, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Hardwen, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehede, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Waren,³ Hum. Grene,⁴ Tho. Rowley, Will. Wykam, Ric. Townesende, Rog. Wales.

[Joh. Bonde, Draper, Tho. Smyth.]

[Ordained] that all maner of persons fromhensforth that bryng eny woll into the Citee to sell that it be sufficiently wounden, clene and merchanable for the Clothyer *without* eny ffylth or eny other defeaute or disceite, apon the peyn of euery ston so founde fawty the owner to pay therfore ij d. to the Comen box; the faute to be tryed by the sercher, which is amytted⁵ perfore; which at the tyme is Tho. Bakon; & he to haue for his labour by discrecion of Maister Meyre & his brethern.

JOH. HARDWEN, MAYOR, 1513.

¶ [Election of officers.]

Rob. a Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Saunders,

¹⁻¹ Bracketed as *vicecomites* = sheriffs. ² leaf 312, back.

³ "Ric. Townesende" deleted. ⁴ "Tho. Waren" deleted.

⁵ = admitted, placed in the position of.

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Oct. 1.

Jury.

Sheriffs.

Orders of
leet.
"Search of
wooll."

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Jan. 25.
Electors.

Joh. Strong, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Burwey, Tho. fforth, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Rogers, Hen. Perkyuns, Hugo Dawes, Tho. Turner, Will. Perkyuns, Ric. Towns-ende, Rog. Wales, Jul. Nethyrmyll, Tho. Dodde, Will. Wykam, Tho. Rowley.

[m. Joh. Hardwen; rec. Will. Shelley; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. Banwell, Joh. Wylkes; w. Joh. Jette, Hug. White; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. fferby.]

Officers. 1

MICHAELMAS LEET.

1 ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Hardwen, m., Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, b., on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day, 5 Hen. VIII.]

"Civitas
Coventrie."
Oct. 11.

Rob. a Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Saunder (*sic*), Joh. Strong, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chamber, Tho. Grove, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Burwey, Humf. Grene, Nic. Heynes, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Perkyuns, Joh. Wylkes, Joh. Jette, Hug. White, Tho. White.

[Tho. Rowley, Will. Wykam.]

Sheriffs.

[Enacted and ordained] that fromhensforth no bocher within the Citee sell any shippis hedes with thappurtenaunce to no maner of persone above a halpeny, apon peyn of euery sheppis hede sold a-boue a ob. to forfeit iiii d.

Sheeps' heads
 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ each.

[Enacted] that euery comen bruer within the Citee that hath vsid to bru when malt is of lowe pryse that they fromhensforth bru styll contynually when malt is of a grete pryce, vnder the peyn of euery weke that they so sese to lese euery weke vj s. viij d. ; and that they sell no malt owte of the Towne when malt ryseth a-boue v s. the quarter, apon the same peyn ; also that no maltmaker, that maketh malt to sell, if it fortune malt to ryse a-boue v s. that they sell no malt out of the Citee tyll it be knowen that the Citee be sufficiently seruyd, apon peyn of xx s. at euery defeaute so provyd payed to the comen boxe etc.

Brewers to
continue to
brew when
malt is dear ;

but none
to be sold
out-side the
city unless
the city have
enough when
the price is
more than 5s.
a quarter.

Mem. apon a byll of compleynt put in at this day by

"No Inholder
to be a baker;

no baker to be
an Inholder."

the Inholders ayenst bakers keypyng ynnes, it was agreed that the bakers kepe no hostryes accordyng to the olde rule of the Citee, nor no Inholder bake horsbrede within them, apou the peyn *per*ruppon lymyted etc.

THO. GROVE, MAYOR, 1514.

¶ [Election of officers.]

"Civitas
Concentric,"
Jan. 25.
Electors.

Joh. Saunders, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Hen. Rogers, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Heynes, Humf. Grene, Hen. *Perkyns*, Tho. fforth, Will. *Perkyns*, Tho. Waren, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Banwell, Joh. Wylkes, Will. Banwell.

Officers.

[m. Tho. Grove; rec. Will. Shelley; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Joh. Baker, Sherman, Joh. Smyth, Mason; w. Will. Towres, Draper, Will. Shukborough, draper; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. fferby.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas
Concentric,"
Apr. 27.

¹ ¶ [V. f. p. before Tho. Grove, m., Tho. Rowley, Will. Wykham, b., on Thursday after S. George's day, 6 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Burwey, Humf. Grene, Tho. fforth, Will. *Perkyns*, Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, Joh. Smyth, Joh. Baker, Joh. Hopkyns, dyer.

Orders of
Leet.
"Wevers."

[Enacted] that where the ffeliship of the craft of wevers haue put in at this lete a byll of compleynt a-yenst on Ric. Pastey, weuer, and Rob. Miles, weuer, which haue be founde fauty by *per* occupacion,² that they fromhensforth shall worch no more in the Cite except they ffynde surety to the master of the occupacion to be true in ther werkyng; and if they be founde fauty theire surete to

¹ leaf 314.

² This scribe's characteristic "o" is so like an "a" that I was almost tempted to write "accupacion."

make good for them & to satisfy the party greuyd his damages, apon peyn of euery defeaute xx s., wherof vj s. viij d. to the Shirrefs, vj s. viij d. to þe comen boxe, vj s. viij d. to þe craft of weeners.

[Ordained] þat *per* shal-be made ij serchers of the occupacion of weeners, & they to be sworn afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern that they shall make true serch of all onlawfull slayes,¹ & þat *per* be noen occupied but of a true pych,² þat [is] xiiij quarters & a half or xiiij at þe lest of brede, apon peyn of euery of them þat be founde faulty at eny tyme hereafter, when due serch is made, to pay for euery defeaute xx s. in like maner afore-rehersid.

[Agreed] þat no weuer delyuer eny cloth þat he hath wouen to the owner nor to þe fuller tyll the serchers haue seen it whedir it be lauffully wrough[t] or no, apon peyn of euery defeaute xld.; and if *per* be eny varyance by-twene the weuer & þe owner for the werkemanship *perof*, then the seid Serchers to be Juge by-twene them for þe werkemanship, and if þe owner woll not so doo then the weuer to compleyn to *Maister* Meyre & his brethern for his remedy: And the Serchers to haue of euery cloth þat is founde faulty ij d. for *per* labour. Also all such cloth³ of þe Cite³ that is put into the con[t]rey to weve þat it be brought vnto the forseid serchers or it be put to þe walkers that it may be seen whedir it be well wouen or not; and if *per* be founde faute in þe weuer þat it kepe not they sley⁴ & pych⁴ as is above writen, then þe peyn to be leveyed apon the seid faulty cloth. Also þat the weuers sorte there yaron from coklyng,⁵ bondyng⁶ or pynrouyng,⁷ apon the payn aforeseid. Mem. that ther is amytted to be serchers for this yere foloyng Joh. Locok & Will. Osgathorp.

[Ordained] for the walkers that *per* shal-be ij serchers

¹ A weaver's reed. "Its purpose is to keep the threads (ends) straight and in position, to act as guide for the shuttle, and to push the woven weft close against its predecessor." *E. D. D.* s. v. Slay.

² Pitch = ? breadth. It is now usual to speak of the depth of the weaver's reed. Quarter = 9 inches.

³⁻³ Deleted. ⁴ See above. ⁵ = puckering.

⁶ Is this connected with band = a fault in cloth caused by the shrinking of the defective weft, whereby tight strips appear? *N. E. D.* s. v. Band.

⁷ Pinrow = a streak in cloth caused by mixed shades of weft. (*E. D. D.*)

"Serchers for weauers."

Weavers to deliver no cloth to the owner until viewed by the serchers,

who have for reward 2d. for each defective piece of cloth.

Yarn to be even and of the same thickness.

"Serchers for walkers."

chosen & sworn afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern to make due serch *pat non* of the occupacion occupy Cardes, rought¹ tesels nor no nodur meane wherby eny cloth is hurted, nor wrong-half² no cloth but only vse dobynys³ or smoth tesyls, upon peyn of euery defaute xxs. to be payed as a-fore is rehersed to þe Shirrefs, the comen box & the walkers.

Cloth to be properly dressed.

[Ordnained] that the serchers make due serch upon þer othes that the cloth be truly burlyd & able cloth made or els to certifie the faute to *Maister* Meyre & his brethern; and that euery fuller set his marke upon the cloth that he fullith, upon peyn of xld.; and that no fuller delyuer his cloth by hym fullyd tyll the serchers haue sene it whedir it be truly wrought or no, upon the same peyn; and the serchers to haue for ther labour for euery fauty cloth ijd., and if the owner woll not gif the fuller for his labour as it is worth, then the party greuyd to compleyn to *Maister* Meyre & his brethern if þe serchers cannot agre them. Also *per* be amyttel serchers for the walkers Joh. Bradwell & Rauf Worsley.

Fullers.

[Agreed] that no walker take out no cloth aftir it is put into the stok⁴ tyll it be fully stokkyd, [or 20s. fine]; and also that they put no cappis in the myll among the cloth [or 6s. 8d. fine]; and also that the Cappes myll no cappes on the Saterday after evunsong nor the Sunday tyll evunsong be don [or 6s. 8d. fine to the common box.]

Cappers not to work from Saturday evening till Sunday evening.

Spinners to receive 2½ lb. to a weight.

[Agreed] that euery clothmaker that putteth eny Woll to spyne that he put no more to the weight but ij lib. & dim.; and that they gif for the spynning of euery weight in redy money for the best v d. and the secunde iiij d.

"Cinitas Couentrie," Oct. 5.

⁵ [V. f. p. held on Thursday after Michaelmas, 6 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Pad-

¹ = ? rough.

² Evidently some operation which involved turning cloth on the wrong side.

³ This word, not to be found in dictionaries, is evidently connected with *dub* = to strike cloth with teazles in order to raise the nap (Glouc.), v. *E. D. D.* (Dr. Bradley).

⁴ An instrument used in milling cloth. "When the cloth comes in the loom the threads may be counted; after it has been in the stocks it is much more difficult." v. *E. D. D.* s. v. Stock.

⁵ leaf 314, back.

londe, Will. Pysforde, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Joh. Hardwen, Hen. Rogers, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Baker, Joh. Smyth, Jul. Nethyrmyll, Joh. Hopkyns.

[Tho. Whyte, Ric. Burwey.]

Sheriffs.

[Enacted] that such persons as byn assigned to gedir the rent of the flyldes that be takyn in of the Comens that they shall come in *with* their accompt by-twene this and the ffest of All halows day next comyng for the yeres that be past.

The common fields.

[Orlained] that fromhensforth no maner of person that hath be *prentyse* at Tanners craft within þe Citee pay to the craft at his setting up but vjs. viij d.; and every straunger of the same Craft to pay to the Craft no more but xx s., & it to be payed *within* thre yeres.

Tanners' apprentices to pay but 6s. *sd.* for freedom;

strangers 20s.

Also that every craft bryng in there boke afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern, that all such fautes as be in them may be correctid & amendid by thadnise of *Maister* Meyre & his brethern; and if there ffynes be to moch to moderate them after good consciens at such tyme as *Maister* Meyre *commaundeth* them etc.

The crafts' fines to be

moderated by the mayor and council.

JOH. CLERK, MAYOR, 1515.

¶ [Election of officers.]

Joh. Hardwen, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Had- don, Will. Pysforde, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Hum. Grene, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Joh. Baker, Joh. Smyth.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25.

[m. Joh. Clerk; rec. Will. Shelley; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. Lee, Ric. Westley; w. Will. Cook, Ric. Povey; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.

Officers.

THE RECORDER.

¹ Mem. that the Munday next afore the ffest of seynt Valantyne the martyr [6 Hen. VIII] ther was assemble

Feb. 12.

"Election of
a Recorder."

at senynt (*sic*) Mary Hall afore Maister Joh. Clerk then Meyre and his brethern for the eleccion and Chewsyng of a new Recorder of the Citee of Couentre in-som[o]ch as Maister Will. Shelley, then Recorder, hadde giffen them warnyng that he cowide not gif his attendance upon my seid maisters in that office as he ought to do. Wherupon my seyde maisters callyng to them the worshipfull of the Cite, as well they that hadde byn Meyres and Shirrefs as other onest persons, the day, yere & place afore rehersed, and went to a newe eleccion; at whiche eleccion these persons whose namys ar underwritten were thoo that mad it.

Maister Joh. Hardwen, Maister Joh. Padlonde, Maister Joh. Haddon, Maister Will. Pysford, Maister Joh. Duddesbury, Maister Ric. Merler, Maister Joh. Saunders, Maister Joh. Strong, Maister Ric. Hassall, Maister Tho. Grove, Maister Nic. Burwey, Maister Joh. Humfrey, Maister Tho. forth, Maister Will. Perkyns, Maister Tho. Waren, Maister Tho. Astlyn, Maister Hug. Dawes, Maister Tho. Turner, Maister Tho. Smyth, Maister Will. Wykan, Joh. Porter, Tho. Lee, Ric. Westley, Julyns Nethermyll.

Swyllington
elected.

Which chosen at that day Rauff Swyllington¹ Recorder of the Citee of Couentre for that yere foloyng; and how the seid Recorder and the Maister of the Trinite Gilde for the tyme beyng shall goo to-gedyr in assemblies & metynges and the Meyre to goo alone by hymself; also he is chosen on this condicion to dwelle amonges vs for the most part of the yere, & in especiall the wynter season, and not to entre into the rome tyll after Estur sessions be endid next comyng etc.

"The Re-
corder to be
resident."

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas
Couentrie."
Apr. 17.

² ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Clerk, m., Tho. White, Ric. Burwey, b., on Tuesday after the close of Easter, 6 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Hardwen, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler

¹ The effigies of Swyllington and his wife are in S. Michael's.

² leaf 315.

Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Grove, Nic. Burwey, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Hum. Grene, Tho. fforth, Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Tho. Lee, Ric. Westley, Tho. Banwell.

[Enacted] that fromhensforth there shal-be a feliship of Taloughchaundelers among themself, and to be a feliship of them-self, and to haue a maister among them as oder craftes haue; and *pat* no flyshmonger, sherman, nor no oder craft *within* the Cite occupy the seid craft, but only for his owne houshold, [or 20s. fine each time to the common box.] And that the seid Chaundelers *serue* the Cite sufficiently wynter & somer for a peny a pounce; and if eny defeaute be *prouyd* ayenst any of them afore Maister Meyre for the tyme beyng to forfeite x s. to the comen boxe.

Order of leet.
"Chaund-
lers" to form
a company.

Candles 1d.
per lb.

Also for-asmoch as afore this tyme at a lete holden at Couentre the Munday next after the Inuencion of the Holy Crosse [21 Ed. IV.] afore Ric. Colyns, then Miere of this Cite¹ etc., ther was diuerse & mony good ordynaunces made for reformacion of officers of the Cite as well for *seriauntes* as oder officers as the Jayler for the tyme beyng and what they shuld take for doying ther offices, as more pleyntly (*sic*) apperith by the same lete. Howbeit as touchyng the Jaylers office it is not declarid *certayn* in euery thyng, what he shuld take for his flee, wherfore mony of the kynges leage peple fynde them-self greuyd theryn. Wherfore it is enactid at this present letee (*sic*) that all such actes *pat* were made at the seid lete or eny lete heretofore for *pe comen wele* of this Citee *pat* they be stedfastly holden fromhensforth & kept and the breker of them to be punysshed accordyng to *per*² demerites. And *pat* no Jayler fromhensforth take for his flee of euery prisoner arestid by processe of the kynges Court here or from a-bove³ but v d., that is to sey iiij d. for hym-self & a peny his vnder-keper. And if the mater wherfore eny prisoner is arestid be vnder the some of xld. then the Jayler nor his *seriaunt* to take no thyng for *per*

May 7, 1481.

"Jaylers' fee

is v d. upon
Arest,

¹ The leet records for that year are not given.
² "dere" deleted. ³ A higher court.

for felony or
misdemeanor
x d., and 2 l.
for his
trous."

"The
gaoler."

fee. And if it fortune any prisoner hereafter to be com-
mytted to the Jailer for treson, murdre, or felony then the
Jayler to take of every such prisoner when he is delyuered
his flee above-rehersid, and ouer & aboue þat ij d. for his
Irons & no more; & if he take more & ¹ þat duly prosid ²
to lose at the first faute xld., and at the secunde to lese
his office without any favour. Also he shall take no
double flee of no prisoner except it be for grete & vrgent
causes openly knowen. Also þer hath be compleyntes
made upon the Jayler that he hath takyn away from the
prisoners such money as hath byn gyffen to them in almys
& conuertid it to his owne use. Wherefore it is enactid
(etc.) that if it can be proved that if he or any other
Jayler after hym at any tyme hereafter doo soo that incon-
tynent upon the prove therof the seid Jayler to forfeit it
(sic) office without any redemption.

"Jailers

Also it hath be compleyned upon þe jailer þat where þe
seriauntes haue arested diuerse & mony, some for det &
som for transgressions & delyuered them to þe Jayler safly
to kepe till the next court day; at which day þe prisoner
is, & hath be, let goo; and so the party not onswerid as
they shuld be by the lawe to þe grete hurt & hyndraunce
of þe pleyntyfs; wherefore it is enactid at this lete þat if the
seid Jayler, or any oþer hereafter, haue not his prisoner
redy at þe day of retorn of þe warent to answeere the party
pleyntyf that the seid Jayler and every Jayler hereafter
shall forfeite for every prisoner so departid xld. for a
mercymment, and þe secunde defaute vj s. viij d., and so
every court day doublid tyll he bryng hym in.

forfeit for
estrayses."

"For the
gaoler."

"The
gaoler." ³
"Poor
prisoners to
be set to
worke by the
Jailer."

Also it is enactyd at this lete if it fortune any Craftes-
man hereafter to be commytted to warde & in þe keepyng
of the jayler for felony, transgression, det or suerty of the
p[re]s[ent] or oþer-wise, and may haue werke wherby he
myght gete his luyng, that þe Jayler shall suffre hym or
them to worch in þe day-tyme & such money as they gete
to haue it them-self and the jayler for his suffraunce to
haue of every xij d. a peny & no more, upon peyn of
every defaute prouyd to forfeit xij d. ⁴

¹ and = than. ² = proceed. ³ In another hand and ink.

⁴ "Plus in dorso" (more at the back) follows.

¹[Enacted] that no Jayler hereafter shall take no flee of no man, onlees he be commyttid to his warde, [or 40 d. fine at every default.]

"For the
zaaler."

[Ordnained] that no capper in the Citee fromhensforth flok² eny cappe and soo vtter it, upon the peyn to forfeit *per cappes* so flockyd, and the seid cappes brent, and ouer that for euery cappe so founde faulty & brent to forfeit iij d., that is to sey, j d. to the Shirrifs, a peny to the Sercher, and ij d. to the Comen boxe. And all such cappes that be nowe flockid to sell noen of them but mende theym ageyn within vj dayes after this lete, vnder the peyn afore rehersyd; and that ther be chosen & sworn ij serchers therfore to serch the defautes & truly to present them etc.

Cappes
forbidden to
flock caps.

[V. f. p. held on Tuesday after Michaelmas, 7 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas
Coventrie,"
Oct. 2.

Joh. Hardwen, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Grove, Nic. Burwey, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Hum. Grene, Hen. Perkyngs, Tho. fforth, Tho. Waren, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Tho. Lee, Ric. Westley.

[Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall.]

Sheriffs.

[Enacted] that euery craft and occupacion of this Citee that is a flleship of them-self that they bryng in theire bokes of theire occupacion at such tyme as *Maister* Meyre commaundethe them, and such caues & rules as be on-reasonable to be reformyd by *Maister* Meire & his brethern, and euery occupacion to abide the same ordre, upon peyn to forfeit euery craft a C s. for brekyng of the same etc. And if eny craft or occupacion within the Cite make eny ordynance, Caue, or bylawe amonges them-self in *per* occupacion or craft fromhensforth except *Maister* [Meyre] of the Cite for the tyme beyng & his brethern be made priuey therto and registrid in the Meyres boke; and they to see that the said ordynance, caue or bylawe stonde

"Masters of
Companies to
show their
orders to the
mayor vpon
demand,

& orders
veyd ill not
Asented vnto
by the
mayor & his
brethern."

¹ leaf 315, back.

² = to thicken prepared cloth by shaking powdered wool or cloth shearings over the same. *N. E. D.* s.v. Flock sb. and vb.

with the comen weel of the Citee; and they so admyt hit or els to be voide, vnder the payn of euery such caue or bylawe otherwise occupied to forfeit for euery moneth so occupyyng xx s., the on half to the Comen box and the other half at the plesure of *Maister* Meyre & his brethern. And all such impositiōns & peynes as han be made aforetyme amenges eny craft contrarie to good consciens and to the welle of the Citee be from hensforth voide & of noon effect.¹

The chandlers

Also that no Taloughchaundeler *within* the Citee or þe suburbys of the same sell eny candyll fromhensforth a-bove a peny a pounce, apon peyn of euery pounce solde a-bove that prise to forfeit xij d.; and that they sell no candyll in groce out of the Citee at a tyme above a dosen pounce, [or 20s. fine each time.] And that they see the Citee well & sufficiently *seruyd*, vnder the peyn of the hool body of the craft of a C s., the on half to the Comen boxe, and the other half at the plesure of *Maister* Meire and his brethern.

to serue the city sufficiently or pay 100g. fine.

"No men shall forstall eny fishe."

"fish to be viewed by the mayor before it be sold."

[Ordayned] at this letee (*sir*) that no inhabitaunt *within* the Citee lye by the wey by-twene this and the se-syde and by se-fysh comyng to the Citee, nor by it when it is comen into the Citee, but suffer the brynger therof & theire deputes to sell it. And the seid fysshers panyers to be pichid first in the *market* accordyng to the olde auneynt custome & not to be openyd ne set a-sale tyll *Maister* Meyre haue seen it as well oysters, muscals, as oder see ffysh, except they come ouer evun, apon the peyn of euery defaute of them that receyveth such ffysh into theire houses to forfeit for euery seme² vj s. viij d., and for euery seme that eny inhabitaunt lyeth by the wey & byeth it, or bieth it *within* the Citee, to forfeit for euery seme x s., xl d. to the Shirrefs & vj s. viij d. to the Comen boxe; and that no inhabitaunt *within* the Citee make no contract nor bargeyn to by eny ffresh samon vnto tyme it be brought into the *market* nor then nodry tyll *Maister* Meyre haue seen it, and set the prise therof, apon peyn of imprisonment & to make a fyne at þe Meyres commaundment, and *pat* no saltffyshmen nor *per* wyfes

¹ See Introduction. ² "defaute" deleted. Seme = load.

medle with no sefysb, heryng, oysters nor muscels, apou the peyn afore-rehersed.

JOH. HUMFREY, MAYOR, 1516.

¹¶ [Election of officers.]

Tho. Grove, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Waren, Nic. Heynes, Humf. Grene, Hen. *Perkyns*, Tho. fforde, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Tho. Warde, Will. Banwell, Will. Bryggges, Tho. Hyll.

[m. Joh. Humfrey; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Joh. Hyll, Draper, Ric. Herres, grasyer; w. Tho. Toty, Tho. Spenser; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. fferelyby.

"Civitas
Coenetro."
Jan. 25.
Jury.

Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

²¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Humfrey, m., Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, b., on Tuesday after S. Ambrose' day, 7 Hen. VIII.]

Tho. Grove, Joh. Haddon, Will. Bysford [Pysford], Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Saunders, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Waren, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Hum. Grene, Hen. *Perkyns*, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Joh. Hyll, draper, Ric. Harres, Joh. Eburne, Tho. Kelyngworth, Will. Towres.

³[Ordnained] that all the *inhabitautes* of this Citee be obedyent to the Meyre for the tyme beyng, and also if eny decree or good ordynaunce or *prouysicion*⁵ be made & assentyd by the Meyre & counsell of the Citee, or by the moost *parte* of them, in their counsell-howse or chambre for the pollitique contynuaunce of good ordynaunces & rulyes wythyn the Citee, that *every* *inhabitaunt*, of what condicion or degree so-euer he be of, duly obey, obserue & kepe the same decree, ordynaunce, & *prouysion*, appou the

"Civitas
Coenetric."
Apr. 8.

Jury.

Orders of
leet.
* "Every
inhabitaunt
shall obey the
ordinaunce
of the leetes,
vpon paine as
followeth."⁴

¹ leaf 316.

² leaf 316, back. Possibly a different scribe, though of similar type.

³ The offender is John Strong, see p. 649.

⁴⁻⁴ Different hands. ⁵ *sic.* Read "provision."

A late
mayor's
punishment;

peyn hereafter ensuyng:—that is to sey, if he haue be Meyre that from thensforth he be exempt & vtterly abiect from the Counsell of the Citee & the Company of theym in all their *comen processions*, *ffestes*, and all other assembles & from weryng of his cloke or skerlet in their *companyes* and further to make ffyne & soeffre enprisonment by discrecion of the Meire & the counsell or the more *part* of theym. And if he hath byn Shirreff then to be obiect (*sic*) & exempt from werryng skarrelet amonges his company in all *Comen assembles*, *ffestes* & *processions*, and fether to be punysshed by ffyne & imprisonment as a-bove is rehersed. And if he bere *neuer* the office of Shirref then he to lese the ffreedom & liberte of this Citee, and *ouer* that to be punysshed by ffyne & imprisonment as above is rehersed. Also it is ordeigened (etc.) that if ther be eny maner of *persone* or *persons* of the Citee that woll faouere or comfort eny such mysdoers in their obstinacie or frowarde mynde that they shal-be punysshed in maner as the *odur*¹ bee.

a late
sheriff's;

the punish-
ment of those
of lower
degree.

"Nota."
Disobedience
to this,
£10 fine.

[Enacted] that if eny man woll *presume* to were his *lyure* or doo *contrarie* to this ordynaunce that he shall leese & forfett at euery defawte xli. the on half to the crosse, the oder to the *Comen* boxe.

The river.

1463.

[Enacted] that all good *actes* & *ordynaunces* afore this tyme made for the *comen* wele of the Citee be fromhensforth duly & truly put in *execucion*, and that the act that was made the ixth yere of kyng E. the iiijth for the *comen ryuer* of Shirburn be put in *execucion* etc.²

No wool to be
brought into
the city on a
Friday.

[Enacted] that no maner of *persone* bryng in to the Citee upon the ffryday eny wooll, woode or hurdels, upon the peyn of euery lode so brought to forfet xijd., accordyng to an act *peruppon* made the ix yere of E. iiijth at Ester court,³ and this to be cryed thre ffrydayes and then to stonde in effect.

Tallow-
chandlers
not to sell
tallow
by the dozen.

[Enacted] that no bocher of the Citee sell eny taloo out of the Citee to eny man of the countray [or 40d. each time to the common box]; nor no Tallow chaundler sell no candyll out of the Towne by the *dosen*, but only by the pounce, [or 20s. each time to the common box.]

¹ MS. *adur*.

² *r. p.* 347.

³ See p. 339.

Also the act for bying of hides on the Saturday and no other¹ day is affermyd that was made the xth yere of king Henry the vijth.¹

Hides.

[Enacted] that such decree as *Maister Meire* & his brethern made & toke with *Maister Strong* for such money as he was awarded to pay to the Citee, that is to sey x li. xij s. vjd., that he to bryng it to *Maister Meyre* or a sufficient gage therfore by the ffest of seynt George next comyng or els to be in the daunger of the above writon act & decre, & to ran in the penalte therof; and further to be punysshed by the ²discrecion of *Maister Meyre* & his brethern or the more part of them; and if he bryng in a Gage and no money then *withyn* a moneth next after that the gage to be sold by the aduyse of *Maister Meire* & his brethern, and the over-plys therof to be delyvered to the seid Joh. Strong.

Master Strong's contumacy and fine.

Apr. 23.

Mem. that this act made for *Maister Strong* is performed on his part and he amytted of the Counsell as he was a-fore; and thus agreement was fully concludid & made afore *Maister Waren*, *Mayre*, & his brethern, the Tuysday next after the ffest of seynt Hillare [11 Hen. VIII.] as apperithe more pleyndly in the Counsell boke, to the wych boke the seid *Maister Strong* hath set to his honde.

Master Strong re-admitted.

Jan. 17, 1520.

³[V. f. p. held on Thursday after Michaelmas, 8 Hen. VIII.]

"Civitas Coventrie." Oct. 2.

Jury.

Tho. Grove, Rob. Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Clerk, Tho. Waren, Hen. Rogers, Hen. Perkyngs, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Tho. Whyte, Ric. Burwey, Joh. Hyll, draper, Tho. Dode, Will. Towres.]

[Jul. Nethyrmyll, Draper, Tho. Hyll, Draper.]

Sheriffs.

[Enacted] that every alderman in his ward shall present iiij or vj persons of the most honest persons of per ward that hath boren no office to be constabuls for the yere and bryng in ther byll of there namys to *Maister Meyre* for the tyme beyng & to his brethern *within* viij dayes next after the lete holden after Michelmase yerely,

"For election of constables."

¹ See pp. 557-8, 665-6.

² leaf 317.

³ leaf 317, back.

and then *Maister* Meyre & his brethern to chewse out of every warde as money of them as they thynk conuenyent for the warde to be constabuls *per*, and this to contynue for *euer* etc.

Hutchers
and tallow;

[Ordnained] that no bocher of the Citee sell eny talough *within* the Citee by-twene this & the next lete a-bove ijs. ij d. pe stone and that they sell noon out of the Citee, apou the peyn of every defaute xx s., [half to the sheriffs and half to the comen box]. And that no chaundeler sell candyll above peny ferthyng a pounce, and that it be good stuf, by-twene thus and the next lete; and that they sell noon out of the Citee by hool-sale to them that wolle sell them ayen *without* license of *Maister* Meyre for the tyme beyng, apou the peyn afore rehersed, wherof half to the comen box & half to the Shirrefs; also that they sell to the pore peple halpenyworth and penworth after the pounce that they excede not in prise aboue peny *quadrans* a lib.

chandlers and
candles,
1½d. per lb.

"Swynstiez
& hogges
kepyng."

[Ordnained] that the olde ordynances for styes and kepyng of hogges be renuyd & kept accordyng to the olde act, & lyke peyn as is afore made to be hadde and taken, and if the Shirrefs se not execuceion hadde in every defaute *within* viij dayes next after the same faute to forfeit for every defaute such summes of money as they shuld haue *perfor*, and the comen *seriaunt* to leuy such flyne as the Shirrefs shuld haue hadde if they hadde executid *per* office, and it to goo to the Comen box etc.

The fines to
be levied on
neglectful
sheriffs.

Attorney.

[Baldwin Porter "to occupy the hool office of the attorneyship of the city" henceforth, and to have the whole fee.]

HEN. ROGERS, MAYOR, 1517.

[¹ Election of officers.]

Joh. Clerk, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Tho. Smyth, Nic. Heynes, Hen. *Perkyns*, Tho. Astlyn, Hugo Dawes, Tho. Turnour, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Rowley, Will. Wykam, Will. Banwell, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hyll, Ric. Harres.

"Cuitas
Couentrife."
Jan. 25.

[m. Hen. Rogers; rec. Rad. Swylyngton; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Joh. Locok, *weuer*, Step. Lynsey, Baker; w. Tho. Both, *mercer*, Tho. Brewer, *mercer*; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

¹[V. f. p. held before Hen. Rogers, m. Jul. Nethyrmyll, Tho. Hyll, b., on Tuesday after S. Mark's day, 9 Hen. VIII.]

"Civitas
Conventie."
Apr. 28.

Joh. Clerk, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Smyth, Nic. Burwey, Tho. Waren, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyngs, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Will. Wykam, Tho. Whyte, Ric. Burwey, Hen. Wall, Joh. Locok.

Jury.

[Ordned] that no bocher, inhabitant within the Citee, sell no maner of taloo out of the Citee but only to the Chaundelers of the Citee, and the inhabitantes of the same [or 20s. fine, half to the sheriffs, half to the common box]. Also that no chaundeler inhabitant within the Citee sell eny candyll out of the Citee by desons² or half desons to sech as shall sell them a-yeyn, apone the peyn afore-seyd.

"Bochers"
only to sell
tallow to
chandlers.

[Ordned] that no ffyshmonger, baker, sherman nor noon oder person except he be a chaundeler make eny candyll to sale but only for his owne howse, [or 20s. fine, half to the sheriffs, half to the common box.]

[Ordned] that all such ffyshmongers as sellith salt ffysh shall take yn no panyers of see ffysch into the howses [or 6s. 8d. fine] but suffre the³ hit accordyng to the auncient custome to be set at the crosse, and that they by no ffresh coddres to salt to thentent to sell them ayeyn afore on of the Clok, so that the Citee may be first *serued*, apone the same peyn. And that all such see-ffysh as cometh ouer evun that it be set in the market by vij of the klok, and that they voide *per bordes* & make sale *perof* by ij of the klok, apone the fforfeture of the same ffysh that

"Fishe-
mongers"

to set out
their boards
by the Cross.

¹ leaf 319, back.

² Difficult to distinguish between this scribe's "e" and his "o"; "desons" might be "dosens."

³ redundant.

is then left on sold. Also that no woman nor oler person cut eny seefflysh pat cometh to the market but such as be assigned by *maister* Meyre & his brethren, upon peyn of eny defaute vj s. viij d.; and that no cutter of seefflysh by no panyer of seefflysh to his own vse to sell a-geyn, upon peyn of eny defaute vj s. viij d., half to the Shirefs & half to the comen boxe.¹

Also it is ordeyned at this lete that eny alderman of the Citee *withyn* his warde make due serch for vacaboundes & lusty beggers and cause them to voyde out of ther warde *withyn* a day & a nyght after *proclamacion* made, upon peyn of imprisonment accordyng to the statute theruppon made.

[² V. f. p. held on the Translation of S. Edward, 9 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Clerk, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Smyth, Nic. Burwey, Tho. Waren, Hen. Perkyngs, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wykam, Tho. White, Ric. Burwey, Hen. Wall, Will. Bauwell, Joh. Locok.

[Ric. Herynge, Mercer, Rog. Wallis.]

[Ordeined] that eny alderman in his warde see that ther be due correccion made accordyng to the lawe & the auncient ordynances of leetes for the punyshment of myghty beggers, of vacaboundes, as well women as men, suspect allowses & blynde ynges, clensyng of the stretes & swepying of the stretes in-to the giter, but see it be boron a-wey. Also that *per* be no swynstyes occupied *withyn* the walles of the Citee, nor draughtes upon the comen dykes of the Citee that longeth to the conveyance of the water of the Citee; also to see the pawmentes well pavid; also to suffre no onlawfull games to be vsid; also to see the excersysyng of shotyng in long bowes; also to see *per* be no wodyn chymneyes nor howses thakkyd *with* brome or strawe; and to see the Comen ryuer be well kept

¹ See above, p. 635. ² leaf 320, back.

³ Some of the gloss is in the writing of one scribe and some in that of another.

"Vacaboundes
and beggars."

"Civitas
Concentricus,"
Oct. 13.
Jury of 25.

Sheriffs.

"For vacaboundes,
paving
streets,
swynstyes,
sweeping
streets,
draughtes,

Chymneyes,
& Thakel
houses,
woolen
Chymneyes."

accordyng to the auncientes ordynaunces peruppon made: and also that they execute all oder good ordynaunces made for the welth of the Citee *within per ward*, every alderman upon the peyn so offending to pay for every defaute presentid at any sessions or lete vj s. viij d. to the comen boxe *without* any ffauour.

[Ordained] that Ric. Burwey and all other hauyng draughtes, swynstyes, or any oder anyancee to the preiudice of the Redde-dyeh that they reforme them & pull them downe by-twene this and the ffest of seynt Martyn next comyng [or 6s. 8d. fine each time.]

Ric. Burwey to do away with his nuisances.

[Ordained] that from hensforth the bokes of ij leetes *euer* next afore shall remayn in the counsell howse opynly on the shekyr,¹ that they may be seen every Wemmysday by the counsell of the Citee to see what is kept & what is brokyn & see it reformyd, and that they *determinyn* those *matters* afore they entre into any oþer.

"The booke of actes to be open."
"Leetes."

[Ordained]² that the ffeliship of rough-masons & dawbers ffromhensforth be no ffeliship nor craft of them-self, but only comen laborers as they were afore, and to take such wages as is lymyte them by the statutes peruppon made, & no more, upon peyn of imprisonment; also that the make noon assemble, conuenticle or caue amonges them-self, upon the same peyn etc.³

Dawbers and rough masons not to form a fellowship.

NIC. BURWEY, MAYOR, 1518.

[⁴ Election of officers.]

Joh. Humfrey, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Bonde, Nic. Haynes, Hen. Perkins, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Rowley, Will. Wickam, Hen. Wall, Jul. Nethermyll, Joh. Locok, Step. Lynsey, Tho. Warle, Will. Banwell.

"Civitas Conventiã."
Jan. 25.
Electors.

[m. Nic. Burwey; rec. Rad. Swyllington; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Rob. Welsh, Draper, Rog. Dawber; w. Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Napton; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffyreby.]

Officers.

¹ A counting board.

² "at this letee" (*sic*) follows.

³ See Introduction.

⁴ leaf 321, back. Scribe H.

EASTER LEET.

"Civitas
Camentra,"
Apr. 20.

¹[V. f. p. held before Nic. Burwey, m., Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, b., on Tuesday before S. George's day, 9 Hen. VIII.]

Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Waren, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyngs, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Will. Wikam, Tho. White, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Hill, Jul. Nethermyll, Rob. Walshe, Rog. Dawber, Will. Banwell.

Orders of leet.

²[Enacted] that no man nor men within this Cite, of what occupacion so ever he be of, swere or cause to be sworne vpon a boke eny maner of person for eny poynt in ther occupacion, in peyn to forlet C s. to be payd to the Comen boxe forth-with withouten eny pardon. ³And they³ schall punyssh Misdoers in their Occupacions by penaltes resonable; and if ther be eny man in any ffellowship or craft that brekyth & wolle not obey & kepe such ordynaunces as hath ben made resonable for the good ordre & welth of the Craft, let hym pay such penaltes as hath ben therfor ordeyned of Olde tymes. And if he denye & woll not pay his penaltes accordyng to the ordynaunces to suffre hym the furst tyme, and then within iij or iiij dayes let the Maister aske hit of hym agayn with Record with hym; and if he deny it eftsones & wolde not pay it, lete the master of the Craft with iij or iiij of the honest men of³ the Craft come to Master Meire & schow vnto hym the delying of that person; and then Master Meire with sum of the Justices of the pease to sende for hym forthwyth & Comm[an]de hym to pay doble penaltes, if it be xijd. to pay ijs., and all other penaltes [in] like Maner ³forth-with; or els to Comyt hym to ward ther to remayn till he haue paid the doble penalte, the on half ⁴, & the other half to the Craft; and also to desire the master to be good master to hym for that yere beyng, and after to be his good louer.

"No person
to be sworne
by masters
of Crafts,"

Offenders
refusing to
pay the
accustomed
fines

ordered by
the mayor to
pay double.

And also that all such penaltes taken of eny man for

¹ leaf 322.

² See p. 302.

³⁻³ Deletions.

⁴ Some omission here.

brekyng of any poynt of the ordenaunce of his occupacion, if it be aboute the price of a li. of waxe, the on half to be vpleyd to the comen boxe.

Part of a fine to go to the box.

Mem. that these ffynes ffolowyng to be for every Occu-
pacion to be had to the plesure of God after the abilite of
the people that now ben, & no farther, to [t so] the Cite
be encreased to more welthynges then it is now, hit is
ordeyned (etc.) that every prentyce of *Mercers* & *Drapers*
Craftes that schal-be bounde¹ to the seid occupacions his
ffrendes to pay for hym at the sealyng of his *Indentures*
before some of the *Mercers* vj s. viij d. & non other ffyne,
but to sue his prenteshode truly.

Mercers' apprentices

to pay 6s. 8d. at the sealyng of the indentures. Others 6s. 8d. at setting up shop.

Also al other prentes of other Occupacion to pay at his
setting vp & openyng of his shoope vj s. viij d., and non
other ffynes. but to pay to the Craft penalties for mysdoynz
contrary to the good ordenaunces of his Craft, and also
ther *quarterage* & other thynges as afore-tymes hath ben
vsed.

Also if eny person dwellyng within this Cite hath a
good occupacion to lyve by & woll leve it & occupie with
a-nother occupacion, then he to agre *with* the seid Occupa-
cion that he wold be with-all.

"No meddling with other trades then the trades they are made free vnto."

Also if ther be eny Craftesmen in the Countrey that
hath not been prentise in this Cite that will com &
enhabet here to Com & welcom & accordyng to the
libertes of this Cite to dwell here well & honestly a hoo-
lere, & then to pay towards the *Charges* of the seid Craft
x s. in this maner, that is to sey vs. at the full ende of
that yere, & other vs. within the next yere, and after that
to pay after the good ordenaunce of the seid Craft as other
men of the same Craft after his abbilite do pay, and non
other ffyne etc.

"Prentisez." Country settlers to

pay 10s.

² Also for the olde ffynes that ben paid, if he have
ben prentise in the towne & hath payd all his ffynes,
vj s. viij d. or more, to sese & pay no more; & if he have
not payd to the *somme* of vj s. viij d. to pay out to that
some & no more.

Only 6s. 8d. required from apprentices;

And if he haue not ben prentise in the Cite & haue
payd to the some of x s. to sese & pay no more; & if he

and 10s. from non-apprentices.

¹ The mark over "n" is like *an*.

² leaf 322, back.

haue not paid to the seyd some of x s. to pay it out & no more, but to pay the penalte, if he *deserue* therto.

Repayment
of seyntly
money
ordere l.

And if eny *master* of eny Craft haue Couenaunted & Charged hymself for eny man by the will of the *partie* for eny some of money, Then the seyd *partie* to pay the *duyte*¹ to the seyd Maister, for he hath paed it for hym, and hit is due dett etc.

"No eyne to
be maid with-
out thassent
of *Master*
Meire."

[“Ordered”] that no *Jurnamen* of what occupacion or Craft *so-euer* he be of within the Cite make or use amonge them-self eny Cayue or bylawe or assemblez or metynges at eny place by ther *sonner* without licens of *Master Meire* & the *Master* of his occupacion, vpon peyne of xx s. for the first fawte, & for the *seconde* his bodie to prison ther to remayne to he wol-be justified by the *Master* of his occupacion & vj honest *persones* of that occupacion; & to bryng in ther booke when they be comanded by *Master Maire*, the forfeiture to be paed, the oon half to the *Comen boxe*, & the other half to thoccupacion that they be of.

"Against
bowling

Also for a good & a Reasonable consideracion it is enacted at this *present* lete that no *Bowlyng* be vsed at seynt *Annys* by the *Charter* house before vj of the Clok in the Mornyng nor after vj of the Clok in the Evenyng, but if they be honest *persones* that will make litell noyse, in the payne of hym that kepeth the place xij d. at *every* defaute. Also that he suffre not pore *Craftes-men* to vse bowlyng ther dayly and wekely, leuyng ther besynes at home that they shuld lyve by, in the payne to pay for *every* *persone* so daily vsyng vj d., the oon half to hym that *presenteth* the trueth, & the other half to the *Comen boxe*.

by poore
Craftsmen."

"Cloth
making."

"AN ORDER FOR THE TRUE MAKINGE OF CLOTHE."²

In order to
recover pros-
perity an
inspection
of cloth

Hit is to be had in mynde that for a trueth of Cloth-making to be had in this Cite as foloeth, if it myght be folowed & the execucion of the same to be don schortly, Or els the Cite wol-be so fer past that it wol-be past remedie to be recouered to eny welth or *prosperite*—hit is thought hit were good to haue ij *weners* & ij *walkers*

by 2 weavers
and 2
walkers,

¹ = debt. ² ² In another hand.

sworn to make true *serche* of the *weners* doying & also of the walkers, & to present the trueth: and also to be chosen vj *Drapers* to be *Maisters* & *ouerseers* of the doying of the *serchers*, That if some of them cannot a-lesour to be at the *serchyng* at the dayes of the *serchers* yet some of these vj *Maisters* schall *enur* be ther; and by-cause it were to great a besynes for the *serchers* to go to *euery* mannes howse, hit is enacted (etc.) to haue a howse of the *gilde* or of some other mannes nyghe the *Drapery* doore to be ordeyned¹ Well with *perches* to drawe *ouer* the *Clothes* when they be thykked, and also *weightes* & *ballaunce* to wey the *Cloth*. And when it cometh frome the walkers, The walkers to bryng it to the *serchyng* house, & to *serche* it & to se it *ouer* a *perche*; and if it be good *Cloth*, as it owght to be, in brede & lenth, that the *Cite* may haue a preise by hit & no sklauder, then to sett vpon hit the *Olyvaunt*² in lede, and of the *Bak* of the seall the lenth of the *Cloth*, by the which men schall *perceyve* & see it is true *Coentre Cloth*: ffor of suertie ther is in *London* & other *places* that sell false & vntrewe made *Cloth*, & name hit *Coentre Cloth*, the which is a gret[er] slauder to the *Cite* than hit *deserueth* by a gret *partie*. And if ther be eny man that hath eny *Cloth* brought to the *serchyng* house, what degre so *enur* he be of, if it be not able for the worship of the *Cite* to be let *passe*, let hym pay for the *serche*, & lett hym do his best with hit, but set not the *Olyvaunt* vpon it.

& this *serche* to be made after this *fourme*,³ That is to sey ij dayes in the weke, *Tewesday* & *Saturday*, and if the *serchers* be there from viij of the *Clok* to a xj, and frome on to iiij of the *Clok*, and a *Sealer* to be ordeyned & sworne to stryke⁴ the *Cloth* & seale hit & wrete⁵ hit & fynde leed & to haue a peny for his labor; and the sealles to be put in a *Cofre* with ij keys, the *Maister* of the vj *Drapers* to haue the on & the *serchers* the other; and for

overlooked
by 6 drapers,

is enjoined.

A house is to
be provided;

and good
cloth to bear

the seal with
the city arms
upon it,

to guard
against
ill-made
material and

the slander
that it brings
to the city.

The *serchers*
are to be
present on
Tuesdays
and
Saturdays
from 8 till 11
(a.m.) and
from 1 till 4
(p.m.).

¹ ordain = to equip.

² The elephant and castle are the city arms. ³ leaf 323.

⁴ The early meaning of this word was "to pass one's hand, or something flat over a surface to smooth it out." Practically the sense here seems to be = measure (Dr. Bradley).

⁵ = ? write, *i. e.* the length of the cloth to be put on the seal.

and take *1d.* for every cloth they examine.

The mayor and 2 others

to examine the cloth-makers' weights, and seal them.

Clothmakers are commanded to pay spinners in ready money and not by truck wages.

The alderman of the ward

to punish a spinner for any serious fault.
Big beggars to be expelled

from the city.

Haddon's loan;

200 stone of wool and 400*s.* (£20) to be divided

the *serche* of every cloth to the *serchers* to have *jd.*, and it is to be thought every good man schal-be gladde of that payment.

And for the *spynners*¹ an ordinaunce to be hadde after this Manner: *Maister* Meyre to do so moche to take the labour vpon hym with *ij* of the *vj* *Maysters* on day & *ij* or *iiij* another day, and to go & se every mannes weight that vseth cloth-making, and that they be lafull of such weight as can be thought resonable for the pore folkes to lyue bye, & to lett non be occupied but it be sealed with an Olyvaunt in payn of *xijd.*; and if eny person denye of fflowardnes & will not obey to this ordenaunce let not his wilfull Mynde be suffred, and also let not the towne seale² till he or sche be content to the ordenaunce therof made; and also to gyue the pore *Spynners* redy money, and if they will haue cloth or eny other Chaffur let theym when they haue their money bye hit & paye for hit; and when eny *spynner* is founde with a fawte, other lakyng of ther weyte or in false vsyng of their warke, so that the Clothmaker do perceyue verely it is don wilfully, and if it be such a fawte that it is worthy to be ponysshed openly, then bryng her & her warke to the alderman of the warde, & he to call to hym some of the oversears,³ and to se the fawtes & to lett the person to be openly ponysshed, that all other may take ensample accordyng to her deseryng. And these bygge beggars, that wil-not worke well to gete ther leuyng, but lye in the felde & breke hedges & stele mennys fruyte in somour, let theym be banysshed the town, Or els ponyssh them so without faouar that they schal-be wery to hyde therein.⁴

Also *Memorandum* to wey the warke at the *spynners* howses in wole or yorn & this thynges performed & ffolowed:—Ther is a man⁵ nyghe vnto this Cite that wole delyner amonges pore Clothmakers the next Shear tyme *ij* C stone of goode wole as it cost, the Costes payd, & *iiij* C*s.* with it in redy money for bycause the *spynners* & the weuers schall haue redy money for their true labour,

¹ See above p. 243. ² An omission. ³ Who are these?

⁴ On vagabonds see Leonard. *Poor Relief*, and above *passim*.

⁵ May be Joh. Haddon, see *Coventry Charities* (1733), p. 1.

& to gyue theym as they may lyue, & to be deliuered to x men, to every man xx^{ti} stone & xls. in redy money to pay for the spyunnyng & the weuyng. And they to pay hym ayen at iij dayes, that is to sey, at Allhallowetyde on parte, & at Candelmas or in Lent the second, & at Couentre ffeyre¹ the iijrd parte, so that he may haue all his money to bye newe wole. And if they can not sell their cloth to lyue by hit, he wole sometymes take hit of them for payment; so that they schall not labour to lese, and by Godes grace some other good men will do the same, so that the Cite schal-be better occupied by the love of Jhesus, Amen.

Provided alwey that no officer, Constable nor other arest no cloth borne toward the *serchyng* house nor from the *serchyng* howse to the owners house in payn of a C's. to the comen boxe.

[Enacted] for truth of Clothmaking that no man nor woman within this Cite put no cloth to any walker to full but if he will burle² it & wranghalf³ it within the Cite in peyn of vj s. viij d. to the comen boxe, ffor this entent folowyng, that is to sey, that the sherchers may se that hytt be well byrled & clenne & well & truly wranghalf³ and the serchars to se the same Cloth and to putt in ther burlyng marke.

⁴ And also that the *serchers* may se the cloth when it is in byrlyng whether ther be eny fawte in the weners doying or not, and if the walker do not sende for the *serchers* to se whiles it is in byrlyng, if ther be eny fawte in the cloth when hit cometh to the *serchyng* howse to be leyd to the walkers Charge, but if the cloth be well byrled, & well thyked, & kyndely handeled, that it be not let kole with takyng out of the myll or hit be thoroly thykked, nor that it be not walked with Cappes, nor no floxe⁵ drawn out with sharpe handylles nor cardes, then the walker to haue for his trewe labour for a lo price cloth xld., & for a myddle Cloth iijs., & for a fyne cloth vs., & other verrye fyne clothes as the owner & he can agree.

¹ Corpus Christi. ² = to dress cloth by removing knots.

³ See above, p. 640.

⁴ leaf 323, back. "Clothe making" in a later scribe's hand heads the page.

⁵ Tufts of wool.

among ten clothmakers, who are to repay him at certain seasons either in money or

in unsaleable cloth.

Cloth not to be seized as distress when it is being borne to the searching-house.

Cloth to be filled within the city.

Cloth to be viewed by the serchers when it is being dressed,

and not let to cool by taking out of the mill before it is thoroughly thicked.

Fullers' charges.

