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The Register  
of  
Thomas Bekynton

Bishop of Bath and Wells

1443-1465

EDITED BY

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PART I.

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## PREFACE

THE text of this work has been prepared by Mr. Dawes. My own share in it has consisted in making various little alterations, in supplying nearly all the footnotes, and in writing the two Introductions.

The original manuscript, mostly in Latin, is a thick volume of 413 folios of paper measuring 15 inches by 4½. As compiled in the fifteenth century, it was in three separate sections, of which the first comprised 311 folios, the second 50, and the third 52. There is visible evidence that they were brought together some time before being put into their present binding. The folios of the first section are numbered consecutively in a contemporary, or almost contemporary, hand; those of the other two sections are unnumbered. The register covers the whole period of Bekynton's episcopate, and it records his manumission of two villeins on the very last day of his life.

It has been thought desirable for several reasons to give all the contents of the register in English. While every effort has been made to preserve the spirit, and to some extent the phraseology, of such entries as do not follow a regular formula, many other entries have been considerably curtailed. Thus, in dealing with institutions, the statements of the register that the person instituted took the oath of canonical obedience to the bishop, and that an order for his induction was sent to one of the three archdeacons, or that the dean and chapter of Wells were ordered to install a person collated to a canonry, have been consistently disregarded. Nor has it been considered necessary to follow the register in applying the description 'manor' to the episcopal residences at Banwell, Evercreech, Wookey, or Dogmersfield. Lengthy royal orders with regard to the collection of clerical



subsidies have here been greatly shortened because their local interest is slight and they will be fully treated in the series of Calendars of the Fine Rolls issued by the Public Record Office.

For convenience of reference, numerals have been prefixed to the successive entries.

The Index, kindly compiled by Prebendary T. F. Palmer, differs from the Indexes to the Registers of Bishops Bubwith and Stafford in that it includes the names of the persons ordained by Bekynton or his suffragans, and of the places with which they were connected.

The thanks of the Somerset Record Society are due to the Bishop of Bath and Wells for most obligingly allowing the original register to be deposited at the Public Record Office, and to his Registrar, Mr. R. G. Harris, for his assistance in the matter.

H. C. M. L.

## INTRODUCTION

THE munificent prelate whose official register forms the subject of the present work was a native of the diocese over which he presided for more than twenty-one years. The son of a humble weaver living at Bekynton, now called Beckington, a village three miles from Frome, he never bore an hereditary surname.<sup>1</sup> When he left home, he became known as Thomas of Bekynton, or, more briefly, as Thomas Bekynton. There is no reason whatever to suppose that he was related to Master John of Bekynton, Fellow of Winchester College, who is described as merely his *patriota* and *concivis*.<sup>2</sup> Nor is anything known about his kinsfolk, except that one of them was named Thomas Waryng, and that another, named Beatrice, married a man of higher social rank, Thomas Dabrichcourt, esquire.<sup>3</sup>

Although there is no record of the date of Bekynton's birth, it may be placed about the year 1390. The earliest mention of him by name occurs in 1403-4, when he was admitted a scholar of Winchester College, on the nomination of the founder.<sup>4</sup> Thence he proceeded in 1406 to New College, of which he was admitted a Fellow in 1408.<sup>5</sup> He appears to have continued at Oxford up to November 1420, and he did not leave the University until he had obtained the degree of Doctor of Civil Law.

<sup>1</sup> William of Worcester's *Itinerary* (ed. Nasmith, 1778), p. 286; *Correspondence of Bekynton*, vol. ii. p. 324.

<sup>2</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. p. 271.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 271, 272; *Victoria History of Hampshire*, vol. iv. p. 58; *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 361; nos. 527, 810, 856, 889, 1325, 1632.

<sup>4</sup> *Corr.*, vol. ii. p. 323.

<sup>5</sup> Hist. MSS. Comm., report ii. p. 134; *Corr.*, vol. i. p. cxviii. Scholars were admissible between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one.

Notices of his public career begin in February 1423, when he is mentioned as Dean of the Arches, an office which he held until 1434, when he appears as Official of the Court of Canterbury.<sup>1</sup> In April of the former year, 1423, he was admitted to the prebend of Bilton, in the cathedral church of York, whence he was transferred, four months later, to that of Warthill, which he resigned in or before 1435.<sup>2</sup> Further notices of him in 1423 show him to have been rector of Sutton Courtenay, co. Berks, chancellor of Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, and prebendary of Mordhall in the collegiate church of Gnosall, co. Stafford.<sup>3</sup> At the close of his long life, he mentioned four persons, all deceased, as his chief benefactors, Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, William of Wykeham, bishop of Winchester, Master John Elmer, and Walter Thurstorp.<sup>4</sup>

Bekynton was appointed archdeacon of Buckingham on the 1st of October 1424, and admitted as such on the 15th.<sup>5</sup> An unsigned and undated letter from John, duke of Bedford, to the pope prays that Bekynton may be excused from holding annual visitations of his archdeaconry in person, by reason of his occupation with public business, and hints at a prospect of his being sent abroad.<sup>6</sup> Martin V. accordingly granted him an indult, in 1427, to visit his archdeaconry by deputy.<sup>7</sup> Another papal indult of the previous year, allowing him to have a portable altar, describes him as a canon of Salisbury.<sup>8</sup> His prebend was then at Ruscombe, which he had obtained in May 1424, but he exchanged it, in July 1435, for that of Bedwin.<sup>9</sup>

In February 1432, the bishop of Rochester, Sir Henry

<sup>1</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, vol. iii. pp. 407, 409; *Reg. Stafford*, p. 185; Churchill, *Canterbury Administration*, vol. ii. p. 238.

<sup>2</sup> Le Neve, *Fasti*, vol. iii. pp. 173, 221.

<sup>3</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. vii. pp. 249, 282.

<sup>4</sup> *Somerset Medieval Wills*, p. 206.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1422-9, p. 232; Le Neve, *Fasti*, vol. ii. p. 69.

<sup>6</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. p. xix; vol. ii. p. 255, where, however, the editor unhesitatingly attributes the letter to Henry V. and so to a date anterior to the end of August 1422, having failed to observe that the writer uses the words 'me,' 'mei,' and 'meo,' where the king would have said 'nos,' 'nostri,' and 'nostro.'

<sup>7</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. ix. p. 40.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.* vol. vii. p. 431.

<sup>9</sup> Jones, *Fasti Ecclesiæ Sarisberiensis*, pp. 363, 414.

Bromflete, and Master Thomas Bekynton, were appointed commissioners to treat for peace with the Dauphin of France, their respective salaries as such being fixed at 5 marks, 40s. and 20s. a day.<sup>1</sup> The last of these three was Prolocutor of Convocation in 1433.<sup>2</sup> Four years later, he was in a position to lend 40*l.* to the king.<sup>3</sup>

We do not at present know when Bekynton became a member of the royal household. He is, however, specifically described as the King's Secretary in February 1438.<sup>4</sup> Early in that year, the king recommended him to the pope for the prebend of Sutton in the cathedral church of Lincoln, but, as Eugenius IV. wanted this for his own nephew, he 'provided' the royal nominee to the prebend of Langford manor, void by the death in Italy of Master Robert Sutton, a papal chamberlain. It seems clear, however, that Bekynton did not obtain any canonry at Lincoln.<sup>5</sup> On the other hand, he was, towards the end of the same year, given the wardenship of the hospital of St. Catherine near the Tower of London, and the prebend of Holborn.<sup>6</sup> Further preferment followed. In April 1439, Bekynton was collated by the bishop of Bath and Wells to the prebend of Worminster, and instituted and invested at Dogmersfield. This prebend he exchanged, two years later, for that of Dulcote, and he was collated, instituted and invested by the bishop in London, but he was not installed as a canon in the cathedral church until June 1442.<sup>7</sup>

Bekynton's second diplomatic mission dates from May 1439, when he was appointed a member of the important embassy which was sent to Calais, to treat for peace with France. His own diary of its proceedings extends from the 26th of June to the 10th of October.<sup>8</sup> His charges, at the rate of 20s. a day,

<sup>1</sup> *Acts of the Privy Council*, vol. iv. pp. 109, 120, 140, 141; *Fœdera*, vol. x. pp. 500, 514, 527, 530.

<sup>2</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, vol. iii. p. 522.

<sup>3</sup> *Acts of the Privy Council*, vol. v. p. 130.

<sup>4</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1436-41, p. 134.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. viii. pp. 264, 266; Le Neve, *Fasti*, vol. ii. pp. 166, 217.

<sup>6</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1436-41, pp. 220, 257; Le Neve, vol. ii. p. 392.

<sup>7</sup> *Reg. Stafford*, pp. 236, 269, 283; *Corr.*, vol. ii. p. 178.

<sup>8</sup> *Acts of the Privy Council*, vol. v. pp. 335-407.

amounted to 91*l*.<sup>1</sup> Less is known about a commission to him and others to treat with Flanders, in December of the same year.<sup>2</sup>

Bekynton's normal salary as the King's Secretary was, in December 1440, fixed at 100*l*. a year, to date from the previous Michaelmas.<sup>3</sup> One of his duties was to read aloud to his young master.<sup>4</sup> Many warrants initialled by Henry VI. and countersigned by Bekynton are in the Public Record Office.<sup>5</sup>

On the 28th of May 1442, Sir Robert Roos, Master Thomas Bekynton, the king's secretary, and Edward Hull, esquire, were commissioned to choose one of the daughters of the count of Armagnac as a wife for their royal master. A journal kept by a member of their suite shows that he left Windsor on the 5th of June, and embarked for Bordeaux at Plymouth on the 10th of July. He reached Falmouth on his return on the 10th of February following, and the journal ceases on the 26th of that month.<sup>6</sup> He then resumed his duties at Court.<sup>7</sup> The charges for his fruitless mission to Bordeaux, amounting to 189*l*., were not paid until February 1444.<sup>8</sup>

From the office of King's Secretary Thomas Bekynton was promoted to that of Keeper of the Privy Seal in 1443. He styles himself Keeper of the Privy Seal in a letter dated the 27th of April, and he is similarly described in a letter from Henry VI. written about the same time.<sup>9</sup> It was not, however, until the 19th of July that he was formally appointed to that high office, with a salary of 20*s*. a day.<sup>10</sup>

This was a very critical time in Bekynton's career.

Henry Chichele, the aged archbishop of Canterbury, had written to the pope, in April 1442, asking permission to resign his see, and recommending John Stafford, bishop of Bath and

<sup>1</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. p. cxxiii.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1436-41, p. 364.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 487.

<sup>4</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. p. 231.

<sup>5</sup> *Historical Notes on the Great Seal*, p. 154.

<sup>6</sup> *Fœdera*, vol. xi. p. 7; *Corr.*, vol. ii. pp. 177-244. See also several letters written by him at this time in *Letters of Margaret of Anjou* (Camden Society), pp. 71-88.

<sup>7</sup> *Acts of the Privy Council*, vol. v. p. 265.

<sup>8</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. p. cxxiv.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.* p. 172; vol. ii. p. 75.

<sup>10</sup> *Fœdera*, vol. xi. p. 58.

Wells, as his successor.<sup>1</sup> His application had been formally supported by the king, who had furthermore expressed his wish that William Aiscough, bishop of Salisbury, should be translated to Bath and Wells, and that his dear secretary, Master Thomas Bekynton, should be appointed to Salisbury, or, failing this arrangement, to Bath and Wells.<sup>2</sup> Nothing definite had, however, been done in the matter before the death of the archbishop, on the 12th of April 1443.

The king thereupon wrote to the college of cardinals, saying that, although the pope had approved of his nominees, the bishop of Salisbury had declined to move, and accordingly begging them to forward the appointment of Bekynton, now Keeper of his Privy Seal, to the see of Bath and Wells.<sup>3</sup> Bekynton himself also wrote to various friends at the papal court praying them to exert themselves on his behalf and sending presents.<sup>4</sup> His letters to them crossed one dated at Siena on the 23rd of May congratulating him on his elevation to the see of Salisbury by papal authority.<sup>5</sup> Although there is no record of the actual issue of a bull 'providing' him thereto, he had reason to fear that the money which he had expended in this connexion would be wasted unless credited to the account of the first-fruits of the bishopric of Bath and Wells. The king's agent was, moreover, reproved for his precipitancy in the matter.<sup>6</sup>

No difficulties arose with regard to the translation of Bishop Stafford from Bath and Wells to Canterbury.<sup>7</sup> Several months, however, elapsed before the completion of all the arrangements consequent upon the death of Archbishop Chichele. It was not until the 24th of July that Eugenius IV. addressed a bull to Thomas Bekynton, D.C.L., canon of Wells, 'providing' him to the united churches of Bath and Wells, void and stated to be *ipso facto* reserved to the pope by the recent translation of John (Stafford) to Canterbury. Concurrent letters were sent to the king, the archbishop, the chapter of Wells, and others.<sup>8</sup> If

<sup>1</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. pp. 145-7.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* vol. ii. pp. 75-7.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* vol. i. pp. 170-3.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* p. 161.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* p. 239.

<sup>7</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1441-6, pp. 169, 176, 190 (*Fœdera*, vol. xi. pp. 126, 128); *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. ix. p. 342.

<sup>8</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. ix. p. 342.

despatched at once, all these might have reached England within a month, but they had not been received by the end of August.<sup>1</sup> At last, on the 24th of September, the king was able to issue orders for the restitution of the temporalities of the see of Bath and Wells in several counties to Thomas Bekynton, he having, in the accustomed manner, renounced all words in the papal bull prejudicial to the royal authority.<sup>2</sup>

Thomas of Bekynton was consecrated bishop of Bath and Wells on Sunday the 13th of October 1443, by the bishops of Lincoln, Salisbury, and Llandaff, in the old church of Eton, which had recently been made collegiate. After the conclusion of the ceremony, the new bishop proceeded across the cemetery to the site of the future church, whose walls as yet rose only a few feet from the ground, and there he celebrated his first mass *in pontificalibus*, under an awning, erected for the occasion, immediately over the spot where Henry VI. had laid the foundation-stone. He afterwards broke his fast at a banquet which he gave in one of the new buildings on the north, not yet portioned off into separate rooms.<sup>3</sup>

The choice of a small church in an obscure village, far from the new bishop's own diocese, as the scene of his consecration was not fortuitous. Bekynton owed much of his success in life to his connexion with the colleges founded by William of Wykeham at Winchester and Oxford, and he continued to take a warm interest in their welfare to the end of his days. It is impossible to doubt that he sang their praises to the young king and made him realise the benefits which they had done to the cause of education. We may even surmise that he was the original instigator of the foundation of the sister colleges at Eton and Cambridge, in imitation of them. Anyhow, he took part in the various proceedings that were necessary for the conversion of the parochial church of Eton into a collegiate church.<sup>4</sup> He seems also to have conducted the correspondence with the king's agents at the papal court with regard to the issue of bulls in favour

<sup>1</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. p. 161.

<sup>2</sup> *Fœdera*, vol. xi. p. 43; *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1441-6, p. 205.

<sup>3</sup> No. 1.

<sup>4</sup> *History of Eton College* (1911), pp. 4, 6, 13.

of the college.<sup>1</sup> When about to start on his mission to Bordeaux, he commended himself to the prayers of the Provost and Fellows of Eton.<sup>2</sup> When becalmed at sea on the way thither, he vowed an offering to the Blessed Virgin of Eton and persuaded some of his companions to join with him in singing an antiphon in her honour.<sup>3</sup> One of his last acts as archdeacon of Buckingham was to exempt the whole parish of Eton from his jurisdiction and that of his successors.<sup>4</sup>

Within a week of his consecration, the new bishop delegated some of his powers to John Bernard, canon of Wells, whom he appointed his vicar *in spiritualibus*, explaining that he was so much occupied with public affairs as to be unable to repair to his diocese.<sup>5</sup> Towards the end of the next month, he, for the same reason, appointed James, bishop of Achonry, to be his suffragan.<sup>6</sup>

The earlier entries in the register are dated at the bishop's inn 'at London,' but later entries describe it more correctly as situate in the suburb of London, in the parish of St. Clement Danes. His official estate there comprised not only the residence known later as 'Bath Place,' with a chapel and a garden, but also at least twelve tenements occupied by tradesmen, bounded on the north by the great highway from Westminster to the City.<sup>7</sup>

When released from his duties at Court for a few days at Christmas 1443, Bekynton went to the prebendal house at Bedwin and the rectory at Sutton Courtenay, to settle his own affairs there.<sup>8</sup> Resigning the privy seal on the 11th of February 1444, he was able to start westward a few days later, and he was at the episcopal manor at Dogmersfield on the 21st and 26th, and at Evercreech, in his own diocese, on the 29th of March.<sup>9</sup>

The suffragan's powers seem to have lapsed on the advent

<sup>1</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. pp. 226, 229, 231, 233.

<sup>2</sup> *Letters of Margaret of Anjou*, p. 79.

<sup>3</sup> *Corr.*, vol. ii. p. 184.

<sup>4</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1441-6, p. 205.

<sup>5</sup> No. 2.

<sup>6</sup> No. 16.

<sup>7</sup> Nos. 762, 763, 816-9, 831, 838, 852, 855, 857, 860; Arundel House was afterwards built on part of the site. *Diary of Henry Machyn* (Camden Society), p. 155.

<sup>8</sup> Nos. 18-20.

<sup>9</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. pp. cxxiv, 175; *Fœdera*, vol. xi. p. 58; nos. 31-33.



of the bishop on whose behalf he had been acting. Special commissions were found necessary to enable him to consecrate the church of the Friars Minors at Bridgwater, and to reconcile the church of Frome, polluted by bloodshed, in 1445.<sup>1</sup> Two years later, Bekynton inhibited him from holding ordinations in the diocese of Bath and Wells without his consent.<sup>2</sup> At a subsequent period, after translation from Achonry to Bangor, he reappears in the register.<sup>3</sup>

For nearly twenty-one years, Bekynton devoted most of his attention to his episcopal duties, usually residing either at the palace at Wells, or at one of his manors in the county of Somerset, Wokey, Banwell, Evercreech, or Wiveliscombe. The income of the see at this period was about 2,000*l.* a year, Congresbury being the most valuable of the estates belonging to it.<sup>4</sup>

As bishop of Bath and Wells, Bekynton was of course summoned regularly to successive parliaments, and some entries in his register show him to have been staying at his inn near St. Clement Danes at times when a parliament was sitting at Westminster. A session at Winchester, in June 1449, gave him a welcome opportunity of celebrating a solemn mass at his old college and entertaining the members of it at a sumptuous banquet.<sup>5</sup> There is, however, no evidence of his taking a very active part in public affairs beyond serving as a trier of petitions in several parliaments.<sup>6</sup>

In June 1452, the bishop of Bath and Wells obtained exemption from personal attendance at councils or parliaments, on account of his age and infirmities.<sup>7</sup> Although he twice appointed proxies to represent him at the parliament held at Reading in 1453, and was actually there during part of the session, he was made to pay a fine of 80 marks for his absence.<sup>8</sup> He appointed

<sup>1</sup> Nos. 90, 91.

<sup>2</sup> No. 270.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 934, 1128, 1146; *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. pp. 596, 612, 751.

<sup>4</sup> Reynolds, *Wells Cathedral*, p. lxix.

<sup>5</sup> Walcott, *William of Wykeham*, p. 139.

<sup>6</sup> *Rot. Parl.*, vol. v. pp. 67, 129, 144, 210, 227.

<sup>7</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-52, p. 558 (*Fœdera*).

<sup>8</sup> Nos. 730, 731, 733-6, 798; *Acts of the Privy Council*, vol. vi. pp. 182, 183.

proxies on several subsequent occasions.<sup>1</sup> Finally, he obtained from Edward IV. a renewal of the exemption granted to him by Henry VI.<sup>2</sup> He found it necessary to go to London in June 1461, perhaps in connexion with the political changes of that time. The dean of Wells, the treasurer, and one of the canons were then given very wide executive powers during his absence.<sup>3</sup>

As Bekynton advanced in age, he had, before this, come to feel the need of help in the performance of his episcopal duties, and, supported by a letter from the king, he applied to the pope for the appointment of a suffragan. The person whose name he submitted was John Valens, an Augustinian canon of Blythburgh, who had been instituted to the rectory of Lydeard St. Lawrence, in 1456, on the presentation of the prior and convent of his own order at Taunton.<sup>4</sup> The request was duly granted in 1459, when the officers of the papal court found it profitable to issue four separate bulls on the subject, all dated at Mantua on the 9th of July. By the first of these the pope affected to 'provide' Valens to the bishopric of Tenos, an island in the Ægean sea, stipulating, however, that he should betake himself thither and that he should not perform any episcopal functions outside his own diocese.<sup>5</sup> The second bull cancelled these restrictive conditions. The third, admitting that a bishop of Tenos, *in partibus infidelium*, could not expect to derive any revenue therefrom, sanctioned his retention of the rectory of Lydeard St. Lawrence, and the fourth assigned to him a yearly payment of 100 gold florins out of the revenue of the bishopric of Bath and Wells.<sup>6</sup> Bekynton's own commission to Valens to act as his coadjutor bears date the 17th of October.<sup>7</sup>

One of the last important actions in Bekynton's life was his purchase of a manor at Cheddar and that of Shipham, with the advowson of the church of the latter place. These he bought, in the spring of 1463, for 280*l.* from Margaret, lady Hungerford, who was in urgent need of money for the ransom of her son, a prisoner in France. In the autumn of the same year, he trans-

<sup>1</sup> Nos. 962, 1261, 1403, 1494.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1461-7, p. 18.

<sup>3</sup> No. 1380. <sup>4</sup> No. 1022, where he is described simply as '*capellanus*.'

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xii. p. 12.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 50, 51. See also vol. xi. p. 624.