Weavers'

Also that no weaver by no cloth no longer then he may make hit good cloth of good breed in the peyn of vj s. viij d., and to dryve in all the wole that he hath to the seid cloth; and the weaver doying his warke truly to haue for a cloth weuyng if it go betwene viij or ix C.¹, iiij s. in money, & if it go betwene ix & x C., iiij s. vj d., and if it go betwene x & a xj C., v s., & fferther after the hundredes as the owner & he can agre. Also that no weaver make no throums of any pese of cloth aboue the lengh of a quarter besyde the knot, in peyn to pay for euery defaute xld., xij d. to eny man that fyndeth it, & presenteth it to *Maister Maire*, & ij s. iiij d. to the comen boxe.

charges:
for a cloth
of 8 or 9
hundred lb.,
9 and 10
hundred
lb. 6d.

Long throums.

Flocks not to
be drawn
with cards.

Also that ony walker that is founde with eny floxe draen of Clothes with cards or scharpe handilles for euery li. defaulted so founde to pay xld., except it poffe² of the myll, xx d. to eny man that fyndeth, & xx d. to the comen boxe.

"The mayor
to search
flouers
houses for
flocks and
throums."

Also that ther be ij *serchers* chosen by *Maister Mayre* & the Councill, & to haue auctorite gyuen theym by this lete to go in-to eny weaver or walkers house as oft as they lyst to make labour to *serche* for throums & floxe, & they to haue their part of the penalte, as afore is rehersed, for so moch as they ffynde.

For pre-
venting such
search

3s. 4d.

And what man that lettyth theym to come in-to their howsez to se & make *serche* for the seid Throums or floxe they to pay at euery faute xld. to the comen boxe without ony pardon.

No yarn to be
sold except
by its original
owner.

And that no Capper nor hatmaker nor no other person by no colored yarne of no person but if he knowe verely hit is ther owne, & that wole be knowen vppon the prices, vpon the peyn of euery defaute xld., xij d. to hym that fyndeth it & presenteth hit, and the rest to the comen boxe.

Drawing out
of kerseys
and broad
cloth

Also ther is an-other thyng to take hede to & to be ponysshed, ffor hit is open ffalshed, ffor ther is nether drede of God nor shame of the worlde,³ that is the Draw-

¹ It is impossible that C = cwt. here. For wages see below, p. 689.

² = puff or fluff, that came off in the mill, and was blown about in the air; probably the weaver might have the genuine fluff as a perquisite (Dr. Bradley).

³ MS. wordle.

eng out of kerseys¹ & brode Cloth to the gret dyssete of the werers & the high displeasure of God; wherfor it is enacted at this lete that who-so-*euver* fyndeth such cloth so don to take recorde if he can with hym² that hit be troweth that he scheweth to Maister Mayre or the justices of the peas & he schall haue xx d. for his labour forth-with. And the doer of that vntrewe dede to pay vj s. viij d. to the comen box forth-with, Or els to go to prison accordyng to the kynges Comaundement.

displeasing
towards God.

6s. 8d. fine.

Also no man nor woman put no cloth to wevyng in-to the countre but to ther own neighbours within this Cite, in the payn for euery cloth so put xl d. tyll the Cite be better inhabyt.³

No weaving
in country.

Also⁴ by-cause⁴ tyme of this day is fare past & *certain* bylles cannot be fynnysshed, hit is agreed & enacted that those billes *with* other necessarye to the comen-welth shal-be ordered & stablysshed by the Mayre & his Councell vpon a Councell day.

The day
being far
spent, it is
ordered that

the Council
finish the
business.

Mem. that if the sheriffes do not geder their florfeates made by the letes *with-in* on *quarter* of a yere next after they haue out their stretes delyuered them, Then the comen sargeant to geder them to the vse of the comen boxe.

"Streites."

Item; that bowes be vsed & no koyttyng nor boollyng. If ther be eny *person* that se such comen Boollers or koytters to schewe it to the sheriffes & they schall haue *part* of the penalte that they schall pay, that is to sey, euery such Boollers or koytters at euery defaute vj d., j d. to the fynders, & ij d. to the comen boxe, & iij d. to the sheriffes at euery defalt; and if ther be eny officer or constable that seith & knoeth eny such boollers or koytters & dothe not present them to the sheriffes to pay to the comen boxe vj d.

"Against
bowlers And
Quoters."

Item, that no *person* cast no² bowle in the stretes *within* this Cite, vpon the peyn at euery tyme so doying vj d. to

Bowls.

¹ = a kind of coarse cloth woven from long wool and generally ribbed. v. *N.E.D.*

² Deletion.

³ See the complaint of the clothiers of Worcester, Evesham, Droitwich, Kidderminster and Bromsgrove in Cunningham, *Eng. Industry*, I. 518.

⁴ Repeated.

the comen boxe. Or els to be comytted then to warde till they haue payd hit etc.

" Towne
discipline" to be
cleasued by
Maister
Marler.

¹ [Enacted] that if *Maister* Rychard Marler wolde do so moch as to cast² & elense eny part of the town dyke betwene the Well-strete yate & The Hill-strete yate, Or bytwene the Coke-strete yate & the Priore yate he to haue thuse of the same dyke, & the bankes of the same dyke to hym & his assignez so long as he or his assignez kepe the seid dyke so cast with depmes of water so hie as the broke will serue to bring in the water, and if he or his assignez suffre eny parte therof to fyll with mudde or Mukke, the Chamberleins to entre vpon that part, and the seid Richard & his assignez to lose the cost that they haue made theron.

" For officers
to waite on
the mayor,"

at 7 a.m. to
accompany
him to
church,

[Enacted]³ that enery officer that is belongyng to *Maister* Meyre of this Cite that they ben Redy enery workday at the meynes place by vij of the elok in the mornyng to bryng *Maister* Meyre to church; & if he haue eny besynes to do whyll *Maister* Meyre is at church to shewe of his departyng to *Maister* Meire or to the sordeberer & to harkyn of his goyng frome church, & to bryng hym home to his house, & lyke wise to evensong or els to pay at enery defaute j.d.; and to be redy to bryng hym to *Jhesus* masse⁴ on the ffriday & after to wayte vpon hym in the market till he go home to dyuner in the payn of enery default ij.d. Also on Sondays & holidays to be at *Maister* Meires house before the last pele be all rongen to matens or evensong, in the same payn of ij.d. And all the penaltes to be payd forthwith if he aske not lycens of *Maister* Meyre when he goeth from hym etc.

to *Jhesus* mass
and to the
market.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

⁵ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day, 10 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Humfrey, Rob. Grene, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Hen. Rogers, Tho. Waren,

" Civitas
Couentrie."
Oct. 12.

Jury of 25.

¹ leaf 324.

² To dig out.

³ "at these present lete" follows.

⁴ See above, p. 333.

⁵ leaf 325.

Tho. Smyth, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyngs, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Will. Wykam, Tho. White, Ric. Burwey, Hen. Wall, Jul.¹ Nethermyll, Tho. Hill, Rob. Welsh, Rog. Dawber.

[Will. Dawson, skynner, Joh. Hykkes, grasier.]

[Agreed] that the ffelyship of the Cappers schall elect & chese xij of the best of the occupacion, & they at assemble among theym-self to chewse ij *serchers* & they to *serche* & *present* all the *fautes* that ben found among theym to *Maister* Meyre, and the seid *serchers* to be sworn afore *Maister* Meire to make treue *serche* accordyng to their othe, & then *Maister* Meyre to se due correccion therin etc.

[Enacted] that ther schal-be made due *serche* of all *maner* of Tiles & bryk that cometh to town that the stuff be good & lauffull, [vpon] peyn of forfeiture of all such faulty tile; & euery tiler that leyth eny such faulty tile vpon eny house within the Cite to forfeit for euery fawte so by hym leid xld. without eny *pardon* to the comen boxe etc.

[Orlained] that Ric. Saunders, Joh. Gely,² Will. Warde & Will. Dale schal-be *serchers* of the Brode-well & the comen broke from the Hill-myll vnto seint Johyns at euery *faute* they ffynde the Offender to pay xij d. wherof the *serchers* to haue iij d., & viij d. to the comen boxe; & so from seint Johyns to the Priore-myll.

Item, ther be chosen *serchers* of the water ffrom the Spon brige down to Seint Johyns brige Tho. Reves, Tho. Coton, Gef. Clowes & Joh. Sutton, & they to *serche* & haue for their laboure as is aforeseid, & the remanent to the comen boxe.

[“Ordeigned”] that no bocher sell eny of his tallowe aboute ijs. the ston [on] payn of euery defawte vjs. viij d. wherof half to the comen boxe. And no chaundeler sell no candell aboute peny fferthyng a pounce, vpon the same payn, wherof half to the comen boxe etc. Also a [blank].

³ Also at this lete ther was a bill put in by *Maister* Richard Marler which bill hereafter foloeth:—

¹ A stroke too many for Julius and too few for Julius.

² ? Goby.

³ leaf 325, back.

Sheriffs.

“Searchers”
for
“Cappers.”

“Tiles &
brek.”

“For ouer-
seyng the
Brode-well
& Riuers.”

“Tallowe.”

Ric. Marler's
petition
about the
cleansing of
the ditch;

the "Bishop-
gate tower"

and a tower
at the New
Rents

"set for 2 li.
off Almonds
per annum."

Sheweth vnto this worshipfull company at this present lete assembled Richard Marler, That where it was graunted to hym & to his assignez to haue thuse & profett of the town dyke, the which he let cast¹ & clense at his owne cost betwene the Priore yate & the Coke-strete yate—Plese it you to graunt hym in lyke maner, if he make the cost, to cast & clense eny other place of the town dyke, Or if eny other person of the Cite wele cast & clense eny part of the dyke, vpon eny syde of the cyte he or they to haue thuse & profett of the water, if eny be, so long as he or their assignez kepe the seid dyke with water accordyng to the first entent. Also wher the gate-house ouer the Bysshop yate is not well vsed, ffor the flloures ben broken & the bordes born away & the walles broken, that within litell contynuance hit will deokay sore. And also ther is a Towre next the newe Rent that hath ben long mysused with keypyng of swyne therin, & the mook of theym cast out at a hole in-to the strete to the gret noyauns & enfeccion of the people comyng that way—Pleaseth it you to graunt to the seid Ric. Marler & his assignez by vertue of this present lete to haue the seid yate-house for terme of xl yeres, & he & his assignez schall kepe the seid yate-house clene, & with flforyng & wallyng; and also to cleanse & kepe clene the seid Toure duryng the seid terme. And if the seid Richard or his assignes do not performe the couenautes before-seid within a quarter of a yere after they haue warnyng, Then the Chamberleins to re-entre into the seid gatehouse & Towre at their plesure. And for a knolege of the same the seid Richard graunted to gyue to the Chamberleins euery yere the first ffriday of Lent ijli. of almons etc. Which bill was graunted, agreed & confermed by all my seid Masters at this present lete etc.

² *Mem.* that the eleccion of *Maister* Tho. Waren when he was chosen Meire shuld haue byn entrid here; where it is writen on the next leef a-fore as apperith there etc.²

¹ To clear out a ditch, throwing the soil out, v. *N. E. D.*

²⁻² Another scribe. For Warren's election see leaf 324, back. See below.

THO. WARREN, MAYOR, 1519.

[¹ Election of officers.]

"Civitas
Cowntre."
Jan. 25.

² *Mem.* that this eleccion shuld haue byn entrydde after the lete foloyng and not here.²

Tho. Grove, Rob. Grene, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Clerk, Will. Wykam, Nic. Haynes, Hen. Parkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Hen. Wall, Julinus Nethermyll, Tho. Hill, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Rob. Welsh, Rog. Dawber, Ric. Kemsey, Tho. Burdon.

Electors.

[m. Tho. Waren, Dier; rec. Rad. Swyllington; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. Sponne, whitawer, Ric. Wyther; w. Will. Coton, Mercer, Will. Smyth, Draper; mace, Will. Alyn; erier, Ric. fferby.]

Officers.

³ EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[V. f. p. held before Tho. Waren, m., Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykkes, b., on Thursday after the Invention of the Holy Cross, 11 Hen. VIII.]

"Civitas
Cowntrie."
May 5.

Tho. Grove, Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwyn, Nic. Burwey, Will. Wykam, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. White, Ric. Burwey, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Hill, Rog. Walles, Tho. Spon, Ric. Wether, Joh. Morse, Will. Banwell, Will. Coke, Ric. Townshend.

ffirste, it is ordened at this lete that the Talough Chaundlers of this Cctie sell Candell betwen this and the ffeste of seynt John Baptiste next comyng for peny fferthyng the pounde, and after from thens to the ffeste of seynt Michell next ffolowyng for a peny a pounde, and no derer, apon peyn of every defaute vj s. viij d., halff to the comen Box and halff to the shryffes.

Tallow
chandlers.

Also it is agreid (etc.) that the Tanners of the Countrey haue ffree lybertie on the Saterday to by hydes after vij of the Clocke in the mornyng till the Markett be inded, and that no Bochers sell noo maner hide afore the same ower

"Tanners
of the
Contrey."

¹ leaf 324, back.

²⁻² In the same hand as the note above. See above, p. 664.

³ leaf 326. A beautiful hand of H type.

of vij of the Clocke to noon Tanner, nor to no floren Tanner of the Countrey by-fore that ower eny hide [or 6s. 8d. fine, half (etc.).]

Also it is enacted that the Bochers do ley forth ther hydes every Saterday by vj of the clooke in the mornyng, apon the same peyn.

"Civitas
Cowntre,"
Oct. 11.

¹ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day, 11 Hen. VIII.]

Tho. Grove, Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwyn, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wykam, Joh. Bonde, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyngs, Tho. Astelyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. White, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Hyll, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walies, Tho. Spon, Ric. Wether, Tho. Burdon, Ric. Kemsey.

Sheriffs.

[Tho. Dodde, Mercer, Joh. Crampe, baker.]

Orders of leet.

ffurste, it is enacted (etc.) that no inhabitant of this Cete nor fforener by eny Corne, on the market day or it com in-to the markett place, but suffer it to com in-to the markett; and the towne to have libertie to by ffrom ix of the Cloke forward, and at xij of the Cloke the Countrey to begyn to bye and not till then, [or 6s. 8d. fine each time, half to the common box, half to the sheriffs.] And iff eny fforener or Townesman fforstall eny Corne within the libertie of this Cete of Couentre or it com into the markett to fforffet the same peyne and in lyke maner.

"For sellyng
of malt."

Also it is Enacted that no man sell eny malte out of the Towne when it is of the price of v s. and aboue, apon the peyne lymyted in the olde lete, that is to sey, to fforffet for every quarter so sold vj s. viij d. [half (etc.).]

[No tallow chandler to sell candles between this and the next leet above 1½ d. per lb. "apon peyn aboue lymyted."]

Also it is enacted (etc.) that the acte of hunters² to be put in execucion.

"For pren-
tise to bee³

[Enacted] that no man within the Cete take no prentyse ffrom this day fforward but iff he bryng into the Comen Box iij d. and to the Styward ij d. And the Master of

¹ leaf 326, back.

² See p. 630.

³ MS. ber.

every Craft to present the prentyse afore *Maister* Meyre and he to see his indenture sealyd and his name entred in the Styward Boke.¹

ensed before
the mayor."

²JOH. BONDE, MAYOR, 1520.

¶ [Election of officers.]

"Civitas
Coventrie,"
Jan. 25.

Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marlar, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. Astelyn, Hug. Dawes, Ric. Burwey, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Hill, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykkes, Tho. Spone, Ric. Wether, Tho. Warde, Tho. Burdon.

[m. Joh. Bonde, Draper; rec. Rad. Swyllington; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Hum. Moseley, Jas. Gilbert; w. Hen. Hinde, Mereer, Tho. Tressell; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

³¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Bonde, m., Tho. Dodde, Joh. Cramp, b., on Thursday after S. George's day, 12 Hen. 8.]

"Civitas
Coventrie,"
Apr. 26.

Tho. Waren, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. White, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astleyn, Hug. Dawes, Hen. Wall, Tho. Banwell, Tho. Hyll, Ric. Heryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykkes, Hum. Moseley, Jas. Gylbert, Will. Cook, Will. Towrys.

[Enacted and agreed] that all such good ordynaunces as be made for the comen-wele of the Citee afore-tyme that from-hensforth they be truly kept & executid accordyng to the true entent therof, and that the booke ⁴ that is newe made be takyn for an act & *proclamyd* at this lete etc.

The book of
ordinaunces
to be
proclaimed.

[Enacted] that all such *grauntes*, *promyses* & *Covenantes* as *Maister* Meyre & his brethern han made with Joh. Mors, Weuer, touchyng the office of *Shyrrywyke* of

The
shirivalty.

¹ See above, pp. 560 *sqq.*

² leaf 327. ³ leaf 327, back. Scribe G.

⁴ Is the existing MS. the "boke" referred to here?

the Citie that the seid John enjoy them ¹accordyng¹ to there *promyse without fraude or craft etc.*

Fallow.

[Enacted] that no taloo be solde by-twene this & the next lete a-bove ij s. the Stonne, upon the peyn of euery defeaute vj s. viij d., wherof half to the comen boxe etc.

Chandlers.

Also that no Talochaundeler [sell] no candyll a-bove peny ferthyng the pounce, upon the same peyn, wherof half to the Comen boxe etc.

No garden for
"40 foot
within the
Citty wall."

[Enacted] that no inhabitant of the Citee cast eny muk or filth *without* the town wall *within* xl fote therof, or make eny gardeyn or wodpleck ² *with-in* xlⁱ fote therof [or 40d. fine each time, half to the sheriffs, and half to the common box.]

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Oct. 9, 1520.

³ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday, S. Dionysius' day, 12 Hen. VIII.]

Tho. Waren, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. White, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Hen. Parkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hugo Dawes, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Jul. Nethirmyll, Tho. Hyll, Ric. Heryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Hum. Moseley, Jas. Gilbert, Ric. Kemsey, Ric. Toty.

Bailiffs and
Sheriffs.

[Tho. Hery, Ric. Ryse.]

[Whereupon T. Hery was enjoined in full court that he should be here, *i. e.* in the Gild-hall at the next holding of the court on Monday next after S. Luke the Evangelist's day (Oct. 22) to take the oath for the exercise of his office, on pain of £100. On which day Tho. Hery solemnly cited does not appear, but makes default. Therefore he forfeited the afore-said penalty, *i. e.* £100. And further the same

Et *super hoc Iniunctum*⁴ est eidem Thome Hery in plena Curia quod sit hic *scilicet* in Guyhalda eiusdem Ciuitatis ad *proximam* Curiam *ibidem tenendam, scilicet* die Lune *proximo* post festum S. Luce euangeliste ad *recipiendum sacramentum suum pro officio illo exercendo* sub pena Centum librarum etc. Ad quem quidem diem Lune *predictus* Tho. Hery *solemniter exactus non venit set defaultum facit. Ideo forisfecit* penam *supradictam, videlicet* Centum libras. Et *ulterius preceptum* est

¹⁻¹ repeated.

² *N. E. D.* s. v. pleck = a small piece or plot . . . a small enclosure.

³ leaf 328, back. ⁴ A stroke of "n" wanting.

Tho. Hervy was ordered to be at the next court held in the aforesaid Gild-hall to take his oath, under the penalty of £200. On which day the said Tho. Hervy came in his proper person, but would not take the oath as it was commanded him. Therefore he forfeited the aforesaid penalty, *i. e.* £200.]

eidem Tho. Hervy *quod* sit hic ad *proximam* Curiam in Guyhalda *predicta* tenendam ad recipiendum sacramentum suum etc. sub pena ducentarum librarum etc. Ad quem diem hic venit *predictus* Tho. Hervy in *propria* persona sua, set noluit recipere ¹ sacramentum suum, sicut ei preceptum fuit. *Ideo* forisfecit penam supradictam, videlicet ducentas libras etc.

[Enacted] that no inhabitant of the parish of seynt Michell when *per* course comyth to gyf the halycake that they make but on haly-cake, and that they put no more theryn but the Teyre² of thre stryke of whete, and noder to make cake nor bun beside the haly-cake, [or 20s. fine to the common box.] And the inhabitauntes of the Trinity parish to put no more in theire haly-cate but the teyre of too strike of whete, & noder bun nor cake moo, [or 20s. fine to the common box.]

"Holicak."

[Enacted that no tallow be sold above 2s. the "stonne." and no "candyll" above 1½d. per lb.] And that their penyworth and halpurth be sold after the same prise & no derre, upon the peyn of every defaute vj s. viij d. to the comen box without any grace.

Tallow.

[Enacted] that *Maister* Meyre for the yere beyng from-hensforth shall haue the denomination and to chose yerely on of the kepers of the occupacion of bochers, and the craft to name the oder keper accordyng as is vsid with the phelishippes of Bakers and flyshmongers, and if the bochers wyll not agre to this Act the hole occupacion to lese at every default C s. to the comen boxe.⁴

"Eleccion of the Maisters of the bochers."³

[Enacted] that the gates of the Citee shal-be shot every nyght at viij of the clok and openyd at v of the clok in the mornyng, and thus to contynue as long as hit is thought necessarie therefore for the *preseruacion* of good rulee etc.

"Gaittes of the Citee."

¹ MS. *repreire*.

² Tare = allowance of an extra weight, cf. "tare and tret." *v. N. E. D. s. v. Cloff*. Probably this limitation was on account of the dearth. For the holy cake see p. 417, 680.

³ "Bochers" deleted follows.

⁴ See Introduction.

THE CAPPERS.

¹ The Constitucions and Ordinances of the Craft of the Cappers within the Cite of Couentre Made and Confermyd by Maistre John Bonde, Maier of the same Cite, at the lete day the ixth day of Octobre [12 Hen. VIII.]

To meet on

the feast of
the Name
of Iesus,
Aug. 7.
"for electing
masters."

In primis That all the hoolle Company Mete togeder at a place assigned upon the day and feast of the In nomine Ihesu, and that same Day than and ther to chuse new keepers for that yer following, vpon the payne to forfeit vli. vnto the comyn box; and yf he or they so choson Refuse yt he to pay xls., half to the comyn Box and half to the craft, except he can shew a Cause Reasonable afore Maister Meyer and his brethern why he so doith, and the same Maister to be admytted by the Maier and his brethern: and what persone of the Craft that ys away that day yf he haue had iij Daies warnyng to pay xij d. without it be a cause Reasonable; and when it so fortunes that the said Eleccion day fallys vpon Friday, Satterday, or Sunday the second Maisters deuour² to be defferrid tel the Tewysday next after.

who are to be
receiued by
the mayor.

"Accompt"
made at
Christmas.

Also That every Maister after he ys dischargid Make his accompte vnto the new Maisters atte feast of the natyvetiy of our Lorde next following, vpon the payne of iij li. half to the maier & half to the Craft, without license of the newe keepers for the tyme beyng etc.

"Appren-
tices."
Two allowed.

Also That no Man haue no moo prentises at wons but two, and that he take them no lesse yers than vij, and that [no] man kepe them in his hows past the space of on monethe but yf ther Indentures be sealid before the Maisters of the said Craft for the yer beyng; and for every prentyz to be brought in iiij d. to the Craftes box, iiij d. to the Maisteres Box, and iiij d. to the comyn box. And the said Maisteres to se immediatly ther names Entrid in the craftes bok, ther termys and ther covenantes, so that the craft may perfetly knowe of ther departing, and to se for bothe parties that al covenantes be suerly kept; and he or they that sealid any Indenturs

Fines to be
paid on their
admission,

and their
names
"enroled."

¹ leaf 329. Another scribe. See above, pp. 572 sqq.

² Is the second master not to pay his duty to the mayor when time fails?

but in the presens of on of the keepers to lese at euery deffaut xld. without the licens of the keepers.

Also [but] yf the said keepers Register trewly the said Indenturs and Couenauntes after the Ordinauntes abone namyd then they to forfeit at euery deffault vj s. viij d., half to the Meyer & half to the Craft.

Also yt ys ordenyd that no man of the said Craft take noo prenty; vnesse than he haue a obligacion of hym and sufficient surtes boundon for hym to performe his couenauntes, and he or they to be boundon to hys Maister in the somme of vli. at the least, and who so doith the contrary to forfeit to ther craft xls. half to the Meier and half to the craft etc.

Also yf any prentiz of the said Craft departe from his Maister hereafter by any mean, & except it be by the visitacion of God, the said Maister to haue no moo prenty; duryng the said termys, except he delyuer the obligacion of his said prenty, so gone away, to the Maister of the said Craft, and they to take the advauntage therof to the vse of the said Craft; and that the Maister of the said prenty; shall avowe al accions¹ to be taken in his owne name by the Maister of the said Craft for the yer beyng, and not a quyttance to make lesse than by the grement of the said Maistre, vpon the payne of C s.

Also yf any prentiz of the said Craft complayne hym to the said Maister that he haue not his sufficient fyndyng accordyng to the customys of this Cyte, so prouyd at the first tyme the Maisters to gyf to the maister of the said prentiz a monycion to se it be amendid, at the second faut a Reasonable fyne, and at the iij^{de} tyme the Maistres of ther power to take the said prentiz away from hym and sett hym with another Man of the Craft wher he shal-be better orderyd, and his Maister to be clerly dischargid of hym.

Also that no persone of the saide Craft Rebuke any of the Maisters for the yer beyng, vpon the payne to pay vj s. viij d. at euery deffault, half to the Maier and half to the Craft, and if any persone of the Craft will not agre

Indentures to be "Registered."

"Apprentices bound by obligation."

In the case of "Departing of Apprentices,"

the bond to be delivered to the craft master for the craft's profit,

no discharge being allowed whereby the original sum should be diminished.

"Abusing Apprentices."

First complaint a warning; second, a fine; third, the apprentice to be removed.

"Opprobrious words to the masters,"

¹ *i. e.* for the recovery of the money from the securities.

that this forfeet¹ shuld be payde he hym-self to pay xl d. without any grace.

or "Against bretheren off the fellowship."

Also yf any *persone* of the said Craft Rayle on against another in the *premysses* of the Maisters for the yer beyng after they be commaundid by on of the *Maisters* to kepe syllence he or they to forfeet vj s. viij d., half to the Mayer and half to the craft.

"Attendance on the Mastur of the Crafte."

²Also That all Mene of the Craft be Redy to wayte vpon the ³Craft³ Maisters at suche tymes as they shal-be Reasonably warnyd by the somner for the worship of the Cyte or the welthe of the Craft, vpon the payn to lose at euery deffaute xl d., half to the Mayer and half to the craft.

"Consell disclosed to moue dissention."

Also That no *persone* of the said Craft disclose nor vtter no thynges that ought of Right to be secretly kept amonges themselves wherby any dyssension or debate myght Ryse theruppon, vppon the payne of euery deffaute so *provid* vj s. viij d., half to the Maier and half to the Craft.

Forbidden "to put forth the worke" to any whose fines are unpaid.

Also That no *persone* of the Craft put forthe no pece of warke to noo Man except he haue payde his hoole fynes, or elles the Maisters gyf hym leve to work for suche causes as shal-be thought nedfull by the advise of ther brethern, vpon the payn to lose at euery dyffaut so *prouyd* x s., half to the Maier and half to the Craft.

"Cappes thycking."

Also It is Ordenyde that no man thyk nor presse noo *Journeymens Cappes* Except they be old Cappes [or 6s. 8d. fine each time, half to the common box, and half to the craft.] And that no man put forthe nother spynnyng nor knyttyng vnto none of them that vsithe to spyn or knyttythe any *Journeymens Cappes* tell they be brought before the *Maisters* of the Craft and agre before thaym and to vse it no more, vpon the payn who-so dothe the Contrary to pay vj s. viij d. half to the comyn box and half to the Craft. And that no man sett his *Journeyman* vpon no notherman's work after he know he mak *Cappis* of his owne tell he haue paid his fyne, vppon the payn to lose at euery dyffaut so *prouyd* x s. half to the Comyn box and half to the Craft. And that no man tak no new *spynner* nor *knytters* yf they haue wrought to any of the

Boycott of spinners who work for Journeymen.

¹ or "forfeet."

² leaf 329, back.

³⁻³ deleted.

craft before. but that they bryng hym a token from hym that they wrought *withall* before To know that she haue well & Trewly v-sid her self or noo in good work and puttyng in her stuf, and who so dothe the *Contrary* to lose at *enery* diffaute xx d. *without* any grace etc.

Every spinner must furnish a character from a former master.

Also It ys Ordeyned that *euery* Maister once in hys yer to goo through the hole Cyte to *euery* Mans hows of the Craft and by ther Registers to call for *euery* prentise be²-fore thaym to know how the constitucions be kept, and what Maister that fautes herin to pay xls. *without* any grace, half to the Meyer and half to the Craft.

"Maieur¹ [to] go abrode to examin prentises."

Also That noon of the said Craft Make no Cappis but that they put suffieient stuf in them so that they may abide the workmanship, and that they make them not slyghtly to the sale and gret dissaite to the people [or 40d. fine each time, half to the mayor and half to the craft.]

"Cappes"

to be well made.

Also That noo Maister nor *Journeyman* by no *Manour* of yern or Colloryde woll, vpon the payn of xx s., half to the comyn box and half to the Craft. And that no *Journeyman* worke no Cappis in ther own howsys,³ but Except yt shalbe lefull to the said *Journeymen* to ffrеше and scower old Bonettes in ther own howsys, [or 12d. fine each time, half to the mayor and half to the craft.]

"Yarne & woll."

Journeymen not to compete with their masters.

Also That *euery* *Journeyman* of the said Craft from Michelmas to Easter *cum* to ther worke at syx of the Cloke in the mornyng and worke vntyll vij of the Clok at nyght, and from Ester to Michelmas to *cum* at v of the Clok and work tell vij at nyght. And that noo *Journeyman* go from his Maister except he gyf his Maister xiiij days warnyng, upon the payn of vjs. viij d. And that no *Journeyman* be set on worke *without* license of the Maister of the Craft, and he to se wheder he be a workman or nott etc.

"Journey-men to worke what hower." 6 a.m. till 7 p.m. in winter. 5 a.m. till 7 p.m. in summer.

Due notice.

Also That noo *person* of the Craft teche noo *poyntes* of the Craft to noo *person* save to hys prentiz and hys wyf [or 100 s. fine, half to the mayor and half to the craft.]

"Apprentises onely to be taught."

¹ A slip; read Maister.

² repeated.

³ "but in ther owne howsys" follows.

THE DEARTH. A CENSUS.

Oct. 10, 1520.

A view taken during a dearth of the amount of provisions and the number of inhabitants in the city.

¹ Memorandum That the xth day of Octobre and in the yer of the Raigne of Kyng Henry the Viiijth,² then Maister Joh. Bond beyng Maier of the Cite of Couentre, The price of all maner of Corne and graynes be-ganne to a-Ryse, whemppon a veu was takon by the said Maier and his brethem what stores of all Maner of Corne, and what nombre of people was then within the said Cite, men, women and Childern, etc.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Number of people in every warde. | The number of Greynes of all Maner of Cornes. |
|-------------------------------------|--|

Summa :

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Erle-strete warde. vij C and vij persones. | { | In Malt, ^c iiij liiiij quarter, |
| | | In Rie, xxxvj stryke dim. |
| | | In whete, xvij quarter ij stryk. |

[Smithford Street ward.

406 persons ; malt and barley, 220 qrs. ; rye, 15 qrs.
2 strike ; wheat, 2½ qrs. ; "ottes," 27 qrs. ; "pese," 7½ qrs.

Gosford Street ward.

875 persons ; malt, 456 qrs. ; " whet & Rye," 16 qrs. ;
peas, 1 qr.

Much³ Park Street ward.

719 persons ; malt, 287⁴ qrs. ; wheat, 14½ qrs. 1 strike ;
peas, 7 qrs.

Bishop Street ward.

1018 persons ; malt, 334 qrs. ; wheat and rye, 26 qrs. ;
peas, 1 qr.

Bayly Lane ward.

459 persons ; wheat, 1 qr. 6 strike ; malt, 150 qrs.
3 strike ; barley, 20 qrs. ; rye, 19 qrs. ; oats, 9 qrs. 2
strike ; peas, 1 qr. 6 strike.

" Brodyate warde."

552 persons ; wheat, 1 qr. 3⁵ strike ; malt, 100 qrs. ;
rye, 1 qr. 5½ strike ; oats, 2 qrs.

¹ leaf 330.² Year omitted.³ MS. Miche.⁴ ij C ^{xx}iiij vij.⁵ "vj" deleted.

Cross-Cheaping ward.

884 persons; wheat, 1½ qrs.; rye, 18 qrs.; malt, 180 qrs.

¹Jordan Well ward.

354 persons; malt, 100 (v score) qrs.; wheat, none (nullum); rye, 3 qrs.

Spon Street ward.

627 persons; malt, 198² qrs.; rye and wheat, 3 qrs. 7 strike.]

| | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|--|---|
| <p><i>Summa totalis</i> of the nambre of the people then beying <i>within</i> the Cyte, of men, women and Childern.</p> | } | <i>Summa totalys.</i> | In Malt, ij M ^{li} ij ^{ij} ^{xx} v & v quarter, ³ | 6601 persons; malt, 2105 qrs. (two thou- sand three hundred five score and five); rye and maslin, 100 qrs. 1 strike; wheat, 47 qrs.; oats, 39 qrs., 2 strike; |
| | | vj M ^{li} vjC & j. | In Rye & Mastlin j j stryk, | peas, 18 qrs., 2 strike. |
| | | | In whet, xlvij quar- ter, | |
| | | | In ottes, xxxix quar- ter, ij stryk, | |
| | | | In pese, xvij quar- ter, ij stryk. | |

Also a veu by hym takon what supstance of malt was then brewede *within* the Cyte wokly by the comyn brewers that brewed to sell and fyll furthe by the Sesters; the nambre of the comyn brewers in all the Cyte ys ij^{ij} viij

"Brewers."

68 brewers.

Item, they brewid wekly in malt ^{xx}vj quarter, j bus.

146 qrs.
1 bushel,

Mem. that ther was brought into this said Cyte the ffryday before Crystmas day in the yer of the said Joh. Bonde then beying mayer by his labour and his ffrendys to helpe to susteyne the Cyte *with* corne of all maner of greyne.

Summa ^{xx}iiij & xvij quarter and vj stryke.

97 qrs.
6 strike.

Mem. that ther was at that tyme xliij bakers *within* the Cyte, the wiche dyd bake wekly a-mongest all ^{xx}vj quarter of whet & xij besydes pese and Rye.

43 bakers who
bake 132 qrs.
of wheat
every week.

¹ leaf 330, back. ² jC ^{xx}iiij xvij. ³ Queer arithmetic.

WILL. WICAM, MAYOR, 1521.

"Civitas
Coventre."
Jan. 25.

Electors.

¹ ¶ [Election of new officers ² "*secundum antiquam Consuetudinem Civitatis predictæ facta per*"]

Tho. Waren, M.G.S.T., Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbure, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clark, Joh. Humfrey, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Astlen, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Hyll, Rye. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Cramp, Hum. Molsley, Jas. Gylbert, Ric. Kemsey, Ric. Totte, Tho. Gordon, Ric. Harres.

Officers.

[m., Will. Wicam,³ draper; rec. Rad. Swyllyngton; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Hugo Lawton, Rob. Seny; w., Rog. Palmer, Will. Alynson; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas
Coventre."
Apr. 16.

⁴ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Will. Wicam, m., Will. Towers, Ric. Ryse, on Tuesday, Apr. 16, 12 Hen. VIII.]

Tho. Waren, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Whyte, b. Tho. Smyth,⁵ a. Jul. Nethermyll,⁵ Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hugo Dawes, Ric. Borwey, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykes, Hug. Lawton, Rob. Seyne, Ric. Kemsey, Will. Banwell, Will. Smyth, draper.

Coroner.

[Who elect Rob. Grene jun. coroner within the said city of the county of Coventry and liberty of the same.]

Office com-
pulsory.

[Enacted] att This present lete whereas in a lete holden in the Tyme of Maister Joh. Bonde⁶ that no man off what degre he be of, that is electyd⁷ to any offyce, do Refuse hit & no peyne thereon is lymtyd, therfore hyt is agreyd and enactyd att this lete that if any person from hensforthe be electyd Meyer & he

¹ leaf 331, back; another scribe. There is a space left unfilled for an ornamented initial.

² = [An election] made according to the ancient custom of the city by (names follow). This phrase follows the stereotyped election formula on this occasion.

³ "Maistrum" prefixed. ⁴ leaf 332.

⁵ The a. and b. preceding these clearly shows that there was a due order observed in the names.

⁶ See above, p. 668-9.

⁷ "is electe" occurs lower.

then absent hym-selffe and Refuse hyt he to pay to the Comen box a hundrethe poundes¹; [for refusal to act as "Scheryffe," a hundred marks, as "Master of ether of the yeldes," £40, as chamberlain or warden, £20.] Provydyd allwey that ther be no man Chargeyd Twysse in one offyce, onles then he be Intretyd and content therwythall.

Also hyt is enacted & agreyd that euery aldurman serche hys warde & se whiche be Impotent and nedy beggers and euery of them that be amytted to beg to haue a Token of ther bagge of the signe of the Olyfaunt, & all other that haue no bagge not to be suffered to dwell in the Cytte, and that thei departe the Cytte with-in a nyght and a daye.

² ¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday before S. Dionysius' day, 13 Hen. VIII.]

[Magister Tho. Waren, Magister Rob. Grene, Magister Joh. Duddesbury, Magister Ric. Marler, Magister Joh. Stronge, Magister Joh. Clarke, Magister Joh. Humfrey, Magister Joh. Bonde, Magister Tho. Smyth, Magister Tho. Whyte, Magister Hen. Perkyngs, Magister Tho. Astlen, Magister Hugo Dawes,¹ Magister Ric. Burwey, Magister Tho. Banwell, Magister Hen. Wall, Magister Ric. Herryng, Magister Rog. Walles, Magister Will. Dawson, Magister Joh. Hykkys, Magister Joh. Cramp, Hugo Lawton, Rob. Seny, Ric. Kemsey.]

[Tho. Gopesell, Joh. Eborne.]

[Agreed] att this lete that there be euery yere Choson iiij ale Tastores¹ in euery warde, and that hit be geuen them in commaundement by the aldurman of the warde that ij of them shal-be Redy att all tyme or Tymes¹ when any brewer in the warde sendith ffor them to gooe to the bruers howse and tast ther ale, & se that it be abull; & that thei se that they bruers sell no ale but by a Mesure sealyd *with* the Comen seale, apon the peyne of vj d. att euery defavte; and also that the seyde ale Tastars schall see that ther be no Typlers in there warde sell any alle by any Mesure les³ then it be sealed *with* the seale in the

"The Maiors £100. For eleccion of officers. The Sheriffes, 100 markes. Chamberlaine and warden, xxli. No man to be charged with on office twice."

Aldermen to search for beggars.

Every deserving beggar to haue the city arms on his bag.

"Ciuitas Coventrie." Oct. 8, 1521.

Sheriffs.

4 "Ale-tasters" in each ward

to visit every brewer.

Standard measures.

¹ This scribe uses very often for final "s" the sign that stands for final "es." ² leaf 332, back. ³ = unless.

Cytte vseyd, apon lyke peyne, whether hyt [be] Mesures of pewter or of woode.

"Brewers"
not to sell ale when malt is above 20 l. a sextary.

[Ordnained] att this lete that no bruer *within* this Cytte or the fforrens of the same sell any ale owt of his dore so long as Mavlt is of the price of a nobull or¹ a-bowe¹ xx d. a sestur. And yf the price of Malte be vndur the price of a noboll then the seydl bruers to sell ther ale for xvij d. a sestur; and that thei sell xiiij galondes to the sestur [or 6s. 8d. fine, to be paid to the sheriffs, half to the sheriffs' use, and half to the common box.] And if the seyde Marciment be nott payyd to the seydl Scheryffes att the first askyng, then att the secunde askyng thei to pay for *euere* soche defavte xij s. iiij d. And for defavte of payment of the seydl xij s. iiij d. thei to ly in prison by the Meyres *commaundement*, ther to remayne vntyll soche tyme that thei haue payde the same Merceament.

Penalties for breaking this ordinance.

"Brewers."

² Also that no bruer sell no ale vntyll the ale-Tasters haue alowyd the same ale to bee good and sufficient, apon the peyne of *euery* bruer doying the contrarie to pay vj d. to be applyd to the vse aforeseyde.

"Ale tasters."

[Ordnained] that and casse be³ that any of the seydl iiij ale Tastores in *euere* warde *with-in* this Cytte be negligent or remysse in doying his office, when hee or thei be required by any of the seydl bruers, thei to forfeit for *euery* defavte vj d. to be applyd to the vse of the Comen box and the Scheryffes, as is afore-seyde.

"Tiplers"

[Ordnained] that *euery* ynholder and Typler *within* this Cytte and the forrens of the same schall sell a quarte of the best ale ffor ob. & a potell for a peny, and a galon off ale for ij d., & so to sell aftur the Rate; and that no bruer, ynholder or Typler schall sell no alle but by Mysure of pewter or of woode seallyd *with* the sealle of the Cytte apoynteyd & ordenyd for the same, apon the payne of *euere* soche offender that dothe the contrary for the ffurst defaute xl d., and for the secunde defavte vj s. viij d., and for the thyrde defaute Imprisoement by the Meires *Commaundement* vntyll the seydl Mercymentes be contentyd & payyd, and to be applyd the one halffe to the vse of the Scheryffes, and the other halffe to the Comen box.

[to] sell by sealel measures."

¹ repeated.

² leaf 333.

³ = if it happen.

Also hit is Made that no bocher of this Cytte sell ane Taloo a-bowe the price of xx d. a stone; and the Chaundellers to sell ther Candull aftur a j d. a pownde, upon the peyne for euere defavte iij s. iiij d. to be payyd and gethereyd to the vse a-foreseyd *withowt* any flauore or pardon.

"Talow."

THO. WHITE, MAYOR, 1522.

¹ [Election of a new mayor, recorder, coroner, steward, chamberlains, wardens, new . . . (cetera desunt).]

"Ciuitas Coventrie."

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

² ¶ V. f. p. held before Tho. White, m., Tho. Gobsell, Tho. Eyburn, b., on Tuesday after the Invention of the Holy Cross, 14 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Coventrie."
May 6.

Joh. Bonde, Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Will. Wycam, Hen. Wall, Tho. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Henri *Perkyns*, Tho. Astlyn, Tho. Herryng, Joh. Cramp, Joh. Hykkes, Will. *Parker*, Will. Banwell, Ric. Povey, Ric. Townnesend, Jac. Hobson, Tho. Wylmer, Tho. Napton.

Be hyt rememberyd that where hyt was inactyd at a lete in the tyme of *Maister* Borwey,³ m., that euere person what Craft he bee of come yng to Inabet *within* the Cytte schall pay to the *Maister* of his Craft att the ende of the ffurst yere of his inabetyng v s., and in the ende of the seconde yeer other v s., hit is nowe agreyd & inacted that the same acte schall stonde in strenkeyth & effecte, and ffarther that att the ende of the ffurst yere the same persones schall put in sufficient suertes to the *Maister* of his or ther Crafte to paye the same v s. in the iiij [? ij] yere acord yng to the same acte.

Orders of
lect.
Stranger
craftsmen's
fines.

[Enacted] that the ten men Choson & heraftur to be Choson getherars for the Comen box schall receve ther rentes yerly of the Comen Grownde last taken yn be-fore the feaste of the holy Rode.⁴

Rent gather-
ers of the
common
lands.

Also that the Tenautes of all the same Comen Growndes

"Comon
grounde"

¹ leaf 333, back.

² leaf 334.

³ See above, p. 655.

⁴ Sept. 14.

to be sown
with wheat.

last taken yn to be senerrall schall yerly plowe & sowe all or halffe the same Growndes or els to florfet ther takes¹ & leses.

The holy
cakes.

Also that no man of this Cytte schall by whete ffor the hale-cakes² in the Market before the ower of a-leven of the cloke, on-les hit be bowght by the Comen *seriaunt* of the Citte, apou peyne of euere defawte xld.

"Fish-
mongers"

[Enacted] that all flyshemongers as sone as thei, or anne of them, haue solde ther well-watur fysche thei schall vp ther bordes, & washe vp non to sell that daye nor vntyll hit be well wateryd, apou peyn of euere defawte xld. Also that no fyshemonger by no ffreyshe Code in the Market be-fore the ower of ij of the Cloke aftur-none, apou lyke peyne.

not to sell
salted fish
until it be
sufficiently
soaked in
water.

"Fish & fish-
mongers."

Also that no maner of ffreshe sey ffyshe schal-be in the Market to sell aftur the ower of ij of the Cloke, apou peyn of florfetur to the prisoners.

"Chamb-
leyns.
Chamberlins
to haue
Little
Parke."

³ [Enacted] that the Chamberlens of the Cittee schal-be restoreyd to the Lyttull Parke to occupi hit as thei haue don in tymes past and the Scheryffes to be dischargeyd therof.

"Apparell
for shirelles."

Hit is inacted that the Scheryffes of the Cytte, nowe choson & heraftur to be choson, schall were in ther gowndes nothor fforre of ffoyndes,⁴ nor martarnes, nor no veluet in ther dwblettes nor jerkyns or partletes,⁵ except he or thei be notyd and knowyn in this Cytte to be of the Substans of ij li. & a-bowe, a-pon peyne of euere man so offenyng to florfet xx^{ti} markes to be leveyd by the Meyre to the vse of the Comen box.

"Apparell"
for counton-
ers.

Also that all Comeners within this Cytte vndur the degre of a Scheryffe schall where in ther gowndes ffecore of ffox, schaukes⁶ or lambe & none other fforres, & in ther Dublettes or Jakettes hott Chamlet,⁷ Saten of Bryges⁸ or wolsted, & none other sylkes, on-les he be notyd & knowyn

¹ Take = a holding. ² v. p. 417. ³ leaf 334, back.

⁴ Fur of the beech-marten. L. fagina = a beech tree. v. Stat. 6 Hen. VIII. c. 1 (*Soc. Eng.* III. 161.) for sumptuary laws.

⁵ Partlet = collar, ruff, or habit-shirt.

⁶ Fur of animals' legs.

⁷ Originally an Eastern fabric, and at one time made up from the hair of the Angora goat.

⁸ Bruges.

to be of the vature & substauns¹ of a Cli. & a-bowe, [or £10 fine to be levied as above.]

Item, that no *servant* man or woman retheyneyd for wages *within* this Citte where velvet in² any other aparell upon them, upon the payne of flarfatur of the same aparell to the vse of the Comen box of the Cytte, & upon payne of imprisonment.

"Apparell"
for servants.

Also wher-as in tymes past the scheryffes hathe byn Chargeyd *with* the payment of xx^{ti} markes to Maister Recorder of this Cytte ffor hys fee, hyt [is] enactyd (etc.) that for the *terme* of this thre yere next Insuyng that the seyde scheryffes newe electe & here-aftur to be electe duryng the seyde thre yeres to be dyschargeyd in condic^on that the seyde scheryffes newe electe take ther office on them lovyngly *withowt* contradic^on. And also the seyde elec^on have condecendyd & agreyd that the xx markes schal-be born in maner & forme folowyng, þat is to sey, the Maister of the Trinite Gilde schall paye vj li. xiiij s. iiij d., Item, the Maister of the Corpus *Christi* Gyld vij s. viij d., & Item, the wardens of the Citte for the tyme beyng v markes.

"Payments
by the
Shireffes"

defrayed by
the gilds and
wardens.

Hyt is ordenyd & inacted att this Comen counsell daye³ that Maister Meyer of this Cytte ffor the tyme beyng schall yerly ffrom hensfforth⁴ shall⁵ Chose & apoynt ij onest men of this Cytte to be serchers of all lether to be solde *within* this Cytte, & that they thynke & allowe to be sufficient tannyd to sett a seall, whiche shal-be ordenyd & delyuend ffor the same; & the seyde serchers schall haue for ther labores vj s. viij d., the one halfe of the Tanners & the other halffe of the corderers,⁶ and for euery hyd by them seallyd beyng fownde insufficient thei to fforfet xij d. to the vse of the Comen box.

"Searchers
of Leather."

"Tanners."

7 ¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday after Michaelmas, 14 Hen. VIII.]

"Cunitas
Coenetric."
Sept. 30.

¹ A mark looking like "au" above the line occurs sometimes in conjunction with "un."

² (?) read "or." Apparel = (1) attire; (2) trimming, embellishment.

³ Sic. The Common Council must by this time have transacted the business of the Leet, when it was thought needful.

⁴ Blank follows in MS. ⁵ redundant.

⁶ Cordwainers, shoemakers. ⁷ leaf 335.

[*Magister* Joh. Boule,¹ Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Ric. Harssall, Joh. Clarke, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Will. Wycam, Hen. Wall, Tho. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Hen. *Perkyns*, Tho. Astlyn, Ric. Burwey, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykkys, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towers, Ric. Ryse, ¹Will. *Parker*.]

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Wether, Will. Tyllet.]

"No Baker, bocher, Viteler to be on the² graunde Jurie."

["Inactyd"] that ffrom-hensforthe that ther schall no baker, bocher nor no whyttelleer be on³ of the xxiiij⁴ electyd for the graunt Jure⁴ att any lete to be holden within thys Cytte heraftur.⁵

"Assise of bred."

[Ordnained] that *Maister* Meyre ⁴for the tyme beyng ⁴schall geyffe the bakers ther assyse aftur the price of the best whete in the Market by-cavse þe xxiiij⁶ wolde haue them kepe ther full syse.

"Bakers" not to diminish the weight of the ha'penny loaf.

Also that euere baker ffrom-hensfforth kepe his ffull syse, & yf he lake in the whyght of a havpeny whete loff, euery baker so offendyng to paye xij d. ⁷And if he be fownde defectyve abowe that then he to paye aftur the Rate for his ⁸defaute.

"Bakers"

[Agreed] att the seyd lete that if any of the seyd bakers offende too tymes that then *Maister* Meyer ffor the tyme beyng schall gyffe hym warnyng to bake no more vntyll he haue ffounde schvrty to kepe the assyse that *Maister* Meyer dothe gyff hym ffrom that day fforward, a-pon the peyne of xl s.

to furnish security to keep the assize.

"Bakers" to sell three loaves a penny.

[Ordnained] that the bakers schall bake no horsse-bred but of good stuffe, and that they sell no more for a peny but⁹ iij lovis & xiij to the desen, & that thei kepe ther assyse that *Maister* Meyre gyffeth them, apon peyne att the furst defavte ij s., & if he be fownde favte any other tyme then *Maister* Meyer for the tyme beyng to gyffe hym warnyng to bake no more in the peyne of xl s. vntyll he haue fownd suerte ¹⁰to be bowndon in the some of xl s.¹⁰ to kepe hys assyse from that day fforward.

"Bakers"

[Ordnained] that and yf any baker⁹ within this Cytte⁹

¹ Every name with the exception of the last is preceded by *Magister*.

² A later hand. þ here written y. ³ MS. om.

⁴⁻⁴ Interlined. ⁵ See *Life in an Old Engl. Town*, p. 106.

⁶ The Lect Jury. ⁷ See above, p. 385. ⁸ deletions.

⁹ repeated. ¹⁰⁻¹⁰ interlined.

from hensforth sell or gyffe¹ any horsse bred² about ij lounes for a penne & ² xiiijth to the dosen, that then the seyd baker schall fforfet ffor euery defavte vj s. viij d. to [be] leueyd by the scheryfes of the Cytte,² halffe to them¹ & halffe to the² vse of the² Comen box.

³[Orlained] that all bruers & Typlers order them-selffe to sell ther ale *with* sealyd Mesures soche as byn ordenyd, apou the peyne of the ffurst defavte vj s. viij d. ; and iij thei be ffownde favte an-other tyme that then *Maister Meier* fför the yere beyng schall Gyffe them warnyng to sell no more alle vntyll thei haue fownd suertes to obserue & kepe the seyd acte, apou the peyne of xl d. alffe (*sic*) to the sheryffys & halffe to the Comen box.

Also lefull be hyt to euery bocher *within* this Cytte to sley of euery maner of kynd of flesch resonabull ffor mannys mete as moche as hym lykyth, and as oft, & that no caue nor ordenaunce⁴ be made among the bochers to the contrary, apou the peyne of C s., and that euery bocher that obeyth to any soche Caue or ordenaunce⁴ by the Masturs or by the Crafte so made he to paye att euery defawte xx s., halffe to [the] sheryffes and halffe to the Comen box.

[Orlained] that no bruer in this Citte brue any all *with* hoppis, [or 20s. fine each time, half to the sheriffs, half to the common box.]

[Orlained] that and yff the Scheryffes do not gether all the merseamentes that byn delyueryd vnto them *with-in* vj wekes aftur the stretes delyueryd to ther handes, that then *Maister Meyer* for the yere beyng schall [take] the seyd strettes owt of the Scheryffes handes & delyuer them to the Comen *sergeant* & he to gether them to the vse of the Comen box.

Also hyt is agreyd (etc.) that no shomaker nor Correer nor no man ffor them schall by no Talo *within* the Cytte, on-les he by hyt betwene the ffeastes of Mydsomer & Lammas, apou peyne att euery defavte a C s. to be leueyd halffe to the scheryffes & halffe to the Comen box.

⁵[Inacted] that [no] Tanner schall sell lether onles hit be

to sell horse-bread, three loaves a penny.

"Brewers"

to use sealed measures,

and also to find surety to observe this ordinance.

"Bochers" to kill when they like

notwithstanding any caue to the contrary.

"Brewers" not to use hops.

"Shireffes to gather the streets within 6 weekes, or else to be gathered by serjant."

"Shomakers for talow."

Tanners not to sell

¹ deletions follow. ² interlined. ³ leaf 335, back.

⁴ The mark over "n" here resembles *au* redundant.

⁵ See p. 681.

"Lether" unless it be sealed.

sealyd *with* the sealle aforseyde, and ffor euere hyde otherwysse solde the seller to fforfet xld. and the byer other xld. to the vse of the Comen box.

"Corneyes" not to carry unsealed leather.

Also that no Coreer *within* this Citte Core any lether but soche as is seallyd *with* the seyde seall, apou peyne of fforfet for euery hyde soo Tanneyd xld.

JULINES NETHERMILL, MAYOR, 1523.
EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas Coventrie," Apr. 21.

¹[V. f. p. before Jul. Nethermill, m., Ric. Wethers, Will. Tillett, b., Tuesday before S. George's day, 14 Hen. VIII.]

¶ Will. Wikame, Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Banwell, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Wall, Tho. Astelyn, Ric. Burwey, Ric. Herryng, Will. Towres, Tho. Dodd, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Gopsill, Joh. Eyburne, Geo. Philips, Will. Banwell, Ric. Povie, Tho. Napton, Tho. Wilmer.

"Error in Curia."

[Enacted] that whosoever frome-hensforth doith sue eny wrytt of Error² or Certiorari³ to remove eny recorde or pleynt out of the kynges Court of this Cite shall pay for the allowaunce of the same wrytt⁴ or Error or *certiorari* the feez afore-tyme accustumed, and *ouer* & besides the same vjs. viij d. to the shireffes of the seid Cite for the tyme beyng etc.

Fees for the writ.

"Graund warrant,"⁵

[Enacted] that the shireffes of the Cite for the tyme beyng frome-hensfurth shall graunt no graund warraunt⁵ to be executed upon eny Townesman of this Cite *without* license & assent of Maister Meire for the tyme beyng etc.

⁶"No special Capias without mayor and sherriffs,"⁶

Only "bochers"

[Enacted] that no dweller *within* this Cite shall comenlie sell or retaill eny maner of flesshe for vitaille *within* this Cite oneles he be of the Crafte of bochers or elles

are allowed to sell meat,

¹ leaf 336, back. Scribe I. Marginal notes are now usually in this scribe's hand.

² A writ to procure the reversal of a judgment on the ground of error (*N. E. D.*).

³ A writ from a superior to an inferior court to call up for trial the record of the latter upon the complaint of a party that he has not received justice or cannot have a fair trial there. The word *certiorari* (= to be certified) occurs in the writ. ⁴ (?) of.

⁵ The term "grand warrant" is unknown to Sir F. Pollock and Prof. E. Jenks; the latter agrees to the suggestion that it may probably refer to the process of arrest on Capias, though the use of the word "grand" is unexplained. ⁶⁻⁶ A later hand.

brother to the same, vpon peyne who doith the contrarie to forfeit for euery defaute x s ; and that it shall be lauffull for the shireffes of the seid Citie for the tyme beyng havyng knowlege & *prove* of the seid offendoures to arrest & imprisone theme in the comen gaoll vntill the haue payed the seyð forfeiture ; and the same forfeiture to be distributed in thre *partes*, wherof oon to the Meire & the other twoo to the shireffes for the tyme beyng etc.

under pain
of fine and
imprison-
ment.

Item, forasmoche as Jas. Hobson & Ric. Niclyn, Bochers, *with* other haue taken vpon theme to be bounde to the *Maisters* of the Citie & *serue* & fynde all the Citie sufficient Candle of the price of peny & farthyng the pounce & xiiij li. to the dosyne for the space of vij yeires next ensuyng, it is therfor enacted at this lete that no *persones* (*sic*) or *persones* of the Crafte of bochers *within* this Citie shall bargeyn or sell eny Talowe to eny *persone* or *persones* *within* this Citie or *without*, but onelie to the seid Jas. Hobson & Ric. Niclyne & other foure mene by the same James & Richard to be named & assigned, [or 40s. fine to be levied by the sheriffs, half to the use of the sheriffs and half to the common box.]

"Candelles"

to be supplied
by six persons
only at 1½^d.
per lb.

¹ Item, where-as by auctorite of dyuers letes holden in tymes past *within* this Citie the Craftes of smythes & Goldsmythes be vnite & knyt together in one *with* dyuers other ocupacions Joyntlie to be contributories to all fynes & impositions amanges the seid ocupacions to be payed & levied, and to be *present* at all assembles as mariages, burialles, or otherwise whatsoever they be, by theme accustomed to be kept & maynteyned, as by ther priuate ordinaunces affirmed by the seid leetes ² pleyntie it may appere ; betwene whome of lait dyuers controuersies & debates haue Risen & bene moved for the nonperfourmance of the same to the greit Inquietnes of *Maister* Meire & the Counsell of the Citie & to the hurt & hynderance of the seid ocupacions : It is therfor at this leet established & enacted in avoidyng of like troublez hereafter to ensue that the seid Craft of Goldsmythes frome

The
"Smythes
& Gold-
smythes"

have fallen to
disputing
among them-
selves.

The gold-
smiths are

¹ leaf 237.

² For inspection of craft rules by the officers and council see p. 32. No copy of the smiths' rules has hitherto appeared in the Leet Book ; but see those of the cappers, pp. 572-4.

orders to
pay their
fines as usual.

at all tithes
and other
assessments.

"Civitas
Cocentrie."

hens-furthe shall not onelic for ther partes pay all suche fynes & impositiōns due & accustomed by theme or eny of theme to be levied & payed for brekyng of eny of the seid ordinaunces, but also they shall at all tymes hereafter be present at all Mariages, burielles & other assembles whatsoever they be, likewise as eny of the other occupaciōns to theme vnite & knyxt doo accustume theme to keip according to ther seid ordinaunces maid & establisshed & affirmed, as is aforesaid, vpon the peyne to ryne¹ in the forfeiture of the penalties of the same, and also to abide further punyshement of Maister Meire & the Councell of the seid Citie etc.

[² V. f. p. held before Jul. Nethermill, m., Ric. Wethers, Will. Tillet, b., (cetera desunt).]

THO. BANWELL, MAYOR, 1524.

"Civitas
Cocentrie."
Jan. 25, 1524.

[³ Election of officers.]

[*Magister*⁴ Ric. Marler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wieame, Tho. Astlelene, Tho. Wilmer, Hen. Perkyns, Ric. Burwey, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickes, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Will. Tillet, ⁵Chr. Mereman, Geo. Philips, Tho. Ward, Joh. Hill.⁵]

Officers,

[m. Tho. Banwell,⁶ draper; rec. Rad. Swillyngton; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Rob. Kyrvyn, Tho. Gardenour; w. Hen. Kylby, Sim. Parker; mace, Will. Alene; crier, Rog. Fraby.]

LEETS.

"Civitas
Cocentrie."
Apr. 12.

⁷[V. f. p. held before Tho. Banwell, m., Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Spenser, b., Apr. 12, 15 Hen. VIII.]

¶ Tho. White, Ric. Marler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wieame, Julynus Nethermill, Tho. Astelen, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Wall, Hen. Perkyns,

¹ t = run, r. p. 170. ² leaf 337, back.

³ leaf 338. The usual formula employed at the election concludes with the words "*secundum antiquam consuetudinem Civitatis predicte*" = according to the ancient custom of the said city.

⁴ *Magister* before all names till note 5. ⁵⁻⁵ Untitled.

⁶ *Magistrum* prefixed. ⁷ leaf 338, back.

Ric. Heryng, Rog. Wales, Tho. Dodd, Joh. Crampe, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickkes, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Will. Tillett, Rob. Kirvin.

¹In *primis*, it is enacted (etc.) that no begger of this Citie fromehensfurthe shall begge *within* the two *parishe* Churches of this Citie in the tyme of *Goddess service* vsed ther, vpon peyn to be punysshed by imprisonment of the stokkes by the space of a day & a nyght; and that ther shal-be on certeyn *persone* assigned by the Meire for the tyme beyng to viewe & execute yeirelie the seid acte.

"Beggers" forbidden to beg in the churches during service.

Item, it is enacted that the acte concernyng Clothe-makyng maid in the tyme of *Maister* Burwey, Meire of this Citie, shall stande & be in effecte & duellie executed fromehensfourthe accordyng to the tenour of the seid acte; and for the execution of the same acte ther be now elected, as serchers for true weyvynge, Will. Dale & Owyne Blakmere, weivers, and for true walkyng, Joh. Grene & Rauf Worseley, walkers.

2^o Anno Henry 8, 9 foll. 322.²

The previous act concerning "Cloth-makynge" to be put into effect.

Item, ther is elected Hen. Braynesforde, draper, to be sealer of Clothe with the seale of this Citie, and to haue for his ffee of *euery* clothe sealed j d.

A sealer appointed.

Item, ther is elected Tho. Boithe as sercher of wolles sold *within* this Citie.

A searcher of wool.

Item, it is enacted that *euery* Craftes-mane *within* this Citie shall fromehensfurthe take as meny *prentises* & *Journemen* as they woll accordyng to the liberties of this Citie, *eny* acte or caue tofore maid to the contrary notwithstanding.³

No limit to "prentises & Journemen."

[Enacted] that all the *Journemen* of *euery* Crafte in this Citie shall brynge in & deliuer ther bokes of ther *Caues* & *actes* to *Maister* Meire at suche tyme as he woll appoynt or warne theme, vpon peyne of imprisonment.⁴

"Journey-men" to bring in their rules.

⁵[Enacted] that so longe as the Crafte of *Shomakers* fynde & keip ther *preist* they shall reteyne & keipe in ther handes to ther owne vse yeirelie the Marke of money, which thei were wont to pay yierlie by acte of leete to the Crafte of *Tanners*. *Provided* alweyes that the seid

"Shomakers & Tanners."

¹ On poor relief see *Victoria County Hist. Warw.*, II, pp. 164 *sqq.*

²⁻² See above, p. 656. A much later hand.

³ See the cappers' rules, p. 573.

⁴ See Introduction. ⁵ leaf 339.

Craft of Shomakers shall pay vnto the seid Tanners at Corpus *Christi* tide next ensuyng vj s. viij d.

"Ale wyves."

[Enacted] that all the ale wyves & tiplers of this Citie shall sell ther ale by measures sealed, accordyng to the acte maid in the tyme of *Maister Wikame*,¹ Meire, [or 3s. 4d. fine each time to the sheriffs.]

"Cnitas
Coventrie."
Sept. 27.

²[V. f. p. held on Tuesday before Michaelmas, 16 Hen. VIII.]

Jury.

¶ [*Magister Tho. White*,³ *Ric. Marler*, *Ric. Hassall*, *Joh. Humfrey*, *Tho. Waren*, *Joh. Bonde*, *Will. Wicame*, *Jul. Nethermill*, *Tho. Astelen*, *Hen. Wall*, *Nic. Heynes*, *Hen. Perkyngs*, *Ric. Herryng*, *Rog. Wales*, *Will. Dawson*, *Joh. Hiekes*, *Tho. Dodd*, *Joh. Cramp*, *Will. Towres*, *Ric. Rice*, *Tho. Gopsill*, *Rob. Kyrvyn*,⁴ *Tho. Gardenour*,⁴ *Hum. Moseley*.⁴

Sheriffs.

[*Will. Smyth*, *Tho. Trussell*.]

"Rauf
Swillyngton,
Recorder,"
who took
oath to dwell
in the city
half the year,

Wher-as *Rauff Swillyngton*, Reecorder of this Citie, tyme of his admission to the office of Recorder, promysed by his corporall othe to be resident & demurraunt⁵ within this Citie, the on half of the yeir, or the moost part therof, except & sayng suche tymes as the greit sekenes⁶ shulde reign within the Citie, and except such tymes as he shuld be conuersaunt at London. It is now ordeyned by auctorite of this lete by thadvise of the Meire, aldermen & the Comens of this Citie ther assembled, that forasmoche as the seid Rauf is nowe generall attourney to our souereign lorde, the kynge,⁷ be nowe by the seid auctorite exonerat, releassed, put at large & discharged of his seid othe hertofore maid in that behalf, and that the seid Rauf shal-be here at the ij generall Cessiones & great letes after Michelmas & Eister to be holden & ij dayes before & ij dayes after, or more or lesse, as the busynes for the Citie thene shall require, if the sekenes reign not in the Citie, or that he be occupied otherwise in the kynges busynes.

except in
times of
plague,

is releas-
ed from this
obligation.

Weavers to
have "for

⁸[Enacted] that the weivers of this Citie shall haue for

¹ v. p. 677. ² leaf 339, back.

³ All names save the last three preceded by *Magister*.

⁴ Untitled. ⁵ = dwelling, abiding.

⁶ The sweating sickness was very rife in 1517; the plague in 1521. See Traill, *Soc. England*, III, 145, 257.

⁷ Supply "he." ⁸ leaf 340.

the weyvng of euery Cloithe, to the making wherof goithe & is putt ^{xx}iiij & viij li. of woll or more to the nombre of ^{xx}iiij li. & xvj, v s. for the weyvng of euery such Clothe, and if the seid Cloithe conteyn aboute the seid nombre Then the weyvng to be payed for as the parties Cane agre, and if the Cloith conteyn vnder the seid nombre then the oner to pay for weyvng but iiij s. vj d. And if the Clothe be maid of restes or grene woll¹ then to pay as the parties cane agree; and the payment to be maid in redie money & not in wares, as it is wont to be. And who refuseth thus to do & so proved befor Maister Meire to forfeit for euery said default iij s. iiij d. to be levied by the serchars of the seid Craft of weyvers, with an officer to theme appoynted by the seid Meire, to the vse of the comen box.

weyvng of
Clothes," to
which from
88 to 96 lbs.
of wool
go, 5s.,

and for those
of less weight,
1s. 6d.

The payment
is to be in
ready money,
not truck
wages.

[Enacted] that euery Clothier within this Citie shall pay for walkyng of euery Cloithe of Grene woll or midle woll iij s. iiij d., and for euery Cloith of fyne woll as the Clothier & the walker can agre, and that the Clothier do pay therfor in redie money & not in wares [or 3s. 4d. each time to the common box.]

Clothier to

pay "for
walkyng of
Clothes"
3s. 4d.

[No country tanner to buy beast hides, raw or untanned, upon the market day or any other day before 12 o'clock,² or 6s. 8d. fine, to be levied on the butcher, or other person selling the same, to the common box.]

"Tanners."

[Enacted] that if eny person of this Citie beyng no bocher do kyll eny beiffes, Mottons, veilles, porkettes, or lambes within this Citie, [he] shall not retayll eny of the seid vitall by lesse porcion then the half or the quarter [or 6s. 8d. fine each time to the common box.]

Against
"retailyng
of vitayll,"

NIC. HEYNES, MAYOR, 1525.

³[Election of officers before Tho. Banwell, m., Tho. Wilmer,⁴ Tho. Spenser,⁴ b., on the feast of the Conuersion of S. Paul, 16 Hen. VIII . . . cetera desunt.]

Jan. 25, 1525.

¹ Evidently wool of inferior quality: but whether discoloured or obtained from a poor fleece I do not know. For payments cf. p. 660.

² MS. "the owre of xii of the Cloke." ³ leaf 341.

⁴ These bailiffs' and sheriffs' names are put in error, see above, p. 688, and below, p. 690.

EASTER LEETS.

"Civitas
Comentrie,"
Apr. 27.

[V. f. p. held before Nic. Heynes, m., Will. Smyth,¹ Tho. Trussell,¹ b., on Thursday after S. Mark's day, 17 Hen. VIII.]

[¹ Jul. Nethermyll, *Magister*² Ric. Marler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wicame, Tho. Whit, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Wall, Tho. Astelen, Hen. Perkyns, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickes, Tho. Dod, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Spenser, Tho. Gopsill, ³ Hen. Burne, Will. Ridyng, Cristofer Wadde, Tho. Burdon, Ric. Townesend.]

"For hunters
& hawkers."

Wher-as in tyme past *dyuers* & meny of the *Inhabitantes within* this Citie disposed to Idlenes not havyng xl.s. of freholde by yeire inordinatlie have vsed to hawke & to hunt, kepyng haukes, greyhoundes & houndes, spanielles, ferettes, heyes,⁴ Targes,⁵ & other engennes, wherby all maner of fowles & beastes of waren & of chace be excessyvelie taken & destroyed, not feryng the penalties of *dyuers* & meny good estatutes maid by auctorite of parliament for the punyshement of the same, wherby moche idlenes & pouertie is greatelie encreassed *within* this Citie. It is therfor established (etc.) that no *persone inhabited within* this Citie ner the libertiez of the same fromehensfurth do presume to keip eny haukes, greyhoundes, or houndes, ferettes, hayes, Targes or eny other engennes, ner do presume to hunt or to hauke *with* the same, oneles they may dispend xl.s. of frehold by yeire, vpon the peyne to rone in suche penalties as be expressed in the seid estatutes and that to pay for euery tyme so offendyng vj.s. viij.d. to be levied by the shireffes, the on half to ther owne vse and the other half to the Comen box of the Citie etc.

The use of
nets and
other engines
to take game
forbidden

except in the
case of 40s.
freeholders.

⁶ Item, wher-as by auctoritie of lete holden *within* this Citie in the tyme of *Maister* Burwey,⁷ Meire of the same, it was ordeyned that it shuld be lawfull to the *inhabitantes* & *apprentices* of this Citie & to *estrangeers* to

"Prentices
& other

¹ See p. 689, note 4. ² Title repeated until note 3. ³ Untitled.

⁴ A net used particularly to catch rabbits. *N. E. D. s. v. hay.*

⁵ This word is unknown to Dr. Hen. Bradley and the compilers of the *New English Dictionary* in any sense connected with sport.

⁶ leaf 342. ⁷ r. p. 655.

inhabite & to sett vp ther craft or facultie in this Citie, what Craft or facultie so euer they were of, paying to the Maisters of the same Crafte x s. for fyne, that is to say, at the ende of the first yeire after ther setting vp ther seid Crafte vs., and at the ende of the first yeire after that other v s. ; ffor-asmoche as it is now compleyned & enfourmed¹ at this lete that meney of the seid persons, so setting vp ther craftes, do depart the Citie before thende of the seid first yeire, & before eny peny of the seid fyne of tene shelynges be payed in fourme aforesaid: It is therfor enacted at this present lete that every persone that haith bene full prentise within this Citie, & doithe² sett vp his ocupacion or Craft within the same, shall pay frome-hensfurth at ther furst setting vp ther seid Craft to the Maisters of the Craft iij s. iiij d., and at the ende of the first yeire of ther occupying other iij s. iiij d. And that every estraunger that so shall sett vp his Craft within the seid Citie shall pay in like maner x s. to the Maisters of his Craft as befor is seyed.³ And that every persone that so herafter shall sett vp his ocupacion within this Citie shall fynde ij sufficient suerties to be bounde vnto the Maister of the Craft for payment of the seid fyne. And that the same persone so setting vp his Craft shall be obedient vnto all ordinaunces & estatutes of his ocupacion etc.

setting vp
ther occupa-
cions "

to pay their
fines, half on
setting up,
and half at
the end of
the first year,

and to find
security.

JOH. HUMFREY, MAYOR, 1525.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

⁴ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Humfrey,⁵ m., Will. Smyth, Tho. Trussell, b., on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day, 17 Hen. VIII.]

[Magister Jul. Nethermyll, Ric. Hassall,⁶ Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Will. Whit, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Wall, Tho. Astelen, Hen. Perkyns, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawsen, Joh. Hiekes, Joh.

"Civitas
Coutentrie."
Oct. 10.

Jury.

¹ = to lay information or complaint. A curious impersonal use of the verb.

² Characteristic of this scribe.

³ *i.e.* half at setting up, and half at the end of the first year.

⁴ leaf 343, back. ⁵ He served out Heynes' year. See p. 692.

⁶ All save the last three are called "Magister."

Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Wylmer, Tho. Spenser, Will. Rydyng,¹ Tho. Burdon,¹ Humf. Moseley.¹

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Townesend, Skynner, Hugh Lawton, Capper.]

"For the elec-
tion of
Constables."

[Enacted] that every alderman of this Citie yeirelie fromehensfurth *with-in* iij or iiij² dayes² after Michelmas lett shall elect & chose onest & well ruled persones *with-in* his ward to be constables, and every of the seid aldermen to *sertifie* the names of the seid Constables vnto the Shireffes for the tyme beyng in wrytyng, and³ the seid Shireffes to swere the same persones in the office of Constables etc.

"For then-
closing of
Comens."

[Enacted] that all such *comen* groundes as haue bene latelie inclosed about this Citie shall fromehensfurth bee Comen as they haue bene vsed in auncient tyme & no more to be enclosed, accordyng to the ententes & myndes of the xlviij Mene appoynted for the resonynge of the same so that the kynges grace & his Councell be contented to affirme the same.⁴

"For dryng
of malt."

[Enacted that no person dry any malt with straw *with-in* this city, or 20s. fine each time to be levied by the sheriffs to their own use.]

HEN. WALL, MAYOR, 1526.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas
Coventrie,"
May 1.

⁵ [V. f. p. held before Hen. Wall, m., Ric. Townesende, Hugo Lawton, b., on Tuesday SS. Philip and James, 18 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* Tho. Banwell, Ric. Hassall,⁶ Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Warene, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Tho. White, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Herryng, Hen. Perkyngs, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickes, Will. Towres,

¹ Untitled. ²⁻² repeated. ³ deletions follow.

⁴ r. p. 679. The commons had been enclosed for corn sowing in time of dearth. This order was the sequel of a rising which took place on "Ill Lammis Day," when "the Commons of Coventre rose & pulled down the gates and hedges of the grounds inclosed; and they that were in the Cittie shutt the Newgate against the Chamberlains and their Company. The Mayor was almost smothered in the Throng; he held with the Commons, for which he was carried as prisoner to London: he was put out of his office, and Mr. John Humphery served out his year." Harl. MS. 6383.

⁵ leaf 344, back. ⁶ *Magister* prefixed. See p. 693, note 1.

Tho. Gopsill, Tho. Spenser,¹ Rob. Smyth, Ric. Ives, Will. Banwell, Tho. Horman, Will. Rogers, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Gardenour.]

[Enacted] that the Journemen of the Craft of Cappers within this Citie shall fromehensfurth keip ther owres & tymes in beyng at ther worke as is lymyt in an acte maid at a lete holden in the tyme of Maister Joh. Bonde, Meire,² vpon peyn to be abriged ther wages by ther Maisters accordyng to the tyme of ther absence.

“Journemen of Cappers,” to keep their appointed hours.

[Enacted] that all Carvers within this Citie fromehensfurth shal-be associat with the Craft of peyntoures, and that every Carver shall pay yeirelie to the peyntoures towardes the Charges of ther pagiaunt xij d. without contradiction, vpon peyn for every default to forfeit vjs. viij d. to the seid Craft of peyntoures, and that the seid Carvers fromehensfurth shal-be dismyssed & discharged frome the Craft of Carpenters, and that Richard Tenwynter shall pay suche arrerages to the Carpenters as he oweth theme for the xij d. which he shuld haue payed theme yerelie in tymes past.^{3 4}

“Carvers to be associat with peynters.”

RIC. HERRYNG, MAYOR, 1527.

⁵ [Election of officers.]

[Magister Joh. Bonde, Ric. Marler,⁶ Ric. Hassall, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Rog. Wales, Hen. Perkyngs, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hicckes, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Wylmer, Tho. Spenser, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugh Lawton,⁷ Rob. Smyth, Ric. Ives, Tho. Warde, Tho. Burdon.⁷]

“Civitas Coventrie.” Jan. 25.

[m. ⁸ Ric. Heyryng, Mercer; rec. ⁸ Edm. Knyghteley; ⁹ cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Will. Herdie, Barbour, Ric. Sewall, jun., Grasier; w. Tho. Herryng,

Officers.

¹ This name and those that follow are untitled.

² 1520 v. p. 673.

³ “Item” follows. The rest is wanting.

⁴ An imperfect heading of the next Leet is on leaf 345.

⁵ leaf 346.

⁶ Magister prefixed to names preceding note 7.

⁷⁻⁷ Untitled.

⁸ Magistrum prefixed.

⁹ On the Knightleys of Fawsley v. Whitley, *Parl. Representation of Coventry*, p. 36.

draper, Will. Saunders, Capper; mace, Will. Alene; crier, Joh. Weyt.]

EASTER LEET.

"Civitas
Countrie."
May 15.

¹[V. f. p. held before Ric. Herryng, m., Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, b., on Tuesday, May 15, 19 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* Joh. Bondo,² Ric. Marler, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Tho. Gopsill,³ Will. Wycame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Hen. Wethers, Rog. Wales, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelen,⁴ Hen. Peckyns, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickes, Will. Towres, Ric. Rice, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Herdy,⁵ Ric. Sewall,⁶]

"For sellyng
of hides."

[Enacted that no bocher of this Citie shall sell eny beast hides which they kill on the Thuresday or Fryday to eny tanner of the Contrey before the houre of ix of the Cloke on the Saturday, vpon peyn to forfeit for every hide so solde iij s. iiij d. to be levied by the Sheriffes by distres to ther owne vse.

"Journemen
of dyers"

[Enacted] also that the Journemen of diers of this Citie fromhenfurth shall make none assembles at weddynges, brotherhoddos or buryelles ne make eny Cauces amonges theme, but shall vse themeselves as *seruauntes* & as no Craft or feliship, vpon peyn of Imprysonement & to make suche fyne as shal-be assessed vpon theme by *Maister* Meire, & the justices of the peas of this Citie for the tyme beyng.

to be servants
and not a
fellowship.

"Civitas
Countrie."

⁶[V. f. p. held . . .]⁷

THO. DODD. MAYOR, 1528.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas
Countrie."
May 11.

⁸[V. f. p. held before Tho. Dodd, m., Chr. Wade,⁹ Rob. Keryvne, b., on Tuesday May 11, 20 Hen. VIII.]

¹ leaf 346, back.

² *Magister* prefixed to all names until note 5.

³ Deleted, but "stet" interlined.

⁴ A certain Richard Astelyn, haberdasher, was sent up to Queen Mary's Council in Nov. 1553 for seditious behaviour, see *Victoria County Hist. Warw.*, II, 33.

⁵ Untitled.

⁶ leaf 347, back.

⁷ Rest wanting.

⁸ leaf 349.

⁹ A defaced, early Renaissance tomb (c. 1550) now in the Mercers' Chapel of S. Michael's is traditionally known as "Wade's tomb."

[*Magister* Hen. Wall,¹ Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Warene, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Heryng, Will. Dawson, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hen. Perkyns, Joh. Crampe, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Wilmer, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Enderby.]

Jury.

²[Enacted] that for-asmoche as the Tanners of this Citie refuse to by hides of the bochers of this Citie of such reasonable price as the bochers of the Contre wolde, The seid bochers of this Citee frome-hensfurth shall haue ther libertie to sell ther hides to the Tanners of the Contrey, eny acte or actes heretofore to the contrarie maid not-withstanding.

Orders of lect.
"Hides to be sold to the Tanners of the contrey."

[Enacted] that the Carpenters of this Citie shal-be restored to be a Crafte ageyne as-longe as they demeane themeself well in ther seid Craft; and that the Caruers of this Citie frome-hensfurthe that haue not be prenteses nor Maisters of the seid Carpenters Craft shal-be associat with the Craft of Peynters & not with the Carpenters.

"Carpenters, Carvers & peynters."

[Enacted] that every persone havng wydraughtes³ in ther Gardens adioynng to the Whit freers wall shall take downe the seid wydraughtes befor the feist of Seynt John Baptist next comyng, vpon peyne of vj.s. viij.d. for every wydraught standyng ther after the seid feist, to be levied by the Shireffes, to ther owne vse.

"For wydraughtes at the whit irer wall."

⁴[V. f. p. held on Oct. 22, 20 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*⁵ Ric. Heryng, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Warene, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Hen. Wall, Will. Dawson, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelene, Rog. Wales, Joh. Hickes, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, ⁶Tho. Enderby.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 22.

Jury.

[Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton.]

Sheriffs.

[Enacted] that no persone Inhabited within this Citie frome-hensfurth shall by eny Barley comyng towards this

¹ *Magister* prefixed to every name.

² See above, p. 694.

³ = a gutter, sewer, sink. *E. D. D.*

⁴ leaf 349, back.

⁵ Repeated before names until note 6.

⁶ Untitled.

Citie to be solde before it come & be brought into the Citie, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery defaute fyue poundes ; and that no *persone* abouescid shall sell eny malt or other Greyne, but onelie to the *comen* bruers or bakers of this Citie, vpon like peyn to be leviad at euery default by the shereffes at the Meires comaundement to ther owne vse.

"Bruers" to
sell ale at 2s.
a sextary,

and not
above 3d. a
gallon.

[Enacted] that no bruer or other inhabitant of this Citee fromehensfurth shall sell eny ale *within* this Citie by the Cester¹ about ij s. ; and that they sell xiiij galons to the Cester ; and that they that sell ale by the gallon or vnder sell not aboute the rait of ij d. a galone, [or 6s. 8d. fine each time to be leviad by the sheriffs to their own use.]

THO. ASTELENE, MAYOR, 1529.

"Ciuitas
Coventria."

²[Election of new officers ³by the underwritten citizens and burgesses.]

Electors.

Magister Ric. Herryng,⁴ Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Julinus Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Hiekes, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rice, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rob. Kyrvyn, Tho. Enderby,⁵ Ric. Sewall,⁵ Will. Norton.⁵]

Officers.

[m. ⁶Tho. Astelene, Clothier ; rec. Rog. Wigston ; cor. Rob. Grene ; steward, Baldw. Porter ; ch. Ric. Niclyne, Gresier, Joh. Somerfelde, Brewer ; w. Cristofer Wharton, skynner, Rob. Nicolles, Gresier ; mace, Will. Alene ; crier, Joh. West.

[They chose J. Bonde and Will. Wicame to aid and assist the aforesaid mayor in assessing the prices of victuals for this year following.]

Item eligerunt (*sic*) *Magistrum* Joh. Bonde & *Magistrum* Will. Wicame esse auxiliantes & assistentes *prefato* Maiori in assessando *precia* victualium *pro* hoc anno *sequente*.

¹ = sextary.

² leaf 350.

³ "per Ciuēs & Burgenses subscriptos" ; these words follow the usual election formula.

⁴ *Magister* prefixed to these names as far as note 5.

⁵ Untitled.

⁶ *Magistrum* prefixed.

¹ EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[V. f. p. held before Tho. Astelene, m., Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, b., Apr. 8, 20 Hen. VIII.]

“*Ciuitas
Countrie.*”
Apr. 8.

[*Magister*² Ric. Herryng, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Warene, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wieame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Wilmer, Will. Dawson, Tho. Smyth, Rog. Wales, Joh. Hickes, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell.]

[Enacted] that the Crafte of Cappers of this Citie fromehensfurth shal-be⁴ owners of the weyvers pagiaunt *with* all the implementes & apparell belongyng to the same pagiaunt; and that the seid Craft of weyvers shall yeirelie fromehensfurth pay vnto the *Maister* of the seid Crafte of Cappers vjs. viij d., and so the seid Craft of weyvers fromehensfurth to be clerlie discharged of ther seid pagiaunt & of ther name therof.

³ “The Cappers to haue the weyvers pagiaunt.”

[Enacted] that no *persone within* this Citie shall bake or make eny spised Caks *with* butter to be sold *within* this Citie, but onelie suche *persones* as shal-be therunto assigned vnder *Maister* Meires licens for the tyme beyng [or 3s. 4d. fine to be levied by the sheriffs to their own use.]

³ “For bak-
yng of spiced
cakes.”

[Orlained] that *every person* that hereafter shal-be founde or takyn Brekyng of hegges or cuttyng of mennes woodes or trees shal-be brought vnto the next stokkes *within* this Citie & ther to continue by the space of ij dayes *with* bred & water & non other sustinaunce, and if he or they be takyn the seconde tyme *with* like offence, then the same *persone* to be banysshed the Citie for euer.

³ “For brek-
yng of heggis
& cuttyng
of woodes.”

⁵[Enacted] that it shal-be lafull for *every inhabitant* of this Citie to occupie the Craft of dying & setting of wadd fromehensfurth *without* lett or interuption of the *Maister* or *Journemen* of the Craft of dyars & wadsetters

⁶ “For set-
tyng of
wadd.”

¹ leaf 350, back.

² Prefixed throughout the list.

³ In the same scribe's handwriting.

⁴ MS. shabbe. ⁵ leaf 351.

⁶ In the same hand. Set = prepare. Wadd = woad, a dye made from the plant *Isatis tinctoria*. For previous rules concerning dyers see p. 418.

Every inhabitant may be a dyer, so that he does not inveigle away the servants of other men.

And if they cannot get local journeymen to work for them then they may chose others.

"For making disceivable Coloures in Cloith."

The town seal to be removed from cloth dyed with musters.

"Ciuitas Couentrie,"
Oct. 12, 1529.
Jury.

of this Citie, so that they seid *persone* or *persones* so occupying the seid Craft of setting of wadd do not enveigle or entice any *Journeman* or *prentice* beyng reteyned in *service* with any dier within this Citie out of his *Maisters* *service* without thassent of his *Maister*, vpon peyne of x s. to be leuied to thuse of the *Condite* if it be lauffullie proved befor *Maister* Meire & the *Justices* of the peas; and if in case eny such *persone* occupying the seid Craft of setting of wadd cane goit¹ no² *Journemen* within this Citie to work with theme, Thene it shal-be lafull for theme, & every of theme, to provide theme, & every of theme, *seruantes* out of the Citie to worke with theme within the Citie without lett or enterupeion of the seid *Maister* or *Journemen* of diers.

[Enacted] that no *person* or *persones* inhabitant within this Citie shall fromehensfurth die or colour within this Citie eny woll or Cloith with the new or disceivable *Coloures* of *Musters*³ or *Medleys*⁴ latelie invented & begone in this Citie by a *frenche-man*, vpon peyne to forfeit for every Cloithe or porcions of woll so disceavable died or coloured xx s., to be leuied the on half therof to the *shireffes* of this Citie for the tyme beyng and the other half to the *Maister keper* of the *Condite* to be bestowed on the *Condite*. And that the owners of all such Clothes as be now within this Citie & died with the seid disceivable *Coloures* & sealed with the towne seall shall within two dayes nowe next ensuyng take of the seid seall frome the seid Clothes in avoydng the gret selander that myght happen to this Citie by reason of the *premisses*, vpon peynie to forfeit for every Cloith so sealed iij s. iiij d. to be leuyed & bestowed in *fourme* aforesaid.

⁵ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 12, 21 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* Ric. Herryng,⁶ Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Will. Wicame, Hen. Wall, Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Smyth,⁶

¹ Indistinct. ² deletion.

³ *Muster*, short for *musterdevillers*. *N. E. D.* (see above, p. 283), but an example given seems to refer not to the material but to colours. 1549, Act 3 and 4 Edw. VI, c. 2, § 1, *Russetes*, *Musters*, *Marbles*, *Grays* . . . and such lyk colors.

⁴ = of a mixed colour. ⁵ leaf 351, back.

⁶⁻⁶ *Magister* prefixed to these names.

¹ Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hiekes, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell,¹ Rob. Kirvyn,² Ric. Niclyne,² Joh. Somerland,² Joh. Jett.²]

[Rob. Seny, dier, Tho. Gardenour, Baker.]

Item, wheras on Tho. Reives of Berkeswell, wekelie selleth *Cowpers* wares within this Citie beyng vnlawfull stuff & disceavablie maid havyng a shope at the Spicers Stoke,³ wherin all his wares do lie; which Thomas beireth no maner of Charges with the Craft of *Cowpers* of this Citie; Wherfor it is enacted that the seid Reives shall not occupie eny shop within this Citie oneles he agre with the *Cowpers* of this Citie; and it is further provided that the seid *Cowpers* shall not take for eny agrement or fyne of the seid Reives aboue ij s. a yeire etc.

[Enacted] that no *persone* that occupieth the Craft of a Tiler within this Citie shall fromehensfurth occupie or vse the Crafte of a plomner or Soderyng, vpon the peyne to forfeit for euery default iij s. iiij d.

[Enacted] that the Craft of *Cappers* of this Citie shall pay yeirelie fromehensfurth to the Craft of Gurdeler xiiij s. iiij d., and that the Craft of Walkers shal-be fromehensfurth discharged of all paymentes to the Craft & feliship of Girdelers & clerelie dismyssed frome the seid Craft; and that the seid Craft of Walkers shall pay yeirelie a Sevennyght before Corpus Christi day to the Crafte of Weyvers tene shelynges in Consideracion of ther gret Charges etc.

⁴ For-asmoche as the Citizyns & Inhabitauntes of this Citie & also foreners & estraungers beyng pleyntiffes in accions personelles sued within the kynges Court in this Citie be by long tyme tracte⁵ & delayed frome ther dettes & rightes by reason of the long & dilatorie course & custome of the same Court: for remedie & reformacion wherof Itt is enacted, ordeyned & establisshed (etc.) that if the

Sheriffs.

"Reives, Cowper," sells deceitfully made wares;

and pay nothing to the coopers' craft;

he is ordered to pay 2s. a year.

"No Tyler to occupie the Craft of a plummer."

"Cappers" pay to "Girdelers";

and "walkers" leave girdlers,

and pay to "weyvers."

"For sute of accions in the Courte."

Remedy against protracted suits.

¹⁻¹ *Magister* prefixed to these names. ² Untitled.

³ To the south of Butcher Row, to which it runs at right angles.

⁴ leaf 352.

⁵ = drawn out, protracted. On the "tedious forbearance" of mediæval law see Pollock and Maitland, II, 591-2.

defendaunt in eny accion personell sued in this Court do not appere vpon the first distresse serued & returned that thene he shall lesse the issues¹ returned and a Capias² awarded for his body ageynst the next Court; and if the pleyntif in eny suche accion do not sue his distresse³ before the defendannt be foure Court dayes Called in the distresse roll that then the seid pleyntif shal-be non-suyt.

WILL. DAWSON, MAYOR, 1530.


⁴ ¶ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister* Tho. Dodd,⁵ Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Tho. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Ric. Nielyn, Joh. Somerfeld, Tho. Burdon,⁶ Joh. Jett,⁶ Joh. Saunders,⁶ Geo. Philips.⁶]

Officers.

[Will. Dawson,⁷ draper; rec. Rog. Wigston,⁸ cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Hug. Gregory, whit-tawer, Rad. Dale, Gresier; w. Ric. Ley, Mercer, Cuthbert Joynour, draper; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. West.]

DEATH OF THE MAYOR.

 *Mem.* this meire supplied the rome of Meire frome the feist of the Purificion of our ladie in the yeire aforseid vnto the vijth day of Aprile thene next folowyng, by which tyme he gouerned this Citie well & worshipfull and then he departed this worlde.

Apr. 7.

On whose
soul Iesus
have mercy!

On whose soule Jhesu haue mercy.

ROG. WALES, MAYOR, 1530.

⁹ [Election of a new mayor and coroner on Wednesday, April 13, 21 Hen. VIII, before Rog. Wigston, rec., Rob.

Apr. 13.

¹ *i. e.* the profits of the distress seized by the sheriff in order to secure his appearance at court.

² A writ directing the officer to seize the person of the defendant.

³ *i. e.* set the law in motion.

⁴ leaf 352, back. ⁵ *Magister* prefixed to all names until note 6.

⁶ Untitled. ⁷ *Magister* prefixed.

⁸ The Wigstons were a Leicestershire family. Roger represented the city in parliament 1529-36. Whitley, *Representation of Coventry*, 37.

⁹ leaf 353.

Seny and Tho. Gardenour, b., by the citizens and burgesses underwritten.]

[*Magister* Tho. Dodd,¹ Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Joh. Crampe, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrvyn, ²Hug. Gregory, ²Rad. Dale, ²Ric. Ley, ²Joh. Jett.]

[m. Rog. Wales, Irenmonger, "until the next feast of the Conversion of S. Paul"; cor. Tho. Gregory] vsque *proximum* letam hic post festum Pasche *proximo futurum* tenendam, ea intencione quod *predictus* Thomas exhibeat *prefato* nouo Maiori *Juramentum* suum quia Rob. Grene absentus est³ etc.

LEETS.

⁴[V. f. p. held before Rog. Wales, m., Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, b., on Tuesday the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 22 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* Tho. Dodd,⁵ Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hug. Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, ⁶Rad. Dale.]

[Who elected Rob. Grene, gentleman, coroner, and Tho. Banwell and Ric. Herryng to aid and assist the aforesaid mayor in assessing the price of victuals.]

Qui Eligerunt (sic) Rob. Grene, generosum in officium Coronatoris huius Ciuitatis: Et Tho. Banwell & Ric. Herryng esse assistentes & auxiliantes prefato Maiori in assessando precia victualium.

Item, wher-as the Craft of Cappers of this Citie haue vsed to pay yeirelie vnto the Craft of Girdelers vjs. viijd. towards ther pagiaunt: Itt is now enacted that the seid

Electors.

Officers.
A temporary coroner is chosen to serve until the next leet to be held here after Easter for the purpose of tendering the oath to the new mayor because Rob. Grene is absent.³

Sept. 11.

Jury.

"A discharge of vjs. viijd. paid by the Cappers to the Girdelers."

¹ *Magister* prefixed until note 2. ² Untitled.

³ The mayor had to take his oath before the coroner. Green was reinstated in his office at the ensuing leet.

⁴ leaf 353, back.

⁵ *Magister* prefixed to all names until the next note.

⁶ Untitled.

Craft of Cappers fromehensfurth for certeyn consideracions alleged shall not pay the seid vjs. viij d. in fourme aforseid.

"No Tyler to occupie the Craft of a plummer."

Item, it is enacted that no *persone* of this Citie occupieng or vsyng the Misterie & Craft of plummers shall fromehensfurth vse the Craft of a Tyler, ner no Tyler to vse the Craft of a plummer, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery default contrarie to this present acte vjs. viij d. to be leuyed, immediatlie vpon the seid offence commytted, by the Shireffes for the tyme beyng; the on half of the same to ther owne vse, & the other half to the vse of the *Maister* or Maisters of the Craft to whome the seid offence is doon contrarie to this acte.

"For flokk-kyng of Cappes."

¹ *Item*, it is enacted that no *persone* or *persones* of the Crafte of Cappers of this Citie shall dresse eny Cappes with flokkes ² in desseit of the people, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery Capp so disceavable dressed & flokked xij d. to be leuyed by the Shireffes of the Citie for the tyme beyng, the on half to thuse of the seid Shireffes & the other half to thuse of the *Maisterz* of the seid Craft of Cappers.

"Carvers to be associat with peynters."

[Enacted] that such *persones* as fromehensfurth woll onelie vse & occupie the Craft of Carvers shal-be contributoryes ³ to the Craft ³ of peynters & not to the Craft of Carpenters.

"For the Redd-diche."

Item, it is also enacted that the Chamberleyens of this Citie for the tyme beyng fromehensfurth shall ouerse & commaunde euery man havyng eny landes or tenementes, Gardens or vake ⁴ groundes adioynyng on bothe sydes the Red-diche shall Cast, ⁵ clense & make cleyne the seid diche so fare as ther grounde doith extend yeirelie before the feist of Pentecost, vpon peyne of euery default iij s. iiij d. to be leuyed by the Shireffes to ther owne vse; and further it is enacted that ther shal-be an able *persone* assigned by *Maister* Meire & his brethern, which shall quarterlie clense the seid diche in all other places defectyue, & he to haue for his labour yeirelie iiij s. to be paid by the Chamberleyens for the tyme beyng.

It is to be cleansed every quarter.

¹ leaf 354. ² *i. e.* to powder with flock or cloth-shearings.

³⁻³ Repeated. ⁴ = vacant, unoccupied.

⁵ = to dig or clear out.

[Enacted] that no *persone* shall occupie the Craft of a Chaundeler *within* this Citie but such as shal-be¹ admytted by *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng & his brethern; and that no *Craftesman* or housholder of this Citie shall by eny more talow *within* this Citie then shall suffice or *serue* his housholde for his owne expensez, vpon peyn to forfeit vj s. viij d. to be levied by the Shireffes for the tyme beyng to ther owne vse; and also that *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng shall yeirelie elect & chose ij keepers which shall haue auctoritie to entre into *euery* chaundelers house & wey ther Candelles, to thentent the people be not disceaved, and to try whether the Stuff be good & lafull or not.

“Chaundelers.”

³[Ordnained] that *euery* *persone* that occupieth the Craft of Chaundeler *within* this Citie shal-be redie to come to the *kepers* of the seid occupacion at ther warnyng or *commaundement* at an houre appoynted at all *communicacons* & *metynges* of the seid Craft for the *Comen* welth of this Citie, vpon peyne of xij d. for *euery* default to be leuyed to thuse of the seid Crafte.

“Mayor” to appoint two keepers “to weigh their Candles.”²

“Chaundelers” to attend at the summons of the keepers of the craft.

[Ordnained] that no Chaundeler ne *fishemonger*,⁴ ner non other *persone* or *persones* for theme or in ther name, *fromehensfurth* shall Carie eny Candelles to be sold out of this Citie in eny *Markett* or faire, vpon peyne to forfeit for *euery* default xx s., the on half therof to *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng, & the other half to be divided betwene the Shireffes, & the *kepers* of the seid Craft of Chaunders (*sic*) for the yiere beyng, *without* eny further deley.

“Chaundelers” and fishmongers are forbidden to sell candles outside the city.

[Ordnained] that no Chaundeler, ner other *persone* that maketh eny Candell to sell, shall by eny talowe, ner make eny bargeyne *with* eny bocher of this Citie for talowe betwene Guttide⁵ & Midsomer, but onelie of such price as shal-be lymytt by *Maister* Meire & his assistaunce & the *kepers* of the seid Craft of Chaundelers, vpon peyn of xij s. iiij d. to be payed half therof to the shireffes for the tyme beyng & the other half to the *kepers* of the seid

“Chaundelers” between Good-tide and Midsummer

to pay for talow the price fixed by the mayor and keepers;

¹ MS. shabe.

² The gloss as written in the MS. is erroneous. The mayor did not personally weigh the candles. The handwriting is late.

³ leaf 354, back.

⁴ See p. 632.

⁵ Good-tide Monday is the day before Shrove Tuesday.

and between
Lammias and
Michaelmas
the craft
by the advice
of the mayor
and justices
to fix the
price of
candles.

Craft; and that the keepers of the seid Craft of Chaundlers every yeire betwene Lammias & Michelmas shall Call the Craft together, & by the advice of Maister Meire & the Justices of the peace shall sett such price of Talowe as shal be thought thene moost convenient by ther discretions for the eas of the Comenaltie; and that every persone that selleth Candell & will not keip the price of Candell so lymyt & assessed shall forfeit for every default x s., that is to say, vj s. viij d. to the Shireffes & iij s. iiij d. to the keepers of the seid Craft; provided alwey that if ther happen a gret Scarsenes of Talowe then the seid keepers by thadvice of Maister Meire & his assistance after Cristenmas shall sett another price of Candelles, so that the Citie may be served better cheipe¹ then other townes herabout.

"Civitas
Countrie."

² [V. f. p. held on Tuesday, Oct. 11, 22 Hen. VIII.]

Magister³ Tho. Dodd, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Chris. Wadd, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton.]

Sheriff's.

[Joh. Jett, Mercer, Sim. Parker, Grasier.]

"Rob. Per-
kyns" to
continue his
occupation
of dyeing
in spite of
the craft of
dyers.

[Ordned] for dyers Consideracions that Rob. Perkyns shall have fre libertie to worke in his occupacion of dyeing with Tho. Burdon without interuption of any persone of⁴ or persones of the seid Craft of dyers & without danger of any penaltie of⁴ or forfeit by reason of any acte or estatute hertofoer to the contrarie maid.⁵

Resident
craftsmen
only to be
employed

[Enacted] that no Citizene or inhabitaunt of this Citie after the feist of Cristenmas next comyng shall deliuer or cause to be deliuered any Cappes or wollene Cloithe to be Thikked to any walker but onelic suche as that be thene inhabited within this Citie or the Suburbes of the same,⁶

"for thyk-
kyng of
Cappes &
Cloith."

¹ At a more reasonable price, more cheaply.

² leaf 355. Rog. Wigston, rec., is here first mentioned as one of those before whom the lect is held. Cf. p. 700.

³ Magister prefixed before all names. ⁴ Redundant.

⁵ For troubles with the dyers *v. supra*, p. 698 *et passim*.

⁶ For the competition of the country craftsmen see above, p. 661

vpon peyne to forfeit for every such default vj s. viij d. to be leuyed by distresse, to the vse of the Citie & Shireffes for the tyme beyng egallie to be dyuyded.

[Enacted] that no Skynner of this Citie shall fromehensfurth dry eny Skynnes within the Litle Parke oneles he holde of the wardens of the Citie on of ther housez in the seid Litle Parke, [or 6s. 8d. fine each time] to be leuyed to thus¹ abouseid.

Order "for drying skynnes in Litle Parke.

²[Enacted] that no Bocher or other inhabitant of this Citie shall sell eny talow to eny person dwelling out of this Citie, vpon peyne to forfeit for every Stone so solde xx s. to be leuyed to thuse of the Citie; ner that no persone sell eny talowe to eny Cordener,³ vpon like peyn etc.