<sup>7</sup> No. 1253.

ferred the property to two clerical feoffees, but it was not until several years after his death that they conveyed it to the dean and chapter of Wells, for the use and support of the vicars choral, presumably in pursuance of verbal instructions.<sup>1</sup>

In November 1464, Thomas of Bekynton, bishop of Bath and Wells, made a long and characteristic will, which was proved on the 23rd of January following, nine days after his death. By this he bequeathed various ecclesiastical ornaments to the church of his native village and to the two colleges at which he had received his education. Nor did he overlook the claims of the places with which he had been connected before his elevation to the episcopate, the hospital of St. Catherine in London, Bedwin, and Sutton Courtenay. To the houses of the mendicant friars at Bristol, Bridgwater, and Ilchester, in his own diocese, he bequeathed 20s. apiece, and to the members of his household he left sums proportionate to their respective ranks as donzels, yeomen, grooms, or inferior domestic servants. There was a bequest of 20*l.* to the fabric of the cathedral church of Wells, and a more remarkable one of 100*l.* to his unknown successor for the repairs of buildings on the episcopal estate. The learned bishop's interest in education is shown by his provision of allowances of 100s. a year apiece for ten honest priests studying at the University of Oxford, and of 10*d.* a week apiece for ten scholars there. His æsthetic taste is shown, not only by his detailed descriptions of objects bequeathed to the monks of Bath and others, but also by the appropriation of the vast sum of 400*l.* for the purchase of sumptuous copes for the canons and vicars choral of Wells.<sup>2</sup>

After giving effect to the specific provisions of the will, the three executors named in it must have found themselves in a position to complete some works left unfinished by Bekynton, for their arms are to be seen near his in various places.

The first of these executors, Hugh Sugar *alias* Norris, was a bastard, who, after taking a doctor's degree in civil law, became an advocate in the Court of the Arches. His first preferment in Somerset was in 1452, when he was instituted to the rectory of Lymphsham, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. i, pp. 424, 498, 499, 502.

<sup>2</sup> *Somerset Med. Wills*, pp. 202-7.

Glastonbury. Under a papal dispensation allowing him to hold a second benefice, he obtained the rectory of Stratton on the Fosse and, on resigning this, that of Brean. He is described as a canon of Wells and the bishop's chancellor in 1456, when he seems to have returned to Oxford for a while as a teacher. He was collated to the archdeaconry of Bath in February 1460, but he resigned it, three months later, on appointment as treasurer of Wells. Bekynton styles him simply 'my chancellor.' Sugar had of course no hereditary arms, but he is commemorated in the Vicars' Close at Wells by several shields showing a capital letter 'H' between three sugar-loaves. In the cloisters, in the elaborate chantry which he built for himself on the south side of the nave of the cathedral church, and elsewhere, the initial of his Christian name is replaced by the cap of a doctor of divinity. His will was proved in 1489.<sup>1</sup>

Much less is known about the second of the executors, John Pope, doctor of divinity, and canon of Wells. His arms show a chevron between two roses in chief and a talbot in base. His will was proved in 1475.<sup>2</sup>

Richard Swan, the third of the executors, was provost of Wells, and successively vicar of Burnham and rector of Yeovilton. Like Sugar, he bore 'canting' arms, a fesse between three swans. His will was proved in 1487.<sup>3</sup>

It is interesting to note that Bekynton's three executors, so closely connected during their lifetimes, were eventually buried side by side in the nave of the cathedral church of the city which he and they, with his money, had done so much to beautify.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Nos. 639, 829, 868, 872-3, 884, 1286, 1300-2, 1677; *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. pp. 135, 211; vol. xi. pp. 121, 126, 299; *Jewers, Wells Cathedral*, pp. 8, 161, 273; *Som. Med. Wills*, pp. 275-7; Wood, *Colleges & Halls*, p. 198.

<sup>2</sup> *Jewers*, p. 274; no. 1054; *Som. Med. Wills*, pp. 229, 230.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 399, 1056, 1167; *Jewers*, pp. 1, 161, 274; *Som. Med. Wills*, pp. 261, 262.

<sup>4</sup> Godwin, *Catalogus Episcoporum Bathon.* (1594), printed in Hearne's edition of *Thomas Otterbourne*, vol. ii. p. 684, and *De Præsulibus* (1743), p. 381. Both passages seem to imply that the marble slabs over the tombs bore no names or dates. They were, we are told, 'as like as one egg to another.' Pope had directed that he should be buried in London, and Swan had directed that he should be buried by the cloister at Wells. *Somerset Med. Wills*, pp. 229, 261.

Bekynton's collection of manuscripts got dispersed several centuries ago. The dean and chapter of Wells gave a missal which had belonged to him to Henry VII. in exchange for another, presumably of inferior value.<sup>1</sup> A book which he wrote to support the claim of Henry VI. to the throne of France found its way into the Cottonian collection, and so into the British Museum. An ill-arranged volume of transcripts of his correspondence and of documents relating to public affairs is now in the Lambeth Library, and a somewhat similar volume is in the Bodleian Library.<sup>2</sup> Of two books dedicated to him by Thomas Chaundler, and by him presented to the church of Wells, one is now at New College, Oxford, and the other at Trinity College, Cambridge.<sup>3</sup> A manuscript prepared for him by Biondo of Forli, the pope's secretary, is at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.<sup>4</sup> All the accounts of his income and his expenses have long since disappeared. One of his registers, happily remaining in proper custody, provides the material for the present volume and that which follows.

The register of Bekynton's chancery is a thick folio volume, the pagination of which extends only to the end of the first section. To this there is neither a table of contents nor an index, but the subject of every entry is clearly stated in the adjoining margin. There is no attempt at a classification of the material, the order being almost strictly chronological. Several persons were successively responsible for the production.

During an episcopate of more than twenty-one years, Bekynton had at least three registrars. William Langton is specifically described as registrar at various dates between September 1446 and July 1448, and he continued to witness official documents until March 1449.

William North, of Corton, a graduate in civil law, is described as the bishop's registrar in October 1449, but he is oftener described simply as a notary-public of the diocese of Salisbury. He had previously been one of Bekynton's chaplains, and, as

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. p. 122.

<sup>2</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. pp. ix-xiii.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* pp. xiii, xlix-li.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* pp. xxxi, xxxii.

such, he had obtained a papal indult to let the fruits of his vicarage at North Curry.<sup>1</sup>

In April 1451, the pope empowered the abbot of Glastonbury to confer the office of notary-public on a certain John Touker, who was then described as unmarried.<sup>2</sup> This was followed, in July 1452, by a belated bull to a similar effect, although the candidate was avowedly a layman and a 'bigamist,' that is to say the husband of a widow, he having recently married Joan the relict of Richard Norys.<sup>3</sup> The abbot must have acted upon the earlier authority, for John Touker begins to figure as a notary-public, in frequent attendance upon the bishop of Bath and Wells, in August 1451.<sup>4</sup> In point of fact he had been so created before attaining the prescribed age of twenty-five, and a question arose afterwards whether some of his professional acts had not been invalidated by this serious irregularity.<sup>5</sup> The signature of 'J. Touker' affixed to several episcopal documents in and soon after December 1456 suggests that he was at that time the registrar, although he is not described as such before March 1457.<sup>6</sup> He was furthermore appointed registrar of the consistory court in September 1458.<sup>7</sup> The bishop, in April 1460, granted some land at Wells to his 'servant,' John Touker and Joan his wife, and Juliana, their daughter, in survivorship.<sup>8</sup>

The register must not be regarded as a contemporary record of documents issued or received between the years 1443 and 1465. It is rather a compilation from originals formerly kept on monthly or yearly files, at Wells or in London, but long since destroyed.<sup>9</sup> It does not, moreover, attempt to supply information about proceedings in the consistory court. While we know that at least eight incumbents suffered deprivation during Bekyn-

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. ix. p. 511.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* vol. x. p. 552.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* vol. x. p. 241; vol. xi. p. 543. This Joan is represented in one entry as the wife of Richard Touker, a notary, who is also mentioned in Bekynton's Register. *Ibid.* vol. x. p. 120; nos. 756, 829, 1044. It had been laid down by Archbishop Chichele that '*nullus clericus conjugatus, bigamus, seu laicus jurisdictionem spirituales quovismodo et qualem-cunque exerceat, nec registrarius existat.*' Lyndwode, *Provinciale*.

<sup>4</sup> No. 593.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 241.

<sup>6</sup> Nos. 1022, 1027, 1032, 1039.

<sup>7</sup> No. 1158.

<sup>8</sup> No. 1295.

<sup>9</sup> Nos. 172, 989, 1028, 1033, 1085, 1305, 1323.

ton's episcopate, we are not given any particulars as to the reasons for such severe action on his part.<sup>1</sup> So again, while the register records applications to the king for the arrest of various persons under sentence of excommunication, we are left in ignorance of the nature of their respective offences.

Although the register contains copies of various documents relating to the episcopal estates in Somerset, at Dogmersfield, and in the suburb of London, it does not furnish any information as to Bekynton's income, his expenses, or his mode of life. While it gives particulars of a suit with regard to piscatorial rights at Mark, in the time of Bishop Bubwith, it does not mention the order made by Bekynton for the preservation of the fish in the little stream issuing from Wookey Hole.<sup>2</sup>

Like other episcopal registers, that of Thomas Bekynton is largely concerned with institutions to canonries, rectories, vicarages, chapels, and chantries. Some of the entries in it seem to show that, with regard to these, his practice was stricter than that of his immediate predecessor. Whenever there was any doubt as to the right of presentation to a benefice, Stafford had perforce to order an enquiry, but his register does not suggest that such enquiries were considered necessary in other cases.<sup>3</sup> Under Bekynton's rule, they were very common, commoner indeed than in the time of Bishop Bubwith. While he did not hesitate to recognise presentations made by members of the chapter of Wells, or by the heads of religious bodies, he required laymen claiming advowsons to furnish evidence of their titles thereto. If he dispensed with enquiry and gave institution to the clerk presented, the latter was required to execute a bond, or to swear, that he would hold the bishop harmless in the event of future trouble.<sup>4</sup>

The register of Bishop Bekynton differs from those of his two predecessors in that it shows many of the institutions to benefices to have been limited by specific conditions. Bubwith

<sup>1</sup> Nos. 423, 424, 877, 890, 935, 938, 992; *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. ix. p. 57.

<sup>2</sup> No. 700; William of Worcester, p. 291. No less than nine kinds of fish are enumerated.

<sup>3</sup> *Reg. Stafford*, nos. 709, 791, 848.

<sup>4</sup> Nos. 104, 117, 141, 172, 193, 220, 222, 233, 271, 350, etc.

had on one occasion made a priest swear that he would procure and study certain theological writings,<sup>1</sup> but, so far as we know, neither he nor Stafford were very particular about the attainments of the persons presented to them by the lawful patrons. Bekynton, on the other hand, always insisted on their understanding Latin and having some acquaintance with the Scriptures. Those who failed to satisfy him, or his chancellor, in these respects were seldom instituted without undertaking, by bond, or by oath, that they would resign unless found suitable within a specified time. Some were required to appear again a few months later, or at the end of about a year.<sup>2</sup> In several cases two years of study were prescribed.<sup>3</sup> One clerk was ordered to study for no less than four years, submitting himself to examination at the end of each.<sup>4</sup> The vicar of Banwell swore that he would for a whole year maintain a young man in his own house, to instruct him in grammar.<sup>5</sup> Some of his contemporaries were required to go to distant schools for longer periods, leaving their respective parishes in the charge of suitable chaplains.<sup>6</sup> When an Irishman was collated by the bishop himself to the rectory of Wheathill, in 1459, he was made to swear that he would submit himself for examination within a year, to show what progress he had made in learning, and especially in 'the English idiom.'<sup>7</sup> Another of the bishop's own nominees failed to satisfy the chancellor as to his fitness for the cure of souls.<sup>8</sup>

In extreme cases, Bekynton absolutely rejected the clerk presented to him for institution, and collated another, chosen by himself. The patrons were not given the option of submitting alternative names, and were blamed for presenting persons whom they should have known to be unsuitable. Two nominees of John Birkehede, a canon of Wells, were rejected, although one of them was already in priest's orders, conferred upon him by some easy-going bishop.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Reg. Bubwith*, p. 139.

<sup>2</sup> Nos. 146, 527, 543, 706, 759, 974, 1005, 1017, 1251, 1287, 1363, 1371, 1437, 1485, 1495, 1501, 1562.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 338, 355, 742, 1318, 1439.

<sup>4</sup> No. 469.

<sup>5</sup> No. 73.

<sup>6</sup> Nos. 139, 352.

<sup>7</sup> No. 1259.

<sup>8</sup> No. 1437.

<sup>9</sup> Nos. 138, 223, 395.



With regard to institutions to benefices, it is necessary to observe that the registers of the fifteenth century preserved at Wells are far from perfect. That of John Stafford fails to record the institutions of at least three incumbents which were certainly effected during his episcopate.<sup>1</sup> So again, the register with which we are here more immediately concerned tells us nothing about the institution of Thomas Fairman to the vicarage of East Pennard, of that of William North to the vicarage of North Curry, of that of William More to the rectory of Whatley, or of that of Walter Charlton to the rectory of Hawkrigde, all four no less certainly attributable to Bekynton. It furthermore mentions more than twenty incumbents in his diocese as living at various dates during his episcopate whose institutions are not recorded anywhere. References to many of these cases will be found in footnotes to the text of this volume.

The register of Bishop Stafford mentions several grants of pensions to incumbents who had resigned their benefices.<sup>2</sup> That of his successor records a very much larger number of such grants, and shows how due payment was enforced.

In connexion with the taxation of the clergy, Bekynton's register gives various lists of rectories and vicarages in the diocese, the assessments of which may be compared with those made on previous occasions.<sup>3</sup> It also gives two much more remarkable lists of chapelries and chantries, with the names of the clergy by whom they were served.<sup>4</sup> While the first of these includes the names of a few men who had received episcopal institution, as to a benefice, the second appears to deal only with mere stipendiaries who had no fixity of tenure. Some of these were afterwards promoted in the churches in which they were ministering in 1463.

<sup>1</sup> John Pedegruie, vicar of Charlton Adam, William Godehert *alias* Drake, vicar of Cloford, and Walter Tylloly, chaplain of St. Mary's chantry at Woolavington. *Reg. Stafford*, pp. 127, 155, 181.

<sup>2</sup> Pp. 63, 66, 70, 91, 109, 120, 235.

<sup>3</sup> *Taxatio Pape Nicolai*; Subsidy Rolls; *Reg. Bubwith*, pp. 191-4, 242, 249, 302; *Feudal Aids*, vol. iv. pp. 395-418; *Reg. Stafford*, pp. 18-24, 112-5, 129, 133-6, 147, 249, 250.

<sup>4</sup> Nos. 486, 1522. Many of these chaplains unfortunately figure in Weaver's *Somerset Incumbents* as if instituted in 1449 and 1463, although the preface shows that the editor was not under any such misapprehension.

It is necessary to observe that many of the persons described in the register as 'chaplains' were neither attached to any particular altar nor in the service of any single patron. 'Parochial chaplains' seem to have been the assistants, or the substitutes, of the beneficed clergy. The term 'chaplain' was moreover sometimes applied to a man who had resigned one church in order to be instituted to another.<sup>1</sup> Walter Osborne was described as a 'chaplain' at a time when he was actually a canon of Wells, rector of Holcombe and vicar of Frome.<sup>2</sup> So again, John Pedewell was thus described when he was vicar of Winscombe, and John Erle when he was rector of Backwell.<sup>3</sup> A clerk resigning the vicarage of Ling, and his immediate successors, were alike styled 'chaplains.'<sup>4</sup> A very conspicuous pluralist, Thomas Mannyng, secretary to Henry VI., is described as a 'chaplain' in Bekynton's register, but merely as a 'clerk' in an act of attainder passed in the next reign.<sup>5</sup>

Little is of course known about the various clerks whom Bekynton himself collated to parish churches in his own gift. Six of the persons, however, upon whom he bestowed dignities or canonries in the cathedral church of Wells, seem to deserve a passing notice :

Andrew Holes, chancellor of Salisbury, and Vincent Clement had been the king's proctors at the papal court, long occupied in soliciting bulls in favour of Eton College, and, for a shorter time, in negotiating for the 'provision' of Bekynton himself to the episcopate. Pope Eugenius IV. had tried in vain to obtain the archdeaconry of Northampton for Holes, and Henry VI. had strongly recommended him for the bishopric of Coutances. It will be seen that he eventually settled at Wells. In 1459, he made a remarkable confession of a number of irregularities committed in the course of his ecclesiastical career.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cf. nos. 1022 and 1023; 1059 and 1092; 1242 and 1243; 1592 and 1593; 1610 and 1620.

<sup>2</sup> Nos. 419, 1219, 1461, 1463.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 76, 1168, 1485.

<sup>4</sup> No. 1308.

<sup>5</sup> No. 1416; *Rot. Parl.*, vol. v. pp. 477, 480.

<sup>6</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. pp. xxviii, xxix, 14, 26; vol. ii. pp. 251, 252, 425; *Reg. Spofford* (Cant. & York Society), p. 233; *Reg. Stafford*, pp. 116, 140; *Somerset Med. Wills*, p. 213; *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. pp. 390, 391.

Vincent Clement, a Spaniard, figures at different times as provost of Valencia, as a dignitary in several English churches, as an envoy to France and Rome, and as the pope's nuncio and collector in England.<sup>1</sup>

Nicholas Close was one of the original Fellows of King's College, Cambridge, and 'master of the works' there. He was appointed bishop of Carlisle in 1450, and of Coventry and Lichfield in 1452.<sup>2</sup>

Thomas Chaundler, a native of Wells, was warden successively of the two colleges at which Bekynton had been educated, and he was for some years chancellor of the University of Oxford. Several of his somewhat fulsome letters to Bekynton have been printed, and there is, at Trinity College, Cambridge, an interesting contemporary drawing of him presenting a book to his episcopal patron.<sup>3</sup>

Thomas Gascoigne was one of the most prominent members of the University of Oxford, thrice elected as chancellor there, and author of a book which throws some light upon the history of his own time.<sup>4</sup>

Robert Stillington, after obtaining various ecclesiastical appointments, became keeper of the privy seal, bishop of Bath and Wells, and lord chancellor.<sup>5</sup>

Most of these favoured persons were absentees who drew incomes from their respective prebends without performing any ecclesiastical duties in the diocese. While the vicars whom they nominated to serve their prebendal churches had to be instituted by the bishop, he had nothing to do with the admission of the vicars whom they appointed to represent them in the choir of

<sup>1</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. pp. lxxiii-lxxv, 243; vol. ii. p. 420; *Reg. Stafford*, pp. 251, 392; *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-52, p. 572; 1452-61, pp. 195, 505, 644; *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. pp. 769, 770; vol. xi. p. 733; vol. xii. p. 863; *Le Neve's Fasti*; *Fœdera*.

<sup>2</sup> *Dict. of Nat. Biography*, vol. xi. p. 124.

<sup>3</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. pp. xlviii-lvi, 264-76; vol. ii. pp. 311-20; *Register of the University of Oxford*, vol. i. p. 8; *Registrum Cancellarii*, vol. i. p. xxxviii. A reproduction of the drawing forms the frontispiece to Reynolds's *Wells Cathedral*.

<sup>4</sup> *D.N.B.* vol. xxi. pp. 41-4; *Registrum Cancellarii*, vol. i. pp. xxxvi, xxxvii, xli, 406; vol. ii. p. 394; Wood, *Colleges & Halls*, p. 207.

<sup>5</sup> *D.N.B.* vol. liv. pp. 378, 379.

the cathedral church. The different prebends varied considerably in value, and, as will be seen, a canon might be transferred from one prebend to another better endowed. Bekynton himself had profited thus, before his elevation to the episcopate. Some of the canonical houses in Wells were evidently preferable to others.

It has been shown elsewhere that exchanges of benefices were very frequent in the second half of the fourteenth century. Somerset incumbents not only moved from one part of the country to another, but migrated to other dioceses.<sup>1</sup> Such exchanges were far less common in Bishop Bekynton's time. He may perhaps have discouraged them.

Two benefices, Sutton Bingham and Standerwick, are described in the register as sinecures, and the church at the latter place is stated to have been demolished some time. Nevertheless, rectors continued to be instituted to both these churches.<sup>2</sup>

Many of the benefices in the diocese of Bath and Wells were very slenderly endowed. From time to time the episcopal registers give lists of rectories and vicarages which, by reason of their poverty, were exempt from payment of tenths or other subsidies, civil or ecclesiastical.<sup>3</sup>

Bekynton's attention was drawn to the miserable condition of some parochial vicars, at his primary visitation, and, in 1445, he ordered an enquiry to be made on the subject, but it was obviously difficult to effect much improvement.<sup>4</sup>

In a few cases, the union of adjoining benefices was proposed as a remedy. Thus, in 1444, the rector of Freshford submitted a petition that, to supplement the endowment of his church, the rectory of Woodwick should be joined to it. Nevertheless, a rector was collated to Woodwick in 1446, and the desired union was not sanctioned until 1448.<sup>5</sup> So again, in 1446, William Westbury, patron of the churches of Berkeley and Fairoke (*alias* Egforton), suggested that they should be united. This was not done until 1460.<sup>6</sup> The bishop himself was desirous of uniting

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. lxxviii. pp. 44-108.

<sup>2</sup> Nos. 775, 800, 897, 901, 1026.

<sup>3</sup> *Reg. Stafford*, pp. 114, 130, 133, 249; nos. 100, 478, 781, 1478, 1549. There are slight variations in these different lists.

<sup>4</sup> No. 93.

<sup>5</sup> Nos. 44, 193, 1566, 1567.

<sup>6</sup> Nos. 230, 1529.

the rectory of Laverton, which was of his own patronage, with that of Hardington, but the scheme seems to have been defeated by the abbot and convent of Keynsham, patrons of the latter church.<sup>1</sup>

Bekynton had to insist on more ample provision for the vicarages of Wilton, Tickenham, Puryton, Stockland, and Winsford, the rectorial revenues of which belonged to religious bodies.<sup>2</sup> It has been remarked that monks who spared no pains or money on the adornment of their own churches were often negligent of ordinary parochial churches dependent upon them. Later in his episcopate, Bekynton increased the emoluments of the vicars of Evercreech and St. Decuman's.<sup>3</sup>

The priories of Worspring and Stavordale, the nunneries of Barrow and Cannington, and the hospitals of Bridgwater, Wells, Bath, and Bristol were exempted from some financial burdens, chiefly because of their poverty.<sup>4</sup> On the other hand, the deplorable state of the college of St. Nicholas at Stoke under Hamdon was due to gross mismanagement.<sup>5</sup>

The income of a chantry at Whatley had fallen so low that a chaplain was, at his institution thereto in 1452, excused from swearing to observe the founder's ordinance.<sup>6</sup> The chapel at Ford, near Bawdrip, and the chaplain's house were in a ruinous condition in 1455.<sup>7</sup> No chaplain was instituted to the 'perpetual' chantry of Lytescary after 1433.

On the other hand, several chantries were founded during Bekynton's episcopate, one by Joan Raleigh at Nettlecombe, another by John Storthwayt in the cathedral church of Wells, and a third by John Henton, prior of Bruton, in his own monastery.<sup>8</sup> The episcopal register makes no mention of the establishment of a gild and a chantry at the altar of St. Anne in the church of Wedmore, in 1449.<sup>9</sup>

Although very many of the churches of Somerset were con-

<sup>1</sup> No. 231.

<sup>2</sup> Nos. 33, 37, 207, 326, 559, 820, 825. Bishop Spofford had to take similar action in the diocese of Hereford.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 1527, 1627.

<sup>4</sup> Nos. 9, 478, 530.

<sup>5</sup> Nos. 62, 88.

<sup>6</sup> No. 654.

<sup>7</sup> No. 918.

<sup>8</sup> Nos. 792, 797, 1226.

<sup>9</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-52, pp. 263, 264; *Somerset Chantries*, pp. 69, 254.

siderably enlarged, or even wholly rebuilt in the Perpendicular style, in the course of the fifteenth century, the register of Bishop Bekynton contains very few mentions of such changes.<sup>1</sup> The notaries whom he employed were mainly concerned with matters of administration.

Various persons, both clerical and lay, residing in the diocese, obtained episcopal licence for private oratories. Others got permissions to have portable altars, through agents at the papal court.

From time to time, the bishop authorised the collection of alms on behalf of specified charitable institutions, of captives, and of other persons in distress. On one occasion, he himself lent 100*l.* to the king for the prosecution of the war in Gascony.<sup>2</sup>

In 1448, Bekynton ordered an enquiry to be made as to the names of such rectors and vicars having cure of souls in his diocese as were not resident on their respective benefices, and empowered his commissioners to recall them thereto and even to deprive them if contumacious.<sup>3</sup>

In March 1450, he wrote in his severest style to Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, rebuking him for his continued absence, peremptorily ordering him to take up his residence at Wells, and threatening him with punishment by canonical restraint unless duly obedient.<sup>4</sup> The episcopal register does not give the reply of the inculpated dean, but we can scarcely doubt that he produced a papal bull which allowed him to hold two parish churches with cure of souls together with his deanery.<sup>5</sup> One of these was at Shepton Mallet, and the bishop could not refuse to institute him when presented to the church of Huntspill.<sup>6</sup> Carent had also some secular duties as secretary to Queen Margaret. Two of the bulls which he obtained from Rome emphasise the 'nobility' of his birth, he being the son of a Somerset squire. Such parentage was avowedly one of the qualifications for papal

<sup>1</sup> Nos. 6, 90 and 648.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-52, p. 456.

<sup>3</sup> No. 324.

<sup>4</sup> No. 496.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 43.

<sup>6</sup> No. 830. It is not evident why he was instituted to Shepton Mallet twice, in 1448 and again in 1459. Nos. 360, 1180. He bequeathed money for the repair of the naves of both these churches. *Som. Med. Wills*, p. 212.

favours, though it had to be supported by a substantial payment of money. When applying for a dispensation to hold two benefices with cure of souls, Nicholas Pierson, rector of Beckington, described himself as of 'noble' birth, and he afterwards became alarmed lest this false statement on his part might invalidate the bull which he had obtained.<sup>1</sup>

Whereas knightly patrons had, in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, often presented members of their own families to rectories in their gift, their successors in the reign of Henry VI. generally presented clerks of much lower social status.

The papal registers of this latter period give the names of many Somerset incumbents who procured dispensations to hold several benefices with cure of souls, but not necessarily situate in that county. Two of these pluralists, not ordinarily resident in England, were allowed to postpone their admission to holy orders for several years.<sup>2</sup>

Despite his action mentioned above, Bekynton cannot be credited with a very keen desire to enforce residence upon the parochial clergy of his diocese. It was presumably with his approval that William North, one of his own domestic chaplains, procured a papal bull allowing him to let the fruits of the vicarage of North Curry, even to laymen, for seven years.<sup>3</sup> So again, he retained Thomas Bromhale, an illegitimate pluralist, as one of his chaplains, and gave him a canonry of Wells.<sup>4</sup> In 1449, he himself obtained a general indult for six chaplains of his own choice to absent themselves from their respective churches and to let their revenues therefrom to laymen.<sup>5</sup>

John Dyer, rector of High Ham, a bachelor of arts, not yet in deacon's orders, received leave of absence for no less than seven years, for the purpose of study; and William Boket, rector of Street, was, in the twentieth year of his age, allowed to go

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 516. 'Noble' is defined as equivalent to 'knightly.' *Ibid.* vol. ix. p. 373; vol. x. pp. 132, 335. Nevertheless, a bastard is described as of 'noble' birth. *Ibid.*, vol. x. p. 36.

<sup>2</sup> The careers of Thomas Hope, rector of Brompton Ralph, and John Lax, rector of Street and Ditchat, can be traced in the *Calendar of Papal Letters*, vols. x., xi.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* vol. ix. p. 511.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 521; vol. x. p. 54.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* vol. x. p. 197.

to a university for six years.<sup>1</sup> They may of course have returned to their respective benefices for a while during the Long Vacations, which lasted nearly three months.

Another irregularity, often sanctioned by the popes, was the appointment of members of the religious orders as incumbents of parish churches ordinarily served by secular clergy.<sup>2</sup> The monks of Glastonbury were specially favoured in this respect. One of them, named John Cadbury, who was thus presented and instituted to the rectory of Weston Bampfylde, in 1453, found it advisable to procure the king's pardon for himself and those who had sued for the papal bull, in contravention of the statute.<sup>3</sup> Thomas Abingdon, an Augustinian friar, was instituted successively to the churches of Cricket Malherbe, Stockland Gaunt, and Timberscombe, and another friar of that order was instituted to the church of Pylle.<sup>4</sup>

The register mentions four cases in which the date of the feast-day of the dedication of a church was altered. At Monkton it had been kept on the 18th of December, and at Kingston it had been kept on the 1st of February, but the parishioners of these places found such wintry dates inconvenient, and applied for the substitution of the first Sunday in October for both of them.<sup>5</sup> The episcopal sanction accorded to them anticipated by a long period an order issued by the Convocation in 1536 'that the feast of the dedicacyon of the church shall in all places throughout this realm be celebrated and kepte on the fyrst Sonday of the moneth of Octobre forever and upon none other day.'<sup>6</sup>

Operations connected with the harvest would normally be finished before October. The 4th of September would, however, find villagers very busy, and so those of Kingsdon obtained permission to abandon their festival on that day and to substitute for it the first Sunday after Midsummer.<sup>7</sup>

The vicar of Shapwick and his parishioners were satisfied

<sup>1</sup> Nos. 1248, 1481; *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 621.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. x. and xi. *passim*; nos. 1329, 1407, 1537.

<sup>3</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 67; no. 760; *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1452-61, p. 239.

<sup>4</sup> Nos. 104, 246, 300, 395.

<sup>5</sup> Nos. 155, 528.

<sup>6</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, vol. iii. p. 823.

<sup>7</sup> No. 1378.



with a much slighter change of date, from the feast of St. Edith, the 16th of September, which in six years out of seven fell upon a weekday, to the nearest Sunday.<sup>1</sup>

Any possible objectors to these changes were doubtless appeased by the grant of indulgences to such contrite and confessed persons as should piously attend divine service in their respective churches on the feast of the dedication as newly appointed by episcopal authority.

Bekynton's official register gives only two documents relating to a bitter controversy between himself and the most important ecclesiastic of his diocese. The bishop had, in the course of his ordinary visitation, in 1445, discovered some unspecified irregularities at Glastonbury Abbey, but he had been called away before completing his enquiry or issuing any definite injunctions. He was therefore very angry at hearing that Nicholas Frome, the abbot, had taken matters into his own hand, and he sent him a very severe letter from London, reminding him that the correction of abuses lay with himself and annulling all the abbot's proceedings in the matter.<sup>2</sup> Two months later, he wrote again, in his own hand, from Evercreech, only a few miles from Glastonbury, protesting his respect for the great monastery, but still refraining from a personal interview.<sup>3</sup> The abbot replied that the reform of abuses could not await the end of the episcopal visitation, which indeed had been twice adjourned.<sup>4</sup> The correspondence closes with a long letter from the bishop, in which he professes to hope that the blindness from which the abbot was suffering has not extended to his mind.<sup>5</sup>

Both parties to the controversy laid their complaints before the pope, and he eventually empowered the cardinal archbishop of York to summon the abbot before him, to examine charges laid against him of alienating monastic property, and adhering to the pope's adversaries, and, if necessary, to eject him, with the aid of the secular power.<sup>6</sup> Some months later, being assured

<sup>1</sup> No. 1613.

<sup>2</sup> No. 120. (*Corr.*, vol. ii. p. 338.)

<sup>3</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. p. 258.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 259; vol. ii. p. 339; no. 133.

<sup>5</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. p. 261.

<sup>6</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. viii. p. 244; vol. ix. p. 544.

of Frome's loyalty to himself, he revoked this commission and issued bulls far less favourable to Bekynton.<sup>1</sup>

The abbot and convent of Glastonbury furthermore complained to the pope that, although the advowson of the vicarage of East Pennard belonged to them, the bishop had collated there to a priest of the diocese of Lincoln named Thomas Fairman, on the ground that the late vicar, William Russell, had been deprived by him. The archbishop of Canterbury, to whom the case was referred, in September 1446, must have decided in favour of the bishop, for Fairman remained at East Pennard until 1461.<sup>2</sup> He gave some trouble, in 1449, by neglecting to provide divine service for the parishioners of (West) Bradley, whose church was dependent upon his own.<sup>3</sup>

The main controversy lasted some time, the abbot and convent contending that all persons, whether clerks or laymen, living in the archdeaconry of Glastonbury were exempt from episcopal jurisdiction. A minor cause of offence to the bishop was the discontinuance of the custom of ringing the bells whenever he passed any of the churches dependent on the abbey. Nicholas V., conscious of his inability to deal with such questions at a distance, referred the whole matter to Cardinal Kempe, archbishop of York, in November 1448, and in the following January.<sup>4</sup> Although the bishop did not again attempt a formal visitation of Glastonbury Abbey, he went thither as a guest, after the death of his old opponent, Nicholas Frome.<sup>5</sup> We are not here concerned with his controversy with William Millington, the ejected provost of King's College, Cambridge.<sup>6</sup>

From time to time, the bishop held visitations of religious houses in his diocese, either in person or by deputy, and, after hearing all complaints, issued injunctions for the correction of such irregularities as had been discovered. The register gives the injunctions relating to three Augustinian houses, the abbey

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. viii. p. 259.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ix. p. 571; no. 1399. There is no entry of Fairman's collation in the register.

<sup>3</sup> No. 459. The parishioners of Bradley had made similar complaints against his predecessor in 1437. *Reg. Stafford*, pp. 218-20.

<sup>4</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. pp. 45, 47.

<sup>5</sup> No. 929.

<sup>6</sup> *Corr.*, vol. ii. pp. 157-74; *Dict. of Nat. Biography*, vol. xxxvii. p. 443.

of Keynsham, which was visited twice, and the priories of Taunton and Bruton.<sup>1</sup> At each of these places, the canons were forbidden to swear by the limbs of Christ, to entertain women, or to go into the adjoining towns without permission. Some of the injunctions, however, were applicable to only one house. At Keynsham, the canons were enjoined to put aside some of their own food, for the relief of the poor, and were also allowed to send some to their parents and relations. On the other hand, the distribution of bread and ale, even to the poor, was forbidden at Taunton, on the score of expense. At Keynsham, the canons were forbidden to keep dogs. At Bruton, they were prohibited from playing at dice, and from hunting, except for recreation and under supervision. Some serious charges against their prior seem to have been dismissed. Troublesome brethren were sometimes removed to another house.<sup>2</sup>

The register gives also the injunctions issued, in 1455, to the Benedictine monasteries of Muchelney and Athelney, where the discipline was stricter than in the Augustinian houses.<sup>3</sup>

The register gives no information as to the results of episcopal visitations of the cathedral churches of Bath and Wells.<sup>4</sup> In 1454, the bishop of Oleron, papal auditor, gave judgement at Rome in a cause between the bishop and the canons of Wells with regard to the jurisdiction which he claimed over their prebends.<sup>5</sup>

Whenever the bishop was holding one of his ordinary visitations, the authority of the archdeacons was in abeyance.<sup>6</sup> Thomas Bubwith, archdeacon of Wells, was so old and infirm, in 1447, that the bishop appointed three of the canons of Wells and one of the vicars to act as his coadjutors, or rather to supersede him.<sup>7</sup> When an archdeaconry was vacant, the duties of the office were performed by keepers chosen by the bishop.<sup>8</sup>

Although the bishop had nothing to do with the appointment

<sup>1</sup> Nos. 174-6, 186, 278, 279, 440, 444, 578, 582, 584, 586, 587, 616, 654, 707, 957, 1004, 1129, 1131, 1159.

<sup>2</sup> Nos. 1144, 1145.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 936, 937.

<sup>4</sup> Nos. 439, 443, 770, 796, 878, 882.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. p. 674.

<sup>6</sup> Nos. 85, 114.

<sup>7</sup> Nos. 306, 323.

<sup>8</sup> Nos. 461, 470, 481, 514.

or the emoluments of the vicars choral of Wells cathedral, he had the disposal of the forty-two 'chambers' which Ralph of Shrewsbury had built for their habitation in the new Close. He also exercised paternal authority over them. In 1445, he appointed three commissioners to make enquiry about discords and troubles which had arisen among members of the society, and to punish, or even expel, the offenders.<sup>1</sup>

Considering the care with which the episcopal registrar entered the injunctions laid upon the inmates of several religious houses in the diocese of Bath and Wells, it seems strange that he entirely ignored the ordinances which Bekynton issued, in February 1460, for the governance of the vicars choral, to supplement those which were then in force. One of these was intended to restrain them from wearing high collars, like laymen, and insisted on proper tonsure of their crowns. Another forbade them to carry weapons in the Close or elsewhere in Wells, unless going at least a mile into the country or returning thence.<sup>2</sup>

The registrar similarly ignored some very elaborate ordinances issued by Bekynton, at the same time, for the government of the choir-school at Wells. They define the qualifications and duties of the master and the under-master, and the nature of the instruction to be given by them in Latin grammar and in music. They also lay down strict rules to be observed by the boys in the cathedral church, in the dormitory, and in the hall, specifying the prayers to be said by them, and describing the costume to be worn by them. Although these ordinances bear date the 6th of February, 1459[-60], the dean and chapter deferred their formal confirmation of them until the following January.<sup>3</sup>

In the early part of his episcopate, Bekynton had considerable trouble with some of the inhabitants of Langport, whom he describes as 'lawless, neither dredying God nor livyng after the lawes of Holy Cherche,' and refusing the ministrations of their parish priest.<sup>4</sup> So again, in October 1449, he appointed two commissioners to make enquiry about persons at Bristol and

<sup>1</sup> No. 173.

<sup>2</sup> Reynolds, *Wells Cathedral*, pp. clxxiv-clxxvii.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* pp. clxxx-clxxxv; *Victoria History of Somerset*, vol. ii. pp.

441-2.

<sup>4</sup> *Corr.*, vol. ii. p. 340; no. 1790.

elsewhere in the diocese who were accused of holding heretical opinions.<sup>1</sup> In the same month, John Yonge, a chaplain, formerly resident at Bristol, but more recently placed for instruction at Muchelney Abbey, was brought before the bishop at Chew, where he confirmed a retractation of various errors which he had held and propagated. A list of these is given in the register. In view of his age and infirmity and his humble repentance, he was absolved from the sentence of excommunication pronounced upon him.<sup>2</sup>

Thomas Norton, a priest, who had got into trouble with the ecclesiastical authorities of the adjoining dioceses of Salisbury and Exeter, was, in 1454, detained for some weeks as a prisoner in the palace at Wells, on suspicion of heresy, but, when brought before the bishop sitting judicially in the chapel, nothing could be proved against him except certain breaches of discipline. A general abjuration of unspecified heretical opinions led to his absolution and presumably to his release.<sup>3</sup>

In 1457, a certain Walter Comber, a layman, arrested at Portishead on suspicion of heresy, was examined by the bishop at Banwell, and afterwards by his commissaries at Wells. A lengthy recantation then subscribed by him mentions only two of the charges that had been brought against him, and we are left to infer that this was considered sufficient.<sup>4</sup>

John Cole *alias* Baker, of Norton St. Philip, and Agnes his wife, did not get off so easily. When brought before the bishop's chancellor, in the chapel of Our Lady by the cloister at Wells, in January 1460, they confessed to having been guilty of heresy, and submitted themselves humbly to the bishop's correction. After a few days in prison, they were again brought before the chancellor and three canons of Wells, and compelled to do public penance in the market-place and the High Street, as prescribed. After this, they made formal abjuration of various opinions which they had expressed. Finally, they did public penance on the following Sunday in the church of Norton St. Philip.<sup>5</sup>

Recantations of heretical or socialistic opinions are not the only English entries to be found in Bekynton's register. It

<sup>1</sup> No. 455.

<sup>2</sup> No. 458.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 381, 883, 898.

<sup>4</sup> No. 1044.

<sup>5</sup> No. 1276.

gives, for instance, the exact text of the vows taken by persons of both sexes when undertaking to live in perpetual chastity.<sup>1</sup> The form of words to be used on such occasions was settled by the episcopal registrar, and it was written out for recital and signature. The original documents, however, seldom bore any mark of authentication except a cross. Among the persons who, we are definitely told, were unable to sign their own names, were the relict of John ap Thomas, 'esquire,' and Elizabeth Biccombe, the relict of the lord of the manors of Crowcombe and Broomfield, a 'vowess,' whose oath did not entail a life of poverty.<sup>2</sup>

One of the two wills fully entered in the register is in English, being that of Dame Eleanor Hulle, lady of Enmore, the surviving mother of Sir Edward Hulle, Bekynton's former colleague in the embassy to the count of Armagnac.<sup>3</sup>

Another English entry is the form of the oath to be taken by the sheriff of Somerset, on admission to office.<sup>4</sup>

Although Bekynton cannot be regarded as one of the builders of the cathedral church of Wells, which had indeed been completed before his time, he was ever anxious for its maintenance in proper condition. When granting licences for various collections of money to be made in his diocese, he often stipulated that collections on behalf of his own cathedral church should have precedence.<sup>5</sup>

Curiously enough, the register makes no mention of an order issued by the bishop, in 1446, requiring all the beneficed clergy of his diocese to exhort their parishioners to become members of the brotherhood of St. Andrew and to aid the fabric of the cathedral church by gifts and bequests. Two collectors were to be appointed for every parish, and indulgences of forty days were promised to contributors of money.<sup>6</sup>

In 1451, the bishop summoned a meeting of the canons of

<sup>1</sup> Nos. 121, 688, 1202, 1234, 1311, 1555.

<sup>2</sup> Nos. 1202, 1234; *Some Somerset Manors*, p. 291.

<sup>3</sup> No. 1347.

<sup>4</sup> No. 1019.

<sup>5</sup> Nos. 14, 46, 55, 667, 1140.

<sup>6</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. p. 675. There are mentions of this brotherhood at various dates between 1323 and 1550. *Ibid.* vol. i. pp. 181, 208, 224; vol. ii. pp. 19, 84, 99, 131, 132, 163, 164, 196, 271, 645, 694.

Wells and others, to concert immediate measures for the repair of defects in the roof and elsewhere, and for the defence of the church against some enemies unspecified.<sup>1</sup> A systematic collection was made throughout the diocese in 1457 or 1458, when no less than four hundred and eighty briefs were distributed. All expenses, including small fees to some of the clergy concerned in the collection, were borne by the dean and chapter.<sup>2</sup>

Some of the fines to be exacted at Muchelney and Keynsham for disobedience to the bishop's injunctions were, by his order, to be applied to the maintenance of the fabric of the cathedral church.<sup>3</sup>

In a flowery description of Wells, written by a Wykehamist in the middle of the fifteenth century, the author says that

'the most worthy and most learned bishop, Thomas . . . has conferred such splendour on this city, as well by fortifying the church with gates, towers and walls, as by magnificently constructing the palaces in which he dwells and other neighbouring buildings, that he deserves to be styled not merely the founder but rather the splendour and ornament of the church.'<sup>4</sup>

In July 1450, the canons of Wells were seriously alarmed by the news of Jack Cade's insurrection in Kent. He, with some of his followers, had actually entered the city of London, and another band of malcontents had brutally murdered the bishop of Salisbury, at Edington, in Wiltshire. Clerks and Welshmen were accordingly hired to guard the cathedral church, and Lord Bonville brought a small contingent of men to Wells for the same purpose. A mason was engaged to provide hiding-places for the more valuable goods and jewels of the church.<sup>5</sup>

One consequence of this panic was that, in the following year, Bekynton sought and obtained the renewal of a licence which had been granted, in 1340, to his predecessor, Ralph of Shrewsbury, to build a wall round the churchyard and the episcopal and canonical residences at Wells, with suitable towers, gates, and

<sup>1</sup> No. 554.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. pp. 85, 86.