No butcher to sell "Talow" to non-residents,

Also that no bocher or other persone shall sell eny talowe aboue ij s. iiij d. the Stone, vpon peyn of vj s. viij d. for every Stone sold to the contrarie to be leuyed as is aboueseid. And also that no Chaundler of this Citie sell eny Candelles aboue the price of jd. ob. the li., vpon peyn of iijs. iiij d. for every pound so sold to be leuyed to thuse abouseid. And also that no persone doo enterup or lett eny estraunger to sell Candelles within this Citie vpon peyn of ij s. iiij d. to be levied as is aforseid.

nor above 2s. 4d. a stone;

no chandler to sell "Candelles" above 1½ d. per lb.;

and no one to prevent strangers selling them.

RECORD OF THE SALE OF A HOUSE.

Mem. that the xx^{ti} day of Octobre in the xxij^{ti} yeire of the reign of kyng Henry the eight, before Maister Rog. Wales, Meier (etc.), Maister Will. Wicame, Maister Julyne Nethermyll & other aldermen in the Councell house of the seid Citie, on Philip Partriehe & Anne his wif, daughter & heire vnto on Edw. Colett & Alice his wif, daughter to Ric. Cardemaker, which Philip & Anne the day & yeir aboueseid for a grement & anende (*sic*) with the Craft of Gurdelers of the Citie for a house in the Yorle-streit next vnto the Corner house of the Abbott of Combe haue received & hadd in recompense of ther cleyme & title in the seid house fyve nobles⁴ & fyve shelynges (*sic*) of money. & for the same money the

Oct. 29, 1531. Phil. Partriehe and his wife

renounce their claim to a house in Earl Street,

¹ *i. e.* the use. ² leaf 355, back.

³ Cordwainer, shoemaker. ⁴ A noble = 6s. 8d.

and deliver
their title
deed to the
mayor.

seid Philip & Anne also in the *presens* of the seid *Maisters* deliuered a deedd (*siu*), wherby they cleymed the seid house, to the seid Meir to be cancelled & adnulled. & so it was doon by the seid Meir immediatlie etc.

RIC. RISE, MAYOR, 1531.

Jan. 25.

¹[Election of officers.]

Electors.

[*Magister*² Tho. Astelen, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wycame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Will. Smyth, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kervyn, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, ³Hugo Gregory, Rauf Dale, Tho. Brewer.]

Officers.

[m. Ric. Rise, *Mercer*; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Joh. Talont, Goldsmyth, Rad. Hopkyns, Taillour; w. Hug. Dalawey, *Mercer*, Hug. Blore; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. Weytt.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas
Countrie."

⁴[V. f. p. held before Ric. Rise, m., Rog. Wigston,⁵ rec., Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker b., on Thursday Apr. 20, 22 Hen. VIII.]

⁶"Inqui-
sita" =
the inquest.

[*Magister*⁷ Tho. Astelen, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wycame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Will. Smyth, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Chris. Wadd, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Cotton, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, ⁸Rad. Hopkyns.]

Searchers

[Enacted] that Joh. Grene & Rauf Worseley, weyuers,

¹ leaf 356. The first letter is highly ornamented. After the usual election formula there follows: "*per Cines & Burgenses dicte Civitatis quorum nomina subscripta existunt* = by the citizens and burgesses of this said city whose names are under-written.

² *Maister* precedes all names as far as note 3. ³ Untitled.

⁴ leaf 356, back.

⁵ For the mention of the recorder's name see above, p. 704.

⁶ The marginal glosses appear to be in the same handwriting as the rest of the script.

⁷ Repeated before all names as far as note 8. ⁸ Untitled.

shal-be for this yeire serchers to se the acte maid at the last lete¹ concerning Cloithe & Cappes to be thிக்கed by walkers dwelling within the Citie to be put in due execucion accordyng to the tenour of the same acte.

appointed for preventing the employment of non-resident fullers.

Item, wher-as great default is thought in the *seriauntes* in warnynge the watche for that they warne nyghtlie meny, & verey fewe do watche, so that therby it is supposed that the seid *seriauntes* shuld [have] great geyn & advauntage, It is therefore enacted that the *seriauntes* fromehensforth shall not warne nyghtlie aboue the number of xxiiij *persones* to keip the watche, vpon peyne if they be *proved* to do the *contrarie* to leesse ther offices, or otherwise to be punysshed by the discrecion of *Maister Meire* for the tyme beyng.

² "The watche."

[Enacted] that no Clothier, Capper, nor no other *inhabitaunte* of this Citie shall fromehensfurthe deliuer to eny *spynner* or other workefolke aboue ij li. & a half of woll for a weight;³ And to pay redie money for the workemanship therof, & no wares, vitayll, nor other stuff,⁴ vpon peyn to forfeit for *euey* default vj s. viij d. to be levied by distresse or by the *Meires commaundement* to the vse of the Citie. And that all *spynners* & *knytters* do ther worke truelie & substanciallie, vpone peyn of imprisonment.

24 persons to be warned by the sergeants every night to keep watch.

² "No weyght of worke to be aboue ij li. & di."

No truck wages to be given to spinners.

[V. f. p. held before Ric. Rice, m., Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker, b., on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 23 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[*Magister*⁵ Tho. Astelen, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wycame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Will. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Chris.⁶ Wadde, Rob. Kyrven, Will. Coten, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, ⁷Rad. Hopkyns, Rad. Dale, Tho. Brewer.

Jury.

[Will. Marler, Mercer, Tho. Burdon.]

Sheriffs.

⁸ *Item*, wher-as the Company, feliship, & Craft of Cardmakers & Sadelers of this Citie meny yeires & of longe continuaunce haue hadd & yet haue the cheif rule,

² "Cardmakers, sadelers & Cappers to be vnyte together."

¹ See p. 704.

² Contemporary hand.

³ v. *supra*, p. 243 *et passim*.

⁴ See above, p. 689.

⁵ Repeated before names until note 7.

⁶ Xpoferus in MS.

⁷ Untitled.

⁸ Craig, *op. cit.* 79-80, Sharp, *Mysteries*, 43-5.

The card-makers and saddlers, who have hitherto maintained a chapel, pageant and pageant-house,

and they are unable to bear so great a charge:

it is therefore ordained that the cappers, a wealthy craft,

shall be associated with them,

gouvernaunce, reparyng & meynテナunce as-well of a Chappell within the parishe Church of seynt Michelles in the seid Citie, named seynt Thomas Chappell,¹ & of the ornamentes, Juelles & lightes of the same, As also of a pagiaunt with the pagiaunt-house & pleyng geire with other appartenaunces & apparells belonging to the same pagiaunt. The Meyntenaunce & reparacion wherof haithe been & is yeirelie to the greit charge, cost, & expenses of the seid company & crafte, beyng now but a fewe persones in number & havng but smale eyde of eny other Craft for the same. So that ther said Charge is & like to be more ponderouse & chargeable to theme then they may convenyentlie bere or susteyn in shorte tyme to come, oncles provision for a remedy may be spedilie hadd. In consideracion wherof & for-asmoch as the company, feliship, & Craft of Cappers within this Citie, now beyng in number meny welthy and honest persones, & have maid dyuers tymes sute & request unto the Meire & his brethern, the aldermen of this Citie, to have a certeyn place to theme assigned & lymtyed, as dyuers other Craftes have, to sitt together in ther seid parishe Church to here ther dyvyn service & bere suche charges for the same as by Maister Meire & his brethern, the Aldermen, shal-be assigned: It is therfor by the Mediacion of Maister Richard Rice now Meire of this Citie & of his seid brethern, the aldermen, at this present lete assembled & by auctoritie of the same with the agreement, consent, & assent of all the seid parties, Companies, & Craftes, enacted, ordeyned, & constituted that the seid company & Craft of Cappers frome-hensforthe shalbe associat, Joyned, & accompanied with the seid Craftes of Cardemakers & Sadelers in the gouvernaunce, reparyng, & meyn-teynng, as well of & in the seid Chappell, named Seynt Thomas Chappell, & of the ornamentes & lightes of the same, As of & in the seid pagyaunt² ³ And pagiaunt house with the Implementes, appartenaunces, pleacers, reherces,

¹ The chapel proper is in the south aisle. Over the south porch is a parvise. It is still called the Cappers' chapel, and the company still meet and eat there on the feast of S. Thomas of Canterbury.

² There follows "*verte folium*" = turn the leaf.

³ leaf 357, back.

& pleyng geire accustomed, belongyng & necessarie to & for the same, after suche maner or better as it haithe been used & accustomed before tyme. And that every housholder or Shop-keeper of every of the seid companyes and Craftes toward & for the charges and exspenses aboue-seid shall not onelie pay yeirelie to the Maisters & keepers of the seid Craftes at such tyme & day as the seid Craftes shall appoynt xij d.; And upon Seynt Thomas day, named the Translacion of Seynt Thomas,¹ shall also offere yeirelie every of theme j d. at the high Masse seid in the seid Chappell; But also the seid Maisters, company, & Craftes fromehensfurthe shall applie & bestowe to & vpon the seid reparacions & charges all the revenues, rentes, & profittes of all soche landes, houses, and tenementes as they or eny of theme now haue or hereafter shall haue to the vse & behove of the seid companyes & craftes; And the viijs. of yerelie pencion which is yeirelie payed by the peynters & Caruers unto the seid charges shall yeirelie be payed & go to the same charges. And that the seid Maisters now electe & hereafter to be electe Maisters of the seid Craftes shall yeirelie, upon suche a day as the seid Maisters shall appoynt & agre, accompeny themselves to-gether & bryng in & make a true & a full accompt every of theme to the other of all ther seid receites, revenues, and profittes. And the seid charges & the charges of the keypyng of harnes belongyng to the seid Craftes with the weiryng of the same in the watches & other necessarie charges & busynes for the seid Craftes allowed, payed, & performed, the ouerpluse of the seid money of the seid revenues, profittes, & money shal-be bestowed & put in a box with two lockes & two keyes, the on key to remeyne with the Maister³ of the Craft of Cardmakers and Sadelers, And the other key to remeyn with the Maisters of the Craft of Cappers, sauelie to keip the seid money in the seid box untill they have nede to bestow it upon the seid Charges or otherwise, as they shall thynk conveyent; & the seid box to remeyn in the said Chappell fastoned with a cheyne.

Also it is enacted by the auctoritie and consent aforesaid

¹ Dec. 29.

and that each member of the united fellowship

shall pay 12d. a year towards exspenses,

and 1d. at the offertory on S. Thomas's day,

the painters and carvers contributing 8s. a year between them.

Accounts are to be rendered annually,

and surplus funds to be kept in a box

in the chapel.

All these
crafts are to
sit lovingly
and familiarly
together
during
service time,

and walk
two and two
in proces-
sions,
taking turns
in matters of
precedence
year by year.

that the Maisters & compeny of the Craft of Cappers shall fromehensfurthe femylialie and louynglie accompeny & sitt together in the seid Chappell with the seid compeny and craft of Cardmakers & Sadelers to here ther divyne service, & also shall go together in ther processions & watches¹ too & too together. And that the seid compeny & craft of cardmakers & Sadelers shall haue the preemynence & ouerhande in ther sittynge & goyng together oon yeire, & the seid Craft & compeny of Cappers shall lykewyse haue the preemynence & ouerhande in ther sitting & goyng the other yeire, and so to continew frome yeire to yeire louynglie fromehensfurthe; so that the seid Cardmakers & sadelers shall not lack ther rome nor sitting in the seid Chappell.

"The bar-
bars to pay
yeirelie vjs.
viij d. to the
Girdelers."

³Item, it is enacted also that the Company & Craft of Barbars of this Citie shall yeirelie fromehensfurthe pay unto the Company & Craft of Gurdelers of this citie vj s. viij d. toward ther charges of the payant & processions at suche day & tyme as they were wont to pay the seid some vnto the Craft of Cardmakers, vpon peyn euery of theme to forfeit for ther default xij d. to be levyed by distresse to the vse of the Citie.

"The walk-
ers to pay
yeirelie vjs.
viij d. to the
weyvers &
the skynners
to pay v s."

Item, it is also enacted that the compeny & Craft of walkers of this citie shall yeirelie pay unto the company & Craft of weyvers vjs. viij d. towards the charges of ther payant at such day & tyme as it hathe be wont to be payed. And that the Company & Craft of Skynners shall likewise pay unto the seid Craft of weyvers yeirelie v s. towards ther seid Charges.

"Bruers &
alewyves."

[Enacted] that all bruers that brue to sell shall sell ther ale after the rait of xvij d. the Cester, and threttene galons to the Cester:⁴ And that euery ale-wiff & tipler sell & send furthe of ther house ther ale to theme that require it after the rait of a half-peny a quarte, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery default iij s. iiij d. And that no bruer that this yeire doith ley downe or leive ther bruing shall [not] brue hereafter eny more, vpon peyn to forfeit xx s.

¹ On the riding of the watch on Midsummer Eve and S. Peter's night see above, p. 35; Sharp, *Mysteries*, pp. 174-206.

² Contemporary hand. ³ leaf 358.

⁴ This measure evidently varies, see above, p. 678.

WILL. SMYTH, MAYOR, 1532.

¹[Election of officers.]

[*Magister*² Rog. Wales, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Tho. Smyth, Hugo Lawton, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrryn, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardenour, Sim. Parker,³Joh. Talont, Rad. Hopkyns.]

Electors.

[m. Will. Smyth,⁴ draper; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Laur. Fane, fyshmonger, Tho. Keveit, sherman; w. Tho. Smyth, Jun., draper, Tho. Riley, draper; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. Weyt.]

Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

⁵[V. f. p. held before Will. Smyth, m., Will. *Marler*, Tho. Burdon, b., on May 14, 24 Hen. VIII.]

May 14.

[*Magister*⁶ Rog. Wales, Will. Wicam, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Hugo Lawton, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Crampe, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Chris. Wadd, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour,⁷Laur. ffane, Tho. Keveit, Will. Alyson, Joh. Foxall, Tho. Herryng.]

"*Inquisitio*"
= the in-
quest.

[Enacted] that all Bakers inhabited within this Citie fromehensfurth shall make all ther brede of good & true stuff of what Greyn so euer it be, & that the keip the assise of the same truelie as it shal-be lymyt & assigned vnto theme by *Maister* Meire of the Citie: And that the seid Bakers ne eny of them sell eny of ther brede, nether horsebred ne other bred, aboute the rait of xiiij penyworthe to the dosen. And also that they ne eny of theme sell eny horsebred to Innes or otherwise aboute the Rait of iij horseloues for a peny, vpon peyn to forfeit for eury

Orders of
leet.

⁸ "Bakers
to kepe the
Assize."⁸

Horse bread
to be sold at
3 loaves a
penny.

¹ leaf 358, back. ² Title prefixed to all names until note 3.

³ Untitled. ⁴ *Magister* prefixed. ⁵ leaf 359.

⁶ Prefixed to all names as far as note 7. ⁷ Untitled.

⁸ In different handwritings. Marginal annotations are henceforth usually in the same handwriting as the text is.

offence contrarie to this acte vjs. viijd. to be levied by distresse of ther goodes, the on half therof to goo to the vse of the seid Meier, & the other half to the vse of the Shireffes for the tyme beyng etc.

"Constables"
are not to be
summoned
"for wache,"

[Enacted] at the request & petition of the Constables of this Citie that all Constables *within* the Citie & suburbes of the same shal-be discharged fromehensforth of the *Comen* wache in this Citie & also of all paymentes & charges of the same, so that the seid Constables & *euery* of theme in his ward endeyver theme-selves diligentie to avoyed out of the Citie all such vacabundes & myghtye beggers¹ as hereafter shall resort & come into the Citie.

But they
must expel
vagabonds.

"Tanned
lether."

[Enacted] that thre men of this Citie shal-be yeirelie fromehensforth Chosen & sworne at Eister lete by *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng to be serchers of Tanned lether; which serchers shall haue auctoritie to allowe & disable Tanned lether, & to sett a seall appoynted for the same to *euery* well tanned hide for the *prove* of the allowaunce of the same hide. And the seid serchers to haue for ther labour ij d. of *euery* hide not well tanned, the same ij d. to be leyed by distres of the hides or other goodes of the offendoures etc.

"Searchers'
lee 2d."

"Lether not
to be sold till
serched &
sealed." 3

²[Enacted] that no Tanner *within* this Citie carie eny lether tanned *within* the Citie out of the Citie to sell untill it be serched, allowed & sealed by the serchers appoynted for the same. vpon peyn to forfeit for euery hide solde & caried to sell contrarie to this acte vjs. viij d. to be levied in forme aforesaid to thuse of the Meire & Shireffes for the tyme beyng.

Pavements
between
Grey-friar
and Chyelles-
more Gates
to be re-
paired.

[Enacted] that *euery* person havyng grounde, land or tenementes betwene seynt Fraunces yait⁴ & Chellesmore yait shall amend & make ther paymentes ther befor ther growndes befor the feyst of seynt John Baptist next comyng, vpon peyn of xs.

"Peynters,
Gurdelers,
Card-
makers."

[Enacted] that the Craft of Peynters shall pay yeirelie fromehen[s]furth iiij s. of the viij s. that they wer wont to pay to a pagiaunt vnto the Craft of Gurdelers, &

¹ See above, p. 652. ² leaf 359, back.

³⁻³ Different handwritings. ⁴ Gray-friar Gate.

the other iijs. of the seid vijs. vnto the Craft of Cardemakers.

Wher-as dyuers & meny within this Citie as well vynteners, ale wyves & Tiples, as dyuers other inhabitants of the same do vse & occupie measures & weightes vnlawfull & not sealled ne allowed by *Maister* Meire nor his officers to the great disceit & hurt of the Comen people of this Citie, And for reformation therof It is enacted at this lete that no *persone* within this Citie sell eny wyne, ale or other stuff, ne vse eny weightes after the feist of seynt John Baptist next comyng by eny *maner* measures or weightes oneles they be sealled or allowed by *Maister* Meire. or by his officers, vpon peyn to forfeit the seid Measures or weightes not sealed nor allowed, as is afosed, And that it shal-be lafull to the swardeberer or the Meires *seriaunt* to seas & take the same, wheresouer they fynde them to ther owne vse etc.

"Weightes & Measures"

unlawful and unsealed

to be seized by the officers.

¹[V. f. p. held on Tuesday, Oct. 15, 24 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*² Rog. Wales, Will. Wycam, Jul. Nethermyll, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rice, Hugo Lawton, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrryn, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, ⁴Laur. Fane, Will. Norton, Tho. Herryng, Crist. Wharton, Will. Alyson, Rob. Smyth.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie."³
Oct. 15.

[Joh. Saunders, Marcer, Will. Rogers, Gresier.⁵]

[Enacted] that the bakers of this Citie shall sell ther bred, as well mannes-bred as horse-bred, after the rait of xiiij to the dosyn as they haue be wont to doo notwithstanding the acte maid the last lete to the contrarie,⁶ so that the seid bakers keip the true assise to theme gyven by *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng: And that the brewers of the Citie shall sell ther ale frome-hensfurth after the rait of xvij d. the Cester & xiiij to the dosyne, vpon the peyn for euery Cester sold to the contrarie to

Sheriffs.

"Bakers" to sell 14 pennyworth to the dozen;

"& brewers" to sell ale at 18/ a sextary.

¹ leaf 360. ² Names preceded by *Magister* until note 3.

³ See note 3, p. 712. ⁴ Untitled.

⁵ The usual formula followed by "& jur[at]i sunt]" = and they were sworn.

⁶ See above, p. 711.

forfeit vj s. viij d. to be levyed by the Shereffes by distresse to ther owne vse.

[Enacted] that no *persone* of this Citie shall sell eny "Candell." Candell above the rait of jd. ob. the li., vpon peyn to forfeit for euery pounde jd. to be levied as is aforesaid.

HUGO LAWTON, MAYOR, 1533.

"Civitas
Conuentus."
Jan. 25, 1533.

¶ [Election of new officers.]

[*Magister*² Rog. Wales, Will. Wycam, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Tho. Smyth, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Cris. Wadd, Rob. Kyrvyn, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, Joh. Jett, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon.]

Officers.

[m. Hugo Lawton,³ *Capper*; rec. Rog. Wigston, "Armiger"; cor. Joh. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch.⁴ Joh. Moseley, *Mareer*, Will. Joynour, sen., *Grasier*; w. Cris. Waren, *Draper*, Hen. Over, *Mercer*; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. Weit.]

BUSINESS AND LEETS.

[They elected Masters Will. Wicam and Tho. Dodd, aldermen, to assist and help the aforesaid H. Lawton, newly elected mayor, in assessing the prices of victuals to be sold in the aforesaid city for the year following.]

Item, eligerunt (*sic*) *Magistrum* Will. Wicam, *draper*, & *Magistrum* Tho. Dodd, *Mercer*, ac *Aldermannos Ciuitatis predicte*, ad *assistandum* & *auxiliandum predictum* (*sic*) *Hugonem* Lawton, m. nunc de nouo electum in assessando *precia victualium* in *Ciuitate predicta vendendorum pro hoc anno sequente etc.*

¶ *Mem.* that it is enacted by the assemble & eleccion aforesaid that *Maister* Tho. Banwell, *draper*, shall haue *libertie* to occupie the Craft of wadd-setting⁵ with such *seruautes* as he cane geit to exercise the seid occupacion, so that the seid Tho. Banwell do no acte ne thynge to enveagle or take away the *seruautes* or Journemen of

"Maister
Banwell"
may occupy
the craft of
wad-setting

so long as he
does not en-
veagle away
other men's
servants.

¹ leaf 360, back.

² Repeated before every name.

³ *Magister* precedes this name.

⁴ MS. mistakenly calls these wardens. ⁵ See above, p. 704.

the diers or wad-setters of this Citie, oneles the seid *seruauntes* or Journemen gyve lafull warnyng to deepparte frome their seid *seruices* accordyng to the order & custome of this Citie etc.

¹[V. f. p. held before Hugo Lawton, m., Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, b., on May 6, 25 Hen. VIII.]

² *Essonia* ¶.

¶ [Magister³ Rog. Wales, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Asteleyn, Will. Smyth, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardinour, Sym. Parker, Will. Marler, ⁴Joh. Moseley, Will. Joynous, Will. Alyson, Will. Saunders, Tho. Napton, Hen. Hynde.]

[Enacted] that all *inhabitauntes* of this Citie frome-hensfurth shal-be at libertie to bie & sell as moch barley & malt as they woll or cane *within* the Citie so that the Citie may be sufficientlie *serued*, And that they do not forstall nor regrate the *Market within* this Citie in that behalf, eny act of leet maid hertofore to the contrarie notwithstanding.

¶ [Enacted] at this *present* leete that all the bochers & vitailloures *within* this Citie shall kill & sell wekelie *within* the Citie asmoche beiff as they woll; And that they shall make no dyvision of ther beiff so killed aboute the number of too of the seid bochers to a beiff; And that if eny of the seid bochers & vittailloures sell, or kill to sell, eny Mottons, veilles or porkes, & hane no beif to sell in manour & fourme aforseid That then the seid Motton, veill & porke & euery of theme shal-be forfeited & taken frome theme by the shireffes of this Citie for the tyme beyng; and to be ordered & dyvided by the discrecion of *Maister Meire* for the tyme beyng; And that this *present* acte shal-begyne & take effecte vpon Thurresday next before the Assencion day next ensuyng.

"Civitas
Couentrie."
May 6.

Essoins.

The sale of
"barley &
malt"⁵ to be
unrestricted.

The ⁵"bochers"
are
⁶"not to
Combine or
stint them-
selues to what
number of
beasts they
will kill,"⁶

under pain of
forfeiture.

¹ leaf 361.

² From *essoniare* = to essoin, tender an excuse for non-appearance. The fact that no names follow shows that no one essoined himself, and that all were present.

³ Prefixed up to note 4 to the names of the jury. ⁴ Untitled.

⁵ The scribe's contemporary gloss. ⁶⁻⁶ Later hand.

¹ "Craftes"
² "All men to Associate to some one Craft, as the mayor shall Apoynt."²

The ¹ "brewers" to sell ale 14 gallons to a sextary.

¶ [Enacted] that such *persones* as be not associat & assistant to eny Craft which is charged with eny pagiant of this Citie, as fishemongers, bowyers, flechers & suche other, shall now be associat & assistaunt to such *craftes* as *Maister Meire* shall assigne & apoynt theme.

³ [Enacted] that *every* brewer that brewes to sell within this Citie shall sell xiiij galonse ale to the Cester,⁴ And not above the price of xvij*d.* the Cester, vpon peyne to forfeit for *every* default v*s.* viij*d.* to be levied by distrese by the Shireffes to ther owne vse: And that all Tiplers of ale shall sell ther ale as well by farthyng-worthers as otherwise, and not abone the rait of ij*d.* the galon, vpon like peyn for *every* default.

ANNE BOLEYN'S LETTER.

The Copie of a *lettre* deliuered to the Meire frome the quene.

To *our* trusti & wel-beloned the meire & his Bretherne of Couentre.

By the quene.

Trustie & wel-beloned, we great yow well; And wheras it haith pleased the goodnes of almyghtie God of his infinite *mercie* & grace to send vnto vs at this tyme good spede in the deliuerance & bryngyng furth of a princes to the great Joy, reioyce & singuler comfort of my good lord, vs, & of all his good & lovyng subgiettes of this his realme; for the which his inestimable benevolence so s[h]ewed vnto vs, we haue no litle cause to gyve high thankes, laude & preysyng vnto *our* seid maker, like as we doo most lowly, humbly, & with all the inwarde desire of *our* hert. And in-asmoch as we vndoubtidelie trust that this *our*⁵ good spede is to *your* great pleasure, comforte & consolacion we therfore by these *our* *lettres* aduertise yow therof, desyryng & hertelie prayng yow to gyve with vs vnto almyghtie God high thankes, glorie, laude & preysyng, And to prey for the good helth, prosperitie & continuell *preservacion* of the seid princes accordynglie.

Sept. 7, 1533.
² "Prince borne."²
 The queen announces

her safe and happy delivery of a princess (afterwards Queen Elizabeth).

and asks for their prayers to God for the infant's preservation.

¹ The scribe's contemporary gloss. ²⁻² Later hand.

² leaf 361, back. ⁴ See above, p. 713.

⁵ deletions.

Yeven vnder our signet at my lordes Mamour of Grenewich the vij day of September in the xxvth yeire of my seid lordes Reigne.¹

From Greenwich.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

² ¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 7, 25 Hen. VIII.]

“Civitas Couentrie.”
Oct. 7, 1533.

Essexia. ¶.

Jury of 25.

[*Magister*³ Rog. Wales, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Asteleyn, Will. Smyth, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Crampe, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Rob. Kirvyn, Jas. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardinour, Joh. Jett, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, ⁴Joh. Mosely, Will. Joynouer.]

¶ [“*Magister*” Tho. Brewer, *Mercer*, “*Magister*” Geo. Philips, Cowper.⁵]

Sheriffs.

¶ [Enacted] for dyuers consideracions that all the bakers of Warwick & of the contrey, which bryng bred wekelie into this Citie to be sold on Wedensday & Fryday at the gaoll hall dore, shall from-hensfurth leave all such bredd as they cannot sell the seid dayes at iij Tiplers howsez at the seid gaole-hall dore or at on of theme: That is to say at Alexanders house, Ric. Cookes house, and at Alice Tiplers house, ther to be sold to the comen people of the Citie when they come for it, And not to be sold in eny other place of the Citie, vpone peyn of enery of the seid bakers to forfeit all such bredd as they offer to be sold in eny other place.

Orders of Leet.
Country
⁶ “bakers”

to leave their unsold bread at certain houses to be

sold to the common people.

ROG. PALMER, MAYOR, 1534.

⁷ ¶ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister*⁸ Will. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Asteleyn, Rog. Wales, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho.

“Civitas Couentrie.”
Jan. 25.
25 electors.

¹ The original of this letter is preserved in the *Letter Book*, Corp. MS. A 79.

² leaf 362. ³ Title prefixed to names until note 4.

⁴ Untitled. ⁵ “& Jur[ati sunt]” = and they were sworn.

⁶ The scribe’s contemporary gloss. ⁷ leaf 362, back.

⁸ Title repeated until note 1 next page.

Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, ¹Joh. Moseley, Will. Jeynour, Cris. Waren.]

Officers.

¶ [m. Rog. Padmer, *Mercer*; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Will. Stirropp, Joh. Norres; w. Ric. Humfrey, *Mercer*, Jas. Rogers, vintner; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. Weit.²

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Cuitos
C'entria."

[V. f. p. held before Rog. Palmer, m., Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, b., on Apr. 21, 25 Hen. VIII.]

³ *Essonia*. ¶.

Jury.

¶ *Magister*⁴ Will. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugh Lawton, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Cris. Waid, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, ⁵Will. Stirropp, Joh. Norres, Hugo Dalaway, Hugo Bloure.]

Orders of
Leet.

"Bochers"
are forbidden
to sell hides
to foreigners
before 11
o'clock on
Fridays.

¶ [Enacted] that non of the Craft of Bochers *within* this Citie shall fromehensfurth sell eny of ther beastes hides to eny forener or foren Tanner vpon the Fryday *within* this Citie before the owre of xj of the Clocke before non, vpon peyn to forfeit for *euery* of the seid hides sold contrarie to the tenour of this acte iij s. iiij d. to be levied by the Shireffes by distrese to thuse of the seid Shireffes.

The sheriffs

¶ Also wher-as the Shireffes of this Citie haue been accustomed to geve to *euery seriaunt* of this Citie dyuers lyverys in the yeire, In consideracion of the ease of ther great charges It is now enacted that the seid Shireffes fromehensfurth shal-be charged to geve vnto *euery* of the seid *seriauntes* but onelie oon honest liuery of iiij yardes of brode cloith ageynst Cristenmas, and at Corpus *Christi*-tide suche sleves [and] Jackettes as they haue been wont to gyve vnto the seid *seriauntes* And no moo liuereys in the yeire. And at Whitsontide next the seid Shireffes shall

are to give
the "*ser-*
iauntes"
but one livery
suit a year
instead of
two.

¹ Untitled.

³ leaf 363.

⁵ Untitled.

² "Et Jur[ati] sunt" = and they were sworn.

⁴ Title repeated as far as note 5.

⁶ The scribe's own gloss.

pay vnto *euery* of the seid *seriauntes* iij s. iiij d. in recompense of the lack of *parte* of ther seid *lyuereyes* to theme *yevon* at *Cristenmas* last past.

¶ [Enacted] that all & *euery persone & persones*, that haue eny housez or land adioynng to the River of *Shirburne* within this *Citie*, shall befor *Midsomer* next comyng cleuse, make cleue & scoure to the botome the seid River as fare as his or ther house or landes goith, vpon peyne to forfeit xx s. for *euery* defaute to be leviel by the *Shireffes* of the *Citie* by distrese of the goodes of the owner of the seid landes, or of the goodes of the tenauntes of the seid landes, to the vse of the *Meire*, *beilleffes* & *Cominaltie* of the seid *Citie*.

¶ Wher-as by auncient custome tyme owt of mynde the *comen* groundes aboute this *Citie* & within the *liberties* of the same, which owe to be opone & in *comen* at *Lammas*, & *parte* of theme at *Michelmas*, meny of theme haue been now of *lait yeires* by tolleracion & sufferauce pat into *ardolf*³ & broken vp to soo corne vpon, and so *gentillie* & *favourable* suffered for a tyme because of the great *darthe* & *scarsenes* of corne, which in fewe & *lait yeires* haith fallen in all *parties* of this *Realme*: And albeit so that now, *thankes* be to *almyghtie* God, *Corne* is *comon* to good *plentie* & to *easie* & *reasonable* price, Yet that notwithstanding *dyuers persones*, regarding more ther owne *private* *profites* then the seid auncient custome & the *comen* *welth* & *profite* of the *Citie*, or the good & *favourable* sufferauce of the *gouernours* & *hedes* of the same, haue broken vpp, *aerede*⁴ & soen moo of the seid groundes now *latelie* then euer were before, to the great *hurte*, *preiudice* & *nocument*⁵ of all other the *Citizens*, *dwellers*, & *inhabitauntes* of the same, Not onelic in puttyng theme from ther *recreacions* & *walkes*, in *Shotyng* & other *laudable* & *honest* *pastymes*, but also in *takyng* away the *depasturyng* of the *mylche* *kie*, *Catell*, & *hakney* *horsez*, which of *necessitie* the *comeners* & *inhabitauntes* of the

Every one having house or land adjoining the "Shirburne" 2 to cleuse the river as far as their property extends or 20s. fine.

Order 2 "for 4 Comen grounde plowed." 2

More of the common land is under tillage in

time of plenty than was permitted in time of dearth, to the hurt of the citizens

in their deprivation of honest pleasures and

¹ leaf 363, back.

² The scribe's own gloss.

³ In this form the word is neither in *N.E.D.* nor *E.D.D.* Dr. Hen. Bradley suggests the derivation from *seo erede healf* = the ploughed portion. The word evidently signifies tillage.

⁴ Ear = to plough.

⁵ injury.

means of
livelihood.

Citie must & ought to haue, and *without* the which thei cannot well liue & meyntheyn ther occupacions & menyall *seruautes*, In Consideracion of the *premisses* and that the seid *persones*, which haue broken vpp & sowed the seid groundes, haue agreed & contented themselves before *Maister Meire* & the Councell of the Citie no-more hereafter to breke vpp or heier¹ eny of the seid groundes, havyng libertie at this tyme to carie away ther corne now sowed, It is enacted at this *presente* lete that no *persones* or *persones* hereafter of what estait or degre so-euer he or thei be, shall breike vpp, aier,¹ or sowe eny of the seid *comen* groundes accustomed to lie open at Lammas & Michelmas, vpon peyn to forfeit to the Citie for every acre so broken vp & put in tillage xl s. except the especial license opteyned & hadd of the Meire for the tyme beyng and his brethern & the *comen* Councell of the Citie. And that it shal-be leful to all theme that haue now sowed corne vpon the seid groundes to cary the same away when it is ripe, be it before Lammas or after, *without* lett or *interruption* of eny *persones* or *persones* etc.

Hencefor-
ward "note"
are per-
mitted
"to plow"

without
Licence off
the mayor
and his
brethren and
the Comon
Councell."

"Civitas
Cownterie,"
Oct. 8.

Jury of 26.

[² V. f. p. held on Oct. 8, 26 Hen. VIII.]
Essonia.

[*Magister*³ Will. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Crampe, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers,⁴ Joh. Norres, Ric. Humfrey, Cris. Waren, Tho. Smyth, Will. Norton, Tho. Keveit, Hug. Dalaway.

Sheriffs.

¶ [⁵ Joh. Seill, draper, Hugo Gregorie, whittawer.]

"*Ser-
iautes*" are
to have their
usual liveries.

¶ [Enacted] that all & every *seriaunt* & officer of this Citie shall fromehensfurth haue & enyoye all such *liuereyes* & fees yeirelie as thei in tymes past haue hadd & been accustomed to haue, notwithstanding an acte maide at the last leet to the contrarie.⁷

¶ [Enacted] that no *persones* of this Citie shall fromehensfurth cast eny dunge or muck into the River of

¹ Ear = to plough.

² leaf 364.

³ The title precedes all names as far as note 4. ⁴ Untitled.

⁵ *Magistros* prefixed.

⁶ The scribe's own gloss.

⁷ See above, p. 718.

Sherburne, Ner swepe the streit to convey the dunge or Mucke therof into the seid River, vpone peyne of every housholder that so offendeth by hymself, his wyff, his *seruaunt*, or otherwise, for every defaute xij d. to be levied by the Shireffes of the Citie by distrese to ther owne vse of the goodes of the housholder etc.

The river
1 "Sherburne"
again!

ROB. KYRVYN, MAYOR, 1535.

[² Election of officers.]

[*Magister*³ Hugo Lawton, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Will. Smyth, Cris. Waid, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, ⁴Will. Stirropp, Joh. Norres.]

"Cinitas
Coentrie."
Jan. 25.
25 electors.

¶ [m. ⁵Rob. Kirvyn, fishemonger; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Edm. Dampport, Will. Randle; w. Tho. Cotes, dier, Joh. Lawton, Capper; mace, Hen. Thirkell; crier, Joh. Weit.⁶]

New officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

⁷ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Rob. Kirvyne, m., Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie, b., on Apr. 20, 26 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*⁸ Hugo Lawton, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Walles, Rog. Palmer, Cris. Waid, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Cramp, Ric. Townesend, Jas. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker, Tho. Burdon, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, ⁹Edm. Dampport, Will. Randle.]

[Enacted] that the actes & ordinaunces maid at a lete in the tyme of *Maister* Burwey,¹⁰ Meire of this Citie, for the true makyng of Cloith & seallyng of the same shal-be

"Cinitas
Coentrie."
Apr. 20, 1535.

Searchers
to be chosen
to seal
"Cloith."¹

¹ The scribe's own gloss. ² leaf 364, back.

³ The title precedes the names up to note 4.

⁴ Untitled. ⁵ Magister prefixed.

⁶ "Et jurfati sunt" = and they were sworn. ⁷ leaf 365.

⁸ Repeated before every name until note 9.

Untitled. ¹⁰ See above, p. 656.

frome-hensfurth performed & kept, vpon the penalties & peynes lymyt in the same: And that too of the Craft of weyvers & too of the Craft of walkers shal-be yeirelie electe & sworne to be serchers & to make true reaport & presentement of every defeaute comytted in ther occupations; And that also a sealer shal-be yeirelie electe & sworne to put a seall to such Cloith as shal-be truelie maid & to non other etc.

The price of
"vitail."¹

[Enacted] that *Maister* Tho. Banwell & *Maister* Ric. Herryng, beyng assistaunce with *Maister* Meire in the order of vitail & prices of the same, shall reforme the order of the fishe Market & all other vitulacion accordyng to good order etc.

Orders concerning
"talow"²

[Enacted] that the bochers of the Citie shall sell ther talow to the inhabitauntes of the Citie for the price of ij s. iiij d. the stone, vpon peyn to forfeit for every stone vjs. viij d. to the shireffes etc. And that the Chaundelers shall sell ther Candell after jd. ob. the li., and not to sell eny into the Contrey till the Citie be serued, vpon like peyn for every defeaute.

and
"Candell"³

and
"ale wifes,"⁴

Item, that the ale wives shall sell ther ale after xvij d. the Cester & xiiij galons to the Cester² [or 6s. 8d. at every default to the sheriffs' use].

"Civitas
Conentrie."

³[V. f. p. held on Oct. 12, 27 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*⁴ Hugo Lawton, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Asteleyn, Rog. Wales, Will. Smyth, Rog. Palmer, Chris. Waid, Joh. Crampe, Ric. Townesend, Jas. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardinour, Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, ⁵Will. Randell, Will. Norton, Hugo Dalawey, Hen. Over.]

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Ley, Mercer, Cuthb. Joynour, draper.]

The union of
"the
gildes."⁶

¶ *Mem.* that xx^{ti} of the Jure aboue-named⁶ have agreed that Corpus *Christi* gilde shal-be annexed & vnyte vnto the Trinitie gilde & maid boithe on after suche ordynance as the meire, recorder & the counsell of the Citie

¹ The scribe's own gloss. ² See above, p. 713.

³ leaf 365, back.

⁴ Repeated before names until the next note.

⁵ Untitled. ⁶ They were not unanimous then.

shall dyvvyse, so that it may stand *with* the order of the lawe.¹

[Enacted] that Candelles shal-be sold after the rait & price of j.d. ob. the pounce, and talow after the rait of ijs. iiij.d. the stone, vpon peyne for every li. of Candell & every stone of talow sold to the contrarie vjs. viij.d.

Order concerning
2^o "candelles
& talowe."

[Enacted] that Alice Grene, Cakebaker, shall pay vicrelie frome-hensfurth to the Craft of bakers xij.d. toward ther charges.

2^o "Alice
Grene,
3^o Cakebaker."

[Enacted] that non inhabitaunt of this Citie frome hensfurth shall put or deliver any Cloithe to any walker to be walked or burled, but to such walkers or burlers as be inhabite *within* this Citie, vpon peyn who doithe the contrarie to forfeit for every default vjs. viij.d. to be levied by the comen seriaunt to thuse of the Comynalte of the Citie: And the said seriaunt to haue for his labour iiij.d: And that the said walkers shall burle the same Cloithe *within* the said Citie, vpon like peyne for every Cloithe burled to the contrarie to be levied in fourme aforsaid.⁴

No cloth to
be filled by
2^o "walkers,"
who are not
inhabitants
of the city:
offenders to
pay *6s. 8d.*
to the use
of the com-
munity.

[Enacted] that every Alderman shall electe & apoynt ij honest men *within* every ward to oversee that noo man do cast any li[1]th in the rivers or swepe the stretes in tyme of reyne, and that thei that so doo shall forfeit for every default xij.d.

Concerning
2^o "the River:
3^o none to
sweep their
streets into
the Channell
in time of
Raine."

JOH. JETT, MAYOR, 1536.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

⁵[V. f. p. held before Joh. Jett, m., Ric. Ley, Cuthb. Joynour, b., on May 9, 28 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* ⁶Will. Smyth, Jul. Nethemyll, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Asteleyn, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Will. Rogors, Tho. Brewer,

"Civitas
Countrie."

Jury.

¹ Both gilds were suppressed in 1545. The corporation re-purchased the lands etc. of the gilds and chantries in 1552 for £1,315 1s. 8d. See Corp. MS. B. 75.

² The scribe's own gloss. ³ A later hand.

⁴ See above, p. 661. ⁵ leaf 367.

⁶ Repeated before names until note 1 next page.

Geo. Philips, Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie, ¹Joh. Clerk, Joh. Thomson.]

The act for making of "Cloith" to stand.

¶ [Enacted] that the acte of leet latelie maid within this Citie for the serchyng & seallyng and also true making of wollen Cloith³ shall stand still in force & effecte, and that every Cloithe-maker of this Citie shall soeffer & allow his Cloithe to be serched & sealled by the officers admytted for the same, vpon peyn of every default vj s. viij d. to be levied by the comen seriaunte etc.

"Cloith"

[Enacted] that the walkers belongyng to this Citee shall burle ther Clothes of this Citie within the same Citie accordyng to the acte & ordinaunce therof maid at the last leet, vpon peynes mencioned in the same.⁴

to be prepared by resident fallers.

Item, it is enacted that all suche inhabitauntes as now brue or intend to brue to sell within this Citie shall brue to sell now fromehensfurth as-well in the tyme of darthe of malte as in the tyme of cheip & plentie of malt, vpon peyne to forfeit for every default v li. to be levied to the vse of the Meire, Cominaultie & Shireffes of this Citie equallie to be dyuyded amonges theme.

The "brewers" are ordered to brew when mait is dear, as well as when it is cheap.

"Craftes."

[Enacted] that every householder of this Citie, which is not associat to some Crafte, shal-be associat & bere with some Craft before Whitsontyde next, vpon peyne to be punysshed by the discrecion of the meire, etc.

"Every freeman to hold of some Company."

¶ ⁵ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 10, 28 Hen. VIII.]

"Civitas Coventrie," Jury.

[*Magister*⁷ Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Heryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Ric. Townesende, Cris. Waid, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie.

Sheriffs.

[Joh. Talontes, Goldesmyth, Ric. Sewall,⁸ Gresier.]

¹ Untitled. ² The scribe's own gloss. ³ See above, p. 656.

⁴ See above, p. 723. ⁵ A later hand.

⁶ leaf 367, back. ⁷ Repeated before all names in this list.

⁸ Undoubtedly of the family of Sewall or Sewell, which furnished two mayors to Coventry, William (in 1617) and Henry (in 1606), and has even now representatives in the Old and New World. For the wills of both William and Henry see 79 Byrd, 63 Barrington (Somerset House), and for much of the subsequent history of the family, and their emigration to America see *Mill. Antiquary*, iv. 157 *sqq.*, where the publications of the Massachusetts Hist. Soc. v. are quoted.

[Ordained] that all the Brewers of this Citie, which brewe to sell, shall sell ther newe ale after the rait of xvij d. the Cester & xiiij galons to the Cester,² vpon peyn to forfeit for every defaute to the Shireffès of the Citie vj s. viij d.

The price of
"ale,"¹
wholesale

Item, that all reteyllers & tiplers of ale of this Citie shall sell ther ale by reteyll after the rait ensuyng, That is to say, the best stale ale dronke owt of the house for ij d. the galon, and within the house for iij d. the galon: And that the said Tiplers shall ordeyn & make ther pottes & measures after the rates aboueseid within x dayes next ensuyng this presente lete, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery defaute vj s. viij d. to the vse aforseid.

and retail.

Tiplers to
make
"pottes"¹
and measures
according to
the rate.

Item, that every Alderman in his warde frome-hensfurth yereilie shall electe ij able Altasters & swere the same truelie to execute that office.

"Aletasters.

Item, that the price of Talow & candell shal-be assessed by *Maister Meire* frome tyme to tyme etc.

"Candell."

CHRIS. WAID, MAYOR, 1537.

³ ¶ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister* ⁴ Jul. Nethermyll, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrvyn, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie, Ric. Ley, Cuthbert Joynour, ⁵ Joh. Clerk, Joh. Tomson.]

"Ciuitas
Coentrie,"
25 electors.

[m. *Magister* Chris. Waid; rec. Rog. Wigston, armiger; cor. Rob. Grene ⁶ "sub condicione quod se inhabitet infra Comitatum Ciuitatis Coentrie citra festum S. Michaelis archangeli proximo"; steward, Baldw. Porter, *generosus* ⁷; ch. Mauricius Gilbert, draper, Jac. Farmour, *Roper* ⁸; w. Arth. Gudrich, Marcer, Joh. Bolat, draper; macc, Hen. Thirkell; crier, Joh. Wood.

¹ The scribe's own gloss. ² See above, p. 722.

³ leaf 368. ⁴ Repeated before names until note 5.

⁵ Untitled.

⁶ On condition that he shall dwell within the city before Michaelmas next.

⁷ = gentleman. ⁸ = rope-maker.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas
Coventrie."
Apr. 24.

Jury.

¹ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Chris. Waid, m., Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, b., on Tuesday, Apr. 24, 29 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* ² Joh. Jett, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Joh. Saunders, Geo. Philips, Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie, Ric. Ley, Cuthb. Joynour, ³ Maur. Gilbert, Jac. Farnour, Tho. Napton.]

The "cap-
pers" *

are to have
the pageant,
pageant-
house and
chapel form-
erly belong-
ing to the
cardmakers.

Item, wher-as the meire, Aldermen, Beilleffes & Comin-
altie of this Citie by ther wrytyng indented & sealed
with ther comen seall haue graunted, given & dymysed
vnto the Maisterez, kepers, fraternitie, & company of the
Craft of Cappers of this Citie the paygaunt & paygaunt-
house, which was latelie surrendered & given vpp by
wrytyng to theme by the ffraternitie & company of
Cardmakers & sadelers, It is nowe enacted by auctoritie
of this lete that the seid fraternitie & company of Cappers
shall enjoy the seid pagiaunt, pagiaunt-house & Chappell
accordyng to the tenour of the seid wrytyng indented etc.

"Ale-tasters
& ale wives." †

Item, it is enacted (etc.) that *every* Alderman of this
Citie in his warde shall electe & apoynt too ale-tasters in
every warde or moo if nede be; And that *every* Brewer
that breweth to sell shall sell ther ale after the rait of
xviij d. the Cester & xiiij galons to the Cester, vpon peyn
of forfeiture of vj s. viij d. to the Shireffes, and that the
seid brewer shall send to the seid ale-tasters & requyre
theme to tast ther ale before thei sell or vtter the same,
vpon peyn of iij s. iiij d. to be levied to the vse of the
Shireffes by distres at *every* suche default.

Candiles 14/2.
a lb.

⁵ [Enacted] *that* ⁶ no man shall sell candell aboue j d.
qua. ⁷ the lb., vpon peyn to be grevouslie amerced.

Tallow.

Item, that ⁶ no talow shal-be sold owt of this Citie by
eny bocher of the same vntill the Citie be serued, vpon
peyn of ij s. the Stone.

¹ leaf 368, back.

² Repeated before each name as far as note 3. ³ Untitled.

⁴ The same or a contemporary handwriting. ⁵ leaf 369.

⁶ "p" is here written like "y." ⁷ = quadrans, a farthing.

Item, that the serchers of the weivers & serchers of walkers shall execute ther offices for the true making & ordryng of Cloith, vpon peyn of euery sercher to forfeit vj s. viij d. to the shireffes.

Searchers of
"Clothing"
to execute
their office.

¹[V. f. p. held on Tuesday, Oct. 16, 29 Hen. VIII.]

*Magister*² Joh. Jett, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Wilmer, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Joh. Seill, Cuthb. Joyour, ³Maur. Gilbert, Jac. Farmour, Art. Gudriche, Joh. Bowlat.]

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Oct. 16.
Jury of 25.

[Hen. Over, *mercer*, Chris. Waren, *draper*.]

Sheriffs.

[Enacted] that the hehd *Maister* of the Craft of walkers shal-be alwey *inhabited within* this Citie duryng the tyme of his office: And that on Tho. Glegg shal-be hehd *Maister* this yeire, and Alex. Howe of Stoneley the vnder *Maister*.⁵

⁴"walkers."

Also it is enacted (etc.) that all brewers shall sell ther best ale after the rait of xvij d. the Cester, & not aboue, and xiiij galons to the Cester: And also that the tipelers shall sell ther ale owt of ther doores after the rait of ij d. ob. the galon, & *within* the dores after ij d. the galon, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery default vj s. viij d. to be leviyd by distresse by the Shireffes to ther own vse.

"Ale wifes."⁶

⁷Also it is enacted (etc.) that all men that haue eny draughtes vpon the Reed-diche shall put down & take away the same before the feast of All Seyntes next, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery draught xx s. to be leuyed as is aforseid.

"Reed⁶
diche."

WILL. COTEN, MAYOR, 1538.

⁸[Election of officers.]

[*Magister*⁹ Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Tho. Smyth, Joh.

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Electors.

¹ leaf 369, back. ² Repeated before all names as far as note 3.

³ Untitled. ⁴ The same or a contemporary handwriting.

⁵ This looks as if a union had been made of resident and non-resident fullers. See for "foreign" fullers p. 723, *et passim*.

⁶ The same handwriting. ⁷ leaf 370. ⁸ leaf 370, back.

⁹ Repeated before each name as far as note 1, p. 723.

Cramp, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Sym. Parker, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Brewer, Joh. Seill, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Will. Marler, Will. Rogers, Ric. Ley, Georg[e] Philips, Cuthbert Joynour, ¹ Maur. Gilbert, Jac. Fernour, Jac. Rogers.]

Officers.

[*m. Magister* Will. Coton, mercer; rec. Rog. Wigston, *armiger*; cor. Rob. Grene, "so that he shall dwell within the city before the feast of the Nativity of S. John Baptist next"; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Ric. Hurt, mercer, Tho. Wheteley, Cardemaker; w. Mart. Ridell, Tho. Diglyn; mace, Hen. Thirkyll; crier, Joh. Wood.]

LEET.

"Civitas
Concentric."

²[V. f. p. held before Will. Coton, m., Hen. Over, Chris. Waren, b., on Thursday, May 10, 30 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 27.