<sup>4</sup> *Corr.*, vol. i. pp. xiii-xv; vol. ii. p. 321.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. pp. 77, 78.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 937, 957.

posterns, thus forming an ecclesiastical *enclave* adjoining the city, but for some purposes not belonging to it.<sup>1</sup>

Bekynton's additions to the palace have been made the subject of careful examination.<sup>2</sup> The number of residentiary canons in the middle of the fifteenth century varied from eleven to fourteen, including dignitaries who are often specifically described as canons.<sup>3</sup> Leland, writing in the reign of Henry VIII., states that they had twelve 'very faire houses, partely on the north side of the cimitery of the cathedrale circh, partely without.'<sup>4</sup> Some of these were at the disposal of the bishop; others were vested in the dean and chapter. When, after some hesitation, Andrew Holes accepted the archdeaconry of Wells, in lieu of that of Taunton, he became entitled to an official residence facing the north entrance to the cathedral church. Some Latin verses mention the alterations and repairs which he effected there.<sup>5</sup>

We are definitely told that Bekynton built the four gates which still adorn the city of Wells, that is to say those now known as the 'Palace Gate,' at the eastern end of the market-place, 'Penniless Porch,' at its north-eastern corner, giving access to the churchyard, 'Brown's Gate,' near the north-western corner of the churchyard, and the very beautiful 'Chain Gate,' on the northern side of the cathedral church.<sup>6</sup>

Two contemporary documents give some particulars with regard to this last. In February 1460, the two principals and the whole fellowship of vicars choral made due acknowledgment of the great benefit which the bishop had conferred upon them by, at his own expense, making a way for them leading directly from their common hall to the staircase of the chapter-house. In gratitude, they promised that every vicar choral crossing this covered way should offer prayers for Bishop Ralph, the original founder of the society, and for Bishop Thomas, its more recent

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1338-40, p. 466; 1446-52, p. 473; Freeman, *Cathedral Church of Wells*, p. 144.

<sup>2</sup> *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xxxiv. pp. 80-9.

<sup>3</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. pp. 72, 74, 77, 82.

<sup>4</sup> *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xxxiii. p. 73.

<sup>5</sup> Nos. 189, 463, 474, 506, 507; *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xxxvii. pp. 119-26.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* vol. xxxiii. pp. 72, 73; William of Worcester, pp. 286, 287.



protector and benefactor. They furthermore undertook that certain specified prayers should be said every evening near the tombs of these two prelates, in the choir of the cathedral church.<sup>1</sup> In the following month, the dean and chapter gave formal permission to the vicars choral to extend the passage.<sup>2</sup>

Some little alterations seem to have been made in the Chain Gate after Bekynton's death, for it bears the arms of his executors as well as his own.<sup>3</sup> Their arms occur also in the western walk of the cloister, the building of which has always been credited to him, and on good authority.<sup>4</sup> In the Vicars' Close it is difficult to distinguish between his work and theirs.

Bekynton did not confine his building activities to the area within his new walls. In September 1451, he conveyed to two clerical feoffees a strip of void ground measuring 243 feet from east to west by 36 feet from north to south, situate between the great churchyard and the market-place, with permission to build upon it.<sup>5</sup> There he himself erected a range of twelve houses described by Leland as 'right exceeding fair' and 'uniforme' in design.<sup>6</sup> Each had a bay-window of three storeys, with mullioned windows of seven lights apiece, and an embattled parapet.<sup>7</sup> They may have been almost completed by August 1452, when the feoffees applied for royal licence to convey the property to the dean and chapter in mortmain.<sup>8</sup> Two water-courses seem to have been added, in or soon after 1459, perhaps in connexion with the drainage.<sup>9</sup> For several centuries, these twelve houses continued to be called 'the New Works.' There are also frequent mentions of 'the New Works Gardens,' but these did not adjoin the houses from which they took their name, being on the west side of the moat encircling the bishop's palace.<sup>10</sup> We hear less of three houses between the churchyard and Sadler

<sup>1</sup> No. 1281.    <sup>2</sup> Parker, *Architectural Antiquities of Wells*, p. 38.

<sup>3</sup> Jewers, *Wells Cathedral*, p. 280.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 161; *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xxxiii. p. 106; William of Worcester, pp. 286, 287.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. i. p. 435; *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-52, p. 516.

<sup>6</sup> *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xxxiii. p. 72.

<sup>7</sup> William of Worcester, p. 287.

<sup>8</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-52, p. 580; 1452-61, p. 112.

<sup>9</sup> No. 1220.

<sup>10</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. pp. 886, 887.

Street, built on land similarly vested in the feoffees of 1451, and by them conveyed to the dean and chapter. The capitular accounts for 1471 show the receipt of 18*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* as rent for the fifteen new messuages thus built by Bishop Bekynton.<sup>1</sup> They were not intended for the clergy, and stood outside the walls enclosing the ecclesiastical precinct.

Some thirteen years before his death, Bekynton founded a chantry in his cathedral church of Wells, in honour of Our Lady and St. Thomas the Martyr, for the benefit of his own soul and the souls of his predecessors, his parents, and all the faithful departed. For this purpose, he set up an altar with a retable under a carved canopy, on the south side of the choir. Facing this, a little to the west, he constructed an elaborate tomb in three stages. On the uppermost of these he placed a recumbent effigy of himself in alabaster, in full pontificals, richly coloured, with crozier and mitre. Below this, by way of contrast, he placed an emaciated figure of himself clad only in a shroud. The lowest stage was a plain subterranean vault, intended to receive his actual corpse.<sup>2</sup> He dedicated the altar at five o'clock in the morning, on the 12th of January 1452, and celebrated the first mass thereat, in the presence of many people, and, two days later, at the same early and dark hour, he, wearing the very vestments in which he had been consecrated as bishop, solemnly dedicated the tomb and celebrated a mass of *requiem* at the altar opposite to it.<sup>3</sup> In 1459, the dean and canons bound themselves in 400*l.* to observe the ordinances which he should make with regard to this chantry.<sup>4</sup> The burgesses of Wells moreover under-

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. p. 93; see also *Corr.*, vol. i. p. lvi, note, from a document which has disappeared.

<sup>2</sup> If the date assigned by the editor of the *Correspondence of Bekynton* to a letter from Thomas Chaundler (vol. i. pp. li, 264) is correct, the tomb must have been prepared several years before its dedication.

<sup>3</sup> Nos. 630, 632; *Somerset & Dorset Notes & Queries*, vol. xvii. pp. 122-6; *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. lxix. pp. 6, 7, 10, 14-16, 26, 27; Crossley, *English Church Monuments*, pp. 39, 79, 166, 171.

<sup>4</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. i. p. 466. There is a statement by the late Mr. Thomas Serel, of Wells, that such ordinances were issued on the 6th of October, 1460, but they are not now forthcoming. They were from time to time read aloud by the dean. *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. pp. 208, 217, 221, 228.

took that they and their successors would once a year visit his tomb and there offer prayers for his soul, in consideration of his grant to them of a supply of water from St. Andrew's Well to the high cross in the market-place.<sup>1</sup> There is mention, in 1479, of a key to the door of Bishop Bekynton's chantry, and, in 1538, of his treasury containing vestments and jewels.<sup>2</sup> The capitular accounts give minute particulars of the cost of maintaining the little chapel and the daily mass therein and a yearly obit in the choir.<sup>3</sup> The canopied reredos was unwisely removed to the chapel of St. Calixtus, in 1850, but replaced in its original position in 1922.

Wells was not the only place that benefited by Bekynton's munificence. Within five months of his consecration, before he had even set foot in his diocese, he instituted an enquiry into all defects in the episcopal manors, granges, chancels, parks and other places, and the cost of repairing them.<sup>4</sup> Long afterwards, in his will, he complained that he had found many of them in a ruinous condition, through the neglect of his predecessor, and he bequeathed 100*l.* to his eventual successor, to cover any dilapidations that might have occurred in his own time. In the meanwhile, he had, as he tells us, spent more than 6,000 marks on the 'repair, renewal, and building of manors and places (*locorum*)' pertaining to the see. In the absence of the rolls of accounts to which he refers, it is impossible to say how this very large sum of money was apportioned. A contemporary, however, states that the Palace Gate cost over 200 marks, the gate in 'Sadell Street' 300 marks, and the covered gate adjoining the cathedral 500 marks. The same writer states that Bekynton built dormitories for the Benedictines of Bath and the Carthusians of Witham, and that he repaired the manor-house at Banwell, where he made 'a most beautiful orchard with divers wonderful fruits.'<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> No. 598; *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xxiii. p. 72.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. ii. pp. 98, 249.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 93, 123; Reynolds, *Wells Cathedral*, p. lxxxvi; *Somerset Chantries*, p. 340.

<sup>4</sup> No. 32. He took further steps in the matter, in 1447. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 311.

<sup>5</sup> William of Worcester, pp. 285-7.

We are not informed of the grounds on which Bekynton claimed that John Audley, a layman, living in Sussex, was responsible for the repair of some of the buildings belonging to the see of Bath and Wells.<sup>1</sup>

As a man of humble birth, Bekynton had no hereditary arms, but, after his elevation to the episcopate, he seems to have borne—*argent* on a fesse *azure* between in chief three bucks' heads caboshed *gules*, and in base as many pheons *sable*, a bishop's mitre, the ribbons extended, of the third.<sup>2</sup> This shield, coloured or uncoloured, is, or was, to be seen on various buildings at Wells, on the porch of the vicarage at Congresbury, on the parsonage at Stanton Drew, and in the windows of the churches of Banwell, Yeovilton, and Cheddar.<sup>3</sup> Outside the county of Somerset, it occurs twice on the vaulted roof of the Divinity School at Oxford, and it was set up in three places at Lincoln College, together with the arms of the bishop's executors.<sup>4</sup> The statutes of 1480 recite that a great part of the buildings there was erected with the moneys of Thomas Beckington, late bishop of Wells, and John Forrest, late dean of the same church, and prescribes prayers to be said for their souls. Other instances might be cited.

More interesting than these examples of decadent heraldry is Thomas Bekynton's favourite rebus—the capital letter of his Christian name combined with a flaming *beacon* resting on a *tun*, '*pharus dolio impositus, ex quibus rebus sic conjunctis nomen ipsius Beckynton innuebatur.*' Sculptors and illuminators could exercise their ingenuity on this subject.<sup>5</sup>

The register gives some details with regard to the topography of Wells, Bath, Bristol, Pilton, Winsford and Cheddar. The bishop had occasion to restrain the inhabitants of the second of

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 696.

<sup>2</sup> See, however, Jewers, *Wells Cathedral*, pp. 43, 272, as to the tinctures.

<sup>3</sup> *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. lxxi. p. 30; Jewers, p. 39; Collinson, *History of Somerset*, vol. ii. p. 438; vol. iii. p. 200; *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. lxxxii. part 2, p. 211.

<sup>4</sup> *Archæological Journal*, vol. lxxi. pp. 235, 251, 257; Wood's *Colleges and Halls*, pp. 246, 247, 251; Hist. MSS. Comm., report ii. p. 131.

<sup>5</sup> Nicolas shows one treatment of it. *Journal of T.B.*, p. lxvi; Reynolds shows another. *Wells Cathedral*, last page. A simpler form is to be seen at Lincoln College. Parker, *Handbook to Oxford* (1875), p. 202.

these places from their regular practice of stripping bathers of both sexes of all their clothes, leaving them in a state of complete nudity.<sup>1</sup> While he was fain to describe the warm water of Bath as a heavenly gift, he hesitated to recognise the remarkable curative power attributed to a spring at the church of Wembdon.<sup>2</sup> Nine other prelates had concurred with him in fostering a belief that a chapel in the parish of Cleeve was under special divine protection.<sup>3</sup>

Bekynton may have had assistance in framing the injunctions which he issued for the reform of abuses and irregularities in several religious houses in his diocese. We cannot, however, fail to see his own authorship in many of the less formal entries in the register, such as a peremptory order to the abbot of Glastonbury, commissions of enquiry as to the conduct of the vicars choral of Wells, and the prior of Bruton, a citation of the abbot of Keynsham, and severe reproofs to the prior of Bath and the dean of Wells.<sup>4</sup>

Although the register is mainly concerned with ecclesiastical affairs, genealogists may glean from it information about several Somerset families that is not to be found elsewhere.

<sup>1</sup> No. 441.

<sup>2</sup> No. 1582.

<sup>3</sup> No. 648.

<sup>4</sup> Nos. 120, 173, 176, 182, 186, 196, 278, 707.

## BISHOP BEKYNTON'S REGISTER

Register of the lord Thomas of Bekynton, bishop of Bath and Wells, who was consecrated by William, bishop of Lincoln, in the old collegiate church of St. Mary, Eton, on Sunday the feast of St. Edward, 13 October, 1443 ; on which day the said Thomas, after his consecration, celebrated his first mass in pontificals in the new church of St. Mary there, which was not yet half-built, under an awning, at an altar erected directly over the place where King Henry VI. laid the first stone ; and held a feast in the new building of the college there on the north side, while as yet there were no separate chambers. There were present as coadjutor bishops William, bishop of Salisbury, and Nicholas, bishop of Llandaff. The present register was begun the same day.<sup>1</sup> 1443.  
f. 1.

1. Order by John, archbishop of Canterbury, to Master John Storthwayt, guardian of the spirituality of the bishopric of Bath and Wells, to allow Master Thomas of Bekynton, doctor of laws, keeper of the king's privy seal, to have free administration of the bishopric in spirituals, and to deliver to him, or his deputies, all letters, evidences, muniments, registers and seals pertaining to the spirituality of the bishopric. The archbishop's inn at London, 15 October, 1443.

2. Commission by the bishop to Master John Bernard, canon of Wells, to be his vicar-general in spirituals for one year ; as he is now occupied by the king's wish and order with matters which concern the weal of the realm, and will continue to be so occupied. The bishop's inn at London, 19 October, 1443.

<sup>1</sup> *Correspondence*, vol. i. pp. cxix, cxx.

1443. 3. Commission to Master John Stortwayt, bachelor of both  
*f. 2.* laws, canon and chancellor of Wells, to be the bishop's principal official, with power to hear and determine all causes pending in the consistory of Wells, admit or reject witnesses, letters, instruments and all other kinds of proof produced in the said causes, settle the depositions of witnesses, etc. in the said consistory, entrust the admission and examination of witnesses, etc. to others, promulgate sentences whether definitive or interlocutory, issue rescripts and inhibitions in all causes and matters coming before the bishop by way of appeal or complaint, determine such appeals and complaints, and do whatever else is necessary in connexion with his office.<sup>1</sup> Date as above.

4. Commission to Master William Fulford, bachelor in laws, to be the bishop's commissary-general and official of his peculiar jurisdiction during pleasure, with power to correct and punish crimes and excesses of all the bishop's subjects within the diocese, whether within the bishop's peculiar jurisdiction of Welyngton, Cherde and Chiew or elsewhere, prove the testaments of all such subjects and other persons dying anywhere within the said jurisdiction, appoint administrators of the goods of such persons dying testate or intestate, sequesterate and release from sequestration ecclesiastical goods and goods of persons dying intestate within the diocese and jurisdiction aforesaid, receive the bishop's rents and spiritual proceeds within the diocese, and do whatever else is necessary in connexion with his office.<sup>2</sup> The bishop's inn at London, 30 October, 1443.

5. Process of an exchange of benefices between Master William Kenwolmerssh, rector of the church of Esthenreth, in the diocese of Salisbury, and Sir John Kyngeston, rector of the church of Kyngton Maundevyle, in the diocese of Bath and Wells:—

On 24 October, in the bishop's inn at London, the bishop, by his own authority as ordinary and by authority of a commission directed to him as bishop elect of Bath and Wells by

<sup>1</sup> John Stortwayt had been appointed official principal of Bishop Stafford in 1425.

<sup>2</sup> William Fulford had been commissary-general of Bishop Stafford.

William, bishop of Salisbury, dated in the priory of Bustlesham, 1443.  
27 September, 1443, empowering him to examine and authorise the proposed exchange, receive the resignation by Master William of the church of Esthenreth, which is in the bishop of Salisbury's collation, collate the said church to Sir John Kyngeston and institute him as rector, and do whatever else is necessary in the matter, reserving to the writer the induction of Sir John and his canonical obedience,—examined and approved the causes of the said exchange, received the resignation of Master William, admitted Sir John and instituted him as rector, and informed the bishop of Salisbury of his action in the matter, by letter under the seal of William North, commissary-general of the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, his own seal not being at hand. f. 3.

And thereupon, having received the resignation by Sir John of the church of Kyngton Maundevile, he admitted Master William thereto, on the presentation of John Gerard, the patron, and instituted him as rector in the person of Sir William Gryndham, his proctor. And on the same day, after receiving Master William's oath of canonical obedience, he issued a commission to the archdeacon of Wells or his official to induct him or his proctor, and letters of institution to Master William himself.

6. Commission to James, bishop of Achonry (*Akadensis*), to dedicate, consecrate and bless the parish church of Farley Hungerford, with the churchyard thereof, which has of late been entirely built and constructed by Walter, lord of Hungerford, and to do whatever else is requisite in the matter. 6 November, the same place and year. f. 4.

7. Collation to John Stephens, vicar of a stall in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the twelfth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close there, counting from the church, which is in the bishop's collation, to possess and inhabit the same in accordance with the statutes and ordinances of Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop. Should he without reasonable cause cease for a whole year to inhabit the chamber, or fail to keep it in repair, he shall be deprived of it for ever. 8 November, the same place and year.



1443. 8. The like to Thomas Halle, of the fifteenth chamber on the east side. Date as above.

f.5. 9. Commission to the abbot and convent of Kaynesham, in pursuance of the king's writ <sup>1</sup> dated at Westminster, 10 November, 21 Henry VI, ordering the bishop to appoint some trustworthy persons of the clergy of his diocese to collect in the said diocese the entire tenth of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions, with certain exceptions, which the bishops and clergy of the province of Canterbury granted to the king in their last convocation in the church of St. Paul, London, which was begun on 16 April and continued from day to day until 26 April last, to be paid in two moieties, at the Annunciation next and the Annunciation in the year 1444,—to collect the first of the said moieties from all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions in the diocese which are taxed and accustomed to pay tenths, except from the benefices of the poor nuns of Canyngton and Barowe and the other unappropriated benefices specified in the annexed schedule,<sup>2</sup> which on account of their poverty are to be relieved from payment in accordance with the terms of the above-mentioned grant. They are to pay the said moiety in the Exchequer. Date as above.

f.6. 10. Grant during pleasure to Thomas Dawnce, clerk, of the office of bishop's scribe, or registrar, in all matters of corrections and excesses of any of the bishop's subjects of either sex in the bishop's city and diocese which may be brought or begun before the bishop's commissary-general and official of his peculiar jurisdictions of Cherde, Wellyngton and Chiew; with the usual fees. Date as above.

11. Collation to John Garnesey, vicar of a stall in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close, counting from the door of the close [conditions as above, no. 7]. 24 November, the same place and year.

12. Letters dimissory to all orders for Thomas Blakford, of Yevel, clerk. 20 November, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> Fine Roll, 21 Hen. VI, m. 17.

<sup>2</sup> The schedule is not entered in the register.

13. Licence for Sir Edmund Warcop, rector of the church of Hutton, to be absent therefrom for five years in the service of Master John Somerseth, receiving the fruits, etc. of the church meanwhile and letting it at farm to an ecclesiastic or other fit person; provided that divine service and the cure of souls be not neglected, that a suitable proctor be left there to answer duly in his behalf to the bishop and his ministers, and that compensation be made for his absence by a distribution of alms among his poor parishioners according to the bishop's award. 12 November, the same place and year. 1443.

14. Grant, for two years, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite persons who shall render assistance in goods or legacies to the hospital of the Holy Trinity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, the brethren and sisters of which devote themselves effectually to ministering to the necessities of needy foreigners, especially the English; and order to all ecclesiastics of the diocese to receive the proctors of the said hospital and induce the people subject to them to contribute alms. Collections for the fabric of the cathedral church of Wells are, however, to take precedence of other collections. 24 November, 1443, the same place and year.

15. Institution of Sir William Nicoll, chaplain, in the person of Master John Nicoll, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Sampford,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation of Sir John Alyn, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Canonlegh. Date as above. f. 7.

16. Commission, during pleasure, to James, bishop of Achonry, to be the bishop's suffragan while he is occupied in state affairs, with power to confirm and christen, to dedicate and consecrate altars, to bless chalices, vestments and other ecclesiastical ornaments, and to hold ordinations of beneficed persons and others found suitable after examination by examiners to be appointed by Master John Barnard, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals. Date as above.

17. Licence for Martin Jacob and Joan, his wife, on their

<sup>1</sup> Sampford Arundel.

1443. petition showing that their mansion house is about a mile distant from the church of Northpeterton and that they are unable on account of age to attend there to hear divine service as often as they would wish, to have divine service celebrated in their presence, in chapels, oratories and other suitable places within their said mansion house, by any suitable chaplain. 29 November, the same place and year.