[*Magister*³ Tho. Banwell, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kirvyn, Joh. Jett, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Joh. Seill, Ric. Ley, Cuthb. Joynour, Ric. Sewall, ⁴Ric. Hurt.]

The "Reed-
diche"⁵

["Ordeyned"] that all *persones* haivyng or vsyng eny draughtes or other anyvaunces vpon or nygh the Reed-dyche, or eny sluses or other conveyances of water or filthe frome eny draughtes into the said Reed-diche, shall take vpp, remove & vtterlie adnull the same before the Assencion of our Lord God now next comyng, vpon peyn to forfeit for enery default xx s. to be levied by distresse by the shireffes, the on half therof to ther own vse, & the other half to the vse of the comen box; and that Joh. Borresley, Will. Wightman, Joh. Stele, & Ant. Giller shall haue the ouersight of the execucion of this acte. And that the Chamberleyns of the Citie immediatlie after the removyng & avoydyng of the said draughtes & anyvaunces shall Scoure the said diche frome the Micheparke Streit vnto the Jourden Well etc. And that non inhabit-

is to be
6" scowred
by the
Chamber-
lins."¹ Untitled. ² leaf 371.³ Repeated before all names until note 4. ⁴ Untitled.⁵ In the same handwriting. ⁶ In later hand.

aunt of this Citie after the feast of the Assencion of our Lord God now next ensuyng shall cast eny filthe or other anyoauunce into the said diche, ner shall mak or sett eny draughtes (*sic*) ouer or nygh the same diche, vpon peyn of xx s. to be levyed to the vse aforseid.

No filth to be cast into the "Red diche."

[Enacted] that no bocher, ner non other *inhabitaunt* of this Citie, shall sell eny talowe before the feast of Eister next aboue the price of ij s. iiij d. the Stone, ner shall sell eny talow out of the Citie before the seid feast, vpon peyn to forfeit for every Stone xx s. to the vse aforseid.

No butcher to sell any "talowe" before Easter above ij s. iiij d. the stone.

²[Enacted] that no *persone* or *persones* of this Citie frome-hensfurthe shall make or cause to be maid eny Capp or Cappes Spone or maid of Cloithe yarne, vpon peyn of forfeiture of the said Capp or cappes: and that it shal-be lafull to every *person* of this Citie to seasse & take the same to his own vse: and that the makers of the same shall haue punyshement of ther bodyes by the pilorie, or otherwise, at the discrecion of the Justices of peace.

No "Cappes" to be made of yarn.

COMMON LANDS.

Where-as the Meire, beilleffes & *Cominaltie*, Citizens & *inhabitauntes* of the Citie of Couentre, & ther *predicessoures* by title of *prescripcion* & by auncient tyme owt of mynde haue hadd & haue the yeirelie vsage & exercise of *common* of pastures *with* ther *beastes* & *catalles* frome Lammas day to Candelmasse day of & in certayne Closez & pastures lying & beyng *within* the circuit of the Shire, ffranches & *liberties* of the said Citie, which Closez & pastures by the vsage of the said *Common* and by the yeirelie rydyng of the Chamberleyns of the said Citie to clayme & make gappes & weyes to the same be well & *perfitelie* knowen to the said Citizens, *Commoners* & *inhabitauntes*: And for-asmoche as it is noo well & *perfitelie* knowen to the same Citizens & *inhabitauntes* that the greatest number of theme take & haue no benefites, vsage, ner *profite* of the said Comon of pasture, and that meny of those *persones* that do take the vsage,

¹"The commons about the Citie"

are well and perfectly known,

though the greater part of the inhabitants haue no profit of the same;

¹ In the same or a contemporary hand. ² leaf 371, back.

and those
who have
surecharge
them,

it is therefore
ordained that
50 persons,

5 in each
ward,

be chosen
to make a
scheme for
dealing with
the same
commons for
the general
profit.

"The acte."
"Common
ground
seuerall."
Whereupon

it is enacted
by Leet

that the
closes named
by the fifty
persons shall
be several
all times of
the year,
a reasonable
rent being
paid to the

benefite & profite of the said Common do mysyse & surcharge the same contrarie to the auncient orders & good custumes of the said Citie, ffor reformacion wherof & to thentent that a vniuersall profite & commoditie may come & be hadd to all the said Citizens & Cominalte of the said Common Closez, the said Cominalte by the license, assent & consent of Will. Coton, now beyng meire of the said Citie, & of his bretherne, the Aldermen of the same, haue elected, named, admytted & chosen fiftie persones of the said Cominaltie, that is to say, in euery warde of the seid Citie five discret & credible persones to speke, conclude & doo as thei shall thynk best & moost convenient for the reformacion of the premisses to the effect & intent aforesaid: which fiftie persones haue not onelie by good deliberacion reasoned & debated the said matters amonges themselves & with the said meire & aldermen, but also thei haue perused¹ & viewed all the said Closez to se howe meny of² theme may be permytted & soeffered to lie & be seuerall all the yeire for a reasonable rent to be payed yeirelie for the same to the vse & behoue of all the said Cominaltie, leavyng sufficient common to the said Commoners in other of the said Common Closez.

And therupon for the good gouernance, rule & conseruacion of the said Cominaltie & commoners and for the vniuersall profit & commoditie of the same, the said Meire, Aldermen, & the said fiftie persones with the assent & consent as well of the said Cominaltie as of the enheritoures & freholders of the said Closez with other now assembled, haue concorded, coneluded & agreed, And also haue ordeyned, enacted & constituted by auctoritie of this presente lete, And by auctorite of the grauntes & liberties to the said Citie graunted by the kyng our souereign lorde & diuers his progenytoures, concernyng the premisses in manour & fourme followyng: That is to say, that all suche of the said Closez & pastures as the said fiftie persones haue named, assigned & appoynted, & hereafter expressed & wrytten, shall lie & be seuerall at all tymes fromehensfurthe duryng all the said tyme of Common for suche a reasonable rent to be payed yierelie

¹ = gone over.

² leaf 372.

for the same to the vse of the said *Cominaltie* as the same
fiftie persones haue lymyted & sett vpon the same Closez
& pastures.

use of the
community.

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ffurst, a Close called the Myree feild ¹ by yeire xxiiij s. iiij d. | 23s. 4d. |
| Item, the Peny feildes ² in the holding of Maister Lawton by yeire xv s. | 15s. 0d. |
| Item, Maister Wales feild by yeire vj s. viij d. | 6s. 8d. |
| Item, Maisteres Clerkes feild by yeir xs. | 10s. 0d. |
| Item, the Corner feild & a medow at the ende of it in the holdyng of Joh. ³ Yerdeley by yeir vj s. viij d. | 6s. 8d. |
| Item, a feild next Maister Wales feild by yeire viij s. | 8s. 0d. |
| Item, the quarell feild by Horsall side by yeire vj s. viij d. | 6s. 8d. |
| Item, v feildes called Whaberleyes ⁴ by yeir xls. | "ij Closez." 40s. 0d. |
| Item, the Black Croft ⁵ by yeir ij s. | 2s. 0d. |
| Item, a feild next the Steppying Stones by yeir xx d. | 20d. |
| Item, a feild next to it by yeire vs. | 5s. 0d. |
| Item, Maister Merlers feild by yeire iiij s. | 4s. 0d. |
| Item, half the iiij li. feildes in the ij great feildes next Assho by yeire ⁶ xxvj s. viij d. | 26s. 8d. |
| Item, the Thistell-feild ⁶ & the Rie feild by yeire xiiij s. iiij d. | 13s. 4d. |
| Item, the ij ouermoost of Botmans acre ⁷ xiiij s. iiij d. | 13s. 4d. |
| Item, the Chilter-leyes ⁸ by yeire xvj s. | 16s. 0d. |
| Item, iiij feildes of Maister Kebeelles by yeir xv s. | 15s. 0d. |
| ⁹ Item, the pytfeildes by yeire vs. | 5s. 0d. |
| Item, a medow at the ende of it iiij s. | 4s. 0d. |
| Item, the Holowe-wey-feild ¹⁰ by yeire viij s. | 8s. 0d. |
| Item, Pycardes Croft by yeire iiij s. | 4s. 0d. |
| Item, Barkers-leys ¹⁰ by yeire xx s. | 20s. 0d. |
| Item, the overmoost Shokemoore ¹¹ by yeire iiij s. | 4s. 0d. |
| Item, the nethermoost Shokemore by yeire vs. | 5s. 0d. |
| Item, the Stripp beyonde the Steppying Stones by yeir ij s. | 2s. 0d. |

¹ See above, pp. 440, 576. ² See p. 48.
³ This scribe puts the same sign for I, Y, and very frequently J.
⁴ See p. 50. ⁵ "Blake Orchard," p. 49.
⁶ See Inclosure Award, 1860. ⁷ See pp. 4, 51.
⁸ See p. 51. ⁹ leaf 372, back. ¹⁰ See Inclosure Award, 1860.
¹¹ See "Sugmore Croftes," p. 52.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 5 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | Item, Maister Kirvynse feild by yeire | v s. |
| 6 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | Item, the feild next it | vj s. |
| 15 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | Item, a feild called Picardypere ¹ | xv s. |
| | Item, the Wardense feild at Harnall-bridge by yeire | iiij s. |
| 1 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | | |
| 10 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | Item, ij feildes called Byllyngesfeildes by yeire ² | x s. |
| 2 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | Item, a litell Croft next theme by yeir | ij s. |
| | Item, the Kynges-feildes or Ludlowe-feildes at Gosford | |
| 15 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | Grene by yeire ³ | xv s. |
| | Item, the Quarell-feild ageynst the Charterhouse by | |
| 15 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | yeir | xv s. |
| 23 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> | Item, Barnes-feildes ⁴ by yeir | xxiiij s. iiij d. |
| 5 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | Item, a medowe at Warynges Milne | v s. |
| | Item, a medowe & a litle Croft at the Milne in the holl | |
| 5 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> | by yeir | v s. |
| | Item, a medowe at Jeffreyes Milne ⁵ & the orchard to | |
| | it by yeir | 6 |
| 12 <i>d.</i> | Item, the Goose Croft ⁷ at Radford by yeir | xij d. |
| | Item, a Close called the Sholder of mutton ⁷ with the | |
| 26 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> | house at the Hill Crosse | xxvj s. viij d. |
| | The Some of all the rents of the said Closez & pastures | |
| £18 18 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> | doith amount vnto | xviiij li. xviiij s. viij d. |

8^o Payne
xx s.⁷

The people
are warned
that the
above-named
pastures are
to be held in
severally.

Certain
8^o pastures

And it is also enacted by the auctoritie aforesaid that all the said Citizens & inhabitants frome-hensfurthe yeirelie duryng all the said tyme of Comon shall permytt & soeffer all the said Closez & pastures before-wrytten to lie & be seuerall & enclosed to & for the vse & behove of suche & ⁹those persones which at any tyme hereafter shall take & haue theme, or eny of theme, in ferme accordyng to the tenour & intent of this presente ordynance, acte & constitucion, So that the fermoures of the same may peasible take & haue the herbage & profittes therof without lett or disturbaunce of the said Cominaltie, or eny of theme: And that all suche Closes as shall lie

¹ See p. 53. ² See p. 46.

³ See p. 46. Traditionally called after Richard II because it was there that in 1397 the king forbade Mowbray and Bolingbroke to engage in combat.

⁴ ? Barons-fyld, see p. 350. ⁵ (?) See "Geffrey feild," p. 11.

⁶ blank. ⁷ See Inclosure Award, 1860.

⁸ In the same handwriting. ⁹ leaf 373.

common to the said Citizense shal-be permytted & vsed to lie in pasture & not vsed in tillage & sowen with corne,¹ vpon payne of euery of the said inhabitauntes wilfullie doyng or commaundyng eny acte to be doon to the contrarie to forfeit for euery suche defaute xx s., the same forfeiture to be leyed & taken of the said offendoures by attachement & imprisonment of ther bodies or distreyning of ther goodes, vntill thei doo pay the said payne & forfeiture vnto the meire of the seid Citie for the tyme beyng: And the same attachement or distresse to be doon by the said meire or by suche officers or constables as the said meire shall assigne & appoynt to & for the same: And the on half of the same forfeiture shal-be put in a Comen box to the vse & behove of the said Cominaltie, And the other half, or asmoche therof as the said meire shall thynk conveyent, shal-be payed to the farmour or farmoures of the pastures or Closez so tilled or sowen in recompense of ther losse & damages susteyned in that behalf, And the residue to be put in the said box to the comen vse aforesaid.

Also it is further enacted, ordeyned & constituted by auctoritie aforesaid concernyng the premisses that the said Closez & pastures, lymytted & appoynted to be maid seuerall, shalbe lett & sett to farme by tene men of the said Cominaltie, That is to say of euery warde of the said Citie on man, which shall haue auctoritie & power to lett & sett to farme the said Closez & pastures for the terme & tyme of ix yeires or vnder & not aboue, frome the feast of Lammas next ensuyng this presente lete, takyng of the farmoures therof an obligacion to be maid in due fourme of the lawe, wherin thei shal-be bound to iij or iiij of the said tene men in a more some then the rent, to pay ther rent yeirelie at seynt Valentynes day accordyng to ²the said bonde. And that thei shall till & sowe the same pastures & Closez so appoynted to be seuerall at ther pleasures, So that thei leave the same at thende of the seid ix yeires with grene sord of the age of

not to be sowen

on peyn of

xx s.",

half to the common box,

half to the farmers of the closes.

"The order to lett & sett."

The closes are to be let by 10 men, 1 man from each ward,

on a 9 years' lease

at a yearly rent payable on S. Valentine's day.

"For payment of the Rentes."

¹ Apparently this refers to arable encroachments on the common lands, see pp. 719-20.

² leaf 373, back.

The present
freeholders
are to be pre-
ferred before
other possible
tenants.

two yeires at the leaste, And that those persones that have now in farme the free-holders parte of the said Closez shal-be preferred before other to haue in farme the said *Cominalties parte*¹ paying the rent in *fourme* aforesaid.

"The ac-
count" is to
be presented
on Mar. 20,

And also that the said tene men or the *servyvoures* of theme shall yeierlie bryng in & make before the meire & aldermen of the said Citie for the tyme beyng ther *acomptes* & the money due & comyng of the said *rentes* vpon the morowe after the feast of the *Annunciacion* of our Ladie seynt Marie, if it be not Sondag or verey nigh Eister, And then the said accompt to be maid at suche day as the seid meire & Aldermen shall appoynt: At which accompt & payment of the said rent ther shal-be deliuered & allowed to the seid x men xx s. of the said *Rentes* to be spent for a brekefast or a recreacion after the same *Accompt* maid at discrecion of the said meire & aldermen.

20s. being
allowed for
a breakfast
or recreation
after delivery
of the ac-
counts.

And the money that shall rise & come vpon the said *Accomptes* shall then be put into the said *Comen* box, and shal-be bestowed to the vniuersall *profite*, ease & commoditie of the said *Cominaltie* in manour & *fourme* folowyng, That is to say, ffor the *generall* & *comen* paymentes which hereafter shal-be & ought to be payed by the *Cominaltie* of the said Citie as fivetenes & suche other *common* charges.

"To what
use the *rentes*
shal-be ap-
plied."

And the said box shall alwayes remayne in the *Treasure-house* in Seynt Marie hall, and be locked with v keys, wherof ij keys shall alwayes remeane in the custodie of the said meire & aldermen; and the residue of the said keys shall alwayes remeane in the custodie of the said x men. And if eny of theme fortune to die then the said meire & Aldermen² to electe & chose other of the same ward to be in his or ther *Steid* for the receipt of the said *Rentes* & makyng of the said *Accomptes*.

"The box
& keys."

Any one of
the ten dyng
is to be
replaced,

And after thende of the said *leasse* & *terme* of ix

¹ *i. e.* those that hold the land during the "several" season from Candlemas to Lammas are to have the first chance of renting the commonable rights during the season between Lammas and Candlemas.

² In the same handwriting.

³ leaf 374.

yeires & at the last *Accomptes* of & for the said *Rentes*
 The said meire & Aldermen by the assent of the seid tene
 mene shall electe, name & chose other tene men, in euery
 warde oon, which shal-be then charged and shall haue
 like auctoritie to lett & sett the said *Closez* for other ix
 yeires as is before lymyted & assigned to the said first
 x men. And that euery of the said accomptauntes
 defectyue in his accompt, or payment of the said *Rentes*
 by hyme received, shal-be punysshed by imprysonment
 by the commaundement of the seid meire as a disturbour
 & an enemy of the comen-welth of the said Citie vntill
 he haue maid due satisfaccion & recompense for his said
 offence.

and a fresh
 set to be
 chosen at
 the end of
 9 years.

Defaulters to
 be punished.

Also it is further enacted, ordeyned & constituted by
 auctoritie aforesaid that no *Commoner*, or *inhabitauntes*
 of the said Citie shall haue comen within the said liberties
 for or with eny other kyndes of Beasse or cattall, or with
 eny mo beasse or cattall then with two Milche kyen & on
 geldyng, or two geldynges & oon Mi[l]che cowe; except
 onelie the bochers of the said Citie, which vse vitulacion,
 who shall & may common euery of theme with fytene
 sheipp ouer & besides the Stynt abouelymytted, vpon
 peyne of euery persone passyng or brekyng the said order
 & stynt to forfeit & pay for euery tyme so doying xij d. to
 the vse of the ChamberleyNSE of the said Citie. And that
 the said ChamberleyNSE shall not lett ner sett the said
 commons, ner eny part of theme, to farme, or give eny
 libertie or auctoritie to eny persone to breke the said
 stynt, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery tyme that thei so do
 xx s. to the comen box of the said Citie.

1¹ The stynt
 of Cattall.¹

2¹ 2 melsh
 kine and one
 Guelding or
 two Gueld-
 ings and one
 melsh Cow,
 Butchers to
 haue 15 sheep
 [on the]
 Comons be-
 sides the
 said stint.²

The chamber-
 lains are
 1¹ not to lett
 the comons
 to farme.¹

The names of the tene men appoynted to lett & sett the
 said *Closez* & to gether the *rentes* of the same for the first
 ix yeires.

Gosford-stret warde : Joh. Bowlat, draper.

Much-parke-Streit warde : Will. Beilie, draper.

Jowarden-well warde : Ric. Wightman, thelder.

Erle-streit warde : Tho. Enderby, barbour.

Beilie-lane warde : Rauf HopkyNSE, Tayllour.

1-1 In the same hand as the text.

2-2 A later hand.

³ leaf 374, back.

Broid¹Yait warde : Joh. Clerke, Coriour.

Croschepyng warde : Hugh Dalawarr, mercer.

Smythford-stret warde : Rauf Dale, ¹Inholder.

Spone-stret warde : Jas. Farmour, Grasier.

Bisshop stret warde : Philipp Shirrer, draper.

²The names of the fiftie men which haue viewed & appoynted owt the Closez & pastures before-wrytten to be seuerall & enclosed.

Gorforde (*sic*) Streit warde.

Joh. Bowlat, draper, Joh. Lawton, Capper, Tho. Sconse, Capper, Clement Temple, dier, Ric. Collynse, Shirman.

Myche-parke Streit warde.

Will. Ruddyng, Clothier, Tho. Keyvett, Sherman, Will. Beilie, draper, Owyn Blakemer, weyver, Joh. Nicolles, Sherman.

Jourden Well warde.

Joh. Hill, Capper, Ric. Wightman, thelder, Ric. Baguley, tayllour, Joh. Annesley, yoman, Joh. Borresley, Capper.

Erle-stret warde.

Joh. Chambers, Capper, Martyne Ridell, mercer, Will. Stirropp, flecher,³ Tho. Seny, draper, Tho. Enderby, barbour.

Beilie lane warde.

Henrie Hynde, mercer, Rauf. Hopkynse, Tailleur, Olyver Forest, poticarie, Joh. West, Goldesmyth, Joh. Grene, mercer.

⁴Broid Yait warde.

⁵Chris. Wharton, Skynner, Joh. Clerk, Coriour, Tho. Saunders, Capper, Mourice Appowell, draper, Tho. Diglyng, mercer.

Croschepyng warde.

Hugh Dalawarr, mercer, Jas. Rogers, vyntener, Guy Speke, Inholder, Tho. Saunders, bocher, Will. Vnderwood, Couiser.

¹ This scribe's "Y," "I" and "J" are identical. ² leaf 375.

³ "Pet. Browne" deleted. ⁴ leaf 375, back. ⁵ Xpofor.

Smythford Streit ward.

Arture Gudriche, *mereer*, Rauf Dale, Inholder, Tho. Cotes, dier, Tho. Busterd, Inholder, Tho. Morres, *draper*.

Spone-streit ward.

Jas. Harmour, Gresier, Will. Norton, dier, Hugh Bloure, whittawer, Ric. Smyth, Sherman, Joh. Eyburn, Tanner.

Bisshop-stret ward.

Will. Kelyngworth, bocher, Joh. Wall, weyver, Tho. Owres, baker, Henrie Collynse, bocher, Philipp Shirred, *draper*.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

[¹ V. f. p. held on Oct. 8, 30 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* ² Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kirwyn, Joh. Jett, Chris. Waid, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Smyth, Jas. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Joh. Seill, Ric. Ley, Cuthb. Joynour, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Tho. Smyth, *draper*.]

[Joh. Herford, Tanner, Hug. Bloure, whittawer.]

"Civitas
Concentric."
Jury of 27.

Sheriffs.

SIM. PARKER, MAYOR, 1539.

³ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister* ⁴ Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hug. Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrwyn, Joh. Jett, Chris. Waid, Tho. Gardynour, Tho. Burdon, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Her. Over, Chris. Waren, ⁵ Rad. Dale, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Diglyng, Maur. Ridell.]

"Civitas
Concentric."
Electors.

[m. *Magister* Sym. Parker, Gresier ⁶; rec. Rog. Wigston, *armiger*; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldewinn Porter; ch. Tho. Saunders, sen., Gresier, Rob. Colman, Cowper; w. Ric. Warnour, *barbour*, Tho. Owres, baker; mace, Hen. Thirkell; crier, Joh. Wood.]

Officers.

¹ leaf 377.

² Repeated before each name, but perhaps deleted before the last.

³ leaf 377, back. ⁴ Repeated before each name until note 5.

⁵ Untitled. ⁶ Probably also a butcher, see p. 738.

[And because the said S. Parker is a common victualler¹ they elected Master R. Herryng and Master C. Joynour to assist the said mayor in fixing the price of victuals.]

Et pro eo quod dictus Sim. Parker est communis victu[a]larius¹ eligunt (sic) in assistentes dicti Maioris pro taxacione precii victualium Magistrum Ric. Herryng, & Magistrum Cuth. Joynour, et Jurati sunt.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Cuitas
Conentree,"
Apr. 22.

July of 25.

To no
5 "weyvers"

shall work be
given unless
he belongs to
the craft of
weavers of
the city, or
6c. 8d. line.

7 "The
comen."

Con-stables

2^c [V. f. p. held before Sym. Parker, m., Joh. Herford, Hug. Bloure. b., on Tuesday, Apr. 22, 30 Hen. VIII.]

3 [Magister³ Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hug. Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Chris. Waid, Tho. Gardynour, Ric. Townesend, Joh. Cramp, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Hen. Over, Chris. Waren, 4 Tho. Saunders, Rob. Colman, Jac. Rogers, Ric. Niclyn, Hug. Dalawey.]

[Enacted] that non inhabitaunte of this Citie fromehensfurthe shall put eny lynyn or wollen Yarne to be woven to eny weyver of the Citie or of the contrey oneles the same weyver be a brother admytted & associat with the weyvers of the Citie, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery tyme so offendyng vj s. viij d., the on half therof to be to the Shireffes for the tyme beyng, & the other half to the Masterz of the said Craft of weyvers, & to be levyed by way of distresse, etc.⁶

[Enacted] that the Actes latelie maid for the order of the comen & of the comen groundes enclosed shall stand & bee in full strenght & duellie put in execution accordyng to the tenur of the same actes, etc.⁸

[Enacted] that fromehensfurthe the seriantes that shall warne the comen watche of this Citie shall furst begyn to warne the said watche at seynt Margettes Chappell⁹ & kepe the southe side of the Streit, and so to

¹ v. note 6, p. 737. ² leaf 378.

³ Repeated before each name until note 4.

⁴ Untitled. ⁵ The same scribe's handwriting.

⁶ See above, p. 723. ⁷ The same handwriting.

⁸ See above, p. 729.

⁹ This chapel, with which was connected a hermitage (see above, p. 118), was afterwards converted into a tithe-barn. It stood outside Gosford Gate.

go thorought the Citie in every Streit as the holic Cake¹ goith. And that the Constable of the warde shall go every nyght *with* the *seriaunt* to warne the watche & shall haue for his labour ij d.

to warne the watche."

² [V. f. p. held on Oct. 7, 31 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*³ Will. Coton, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Tho. Gardynour, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Burdon, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Chris. Waren, ⁴ Tho. ⁵ Saunders,⁵ ⁶ Tho. Riley, ⁷ Tho. Owres.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 6. Jury.

[Tho. Smyth, draper, Will. Colman, fisshemonger.]

Sheriffs.

¶ [Decreed] that Edw. Smyth, *seriaunt* to the Shireffes, shal-be dismyssed & discharged of his office of *seriauntship*; And that Joh. Cragges, late put owt of the same office shal-be admytted to haue & occupie the seid office etc.

8 "Changing serjants."

¶ [Enacted] that no bocher or vitailour frome-hensfurthe shall sell eny vitail of fleshe *within* this Citie but onelie in the comon bochery. And that no man shall sell or kyll eny fleshe *within* the Citie except he be brother *with* the bochers & admytted as oon of that felishipp, vpon peyn of xl s. to be leved by distresse to the vse of the Shireffes.

No ⁹ "bochers" to sell flesh except in the Butchery.

All butchers to belong to the craft.

¹⁰ [Enacted] that no man *within* this Citie shall sell eny talowe aboute the price of ij s. iiij d. the stone, ner convey no talowe to be sold owt of the town, vpon peyne to forfeit for every default vj s. viij d. to the vse of the Shireffes to be leved in forme aforseid.

⁹ "Talow" to be sold at 2s. 4d. the stone.

[Enacted] that no Inholder or alehouse-keeper shall frome-hensfurth *permytt* or suffer eny *person* or *persones* of this Citie to sitt or be in ther housez at brekefastes or drynkynges at Matyns, high masse or evensong tymes on the Sondays or holydayes [or 3s. 4d. each time to the sheriffs.]

11 "For drynkyng in seruice tyme" ¹¹ ¹² on saboth days."¹²

¹ See p. 669. ² leaf 378, back.

³ Repeated before all names until note 4.

⁴ "*Magister*" here deleted.

⁵⁻⁵ Surname deleted. "S" follows.

⁶ "*Magister*" here appears to be deleted. ⁷ Untitled.

⁸ In a later hand. ⁹ The same handwriting. ¹⁰ leaf 379.

¹¹⁻¹¹ The same handwriting. ¹²⁻¹² In a later hand.

THO. GARDYNOUR, MAYOR, 1540.

"Civitas
Concentric."
Jan. 25.
Jury.

¶ [Election of officers.]

¶ [*Magister*¹ Hugo Lawton, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Chris. Waren, Joh. Herford, Hugo Bloure, ²Tho. Saunders, Rob. Colman.]

Officers.

[*m. Magister* Tho. Gardynour, baker; Tho. Banwell and Chris. Waren are chosen to be the mayor's assistants in assessing the price of victuals, because the same Tho. Gardynour is a common baker; *rec.* Rog. Wigston; *ch.* Tho. Kyrvyn, *fishmonger*, Hen. Godson, *Coruiser*; *w.* Ric. Giller, *mercier*, Tho. Seonse, *capper*; *mace*, Hen. Thirkyll; *crier*, Joh. Wood.]

EASTER LEET.

"Civitas
Concentric."
Apr. 13.
Jury.

³¶ [V. f. p. held before Tho. Gardynour, *m.*, Tho. Smyth, Will. Colman, *b.*, Apr. 13, 31 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*⁴ Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Tho. Burdon, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Ric. Ley, Cuth. Joynour, Ric. Sewall, Hen. Over, Chris. Waren, Hugo Bloure, ⁵Tho. Kyrvyn, ⁶Hen. Godson, Will. Norton & Tho. Keveit.]

The "bakers" are "not to sell bread, nor Any persons to buy before the mayor or his deputy do weigh it."⁷

[Enacted] that no baker of the Contrey bryngyng bred to this Citie to be sold shall deliuer or put to sale eny suche bred before it be weyed by the meire or his deputies: Ner that no Citizene here shall receive or by eny suche bred before it be weyd, vpon peyn of euery baker to forfeit ij s. And euery Citizen to forfeit xij d. for euery tyme offendyng.

"Ale"

¶ [Enacted] at this leet that no brewer of this Citie shall sell eny ale above xvij d. the Cester & xiiij galons to the Cester: And that no Tipler sell or vtter eny ale

¹ Repeated as far as note 2. ² Untitled. ³ leaf 379, back.
⁴ Repeated as far as note 6. ⁵ "*Magister*" apparently deleted.
⁶ Untitled. ⁷ Gloss in different hands.

within ther house aboue ij d. the galon, ner owt of ther house aboue jd. ob. the galon, vpon peyne for euery brewer to forfeit for euery default vj s. viij d., and euery Typler iij s. iiij d., to be leyed by the shireffes to ther own vse.

to be sold at 2*l.* a gallon within doors and 1½*l.* out of doors.

¶ [Enacted that butchers are only to sell flesh in the Butchery or Market-place, or 20*s.* fine to be leyed as aforesaid.]

The "bochers" to sell meat in the Butchery.

TENTHS AND FIFTEENTHS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

¹ Recorda de xv.

[Particulars of the account of T. Gregorie and R. Walker, collectors of the first whole fifteenth and tenth of the four fifteenths and tenths granted to the lord king, Hen. VIII, from the laity in the 32nd year of his reign (1540), in the city of Coventry and the county of the same.]

¶ Particulae Computi (*sic*) Thome Gregorie & Ricardi Walker, Collec-

torum prime integre xv^e & x^e quattuor (*sic*) xv^{arum} & x^{arum}, domino Regi Henrico octauo a laicis anno regni sui xxxij^o concessarum in Ciuitate Couentrie & Comitatu eiusdem.²

³ Deducciones. ⁴ Remanentes clare.

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|---|--|
| ¶ Gosford-streit Warde. | ij s. | [v li. xiiij s.] ⁵ | 2 <i>s.</i> |
| Jourden-wel warde. | ij s. iiij d. | [xviij s. viij d.] ⁵ | 2 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> |
| Miche-parke Streit ward. | ij s. iiij d. | [viij li. xvij s. viij d.] ⁵ | 2 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> |
| Bailie-lane warde. | xx d. | [iiij li. xviiij s. viij d.] ⁵ | 1 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> |
| Erle-streit ward. | ij s. | [vj li. xviiij s.] ⁵ | 2 <i>s.</i> |
| ⁶ Croschepyng ⁶ warde. | ij s. viij d. | [viij li. xvij s. iiij d.] ⁵ | 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> |
| Broid Yait ward. | xx d. | [viij li. viij s. iiij d.] ⁵ | 1 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> |
| Smythford-streit ward. | ij s. viij d. | [viij li. xvij s. iiij d.] ⁵ | 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> |
| Spone Streit ward. | ij s. viij d. | [iiij li. xvij s. iiij d.] ⁵ | 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> |
| Bishop-streit ward. | ij s. viij d. | [vj li. viij s. iiij d.] ⁵ | 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> |
| Summa totalis li. | Summa deduccionum | xxij s. viij d. | Total £50. Deductions £1 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> |

The Shire or forrience of the same Citie.

Remanentes clare.

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|----------------|-------------|
| Stichall. | vj d. | xxiiij s. x d. | 6 <i>d.</i> |
| Sow & Caloughdon. | iiij d. | xv s. ix d. | 3 <i>d.</i> |

¹ leaf 389. ² 32 Hen. VIII, c. 50.

⁴ = remaining clear. ⁵ deleted.

⁶⁻⁶ "Little-parke-street" deleted.

³ = deductions.

| | | | |
|--|---|--------|-----------------|
| 7 <i>l.</i> | Pynley, Biggyng,) Stoke & Whitley.) | vij d. | xxxj s. ij d. |
| 5 <i>l.</i> | Wykyn. | v d. | xxvj s. vij d. |
| 5 <i>l.</i> | Coوندون & Radforde. | v d. | xxvj s. vij d. |
| | Shulton. | 1 | xvj d. |
| 1 <i>l.</i> | Ansty. | xij d. | xlix s. vj d. |
| 10 <i>l.</i> | ffolleshull | x d. | xlij s. x d. |
| 1 <i>l.</i> | Weston | j d. | xxij d. |
| 6 <i>l.</i> | Exall | vj d. | xxxiiij s. x d. |
| 5 <i>l.</i> | Keresley | v d. | xxvj s. ix d. |
| Total City & Co. 1 <i>l.</i> Deductions 5 <i>l.</i> | <i>Summa totalis</i> xiiij li. j d. <i>Summa deduceionum</i> v s. | | |

[And since deductions are not allowed, then let them be charged as follows.] Et cum deduceiones non allocentur tunc onerentur vt sequitur.

[Stichall, 24s. 4d.; Sowe, Caloughdon, 16s.; Pynley, Biggyng, Stoke and Whitley, 31s. 9d.; Wykyn, 27s.; Coوندون and Radford. 27s.; Shulton, 16d.; Ansty, 50s. 6d.; ffolleshull, 43s. 8d.; Weston, 2s.; Exall, 34s. 4d.; Keresley, 27s. 2d.]

[Sum total of the fifteenth within the foreigners £14 5s. 1*l.*, whence in deductions 5s. *Summa totalis* xv^e infra forinsecos xiiij li. v s. j d., vnde in deduceionibus v s.

[Sum total of the fifteenth and tenth of the whole city and county £64 5s. 1*l.*, whence in deductions 27s. 8*l.*] *Summa totalis* xv^e & x^e tocius Ciuitatis & Comitatus lxiiij li. v s. j d., vnde in deduceionibus xxvij s. vij d.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Ciuitas
Coventre."
July of 25.

²[V. f. p. held on Oct. 12, 32 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*³ Hugo Lawton, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Rog. Palmer, Will. Coton, Sim. Perker, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Cuth. Joyourn, Ric. Sewall, Chris. Waren, Hugo Bloure, ⁴Will. Norton, Tho. Owres, Joh. Lawton, Jac. ffarmour, Tho. Sconse, Ric. Warner, Will. Stirropp, Rob. Smith, sen., skynner.]

Sherrifs.

[Jac. Rogers, Mercer, Will. Saunders, capper.]

¹ blank. Cf. p. 407. ² Scribe J. leaf 380.

³ Repeated as far as note 4. ⁴ Untitled.

Item, it ys ordyned (etc.) that if eny bocher dwellyng & keypyng a shoppe owte of the bocherie do at any tyme hereafter Carre ther fleshe or vyttell owte of ther howses in baskettes or bagges to be solde by them or ther *seruauntes*, that then it shal-be lefull for the Sheriffes of this Cete & ther Officers and the Maisters of the Crafte of Bochers of the seid Cete, and to *euery* of them, to sease and take from the seid Bocher or his *seruaunte* the seid fleshe & vittell to the vse & behoue of the seid Sheriffes and ther Prisoners.

1^a "Butchers not to carry their meat to sell."

[Enacted] that the felyshyp and craftes of the Pinner, Tylers and Cowpers shal-be by auctoritie of this lete one felyshyp and Crafte vnyt together as they have ben in tymes past etc.

"Tylers, pinner, & Coupers."

²[Enacted] *that*³ none inhabitante of thys Cete shall sell eny Talowe above the price of ijs. vjd. the stone, vpon payne of *euery persone* doying the contrarie for *euery* defawlte to forfett vjs. viij.d. to thuse of the Sheriffes of thys Cete for the tyme beyng.

"Talowe."

[Enacted] *not* none inhabitantes of this Cete shall sell Candels above jd. ob. the pounce, [or 6s. 8d. to the sheriffs at every default.]

"Candels."

THE RULES OF THE SMITHS.

Item, it is ordelyned that xij of the Eldest & discrettest of the felishipp of Smythes in this Cete *euer* on sancte Loys daye⁵ shall chuse iij kepers for the yere, that is to wytt the hede-keeper and his two brethern.⁶ And in case they refuse to take ther office vpon them or eny of them the hede-keeper to forrfytt to the seid Crafte xx.s. in the name of a payn: And if eny of his brether refuse ther office to forfett x.s., And so to goo quyte for that yere, And the seid xijth ⁷to chose⁷ other in ther stedes.

4^a "Ordynances for the felishipp of Smythes." 4

"Refusing to serue master or warden to forrfett [illeg.]"

¹ Gloss in later hand with one exception throughout this leet's entries.

² leaf 380. back. ³ "þ" is written like "y" by this scribe.

⁴⁻⁴ Contemporary hand.

⁵ Dec. 1. S. Eloy or Eligius was the patron of smiths.

⁶ A later hand. ⁷⁻⁷ Repeated.

"To be present at marriages, or burials."

sayde Craftes that will not com to the kepers for the yere beyng when they be send for for eny busynes commaunded by maister Meyre, or wyl-not be present at all Mariages, burialles or eny other lawfull assembles for the welthe of the seid Crafte, And to the worship of the Cetic, to forfett vjd. in the name of a payn withoute a lawfull excuse.

"None to give euill Language to the master."

Item, what person or persons of the seid Crafte that rebell in the kepers presence, or speke eny opprobrius wordes wherby that Charitie myght be broken, nor wyl-not kepe silence at the kepers commaundement, to forfett iijs. iiijd.

The "watch on Midsomer nyght"

Item, what person or persons of the seid Crafte that wylnot go to the watches on Mydsomer nyght & seynte Petur nyght or brekethe the wache without a lawfull cause to forfytt for Midsomer nyght iijs. iiijd. in the name of a payn, And for seynte Petur nyght xxd., withowte eny grace.¹

and S. Peter's nyght.

"None to sue Another without Licence."

² Item, it is ordeyned that no brother of the seid Crafte shall sew one another in the lawe to the tyme be he haue asked license of the kepers for the tyme beyng to thentent that the kepers may agree them if they can, vpon payn of vjs. viijd. Provided alwayes that the kepers make an ende within the space of xiiij dayes of eny suche cause, or els to giffe licence.

"Clarke & somner."

Item, it is ordeyned ther shall no kepers for the yere beyng put in nor owte Preste, Clarke nor Somner without assent & consent of xij of the eldest & dyscrettest of the seid Crafte, vpon payn of xls. to be paid in the name of a payn, the one half to Maister Meyr for the tyme beyng, & the other halfe to the seid Craftes.

The "masters to be

Item, what person or persons of the seid Crafte that rebuketh the keeper or eyther of his brother to forfett iijs. iiijd. Provided alwayes that if the kepers for the yere beyng do offende in ther office that then they to be punished by xij of the seyde Occupacion accordyng to consciens.

punished by xij of the fellowship."

Item, it is ordeyned that ther shall no Smyth within

¹ See above, pp. 35, 710.

² leaf 381.

this Cete shoo no horse *with forest*¹ shoyes nor forest¹ nailles in deceyvyng the kynges subiectes, vpon payn of iij s. iiij d. to be to the said Crafte in the name of a payn.

Against
"Shoing
with florrest¹
Iron."²

Item, it is ordeyned that ther shall no man of the said Crafte procure away his brother *seruaunte* nor set hym on worke to he knowe that the said *seruaunte* be lawfullie departed from his maister he wrought *with-all*, vpon payn of iij s. iiij d.

Against
"mticng
other men's
seruants."

Item, it was enacted at Michaelmas lete in the xvij yere of kyng Henrie the viijth that wher-as in the tyme of Maister Nicholas Burwey, late Maire of this Cete,³ enonges other thinges that every crattes-man that setteth vp his Crafte *within* this Cete, & hathe not ben prentes *within* the same, shuld paye to the saide Crafte of Smythes x s., that ys to saye, at thende of the fyrst yere v s., And at thende of the second yere other v s. :

"x s. for
making
free."

Item, it is nowe enacted (etc.) that the same fyne of x s. shal-be xij s. iiij d. to be payed to the Maisters of the same Crafte of Smythes the fyrst daye of his setting vp vj s. viij d., and at the ende of the fyrst yere other vj s. viij d., vpon payn of forfiture to the said Crafte the doble value of the same fyne.

"xij s.^s d.
to be paid to
the maisters
at setting
vp."

⁴[Ordayned] ⁵that if any smythe offend in the said occupacion the offender to be punished by the xij men of the seid Crafte, and if eny suche *person* or *persons* be obstacle⁶ and will-not be orderyd by the seid xij that then it shal-be lefull to the seid Maisters for the tyme

"Smythes."

"All offences
to be pun-
ished by 12
off the Com-
pany."

¹ This term seems to refer to iron from the Forest of Dean (see Fell, *Early Iron Industry of Furness*, pp. 232-3), and not as Rogers supposed to Sussex iron (see *Agric. and Prices*, v. 479). Yarrenton (*England's Improvement by Sea and Land*) speaks (1677) enthusiastically of "our forest iron," in which term he may include possibly that of Clay Hill in Shropshire, *ib.* p. 127. He also notes the fact that the Coldshore iron from Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Derbyshire, which differed from Dean iron, was better fitted for the manufacture of nails and small commodities, *ib.* p. 58, 147.

²⁻² In a later hand.

³ See p. 655. It was at the Easter lect of Burwey's mayoralty in 1518 (9 Hen. VIII) that this order was made. At the Easter lect of 1525 (17 Hen. VIII), in Heynes' mayoralty, the order was modified, *v.* p. 691.

⁴ leaf 381, back.

⁵ "at the seid lete it" follows; the "it" is redundant.

⁶ = obstinate.

heyng to shewe ther names to *Maister* Meyre & the Justice of peax, and they to send for the seid offenders & cause them forwith to paye doble penaltie, or els to comytt them to warde vnto suche tyme they wyll be orderyd by *Maister* Meyre & his brethera.

CUTHBERT JOYNOUR, MAYOR, 1541.

"*Chartas
Coventrie.*"

July 31 26.

1^a [Election of officers.]

[*Magister*² Sim. Parker, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coten, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Hen. Over, Chris. Waren, Joh. Herforde, Hugo Blour, Tho. Smyth, Will. Colman, ³Tho. Kyrvyn, Hen. Godson.]

officers.

[*m. Magister* Cuth. Joyncour, draper; rec. Rog. Wigston, armiger; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Rog. Adnet, grasier; Chris. Bromley, gyrdeler; w. Tho. Mores, draper; Will. Beyley, jun., draper; mace, Hen. Thyrkell; crier, Joh. Woode.]

LIBERTIES AND FRANCHISES.

4 *Tituli libertatum & franchesarum Civitatis Coventrie.*⁵

[In parliament of Edward III held at Westminster on the Monday after S. Mathias' day (Mar. 2), in the 11th year (1337) it among other things is contained:

[Also it is accorded in full parliament by assent of all as well bishops, earls, barons and other nobles as commoners, that for the honour of our

In *parlamento domini Edwardi tercii tento apud Westminsterium die Lune proximo post festum sancti Mathei apostoli anno regni sui vndecimo inter alia sic continetur:*

¶ Auxint est accorde in plene *parliament par* assent de toutz auxibien prelatz, Counties, Barons & auters (*sic*) grantz come gentz de *comune*

¹ leaf 382.

² Repeated until note 3.

³ Untitled.

⁴ leaf 382, back. Scribe of I type.

⁵ Titles of the liberties and franchises of the city of Coventry. See *Rot. Parl.* vi. 12a (Mr. E. F. Kirk). The Anglo-French document is copied in the Burton MS., leaf 56. I do not know why this entry occurs here.

lord the king, and the country and for enforcing of the same and for that [there] was anciently a Duke of Cornwall, that our lord the king ought to make Sir Edward his son, Earl of Chester, Duke of Cornwall, and that the eldest sons of the Kings of England, that is to say, those who are next heirs to the kingdom, should be Dukes of Cornwall; and that the said county should be given to Sir Edward as a duchy, and that that county should always remain as a duchy to the eldest sons of the Kings of England, who are nearest heirs to the kingdom, without being given elsewhere.

que pour le honneur [de] nostre seigneur le Roy & de la terre, & a forcement dicele & pour ceo que aunceonement estoit vn Duke de Cornewall, que le dit nostre seigneur le Roy devoit faire monsieur Edward son fitz, Comte de Cestre, Duke de Cornewall, & ¹que les fitz eignes des Roies dengleterre cestasavoir ceux qui seront² heires prochesnes due (sic)

roialme³ feussent dukes de Cornewall. ⁴Et que la dite Counte soit done au sire Edwarde come en nom de duschee,⁴ & que cele Counte de Cornewall tontz-iours demoeurye,⁵ come duschee a lez eignes fitz [des] Roies dengleterre qui seront heires prochesnes du Roialme sounce⁶ estre ailleurs done.

In the great roll, 7 Ed. IV, 1467.

In magno rotulo⁷ de anno vij^o Regis Edwardi quarti.

[R. Onley and W. Baxster, sheriffs of this county from Michaelmas in the 6th year of Edward IV (1466), until the following Michaelmas, by virtue of the letters patent of Henry VI, formerly in fact and not of right, King of England, dated November 26, the 30th year of his reign (1451),⁸ and enrolled in the Memor-

Rob. Onley & Will. Baxster, viccomites huius Comitatus, A festo S. Michaelis Anno sexto Regis Edwardi quarti vsque festum S. Michaelis tune proximo sequens, pretextu literarum patencium Henrici sexti, nuper de facto & non de Jure, Regis Anglie, quarum data est vicesimo sexto die Nouembris Anno regni sui xxx^o,⁸ Et Irrotulaturum in me-

¹ This passage to the end of the Anglo-French document is to be found in Rot. Parl. IV. 140, abbreviated as R. P. Slight variations not noted.

² R. P. serroient. ³ R. P. inserts d'Engleterre. ⁴⁻⁴ Not in R. P.

⁵ R. P. demorerait, Burton MS. demverye. ⁶ R. P. sanz.

⁷ *i. e.* the Pipe Roll, no. 312, 7 Ed. IV. sub tit. Ciuitas Conentrie, abbreviated as Pipe R. (Mr. E. F. Kirk). See also Burton MS., leaf 50-1.

⁸ Chart-er Roll 27-39 Hen. VI (30th year), mem. 24, no. 29 (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

anda of the 24th year (really 33rd), viz. among the records of Hilary term on roll 32;² and as well by a certain act enacted and provided in the parliament of the said former king held in the 33rd year (1454-5) for the cities, boroughs and towns of the kingdom of England, and enrolled in the memoranda on the side of the king's remembrancer of the 34th³ year (1455-6) of the said former king, viz. among the records of Trinity Term, roll 14, as by two several, similar acts had and provided in the parliament held at Westminster in the 1st and 3rd year of the present king, for the different cities, boroughs and towns of this kingdom of England, remaining in the custody of the king's remembrancer, and by the present lord king's writ enrolled among the Memoranda of the 7th year, Michaelmas term, roll 7:—

[In which is contained among other things that the said former king, as aforesaid, by his letters patent, which the said present king has confirmed, granted to the mayor, bailiffs, and community of the city of Coventry, their heirs (etc.) that the city or town of Coventry

memorandis de Anno xxiiij^o,¹ videlicet inter Recorda de termino S. Hillarii Rotulo xxxij^o;² Ac tam per quemdam Actum in parlamento dicti nuper Regis apud Westmonasterium Anno

regni sui xxxiiij^o tento pro Cinitatibus, burgis & villis regni Anglie editam & provisam & irrotulatum in memorandis ex parte Rememoratoris Regis de Anno xxiiij^o [interlined xxxiiij]³ dicti nuper Regis, videlicet inter Recorda de termino

S. Trinitatis Rotulo xiiij^o, quam per duos sepeales consimiles actus in parlamento⁴ domini Regis nunc apud Westmonasterium Anno (sic) regni sui primo & tercio tento pro Ciuitatibus, burgis & villis huius regni Anglie separatim, habitos & prouisos & in custodia rememoratoris Regis remanentes, ac per breuem dicti domini

Regis nunc Irrotulatum in memorandis de Anno septimo Termino S. Michaelis Rotulo vij^o:—

In quo inter alia continetur quod dictus, vt premititur, nuper Rex per predictas literas patentes, quas

dictus dominus Rex nunc confirmauit, concesserit tunc Maiori, balliuis & Communitati Ciuitatis Couentrie & eorum heredibus & Successoribus quod Ciuitas sine villa de Couentria

¹ Read xxxiiij.

² Memo. Roll, K. R. Hilary, 33 Hen. VI. Communia, roll 32 (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

³ Pipe R. xxxiiij. ⁴ Pipe R. parliamentis.

with Radford, Keresley, Foleshill, Exhall, Ansty, Shilton, Calloughdon, Wyken, Henley le Woodend, Stoke, Bigging, Whitley, Pinley, Asthull, Horwell, Harnal, and Whoberley, hamlets of the city (etc.) aforesaid . . . of the hamlets (etc.) and parcels aforesaid, which were within the county and of the county of Warwick, should be from the feast of S. Nicholas in the 30th year of the said former king's reign (Dec. 6, 1451) an entire county incorporated in itself, in name and deed, and distinct and separate from the said county of Warwick for ever, and not part of the said county of Warwick: and that the same county, so incorporate, distinct and separate from the county of Warwick should be named and called by name the county of the city of Coventry for ever.

[He willed also and granted for himself, his heirs (etc.) to the aforesaid mayor (etc.) for ever that the bailiffs of that city (etc.) who should be bailiffs on the morrow of the said feast of St. Nicholas, and the bailiffs of the same city

*predicta cum Radforde, Keresley, Folkeshull, Eeleshall, Anesty, Shulton, Calwedon, Wykyn, Henley la Woodende, Stoke, Byggyng, Whitley, Pynley, Asthull, Horewell, Harneshall, Whaburley, hamlettos*¹ *Ciuitatis sine ville predictæ*² . . . *hamlettorum & parcellarum predictorum, qui infra Comitatum &*

de Comitatu Warrwicensi existierint (sic), a festo S. Nicholai Anno

Regni dicti nuper Regis xxx^o, essent vnus integer Comitatus per se corporatus in re & nomine, ac distinctus & separatus a dicto Comitatu Warrwicensi in perpetuum, &

*non parcella ipsius Comitatus Warrwicensis: Et quod idem Comitatus sic*³ *corporatus a dicto Comitatu*

*Warrwicense distinctus & separatus Comitatus Ciuitatis Couentrie pro*⁴ *perpetuo nominaretur, nuncuparetur, & appellaretur:*

Vo[uerit etiam & concesserit pro se, heredibus & Successoribus suis prefatis Maiori, Balliuis & Communitati & Successoribus suis in perpetuum quod balliui Ciuitatis (etc.) illius,

qui in Crastino dicti festi S. Nicholai essent, & balliui eiusdem Ciuitatis

¹ Pipe R. *hamlettis*.

² An omission here. See p. 753-4. Supply "ac illa *parcella de Sowe & illa parcella de Styuchall que sunt infra libertatem Ciuitatis, sine ville, illius & precinctus Ciuitatis, ville,*" . . . and that part of Sow and that part of Stivichall which are within the liberty of that city or town, and the precinct of that city, town, . . .

³ MS. *sit*.

⁴ leaf 383.