18. Collation to John Bolle, vicar of Wells cathedral, of the nineteenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. The bishop's inn at Bedewynde, 24 December, 1443.

19. Commission, during pleasure, to Master Benet ap Howel, clerk, notary-public, to write, register and enact all judicial acts and processes in the consistory of Wells, examine all witnesses and lawfully settle their depositions, and do whatever else belongs to the office of registrar of the acts, scribe and examiner-general of the said consistory. Date as above.

1444. 20. Licence, in accordance with the constitution *Cum ex eo*,<sup>1</sup>  
f. 8. for Master John Perch, M.A., rector of the church of Charleton Macarel, subdeacon, to be absent in the university of Oxford for two years, receiving the fruits, etc. of his church meanwhile, and not being bound to proceed to the order of priesthood [provided, etc. as above, no. 13]. The bishop's inn at Sutton, 7 January, 1443[-4].

21. Licence, at the instance of Master Walter Copland, M.A.,<sup>2</sup> for John Wellys, Friar Minor of Briggewater, to hear confessions in the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. The bishop's inn at London, 22 January, 1443[-4].

22. Licence for non-residence for one year from Michaelmas last in favour of Sir Thomas Colyns, rector of the church of Baggeworth. The bishop's inn at London, 29 January, 1443[-4].

23. Collation to Master John Bernard, canon of Wells, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wormestre vacant by the death of Sir Robert Corff; and institution accordingly. Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> See *Reg. Bubwith*, p. 588, note 62.    <sup>2</sup> Vicar of Weston Zoyland.

Commission to the dean and chapter of Wells to induct him into the said prebend and the stall in the choir and the place assigned thereto in the chapter of the said church. 31 January, the same place and year. 1444.

24. Commission to Master William Fulford, canon of Wells, to receive from the said Master John, in the name and by the authority of the bishop, the oath of canonical obedience due from him by reason of the said canonry and prebend. Date as above.

25. Commission to James, bishop of Achonry, to reconcile and bless the church of St. Michael the Archangel without the North Gate, Bath, lately polluted by the shedding of blood, and to do whatever else is requisite in that behalf. 6 February, the same place and year.

26. Collation to Sir John Combe, vicar of Wells cathedral, of the second chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 7 February, the same place and year. f. 9.

27. Commission, during pleasure, to Master William Fulford, bachelor in laws and canon of Wells, to be president of the consistory of Wells [with the same powers as those granted above to Master John Stortwayt, no. 3]. 13 February, the same place and year.

28. Collation to Sir John Trevenaunt, the bishop's chaplain, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Holcombe vacant by the resignation of Master John Bernard; and institution accordingly. And, on receiving from him the oath of canonical obedience, a letter of induction was written to the dean and the sub-dean of Wells, or, in their absence, the president of the chapter, and the chapter.<sup>1</sup> 8 February, the same place and year.

29. Institution of Sir Robert Perfytt as rector of the church of Shypton Malet, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Corf, on

<sup>1</sup> John Trevenaunt was also rector of a church at Calais. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x, p. 144.

1444. the presentation of the king, patron for this turn.<sup>1</sup> Date as above.

30. Commission to Master John Bernard, vicar-general in spirituals, Master John Storthwayte, chancellor, Richard Cordon, doctor of laws, and William Fulford, canons of Wells,—on a report that the master of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Wells, is publicly accused, throughout the city of Wells and the neighbourhood, of serious crimes, especially simony and dilapidation of the goods and possessions of the hospital,—to act as the bishop's representatives in enquiring into the said accusations, punishing and correcting any excesses, by removal and deprivation if necessary, suspending the master and appointing others to have administration of the goods of the hospital in the meantime, and doing whatever else is necessary in the matter. 13 February, the same place and year.

31. Mandate to the dean of Frome and all rectors, vicars and chaplains of the diocese,—at the request of William, bishop of Salisbury, who has collated to Master William Walesby, king's chaplain, the canonry of Salisbury and prebend of Writlyngton and Fordyngton vacant by the resignation of Fulk Bermyngham,<sup>2</sup> —to induct the said Master William or his proctor into that part of the said prebend, to wit Writlyngton, which is within the diocese of Bath and Wells. Dogmersfeld, 21 February, 1443[-4].

- f. 10. 32. Commission to John Gayton to survey all such defects in the manors, granges, chancels, parks, ditches and other places belonging to the bishopric as happened while John, archbishop of Canterbury, was in possession of the bishopric, and to estimate the cost of repairing the same, certify the bishop thereof, and come to a final agreement with the archbishop thereon.<sup>3</sup> 26 February, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> There is no corresponding entry on the Patent Roll. The manor and the advowson were in the king's hand by reason of the death of Sir John Tiptoft.

<sup>2</sup> Fulk Bermyngham was also archdeacon of Oxford.

<sup>3</sup> See Bekynnton's will. *Somerset Medieval Wills*.

33. Commission to the dean of Taunton and the bishop's apparitor there, and to the perpetual vicar of the parish church of Taunton,—on information that the prior and convent of Taunton, who hold the church, or chapel, of Wilton by Taunton appropriated to their own uses, and who have been accustomed from of old to provide a secular priest at their own costs to serve the same, have recently failed to provide such a chaplain, to the great prejudice and damage of the inhabitants of the township or hamlet of Wilton,—to cite the prior to appear before the bishop or his commissary in the parish church of Evercrych on Thursday next, to show cause why the fruits and profits of the said church or chapel should not be sequestrated and a portion thereof assigned to a chaplain to be provided by the bishop until a secular priest be duly provided according to ancient custom. The perpetual vicar of Taunton is to appear before the bishop on the same day and at the same place, to propound and allege what he may think necessary and proper in favour of the right and interest which perchance belongs to him in this behalf; and in the event of this order not reaching him, the aforesaid dean and apparitor are to cite him to appear as above. Evercrych, 29 March, 1444. 1444.

34. Order to the abbot and convent of Glastonbury (and a similar order was sent to the dean and chapter of Wells and all the archdeacons), to put into execution in their monastery, and in all the churches pertaining to their peculiar jurisdiction, a command of John, archbishop of Canterbury, dated at Croydon manor, 12 March, 1444, and communicated to the bishop by letters of Robert, bishop of London, dated at Stebenhith manor, 18 March, 1444, that in all cathedral, conventual and collegiate churches, both regular and secular, and in all parish churches of the province of Canterbury, the people be admonished on Sundays and feast days to make solemn processions in or around their churches on every Wednesday and Friday, with chanting of litany and mass if possible, otherwise of prayers (*spiritualium*), one for the peace of the universal church and especially of the kingdoms of England and France, and the other for the prosperity and tranquillity of the king and realm of England; and to announce to all their subjects within the said jurisdiction forty f. 1

1444. days' indulgence which the archbishop has granted to all such as take part therein. Evercrich, 30 March, 1444.

35. Institution of Sir Thomas Geffrey, chaplain, as rector of the church of Burnet, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Haukyns, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury. Woky, 6 April, 1444.

36. Order to all archdeacons, deans, rectors, vicars and chaplains of the diocese solemnly to announce at mass on Sundays and feast days, when required so to do, the excommunication by the bishop of William Tylly, of Norton Canonorum,<sup>1</sup> John Uphill, of Bedmestre and John Baker the younger, of the same place, for interference with the exercise of the bishop's ecclesiastical jurisdiction and manifold contumacies in not appearing before him; and to cite the said persons to appear before the bishop, or his commissary, in the church of Bath on 21 April, to show cause why the bishop should not proceed against them more rigourously. Wells palace, 9 April, 1444.

37. Commission to Master William Fulford, the bishop's commissary-general,—on a complaint by Sir John Warrewyk, perpetual vicar of the church of Tykenham, which is appropriated to the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's by Bristol, that his vicarage is so poor in its fruits and proceeds, and so slenderly endowed, that the vicar, who is bound to reside there continuously in accordance with the legatine constitution, cannot properly subsist on the said fruits and proceeds and pay the episcopal dues and other charges incumbent on him,—to summon the said abbot and convent and others concerned, and make enquiry in the said church by the oath of neighbouring rectors, vicars, parishioners and other trustworthy persons, touching the value of the fruits and proceeds taken by the abbot and convent, the poverty and true value of the vicarage, the endowment thereof, and the amount required to maintain the present vicar and his successors, pay the episcopal rights and support the other charges incumbent, and touching the other articles of enquiry usual in such cases. Woky, 8 April, 1444.

<sup>1</sup> Midsomer Norton.

38. Order to the curates of the church of St. Cuthbert, Wells, and to all rectors, vicars and chaplains celebrating divine service in the diocese, solemnly to announce at mass on Sundays and feast days that John Rewe, of Wells, has been excommunicated by the bishop on his confession of unlawful intercourse with Joan Spere, late his servant, after he had abjured her before Master William Fulford, commissary-general, and she had been publicly excommunicated by the said Master William, whereby he has incurred the sentence of the greater excommunication ; and to cite the said John to appear before the bishop, or his commissary-general, in the chapel of St. Mary the Virgin by the cloister of Wells cathedral on Monday before St. George the Martyr next, to show cause why more rigorous steps should not be taken against him during the said excommunication. Wells palace, 11 April, 1444. 1444.  
f. 12.

39. Appointment of Anthony Vilate, donzel, to be the bishop's apparitor-general, with power to expose and denounce any persons in the diocese, either by virtue of his office alone or at the request of a party. 12 April, the same place and year.

40. Collation to Thomas Pourveour, clerk, of the free chapel of Chyriton, and institution of him as warden thereof. After he had taken the oath of obedience, a letter for his induction was written to the archdeacon of Wells or his official. Woky, 10 August, 1444.

41. Commitment to Edward Hull, esquire, Master John Saunders, rector of the church of Enemere, and William Bery, of the keeping and administration of the house, or priory, of Stoke-cury and the tithes, fruits and proceeds thereof, and order to keep them under strict and safe sequestration until further order ; as the bishop has learned that a serious dispute has arisen between the keeper or farmer of the priory <sup>1</sup> and the provost and fellows of the king's college of St. Mary, Eton, to which the priory is annexed and appropriated, touching the keeping and administration of the priory, and that, unless a remedy be provided by

<sup>1</sup> Robert Vise. See nos. 54, 115, 123, 126, 184, below, and *Victoria History of Somerset*, vol. ii. p. 171.



1444. his authority, not only will the provost and fellows undeservedly suffer great loss through the keeper's bad administration and notorious dilapidations, but, it is believed, the parties will soon come to warfare and blows, on which account the bishop has sequestrated the keeping and administration of the priory and all the tithes, fruits and proceeds thereof. The said Master John and William Bery are to cite the keeper, or farmer, of the priory to appear before the bishop in the chapel of the manor of Woky to answer to certain articles concerning the correction of his soul which will be objected against him. Woky, 13 April, 1444.

42. Collation to Thomas Dune, vicar of Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, to hold the same according to the statutes and ordinances of Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop. 17 April, the same place and year.

43. The like to Sir Lewis Eley of the seventeenth chamber on the west side. 19 April, the same place and year.

44. Commission to Master William Fulford, the bishop's commissary-general, and Master John Sperhauk, bachelor in laws,—on a petition from Sir John Frankelayne, rector of the church of Frescheford,<sup>1</sup> that whereas his church, of which Thomas Halle, of Bradford, esquire, is patron, is so poorly endowed that the rector cannot honourably maintain himself from the fruits and proceeds thereof, the bishop will be pleased to unite thereto and incorporate therewith the neighbouring parish church of Wodwyk, which is void by the resignation of Master Stephen Morpath, the last rector, and is equally poor in its fruits and proceeds, after obtaining the assent of the said Thomas Halle, the prior and convent of Henton, patrons of the church of Wodwyk, and others interested,—to make enquiry in the church of Frescheford by the oath of neighbouring rectors, vicars and other trustworthy persons, summoning thereto the said prior and convent, Thomas Halle, the rector of Wodwyk, if there be one, and any other persons interested, as to who are the true patrons of the churches, whether they assent to the suggested

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

union, whether the church of Wodwyk is vacant and, if so, when it began to be vacant, what is the yearly value of the fruits, proceeds and endowments of the two churches respectively, how far they are distant from each other, whether either of them is the subject of dispute at law or charged with pensions or portions, and whether any simony or illicit agreement is involved in the present proposal. In the event of the above persons being found to be the true patrons of the churches and consenting to the union, their consent is to be obtained in writing and under seal. 19 April, the same place and year. 1444

45. Commission to Master William Fulford, president of the consistory of Wells and commissary-general, to hear and determine a cause of withdrawal or spoliation of tithes between Sir Thomas Compton, perpetual vicar of the church of Chiewe, complainant, and Stephen Conyngston, rector of the church of Stok,<sup>1</sup> defendant. The bishop's inn at London, 4 May, 1444.

46. Grant, during pleasure, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite persons of the diocese who shall contribute to the building of the college of St. Mary Magdalen in the field called Hateleyfeld,<sup>2</sup> in the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, and to the sustenance of the ministers serving God there, and the poor and infirm persons dwelling there. Collections for the fabric of the cathedral church of Wells are, however, to take precedence of this and all other collections. 29 June, the same place and year.

47. Institution of Sir Walter Roche as rector of the church of Standerwyk, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Smale, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cirencester. Woky, 15 July, 1444.

48. Institution of Sir David Laurence as rector of the church of Telesford, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Masday, on the presentation of Walter Hungerford, knight, lord of Haitebury and Hemet. 4 August, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> Chewstoke.

<sup>2</sup> Battlefield, near Shrewsbury. Dugdale's *Monasticon*, vol. vi. p. 1426. It is called 'Hayteleyfeld' in *Reg. Bubwith*, p. 50.

1444. 49. Institution of Master Richard Laycy, in the person of John Trygodek, his proctor, as rector of the church of Stratton on the Fosse, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Stephens, on the king's presentation.<sup>1</sup> 10 August, the same place and year.

50. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Estryn, vicar of Salisbury cathedral, acolyte, of the bishop's diocese. Dogmersfeld, 19 August, 1444.

51. Process of an exchange of vicarages between Sir John Westmore, vicar of the church of Huyssh, with the chapel of Langport annexed, by John Westmore, his proctor, and William Ponde, vicar of the church of Erchesfont in the diocese of Salisbury :—

*f. 14.* On 20 August, in the manor of Dogmersfeld, the bishop admitted the resignations of the said vicars (quoted), and immediately afterwards,—by authority of a commission from John Druell, doctor of both laws, vicar-general in spirituals of William, bishop of Salisbury, dated at Sunnynge, 19 August, 1444,—instituted Sir John by his said proctor as vicar of the church of Erchesfont, reserving to the bishop of Salisbury the induction of the said vicar and his oath of canonical obedience, and informing the said bishop of his action in the matter, by letters dated at Dogmersfeld, 20 August, 1444, in which the above-mentioned commission is set out in full. And forthwith Sir William Ponde was instituted perpetual vicar of the church of Huyssh, with the chapel of Langport, on the presentation of Thomas Bubwith, archdeacon of Wells, and a letter of induction was written to the dean of Wells or his official.

*f. 15.* 52. Transmission by Robert, bishop of London, of letters patent of John, archbishop of Canterbury, dated at Lamehith manor, 10 August, 1444, summoning the clergy of the province to a convocation to be held in the church of St. Paul, London, on Monday the morrow of St. Luke, to wit 19 October next, in accordance with the king's letters of privy seal dated at Shene manor, 12 July last. Wykham manor, 24 August, 1444.

<sup>1</sup> There is no corresponding entry on the Patent Roll.

53. Notification to John, archbishop of Canterbury, that the bishop, in pursuance of the above summons, has warned the dean of Wells, the prior of Bath, the archdeacons, all abbots and priors having convents under them, and other prelates, exempt and non-exempt, to appear in person at the said convocation, and the chapters of his cathedral churches to appear by one proctor and the clergy of his diocese by two. Woky, 10 October, 1444. 1444.

54. Commission and order to Thomas Roche and Richard Tribon, literates, and all clerks and literates of the diocese, to cite Dan (*dompnum*) Robert de la Vyse, monk, to appear before the bishop in Bath cathedral on 4 September next, to show cause why he should not be declared to have incurred sentence of the greater excommunication for having violated and broken the sequestration imposed by the bishop on the goods, etc. of the priory of Stokecurcy. Dogmersfeld, 29 August, 1444.

55. Request to all the clergy of the diocese to admit the proctors of the hospital of St. Anthony [of Vienne] to ask for alms at mass on Sundays and feast days, suspending meanwhile all lesser masses, preachings of friars and other business, except collections for Wells cathedral, which are to take preference of everything else; and grant of forty days' indulgence to such as help the hospital. Ilchestre, 10 September, 1444.

56. Process of an exchange of benefices between John Jent, vicar of the church of Illebreuer, and John Baron, rector of the church of Burdeleston, in the diocese of Salisbury:—

On 12 September, in the monastery of Mychelney, the bishop during his visitation, by authority of a commission from John Druell, vicar-general of the bishop of Salisbury, and by his own authority as ordinary, authorised the said exchange, instituted John Jent as rector of the church of Burdeleston, reserving to the bishop of Salisbury the induction and canonical obedience of the said rector, and instituted John Baron as vicar of the church of Illebreuer, on the presentation of Thomas Pilton, master of the hospital of St. John, Bruggewater.

57. Licence for Brother Thomas Mertok, bachelor of theology,

1444. monk of the monastery of St. Peter, Michelney, to hear confessions and grant absolution in the diocese; and appointment of him, during pleasure, as the bishop's penitencier. Michelney monastery, 13 September, 1444.

f. 16. 58. Licence, during pleasure, for the same to preach and expound the word of God in Latin and in the vulgar tongue in any church or other suitable place in the diocese, provided his abbot consents. Date as above.

59. On a complaint made to the bishop, at his visitation in the church of St. Mary Magdalen, Taunton, by the parishioners thereof, that William Cogan, perpetual vicar of the church, John Rede, parochial chaplain of the same, John Waleys, chaplain of the chantry of the High Cross, John Baker, chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary, Richard Pomerey, chaplain of the chantry of St. Andrew, and Ralph Hillyng, William Boys, John Benett and John Chymeley, anniversary chaplains (*annualarii*) of the church, have refused and still refuse to observe the ancient custom of the church and the ordinances promulgated by Henry, late archbishop of Canterbury, during the voidance of the bishopric of Bath and Wells, according to which the chaplains celebrating in the church on Sundays and feast days, unless there be there the body of a deceased person or the day be a day of oblation, ought to celebrate their masses successively, to wit the first at the beginning of lauds, the second immediately after matins, the third before the sprinkling of holy water, the fourth at the beginning of high mass, and the fifth and sixth after the reading of the Gospels, so that from the beginning of matins there may always be successive masses being said in the church, and at the time of high mass there may be at least four priests, in addition to the priest celebrating high mass, with his deacon, singing in the choir together with other clerks at the lectern, and moreover on every day of the week, except on Sundays and feast days when full service with neume (*neumate*)<sup>1</sup> is said in the choir, a bell ought to be rung for the mass of the Virgin Mary over the

<sup>1</sup> 'Neume' is defined as 'in plainsong, a prolonged phrase or group of notes sung to a single syllable.'—*New English Dictionary*.

space of a quarter of a mile, and the said mass ought to be celebrated with neume in the lady-chapel every day, except on Sundays and feast days when divine service with note is said in the choir, by the chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary, or a suitable priest in his name, and the vicar of the church, if his cure permits, and all the other priests of the church, in the absence of any lawful and urgent excuse, ought to meet together in their surplices to say the said mass with note, and ought not to wear their hoods at the said mass or any other divine service said with note, unless bodily infirmity or the extreme coldness of the weather or place reasonably excuses them, but ought to be content with their surplices and caps, and moreover they ought not during the said mass, or any service, to wander and pay attention (*ascultantes*) to the walls or windows of the church, but should with devotion and attention read, chant and sing the psalms, so that, even if the body of a deceased person be in the church or an anniversary be to be held on such weekdays, whereby perchance a *requiem* mass must be celebrated with note, nevertheless the celebration of the mass of St. Mary with neume ought not to be omitted, and moreover the said vicar and priests, unless reasonably excused, ought every day in the morning, at the time when the first mass is said at the fifth or sixth hour in the dawn, to meet together in their surplices in the choir and there alternately say matins and the other canonical hours, and ought not to absent themselves in the nave, the churchyard, their chambers, or elsewhere, but should celebrate their masses successively one after the other from hour to hour, and moreover, on the feasts of Easter, the Ascension, Whitsun with the two following days, Holy Trinity, Corpus Christi, St. Mary Magdalen, Relics, the Assumption, the dedication of the church, All Saints, Christmas, St. Stephen, St. John, the Circumcision, Epiphany and the Purification, they ought to say prime immediately after matins with note; the bishop orders all rectors, vicars, chaplains, notaries, clerks and literates in his diocese to warn the said offenders, at mass on some Sunday or feast day in the said parish church, to observe the said custom and ordinances within ten days under pain of the greater excommunication, or else to appear before the bishop in the church of Woky on Thursday after

1444.

1444. Michaelmas next, to show cause why they should not be compelled by ecclesiastical censures to observe the same. Wyvelyscombe, 21 September, 1444.

60. Grant by the bishop of forty days' indulgence to all those who shall grant, bequeath, or assign any of their goods for the maintenance and repair of the hermitage of St. Edmund in Crukhorn, or the chapel of St. Reyne (*Sancte Regine*)<sup>1</sup> near the said town. Athelney monastery, 28 September, 1444.

f. 17. 61. Licence until further order for Dan Richard de Salerna and Dan John de Bona Villa, monks of the priory of St. Mary Magdalen, Goldclyf, in the march of Wales, to celebrate masses and other divine offices in the diocese, provided they do not by pretext hereof exercise the cure of souls or discard their regular habits; as the bishop, having been informed, during his visitation in the parish church of Briggwater, that they were living outside the cloister, against the rule of the order of St. Benedict, and celebrating as above, called on them for an explanation, and they alleged that they had lately been violently ejected from the said priory and were afraid to return, and that they had no way of providing themselves with food and other necessities of life other than by celebrating masses and other divine offices in churches and thus deserving the charitable help of the faithful, and the bishop has found their allegations to be true. Athelney monastery, 27 September, 1444.