(etc.) who for the time should be, to be elected from thenceforth in the manner and form used in the time of Edward III. during the time that they be bailiffs of the city should be sheriffs of the county of the city of Coventry from the aforesaid feast for ever:

[And that as well they who should be sheriffs of the aforesaid city from the said morrow of the feast of S. Nicholas as all others who should be sheriffs of the same city from thenceforth in all future times, should, after that they were sheriffs of the same city, duly take the oath (etc.) for the time being in the Guildhall, and not before any other or elsewhere, duly and faithfully to fulfil, exercise and perform the office of sheriff of the said county of the aforesaid city so long as they should be in the office of sheriff:

[And that the mayor of the said city (etc.) for the time being should certify into the chancery of the king and his heirs from time to time without delay the names of such sheriffs (etc.) thus sworn under his letters patent to be sealed with the seal of his office of mayoralty; and that such

(etc.) modo & forma tempore Regis

E. tercii visitatis extunc eligendi qui pro tempore essent, quemdiu (*sic*)

ballivi Ciuitatis (etc.) illius extitissent, essent a *predicto* festo vicecomites dicti Comitatus Ciuitatis Conetricie imperpetuum:

Et quod tam ipsi qui vicecomites Ciuitatis *predicte* a¹ dicto Crastino

S. Nicholai existerint (*sic*), quam omnes alii qui vicecomites eiusdem Ciuitatis extunc perpetuis futuris

temporibus essent, postquam vicecomites eiusdem Ciuitatis fuissent, Sacramentum suum coram Maiore Ciuitatis siue ville *predicte* pro tempore existente, & non coram aliquo

alio, in Gnylhald² eiusdem Ciuitatis, & non alibi, in forma debita prestarent ad officium vicecomitatus dicti Comitatus Ciuitatis *predicte* debite & fideliter faciendum, exercendum & exequendum quamdiu ipsi in officio vicecomi[ta]tus extitissent:

Et quod Maior dicte Ciuitatis (etc.) pro tempore existente³ Nomina huiusmodi vicecomitum dicti Comitatus Ciuitatis *predicte* sic jurato-

rum per literas suas patentes sigillo officii Maioratus illius sigillandas in Cancellariam Regis & heredum suorum de tempore in tempus indi-

¹ Pipe R. in.

² Pipe R. Gnylhald.

³ Pipe R. existens.

sheriffs of the city aforesaid who for the time should be should hold the king's county courts of the city from month to month on the Tuesday throughout the year for ever :

[And that they should have and use all kind of and such power, jurisdiction, authority and liberty and other things whatsoever belonging to the office of sheriffs in the same city (etc.) as any other his sheriffs or his heirs had and ought to have in their baillywicks within the kingdom of England, as is more fully contained in the said writ, rendering an account of farms and other dues, as below.

[The mayor and bailiffs and men of the town of Coventry, tenants of the manor of Cheylesmore, owe £50 a year for having the farm of the town from June 21, the first year of King Richard II (1378) to him and his successors for ever; paying thereof to the king the said £50 at the feasts of Easter and Michaelmas equally, as is contained in the first roll of this king, and in the 32nd roll of Hen. VI in Warwick and Leicester.

[The Prior and Convent of Coventry owe £88 6s. 8d. of

late *certific[er]et*: *quodque* huiusmodi *vicecomites* Ciuitatis *predicte* qui *pro tempore* essent *Comitatus Regis Ciuitatis predicte* infra Ciuitatem illam de mense in mensem *per diem Martis Annuatim* tenerent *imperpetuum* :

Et quod *habent & exercent omnimodos* tales potestatem, jurisdictionem, auctoritatem & libertatem ac *quocunque* alia ad officia *vicecomitatum pertinencia* in eisdem Ciuitate siue villa, hamlettis, *parcellis & procinetu* eorundem quales & qualia aliqui alii *vicecomites* sui

& *heredum*¹ infra Regnum Anglie in balliuis suis *habent & habere* deberent, *prout* in eodem *breui* plenius *continetur*, reddendo *Compotum* de firmis & aliis *debitis*, vt infra :—

Maior & balliui ac *homines* ville de Couentria, tenentes *Manerii* de Chelesmore, debent lli. *per annum* de firma ville *predicte* habendo a xxj^o

die Junii anno primo Regis Ricardi secundi sibi & *successoribus* suis *imperpetuum*. Reddendo inde Regi

per annum dictas lli. ad festa Pasche & S. Michaelis equaliter, sicut *continetur* in rotulo primo huius Regis

& in Rotulo xxxij^o H. vjⁱ in Warrwico & Leicesteria.²

¶ Prior & Conventus de Couentria debent iij viij li. vj s. viij d. de

¹ Pipe R. adds "suorum."

² The Burton MS. copy and Pipe R. add "et in Rotulo ij^o Regis Ricardi ij^{di} et DCCC li. de annis preteritis, summa DCCC li."

the rent of half the town of Coventry in the county of Warwick called Earl's-Part, which half indeed the same prior and convent hold a part in demesne and a part in service of the king as of his manor of Cheylesmore, being in the king's hand by service etc.

[Will. Loff of Coventry owes 12*l.* a year to the Exchequer of Michaelmas for retaining a certain house in Much-park Street; to have from December 10th in the end of the 15th year of King Edward [III.], to the said William and his heirs, as it is contained in the 34th⁴ roll in Warwick and Leicester and in the 16th roll of the said king Edward of which the sheriffs answer within.

[Rob. Haddelley owes 3*s.* 8*d.* a year for the custody of a messuage with appurtenances in the town of Coventry which formerly was of the Jews⁵

redditu medietatis ville de Couentria in Comitatu Warrwicensi vocato Erlespark¹; quam quidem medietatem ijdem prior & Conventus tenent parcelam in dominico & parcelam in servicio de Rege vt de dominico suo de Chelesmore in manu Regis existente per seruicium etc.²

¶ Will. Loff de Couentria debet xij*d.* per annum ad Scaccarium S. Michaelis pro quadam domo retinente³ in Miche-parke-streit; habenda a decimo die Decembris Anno xv^o Regis E. finiente eidem Willelmo & heredibus suis imperpetuum, sicut continetur in Rotulo xxxiiij^o⁴ in Warrwico & Leicestria & in Rotulo xvj^o diei Regis E. de quibus vicecomites respondunt infra.

¶ Rob. Haddelley debet iij*s.* viij*d.* per annum in custodia vnus Mesuagii cum pertinentiis in villa de Couentria, quod quondam fuit Judeorum⁵ ibidem, & quod Tho.

¹ Pipe R. Erlespart, *i. e.* the half of the town belonging anciently to the Earls of Chester. See Dugdale 1730), 1. 162, *Life in an Old English Town*, 60.

² The Pipe R. and MS. Burton add: "iij viij li. vjs. viij d. per annum pro omnibus seruiciis a septimo die Augusti Anno x^o Regis Ricardi secundi, quamdiu medietas dicte ville de Couentria et Dominium de Cheylesmore in manibus Regis vel heredum suorum contigerit remanere; Soluendo dictum redditum ad terminos S. Michaelis et Pasche equaliter sicut Continetur in Rotulo Secundo, Et in Rotulis primo et sexto Henrici quarti. Et in Rotulo x^o Regis Ricardi Secundi; Et Dxxx li. de annis preteritis. Summa DCxviij li. vjs. viij d. [£88 6*s.* 8*d.* for all services from Aug. 7 in the 10th year of King Richard while the half of the said town of Coventry and the demesne of Cheylesmore happen to remain in the hands of the king or of his heirs; paying the said rent at the terms of Michaelmas and Easter equally, as it is contained in the 2nd roll, and in the 1st and 6th rolls of Henry IV, and in the 10th roll of King Richard II; and £530 for the past years. Total £618 6*s.* 8*d.*] These lump sums evidently apply to the Prior's arrears of the term. See *Life in an Old English Town*, 127.

³ Pipe R. retinendo.

⁴ *i. e.* the Pipe Roll 34 Edw. III (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

⁵ On the Jewess, Antera of Coventry, see Cole, *Doc. Illust. Eng. Hist.*, 309-19.

there, and which Tho. Wildegrice lately held, which is extended at 18*l.* a year.

[To have from Michaelmas in the 1st year of this king until the end of 20 years; rendering unto the king 3*s.* 8*d.* a year at Easter and Michaelmas by equal portions by the hands of Joh. Haddeley of Coventry, grazier, and W. Stephens of London, baker, as is contained in the 2nd roll of this king and in the Originalia roll of the first year in the 64th roll, of which the sheriffs answer within.]

² In memorandis *Seaccarii* de Anno vij^o E. quarti, vide licet inter breviam directam Baronibus de Termino S. Michaelis Rotulo septimo ex parte Rememoratoris Regis inter alia continetur sic:—³

[The king to his treasurer and barons of the Exchequer, greeting. Whereas Henry VI, formerly in fact though not of right, King of England, granted by his letters patent,⁴ which we have confirmed, to the mayor, bailiffs and community of the city of Coventry and their heirs and successors that the city (etc.) of Coventry aforesaid with Radford, Keresley, Foleshill, Exhall, Anstey, Shilton, Calloughdon, Wyken,

Wildegrice de Couentria nuper tenuit, quod ad decem & octo denarios extendantur (sic) per annum. Habendam a festo S. Michaelis archangeli Anno primo Regis huius vsque ad finem xx^{ti} Annorum. Reddendo inde Regi per annum iij*s.* viij*d.* ad festa Pasche & S. Michaelis per

equales porciones per manus Joh. Haddeley de Couentria, Grasier, & Will. Stephens de London, Baker, sicut continetur in rotulo secundo

Regis huius & in origine¹ de Anno primo Rotulo lxxiiij^o; de quibus vicecomites respondent infra.

Rex Thesaurario & Baronibus suis de *Seaccario*, Salutem. Cum H. sextus nuper de facto & non de Jure *Ree*

Anglie per literas suas patentes quas confirmauimus concesserit Maiori,

balliuis & Communitati Ciuitatis Couentrie, & eorum heredibus & successoribus quod Ciuitas (etc.) de

Couentria predicta cum Radeforde, Keresley, ffolkeshull, Eccleshale, Anesty, Shulton, Calwedon, Wyken,

¹ sic. Pipe R. Originalia.

² leaf 383, back.

³ In the Exchequer Memoranda of Ed. IV, among the writs directed to the Barons on Michaelmas term, roll 7, on the side of the king's remembrancer it is thus contained among other things, *i. e.* Memoranda Roll, K. R. Mich., 7 Edw. IV, Writs to the Barons, no. 7, abbreviated below as Mem. R. (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

⁴ See p. 747, note 8 (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

Henley le Woodend, Stoke, Biggyng, Whitley, Pinley, Asthull, Horwell, Harnal, and Whoburley, hamlets of the city (etc.) aforesaid, and that part of Sow, and that part of Stivichall, which are within the liberty of the city (etc.) and the precinct of that city, town, hamlets, and parts aforesaid, which were within the county and of the county of Warwick, from the feast of S. Nicholas in the 30th year of his reign should be an entire county incorporated (etc.), and distinct and separate from the said county of Warwick, and not part (etc.).

[And that the same county thus incorporated, distinct and separate from the said county of Warwick, should be forever named, called, and called by name the county of the city of Coventry.

[He willed also that the mayor and bailiffs of the city (etc.) hereafter to be elected, should be elected at the same place, times, manner and form, as in the time of his progenitor, Edward, of famous memory, formerly King of England, the third after the Conquest, by virtue of his letters patent, or in the time of any other his progenitor,

Henley la Woodende, Stoke, Biggyng, Whiteley, Pynley, Asthull, Horwell, Harnchall, & Whaburley,

hamlettes¹ *Ciuitatis sine ville predictae, ac illa parcella de Sowe & illa parcella de Styuchall que sunt infra libertatem Ciuitatis (etc.) illius & precinctus Ciuitatis, ville, hamletorum & parcellarum predictorum, qui infra Comitatum & de Comitatu*

Warrwicensi existerint (sic) a festo S. Nicholai a. r. sui. xxx^o essent vnus integer Comitatus per se incorporatus in re & nomine, ac distinctus & separatus a dicto Comitatu Warrwicensi imperpetuum, & non parcella ipsius Comitatus Warrwicensis:

Et quod idem Comitatus, sic incorporatus, a dicto Comitatu Warrwicensi distinctus & separatus, Comitatus Ciuitatis Couentrie pro perpetuo nominaretur, nuncuparetur & appellaretur:

Voluerit etiam quod maiores & balliui Ciuitatis (etc.) illius ibidem imposterum eligendi eligerentur im-

perpetuum eisdem loco, temporibus, modo & forma, prout tempore inclite

recondicionis E. nuper Regis Anglie tercii² post Conquestum, progenitoris sui, pretextu literarum suarum paten-

¹ Mem. R. hamlettis.

² Pat. Roll, 19 Edw. III, p. 3, m. 6 (3 Dec. 1345). (Mr. E. F. Kirk.)

King of England, by virtue of his letters patent, or in any other manner or by any other means as they were wont to be elected or made, or any of them was wont to be elected or made.

[He willed also and granted for himself, his heirs (etc.) to the mayor, bailiffs and community for ever that the bailiffs of the city (etc.) who should be bailiffs on the morrow of the said [feast of] S. Nicholas, and the bailiffs of the city (etc.), to be chosen from thenceforth in manner and form aforesaid, who for the time should be, during the time that they were bailiffs of the city (etc.) should be from the aforesaid feast sheriffs of the said county of the city for ever.

[And also that they should be for ever bailiffs of the city (etc.) and do and perform there the offices of bailiffs, according to the form and effect of the franchises and liberties in the same city (etc.) theretofore used and accustomed by virtue of the grants of divers his progenitors and (l) ancestors notwithstanding his own grant.

[And that as well they who should be sheriffs of the said city on the said morrow of S. Nicholas, as all those who

*ei*um, vel tempore alicuius alterius progenitoris sui Regis Anglie pre-textu *liberarum* suarum patencieum, vel aliquo alio modo elegi (*sic*) seu fieri consueverunt, seu eorum aliquis elegi seu fieri consuevit :

Voluerit etiam & concesserit *pro* se, *heredibus* & *successoribus* suis, *prefatis* Maiori, balliis & *Communitati* & *Successoribus* suis *imperpetuum* *quod* ballini *Ciuitatis* (etc.) illius, qui

in *Crastino diei* [festi] S. *Nicholai* essent, & ballini eiusdem *Ciuitatis* (etc.) modo & forma *predicta* extunc

eligendi, qui *pro tempore* essent, quamdiu ballini *Ciuitatis* (etc.) illius extitissent, essent a *predicto* festo vicomites (*sic*) *diei Comitatus* *Ciuitatis* *Contrie* *imperpetuum* :

Et etiam *quod* essent *imperpetuum* ballini *Ciuitatis* (etc.) illius & officia balliuorum *ibidem* *facerent* & *exer-*

cerent secundum formam & *effectum* *franchesiarum* & *libertatum* in eadem *Ciuitate* (etc.) *pretextu* *concessionum* *diuersorum* *progenitorum* & *successorum*¹ *suorum* *consuetarum* [et] *ibidem* ante *hec tempora* *vsitatarum*, *concessione* *sua* *non-obstante* :

Et *quod* tam ipsi qui vicomites *Ciuitatis* *predicte* in *dicto* *Crastino* S. *Nicholai* *existerent*, quam omnes

¹ Read "antecessorum."

should be thenceforth sheriffs of the same city in all future times, after that they were sheriffs of the said city, should take their oath in due form before the mayor of the city for the time being, and not before another, in the Guildhall, and not elsewhere, duly and faithfully to do, exercise and perform the office of sheriff of the said county of the city aforesaid as long as they should be in the office of sheriff:

[And that the mayor of the said city (etc.) for the time being should immediately certify from time to time into our chancery, or that of our heirs, by his letters patent sealed with the seal of the office of mayoralty of the city, the names of the same sheriffs thus sworn:

[And that the same sheriffs of the said city, who for the time shall be, should yearly hold our county courts of the said city within that city from month to month on the Tuesday throughout the year for ever:

[And that they should have and exercise all such power, jurisdiction, authority and liberty and all other things whatsoever belonging to the office of sheriff within the

alii qui vicicomites eiusdem Ciuitatis extunc perpetuis futuris temporibus essent, postquam vicicomites eiusdem Ciuitatis fuissent, Sacra-

mentum suum coram Maiore Ciuitatis (etc.) predicte pro tempore existente & non coram aliquo alio, in Guyhaldia eiusdem Ciuitatis & non alibi, in forma debita prestarent ad officium vicicomitatus (sic) dicti Comitatus Ciuitatis predicte debite & fideliter faciendum, exercendum & exequendum quamdiu ipsi in officio vicecomitatus extitissent:

Et quod Maior dicte Ciuitatis (etc.) pro tempore existente¹ nomina huiusmodi² vicecomitum dicti Comitatus Ciuitatis predicte sic iuratorum

per literas suas patentes sigillo officii Maioratus illius sigillandas in Cancellarium nostram³ (sic) & heredum nostrorum de tempore in tempus indilate certific[er]et:

Quodque huiusmodi vicicomites Ciuitatis predicte, qui pro tempore essent, Comitatus nostros³ Ciuitatis

predicte infra Ciuitatem illam de mense in mensem per diem Martis Annuatim ten[er]ent imperpetuum:

Et quod haberent & exercerent omnimodas tales potestatem, iurisdic-

tionem, auctoritatem & libertatem ac quecumque alia ad officia vicecomitatus pertinencia in eisdem Ciuitate

¹ Mem. R. existens.

² leaf 384.

³ Note change of person.

said city (etc.), hamlets, and precinct of the same, as any other his sheriffs, or (those of) his heirs, within the kingdom of England should have and ought to have in their bailiwicks.

[And that the same former king, his heirs (etc.) should after the same feast cause to be made and directed to the sheriffs of the city of Coventry for the time being all and every his and his heirs' writs, bills, warrants and mandates, which should be directed or executed concerning any cause, matter or thing, or any causes, matters or things whatever, arising within the city (etc.) after the said feast of S. Nicholas, and which ought to have been directed to the sheriff of Warwickshire by him to be served and executed if the said city (etc.), the hamlets (etc.) had not been made a whole county in itself,

[And that no other sheriff of his kingdom of England, or bailiff, or servant of any sheriff of the same his kingdom, save only his and his heirs' sheriffs of the city aforesaid, their bailiffs, officers or servants, should, after the aforesaid feast, enter into the same city, the parts and precincts aforesaid, or by any means or in

(etc.), hamlettis & *procinetu* eorundem, quales & qualia aliqui alii *vicecomites* sui & *heredum* suorum infra regnum Anglie, in balliuis suis haberent & *habere* deberent :

Et quod idem nuper Rex, heredes et successores sui, omnia & singula *breuia*, *billas*, *precepta* & *manda*[ta] sua¹ *heredum* & *successorum* suorum, que ex quacumque causa, re, vel materia, seu quibuscumque causis, rebus vel materiis infra Ciuitatem (etc.) hamlettos, *parcelas* & *procinctum* predicta emergente vel emergentibus post dictum festum S. Nicholai essent dirigenda seu exequenda, & que *vicecomiti* Comitatus *Warwicensis* dirigi per ipsam seruari & exequi deberent, si iidem Ciuitas (etc.), hamletti, *parcelle* & *procinctus* integer Comitatus per se facti non fuissent, *vicecomitibus* Ciuitatis de *Coentria* pro tempore existentibus post idem festum fieri & dirigi faceret & heredes (etc.) sui predicti fieri & dirigi facerent :

Et quod nullus alius *vicecomes* regni sui Anglie, aut balliuus seu seruiens alicuius *vicecomitis* eiusdem regni sui, nisi solomodo *vicecomites* sui & *heredum* suorum Ciuitatis pre-

dicte & eorum balliui, Ministri, vel seruientes, eandem Ciuitatem (etc.), hamlettos (etc.), post festum predictum aliquo modo ingrederetur seu ingrederentur ad quicquam quod ad

¹ MS. inserts "&" here.

any wise perform or execute anything at all there which should or might pertain to the office of sheriff, neither to intermeddle in the same in any wise :

[And that all sheriffs of the said county and bailiffs of the said city (etc.), who after the feast aforesaid should be bailiffs and sheriffs, should make their several accounts of or for the issues of their office pertaining or which ought to pertain to the said former king, as aforesaid, or to his heirs, every year before the treasurer and barons of his Exchequer and of his heirs, or before the barons of the same Exchequer, and that they should for ever do all things whatsoever belonging to their offices, or either of them, or for the performance of their offices, or either of them, by their sufficient attorneys constituted by their letters patent directed unto the aforesaid barons :

[And that no sheriff of the same county or bailiff of the said city (etc.) should be in any wise compelled or bound to come personally out of the same county for the making of any accounts concerning anything belonging to their offices, or to that of either of them, or concerning any other thing for the performance of their

officium vicecomitatus pertineret, seu pertinere potuisset, ibidem quomodo exercendum vel exequendum, nec se aliqualiter intromitteret in eisdem :

Et quod singuli vicicomites eiusdem Comitatus ac balliui Ciuitatis (etc.) *predicte*, qui post festum *predictum* vicecomites & balliui essent,

de sine *pro exitibus* officii sui eidem, vt *premittitur*, nuper Regi & hereditibus suis *pertinentibus* vel *pertinere*

debentibus quolibet anno coram The-saurario & Baronibus de Scaccario suo & heredum suorum vel coram baronibus de eodem Scaccario separatim computarent, & omnia quecumque ad officia sua seu eorum alterum

spectancia siue *pro* officiis suis, seu eorum altero, faciendis facere possit & possint *imperpetuum* per sufficientes *attornatos* suos, per *litteras* suas patentes *prefatis* baronibus dirigendas, constituendos :

Et quod nullus vicecomes eiusdem Comitatus, aut balliuus Ciuitatis (etc.) *predicte*, extra eundem Comitatum ad

Computandum de aliquibus ad officia, seu ad officium alicuius eorum, spectantibus, seu ad aliquod aliud *pro*

officiis illis seu eorum aliquo faciendis, *personaliter* venire compellaretur

offices or that of either of them, as in the letters and confirmation aforesaid more fully it is contained.

[We command you that ye neither molest nor grieve the same mayor, bailiffs and community contrary to the tenor of the letters and confirmation aforesaid. Witness ourself at Westminster, Oct. 28, in the 7th year of our reign (1467).]

(*sic*) seu teneretur quovismodo, prout in literis & confirmacione predictis plenius continetur.

Vobis mandamus quod ipsos Maiorem, balliuos & Communitates Ciuitatis predictae contra tenorem literarum & confirmacionis predictarum non molestetis in aliquo seu grauētis. Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium xxvij^o die Octobris anno regni nostri septimo.

PEMBERTON.

EASTER LEET.

¹ [V. f. p. held before Cuth. Joyour, m., Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, b., on May 3, 33 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*² Sym. Parker, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Saunders, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Burdon, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Lee, Joh. Talontes, Hen. Over,³ Chris. Waren, Hugo Blowre, Tho. Smyth, Will. Colman, ⁴Chris. Bromeley, Rog. Adnet, Will. Norton.]

[Enacted] that the Millers of the Priorie Milne, the Bastell⁶ Milne, & Whit-frere Milne shall pull vpp ther flode-gaites in tyme of great reyne, so that ther be no hurt doon in the Citie by floides by reason of Stoppyng the River at eny of the seid Milnes at eny tyme herafter vpon peyne to forfeit for eu[er]y default xx s.

[Enacted] that no persone or persones at eny tyme herafter shall ley or cause to be leyd by his seruauant or otherwise eny fl[is]the or dunge in the Churche-yardes of the Trinitie and seynt Michell, or eyther of theme, or at the Priorie Yait, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery default iij s. iiij d.; of which forfeiture the fynder or presenter of

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."

Jury of 25.

⁵ "Millers;
floodgates to
be pulled vp
in time off
flood." ⁵

⁶ "Church
yardes layne
[? lay no]
Ashes or
muck." ⁵

¹ leaf 385. ² Repeated before all names until note ⁴.

³ The Over family came from Cester Over. ⁴ Untitled.

⁵⁻⁵ In different handwritings.

⁶ The Bastell-gate lay between the Cook-street and Gosford gates. Bastell, or bastille = a small fortified tower.

the default shall haue xij d. & the residue to be dyuyded between the shireffes & the comen box.

1^o Millers

[Enacted] that the Millers of this Citie shall take for gryndyng of *every* quarter of bredcome to the bakers vij d. ; and that no Milner shall keip eny Swyne or duckes, vpon peyne to forfeit for *every* default vj s. viij d.

not to keep swyne or duckes.¹

THE COMMONS.

The mayor

²flor-asmoche as it is perceived & knowen by the *cominaltie* of this Citie that *with* the Rentes, issues & *profittes* of the comen groundes & pastures about the Citie latedie taken in & maid *seuerall* by auctorite of lete in the tyme of Maister Will. Coton, lait meire of this Citie,³ Ther haith been dyuers great charges & paymentes susteyned & borne for the Citie sith that tyme, which wolde haue been in maner mportable saue onelie for the said Rentes. And for-asmoche also that it is thought by the *cominaltie* of the said Citie that the said Rentes in tyme comyng shall growe to great profit for the Citie, The same *Cominaltie* haue therfor maid *peticion* & request at this lete to the Meire & counsell of this Citie that ther myght be mo of the said groundes, Clósez & pastures taken in & maid *seuerall* for the same vse, purpose & intent as the other Clósez latedie taken in be; vnto the which request the said Meire & counsell did condiscend & agree. And thereupon ther were thre men appoynted in *every* Warde of the Citie to viewe and ssee (*sic*) which of the said comen Clóses & groundes be moost meit to be taken in; whose names hereafter ensue.

and comen agree to a petition

that more of "the comen Clósez" shall be taken in.

The commons are to be inspected by three men from each ward,

Gosforde Streit warde.

¶ Joh. Lawton, Capper, Will. Colman, Cowper, Will. Androwes, Baker.

Miche-parke-stret warde.

¶ Owen Blakemer, weiver, Joh. Stele, boelemaker, Will. Beilie, draper.

Beilie-lane warde.

¶ Joh. Grene, mercer, Rauf Hopkyuse, Taillour, Edm. Dampont, pewterer.

¹⁻¹ In different hands. ² leaf 385, back. ³ See p. 729.

¹Broid Yait warde.

¶ Chris. Wharton, Skynner, Joh. Clerke, coriour, Tho. Diglyng, mercer.

Bisshop-stret warde.

¶ Tho. Owres, baker, Ph. Sherrerd, draper, Mores Gilbert, draper.

Jourden-well warde.

¶ Joh. Hill, Capper, Tho. Philips, Capper, Joh. Borresley, Capper.

Erle-stret ward.

¶ Nic. Hopson, draper, Tho. Napton, boelemaker, Will. Stirropp, flecher.

Smythford-stret warde.

¶ Joh. Sparkes, Sadeler, Art. Gudriche, mercer, Will. Atkyuse, flecher.

Croschepyng ward.

¶ Will. Vnderwood, Coruiser, Hugh Dalaway, mercer, Guy Speke, Inholder.

Spone Streit ward.

¶ Joh. Eyburne, tanner, Joh. Stiward, dier, Tho. Amourson, Chaundeler.

¶ Which men for & in the name of the hole bodie of the Citie haue viewed & appoynted the Closez hereafter named & wrytten to be taken in & maid Seuerall for the vse aforseid for ener.

who select certain closes to be taken in.

²ffurst, a Close without Grey-frere-yait called the litill Podyngcroft³ & the Towne wall of the yeirelie rent of x s. for the latter half-yeire & comen at Lammas . . . x s.

108.

Item, thre fieldes without Grey-freer Yait, called the Crab-tre-feildes,⁴ beyng comen at Michelmas & of the yierelie rent for the latter half-yeire of . . . xxxviij s. viij d.

“on of [illeg.] next the Buttes.”

388. 8d.

Item, another feild next theme called the Pit-feild beyng comen at Michelmas vj s. viij d.

68. 8d.

Item, a feild of the kynges called the Strip⁵ lying next the said Pit-field & comen at Lammas iij s. iiij d.

38. 1d.

¹ leaf 386. ² leaf 386, back. ³ See above, p. 4.

⁴ See p. 47. ⁵ See p. 576.

Heusa¹.
68. 8d.
Item, a litle Croft or Close lying on the southe side a litle Croft lying on the west side Somerlesbuttes, and a great broild Close lying next beyond the same, stretchyng westward towards Hethsall, with a pike¹ at the west end thereof, beyng boithe the kynges groundes & comen at Lammas vj s viij d.

108.
Item, a field of Tho. Bondes called the Rie-feild, lying without the Spone-ende on the northe side the wey ledyng frome Couentre to Allesley and comen at Lammas x s.

46.
Item, a feild next beyond that belongyng to the hospitall of seynt John Baptist in Couentre² & comen at Lammas iiij s.

38. 4d.
28. 6d.
Item, on of the kynges feildes lying next beyond the lane ledyng frome Allesley-wey into the iiij li. feildes.³
ij s. iiij d.

Item, a feild next beyond that ij s. vj d.

88.
Item, ij litill medowes of Tho. Bondes lying by the River vnder the iiij li. feildes viij s.

108.
⁴Item, thre feildes ther, parcell of the iiij li. feildes.
x s.

68. 8d.
Item, ij feildes of Maister Stronge⁵ lying on the eist side the sail feildes vj s. viij d.

208.
Item, a feild called the Rowe-of-okes-feild⁵ with a litle feild at the south ende of the same feild xx s.

128.
Item, iiij pyngilles⁶ or Croftes called Ropers-feildes lying on the back side of Hill-streit & Spone Streit xij s.

68.
Item, a close of Joh. Talontes at the Hill-streit ende lying at the back side of his barne ther vj s.

138. 4d.
Item, a Close ther called Litle-Grauntpurs-feild⁷
xiiij s. iiij d.

88.
Item, a Close next Radford callid the Nether-botmans-acre⁸ viij s.

¹ A narrow pointed piece of land.

² Probably the field mentioned in 1495-6, when a dispute arose concerning common rights. See p. 570.

³ For the Four-pound-fields see Poole, *Coventry* (Boundaries of S. Michael's parish in 1675 from Harl. MS. 6839, leaf 167), p. 176. leaf 387.

⁵ Stronge's-Lammas is marked 172 and Row of Oaks 104b in a list of names of lands, which list is in possession of the Freemen's trustees.

⁶ = paddocks, close. The word is of uncertain origin (*N.E.D.*).

⁷ Crampy- (or Grampy) -feld, p. 51.

⁸ See pp. 4, 38.

| | | |
|---|-----------------|---|
| Item, a feild next Radford <i>that</i> was Joh. floxalles | v s. | 58. |
| Item, a-nother Close ther of the kynges | v s. | 58. |
| Item, a Close of the kynges next the land beyond seynt Nicholas Church ¹ | v s. vj d. | 58 6d. |
| Item, a Close next beyond <i>that</i> belongyng to seynt Johns | ij s. vj d. | 28. 6d. |
| Item, a Close on the northe side seynt Nicholas Church of dyvers menes Rentes | vj s. viij d. | 68. 8d. |
| Item, a Close called Seynt-Nicholas-leyes | x s. | 108. |
| Item, a litle Croft of the Tanners | ij s. vj d. | 28. 6d. |
| Item, a Close buttyng on Radford vpon the eist side the towne | x s. | 108. |
| Item, all Closes & feildes betwen Radford & Bishops-yait lying on the west side the wey ledyng frome Couentre to Radford | 3 | 2 "Adnet-feild. Herryng wifes feild." 2 |
| ⁴ Item, ij Closes called the Great Swannes Croft ⁵ & the Litle Swannes Croft lying <i>without</i> Bisshop Yait ⁶ | xx s. | 208. |
| Item, thre feildes <i>without</i> the Newe Yait ⁶ betwen Seynt Annes Grove ⁷ & Hulle's Milne on the est side the wey ledyng frome Couentre to Whitley | xxij s. iiij d. | 238. 4d. |
| Item, a litle Garden pleke ⁸ nygh vnto Dilcookes Milne ⁹ | iiij d. | 4d. |
| Item, a litle <i>parochie</i> or Croft belongyng to the Trinitie gild lying in the Charterhouse-leys nygh vnto the tayllour & Shirmans lodge ¹⁰ | xx d. | 20d. |

¶ All which Closes before-wrytten, It is enacted at this present lete by auctoritie of the same, shal-be taken in & maid seuerall foreuer after suche maner, forme & order as the Closes latelie taken in and maid seuerall in *Master Cotons* tyme. lait meire, be, and the Rentes, issues & profittes of the saine to be vsed as the Rentes of the other Closes latelie taken in be accordyng to the acte thereof maid.

All which "Closez" are to be taken in.

¶ And further it is enacted (etc.) that no persone

No holder of the enclosed

¹ This church has long since disappeared.
²⁻² At the foot of the page, but connected by a line.
³ Blank. ⁴ leaf 387, back. ⁵ See p. 46.
⁶ This scribe's "Y" and "J" are identical in character.
⁷ See p. 47. ⁸ = plot. ⁹ See p. 576.
¹⁰ "Milne" deleted. This is the only mention I have found of any property here belonging to the Tailors' and shearmen's guild of S. George.

land- to enjoy
privileges of
common.

Only one
close to be
held in sever-
alty by any
farmer, &
except he be
an inn keeper,
then he may
hold two.

The closes
are forbidden
to be let

to strangers.

having in farme any groundes now takyne in & enclosed, or before enclosed, shall have any maner of catall goyng before the herd or otherwise vpon any comen grounde of this Citie, vpon peyne to forfeit to the comen box vj s. viij d. for euery suche defeaute; and that no persone shall have in farme any moo then oon of the said Closes, except he be an Inholder, who shall and may by auctoritie hereof occupie & haue two of the said Closez by the discrecion of the x men appoynted for the lettyng of the same, vpon peyne to forfeit yeirelie xl s. for euery Close hadd & taken contrarie to this acte to the vse aforesaid, provided alwey that euery person hauyng any of the least parcelles of the said groundes may haue & take on other Close by the discrecion of the said tene men.

¶ Also it is further enacted (etc.) that the x men at any tyme appoynted to let and set the seid Closez shall not let or set the same but onelie to inhabitauntes of this Citie, and shall soeffer no estraunger to occupie any of the same, ner any farmour to make any assignee therin, vpon peyne to forfeit x li., that is to say, euery of theme xx s. for the vse of a[fore]-seid.

THE RECORDER.

1^o Eleccio
Recorda-
toris.
Election of
the recorder.

[Mem., that on May 17, in the above-said year, Edw. Saunders,² sergeant-at-law, was chosen recorder of this city. And he was sworn.]

A PROCLAMATION.

“*Proclamacio.*” To be re-
membered that on May 31,
1541, proclamations were made
upon the soil and in the tene-
ments written below by C.

³ *Memorandum quod vltimo die*
Maii [33 Hen. VIII] *proclama-*
ciones facte fuerunt super sola & in
tenementis subscriptis per Cuth.

¹ leaf 388.

² Saunders became Chief-Justice in 1555, and, dying in 1576, was buried at Weston-under-Wetherley, Warwickshire, where his mutilated tomb remains. See Foxe, *Martyrs* (ed. Malham), 146, for letters from him to his brother, the martyr, Laur. Saunders, and for other letters see Corp. MSS. A. 79, leaf 63. It is possible, though unproven, that both the Chief-Justice and the martyr sprang from the family of the Saunders of Coventry.

³ leaf 384, back.

Joynour, mayor (etc.),
J. Rogers and W. Saunders,
bailiffs, and many others of
the community of the said city,
according to the form of the
statute thereupon before pub-
lished and provided.

Joynour, Maiorem Civitatis Couen-
trie, Jac. Rogers, & Will. Saunders,
b., (etc.) ac plures alios de Com-
munitate dicte Civitatis secundum
formam Statuti¹ inde nuper editi
& prouisi.

Jourden Well.

- ¶ *Item*, at a tenement ther of Master² Grey.
- Item*, at a tenement ther of Joh. Stronges.
- Item*, at a Tenement ther of Master Hugh Lawtons.

Gosford-streit.

¶ *Item*, at a tenement ther of Ric. Joyne[r]s set betwene
the grounde of the Kynge of the ou parte and the ground
of Master Rog. Wales of the other part.

Miche-parke-stret.

¶ *Item*, at a tenement there that Joh. Herford holdeth
ouer ageynst Hum. Reynoldes house.

Deed-lane.

¶ *Item*, at a house in a voided ground ther of Ric.
Giller, mercer.

Litol-parke-stret.

¶ *Item*, at a tenement ther ouer ageynst the Deed-lane
ende.

Smythford-stret.

¶ *Item*, at a house & a voided ground ther beneyth the
Conduete next a house belongyng to seynt Johns of the
west side.

West-orchard.

¶ *Item*, at dyuers Cotages ther of Joh. Colynse, dier.

Seynt Johns briges.

¶ *Item*, at a tenement ther of Jasper Owen, Esquier,

¹ Probably this was the act "For Reedifieng of Townes" (32 Hen. VIII, c. 18), 1540, in which the decayed condition of Coventry—among other towns—is mentioned.

² Blank.

betwen a tenement of the wardens of thone side and the kynges ground of thother side.

Item, at a Tenement ther of Will. Jackesons.

Cooke-stret.

¶ *Item*, at a void ground ther belongyng to seynt Johns wher dyuers tenementes late stode.

Croscheping.

¶ *Item*, at a Corner house there of Jasper Owen ouer ageynst Bancroftes-lane.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

¹ ¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 11, 33 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*² Sim. Parker, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Saunders, Ric. Townsend, Tho. Spenser, Tho. Burdon, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Bower, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Chr. Waren, Hugo Bloure, Tho. Smyth, ³Chr. Bromeley, Rog. Adnet, Will. Norton, Ric. Humfrey.]

"Civitas
Conventive."
Oct. 11, 1541.
Jury of 25.

Sheriffs.

Orders of
leet.
"Charcolles
to be sold
by Lawfull
sacks."⁴

Ditches to be
scored out.

All "walk-
ers" to dress
cloth within
the city.

[Edw. Dampont, pewterer, Ric. Nielyn, Grasier.]

[Ordaigned] that every alderman of this Citie in his ward shall prepare a fate⁵ to meit Charcolles *with* before the feast of All Seyntes next to thentent to se whether the Coliars⁶ sakes be lauffull or not.

¶ [Enacted] that every man which haith eny landes adyoynnyng vnto the lane ledyng frome Hil-streit end vnto the Barkers-buttes shall sufficientlie score ther dyches ther before Caudlemas next, vpon peyn of every man which doith not to forfeit vj s. viiij d.

¶ [Enacted] that all walkers belongyng to this Citie shall burle ther Clothes *within* the Citie, vpon peyne to forfeit for every burled owt of the Citie xx s. And that no Clothier shall put eny Cloith to eny walker which woll not burle it in the Citie, on peyne to forfeit for every default vj s. viiij d.

¹ leaf 388. ² This precedes every name until note 3.

³ Untitled. ⁴⁻⁴ In different handwritings.

⁵ A dry measure usually = 9 gallons, v. *N.E.D.* s.v. Fat.

⁶ = charcoal-burners.

CHRIS. WARREN, MAYOR, 1542.

LEETS.

¹ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Chris. Waren, m., Edw. Dampport, Ric. Niclyne, b., on Apr. 25, 34 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*² Tho. Gardynour, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker, Cuth. Joynour, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talontes, [“Joh.” erased] Ric. Sewell, Hugo Bloure, Will. Saunders, ³Owin Blakemer, Will. Vnderwood, Art. Goodrich, Will. Norton, Ric. Humfrey.]

¶ [Enacted] that all brekemakers, which make breke to be sold in the Citie, shall make the same after the olde assise, that is to say, tene Inches longe, v ynches in breid, & two Inches & dim. in thyckenes, vpon peyn to forfeit for every hundred xij d.

[Ordnained] that every person in this Citie shall sufficientlie make ther pavementes befor the feast of thassenion of our Lord next, vpon [peyn] to forfeit iij s. iiij d.

It is also ordeyned that the feliship & Craft of Tilers shabbe (*sic*) associat with the Craft of Cowpers & pynners. And that the Craft & company of Carpenters shal-be contributoryes to the said Craftes of Cowpers & pynners after such [pro]porecion & rate as thei haue been accustomed in tymes past.⁶

⁷ ¶ [V. f. p. held Oct. 10, 34 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*⁸ Tho. Gardynour, Tho. Banwell, Rog. Palmer,⁹ Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Blour, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders,¹⁰Owin

“Civitas
Countrie.”

Jury of 25.

Orders of
leet.
Concerning
“breke.”
⁴ “breke.”
⁵ “Briek the
Assize.”⁵

Concerning
“pave-
mentes.”³

“Craftes
⁴ off Tilers
and
Cowpers.”⁵

“Civitas
Countrie.”

¹ leaf 388, baek. Chr. Waren, who had represented the city in 1539 in Parliament, appears to have been a very zealous Roman Catholic. Rob. Glover, the martyr, accused him of seeking his (Glover's) death.

² Repeated before every name preceding note ³. ³ Untitled.

⁴ In the same handwriting. ⁵⁻⁵ In a later handwriting.

⁶ There follow the introductory words deleted about the recorder's election. See above, p. 764.

⁷ leaf 389, back.

⁸ Repeated before every name preceding note ¹⁰.

⁹ Father of the martyr, Julines Palmer. ¹⁰ Untitled.

Blakemer, Will. Underwood, Hen. Hynd, Will. Stirropp, Ric. Humfrey.]

Sheriffs.

[Art. Gudriche, *mercer*, Tho. Keyvet, Clothier.]

Orders of
lect
About
"talowe"

[Enacted] that all talowe in this Citie shal-be sold after the rait of ij s. the Stone or vnder & not aboue, vpon peyne to forfeit for *euery* Stone sold to the contrarie vj s. viij d.

"Candell to
be sold at
1½d. a lb."

It is also enacted that Candell shall-be sold after the rait of j d. *qua*. the li. & not aboue, vpon peyne to forfeit for *euery* li. sold contrarie iij d.

JOH. SAUNDERS, MAYOR, 1543.

"Civitas
Concentric."
Jan. 25.

¶ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister*² Cuth. Joynour, Tho. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Ric. Ley, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Ric. Sewell, Hugo Bloure, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, Edw. Dampport, Ric. Nielyn, ³Owin Blakemer, Will. Underwood, Will. Norton, Ric. Humfrey.]

Officers.

¶ [m. ⁴Joh. Saunders, *mercer*; *rec.* ⁴Edw. Saunders, serjeant-at-law; *cor.* Rob. Grene, "Generosus"; steward, Baldw. Porter, "generosus"; *ch.* Ric. Wightman, Capper, Joh. Castell, bocher; *w.* Tho. Beek, bedder, ⁵Tho. Amourson, Chaundeler; *mace*, Hen. Thirkyll; *crier*, Rob. Swift.]

LEETS.

"Civitas
Concentric."
Apr. 10, 1543.

¶ [V. f. p. before Joh. Saunders, m., Art. Gudriche, Tho. Keyvet, b. Apr. 10, 34 Henry VIII.]

[*Magister*⁷ Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Ric. Ley, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Rogers, Geo. Philips, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Herford, Hugo Blour, Tho. Smyth, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, Edw. Dampport, Ric. Nielyn, ⁸Ric. Wightman, Joh. Castell, Tho. Enderby, Tho. Dyglyn.]

¹ leaf 390. ² This precedes every name until note 3.

³ Untitled. ⁴⁻⁴ Preceded by "Magister." ⁵ = upholsterer.

⁶ leaf 390, back. ⁷ Repeated before each name until note 8.

⁸ Untitled.

[Enacted] that no bocher or other inhabitant of this Citie shall from-hensfurthe haue or vse eny comen belonging to this Citie with sheipp, vpon peyne to be distreyned by the Chamberleyns of the Citie for the tyme beyng, and to forfeit for euery Sheip found vpon the comen iiii d., half therof to be to the vse of the Chamberleyns, and the other half to the vse of the comen box, and to be leuyed by distres.

Orders of
lect.
1st The comen
for Sheip
taken away
from
butchers.
Id. A sheip
forleit."¹

[Enacted] that no persone hauyng in farme eny parcell of the comen Closez to the value of x s. shall haue eny maner of comen for eny beasse, vpon peyn to be distreyned etc. Prouidet alwey that it shal-be lafull to euery bocher to vse & haue ther comen for horsez & beassez accordyng to the former actes & vsages therof etc.²

None to enjoy
privileges of
"comen"
when they
already haue
common
land- to the
value of 10s.
in farm,
except
butchers.

[³ V. f. p. held on Oct. 9, 35 Hen. VIII.]

[Magister⁴ Cuth. Joyncour, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardynour, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, ⁵ Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, ⁵ Tho. Brewer, ⁶ Geo. Philips, ⁶ Joh. Talontes, Hugo Bloure, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nielyn, ⁷ Ric. Wightman, Joh. Castell, Tho. Amourson, Hen. Hynd, Chr. ? Whayton, Tho. Diglyn, Ric. Giller.]

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Oct. 9, 1543.
Jury of 22.

[Tho. Enderby, waxchaundler, Will. Joyncour, Grasier.]

[Ordained] that talowe shal-be sold the rait of xxij d. the Stone & not aboue, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery Stone ij s., and that Candell shal-be sold after the rait of j d. *qua.* the li. & not aboue.

Sheriffs.
About "talow
and Candell."

HEN. OVER, MAYOR, 1544.

⁸ ¶ [Election of officers.]

[Magister⁹ Chris. Waren, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Geo. Philips, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Bloure, Ric. Nielyn, Art. Goodrich, Tho. Keyvet, ¹⁰ Ric. Wightman,

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Jan. 25.
25 Electors.

¹⁻¹ In different handwriting. ² See p. 735.

³ leaf 391. ⁴ Repeated before each name until note 7.

⁵⁻⁵ a repetition. ⁶⁻⁶ Deleted. ⁷ Untitled.

⁸ leaf 391, back.

⁹ Repeated before each name as far as note ¹⁰. ¹⁰ Untitled.

Joh. Castell, Joh. Moseley, Ric. Giller, Tho. Diglyn, Will. Norton, Ric. Humfrey.]

officers,

[*m. Magister* Hen. Over, alias dictus Waver,¹ *mercer*; *rec.* Edw. Saunders, Sergeant-at-law; *cor.* Rob. Greene; *ch.* Joh. Hyndeman, alias² *Joynour*, Joh. Jeynard; *w.* Ric. Dodd, *mercer*, Joh. West, goldesmyth; *mace*, Hen. Thirkyl; *crier*, Rob. Swyft.]

LEETS.

May 6, 1544.

Jury.

§[*V. f. p.* before Hen. Over, *m.*, Tho. Enderbie, Will. Joynour, *b.*, on May 6. 36 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*⁴ Chris. Waren, *Rog.* Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Geo. Philips, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Rogers, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Herford, Hugo Bloure, Tho. Smyth, Will. Saunders, Edw. Dampont, Ric. Nielyn, Art. Goodrich, Tho. Keivet.]

⁵ "Sheipp fa'ire; none to set pennis above White-frere-lane end."⁵

[Enacted] that no *persone* frome-hensfurth shall sett eny fold or pene to sell sheipp in at the faire tyme in the Gosforde Streit above the White-frere-lane ende vpon peyne to forfeit x s.

The "bochers" are permitted to form as heretofore a craft;

[Enacted] that the bochers of this Citie shal-be restored & admytted to be a Craft & a felishipp together as they haue been in tymes past & to haue & vse all ther laudable vsages & customes as they haue doon. And that noon apprentice of that Craft, or of eny other Craft *within* this Citie, Ner eny other *persone* shall sett vpp & vse ther Craft or occupation here vntill they haue *serued* ther holl apprentisshipp *without* license of the Maisters of ther Craft & the felishipp of the same Craft, vpon peyne to be grevouslie punysshed by the discreccions of the said Maisters.

no butchers are to set up without having been "apprenticez."

Brewers and "ale-wifes,"

Item, wher-as befor this tyme dyuers good lawes &

¹ On this family, whose seat was at Cester Over, see Dugdale, 64-5. Hen. Over became possessed of the Charterhouse soon after the Dissolution: see Whitley, *Representation*, 38.

² MS. looks like "ald." For Joh. Joynour's name see below, p. 773.

³ leaf 392. ⁴ Repeated before every name.

⁵⁻⁵ In different handwriting.

Statutes haue been ordeyned & maid at dyuers letes holden within this Citie ageynst the abuses of ale-brewers & tiplers of the same Citie, which former lawes & statutes for lack of due execution of the same be nothyng regarded nor obserued, and dyuers & meny of the said brewers & tiplers nothyng regarding the displeasure of God, the daunger of the lawes of the realme, ner the loue & charitie which thei ought to bere to ther neighbour, ne the comen-welthe of this Citie, for ther owne privat lucre & singlar auail, do comonlie every market day forstall & regrait barley comyng to this Citie to be sold, and gredeleie geit into ther handes ¹so great quantitie therof that therby the price of the same is moche aduanced. And then after makyng the same in malt do brewe it & sell ther ale at excessive & vreasonable prices to ther owne great aduantage, By reason wherof the said brewers & tiplers be now encreased & multiplied to suche a great number that a great parte of thynhabitauntes of this Citie be nowe become brewers & tiplers of ale, & have forsaken ther occupacions & Craftes by the which in tymes past they haue opteyned & hadd a moche more welthy lyvyng then they now haue, Wherby almyghtie God is highlie displeased, the comen-Welthe of this Citie greatlie decayed, and vice. Idelnes, & other innumerable myscheues norisshed and encreased, And shall daylie more & more if spelic remedie be not therein provided & hadd :

ffor reformation whereof it is ordeyned, enacted & established (etc.) that noon inhabitaunt of this Citie shall frome & after the feast of Penticost now next ensuyng brewe or tiple eny ale within this Citie to sell but onelie suche person & persones as shal-be therunto appoynted, named & licensed by Maister Meyre & the Justices of the peace of this Citie for the tyme beyng, vpon peyne to forfeit xls. for every monthe that thei or eny of theme shall brewe or tiple contrarie to the tenour of this acte. The same forfeitur to be leuyed & taken by the Shireffes of the Citie & the vnderbeilleffes of the same for the tyme beyng by distresse or otherwise to ther owne vse.

¹ leaf 392, back.

nothing regarding the displeasure of God,

for their own private lucre forestall and regrate barley, and greedily get so much into their hands that the price rises.

There is an "Excessive number of Ale-houses and decay of Trades," because many of the inhabitants of the city have forsaken their old callings and become brewers and tiplers, whereby God is displeased, and the common-wealth of the city decayed, and vice and idleness encreased.

It is ordained

that after the feast of Penticost no person is to brew nor sell ale without licence of the mayor and justices of the peace, under pain of 40s. fine.

Ale is not
to be sold
above 1^s.
the sextary,
with 11 gal-
lons to the
sextary.

nor above 2^d.
a gallon
within doors
and 1^d.
without.

All measures
are to be
sealed,

the sword-
bearer and
mayor's ser-
geant having
liberty to
seize and
break all
those that are
defective.

All the
articles of
this act are
to be given
in charge by
the recorder
or steward
at quarter
sessions.

The "Mil-
ners" are
"to be a fel-
lowskip,"

to make their
own rules,

subject to
the mayor's
authority.