62. Commitment to Sir John Bowde, chaplain of the chapel of Stoke on Hamedon, and Hugh Kene, of Mertokey, of the administration of all the goods, etc. of the said chapel and the keeping of the sequestration thereof, as the bishop has suspended Thomas Bisshop, provost thereof, on account of his notorious dilapidations; and order to them to announce the said suspension and sequestration to the said Thomas in person, if they can find him, or otherwise to publish the same in the said chapel at mass on some Sunday or feast day.<sup>2</sup> Chierd, 17 September, 1444.

<sup>1</sup> See *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.* vol. xxxvii. pp. 44-7.

<sup>2</sup> See no. 88 below.

63. Assignment by the bishop to Nicholas Sidenham, late vicar of the church of Coryryvell, with the assent of John Spere, the present vicar, of a yearly pension of 5*l.* for life out of the fruits, etc. of the vicarage ; as the said Nicholas served his vicarage for a long period and in a praiseworthy manner, and the bishop would not have him forced, in his old age and weakness, to beg for the necessities of life, to the disgrace of the clerical order. In the event of the pension not being paid, the bishop or his successors and the presidents of the consistory of Wells may sequestrate the fruits, etc. of the vicarage. Woky, 2 October, 1444. 1444.

64. Collation to Sir William Smyth, chaplain, of the vicarage of the church of Westbury, in the bishop's patronage and vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Fitzwater ; and institution of him as vicar. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 10 October, the same place and year.

65. Institution of Sir John Haydour, chaplain, as vicar of the church of Burnham, vacant by the resignation of Sir Gilbert Copelonde, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Wells. Date as above.

66. Institution of Sir John Combe, chaplain, as rector of the church of Weston Bamfeld, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Haydour,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of William Montagu (*de Monte Acuto*), esquire. Date as above. f. 18.

67. Commission to Sir John Raynald, Sir Stephen Morpathe and Sir John Wandesford, canons of Wells, and Master Thomas Forest, provost, or warden, of the college of St. Cross, Winchester, to act as coadjutors of Sir John Forest, dean of Wells, who was found by the bishop, at his ordinary visitation of the cathedral church of Wells, to be disabled by old age, failing sight and illness from executing his office or managing his affairs. 12 October, the same place and year.

68. Appointment, during pleasure, of John Gauter, the younger, to be bailiff of the bishop's liberties of Bath and Wells,

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.



1444. with all executions of writs and plaints, attachments, forfeitures, escheats, governances of the peace, assizes of bread, ale and all other victuals, and other appurtenances of the office. He may execute the office in person or by sufficient deputy, and he shall receive all the accustomed fees and wages. The bishop's inn at London, 16 October, 1444.

69. Institution of Sir Nicholas Baker, chaplain, as rector of the parish church, or chantry,<sup>1</sup> of Berwyk, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Capron, on the presentation of Ralph, lord of Sudeley, John Beauchamp, knight, Edward Hull and William Walberton, patrons for this turn by reason of a feoffment. 20 October, the same place and year.

70. Commission to Master Robert Tarry, bachelor in decrees, John Gauter and John Lambyn, to audit and determine the accounts of all bailiffs, farmers, reeves and others in the bishop's audit. Dogmersfeld, 26 October, 1444.

71. Institution of Master Walter Lyhert, bachelor in theology,<sup>2</sup> in the person of Master John Selat, bachelor in laws, his proctor, as rector of the church of Hyham, vacant by the death of Master John Sudbury, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. 4 November, the same place and year.

72. Surrender by the bishop to John, abbot, and the convent of St. Albans, of all his estate in the manor of Titenhanger and the hay, services, coals (*carbones*) and other increase thereof, and the manor of Radwell, except lands called 'Celers,' which he and others lately had by demise of John, late abbot, and the convent of St. Albans. The bishop's inn in the suburb of London, 18 October, 1444.

73. Institution of Sir John Gernesey, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Banewell, vacant by the death of Sir John Warner, on the presentation of the prior and convent of St. Mary,

<sup>1</sup> See Batten's *South Somerset*, pp. 21, 22, 24, where, however, the name of the first of the patrons is given wrongly as 'Audley.'

<sup>2</sup> Bishop of Norwich in 1446.

Bruton. By the bishop's order, the said Sir John Gernesey swore on the Gospels that for a whole year he would study every day to understand his divine office and daily service literally and grammatically at least, and during that year maintain in his house at his own expense a young man well-learned in grammar to instruct him. Dogmersfeld, 30 November, 1444. 1444.  
f. 19.

74. Commission to Master William Fulford, the bishop's commissary-general and canon of Wells,—in consequence of the delay or refusal of Sir Richard Glastynbury, prior of St. Mary's priory, Bruton, to show the bishop the state of his priory and produce the books, rolls and accounts thereof, as the bishop in the course of his present visitation ordered him to do,—to admonish and warn him under penalty of the greater excommunication to appear before him (the commissary) in the cathedral church of Wells on Thursday after the Epiphany next and do what is required of him in this respect. Dogmersfeld (no date).

75. Resignation in the bishop's presence by Sir John Carbone, rector of the church of Dogmersfeld, of the said church into the hands of Henry, cardinal-priest of St. Eusebius and bishop of Winchester. Present, Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, and Thomas Brightyeve, clerks, of the dioceses of York and Norwich. Dogmersfeld, 22 December, 1444.

76. Letters testimonial of the above resignation, made under the bishop's seal at the request of the said rector, in the absence of a notary-public. Date as above.

77. Commission to Sir John Raynald and Sir Stephen Morpath, canons of Wells, and Master Thomas Forest, provost, or warden, of the college of St. Cross, Winchester, to require and compel all persons who have received, spent, or administered any of the goods, etc. of Sir John Forest, dean of Wells, to render account thereof, and to audit the said accounts, take process thereon, and do whatever else is necessary or proper in the matter. 1 December, the same place and year.

78. Institution of Sir Richard Hyggys, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Meer, vacant by the death of Sir Oliver 1445.

1445. Mercer, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the guardian of the jurisdiction of the said abbot and convent. Dogmersfeld, 7 January, 1444[-5].  
f. 20.

79. Institution of Sir Henry Martyn, chaplain, in the person of John Tregodes, clerk, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wynscombe, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Bruynyng, on the presentation of Sir John Forest, dean of Wells, and the chapter of Wells. 12 January, the same place and year.

80. Collation to Master Vincent Clement, doctor of theology and papal subdeacon, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe VI. vacant by the death of Master William Berneham. Institution and order for installation accordingly. The bishop's inn at London, 15 January, 1444[-5].

81. Institution of Sir Robert Markes, chaplain, as rector of the church of Capelonde, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Coke, on the presentation of Thomas Herberd, esquire, and Agnes his wife. The bishop's manor at London, 18 January, 1444[-5].

82. On a protestation by Sir Robert Fereby, vicar of the church of Combe,<sup>1</sup> that for fear of bodily torment and unjust detention in prison, and on account of many injuries, vexations and persecutions to which he is subjected, he dare not reside at his church and vicarage until provision be made for his security; the bishop appointed him the next juridical day after Whitsun to appear before him in the chapel of his manor of Woky, in order that justice may be done in the matter of his said protestation. Present, Thomas Est and John Compayn, clerks. Dogmersfeld, 7 February, 1444[-5].

83. Commission to Master William Fulford, canon of Wells and the bishop's commissary-general (and another not named),—in consequence of the presentation by William Palton, knight, of Sir John Coke, chaplain, to the church of Corscombe,—to enquire by the oath of rectors, vicars and other trustworthy persons as to the vacancy, patronage and value of the church,

<sup>1</sup> Combe St. Nicholas.

the suitability of the presentee in birth, knowledge, morals, age and orders, and all the circumstances of the said presentation. 15 February, the same place and year. 1445.

84. Institution of Master Robert Norys, priest, M.A. and scholar of theology, as perpetual vicar of the church of Northpederton, vacant by the death of Sir John Pederton, on the presentation of Brother Robert Botell, master of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. 20 February, the same place and year.

85. Licence for Master Thomas Bubbewith, archdeacon of Wells, to exercise his archidiaconal jurisdiction notwithstanding the bishop's visitation as ordinary, with reservation to the bishop of the correction and reformation of abuses detected in his said visitation. The bishop's inn at London, 23 February, 1444[-5].

86. Licence, during pleasure, for Master Robert Norys, M.A. and scholar of theology, to preach the word of God in Latin and in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese. Date as above.

87. Assignment to Sir William Boteler, late vicar of the church of Huyssh, with the assent of Sir William Ponde, the present vicar, of a yearly pension of 100s. for life out of the fruits, etc. of the vicarage; as the said Sir William served his cure for a long time in a praiseworthy manner, and the bishop would not have him forced, in his old age and weakness, to beg for the necessities of life, to the disgrace of the clerical order. In the event of the pension not being paid, the bishop or his successors and the presidents of the consistory of Wells may sequestrate the fruits of the vicarage. Athelney, 27 September, 1444. 1444.  
f. 21.

88. Commission to Sir William Stevenys, precentor of Wells, to rule and govern the college of St. Nicholas, Stoke under Hamedon, with power to levy and receive the fruits, rents and proceeds thereof, satisfy the creditors thereof, grant dispensations for a time to Sir Thomas Busshop, late provost thereof, and Sir John Bowe and Sir William Tiler, his fellows, from celebrating obits (*annualia*) and keeping their parochial cures, and

1444. do whatever else he shall think advantageous for the college ; as the bishop in his visitation has found that the college, owing to the carelessness, dilapidation and bad governance of the said provost, is reduced to an extremity of poverty, so that all the books, vestments, chalices and precious jewels are in the hands of creditors, the walls and buildings are ruinous, the fruits, rents and annual proceeds are insufficient to satisfy the creditors and support the charges of the hospital, and the brethren openly go about in rags (*lacero apparatu*) and are compelled by poverty and lack of food to flee from the college and seek food and clothing elsewhere, as has happened in the said college before. The late provost, recognising his uselessness and unworthiness, has resigned his provostship, and the bishop has accepted his resignation.<sup>1</sup> Wells palace, 9 October, 1444.

1445. 89. Transmission by the bishop to the archdeacon of Taunton or his official, for execution in his archdeaconry, of a writ of summons, dated at Westminster, 13 January, 23 Henry VI, to the parliament to be held at Westminster on 25 February next.<sup>2</sup> Dogmersfeld, 18 January, 1444[-5].

f. 22. The like to the dean and chapter of Wells. Date as above.  
The like to the prior and chapter of Bath. Date as above.

90. Commission to James, bishop of Achonry, to dedicate, consecrate and bless the conventual church built by the Friars Minors of Bruggewater, and the ground set apart for the churchyard thereof. 19 January, the same place and year.

91. Commission to the same to reconcile the church of Frome and the churchyard thereof, which have been polluted by violent shedding of blood. Date as above.

92. Request to the king to take action in accordance with the custom of the realm against Roger Norys, of Hill Episcopi, and Katharine his servant, who, for their manifold contumacies

<sup>1</sup> Nevertheless, a vacancy in the provostship of this college in 1460, more than fifteen years later, is stated to have been caused by the death of Thomas Bisshoppe, no. 1279.

<sup>2</sup> *Report on the Dignity of a Peer*, vol. iv. p. 907.

and offences in a judicial matter concerning the correction of their souls, have incurred sentence of the greater excommunication, and have continued for forty days and more in such sentence, despising the keys of Holy Church. 20 January, the same place and year. 1445.

93. Commission to Master John Barnard, the bishop's vicar in spirituals, and Master William Fulford, the bishop's commissary-general,—inasmuch as the bishop in his late visitation has found that some of the vicarages in the diocese are so poorly endowed that the vicars, who are bound by oath in accordance with the legatine constitutions to reside in person and continually, cannot suitably maintain themselves and pay the episcopal dues and other charges incumbent on them,—to enquire by the oath of rectors, vicars and other trustworthy persons as to the yearly value of the portions of such vicarages and the amount required for the support of the vicars and the payment of the charges. They are to inform the bishop of their action in the matter before 1 August next. 21 January, the same place and year.

94. Institution of Sir John Cooke, chaplain, as rector of the church of Corsecombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Snyffenore, on the presentation of William Palton, knight, found by inquisition to be the true patron.<sup>1</sup> The bishop's inn at London, 28 February, 1444[-5].

95. Institution of Sir John Lilye, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Yevell, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Stone, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of the monastery of St. Saviour, St. Mary the Virgin and St. Bridget, of Syon, in the diocese of London. 1 March, the same place and year.

96. Collation to William Dayfote, clerk, of the church of Clouesworth, which is in the bishop's collation for this turn on account of the insufficient age of the said William, presented by the prior and convent of Montagu (*de Monte Acuto*), as appears by his confession; and institution of him as rector. An apostolic

<sup>1</sup> See no. 83 above.

1445. dispensation was first obtained. 2 March, the same place and year.

f. 23. 97. Commission to Master William Fulford, canon of Wells and the bishop's commissary-general, and Master Robert Tarry, bachelor in laws,—on information that Sir John Wandesford, who was appointed, with Sir John Raynald, Sir Stephen Morpath and Master Thomas Forest, to be a coadjutor to Sir John Forest, dean of Wells (no. 67 above), is behaving suspiciously and improperly in his said office, spending day and night in the dean's house with his familiars and servants, providing himself and his household with food and drink there, and refusing to render account to his above-mentioned fellow-coadjutors touching the goods, fruits, rents and proceeds belonging to the dean which he received, expended and administered in former years, or to show them the dean's treasure deposited with him,—to announce to the said Sir John that he has been removed by the bishop from his said office, inhibiting him under penalty of the greater excommunication from henceforth administering the goods, etc. of the dean, or entering the dean's house at the dean's cost, as for instance to dine or spend the night there or for any similar purpose, without leave of his fellow-coadjutors, and citing him to appear before them (the addressees) and the said coadjutors in the chapel of St. Mary by the cloister of Wells cathedral on the 12th day after the said citation, or the first juridical day thereafter, to render account of the said goods, etc. and produce and hand over to his fellow-coadjutors the treasure, moneys and goods of the dean which are in his hands or custody. They are also, in conjunction with the said coadjutors, to audit the account of the said Sir John and proceed against him thereon as justice requires. 10 March, the same place and year.

98. Institution of Sir John Croft, priest, as rector of the church of Nettelcombe, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Urneys, on the presentation of Joan Ralegh. 12 March, the same place and year.

f. 24. 99. The king's writ <sup>1</sup> to the bishop ordering him to appoint

<sup>1</sup> Fine Roll, 23 Hen. VI, m. 17.

some trustworthy persons of the clergy of his diocese to levy and collect in his said diocese the entire tenth of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions with certain exceptions, payable in moieties at Midsummer next and Midsummer 1446, which was granted to the king by the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury in their last convocation in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, begun on Monday 19 October last and continued until 26 October. Westminster, 4 March, 23 Henry VI. 1445.

100. Commission to the abbot and convent of Athelney to collect the first moiety of the above-mentioned tenth from all ecclesiastical goods and benefices in the diocese which are taxed and accustomed to pay tenths, except from benefices of the poor nuns of Canyngton and Barowe and the other taxed benefices specified in the annexed schedule, which by the terms of the grant in convocation are to be relieved on this occasion from payment of the said moiety on account of their poverty; and also to collect the said moiety from the goods and benefices not taxed or accustomed to pay tenths which are also specified in the said schedule, in accordance with the estimate of their annual value noted therein. Dogmersfeld, 23 March, 1444[-5]. f. 25.

(Schedules :—

(1) The list of benefices not taxed which are to pay on this occasion is the same as that given on pp. 112-13 of *Stafford's Register* with the following omissions :—

Deanery of Axbrugg. The vicarage of Eastbrent.

Deanery of Bath. The vicarage of St. Mary de Stallis.

Deanery of Mershton. The vicarage of Henstrugg.

Deanery of Ilchestre. The church of Pytteney and the vicarage of Kyngesbury.

(2) The list of taxed benefices which are not to pay on this occasion on account of poverty is the same as that given on pp. 114-15 of *Stafford's Register*.)

101. On 23 March in the manor of Dogmersfeld the bishop appointed the abbot and convent of Glastonbury to be collectors of the second moiety of the above-mentioned tenth, which must be paid at Midsummer 1446.



1445. 102. Notification by the bishop to the treasurer and barons  
 f. 26. of the Exchequer of the appointment of the above collectors.  
 Dogmersfeld, 30 April, 1445.

103. Commission to Master William Fulford, canon of Wells and the bishop's commissary-general, and Master William North, bachelor in both laws, to enquire as to the vacancy of the church of Brusshford owing to the death of Sir John Waryn, late rector, the right of patronage thereto, and the merits of Sir John Warton, chaplain, presented thereto by Joan Crosse, sometime the wife of John Crosse. 5 April, the same place and year.

104. Institution of Brother Thomas Abendon, Augustinian Friar, inceptor of theology, as rector of the church of Creket Malerbe, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Peret, on the presentation of John Dynham, knight. After admission, the said Thomas swore on the Gospels, under a penalty of 20*l.* payable to the bishop, to secure him against trouble on account of his admission. 6 April, the same place and year.

105. Commission to Master William Fulford and Master William North to enquire as to the vacancy of the church of Blakeford and the right of patronage thereto; at the instance of Sir Thomas Syryth, chaplain, who has been presented to the said church, lately held by Sir John Kent, chaplain, but now vacant by the latter's possession of another incompatible benefice, by Edmund Hungerford, knight, guardian of all the lands late of Margaret late the wife of William Cheyne, knight, which are in the king's wardship by reason of the minority of Thomas, kinsman and heir of the said Margaret, and John Seymour (*de Sancto Mauro*), esquire, sometime her husband.<sup>1</sup> 7 April, the same place and year.

106. Transmission to the bishop by Robert, bishop of London,

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Seymour (*de Sancto Mauro*), the king's esquire, son and heir of John Seymour, esquire, deceased, kinsman and heir of Margaret, relict of Sir William Cheyne, had livery of her lands, in 1448. *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-52, p. 181. See also *Somerset Fines*, 9 Hen. IV, no. 15; 18 Hen. VI, no. 50; Inq. post mortem, 21 Hen. VI, no. 37; *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1441-6, pp. 153, 168.

of letters of John, archbishop of Canterbury, dated at Lamehith manor, 14 March, 1444[-5], ordering the bishops of the province to call together the clergy of their dioceses and obtain their consent to the grant of a notable sum in aid of the army and fleet which Pope Eugenius and other Christian princes have prepared for the defence of the Christian faith against the Saracens and Turks. The pope has demanded for this purpose a tenth of all profits and rents of ecclesiastical benefices and administrations throughout the world, and the king, while not falling in with the said demand (*etsi non secundum formam indiccionis predicte*), has nevertheless expressed a wish that the bishops should freely and spontaneously attempt in some sort to satisfy the wishes of the pope so far as is possible, notwithstanding the very heavy charges for the defence of the church and the wars which have lasted for so many years and are not yet ended. The money collected is to be paid by the collectors appointed in the various dioceses to the official of the court of Canterbury on 10 May next. Stebenbeth manor, 24 March, 1444[-5].

1445.

f. 27.

107. Commission and strict injunction to Master John Bernard, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals, to carry out the archbishop's order with all speed, the bishop himself being prevented from doing so because of his absence in distant parts on urgent business. He is to report to the bishop before 30 April. Dogmersfeld, 3 April, 1445.

108. Notification to the bishop by the said Master John Bernard that the beneficed clergy of the diocese have agreed to pay *1d.* in the mark on all their ecclesiastical administrations and benefices, as is contained in the enclosed schedule, except Nicholas Frome, abbot of Glastonbury, who has been ordered to appear before the archbishop on 4 May next in the manor of Lamehith. The archdeacons and their officials have been appointed collectors in the various archdeaconries. Wells, 29 April, 1445. Enclosed schedule <sup>1</sup> :—

<sup>1</sup> In the following list the place-names refer to churches (*i.e.* rectories), unless otherwise stated. The list may be compared with that of 1428, when the levy was at a much higher rate. *Feudal Aids*, vol. iv. pp. 345-418.

## 1445. (1) Archdeaconry of Wells.

Dean of Wells, 12s. 6*d.*; chapter of Wells, 44s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*; precentorship there, 2s. 6*d.*; chancellorship there, 3s. 4*d.*; treasurer-ship there, 4s. 2*d.*; archdeacon of Wells, 8s. 4*d.*; provost of Wells, 5s.; subdean of Wells, 2s. 6*d.*; succentorship of Wells, 8*d.*; prebends of Wedmour, II, III, IV and V, 6*d.* each; prebend of Bokelond, 15*d.*; prebend of Haselbere, 15*d.*; prebend of Wansdestre, 8*d.*; prebend of Dulcote, 10*d.*; prebend of Wormystre, 10*d.*; prebend of Lytton, 10*d.*; prebend of Dyner, 6*d.*; prebend of Whitchurche, 12*d.*; prebend of Compton Dundene, 15*d.*; vicarage of St. Cuthbert, Wells, 10*d.*; prebend of Hengrigge, 2s. 1*d.*

## Deanery of Axbrugg.

Barowes,<sup>1</sup> 2s. 1*d.*; Axbrugg, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; Blakedon, 12*d.*; Estbrent, 2s. 6*d.*; Lymsham, 20*d.*; Bagworth, 20*d.*; Were, 14*d.*; Were (vicarage), 7*d.*; Lokkyn, 6*d.*; Custoke,<sup>2</sup> 8*d.*; Huphull, 10*d.*; Weston, 10*d.*; Bledon, 2s. 1*d.*; Loxston, 12*d.*; Hutton, 10*d.*; Congesbury (vicarage), 20*d.*; Stoke,<sup>3</sup> 8*d.*; Shepham, 8*d.*; Brene, 8*d.*; Woky (vicarage), 10*d.*; Westbury (vicarage), 10*d.*; Wedmour (vicarage), 15*d.*; Southbrent (vicarage), 10*d.*; Barowes (vicarage), 8*d.*; Burneham (vicarage), 15*d.*; Wynscomb (vicarage), 8*d.*; Worle (vicarage), 8*d.*; Banwell (vicarage), 15*d.*; Custoke (vicarage), 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; Compton Episcopi (vicarage), 8*d.*; Blakeford (free chapel), 5*d.*; Compton Episcopi (prebend), 2s. 6*d.*; Estbrent (vicarage), 10*d.*; Flexby (prior),<sup>4</sup> 20*d.*; Chedder (vicarage), 12*d.*; Winchester (prior), 13*d.*; Stanly (prior), 7*d.*

## Deanery of Frome.

f.28. Frome, 2s. 11*d.*; Mersshton, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; Frome (vicarage), 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; Wansdestre, 10*d.*; Bekynton, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; Rode, 7*d.*; Wolfrington, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; Farley, 9*d.*; Henton, 14*d.*; Norton Comitib,<sup>5</sup> 15*d.*; Laverton, 15*d.*; Lullyngton, 9*d.*; Orchardlegh, 9*d.*; Hemyngton, 19*d.*; Welowe, 3s.; Welowe (vicarage), 13*d.*; Comb Hawey, 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*; Dunkerton, 12*d.*; Camelerton, 18*d.*; Foxcote, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; Wrethelyngton, 8*d.*; Cameley, 10*d.*; Chewton, 2s. 8*d.*;

<sup>1</sup> Berrow.<sup>2</sup> Kewstoke.<sup>3</sup> Stoke Gifford, now Rodney Stoke.<sup>4</sup> Flaxley, co. Gloucester. The abbey had property at Regilbury, near Nempnett.<sup>5</sup> Midsomer Norton.

Chewton (pension of the church of St. Andrew, Wells), 3s. 1d. ; 1445.  
 Chewton (vicarage), 12d. ; Chewton (pension of the prior of Haylyng), 5d. ; Eston Minor,<sup>1</sup> 6½d. ; Stratton, 9d. ; Mellys, 2s. 10½d. ; Watley, 15d. ; Nony, 17d. ; Radestoke, 13d. ; Radestoke (pension of the prior of Bath), 4d. ; Norton Canonorum,<sup>2</sup> 2s. 7¼d. ; Norton (vicarage), 8d. ; Clofford, 5½d. ; Clofford (vicarage), 2½d. ; Roddon, 6d. ; Ekforton,<sup>3</sup> 1d. ; Berkeley (chapel), 6d. ; Standerwyk, 6d. ; Babyngton, 6d. ; Thelysford, 8d. ; Hardyington, 4d. ; Holcomb, 4d. ; Kynmersdon (vicarage), 6d. ; Elme, 6d. ; Henton (vicarage), 6d. ; Bokelond Denham (vicarage), 8d. ; Bradeley (prior), 2¼d. ; Henton (prior), 6s. 4¼d. ; Benanger, 8½d.

#### Deanery of Cary.

Shepton Malet, 2s. 6d. ; Dultyng (vicarage), 20d. ; Batcomb, 16d. ; Lameyate, 11d. ; Culmyngton, 20d. ; Cokelyngton, 10d. ; Charlton Mychelgrace, 6d. ; Wyncauleton, 12d. ; Maperton with chapel, 18d. ; Compton Paunsfote, 10d. ; Northe Cadbury, 20d. ; South Cadbury, 10d. ; South Montagu, 8d. ; Sparkeford, 8d. ; Weston,<sup>4</sup> 7½d. ; Babbecary, 20d. ; Kynwardston,<sup>5</sup> 7d. ; Barton, 16d. ; Alludeford,<sup>6</sup> 7d. ; Dycheyate, 2s. 6d. ; Yarlinton, 12d. ; Brotton, 7½d. ; Shepton Montagu, 8d. ; Estludford, 10d. ; Westludford, 10d. ; Evercryche (vicarage), 9d. ; Pilton (vicarage), 7½d. ; Kynwarston (prior of Bermondsey), 4s. ¾d. ; Whitham (Carthusian prior), 7s. 2d. ; Bruton (prior), 24s. 8½d. ; Corscombe, 12d. ; Spartgrove, 8d. ; Penne,<sup>7</sup> 7½d. ; Horne Blowton, 10d. ; Almysford,<sup>8</sup> 7½d. ; Northebarowe, 8d. ; Kyngton, 8d. ; Estpennard (vicarage), 10d. ; Barton (vicarage), 7d. ; Halton, 6d. ; Whetehull, 6d. ; Pille, 3d. ; Blakeford, 13d. ; Cary (vicarage), 15d. ; Stoke Trystre, 8d.

#### Deanery of Mersshton.

Yevell, 3s. 2½d. ; Yevell (vicarage), 7½d. ; Westcoker, 18½d. ; Croston<sup>9</sup> and Ilchestre (abbot of Shirbourne), 8d. ; Sutton Byng-  
 ham, 7d. ; Clowesworth, 10d. ; Trente, 2s. 6d. ; Rampton, 18d. ; Sampford, 15d. ; Poyntyngton, 12d. ; Mylbourneport, 2s. 3d. ;

<sup>1</sup> Stoneaston.

<sup>2</sup> Norton St. Philip.

<sup>3</sup> Egforton *alias* Fair oak, united with Berkeley in 1460.

<sup>4</sup> Weston Bampfylde.

<sup>5</sup> Kingweston. <sup>6</sup> Alford.

<sup>7</sup> Penselwood.

<sup>8</sup> Ansford.

<sup>9</sup> Corton Denham.

1445. Mylbourneport (vicarage), 8*d.*; Gotehull, 6½*d.*; Comb Temple, 14*d.*; Horsyngton, 20*d.*; Chyryton, 6½*d.*; Stowell, 7*d.*; Charleton Canvile,<sup>1</sup> 20*d.*; Charleton Canvile<sup>1</sup> (vicarage), 10*d.*; Corston, 20*d.*; Estcammell, 2*s.*; Chilton, 15*d.*; Astyngton, 10*d.*; Merssh-ton, 2*s.* 1*d.*; Modeford (vicarage), 10*d.*; Merssh-ton (vicarage), 8*d.*; Hengthrygge (vicarage), 8*d.*; Estcoker (vicarage), 10*d.*; Kyngeston by Yevell (free chapel), 8*d.*; Trente (prior of Stodelley), 6*d.*; Comb<sup>2</sup> (abbess of Shaftesbury), 15*d.*; Estcammell (vicarage), 20*d.*; Westcammell, 20*d.*

#### Deanery of Ilchestre.

Alre, 20*d.*; Hyehamme, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Somerton (vicarage), 7½*d.*; Kyngesdon, 21*d.*; Tyntenhull, 2*s.* 1*d.*; Charleton Makerell, 2*s.* 1*d.*; Mylton, 15*d.*; Yevellon, 2*s.* 11*d.*; Lymmyngton, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Odecomb, 2*s.* 10*d.*; Hardyngton, 20*d.*; Brympton, 15*d.*; Perett, 10*d.*; Chynnokbelli,<sup>3</sup> 15*d.*; Norton, 15*d.*; Martok (vicarage), 7½*d.*; Stokke,<sup>4</sup> 12*d.*; Stoke,<sup>5</sup> 20*d.*; Cheselburgh, 2*s.* 3½*d.*; Montagu (vicarage), 7½*d.*; Stoke (vicarage), 10*d.*; Hewis (vicarage), 7*d.*; Langsutton (vicarage), 7½*d.*; Ilchestre, church of St. Mary the Greater, 8*d.*; Kyngesbury (vicarage), 15*d.*; Estchynnok (vicarage), 8*d.*; Compton Dundene (vicarage), 8*d.*; Pitteney, 8*d.*; Mochelney (vicarage), 6*d.*; Charleton Adam (vicarage), 5*d.*; Lutton,<sup>6</sup> 6*d.*; Penne,<sup>7</sup> 6*d.*; Northe Over (vicarage), 5*d.*; Ilchester, church of St. John, 4*d.*; Ilchester, church of St. Mary the Less, 3*d.*; Ilchester, church of St. Michael, 2*d.*; Mochelney (abbot), 12*s.* 1¾*d.*; Montagu (prior), 19*s.* 6¾*d.*

#### Deanery of Powlet.

Honspyll, 3*s.* 11*d.*; Puryton (vicarage), 6½*d.*; Bawderype, 15*d.*; Cosyngton, 10*d.*; Grayngton, 7*d.*; Wollyngton (prior of Goldcliff), 22½*d.* (*sic*); Powlett (vicarage), 8*d.*; Wullavyngton (vicarage), 8*d.*

#### Jurisdiction of Glastonbury.

Abbot of Glastonbury with the official there and the church of Strete, 7*l.* 3*s.* 11¾*d.*; Aysshcote (vicarage), 7*d.*; Sowe (vicarage), 13*d.*; Mere (vicarage), 9*d.*; Myrlynche (vicarage), 8*d.*

<sup>1</sup> Charlton Horethorne.

<sup>2</sup> Templecombe.

<sup>3</sup> Middle Chinnock.

<sup>4</sup> Sock Dennis.

<sup>5</sup> Stoke under Hamdon.

<sup>6</sup> Lufton.

<sup>7</sup> Pendermer.

## (2) Archdeaconry of Taunton.

1445.  
f. 29.

## Deanery of Crukerne.

Crukern (first portion), 4s. 2d.; Crukern (second portion), 16d.; Crukern (third portion), 10d.; Pederton (vicarage), 10d.; Myr-  
yette, 20d.; Henton,<sup>1</sup> 10d.; Staple, 8d.; Bokelond, 8d.; Dolyssh-  
wake, 8d.; Dunyate, 8d.; Cory Malett, 15d.; Cory Ryvell,  
2s. 6d.; Staunton,<sup>2</sup> 8d.; Pokyngton, 10d.; Shepton Becham,  
10d.; Dynyngton, 10d.; Kyngeston, 20d.; abbot of Forde, in  
Wynsham, Crykette and elsewhere, 4s. 10½d.; Aysshull (prebend),  
20d.; Whitlokynghon (prebend), 18d.; Codeworth (prebend),  
10d.; Bradon,<sup>3</sup> 8d.; Cryket Thomas, 8d.; Chafcombe, 13d.;  
Chierde (vicarage), 13d.; Ilmyster (vicarage), 15d.; Cory  
Ryvell (vicarage), 13d.; Hatche, 12½d.; Bere, 7½d.; Myryette  
(vicarage), 10d.; Fyffhede (vicarage), 9d.; Comb St. Nicholas  
(vicarage), 10d.; Wynsham, 8d.; Crukern (free chapel in the  
churchyard), 7½d.

## Deanery of Taunton.

Chedon, 10d.; Comb Flory, 6d. and ½ farthing; Monketon,  
2s. 6d.; Bradeford, 20d.; Oke, 7½d.; Aysshbrytell, 15d.;  
Thorne Fawkyn, 10d.; Lydeyerd Laurence, 14d.; Bagburgh,  
15d.; Norton,<sup>4</sup> 2s. 6d.; Sampford Arundel, 7d.; Pytmyster  
(vicarage), 6½d.; Welyngton (vicarage), 20d.; Cryche (vicarage),  
2s. 6d.; North Cory (vicarage), 20d.; Milverton (vicarage), 9d.;  
Orcherd, 8d.; Hethfeld, 7½d.; Kyngeston (vicarage), 12½d.;  
Bradeford (vicarage), 13d.; Sampford (vicarage), 7½d.; Halssh  
(vicarage), 10d.; Lydeyerd Episcopi (vicarage), 10d.; Kytesford,  
12½d.; Ronyngton, 6d.; Preston by Mulverton (prior of Gold-  
clyff), 17d.; Taunton (prior), 18s. 4d.; Taunton (prebend), 6d.;  
Taunton (archdeacon), 8s. 4d.; Comb I—XV. (prebends), 8d.  
each; Mulverton II. (prebend), 8d.; Cory (prebend), 1½d.

## Deanery of Dunster.

Brysford, 9d.; Hawkerygg, 12d.; Exford, 10d.; Exton, 10d.;  
Porloke, 12½d.; Laucomb,<sup>5</sup> 12½d.; Wotton, 7¼d.; Selworth,  
6½d.; Netelcomb, 12d.; Elworth, 6½d.; Brompton Raff, 10d.;  
Cloteworthy, 7½d.; Huyssh,<sup>6</sup> 8d.; Westquantok, 6½d.; Skilgate,

<sup>1</sup> Hinton St. George.<sup>2</sup> Whitestaunton.<sup>3</sup> Either South Bradon or, less probably, Gosebradon.<sup>4</sup> Norton Fitzwarren.<sup>5</sup> Luccombe.<sup>6</sup> Huish Champflower.

1445. 13*d.*; Dulverton (vicarage), 13*d.*; Brompton Regis (vicarage), 13*d.*; Mynhede (vicarage), 20*d.*; Stokegomour (vicarage), 13*d.*; Cudecomb (vicarage), 12½*d.*; Wydecomb, 13*d.*; Treburgh, 8*d.*; Sampford,<sup>1</sup> 10*d.*; Tymberscomb (vicarage), 7½*d.*; Caramton (vicarage), 8*d.*; Wyveliscomb (vicarage), 6½*d.*; St. Decumans (vicarage), 7*d.*; Wynford (vicarage), 9*d.*; Berliche (prior), 3*s.* 7*d.*; Exford (abbot of Nethe), 3¾*d.*; Exton (abbess of Wilton), 3½*d.*; Dunster (prior), 3*s.* 10*d.*; Cliva (abbot), 5*s.* 10½*d.*; Weveliscomb (prebend), 3*s.* 4*d.*; Tymberscomb (prebend), 8*d.*

Deanery of Bruggewater.

Bruggewater (vicarage), 8*d.*; Quantokkeshede, 16*d.*; Culve, 16*d.*; Oterhamton, 7½*d.*; Chedesey, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Northpederton (vicarage), 10½*d.*; Ayssholte, 7½*d.*; Crauucumb, 16*d.*; Spaxston, 20*d.*; Chilton, 8*d.*; Chardelynche, 7*d.*; Athelney (abbot), 12*s.* 3*d.*; Stokeurcy (prior), 4*s.* 4½*d.*; Stowye, Stokelond and elsewhere (master of Cawntys),<sup>2</sup> 5*s.* 11*d.*; Fydyngton, 12½*d.*; Gotehurston, 12½*d.*; Wemedon, 8*d.*; Canyngton (vicarage), 8*d.*; Leng (vicarage), 8*d.*

(3) Archdeaconry of Bath.

Deanery of Bath.

Bath (prior), 7*s.* 3½*d.*; Kelveston, 14*d.*; Langryg, 9*d.*; Swanneswyke, 8*d.*; Charlecomb, 6½*d.*; Forde (vicarage),<sup>3</sup> 6½*d.*; Claverton, 14*d.*; Wyke Abbatisse,<sup>4</sup> 8*d.*; Walcote, 9½*d.*; Newton, 18*d.*; Wyke (abbess of Wherwyll), 18½*d.*; Kelveston (abbess of Shaftesbury), 2*s.* 11*d.*; Bathe Eston, with the pension of the sacristan of Bath therein, 16*d.*; Ford, 13*d.*; Hampton,<sup>5</sup> 10½*d.*; Hampton (pension of the abbess of Wherwyll), 1*d.*; Hampton (pension of the prior of Bath), 1*d.*; St. Mary of Stallys, with the pension, 7¾*d.*; St. Mary de Stallys (pension of the farmer of Bath therein), ½*d.*; Northstoke, 10*d.*; St. Michael without the gate of Bath, 12*d.*; St. Mary within the gate, 8*d.*; St. James, 10*d.*; Weston (vicarage), 12*d.*; Southstoke (vicarage), 6*d.*; Tweverton (vicarage), 8*d.*; Stallys (vicarage), 12*d.*; Ynglecomb (vicarage),<sup>6</sup> 7½*d.*; Bath Eston (vicarage), 12*d.*; Ynglecomb, 6½*d.*; Ynglecomb (pension of the prior of Bermondesey therein), 2¾*d.*

<sup>1</sup> Sampford Brett.

<sup>2</sup> Gaunt.

<sup>3</sup> Bathford.

<sup>4</sup> Bathwick, a prebend of the abbey of Wherwell, co. Hants.

<sup>5</sup> Bathampton.

<sup>6</sup> Englishcombe.

## Deanery of Readclyff.

1445.

Chewe, 4s. 2d.; pension of the nuns of Barowes, 2d.; Salford, 6½d.; Corston with the pension, 8d.; Tymbesburgh, 10d.; Tymbesburgh (prior of Farley), 1½d.; Clopton, 8d.; Farneburgh, 14d.; Prusshton, 7d.; Merkysbury, 7½d.; Compton f. 30. Dando, 7½d.; Staunton Drewe, 18½d.; Westharptre, 13d.; Compton Martyn with the chapel, 14d.; Weryngton<sup>1</sup> with the chapel, 2s. 6d.; Kyngeston Saymour, 20d.; Clyvedon, 12d.; Stoke upon Sea (*super mare*),<sup>2</sup> 7½d.; Porteshede, 13d.; Portebury, 15d.; Tykenham, 9d.; Wroxale with the chapel, 2s. 8d.; Backewell, 7½d.; St. John, Bristol (prior), 7½d.; Kaynesham with the chapel, 4s. 2d.; Kaynesham (vicarage), 7½d.; Aysshton,<sup>3</sup> 17d.; Bedmyster with the chapel, 5s. 10d.; Bedemyster (vicarage), 8d.; Wynfreth, 15d.; Burnet (abbot of Tweekysbury), 8d.; Pridy (abbot of Bruern), 3d.; Bedmyster (abbot of Whitlond), 1½d.; Portbury (prior of Brynmour), 9d.; Stanley (abbot), 2¾d.; Brokeley, 8d.; Chelvey, 8d.; Obley, 15d.; Norton Malereward, 8d.; Staunton Priour, 12½d.; Clutton, 12d.; Burnett, 8d.; Backewell (vicarage), 8d.; Temple, Bristol (vicarage), 10d.; Yatton (vicarage), 15d.; Clyffdon (vicarage), 10d.; Eston (vicarage),<sup>4</sup> 7½d.; Westharptre (vicarage), 8d.; Aysshton (vicarage), 10d.; Portbury (vicarage), 10d.; Staunton Drewe (vicarage), 12d.; Compton Dando (vicarage), 8d.; Yatton (prebend), 4s. 7d.; Harptre (prebend), 12d.; Eston (prebend), 12d.; Bath (archdeacon), 15d.

109. Notification by the bishop to John, archbishop of Canterbury, of the above grant by the clergy of his diocese. Dogmersfeld, 8 May, 1445.

110. Commission to Master William Fulford and Master William North to enquire as to the vacancy of the church of Brussford and the right of patronage thereto; at the instance of Sir John Erle, chaplain, who has been presented thereto on the death of Sir John Waryn by John Ryphey and Thomasia Lawer, who claim to be patrons. Joan sometime the wife of

<sup>1</sup> Wrington.<sup>2</sup> Now called Walton in Gordano.<sup>3</sup> Long Ashton.<sup>4</sup> Easton in Gordano.



1445. John Crosse, who also claims to be sole patron, is to be specially summoned to the enquiry, as well as Sir John Warton, her presentee. 12 April, the same place and year.

111. On 22 April in Dogmersfeld manor, the bishop, on production to him of the presentation of Sir Thomas Halton, chaplain, to the church of Lambroke by the dean and chapter of Wells, forwarded it by Master William North to Master John Bernard, vicar-general in spirituals, with a verbal commission to institute the said presentee, give orders for his induction, and do whatever else is requisite, provided he be found suitable in age, morals and knowledge.

112. The like commission, etc. in regard to the presentation of Sir Laurence Pyle, chaplain, to the church of Thurlacston by the prior and convent of Taunton. Date as above.

113. Institution of Sir John Corbet, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Milbourneport, vacant by the death of Sir Nicholas Wygenale, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Mary's, Cirencestre. 24 April, the same place and year.

- f. 31. 114. Licence for Master Thomas Warde, archdeacon of Bath, to exercise his archidiaconal jurisdiction notwithstanding the bishop's visitation as ordinary, provided he do or attempt nothing to the prejudice of that visitation. The correction and reformation of abuses discovered during the visitation is specially reserved to the bishop. The bishop's inn at London, 11 May, 1445.

115. Request to the king to give orders in accordance with the custom of the realm for the arrest of Brother Robert Vise *alias* Veyse, a Benedictine monk professed in the cathedral church of Bath, who is convicted of the sin of apostacy and refuses to obey the bishop's admonitions to return to his cloister. Dogmersfeld, 14 May, 1445.

116. Institution of Sir John Payn, bachelor in decrees, as rector of the church of Stoke upon Sea (*super mare*),<sup>1</sup> on the pre-

<sup>1</sup> Now called Walton in Gordano.

sensation of John More and Richard Roucetre. The bishop's inn at London, 29 May, 1445.

117. Institution of Sir John Reysseton, chaplain, in the person of Thomas Berewyke, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Pytteney, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Mille, on the presentation of John Gounter, esquire. The said proctor signed two bonds in 20*l.* to secure the bishop against trouble in regard to the right of patronage. 2 June, the same place and year.