And that no brewer within this Citie after the said feast of Pentecost shall sell eny ale above the price of xvij^d. for on Cestur & xiiij galons to be in euery Cester, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery Cestur sold contrarie to this acte vj s. viij d. to be leuyed & taken in fourme aforseid & to the vse aforseid. And that no Tipler or other inhabitant of this Citie frome & after the said feast of Pentecost shall sell eny ale within this Citie to be dronke within the house above ij d. the galon, & owt of the house above j d. ob. the galon, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery default vj s. viij d. to be leuyed & taken in fourme aforseid.

And it is further ordeyned (etc.) that no Tipler or other inhabitant of this Citie frome & after the said feast shall sell or vtter eny ale but onelie by such pottes and measures as be lafull pyntes, quartes, pottelles & galons, & sealed according to the lawe, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery ¹ default vj s. viij d. to be leuyed & taken to the vse & in fourme aforseid. And that also it shal be lafull as well for the Shireffes of the said Citie for the tyme beyng as for the swirdebeirer & meire seriant & euery of theme to take & breke all pottes & measures wherewith eny ale shal be vttered & sold after the said feaste contrarie to the tenour of this acte. And to thentent that this acte may be put in execucion & take effecte it is further ordeyned (etc.) that all the articles & all the effecte of this acte shal be yeirelie from hensfurthe declared & given in charge by the Recorder or Stiward of this Citie for the tyme beyng at euery quarter Cession & lete holden in this Citie, to the intent the offendoures therin may be enquiryed of, knowen & punysshed accordynglie.

[Ordeined] that the Milners of this Citie shal be frome-hensfurthe be ² a felshipp & a Craft or company amonges themselves as the moost parte of the Craftes of this Citie be, and to make lawes, ordynances & constitucions in their booke for the comen-welthe of this Citie by the assent and allowaunce of the meire and his brethren for the tyme beyng. And that they shall yeirelie electe amongst

¹ leaf 393.

² redundant.

themselv^s at ther day of assemble for that purpose two persones of the same Craft to be gardens and gouv^{er}ners of the said felishipp & company; which gardens & gouv^{er}ners shal-be alweyes obedyent to the meire & aldermen of the same Citie & to meyn^teign & cause the said ordynaunces & constitucions to be well & truelie per^fourmed & kept. To the which Gardens & gouv^{er}ners for the tyme beyng all the said felishipp within the said Citie & liberties of the same shall-be always obedyent & confourmable, as-well to meit at all assembles vpon a laufull monycion & warnyng, as to per^fourme & keipp the said ordynaunces & constitucions. And that the said gardens shall take & receive as-well of theme that shall sett vpp & begyn to occupie the said Crafte as of theme that shal-be maid p^rentisez to the same Craft suche fynes & fees as the gardens & kepers of other faculties & Crafte^s within the said Citie vse moost comoulic to take accordyng to the kynges Statutes & lawes therof maid.

Two persons are to be yearly elected to be guardians.

to whom the fellowship shall be obedient,

and to whom fines and fees shall be paid.

¹ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Hen. Over, m., Tho. Enderbye, Will. Joynour, b., on Oct. 7, 36 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*² Chris. Waren, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Joh. Saunders, Geo. Phillip^es, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seynye, Will. Rogers, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Harford, Hugo Bloure, Tho. Smythe, Jac. Rogers, Will. Sanders, Edw. Damp^ort, Ric. Nyelyne, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, ³Joh. Joynoure, Joh. Jonarde, Joh. Moysley, Ric. Humfrey, Joh. Chambers.]

"Civitas Coventrie." Oct. 7, 1544. Jury of 29.

[Will Norton, draper, Ric. Hurte, mercer.]

[Ordaigned] at this leete that noo person^e of the Crafte or felowshipe of Cappers⁵ within the saide Citie shall from-hensforthe vse or occupye to putte forthe any worke callide peece-worke to any person^e or persones of the same felowshype or Crafte, except a laufull and a needefull cause shulde soo requyre, and that the same laufull or

Sheriffs.

The ⁴"Cappers" are forbidden

to give out piece-work,

save for urgent reasons

¹ leaf 393, back. Scribe K.

² Repeated before all names until note 3. ³ Untitled.

⁴ In Scribe K.'s handwriting.

⁵ For previous rules see pp. 572-4. 670-3.

admitted
by the head
masters of
the craft.

needfull cause shal-be openned and examyned before the heade maisters of the said Crafte for the tyme beinge and by theym admytted and allowed so to be soffered and doon, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte x s. to the vse of the said Crafte.

Searchers

Also it is furthere enacted *that* there shal-be two sufficiente and honeste *persones* of the saide Crafte admytted and sworne, who shall haue auctorityte to make Searche, as-well for suche peece-worke, as for suspecte and stollen yarne, as-well clothe yarne as eappe yarne, to thentent *that* noo disceyte be therein vsed, vpon like payne for euery defaulte.

Only two
"appren-
tyzes" to be
kept,
save that
during the
last year
and a half
of the term
of appren-
ticeship one
more is
allowable.

Item, that noo *persones* of the saide Crafte or felowshype shall from-hensforthe haue, reteygne or keepe in his house any moo prentizes but onely ij, excepte *that* it shal-be lafull for euery suche *persones* to take oone prentyse more within oone yeare and a half before the last ende of the yeares and terme of his olde apprenyse, vpon like payne for euery defaulte.

No "Jorney-
men" to
depart before
the week's
end without
his master's
leave,

Item, it is furthere enacted by the auctoritie of the same leete *that* noo *Jorneyman* of the saide Crafte shall from-hensforthe vse to departe or goo forthe of his maisters worke or Seruyce at any tyme before the weekes ende oncles he haue the licence and consente of his maister for the tyme beyng, and that he shall haue a lafull and needfull cause soo to doo, and the same lafull and needfull cause to be examyned and allowed before the maisters of the saide Crafte for the tyme beyng, vpon payne to forfayte for euery suche defaulte vjd. to his maister for the tyme beyng. And if his saide *maister* be remysse or neelygente in levyng and takinge of the saide forfayture, that then it shal-be lafull for the *maisters* of the saide Crafte for the tyme beinge to leavye and take the same forfayture to the vse of the saide Crafte.

under penalty
of 6d.

Anything
taken as
"Distres or

¹ *Item*, it is furthermore ordeyned (etc.) that non *inhabitante* of this Citie whiche at any tyme hereafter whiche ² shall distrayne or take any goodes or Catalles as a

¹ leaf 394.

² redundant.

distres or as a Strayve within this Citie or the liberties of the same shall from-hensforthe impounde, imp~~ar~~ke, brynge or delyuer any such^e distres or Strayve to any othere pounde thene to the Comon pounde of olde tyme belonginge to this Citie, that is to saye to the pounde of the Newe Yaite or to the Litle~~par~~ke, vnder the *gouvernaunce* of the Chamberlaynes of the Citie for the tyme beyng^e, whiche shall keepe the same as a distres or Strayve accordinge to the order of the Comon lawe, vpon payne of euery *inhabitaunte* delyuerynge or ympoundinge any distres or Strayve contrarye to the tenor of this Acte to forfeyte for euery defaulte vj.s. viij.d. to be levyed by distres by the Shreffes of the saide Citie for the tyme beyng^e to theyre owne vse.

Strayves " to be taken to the comon pound.

The penalty for wrongfully ¹ "Impounding" ¹

is 6s. 8d.

And also whereas *thinhabitauntes* of the Croscheapinge in tymes paste haue not onelie comonlye vsed to laye donge and other fylthe nigh^e vnto the Crosse ² there to the great incomoditie of the *marketh*-place and to the great daunger of infection of the plage, but also haue vsed comonlye to swepe the paymentes there, and thereby reasyng^e duste doo deface and corrupte the saide Crosse, It ys now^e enacted by auctoritye aforesaide that noon *inhabitaunte* of this Cytie shall from-hensfurthe ley any dunge or fylthe in the Croscheapinge, ner shall at any tyme Sweepe the paymentes there excepte they Immediatly before the Swepe do caste and Sprynkle water vpon the saide paymentes, vpon payne to forfaitte for euery defaulte iij.s. iij.d. to be levyd by distres by the Comon Sergyaunte, Cryer and Cloke-berer ³ of the saide Citie for tyme beinge to theyre owne vse.

The inhabitants of Cross Cheaping lay filth near the Cross, heedless of the infection of the plague

and the defacing of the Cross, the practice is forbidden

and an order is laid down for the ¹ "watring" ¹ of the ¹ "streets before sweeping." ¹

Also whereas the highwayes lyng^e nere vnto the Suburbes of this Citie been soore decayed and in great ruyn^e,⁴ the occasion and pryncipall cause wherof is that

Evil state of highways.

¹⁻¹ A later handwriting.

² This was the new cross built during the years 1541-3 by Sir Will. Holleys, Lord Mayor of London, who entrusted Over and Waren with money for the purpose.

³ This combination in the present sense is not mentioned in the *N.E.D.* It refers to an official who bore the mayor's cloak.

⁴ Dame Swyllington, widow of the recorder, bequeathed by her nuncupative will money to repair the bad roads in and near Stivichall and Coventry.—Whitley, *Representation*, 38.

"For scouring of ditches."

It is ordered that ditches bordering the highway shall be scoured by those having lands adjoining.

"Clothyars & weyvers."

The weavers do not make cloth of true breadth,

to the great slander of the city: it is ordered that every weaver shall

make his cloth 7 quarters 13 yds. broad.

the ditches beinge nyghe vnto the same highe-wayes be not Scoured and clenched, It is therefore ordeyned (etc.) that euerye inhabitaunte of this Citie occupyinge or holdinge any clooses, pastures, or othere groundes nyghe vnto anye of the saide highe-wayes, shall sufficientlye clense and scowre all ditches of his clooses, pastures, or other groundes lyinge nyghe vnto the saide highe-wayes before the feaste of Eister nexte, vpon payne of x s. to be leuyed by distres by the Shireffes of the saide Citie for the tyme beinge to theyre owne vse, *provided* alwaye that if eny *persone* beyngē tenaunte of any suche grounde, as haithē ditches lyinge nyghe vnto any of the saide highe-wayes, do leaue the saide grounde at oure Laydye daye the Annunziacion nexte ensuyngē this leete That then the tenaunte, whiche shall nexte occupye the same grounde, shal-be bounden by vertue hereof to scoure and clense the saide ditches before Witsontyde nexte, vpon like payne.

¹ Also whereas moche complainte is maide by the clothyars of this Citie for that that (*sic*) the weyvers do not theyre duetye in weyvynge theyre clothes & warpinge theym of lafull breade accordinge to the actes of *parliament* therof maide, for that that many of theym haue not lomes & Sleys² able & meete for the same to the great Sclander & diffamacion of all the Clothyars of this Citie, It is therefore enacted by auctorytē aforesaide that euery weyvere of this Cytye, whiche hereafter shall take vpon hym to weyve any broode clothe, shall haue lomes and Sleys sufficiente and able to make the same cloothe of lafull breade, that ys to saye, vij quarters within the listes,³ and noon of the saide weyvers shall refuse to spole⁴ the yarne of euery suche clothe if the owner therof soo will or commaunde hym, vpon payne to forfait for euery defaulte vj s. viij d. to the vse of the Shireffes aforesaide. And that euery clothear of this Citie

¹ leaf 394, back.

² See p. 639.

³ list = selvage, border of cloth; *within the lists* is usual in statements of measurement. See (1535) 27 Hen. VIII, c. 12, § 2, "Every brode cloth shall contēine in breadth seven quarters of a yarde within the listes" (*N.E.D.*).

⁴ = to wind on reels.

shall at his libertye weyve his owne clothes, so that he at his enterye and begymynge paye vnto the occupacion of weyvers iij s. iiij d., and also be contributorye to the weyvers in theyre chardges, as other weyvers be, if he weyve any othere mannes clothes but oonelye his owne.

It is furtherre enacted (etc.) that the Comon Sealler of Clothes within this Citty shall from hensforthe Seall noo clothes but suche as be sufficientlye and truelie maide within the liberties of this Citty, vpon payne to forfayte xx s. for euery defaulte to be levyed in forme aforesaide to the vse of the Shireffes of the saide Citty for the tyme beinge.

Item, it is ffurtherre inacted (etc.) that euery inhabitante of this Cytie whiche nowe is or haith been or that hereafter shal-be mayor, Shiref, Chamberlayne or wardeyn, and euery inholder, and all and euery other persone and persones, whiche take theym-selves to be honeste Comyners, within this Cytie yerelie from-hensforthe from and after the feaste of All Saynetes vntill the feaste of the Purification of our Laydye shall cause a lanterne with a candle light to be sette or honge at his doore to gyve light into the Streyt euery night when the moone doethe not Shyne from suche tyme as daylight is paste vntill ix of the Clocke in the nyght, vpon payne to forfayte xij d. for euery defaulte to be levyed by distres by the Comon Sergyant and Cryer of this Citty to theyre owne vses. And that euery constable of this Citty within his warde shal-be chardged to se this acte executed and the offenders therin to be by theym presented and Shewed to the mayor of this Cytie for the tyme beyng, vpon payne to forfayte xij d. for euery defaulte of euerye of the saide Constables to be levyed by distres by the Comon Sergyant, Cryer and Clokeberer of this Citty to theyre owne vses.

[Enacted] that noo clothyar of this Citty from-hensforthe shall delyuer to any Carder or Spynner above ij li. & a half of woll for oone weight, vpon payne to forfayte xij d. for euery weght to be levyed by distres by the Shireffes of the saide Citty for the tyme beinge to theyre owne vses.

Every clothier may weave his own cloth, if he pay to the weavers' charges.

"The Comon Sealler of Clothes" shall not seal any cloth but such as is sufficiently made.

Late officers,

inholders,

and all honest commoners are to set up at their doors between All Saints' and Candlemas "Lanternes & light in the nyght."

"Clothyars, Carders & Spynners."

JOH. TALONTES, MAYOR, 1545.

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Jan. 25, 1545.
Electors.

¹ ¶ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister*² Will. Coton, Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Chris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seynye, Geo. Phillippes, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Herforde, Hugo Blowre, Tho. Smythe, Edw. Dampont, Ric. Nyelyne, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, Tho. Enderbye, Will. Joynor, ³Joh. Hyndeman, Joh. Joynarde.]

Officers.

¶ [m. *Magister* Joh. Talontes, goldesmythe; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Rob. Greene, ⁴"sub condicione quod continue manebit infra Ciuitatem vel Comitatum eiusdem Ciuitatis;" steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Will. Westeley, Capper, Tho. Phillippes, Capper; w. Phil. Sherrarde, draper, Hugo Harvy, Capper; mace, Hen. Thyryll; crier, Rob. Swifte.]

LEETS.

"Ciuitas
Couentrie."
Apr. 28, 1545.
Jury of 25.

⁵ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Talontes, m., Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, b., on Apr. 28, 37 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*⁶ Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynouer, Chris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Geo. Philips, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Broure (*sic*), Will. Saunders, Ric. Niclyn, Art. Gudrich, Tho. Enderby, Will. Joynouer, ⁷Will. Westley, Tho. Philips, Rad. Hopkyns, Tho. Wheteley, Joh. Joynouer.]

Cappers."

[Enacted] that no Capper shall haue eny mo prenteses at ones then ij, sayyng, that he may on yeire & a half before thende of eny apprentisshipp take on other new prentesse.⁸

Item, that the Shireffes of the Citie fromchensfurth shall haue the sume of xli. given theme owt of the

¹ leaf 395.

² Repeated before every name until note 3.

³ Untitled.

⁴ = upon condition that he shall continually remain within the city or the county of the same city.

⁵ leaf 395, back. Former scribe of I type.

⁶ Repeated before names until note 7.

⁷ Untitled.

⁸ See above, p. 774.

profittes of the comen groundes takyn in towardes ther charges, and that no shireff frome-hensfurthe shall pay any Rent for the gaoll-hall.

[Enacted] that the meir & Shireffes shall frome-hensfurthe keipp ther drynkynges on Midsomer nyght & saynt Peters nyght² befor the wache & not after as haithe been vsed in tymes past.

[Enacted] that Maister meir for the tyme beyng shall haue & correecion & punysshement of bakers and not the maister of the Craft of bakers, as he haith hadd in tymes past.

³ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 4, 37 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*⁴ Hen. Over, Will Coton, Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Cris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Geo. Philippes, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Blowre, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyclyne, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Joynor, ⁵Will. Westeley, Rad. Hopkyns, Tho. Morres, Tho. Amorsame, Joh. Weste, Hen. Hynde, Will. Vnderwoode, Owen Blakemere.]

[“*Magister*” Tho. Rieley, draper; ⁶Tho. Whaiteley, Irenmóngere.]⁶

JOH. HERFORDE, MAYOR, 1546.

⁷ ¶ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister*⁸ Will. Coton, Sim. Parkere, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Ric. Ley, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Hugo Blowre, Ric. Sewall, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, Edw. Dampport, Ric. Nyclyne, Will. Joynor, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte,

¹ “Shireffes xli. Alowed then toward their Charge and to pay no Rent flor the Gaole.”¹

The Midsummer armed “Wache.”

¹ The “bakers” are “not to punish any offenders, but the mayor.”¹

“Civitas Coventrie.” Oct. 4. Jury of 27.

Sheriffs.

“Civitas Coventrie.” Jan. 25, 1546. 25 Electors.

¹⁻¹ In different handwritings.

² See above, p. 35, and Sharp, *Mysteries*, pp. 174-206.

³ leaf 396. Scribe K.

⁴ Repeated before every name until note 5. ⁵ Untitled.

⁶ The “Dick Whittington” of Coventry. see Dugdale (1730), i. 194, *Life in an English Town*, 311. He came to the city “a poor boy in a white coat.” He traded in Spanish iron, and a servant of his obtained by mistake a chest of ingots of silver in lieu of one of steel gads at a fair in Spain. Wheatley gave the money towards the foundation of the Bablake School, and other charities.

⁷ leaf 396, back.

⁸ Repeated before all names until note 1. p. 780.

¹ Tho. Philipps, Will. Westeley, Joh. Nethermyll, Tho. Owres, Tho. Amorsame, Joh. Weste.]

offices.

[m. "Magister" Joh. Herforde, lethereseller; ² M.G.S.T. and M.G.C.C. "Magister" Joh. Talontes, goldesmythe; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergent-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorye; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Tho. Seynye, Edm. Brownhill, drapers; w. Tho. Bustarde, mercer, Ric. Smythe, vyntenar; mace, Hen. Thirkyll; erier, Rob. Swifte.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas
Concentric."
May 18, 1546.
Jury of 25.

³¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Herforde, m., Tho. Rieley, Tho. Whyteley, b., on May 18, 38 Hen. VIII.]

[Magister,¹ Joh. Talontes, Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joyner, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Geo. Philipps, Ric. Ley, Tho. Smythie, Will. Saunders, Edw. Dampport, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Norton, ²Edm. Brownhill, Tho. Seynye, Tho. Bustarde, Hen. Hynde, Will. Styrope, Ric. Warnar, Rob. Colman, Owin Blakemere.]

Orders of
leet.
"Comeset
vp."

⁷¶ It is enacted that no housholder of this Citie shall receive eny straungers corne to keipp it in his house frome market day to market day, vpon payn to forfeit for every default vj s. viij d.

Butchers
forbidden
to sell hides
to foreyn
"Tanners"
on Fridays.

¶ Item, that no bocher of this Citie frome-hensfurthe put eny slaughter hides to sale to eny forene tanner on the Fryday, but vpon the Saturday and on other dayes when thei put ther fleshe to sale, and then to no foren tanner before ix of the Clock, and in noon other place but at the Bull-ryng, vpon peyn of x s. for every default.

The "bochers
off" the
"countrey to
sell flesh
on Tuesday,
Thursday
and Satur-
days."

¶ Also it is enacted that the bochers of the Citie shall permytt & soeffer all foren bochers quietlie to sell ther vitayll in the Citie every Tuesday, Thuresday & Saturday bryngyng ther hides & talow with theme, vpon payn of xx s. for every default, and to be further punysshed by imprisonment by discreccion of Maister meir.

¹ Untitled.

² "In officium Magistri gildarum S. Trinitatis et Corporis Christi in Civitate predicta."

³ leaf 397. Scribe K.

⁴ Repeated before every name until note 5. ⁵ Untitled.

⁶ In different hands.

⁷ Former scribe of I type.

Item, it is enacted that the acte maid for pece-work & takyng of *prentesez* in *Maister Overs yeire*¹ shall stand in force. "Cappers."

[Leet held in the 38th year of the reign of Lord Henry VIII, by the grace of God, King of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and Supreme Head of the English and Irish Church in this country. ² [V. f. p. held on Oct. 5, "a. r. domini Henrici octavi, Dei gratia Anglie, francie, & Hibernie Regis, fidei defensoris, & in terra ecclesie Anglicane & Hibernice Supremi Capitís, tricesimo octavo."]]

[Magister³ Joh. Taloutes, Sim. Parkere, Chris. Warene, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Geo. Philipptes, Jac. Gilbert, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, Edw. Dampport, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, ⁴Tho. Seynye, Edm. Brownehill, Tho. Bustarde, Ric. Smythe, Chris. Bromeley, Tho. Owres, Hen. Hynde, Will. Styrope, Will. Westeley, Hugo Harye, Joh. Bolat, Will. Forster, Phil. Sherarde.]

Sheriffs.

No "ale-housez"

[Joh. Warde, *merc*er, Tho. Amorsame, Chaundelar.]
⁵ [Enacted] that no *persone* after the feast of All Seyntes next ensuyng this leet shall keipp eny alehouse or Inne *without* the walles of the Citie except suche as shal-be admytted & allowed so to do by *Maister Meire* & the Justices of peace, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery default xls. to be leuyed by distresse to the vse of the Shireffes.⁶

are to be kept without license of the mayor and Justices.

Item, also that Peter Typpyng & Joh. Walland shall not frome-hensforthe keipp eny ale-house or vitayllyng, ner lodge eny *persones* where thei now dwell, vpon like payn.

Typpling and Walland are forbidden to keep an ale-house.

JAS. ROGERS, MAYOR, 1547.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEET.

⁷ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Jas. Rogers, m., Joh. Wayde, Tho. Amorsame, b., on May 3, 1 Edw. VI.⁸]

"Civitas Coventrie."

¹ See above, p. 774. ² leaf 398. Scribe K.

³ Repeated before names until note 4. ⁴ Untitled.

⁵ Former scribe of I type.

⁶ This act is in advance of contemporary legislation. "By the Statute of 5 and 6 Edw. VI, c. 25 (1552), the Justices of the Peace were authorised to select . . . certain persons, who were alone to exercise the trade of keeping a common alehouse." v. Webb, *Liquor Licensing*, 5.

⁷ leaf 399, back. Scribe K.

⁸ The king's titles are repeated as above.

July.

[*Magister*¹ Joh. Saunders, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Chris. Warene, Hen. Overe, Joh. Talontes, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Geo. Phillippes, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Blowre, Edw. Dampport, Ric. Nyelyne, Will. Saunders, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Joynor, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, ²Hen. Lynggham, Ric. Scotte, Joh. Chambers, Ric. Warnar, Will. Vnderwoode, Rad. Hopkyns.]

³ "Millers orders to be Approved by the mayor, and his Councell."³

⁴[Enacted] that the Millerie[s] [? Milners] of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe be vnyted together as a felishipp & company of themeselves, and shall haue libertie to chose *Maisters* & kepers of ther occupacione for the good rule & order of the same, So that thei make orders but suche as *Maister Meire* & his councell shall allowe.⁵

⁶ "Constablez of Any persons Vnder the degree off sheriffs."⁶

• It is enacted that every alderman shall frome-hensfurth appoynt the moost discrettest & substanciallest men in his ward Vnder the degre of a Shereff to be Constablez.

"Cowpers."

⁷ It is also enacted that the *Cowpers* of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe be associat with the Tilers & pynners, and bere suche charges as thei haue doon in tymes past; And that the *Cowpers* shal-be the hedd & cheffest of them & stand charged with the paygaunt.

"Walkers" are to be a company.

[Enacted] that the walkers of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe be a felishipp & company of themeselves, and haue libertie to electe & [c]hoose maisters of ther Company for the good order of the same, & meynteynyng of true clothyng.

The "bochers" and tanners.

Item, that no bocher of this Citie shall sell eny hydes of beasse to eny forene Tanner before xij of the clock on the Fryday, vpon peyn to forfeit xx.d. for every hide sold contrarie, and after xij of the Clock to sell at ther pleasures, notwithstanding eny former actes maid to the contrarie, the same to be levied to the vse of the shireffes.⁸

⁶ "Chamberleyns."

• *Item*, if any *inhabitaunte* of this Citie by hymself or by his deputie or *seruaunt* do take frome the Chamberleyns of this Citie or ther *seruautes* or frome eny other

¹ Repeated before all names until note 2.

² Untitled. ³⁻⁵ In different hands.

⁴ Scribe of I type.

⁵ See above, pp. 772-3. ⁶⁻⁶ In different handwritings.

⁷ leaf 400. ⁸ See above, p. 780.

Citizene by wey of Rescue any cattall beyng lauffullie taken as a distres for damage-fesuunt¹ in the Comons of this Citie, or otherwise, The same persone or persones so offendyng shall forfeit for every suche default iij s. iiij d. to the Chamberleyns to be levyed by wey of distresse of the offendours goodes immediatlie after the prove of every suche offence maid befor Maister Meire of this Citie for the tyme beyng.

² [V. f. p. held on the feast of S. Luke the Evangelist, 1 Edw. VI.]

[Magister³ Joh. Saunders, Sim. Parkere, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Chr. Warene, Hen. Over, Joh. Talontes, Joh. Herforde, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Geo. Philippes, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Blowre, Ric. Nelyne, Will. Saunders, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, Tho. Ricley, Tho. Whaitley, ⁴Hen. Lyngham, Ric. Scotte, Joh. Fytherbert, Ric. Sparrye, Hen. Hynde, Will. Sterope, Ric. Smythe.]

¶ [Joh. Nethermyll, draper, Will. Westeley, Capper.]

¶ To thentente it maye be knowen whethere there be moo people in this Citie of the pooreste sorte that muste bee sette on worke⁵ then othere that be able to sette theym on worke It ys inactel (etc.) that every alderman in his warde shall make a boke of the names of all thinhabitauntes of his warde and whoo be the lordes and owners of theyre howses, wherin they dwell, of what age the inhabitauntes be and howe longe they have dwelled in the Citie, whethere they be maried or not, and what nombere of chylderne they haue, of what occupacion they be, and whethere they be able to sette theymselves on worke or not; and the same booke to exhibette vnto Maister Mayor and the Counsaill of this Cytie before the feaste of the Nativite of oure Lorde God nexte.

⁶ ¶ Item, whoo be able to sette othere on worke and howe many they doo vse to sette on worke weekely and

Any making
Rescues to

forfeit
3s. 4d.

"Civitas
Coventrie,"
Oct. 18.

July of 20.

Sheriffs.

Orders of
lect.

An order "for
the aller-
men"
to take a
census of the
inhabitants
of their
respective
wards, with
particulars
concerning
houses, land-
lordage,
length of
residence,
marriage,
family,
and capacity
for work.

The census
to include the
names of
possible em-
ployers, and

¹ = doing damage, *i. e.* trespassing.

² leaf 403. Scribe K.

³ Repeated before all names until note 4. ⁴ Untitled.

⁵ Cf. the census taken of the Warwick mendicants in 1586, v. Kemp, Joh. Fisher, pp. 165, *sqq.*

⁶ leaf 403, back.

the number
of those they
employ,
and the
workmen
being in
excess of em-
ployers'
needs: in
that ward
they shall be
set on by
other
masters.

Masters
unable to
employ work-
men shall
give them
warning,
and inform
the alder-
man,
in order that
fresh situa-
tions may
be found.

Idlers to be
punished,
and, if in-
correctible,
banished.

The deserv-
ing poor are
to be relieved.

"Aldermans
charge."

The "Con-
sell" is to
"syt" every
month to
consider
these ques-
tions.

It is ordered
that "wages"
are "given"
and to be
paid in ready
money, on
pain of fine
and imprison-
ment.

whoo they be, and if it be *perceyved* that the pooreste sorte is the greateste numbere that then suche *persones* as haue the Cityes moneye in Stooke be ordered to sette thee pore¹ on worke, and if they be not able to sette theym all on worke that then they be appoynted to other, and that they shall not worke *with* any othere so longe as they that they be appointed vnto will sette them on worke.

¶ *Item*, if he that theye were appointed to worke *with* refuse theyre worke, or be not able to sette theym any longer at worke, he shall then give his laborer warnynge therof, and shall lykewise declare the same to the alderman, who vpon inquisition maide amongste his neyght-bors (*sic*) who lackethe any workemen shall apoynte hym a newe *Maister* other in that warde or ellis in an-other warde.

¶ This beyng doon if any be idle and doo not labour truelie & iustely that then the Alderman do pvnyshe hym, and if he doo not then amende, that then the alderman shall cause hym to be banyshe out of the Citye.

¶ *Item*, if any *person* eythere for age, infirmitye or multitude of childerne, be not able by his labour to gette to susteyne his famylye that then the alderman se hym releved by the Comon almes of the Citye out of the Comon Cheiste.

¶ *Item*, that every alderman in his warde and the Constables shall goo every weke oones throughe-out his warde and looke vpon the people what they doo.

¶ *Item*, that the mayour and the Councill of the Citye shall sytte purposely oon day every monethe to here whethere thies thingis be *observed* or not, and devyse what may be bettur doon and more for the bettur mayntenance therof.

¶ *Item*, it is further enacted (*etc.*) that all men whiche sette any people on worke shall give like wages and paye it in reedye money and not in wares or vitayle, vpon payne to forfayte for every defaulte vj s. viij d., the oone moytie therof to be to the Shireffes of the Citye for the

¹ Blotted. The "money in stook" probably refers to the loan to clothiers in 1518. see above, p. 658.

tyme beinge, and the othere moytye therof to be to hym or theym *that* shall presente and *prove* the same defaulte before *Maister* Meyre for the tyme beinge by wittenes or otherwise, and the offender therein to be ymprysoned vntill suche tyme as he haue paide the same forfayture.

¹¶ [Enacted] that noo freeholder or other *persone* or *persones* shall from-hensfurthe take any *persone* to be his tenaunte in this Citye oneles the same *persone* be furste examyned before the mayour and the alderman of the warde from whence he come and what labour he can doo; and if it be thought that the same *persone* be not a *persone* meyte to labor, that then noo *persone* doo admytte hym as tenaunte to any howse within the Citye, vpon payne of xx s. to be payed in forme aforsaid to the vse aforsaid.

¶ [Enacted] that *every* alderman within his warde shall before the feaste of All Saynetes nexte make a booke of all the Innes, alehouses and other vytayllingehouses within his warde, and the same booke before the saide feaste to exhibit vnto *Maister* Mayour, and that then *Maister* Mayour with the saide alderman shall consulte together, and thervpon take an ordere what Innes, alehouses and other Suspecte houses as well in the Suburbes as other places maye be dismysed, dissolved and discharged, & what houses shall be admytted and aloned to remayne and contyneue. And this beyngedoon noo *persone* to take vpon hym after the saide feaste to kepe eyther Inne, alehouse or othere vytayllingehouse oneles he be licensed and admytted soo too doo by *Maister* Mayour for the tyme beynged by the consente of the alderman of his warde, vpon payne to forfayte xls. for *euery* monethe that he shall soo kepe or vse any suche Inne, alehouse or vytayllingehouse contrayre to this acte to be paide and taken in *fourme* aforsaid to the vse aboue-mencioned; ner *that* noo alehouse-kepere or othere vytayllour, excepte inhoders, shall from-hensforthe lodge any *persone* or *persones* in theyre houses, vpon payne to forfayte for *euery* defaulte vj s. viij d. to the vse aforsaid.

² "No stranger to inhabit without license."²

Every alderman to make a book containing a list of all inns and ²"alehousez,"

and the mayor and justices are to consider which alehouses can be suppressed, and which allowed to continue.

No one is to be permitted to keep an ale-house without licence of the mayor and aldermen of the ward.

¹ leaf 404.

² In handwriting of former scribe of I type.

It is ordered that "no laborer" is to be in the ale-house on the "workes" day.

And forasmuche as it is daylye seen that they whiche be of the pooreste sorte doo sytte all daye in the hale-house drynkyng & playnge at the Cardes and tables and spende all that they can gett *prodigally* vpon themselves to the highe displeasure of God and theyre owne ympouershyng, whereas if it were spent at home in theyre owne houses theyre wiffes and childerne shulde haue parte therof, It is therefore ordeyned (etc.) that noo laborer, Journymaⁿ or prentyse vpon any worke daye shall from hens-forthe resorte to any Inne, taverne, or alehouse to eate or drynke, vpon payne of ymprysonement by the space of oone day and oone night.

It is ordered that "ale" shall be sold at 11. a gallon.

¶ [Enacted] that noo brewer or Typpelar within this Cytie from and after the feaste of All Sayntes next ensuyng shall sell any of theyre best ale or beste beere aboue the pryce of a peny for *euery* galon, and that they shall not sell by any measures but by suche as be lauffully sealed, vpon payne to forfayte for *euery* defaulte iij s. iiij d. to be leyed in forme aforsaid to the vse aboue-mencioned.

Acts made at the last be to stand.

¶ [Enacted] that all actes, Statutes & Ordenaunces maide & *provided* at the laste leete shall stande and remayne from-hensfurthe in theyre full strengthes and effectes accordinge to the tenours and purportes of the same.

An order against excessive fines raised by "Impounding of Catall by the Chamberleyne."

¶ And forasmuche as *dyuerse* inhabitauntes, as well of the forence of this Cytie as Cytizense, be ofte and many tymes fore-greued² and oppressed by reasone of vnreasonable fynes and executions taken by the Chamberlaynes for ympoundinge of Catall neelygentlye comynge vpon the Comons, and doynge litle or noo hurte vpon the same, to the great Scandere of the Cytie, It is therefore inacted by auctonitye aforesaide that the Chamberlaynes of the Citie nowe beinge and all other Chamberlaynes hereafter for the tyme beinge shall not take of any Cityzene or othere inhabitaunte within the liberties or Shyre of this Cytie for any Catall brought to theyre pounce or taken vpon the Comons, and not beyng wilfully putte thervpon, aboue the some or Somes of moneye hereafter mencioned, that is to saye, for the ympoundinge of any kyen or

The fine for redemption of cattle fixed at

¹ leaf 404, back.

² i. e. very much grieved.

other kynde of beastes or Catall excepte Sheepe, but onelie a penny for a beste and not above; And for every Score of Sheepe iiij d. and not above; *provided* alwayes that Suckinge Calves, or suckinge pygges, or any other kynde of Catall Suckinge be not accompted for any number of Catall; *provided* also that they shall not ympounde any Swyne in maystyme¹ beyng lawfully rynged by vertue of this Acte, or any custome here-before vsed; *provided* also that this acte or any thyng therein conteygned do not extende to dissolve and make voide any acte or actes heretofore maid for surchardginge or puttinge Catall vpon the Comons, but that the same actes and every of theym maye stande and remayne in theyre full strengthes and effectes accordinge to the tenours and purportes of the same, any thyng herein conteygned to the contrarye notwithstandinge.

Id. for a best, and *Id.* for 20 sheep, not counting the sucking young.

No ringel swine are to be impounded in time of mast, nor are these acts to invalidate those of former times.

¶ [Enacted] that noon inhabitaunte of this Citye shall from-hensfurthe soeffere any woole to be bought and solde in theyre houses in any othere place but onelie in the comon woole-hall² of the saide Citye, ner shall sell any wollen yarne owt of the Citye whiche is sponnen in the Citye, vpon payne to forfayte for every defaulte vj s. viij d., the oone moytie therof to be to the Comon Almes Cheste, and the othere moytye to hym or theym that shall presente and *prove* the same by wittenes or otherwise before *Maister* Mayour for the tyme beinge, and the offender therein to soeffere ymprysonemente vntill the said forfayture be paid in forme aforesaid.

"No woole to be sold but in the woole-hale."

¶ [Enacted] that noo boochere of this Citye shall from-hensfurthe sell any Talowe above iij s. iiij d. the stoon, ner shall Sell any owt of the Citye, vpon payne to forfayte for every stoone iij s. iiij d., the oone half therof to the Shireffes of the Citye for the tyme beinge, and the othere half to hym or theym that shall *presente* and *prove* the same defaulte before *Maister* Mayour by wittenes or otherwise.

No "talow" to be sold above 3s. 4d a stone.

¶ [Enacted] that no Chaundelar of this Cytie shall

¹ In time of mast, i. e. when acorns, beech-nuts, etc., are plentiful. There is only one example (1682) in the *N.E.D.* for this word.

² leaf 405. ³ See above, pp. 192, 567.

No "candell"
to be sold out
of the city to
retailers.

from-hensforthe sell any Candell above ij d. the pounde,
ner shall sell any out of the Cytte to any bager,¹ fyshere,
or othere *persone* whiche shall sell the same agayne for a
geyne, vpon like payne for *euery* defaulte to the vse afore-
said, and all the same Candell so sold to be forfayted to
the Shreyfes of the sayd Citie for the tyme beinge.

THO. KEVET. MAYOR, 1548.

LEETS.

May 16, 1548.
Jury

² [V. f. p. held before Tho. Kevet, m., Joh. Nethermyll,
Will. Westeley, b., on May 16, 2 Edw. VI.]

[*Magister*³] Sym. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth.
Joynour, Chris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Talontes,
Jac. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Ric. Ley, Ric.
Sewall, Ric. Nielyn, Will. Saunders, Will. Joynour, Tho.
Riley, Tho. Amoursame, ⁴Mich. Robertes, Tho. ffoyden,
Joh. Hill, Joh. Sneyd, Rad. Hopkyns, Hen. Hynd, Joh.
Chambers, Will. Beylie.]

"Water."

"Conduits."

⁵ [Enacted] that no *persone* shall fetehe water at any
Condyt in this Citie for eny intent but onelie to dresse
meit *with*, vpon peyn to forfeit ij s. iiij d. for *euery* default,
the on half therof to the Shireffes and the other half to
hyme or theme that shall *present* the same.

"Cuitas
Countrie."
Jury of 28.

⁶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 9, 2 Edw. VI.]

[*Magister*⁶] Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth.
Joynour, Chris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh.
Talontes, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Will. Rogers, Tho.
Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Edw. Damp-
port, Ric. Nielyn, Will. Saunders, Will. Joynour, Will.
Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Wheteley, Tho. Amoursame,
⁷ Mic. Robertes, Tho. Foydon, Joh. Hill, Joh. Sneyd,
Her. Hynd, Rad. Hopkyns.]

Sheriffs.

Orders of
leet.
"Close
within the
Libertys of
the City
as well as
without"

[Hum. Reynoldes, draper, Will. Beilie, draper.]

[Enacted] that all Close & pastures, as-well *within* the
liberties of this Citie as *without*, whiche in old tyme haue

¹ Badger = huckster, middleman.

² leaf 406. Former scribe of I type.

³ Repeated before each name until note 4.

⁴ Untitled.

⁵ leaf 406, back. Former scribe of I type.

⁶ Repeated before each name until note 7.

⁷ Untitled. ⁸ In different hands.

been vsed to lie & be comon yeirelie frome Lamas vnto Candelmas and frome Michelmas vnto Candelmas, and of lait tyme haue been by vertue of sondry actes of leet maid & kept seuerall all the yeire, shal-be frome & after Lamas next comyng comon yeirelie frome Lamas to Candelmas, or frome Michelmas to Candelmas, as the same Closez & pastures & *euery* of theme haue been in old tymes past, eny acte, vse or custome to the contrarie notwithstanding. And that no *persone* keipp vpon the comens aboute the old stynt, that is to say, ij meche kyen & a gehlyng, or ij geldynges & oon mech Cowe, vpon peyn to forfeit to the Chamberleynes iij s. iiij d. for *euery default*.²

are henceforth to be common in tyme of common.

¹ "Stynt of Catal. 2 Cows & 1 gelding, or 2 geldings, And 1 Cow."¹

³ ¶ [Enacted] that noon *inhabitaunt* of this citie shall frome-hensfurth convey or carie, or cause to be conveyed or caried, owt of this Citie eny wollen Yarne spone within this Citie to be sold in eny forene place, vpon peyn to forfeit for *euery default* xls. to be levied by distresse vpon the *offendoures* by the Shireffes of the Citie to ther owne vse.

"Wollen yarne" not to be sold outside the city.

¶ [Enacted] that noon *inhabitaunt* of this citie shall haue or vse eny wollen *weightes* beyng aboute the weight of ij li. & *dim.*, vpon peyn of forfeiture of iij s. iiij d. for *euery default* to be levied as is aforesaid.

"Weyghtes."

WILL. SAUNDERS, MAYOR, 1549.

¶ [Election of Officers.]

[Magister]⁴ Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Talontes, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Bloure, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Joh. Waid, Tho. Amoursame, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Mic. Roberdes, ⁵Tho. ffoydou, Rad. Hopkyns, Chr. Bromeley, Rob. Colman, Hen. Hynd, Joh. Chambers.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25, 1549.

[m. *Magister* Will. Saunders, Capper; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorie; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Joh. Eyburn, Tanner, Ric. Sewall, bocher; w. Rob. Walden, Capper, Joh. Saunders, bocher; Guid. Speke, mace; crier, Rob. Swyft.]

Officers.

¹⁻¹ In different hands. ² See above, p. 729 *sqq.* ³ leaf 407. ⁴ Repeated before each name until note 5. ⁵ Untitled.

BUSINESS.

"Decretum est." = It is decreed.

The chamberlains are ordered to make two perches of the stone wall at the Little Parke.

¶ Item, it is ordeyned & decreed this day by the said electours that the Cham[berleyns]¹ now newlie chosen, and all ther Successours beyng Chamberlayns of t[his]¹ Citie shall make or cause to be maid at ther owne propre Costes (torn) two perches of the Stone Wall of the Little Parke with stone, lyme & sand sufficientlie for defence & savegarde of the ²kynges deers² of the Great Parke ther accordynglie as the Citie haith accustome[d]¹ & been bound to doo, or-elles to pay to the counsell of the Cit[ie]¹ xl s. to be bestowed vpon the said Wall by ther (?) discordeione.³

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas Couentric." May 14, 1549.

Jury of 25.

⁴[V. f. p. held before Will. Saunders, m., Humf. Reynoldes, Will. Beilie, b., on May 14, 3 Edw. VI.]

[*Magister*⁵ Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Her. Over, Joh. Talontes, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Edw. Dampont, Ric. Nielyn, Will. Joynour, Ric. Hurt, Joh. Waid, Tho. Amoursame, Will. Westeley, ⁶Ric. Sewall,⁷ Rob. Walden, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Seonse, Hugo Hervie.]

Against inhabitants of the city bringing "loren sutes" against their neighbours.

¶ [Enacted] that no inhabitaunt of this Citie shall sue or vex eny his neyghbour beyng a Citizene here, in eny personall accion or sute vnder the some or value of xl s. without license of *Maister Meire* for the tyme beyng in eny Courte or place owt of this Citie, vpon peyne to forfeit for every default xl s. to be levied vpon his goodes to the vse of the comen box of the Citie immediatlly vpon prove therof maid befor *Maister Meire* for the tyme beyng.

"of felishipp, fellowships. Every man to enter into a fellowshipp."⁸

¶ [Enacted] that noon inhabitaunt of this Citie shall frone & after the feast of seynt John Baptist next be in felishipp with eny other felishipp or company thene with

¹ torn. ²⁻² deleted.

³ The handwriting is a careless scrawl here, and the edge of the page torn. *Discorde* is given as a form of *decide* in *N.E.D.*

⁴ leaf 407, back.

⁵ Repeated before every name until note 6. ⁶ Untitled.

⁷ (?) Son of Master Ric. Sewall, whose name occurs earlier in the lists. ⁸⁻⁸ In different handwritings.

that company & Craft whosse occupacion & Craft he or his *seruauntes* doithe occupie & vse, vpon peyne to forfeit xl s. for euery monthe that he shall vse hymself contrarie to this acte, the ¹on moitie therof to be to *Maister Meire* for the tyme beyng, And the other moitie to the vse of the felishipp & Craft which shall in that behalf lafullie compleyne for the same forfeiture, to be levied of the *offendours goodes* immediatlie after prove therof maid before *Maister Meir* for the tyme beyng.

¶ *Item*, wher-as in tymes past *Maister Meire* for the tyme being haith vset to keipp a watche on *Midsomer nyght*, and the *Shireffes* another watche on seynt Peters nyght, It is now enacted (etc.) that *Maister Meire* & the *Shireffes* shall frome-hensfurthe yoyntelie keipp onelie oon watche on *Midsomer nyght* at the indeferent costes & charges of *Maister Meire* & the *Sherettes*, That is, the meire to pay the on half & the *Shireffes* the other half.²

¶ *Item*, forasmoche as *dyuers inhabitauntes* of this Citie for ther owne priuat lucre & gayne do daylie engrosse & geit into ther handes great quantitie of wollen Yarne sponne *within* this Citie and sell the same vnwrought in *dyuers* places in the Contrey to the great damage & hynderaunce of the *comen-welthe* of the Citie, It is therefore ordeyned (etc.) that no Citizene here frome-hensfurth shall sell eny wollen Yarne but to suche *persones* as shall make the same in Cloithe *within* this Citie, So that weyvers, walkers & Shermen of the Citie may haue the occupacion therof for meynテナunce of the *comen-we[l]the*, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery default vjs. viij. d. to be levyed vpon the *goodes* of the *offendours* immediatlie after prove therof maid before *Maister Meire* for the tyme beyng, the on half wherof to be to hyme that shall first compleyn & declare the same, and the other half to the vse of the Citie. And if eny Clothier of this Citie hauyng Clothes maid *within* this Citie cannot haue &³ vtter-aunce for the same in conuenient tyme, Thene the same Clothier bryngyng his Clothes into seynt Marie Hall on the Wednesday before noon shall haue rely money for

Only one riding of the armed "watche" to be observed, viz. the Midsommer one.

Certain citizens engross "wollen Yarne" to sell outside the city;

it is ordered that yarn shall only be sold to such as shall make cloth within Coventry.

Clothiers who cannot dispose of their cloth are to send it to Saint Mary's Hall on Wednesdays, when it shall be bought from them.

¹ leaf 408.

² For the armed watch see Sharp's *Mysteries*, pp. 174 sqq.

³ = ? an.

the same by *prouysion* of the Citie, so that the same Clothes be truelie wrought & maid.

"Cappers" are to have no more than three apprentices.

1^c [Enacted] that *enry* Capper of the Citie may haue thre [two] *prentises* & no moo, vntill the yeires of the *prentisez* be expired *within* two yeires, and then to take another *prentise* to make vpp the number of three.¹ And that no *persone* of the Craft of Cappers shall put owt eny pece-woork,² but to suche of the same Craft as the maisters of the same Craft for the tyme beyng, *with* the assent & consent of xij of the moost auncient *persones* of that Craft, shall agree & consent vnto, or that the more *part* of the said maisters & xij *persones* shall agre & consent vnto.

No pecewoork to be put out except to such as the master of the craft and 12 auncient persons of the craft shall permit.

No "Journey-men"

shall keep any quarterages or take fines from strangers coming to work.

¶ [Enacted] that no execucion or fyne shal-be takyn of eny *Journeymen* of eny occupacion *within* this Citie, ner no *Journeymen*³ shall assemble or keipp eny *quarterages* or⁴ take fynes of eny *estraungers* comyng to this Citie to worke, vpon the payne to be punysshed accordyng to the kynges actes of *parliament* in that [behalf] latelie maid & *provided*.

"Chelles-[more]"

¶ Also that noon *inhabitant* of Litle-parke Stret or Cowe-laue shall frome-hensfurthe cast eny muke or dunge vnto Chelle-[more] Courte,⁵ vpon peyn of iij s. iiij d. for enry default.

No filth or "dung" to be cast into the church-yards.

¶ And likewise that no *person* cast eny filthe or dung about seynt Michelles Church-Yarde or the Trinitie Church-Yard or the Sporn (*sic*) Yait vpon like payn.

6 "Sheipp. None to be kept by butchers vpon the Comons,"⁶

¶ Also that no bocher or other *inhabitaunte* of this Citie shall frome & after Lamas next keipp eny Sheipp vpon the Comons of this Citie, vpon such paynes as be

¹ leaf 408, back. For rules about the Cappers' apprentices, see above, pp. 774, 778.

² The first instance of this combination in the *N.E.D.* is dated 1795.

³ A recent statute (2 & 3 Ed. VI, c. 15) forbade confederacies to raise prices of work, and also permitted free working by masons, carpenters, etc., in corporate towns. For Journeymen's Guilds see above, pp. 91 *sqq.*, 653, 687, 694; *Life in an Old English Town*, p. 97; *Victoria County Hist. Warw.* II, pp. 153 6; for London Journeymen, see Unwin, *Gilds of London*, pp. 224 *sqq.*

⁴ "keipp" deleted.

⁵ Probably the old residence of the Earl of Chester's children, subsequently a royal palace, see *Life in an Old English Town*, p. 129.

⁶⁻⁶ In different hands.

lymyted in the acte of let in that case latelie maid etc.¹

2 ¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 15, 3 Edw. VI.]

[*Magister*³ *Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joy-nour, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Her. Over, Joh. Talontes, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Sewall, Edw. Dampont, Ric. Niclyn, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Whetely, Tho. Amoursame, Joh. Nethernyll, Will. Westeley, Joh. Eyburn, Ric. Sewall,*
4 *Joh. Saunders, Tho. Sconse.*]

[*Rob. Colman, Cowper, Joh. Thomson, Carpenter.*]

¶ [Enacted] that all the bakers of this Citie shall grynd all ther Corne *with* the Millers of this Citie, and not with forene Millers, and shall pay for every quarter of corne gryndyng viij d., vpon peyn to forfeit for every default doying the contrarie ij s. iiij d. And that the Millers shall *serue* the said bakers truelie & honestelie in gryndyng & *serue* no foreners wherby the bakers of the Citie myght be delayed or disapoynted, vpon like peyn.

¶ Also it is enacted that the shireffes of the Citie shall frome-hensfurthe pay the Recorders ffee so longe as they pay no fee-farme⁵ for the Citie to the kyng etc.

¶ [Enacted] that Ric. Tanner, bitter,⁶ shall *serue* the fishmongers & other the inhabitauntes of the Croschepyng ward⁷ after the Rait of thre bittes for a peny, And all other to be *serued* after the rait of v bittes⁸ for ij d., vpon peyn of xx s.

¶ Also that *Maister Meir* for the tyme beyng shall yeirelie appoynt ij *persones* of the felishipp of Cardemakers & swere theme to make dylygent serche in the

"Cunitas
Concentric."
Oct. 15, 1549.

Sheriffs.

The
"bakers"
of the city
are to
employ
resident
"Millers" in
preference to
outsiders.

The "Re-
corder's"
fee.

The bitter
to serve the
fishmongers
at the rate of
3 bittes for
a penny.

9 "Cardemakers.
The mayor to Apoynt searchers yearly and to swear them."⁹

¹ See above, p. 769. ² leaf 409.

³ Repeated before every name until note 4. ⁴ Untitled.

⁵ The fee-farm of £50 a year was frequently in arrears, v. *Madox, Firma Burgi*. 217. In the reign of Edw. VI there was such poverty in the city that the citizens declared to the Earl of Warwick that one or two persons were yearly ruined by the fee-farm payments, see vol. of Correspondence, Corp. MS. A. 79, leaf 63.

⁶ = water-carrier. See Gloss.

⁷ Those who lived near the conduit could be supplied at a cheaper rate.

⁸ v. *E. E. D.* In Worcester leather bags filled with water and borne on horses were called "byttes."

⁹⁻⁹ In different hands.

seid oocupacion for ill wares, and appoynt them a marke wherwith to marke all lawfull wares. And that no persone after Allhalowtide next shall put to sale or carie owt of the Citie eny Cardes¹ before they be allowed & marked, vpon peyn of iij s. iiij d., the half therof to be to the shereffes & the other half to hyme that shall first fynd the same.

RIC. NICLYN, MAYOR, 1550.

² [Election of officers.]

"Civitas
Coventrie,"
Jan. 25.

[*Magister*³ Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joy-
nour, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Her. Over, Joh.
Talontes, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Tho.
Spenser, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt,
Tho. Wheteley, Tho. Amoursame, Joh. Nethernyll, Will.
Westeley, ⁴Joh. Eyburne, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Saunders,
Rob. Walden, Joh. Chambers.]

Officers.

[m. "*Magister*" Ric. Niclyn, Grasier; rec. Edw.
Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorie; steward,
Baldw. Porter; ch. Ric. Kylby, *mercer*, Roland Wilde,
Smyth; w. Nic. Hobson, draper, Joh. Sandebroke, draper;
mace, Guy Speke; crier, Rob. Swyft.]

[And they are sworn. And because the aforesaid R. Niclyn is a common butcher and victualler they elect C. Waren, draper, Joh. Herforde, tanner, to assist the said mayor in assessing the price of victuals according to the form of the statute.]

Et *Jurati existant* etc. Et *pro eo quod predictus* Ric. Niclyn est *communis carnifer & victu[a]larius*, eligunt Chris. Waren, draper, Joh. Herforde, tanner, *assistantes dictum Maiorem (sic)* in *assessando precia victualium secundum formam statuti* etc.

LEETS.

"Civitas
Coventrie."
Apr. 9.

Jury of 25.

⁵[V. f. p. held before Ric. Niclyne m., Rob. Colman, Joh. Tomson, b., on Apr. 9, 4 Edw. VI.]

[*Magister*⁶ Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joy-
nour, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh.
Talontes, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keivet, Will.

¹ *i. e.* combs for combing wool. See above, p. 182, for previous troubles about ill-wrought cards. ² leaf 409, back.

³ Repeated before every name until note 4.

⁴ Untitled.

⁵ leaf 410.

⁶ Repeated before all names as far as note 1, p. 795.

Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Edw. Dampart, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Wheteley, Tho. Amoursame, Will. Westeley, Humf. Reynoldes, ¹Ric. Kylby, Rol. Wilde.]

[Ordaigned] that all suche inhabitauntes as occupie the facultie & Craft of dying of Cloythe & no [?in] wadsettyng in houses of ther owne shal-be frome-hensfurthe contributoryes to the Craft of diers & wadsetters, And to pay yeirelie every of theme xvj d. after the rait of iiij d. a quarter.²

Also that no inhabitaunte of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe forestall or by in-groose eny butter, egges, Cheise, or eny other kynd of vitayll to thynntent to sell it ageyne [or 20 s. fine at every default] and to soeffer imprisonment at will of Maister Meire etc.

Also it is further enacted at the peticion & request of the comoners ⁴ of this Citie that the bochers & vitaylloures of the Contrey shall fromehensfurthe haue fre libertie & be allowed to sell ther vitayll within this Citie every weike on the Wedensday & Fryday. So that the said bochers do brynge with theme ther hides & talowe & sell the same also with ther vitayll in suche place as shal-be appoynted at reasonable prises.⁴

Also it is further enacted that noon inhabitaunt of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe shall ⁵ keip within this Citie eny greyhoundes, houndes, spanyelles, ferettes or nettes, or hunt duckes in other mennes waters, except he may dispend xl s. by yeir in landes within this Citie, vpon payne to forfeit iij s. iiij d. for every default to be levied by the shireffes of the Citie by distresse to ther owne vse.

⁶ ¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 14, 4 Edw. VI.]

⁷ Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Saunders, Cuth. Joynour, Hen. Over, Joh. Talontes, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Sewall, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Wheteley, Tho. Amoursame, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Humf.

Orders of lect. All "diers" to contribute to the craft

4l. a quarter.

Against ³ "Inesters" and "Re-grators."³

The ³ "foren bochers to sell flesh on Wenesdays and ffridays,"³

and also tallow and hides.

An act "for hunters."

"Civitas Couentrie," Oct. 14. Jury.

¹ Untitled. ² See for previous orders about dyers pp. 704, 714.

³⁻³ In different hands.

⁴ Evidently the consumers were anxious for free trade.

⁵ Redundant. ⁶ leaf 410, back.

⁷ No title prefixed to any of these names.

Reynoldes, Ric. Kylby, Rol. Wild, Nic. Hobson, Her. Hynd, Ric. Sewall.

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Giller, *mercer*, Hugh Hervie, Capper.]

¹ "Clothiers of this Citie."

[Enacted] for the quyetnes of the Clothiers & weyvers of this Citie that all men frome-hensfurthe shal-be at libertie to put furthe ther yarne to the weyvers in Spyn-delles,² botomes,³ or Skeynes, as the weyver & thei cane agre, eny acte or cussotome to the contrarie not-with-standyng.

EDW. DAMPORTE, MAYOR, 1551.

⁴ ¶ [Election of officers.]

"Civitas
Coventrie,"
Jan. 25, 1551.
25 Electors.

[Magister⁵ Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallontes, Joh. Herforde, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Ley, Ric. Shewell, Will. Norton, Tho. Wheyteley, Joh. Waide, Tho. Amoursone, Joh. Nethernyll, Will. Westeley, Humf. Reynoldes, Will. Baylie, Joh. Tomsone,
⁶ Ric. Kylbye, Rol. Wylde, Hen. Hynde, Rad. Hopkyns.]

Officers.

¶ [m. *Magister*⁷ Edw. Damporte, pewterer; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorie; steward, Baldew. Porter; ch. Tho. Tayllour, graysyer, Ric. Hopkyns, draper; mace, Guy Speyke; crier, Rob. Swyfte.]

LEETS.

"Civitas
Coventrie,"
Apr. 21, 1551.

⁸ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Edw. Damporte, m., Ric. Giller, Hugo Harvyne, b., on Apr. 21, 5 Edw. VI.]

⁶ Tho. Gardyner, Cuth. Joynour, Chr. Waren, Joh.

¹ Scribe K.

² = a certain quantity of yarn, in Northamptonshire (v. *E. D. D.*) four hanks.

³ = a clew or nucleus on which to wind thread; also a skein or ball of thread (*N. E. D.*). Cf. Shakespeare's use of the word as a verb. *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, III. ii. 53, "As you vwinde her loue from him . . . You must provide to bottome it on me" (*ibid.*).

⁴ leaf 411. Scribe K.

⁵ Repeated before every name until note 6. ⁶ Untitled.

⁷ The Damporte (or Davenport) family settled in Coventry about 1500. The most celebrated members of the family were Joh. Davenport, Puritan, who went to New England in 1644, and Christopher, a Franciscan friar, his brother, and chaplain to Queen Catherine of Braganza.

⁸ leaf 411, back.

Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallontes, Joh. Harforde, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyckelyn, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, Tho. Wheyteley, Will. Westeley, Will. Baylye, Joh. Tomsone, Ric. Hawten, Tho. Taylour, Hen. Hynde, Ric. Scotte, Ric. Warnour, Joh. Sneyde.

Inprimis it is ordeingned and inacted at this *presente* leete and by the authoritye of the same at the requeste and desyre of the Comynaltye of this Citie that the Bochers beinge *Inhabitauntes* of this Citie from hensforthe shal-be all at libertye and haue libertye to sell theyre fleshe and vitayle at all dayes and tymes in the weeke excepte Soundayes, and at what place so *euer* or any of theym will wythin the saide Citye, And shal-be noo occupacion or felowshipe as in tymes paste they haue been.

¹ "Flesh & Victuals."¹

[Ordaigned] that the Boochers of the Countrey shall haue like libertye to sell theyre vitayle within the seide Citie at reasonable prices at all dayes and tymes in the weeke (excepte Soundayes), So that they sell theyre hydes, Skymmes and talowe belonginge to the same within the saide Citie, and do not kyll theyre vitayle within the walles of the saide Citie.²

"Bochers" of the country are to be permitted to sell meat every day except Sunday, so that they also sell fallow and hides.

[Ordaigned] that noo vyntenere of this Citie shall sell any Gasconigne³ wyne wythin the saide Citie by retayle from-hensforthe aboue the rate and price of xijd. the galon, vpon payne to forfayte for *euerye* defaulte x s., The oone halfe whereof to be to the Shireyffes of the Citie for the tyme beinge to theyre owne vses, and the other halfe to the vse of the fyrste taker and presenter of the same, to be leuied by distres of the goodes of the offendours by the Shyreiffes of the saide Citie for the tyme beinge. And the offendours therein to be furtherer punyshed by ymprysonmente at the discrecion of *Maister* Mayor of the saide Citie and his bretherne.

"Vynteners" to sell wine from Gascony at 12d. a gallon; on pain of 10s. fine

and imprisonment.

⁴[Ordaigned] that the ale-sellers and typlers of this Citie shall from-hensforthe sell theyre ale of the best Sourte not aboue the Rate and price of iiijd. the galon,

The "ale sellers" to sell ale at 4d. a gallon.

¹⁻¹ In a much later hand.

² See above, p. 795.

³ See above, p. 24.

⁴ leaf 412.

vpon payne to forfayte for euerye defaulte vj s. viij d. to be leuied in fourme aforesaid to the vses aforesaide.

¹ The Market Stalles; none to be set between Broadgate and the Couduit."¹

[Ordnained] that noo man of this Citie dwellinge between the Braleyaite and the Condythe in the Croscheapinge in the same Citie shall from-hensforthe *permytte* or Soeffer any Stawles or boordes to sell any maniore of ware vpon to be sette att theyre doores wythout the Eysynges² of theyre howses, nor soeffer any boorde or Stawle to stande in the Streete there, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte iij s. iij d. to be leuied in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide.

¹ The market. Fysh [and] tanned leather to stand below the Cheeping Couduit."¹

[Ordnained] that all the fyshemoungers and Sellers of tanned lethere, whiche shall sell any fyshe or tanned lethere within this Citie, shall from-hensforthe stande beneythe the Condeythe in the Croscheapinge in the saide Citie to sell theyre wares, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte vj s. viij d. to be leuied (etc.).

The millers, wrights and "Tylers" are no longer to be a fellowship.

³ [Enacted] that the mylners, wrightes and Tilers within this Citie shall from-hensforthe be noo Crafte, feloweshipe, nor compayne nor haue any suche assembles and meetinges as they haue hadde in tymes paste.

The sale of "Hurdellz" without the New Gate.

[Enacted] that noo man shall sell any hordelles or Sparres from-hensfurthe in any other place of this Citie, but oonelie vpon the hurdell hill wythout the Newe-yaite beinge the place accustomed for the same, as they haue been in tymes paste, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte vj s. viij d. to be leuied in forme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide.

"Ciuitas Conuenticie," Oct. 13, 1551. Jury of 23.

⁴ ¶ [V. f. p. on Oct. 13, 5 Edw. VI.]

Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallontes, Tho. Keyvet, Ric. Nyckelyn, Ric. Sewall, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, Will. Westeley, Rob. Colman, Joh. Tomsone, Ric. Hawton, Tho. Tailliozr, Hen. Hlynde, Tho. Owres, Rad. Hopkyns, Joh. Sneyde, Tho. Saunders, Joh. Parker.

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Smythe, vyntener, Tho. Saunders, Graysyer.⁵]

¹ In different hands. ² = eaves.

³ Cf. the making and unmaking of the butchers' craft, pp. 739, 770, 797, 803; for the millers' see above, p. 782.

⁴ leaf 412, back.

⁵ "et Jurat[i] suut]" = and they were sworn.

[Ordnained] that noone of the *inhabitauntes* of this Citie from-hensforthe shall by any barley within this Citie or liberties of the same but onelye to *serve* theyre owne howses with, and to be brewed and occupied in the same, vpon payne to forfayte for *euery* defaulte xx s., the oone halfe whereof to be to the vse of the *Mayour* and Comynaltie of the saide Citie, and the other halie to be to the vse of the *Shyreiffes* of the saide Citie for the tyme beinge to be leuyed by distres of the goodes of the offendours by the *Shyreiffes* of the saide Citie for the tyme beinge to the vses aforesaide.

¹ "Byers of barley" ¹ to make purchase of the grain for their own use only.

[Enacted] that noone *inhabitaunte* of this Citie shall from-hensfourthe make any malte within the saide Citie for any *persone* or *persones* of the Countrey of theyre barlye of the Countrey vpon payne to forfayte for *euery* defaulte xx s. to be leuiod in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaid.

No inhabitants are to be "maltemakers to forenners."

²[Ordnained] that the Maisters of the Bakers of this Citie for the tyme beinge that shall wayte vpon *Maister* *Mayour* of this Citie to waye breade shall at all tymes from-hensfourthe wey to *Maister* *Mayour* as-well *Warwicke* breade as the breade of the Bakers of this Citie accordynge to the true *Syse*,³ vpon payne to forfayte for *euery* defaulte xij d. to be leuiod in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide. And also it is ffurthere ordeingned (etc.) that the saide Bakers of *Warwicke* shall come to this Citie wyth theyre breade but oonelic twyse in one weeke, that is to saye, but vpon the *Wednesdaye* and the *Fridaye* accordinge to the olde aunciente order and Custome of the saide Citie, and yf any *Citizen* do hereafter receave any breade of the saide Bakers of *Warwicke* ⁴any breade⁴ vpon any other dayes then heretofore in this *presente* acte be lymitted & apointed, that then *euerye* suche offendour in the saide premisses shall forfaite and loose for *euery* defaulte xij d. to be leuiod in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide.⁵

⁵ To wey *Warwicke* breade."

"The bakers of *Warwicke* ij dayes in the weeke and noo moore."

Item, it is ffurthere ordeingned and inacted at this present leete and by the authoritye of the same that

¹⁻¹ Marginal notes are in the hands of this same scribe.

² leaf 413. ³ = assize. ⁴⁻⁴ redundant. ⁵ See p. 717.

" No man to
receave any
fyschers
horses
baleyn¹
with fish.

noone inhoulder or other *persone* within this Citie shall from-hensforthe receave into theyre howses any of the fyshe-sellers horses repayringe to this Citie ladon with fyshe, but shall suffere theym to vnloode theyre horses at the fyshe boordes in the markethe place, vpon payne to forfayte for *enrye* defaulte xx s. to be levied in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide.

" To Scowre
the River of
Shirbourne.

[Orlained] at this presente and by the aucthoritye of this *presente* leete that all the *inhabitauntes* that dwell within this Citie and haue gardeyns and groundes adioynnge to the River of Shyrbourne from Saunte Johns bridge to the Sponne brooke in the Puddinge-Crofte shall Clense and Scowre the same *enrye* man his porcion before the feaste of All Sainctes nexte, vpon payne *enrye* man to forfayte for *enrye* defaulte vj s. viij d., and noo *persone* or *persones* at any tyme hereafter to caste any donge or fylthe into the saide River, vpon like payne to be levied in fourme aforesaid to the vses aforesaide.

No man to
caste any
donge into
the River of
Shyrbourne.²

RIC. HURTE, MAYOR, 1552.

1 ¶ [Election of officers.]

" Civitas
Coventrie."
Jan. 25, 1552.
25 Electors.

Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallontes, Joh. Harforde, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyckelyn, Ric. Ley, Tho. Wheyteley, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Waide, Tho. Amoursame, Will. Westeley, Humf. Reynoldes, Will. Bailye, Joh. Tomson, Ric. Giller, Hugo Harvie, Tho. Tailloir, Hen. Hynde. Rad. Hopkyns, Thos. Owres.

Officers.

[m. Ric. Hurte, *mercier*; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorie; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Joh. Rooper, whittawer, Chr. Tylinge, weyver; w. Math. Robbeson, *mercier*; Edw. Pell, *draper*; mace, Guy Speke; crier, Rob. Swyfte.]

LEETS.

May 10, 1552.

² [V. f. p. held before Ric. Hurte, mayor, Ric. Smythe, Tho. Saunders, b., on May 10, 6 Edw. VI.]

¹ leaf 413, back.

² leaf 414.

Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyckelyn, Edw. Damporte, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Will. Hyndeman, Will. Norton, Will. Westeley, Will. Baylye, Rob. Colman, Joh. Tom-sone, Ric. Giller, Hugo Harvye, Joh. Rooper, Chr. Tylynge, Edw. Pell, Joh. Sneide, Ric. Sewall, jun., Tho. Kirvyne, Tho. Owres, Joh. Saunders, Ric. Scotte.

Jury of 26.

[Enacted] that all the Comon brewers within this Citie whiche shall hereafter brewe ale and beare to sell within the same Citie shall from-hensfourthe sell theyre ale and beere after the rate and price of twoo shillinges the Sestur, and shall sell fouretene Galons to the Sestur, and not above that price, vpon payne of euery brewere to forfaitte for euery Sestour solde contrarye to the tenour of this acte ij s. iiij d. to be levied by wey of distres of the goodes of the offendours, the oone halfe whereof to be to vse of the Comynaltye and Comon box of the saide Citie, and the other halfe to the vse of the Shireyffes of the Citie for the tyme beinge, for levyinge and distraynyng for the same.

The brewers which brew
1 "Ale and
bear"¹
to sell at the
rate of 2s.
a sextary.

fforasmuche as by the excessiue number of ale-wives and Typlers of this Citie, and especiallye of suche as vse boothe to brewe and tiple ale or beere, encreasinge dailye more and moore, all kyndes of vicesses be noryshed and the Comon-welthe of this Citie muche ympayred, for reformation whereof it is ordeigned and inacted at this presente leete and by the authoritie of the same that noon inhabitaunte of this Citie from & after the feaste of Penthecoste nexte, whiche shall take vpon hym or theym to brewe any ale or beare, shall sell any of the same ale or beere by retayle. And likewise that noo typplar, whiche after the saide feaste of Penthecoste, whiche shal-be authorized by *Maister* Mayour, and the Justices of peace of this Citie, accordinge to the kinges acte of *parliamente* in that case laitelie maide and provided, to vse typplinge of ale or beere, except the Inneholders² of

The excessive number of "Alewyves" leads to the increase of vice, and the decay of the common-wealth; it is ordered that those who brew ale and beer shall not sell it by

retail,
and that those licensed to sell by retail,

except the inholders

¹—1 In a later hand.

² See above, p. 771. This order maintains a difference between innholders, where people are lodged, and an ale house, where ale is supplied to any one. See Webb, *Liquor Licensing*, 5.

of the city,
shall not
brew.

this Citie, shall brewe any ale or beere, vpon payne to Suffer ymprisonement at the will and pleasure of Maister Mayour and the Justices of peace of this Citie, and to forfait for euerye weeke vsynge the same contrarye to this acte xx s. to be leuiel of the goodes and Catalles of the offendours to the vses aforesaide in forme aforesaide.

The Justices
of the peace
and the
officers of
the law,
in so much
as the

¹ Whereas the Justices of peace in mooste Counties of this Realme do vse to holde theyre fflowre generall quarter Cessions yerelie on iiij certayne dayes by reasone whereof not onelie the saide Justices, but also all other the kynges Bayliues, officers, mynisters & Jurours in euerye Shyre, settinge aparte all other theyre affayres for that tyme, maye the bettur determynе withе them-selves at those dayes to keepe theyre apparaunces and to serue the kinge accordinge to thayre dueties. And forasmuche as the Justices of peace in this Citie and Countye vse noo certayne dayes to holde theyre iiij generall quarter Cessions, as-well the saide Justices and Shireyffes of the saide Citie, as also the Constables bothe of the Citie and Countye, and other Jurours of the same, geaue litle or noe regarde or respecte thereunto, So that many tymes when those Cessions be apointed to be holden and kept, as-well the Justices as Constables and other the kinges officers, and likewise the Jurours, be forthe of the Citie and Shyre abowte theyre owne necessarye busynes, and so the kinge vnserved, where-as yf the Cessions were vsed to be holden at certayne dayes they might muche the bettur directe and order them-selves accordinge to theyre dueties to keepe the same dayes: Wherefore and for the bettur mynistacion of Justice it is ordeingned (ete.) that the Justices of peace of this Citie and Shyre shall from-hensforthe holde and keepe theyre iiij generall quarter Cessions yerelie vpon the iiij dayes hereafter mencioned, That is to saye, Moundaye Sevennyght nexte after Trynitye Sondaye, Moundaye nexte after Michelmas daye, Moundaye nexte after the Epiphanie of oure Lorde God, and Moundaye next after Lowe Soudaye, certainlye without any alteracion or changinge of any of the saide dayes.

Quarter
"Sessions"
are not held
on any fixed
days,
are often
absent

from the
city,
it is therefore
enacted for
the better
direction of
their affairs
and adminis-
tration of
justice

that Quarter
Sessions
be held at
four specified
dates.

¹ Leaf 414, back.

[Orlained] that the Bochers of this Citie shall from-hensforthe be admitted and alowed agayne to be a Crafte and Companye as they haue been in tymes paste,² So that they woll be boundeyn by recognizaunce sufficiently to serve the people and inhabitants of this Citie with goode, lauffull, hoolesome and sufficient vytaile at all tymes.

And also it is ordeingned (etc.) that the Boochers of the Country shall from-hensforthe be vtterlye excluded from this Citie and not to haue any suche libertye to sell theyre meate and vytaile here as they haue hadde in tymes paste.

⁴[V. f. p. held on Oct. 4, 6 Edw. VI.]

Essonit.⁵

Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallantes, Joh. Hereford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyclyne, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Will. Hyndeman, Tho. Wheately, Joh. Wayde, Tho. Amorson, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Humf. Reynoldes, Will. Baylye, Joh. Thomson, Ric. Gyller, Joh. Roper, Cris. Tylynge, Edw. Pell, Math. Robson.

¶ [Joh. ffitzherbert, mercer, Ric. Wightman, capper.]

¶ Item, yt ys ordeyned and enacted at thys present leete by the aucthorytie of the same that noon inhabitante of thys Cytye shall haue or vse any Swyne Styes in the Subbarbes of thys Citie beyng within lx foote of any high weye, or noyonse vnto the kinges leige people, vppon peyne to forfaitie vj s. viij d. to the vse of the Shyreffes of the sayd cytye for the tyme beinge to be leved by dystres etc.

¶ [Enacted] That non inhabitante of thys Cytye shall permytt & Suffer any blockes, tymber, or other purpresture to be leyd vnder ther walles or any other place in the streites of the Citie ouer & aboue the space of oon weeke, vppon peyne to forfeicte for euery defalte vj s. viij d.

The
1 "butchers
Alowed to be
a Company
Againe."¹

³ "laudabile
factum"³
= a praise-
worthy deed.
Country
butchers to
be excluded
from the city.

"Civitas
Conentrie."
Oct. 4, 1552.

Jury of 25.

Sheriffs.

No "Swyne
Styes" in

the suburbs
within 60
feet of the
highway.

"Blockes,
tymber &
purpresture
in the
stretes."

¹⁻¹ In a later hand. ² See above, p. 798 and note.

³ A hand of (probably) later date. On the exclusiveness of towns see Introduction.

⁴ Scribe L; leaf 417. The last page was numbered 414. I do not perceive that any leaves are missing from the MS. The marginal notes are in the hand of Scribe L also.

⁵ = Essions. See above, p. 715.

to the vse aforesayd, and besydes that lose & forfeyte the sayde blockes, tymber & other purpresture to any Constable, *seriaunte*, or other officer of the Citie that wyll sease & take the same.

"Pave-
mentes"
from the
house-front
to the gutter
to be kept in
order by
each citizen.

¹¶ [Enacted] that *every* inhabitauntes of thys citie shall sufficiently repayre & amend ther pavemente in the streetes of the Citie Lyenge before ther howses from ther howse to the Chamell before the feaste of Easter next, vpon payne to forfeyte for every defalte vj s. viij d., to be leveyd of the goodes of the offenders by dystres to the vse of the Shyreffes of the sayd cytye for the tyme beinge.

"Colleccon
& gathering
of Amerci-
mentes."

¶ [Enacted] That for the better admynystracion & execucion of iustice & the trewe levyenge of all fynes & amercementes hence-furthe, That the two *Seriauntes* of the Citie called the Subbaylyfes shall haue the Colleccon and gatherynge of all thissues, fines and amercymentes hence-furthe Risinge & comynge of all Indictementes, *presentmentes* at any Cessions, *Leetes* or otherwise within thys Cytye, and shall make accompte of the same vnto *Maister Maiour* & Shyreffes of the citie for the tyme beinge at suche tyme as they shal-be thervnto called, savinge suche Resonable allowance for ther peynes therein as by *Maister Maiour* & the counceill of the sayd citie shal-be thought good.

² "No
Sweepinge of
the streetes
in tyme of
Raine." ²

¶ [Enacted] that no *person* within thys Citie shall from-hencefurthe Swepe ther streites in any Reyne tyme wher-by to pester³ the Ryver with fylthe & mucke, vpon payne to forfeiete for every defalte ij s., the oon half therof to the *presentour* of the same & the other to the shyrefes of the Cytye etc.

"Tallowe"

¶ [Enacted] That ther shal-be sold no tallowe from hence-furthe from or owte of the Cytye to any stranger vntell the feaste of Easter next comynge, neyther yt shal be sold to any Cytizin within the sayd cytye above fyve shyllinges & foure pence the stonne, and that Candle for the same tyme shall not be sold aboue iij d. the pound,⁴ vpon the payne for the Sellinge of every stonne of tallowe contrarye

5s. 4d. a
stone,
" & Candle "
3d. per lb.

¹ leaf 417, back. ²⁻² In different hands ³ = obstruct.

⁴ The steady rise in prices is to be attributed to the debasement of the coinage.

to thys acte iij s. iiij d., & for every pound of candle xij d. to be leyed by dystres to the vse of the sayd Shyrefes.

¹ ¶ [Enacted] that noon inhabitaunte of thys Citie shall from hencefurthe caste any stoones, Raymell,² or other fylthe or p rpresture, vpon the Grey-freer dunghyll or neere vnto the same, Excepte good mucke or dunge or cleane yearthe, vpon peyne to forfeiete for euerye defalte vj s. viij d. to be leved by dystres by the shyreffes of the Cytie for the tyme beinge of the goodes & Cattalles of the offenders to ther owne vse.

"Greyfreer
dongebyll."

¶ Item, yt ys also enacted by aucthorytye aforesayd that the harbors of thys Citie shal-be dysecharged of ther pencion of vj s. viij d. that they were heretofore Charged yerelye to paye to the gyrdelers of the same Cytie.³

The
"harbors"
pension.

¶ [Enacted] That no bruer of thys Cytie shall sell ther best ale but after the raite of xiiij^{ten} gallons the Cester, & the typler to sell the same after iij d. the gallon, & ij d. ale for xx d. the Cester, vpon peyne of xx s. etc.

The price
of "Ale."

¶ [Enacted] That all actes & ordynaunces mayd at the last leete for the *preseruacion* & meyntenaunce of the Coemwelthe (Commonwealth) of thys Cytie shall stand and remayne in ther strengthe & forces according to theen[ten]tes and trewe meauynge of the same.

The "old
actes
ratified."

WILL. JOYNOUR, MAYOR, 1553.

"Ciuitas
Coventrie,"
Jan. 25.

¶ [Election of Officers.]

[Names of electors all missing.]

Who elect Master Will. Joyner mayor of this city for the year following. . . .

¶ Qui Eligunt in officium Maioris huius Ciuitatis Magistrum Will. Joyner, gresyer, pro hoc Anno sequente. . . .

LEETS.

⁴ ¶ [V. f. p. held before Will. Joyntour, m., Joh. flitzhert, Ric. Wightman, b., on Apr. 25, 7 Edw. VI.⁵]

"Ciuitas
Coventrie,"
Apr. 25, 1553.

¹ leaf 418. ² = builder's rubbish.

³ See above, p. 710. The yearly pension was to go towards the pageant.

⁴ leaf 418, back.

⁵ By a curious slip Edw. VI. is here described as "Regina."

¶ *Essonia.*

Tho. Gardener, Cuth. Joyntour, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallontes, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keivet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyelyn, Edw. Dampport, Ric. Hurte, Ric. Ley, Will. Norton, Tho. Amorsam, Will. Beylie, Rob. Colmon, Joh. Thompson, Hugo Harvye, Tho. Saunders, Hen. Deves, Hen. Collins, Joh. Bollet, Ric. Wanour [? Warnour], Hen. Lyngham, Tho. Tayler.

[V. f. p. held on Oct. 10, 1 Mary.¹]

¶ *Essonia.*

[Tho. Gardener, Cuth. Joyntour, Chr. Waren, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallontes, Joh. Harford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keivet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyelyn, Ric. Hurte, Ric. Sewall, Will. Norton, Tho. Amorsam, Will. Westeley, Will. Baylye, Joh. Thompson, Ric. Gyller, Ric. Smy[t]he, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Devyas, Hen. Collyns, Joh. Parker, Joh. Hyndmaa, Ric. Sewall.

Sheriffs and recorder elected.

¶ [Tho. Dudley, "generosus," Tho. Kyrvyn, mercer.]

And they elected to the office Et eligerunt in officium Record-
of recorder of this city Joh. atoris huius Ciuitatis Joh. Throg-
Throgmorton, Esq. morton² armigerum.

³ "Car-penters a Company."³

⁴ [Orlained]⁵ that the Companye of Carpenters within thys Cytte shal-be admytted and allowed as an occupacion & fellowshippe as in tymes past they haue bynne.

The wages of "Car-penters" 8*l.* a day, between Feb. 2 and Nov. 1;

[Enacted] that no maister Carpenter or sawyer shall take for hys wages from Candlemas to Allholuntyd aboue viij*d.* a daye, And for a yornyman or a Suffyeent servaunte not aboue v*d.* a daye; And also that no maister Tyler or Roughe Masson durynge the sayd tyme shall take aboue vij*d.* a daye, & for ther Suffyeent servaunte not aboue v*d.* a daye; And no dawber durynge

of "Tylera & Massons" 7*l.* a day;

of "Dawbers"

¹ For the Queen's titles v. p. 781.

² Of the famous family of Throekmorton of Coughton, Warwick, John Throekmorton was son of Sir George, father of Francis, the conspirator, brother of Sir Nicholas, the diplomatist, and uncle to Job, of Martin Marprelate fame. Both John and Nicholas were implicated in Wyatt's rebellion, but John, though condemned to death, was released and restored to Queen Mary's favour. In 1566 he was knighted by Elizabeth. Towards the close of his life he was accused before the Star Chamber of maladministration in his post of Justice of Chester, and declared guilty. He died in 1580.

³⁻³ In different hands. ⁴ leaf 419.

⁵ "thauuthorite" occurs here.

the sayd tyme shall take aboue vj.d. a daye, nor hys *seruaunte* aboue v.d.; nor no Coem (common) laborer duryng the sayd *terme* aboue v.d. a daye.¹

[Enacted] that [no] *maister* Carpenter [&] *maister* sawyer shall take from Hallontyd vntell Candlemas aboue vj.d. for a dayes wages, & for hys *servant* not aboue v.d. a day; And that no tyler nor Roughe Masson shall take duryng the sayd tyme aboue vj.d. a daye, and hys man not aboue iiij.d. a day; And no dawber duryng the sayd tyme shall take aboue v.d. a daye, & hys man not aboue iiij.d.; & no Coem (common) laborer duryng the sayd time aboue iiij.d. a daye.

[Enacted] that the Carpenters of thys Cytye shall permitt & suffer all Carpenters of the Countrey to worke in the Cytye takyng of *euery* suche carpenters wages of the countrey j.d. a wycke, the same to be taken & Receyved of *thandes* of hym that settythe the sayd forren carpenter aworke. And these orders to be observed vpon peyn of Imprisonment at the discrecion of *Maister* Meyre & *Justices* of peace of thys Cytye.³

[Enacted] that no *person* within thys Cyty of what degree so-euer he be shall geve to any of the sayd *personnes* aboue the wages aforesayd, vpon peyne to forfeyte for *euery* defalte vjs. viij.d., & Lykewise the taker ijs. iiij.d., to be Leveyd to the vse of the Shyrryfes of thys Cytye.

[Enacted] That all Carpenters, Massons, tylers, dawbers, & also all kynd of laborers *within* thys Cytye Lackyng worke shall assemble themselves at fyve of the clocke in the mornynge in the *somer* tyme *with* ther tooles in *ther* *handes* at the Broide-yate accordinge as in tymes paste they haue donne to thientente suche as lacke workemen may fynd them ther, and that non of them be found idell at whome or in any ale house, vpon peyne of Imprisonment.

⁴[Enacted] that the foren bochers shall haue Libertie to bryng victuell in-to thys Cytye wickely on the

6*l.* a day;
 “& Coem (common) labor”
 5*l.* a day.
 2 “Rates & wages”² for wnter, Carpenter, tiler, and mason,

6*l.* a day;
 dawber, 5*l.*;
 labourer, 4*l.*

The “forren Carpenters” may work in the city, but their employers are to take 1*l.* a week from each one’s wages³; to be paid to the carpenters’ craft.

“Nota pena.”
 None to give workmen higher wages than accordyng to the established rates.

The “assemblyng of workemen at *the* Broide-yate” for hire.

The “foren bochers” are to be admitted on Fridays.

¹ Cf. the wages of the year 1421 on p. 21, and note the rise that has taken place during the intervening period.

²⁻³ In a later hand. ³ Cf. the previous order, p. 792.

⁴ leaf 419, back.

Frydaye & to sell the same in two places, that ys to seye, in the Fleete-streite & Jordau-well, and on non other dayes.¹

Order con-
cerning the
"kylloge of
fleshe."

[Enacted] that non inhabitaunte of thys Cytye other then a bocher shall kyl any kynd of fleshe to sell, vpon peyne of iij s. iiij d. for euery defalte.

All "bruers"
to sell

[Enacted] That euery bruer in thys Cytye after the fyrst daye of Maye next shall sell ther ale after xiiij gallons to the Cestre, & after the Raite of ij s. the Cestre & not aboue; and the typler to sell yt after the raite of ij d. the gallon, vpon peyne of euery bruer or typler offendinge to the Contrarye to forfeiete for euery defalte vj s. viij d. to be levyed by distres etc., the oon half therof to the shyrrifes, xx d. thereof to the Comem² boxe, & xx d. thereof to the presenter, and bysydes that to suffer impresonment etc., & that all typlers aforesayd shall sell ther ale owte of ther howses at the prises aforesayd, that ys to sey, ij d. the gallon.

ale at 2s.
the sextary,
and
"typlers"
at 2d. the
gallon.

Keepers of
"ale-houes"
are forbidden
to permit
inhabitants
to drink in
their houses
except on a
market day in
a stranger's
company.

[Enacted] That no typler within thys Cytye shall not suffer any inhabitaunte of the Cytye to have Resorte into ther howses to eate and drynke vles yt be on the market daye & feyre tyme in the Company of an honeste stranger,³ vpon peyne to forfeiete for euery defalte x s., wherof iij s. iiij d. to the presenter, iij s. iiij d. to the shyrrifes, & iij s. iiij d. to the Coem (common) boxe to be Leveyd by distres etc.

"Inholders"
are forbidden
to permit
labourers to
drink or play
in their inns.

[Enacted] That no Inholder within thys Cytye shall not permyt or suffer any handy-Craftes-man, laborer, yornyman or aprentyzes of thys Cytye to haue Resorte or to be conuersaunte in hys howse to eate or drynke or pleye vles yt be in Company of a stranger and then not to pleye, vpon peyne of x s. for euery defalte, wherof iij s. iiij d. to the shyrrifes, iij s. iiij d. to the coem box, & iij s. iiij d. to the presentour etc.

Ordered that
"no brewer
[is] to fetch
water at the
Conduits."⁴

[Enacted] That no coem (common) bruer nor malte-maker with-in thys Cyte shall not from-hence-furthe fetche eny water at the Comdyttes wherwith to brewe or

¹ See above, p. 803. ² *i. e.* common.

³ In obedience most likely to the time-honoured custom of drinking over the conclusion of a bargain. For other restrictions see above, p. 786.

⁴⁻⁴ In different hands.

to make malte, vppon peyne to forfeyte for euery defalte xx s., wherof vj s. viij d. to be to the shyrryfes, vj s. viij d. to the presenters of the defalte, & vj s. viij d. to the coeñ (common) boxe, towardes the reparacions of the Condyttes, to be Leveyd by distres etc. ymedyatly after the prophe¹ of the offence before *Maister* Meyer etc.²

WILL. NORTON, MAYOR, 1554.

LEETS.

³[V. f. p. held before Will. Norton, m., Tho. Dudley, Tho. Kyrvyn, b., on Apr. 24, 1 Mary.⁴

Essonia.

Tho. Gardener, Cutheb. Joyner, Chr. Waren, Joh. Tallantes, Joh. Hareford, Jac. Rogers, Ric. Nyelyn, Ric. Hurte, Will. Joyner, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewell, Tho. Wheateley, Tho. Amorson, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Will. Baylye, Ric. Gillar, Ric. Smythe, Tho. Saunders, Ric. Wightman, Oliuer Lynd, ffran. Wayd, Will. Smalewood, Nic. Hopkins.

[Enacted] That no ale-bruer nor bere-bruer *within* thys Cytte shall from and after the feaste of Penticoste next sell any ale or bere about the *prece* of ijs. the Cester, & euery Cester to conteign xiiij galones, vppon peine to forfeite for euery Cester x s., the same forfeiture to be Levied & taken of the goodes of the offenders by the shyrryfes of the Cytte for the tyme beinge to ther owne vse ymedyatly after *profe* therof mayd by wytnes or otherweyes before the Mayer of the sayd Cytte for the tyme beinge.

¹ = proof.

² On Nov. 20 of this year the mayor sent up to the Council Baldwin Clere, weaver, Joh. Careles, weaver, Tho. Wylcockes, fishmonger, and Ric. Astelyn, haberdasher, for "lewd and seditious behaviour on All Hallow Day last past." Careles died in the King's Bench prison in 1556. Astelyn was a member of a leading family in the city.—*Vict. County Hist. Warr.*, II. 33. He was probably soon released, as a Ric. Aslyn and one Francis are mentioned as being interviewed by an emissary of Suffolk in the January of the succeeding year, when an attempt was made to seize Coventry for the Protestants.—*ib.* 442-3.

³ leaf 420.

⁴ For the Queen's titles, v. above, p. 781. The night of the 29-30 January in this year was marked by much disturbance, and an abortive attempt on the part of the Duke of Suffolk's—the Protestant—party to seize the city.

"Civitas
Coventrie."
Apr. 4, 1554.

Jury.

The "ale-
bruers &
bere-bruers"
to sell ale
at 2s. the
sextery.]

Every
"Typler" to
sell no ale
above 3*l.*
the gallon,

and by
measures
duely teste-d
and sealed.

"Seasure of
measures or
breakinge of
the same,"
if they are
unlawful
ones, is
allowable.
The "handy-
craftesmen."

A "confirm-
acion of old
actes."

Against
"breakinge
of hedges."

Against
laying any
filth near the
"gates or
barres of
thys Cytye."

And that no typler of thys Cytye from-hence-furthe shall sell eny ale or bere, aboute the Raite of iij*d.* the gallon, vppon peyne to forfeite for enery defalte iij*s.* iij*d.* to be Levyed and taken of the goodes of the offenders in forme aforesayd to the vse aforesayd: And also that no typler of this Cytye shall from and after the feaste of the Natiuitie of seynt John Baptiste next comynge sell eny ale or beare by eny other measures then by pyntes, quartes, pottells or gallons beynge sealed¹ by the officer assigned for the same, vppon peyne to forfeite for enery defalte v*s.* viij*d.* to be levyed and taken in forme aforesayd to the vse aforesayd. And that yt shal-be lafull to enery person & persones seinge or findinge eny ale or beare sold by eny other mesures then as ys aforesayd, or by mesures not sealed to breake the same or to sease & take them to hys & theyr owne vse.

[Enacted] that the acte mayd at the laste Leete con-
cornynge daylye wages of Massons, Carpenters, tylers, &
other Laborers & handy-craftesmen shall stand and re-
mayne in full strength and effecte in all poyntes accord-
inge to the tenour and purporte of the same acte: And
that all other actes mayd for preseruacion of the coeñ-
welthe² of thys Cytye shall stand & remayne in their
forces accordinge to the purporte of the same.

³[Enacted] that no person take vppon them to breake
eny hedges of Lammas pastures or other aboute thys
Cytye, or earie away eny hedge-wood of the same, vppon
peyne of ympresonment & to forfeite for enery defalte
iij*s.* iij*d.*

Allso that no person lay eny dunge or fylthe nighe or
abowte the gates or the barres of thys Cytye, vppon peyne
to forfeite for enery defalte v*s.* viij*d.* And that all
suche persones that haue of laite leyd eny dunge or fylthe
nighe vnto the sayd gaites or barres shall take & carry
away the same before Wytsonyde next, vppon the same
peyne.

Allso yt ys further enacted (etc.) That no person or

¹ See Shake-peare, *Taming of the Shrew*, Introd. ii.

. . . "and rail upon the hostess of the house,
And say you would present her at the Leet,
Because she brought stone-jugs and no sealed quarts."

² *i. e.* commonwealth. ³ leaf 420, back.

persones of thys Cytte shall from hence-furthe ley or water eny hempe or flax in the Ryver of Shyrborne, vppon peyne to forfeicte for every tyme so doinge xl shyllinges.

Against lay-
ing "hempe
& flaxe" in
the river.

It is also enacted by aucthoritie aforesayd That all the bochers of thys Cytte shall ley furthe in the streetes ther hydes to be sold, vppon the Frydaye before seven of the clocke in the mornynge, & no daye ells in the wycke, nor shall not sell eny hyde to eny tanner or eny other man before nyne of the clocke of the same Frydaye, vppon peyne to forfeicte for every hyde & offence vj.s. viiij.d. to be Levyed of ther goodes by wey of dystres, & the oon half of all the forfeitures to the fynder or presenter of the same, & the other half to the shyrryfes of thys City for the tyme being.

An order for
"sellinge of
hides" on
Fridays only,

and after
9 o'clock.

Allso that no Chaundeler of thys Cytte shall sell eny tallowe to the corvicer nor to the Curriour, but shall converte the same tallowe to Candle-makinge, vppon peyne to forfeicte vj.s. viiij.d., the half therof to the vse of the Shyrryfes etc., and the other half to the vse of the fyrste fynder of the same.

Every
"Chaunde-
ler" to make
his tallow
into candles.

THOMAS RYLEY, MAYOR, 1555.

EASTER LEET.

¹[V. f. p. held before Tho. Ryley,² m., Ric. Hopkins,³ Will. Hindeman, b., May 14, 1 & 2 Philip & Mary.]
Essonia.

"Ciuitas
Coentrie."
May 14, 1555.

Tho. Gardener, Cuth. Joyner, Chr. Waren, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallantes, Joh. Hereford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Kevet, Ric. Nyelyn, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, Will. Joyner,

¹ leaf 422.

² This mayor must have had Protestant leanings, as he sent to warn John Glover of his intended arrest. John escaped, but his brother Robert—the martyr—was taken. On the other hand, Christopher Waren, at whose house the captive Duke of Suffolk lodged, was a Catholic partisan. Foxe, *Martyrs*, VII. 393.

³ Probably of the Hopkins' family of Palace Yard, Coventry. The sheriff was imprisoned this year in the Fleet, being "accused," says Foxe, "of matter pertaining to religion." He appears to have sent to a thief in prison, ready to be hanged, "a certain English book of Scripture for his spiritual comfort." After his release from prison he and his family went to Basle, where he lived until after Mary's death, being "a comfortable reliever of other English exiles." A letter to him from the martyr, John Bradford, is given in Foxe. See *Martyrs*, VII. 249-50.

Ric. Ley, Ric. Shewell, Tho. Wheateley, Tho. Amorsame, Will. Westeley, Will. Beyly, Joh. Thompson, Ric. Giller, Hugo Harvye, Tho. Saunders, Ric. Wightman, Tho. Dudley, Tho. Kervyn, Joh. Gosselyn, Tho. Syde, Will. Smaledwood.

As order
against
"dryinge
of malte."

[Enacted] that non inhabitant of thys Cyty shall from-hence-furthe after the feaste of All Seynetes next drye any mallte *with* strawe or furre *within* the walles of thys Cytye, vppon peyne to forfeiete for enery defalte xl s. to the vse of the shyrryfes to be Levyed by distresse etc.

No brewer,
malt-maker
and fish-
monger to
take from the
"Condyte"
any "water."

Item, no Coem (common) bruer, no malt-maker or fishemonger shall from-hence-furthe fetehe eny water at the counديات *within* thys Cytye to thentente therwith to make malt, brewe, or water fysshe,¹ [or 20s. fine each time, levied in the form and applied to the use above-written.] And that enery constable shall endeavour hymself to se the execucion of thys acte, vppon peyne of vj s. viij d.

The "Constables" are to enforce this act.

No one to eat or drink in an ale-house during "seruyce tyme" on the Sabbath.

Allso that no ale-howse keeper or other vytayler in thys Cytye soeffer eny inhabitantes of the Cytye to eate or drynke in ther howses in *service* tyme on the Sabott daye, vppon peyne to forfeite for enery defalte xx s., vt supra.

Against "admyttinge of estrangers"

without they are examined before the mayor or an alderman and pronounced satisfactory.

Item, that non inhabitante of thys Cytye do admytt eny stranger to inhabite *within* thys Cytye Excepte the same estranger be fyrste brought to [by] the Constable of the ward wher he shall inhabite before *Maister* Meyre or the alderman of the ward and by them examyned & tryed whether he be a man meite to inhabite ther or not, vppon peyne to forfeiete xl s. vt supra.² And yf eny Constable do soeffer eny such to inhabite by the space of a moneytlye that then he for hys neeligens to forfeiete for enery defalte vj s. viij d.

"Edwardes, bocher," to pay his fine to the fellowship.

[Enacted] that Joh. Edwardes, bocher, shall paye to the *Maister* of the fellowshippe of bochers for a fyne of liij s. iiij d.,³ and all other paymentes quarterlye for hys brotherwod as other bochers doo.

[Enacted] that asewell the meyre & shyrryfes for the tyme beinge, as all other that haue bynne meyres &

¹ This probably applies particularly to the soaking of stockfish in water.

² See above, p. 785.

³ A very high fine.

shyrryfes, & ther wyfes shall were ther scarlet gownes vpon principall dayes & dayes accustomed accordinge to the aunycnt vse, vpon peyne of xx s.

"Scarlet gownes."

¹ Also that every alderman shall were every Sondaye & other principall dayes a velvet tippet vpon peyne of x s.

Every
² "alderman to wear tippet vpon payne of x s."

Also that the shyrryfes for the tyme beinge shall at all tymes when they be owte of ther howses³ shall haue ther *sergeantes with* ther maces to goo before them & ther yomen after them, vpon peyne to forfeite for every defalte xx s.

"Shyrryfes serjants to bear their maces before them."

Also that every alderman & shyrryf beinge able to Ride shall accompanye Maister Meyre & ryde with hym in the watche on Mydsomer nyght in ther scarlet, & every of them to haue a man weytinge vpon hym with torche-light, vpon peyne of xx s.⁴

"Mydsomer nyght."

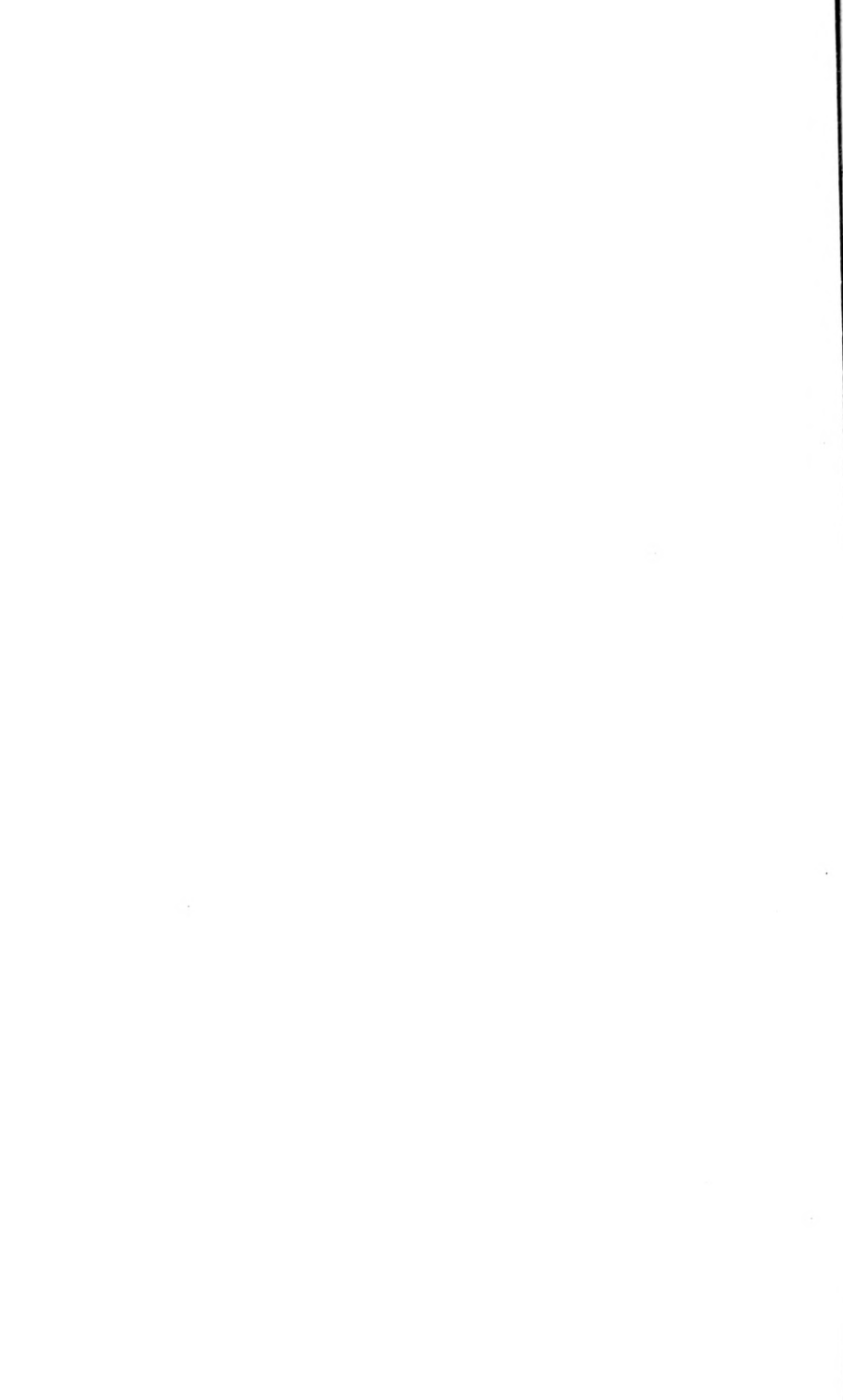
¹ leaf 422, back.

² In different hands.

³ Deletions follow.

⁴ See Sharp, *Mysteries*, pp. 174, *sqq.*









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