118. Institution of Sir Thomas David, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Corston, vacant by the death of Sir William Drayton, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. Date as above.

119. On 3 June, in the parlour within the bishop's inn at London, Thomas Est, clerk, paid 11*l.* 5*s.* in the bishop's name to Master John Castilionus, collector of the fruits due to the apostolic chamber in England, by the hands of Henry Colsterman, the said collector's clerk, on account of Peter's Pence due to the said chamber from the church of Bath for the year 1444; and the said Henry thereupon delivered to the bishop, by the hands of Thomas Est, an acquittance sealed with his round seal in red wax and dated as above. There were present Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, and William Langton, clerk, notary-public.

120. Inhibition to the abbot of Glastonbury against attempting anything to the prejudice of the bishop's visitation of his abbey, and order to him to revoke anything already attempted in that behalf; as it has come to the bishop's knowledge that, although the correction and reformation of the abuses in the abbey which he has discovered during his ordinary visitation, but has been unable hitherto to correct and reform owing to pressure of business, ought by right to pertain to him, the abbot has made many attempts to correct and reform the same and daily threatens to do so in future. The bishop's inn at London, 10 June, 1445.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Correspondence*, vol. ii. pp. 338, 339.

1445. 121. On 20 June, 1445, the bishop, immediately after celebrating high mass in the chapel of Dogmersfeld manor, at the urgent prayer of Stephen Coye, an unmarried man of his diocese, who desired to lead the life of a hermit all his days, serving his Creator in perpetual chastity, admitted, ratified and approved the profession of the said Stephen which he read with the utmost devotion from a sheet of parchment held in his hand, as follows :—  
*f. 32.* ‘ In the name of the Fadre, of the Sonne and of the Holy Goost, Amen. I, Stephyn Coye, single man not wedded, in youre presence, reverend fader in Gode, Thomas bisshopp of Bath and of Welles, make this profession. I promitte and avowe to God and to oure Lady Seyncte Marie and all the seynctes of hevene the full purpos of perpetuell chastitee after the rywle of Seyncte Poule the heremite. And in witnes herof I subscribe me here with myne awen hande ✠.’<sup>1</sup>

And thereupon, after the completion of the solemnities requisite in such cases, the bishop with his own hands invested Stephen with the habit befitting the estate of hermit. Witnesses, Master John Moreton, professor of theology, Master Thomas Bromhalle, bachelor in decrees, and Sir Thomas Brighteye, clerk, who served the bishop in this act, and Master Robert Tarry, bachelor in laws, John Happesford, John Gauter the younger, Richard Erle, donzel, Thomas Dodyng, clerk of the bishop's kitchen, and others of the bishop's household ; as well as William Langton, clerk, of the diocese of York, notary-public and registrar of the bishop's chancery.

122. Letters testimonial that the bishop has approved the said profession and invested the said Stephen as above by licence of Henry, cardinal priest of St. Eusebius, commonly called the Cardinal of England, bishop of Winchester. Dogmersfeld, 20 June, 1445.

123. Appointment of John Gauter the elder, John Gauter the younger, John Lambyn, Antony Vilate and John Germain, or any one of them, to receive from the sheriffs of London, or other

<sup>1</sup> A very similar formula was in use in the diocese of Norwich. Cutts, *Scenes and Characters of the Middle Ages*, p. 98.

the appointed keepers of the under-mentioned monk, Brother Robert Vise *alias* Veyse, a Benedictine monk professed in the cathedral church of Bath, who was lately arrested and committed to prison by the king's power for apostasy, in accordance with the custom of the realm in such cases, and to keep him safely and hand him over to the prior, sub-prior and convent of Bath, to be punished according to the decrees of the fathers and the rule, discipline and institutes of his order. Date as above. 1445.

124. Institution of Sir Thomas Syryth, chaplain, as rector of the church of Blakeford, lately held by Sir John Kent, which is vacant owing to the possession by the said Sir John, without papal dispensation, of the church with cure of Newton Tracy, in the diocese of Exeter, an incompatible benefice, on the presentation of Christopher Hungerford, knight, found to be patron thereof by reason of his wardship of all the lands of Margaret late the wife of William Cheyne, knight, which are in the king's custody by reason of the minority of Thomas, kinsman and heir of the said Margaret and John Seymour (*de Sancto Mauro*), esquire, sometime her husband. 22 June, the same place and year.

125. Institution of Sir Robert Lovecok, chaplain, as rector of the church of Whatley, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Robyns, on the presentation of David Cervington, esquire. Date as above.

126. Order to John, prior of Bath, and the sub-prior and convent thereof, to receive back into their house Dan Robert Vise *alias* Veyse, and commit him to prison until further order from the bishop, that he may there redeem during the short space of time remaining to him the years he has spent in worldly luxury; as the bishop, in his late visitation of the diocese, discovered by common report and by the confession of the party that, in spite of the canons and constitutions of the fathers forbidding abbots and priors to allow their monks to sojourn by themselves in manors or churches, the said Robert, a Benedictine monk professed in the monastery of Bath, had long ago deserted the cloister and had sojourned alone for many years in the manor, or rectory, of Stokeurcy, as a secular among seculars, f. 33.

1445. renting and taking at farm the church of Stokeurcy with the proceeds thereof, trafficking publicly and without shame in worldly business, and living in notorious adultery, and that the prior, by not recalling him to his convent, had become liable to suspension from his office, whereupon the bishop caused the said Robert to be arrested by virtue of a royal writ *de apostata capiendo*, and is now sending him back to his proper fold. 24 June, the same place and year.

127. Collation to Master Richard Smyth, M.A., of the church of Claverton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Wynford, and in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as rector. Letter of induction to the archdeacon of Bath or his official. 3 July, the same place and year.

On 6 July, the presentee announced to the bishop at Dogmersfeld that the archdeacon, without reasonable cause, had refused to induct him; whereupon the bishop issued the following letter:—

128. Order to the parish chaplain of Claverton, and all rectors, vicars and chaplains with or without cures in the archdeaconry of Bath, to induct the said Master Richard, or his proctor, in default of the archdeacon. 6 July, the same place and year.

- f. 34. 129. Afterwards, on 12 July, the bishop received at Dogmersfeld a certificate from Sir Henry Coventre, perpetual vicar of the church of Hampton,<sup>1</sup> that he had inducted the said Master Richard on 7 July, by virtue of the bishop's order. Whereupon the bishop delivered to Master Richard the following letters:—

130. Letters testimonial reciting the above collation, institution, refusal and induction. 14 July, the same place and year.

131. On 3 July, at Dogmersfeld, the bishop,—on receipt of a presentation of Sir John Wylton, chaplain, to the church of Hutton, said to be vacant by the resignation of Sir Edmund Warcop, by William Dodesham and Joan his wife, kinswoman and coheirress of Roger Walsh, late lord of the manor of Hutton, who asserted that the presentation belonged to them in right of

<sup>1</sup> Bathampton. There is no record of Coventre's institution.

the said Joan,—ordered a commission to be issued to Master William Fulford and Master William North, bachelors in both laws, to enquire touching the vacancy and the right of patronage. On 11 July, in Dogmersfeld manor, the said William and Joan having been found by inquisition to be the true patrons of the church, the bishop instituted the said Sir John as rector. 1445.

132. Grant, for one year, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite persons who shall give alms and charity to Stephen Coye, hermit, for the repair of the common way, or public street, leading directly from the bridge called 'Bowbrigge' by Bristol to the town of Dandray, which is dangerous to travellers; and order to all rectors, vicars and chaplains, with or without cure, to receive the said Stephen when he comes to their neighbourhood to ask for alms, and to expound the matter diligently to their congregations. 16 July, the same place and year.

133. Commission to Master John Bernard, canon of Wells and vicar-general in spirituals, to prorogue the bishop's visitation of the monastery of Glastonbury from Thursday after St. Peter's Chains next to Wednesday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross; as the bishop is prevented by pressing business from attending to the said visitation, which has already been begun, on the said Thursday. 18 July, the same place and year.<sup>1</sup>

134. Institution of Sir John Erle, priest, as rector of the church of Brusshford, vacant by the death of Sir John Waryn, on the presentation of John Riphey in right of Agnes his wife, and Thomasia Lawher, sister of the said Agnes, to whom the right of presentation for this turn has been found by inquisition to belong in common with Joan Crosse, third sister of the said Agnes, who lately presented Sir John Warton to the said church. The bishop's inn at London, 21 July, 1445. f. 35.

135. Certificate by William Fulford, the bishop's commissary-general, in pursuance of the commission to him and Master William North, dated 12 April, 1445 (no. 103, above), to enquire touching the church of Brusshford. The enquiry was made on

<sup>1</sup> *Correspondence*, vol. ii. pp. 339, 340.

1445. 8 July in the church of Brussshford by the oath of the following clergy and others of the deanery of Dunster living near the said church, to wit Master Walter Strotynger, rector of Wotton, Master Thomas Pay, rector of Huyssh Chaumflour, Master Nicholas Sutton, rector of Exton,<sup>1</sup> Sir George Feddis, rector of Wydecombe,<sup>1</sup> Sir John Browce, rector of Chipstaple, Sir Adam Colyns, vicar of Wynsford, Sir Thomas Spryngg, vicar of Brompton Regis, Sir Robert Squyer, vicar of Codecombe,<sup>1</sup> Thomas Copleston, of Luccomb, William Clowesham, of Tymbercombe, William Allercote, of the same, John Stowye, of Codecomb, Patrick Forster, of Wotton, Richard Stucle, of Mynhede and John Curre of Brussshford. Their findings are as follows :—

The vacancy began on 5 February, 1444, by the death of Sir John Waryn. The patrons are William Britt, lord of a moiety of the manor of Brussshford, and Joan Crosse sometime the wife of John Crosse, Agnes Riphay the wife of John Riphay, and Thomasia Lawer, ladies of the other moiety of the manor. Simon Britt the father of William Britt was the last to present.<sup>2</sup> Robert Cornewe, knight, and Alice, his wife, were seised of the manor, to which the patronage of the church pertains, in their demesne as of fee, in right of Alice, and presented William Wodeborne, clerk, to the church. On the death of Alice without issue, the manor, with the advowson, descended to Joan wife of Simon Birtt and Elizabeth wife of Thomas Chiplegh, her kinswomen and heiresses, to wit daughters and heiresses of her sister Elizabeth, and a partition of the manor and advowson was made between Simon and Joan and Thomas and Elizabeth, Simon and Joan having the first presentation to the church. On the death of William Wodborne, Simon and Joan presented John Waryn. The said Elizabeth wife of Thomas Chiplegh had issue Joan Crosse the wife of John Crosse, Agnes wife of John Riphay, and Thomasia Lawher. On the death of Thomas and Elizabeth, the said Agnes and her husband and Joan and Thomasia entered into

f. 36:

their moiety of the manor, and the presentation to the church consequent on the death of John Waryn falls to them. The church is not the subject of litigation ; nor is it liable to pension or portion. It

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of the institution of these three incumbents.

<sup>2</sup> A.D. 1421, *Reg. Bubwith*, p. 400.

is taxed at 6*l*. The presentee, John Erle, is a free man, legitimate, and in priest's orders. He is suitable in knowledge of letters and in morals. No simony or other illicit pact has occurred in the presentation. Brusshford parish church, 8 July, 1445. 1445.

136. Commission to Master William Fulford and Master William North, bachelors in both laws, to enquire as to the right of patronage of the church of Southbraden; as Sir John Rippe, chaplain, has been presented to the said church, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Bonesquyer,<sup>1</sup> by John Wadham and Elizabeth his wife, but there is no sufficient documentary proof of their right to present. The bishop's inn at London, 24 July, 1445.

137. Collation to Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor,<sup>2</sup> of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Estharpire vacant by the death of Master William Spaldyngton; and institution, etc. accordingly. 2 August, the same place and year.

138. On 5 August, at Bagshote in the diocese of Winchester, in the inn marked with the sign of the Crown, at which the bishop was wont to lodge when travelling there, the bishop collated the perpetual vicarage of Lokkyng, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Wylton and in the bishop's collation because the prior and convent of Worspring, the patrons, knowingly presented thereto a certain Sir John Baker, chaplain, who, on examination, was rejected as unsuitable because of his ignorance of letters and the Scriptures, to Sir Henry Crakall, priest, and instituted him as perpetual vicar. Thereupon Sir Henry appointed Master William North, bachelor in both laws, as his proctor to secure canonical investiture and induction, and a letter was written to the archdeacon of Wells, or his official, to induct Sir Henry, or his said proctor. Present, Master Thomas Bromhall, clerk, and John Happesford.

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Stillington's office as the bishop's chancellor was quite distinct from that of the chancellor of the cathedral church. Cf. *Reg. Bubwith*, pp. 413, 611.



1445 139. On the same day, at Dogmersfeld, the bishop instituted Sir Thomas Frye, priest, as rector of the parish church of Sparkford, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Poole, on the presentation of John Roger the elder, esquire. And because, on examination, he appeared to be hardly sufficiently skilled in letters to have the cure of souls, the bishop ordered him to attend the schools for two whole years from the following Michaelmas, leaving a suitable chaplain in the cure of his church, and to offer himself to the bishop for examination within a fortnight after the said term ; all which the said Sir Thomas swore on the Gospels to do, and moreover entered into a bond in 20*l.* to do so. Present, Master William North, bachelor in both laws, John Happesford, esquire, Thomas Brightyeve, clerk, and William Langton, notary-public.

140. Institution of Sir John Ryppe, chaplain, as rector of the church of Southbraden, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Bonsquyer, on the presentation of John Wadham and Elizabeth his wife, found by inquisition to be the true patrons. 9 August, the same place and year.

141. Institution of Sir John Reyne, chaplain, as rector of the church of Brotton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Syryrth, on the presentation of William, lord le Zouche and Seymour. The presentee entered into a bond in 20*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his admission to the church. Evercriche, 23 August, 1445.

f. 37. 142. Commission to Master John Sparhauke, bachelor in both laws, and Master John Melan *alias* Rodnor, perpetual vicar of the church of Wellowe, to enquire as to the vacancy and patronage of the church of Comhawy ; as Sir Thomas Jevan, priest, has been presented to the said church, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Swyndon, by Edward Stradlyng, knight, but there is no sufficient documentary proof of the latter's right to present. Woky, 28 August, 1445.

143. Institution of the said Sir Thomas as rector of the church of Comhawy on the presentation of Edward Stradlyng,

knight, found by inquisition to be the true patron. Wells 1445. palace, 8 September, 1445.

144. Commission to Master William Fulford, canon of Wells, the bishop's commissary-general, to enquire as to the vacancy and patronage of two perpetual chantries of the Holy Trinity in the church of Wolavington; as the bishop has received presentations of Sir William Braynoke, chaplain, and Sir John Horne, chaplain, to both chantries by Alexander Hody, of Bowre by Bruggewater, and has doubts as to the latter's right to present. Woky, 11 September, 1445.

145. Licence, during pleasure, for Master Henry Clere, clerk, bachelor in decrees, chaplain of the free chapel of St. Katharine, Frome,<sup>1</sup> to preach throughout the diocese. 12 September, the same place and year.

146. Institution of Sir John Baker, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Lokkyng, vacant by the resignation of Sir Henry Crakall, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Worspryng. And because he appeared to be unsuitable in knowledge and letters to have the cure of souls, the bishop enjoined on him that every day when he had time to spare he should apply himself with all diligence to acquiring an understanding of the Scriptures, and especially of the divine office and service, and that he should offer himself to the bishop for examination within a month after the bishop's first visit to the diocese after the lapse of a year from his admission to the vicarage. 11 September, the same place and year.

147. Collation to Sir John Smyth, priest, of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Evercriche, which is in the bishop's collation by right; and institution of him accordingly. 10 September, the same place and year.

148. Assignment to Sir Gilbert Capelond, late vicar of the

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution, although his predecessor had been instituted, as to a benefice, by Bishop Stafford, and his three immediate successors were similarly instituted by Bekynnton.

1445. church of Burnham, with the assent of Sir John Haydour, the present vicar, and the dean and chapter of Wells, patrons of the vicarage, of a yearly pension of 10*l.* for life, to be paid by the present vicar and his successors out of the fruits, etc. of the vicarage, as well as a lower chamber on the south and east side of the hall of the dwelling-house of the vicarage as a residence for himself and his servant, with suitable easements in the hall, kitchen, garden and curtilage of the vicarage, and with free entry and exit at reasonable times ; as the said Sir Gilbert, after long and praiseworthy service in his cure, is now broken with age and has resigned his vicarage into the bishop's hands, and the bishop would not have him forced to beg for the necessities of life, to the disgrace of the clerical order. The present vicar has sworn on the Gospels to observe this award. In the event of the present vicar, or any of his successors, failing to pay any instalment of the above pension within a month of its falling due, he shall *ipso facto* incur a penalty of 20*s.* to be paid on demand to Sir Gilbert and the bishop equally on every such occasion ; and if the said penalty be not paid, the fruits, etc. of the vicarage shall *ipso facto* be sequestered. 13 September, the same place and year.
- f. 38.

149. Licence, during pleasure, for Brother Thomas Abendon, inceptor in theology, rector of the church of Creket Malerby, to preach the word of God throughout the diocese. Date as above.

150. The like for Brother John Sokour, of the order of Friars Hermits of St. Augustine of the convent of Bristol, reader of theology, on the recommendation of Brother Thomas Abendon. Date as above.

151. Order to the perpetual vicar of the parish church of Yevell and every chaplain serving the cure thereof,—on information that they will admit to the sacred office of preaching among them only those friars who are specially sent to them with letters under the bishop's seal, in accordance with the provincial constitutions of Thomas Arundell, sometime archbishop of Canterbury, and the clergy of the province,—to admit to preach in their church and receive charitable aid from their con-

gregation as many of the Friars Minors of Dorchester as the warden 1445.  
of the said house of friars shall send to them as men learned in  
the Scriptures and fit to labour in the Lord's vineyard. 16 Sep-  
tember, the same place and year.

152. Institution of Sir John Hamme, priest, as perpetual *f. 39.*  
vicar of the parish, or prebendal, church of Eston in Gordano,  
vacant by the resignation of Sir John Robyns, on the presentation  
of Sir Robert Parfite, canon of Wells and prebendary of Eston  
aforesaid. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official.  
19 September, the same place and year.

153. Institution of Sir Robert Denys, rector of the church of  
Templecombe, as rector of the church of Astyngton, on the  
presentation of John Blewet, Alexander Hody and Richard  
Bykcombe, in pursuance of an exchange of benefices between  
him and Sir Thomas Tregeuran<sup>1</sup>; and institution of the said  
Thomas as rector of the church of Templecombe, on the presenta-  
tion of the abess and convent of Shaftesbury. 20 September,  
the same place and year.

154. Collation to Sir Thomas Chewe, vicar of a stall in the  
choir of Wells cathedral, of the fifteenth chamber on the west  
side of the vicars' close, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas  
Germayne. 17 September, the same place and year.

155. Notification to Master John Hanham, rector of the  
church of Monketon, and the parishioners thereof of both sexes, and  
their successors, that the bishop,—in compliance with a petition  
from them showing that the parish church of Monketon was  
erstwhile dedicated on 18 December, on which day the dedication  
feast has customarily been celebrated, but that for certain lawful,  
probable and reasonable causes it has not been possible to cele-  
brate the said feast with becoming reverence, solemnity and  
devotion on that day, for which reason they would have the feast  
of dedication changed to the first Sunday in October,—hereby,  
by virtue of his pontifical and ordinary authority, changes the  
said feast accordingly, and, in order to excite the people to

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

1445. greater devotion in observing the said feast, grants forty days' indulgence to all contrite persons who shall be present at divine service in the said church and say the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation on the first occasion of the feast of dedication being celebrated on the new date. Banwell, 24 September, 1445.

156. Dispensation for Master John Payne, bachelor in decrees, rector of the church of Stoke upon Sea (*super mare*), to be absent in the university of Oxford for two years, receiving the fruits, etc. of his church meanwhile and letting it at farm to a suitable person [provided, etc. as above, no. 13]. 28 September, the same place and year.

f. 40. 157. Collation to Thomas Porveour, clerk, of the free chapel of Blakeford, vacant by the death of Nicholas Grout *alias* Norwich; and institution of him, in the person of Master William Langton, clerk, his proctor, as warden thereof. Letter of induction to Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelor in both laws. Date as above.

On 30 September, the said proctor was inducted accordingly.

158. Institution of Sir William Banham, priest, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry founded at the altar of St. Mary Magdalen in Wells cathedral for the souls of Ralph, sometime bishop of Bath and Wells, William of Cudeworth, and William of Littelton, sometime precentor of Wells, and their parents and benefactors, and for the souls of Master Roger Mortimer (*de Mortuo Mari*), Sir Michael of Eston, and all the faithful departed, vacant by the death of Sir John Dawtre *alias* Oxonford, on the presentation of Sir William Stevenys, precentor of Wells. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official. The presentee took no oath of obedience to the bishop, because it was asserted that he ought to be altogether subject to the dean and chapter.<sup>1</sup> Woky, 3 October, 1445.

159. Attestation by William Langton, notary-public, of the resignation by Brother Nicholas Cosyn of the office of prior, or

<sup>1</sup> The following note in another hand is written opposite this last clause: *Quaere istud stare non potest.*

master, of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Wells, and of the acceptance of his said resignation by the bishop, in the presence of Master William Stevenys, precentor of Wells, and Robert Tarry and Thomas Bromhall, bachelors in both laws, of the dioceses of York and Salisbury. The principal chamber in Woky manor, 20 September, 1445. 1445.

160. Petition to the bishop from Stephen Compton and Walter Amyet, brethren of the said hospital, by Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelor in decrees, their proctor, for licence to elect a prior, or master, in the place of Nicholas Cosyn, resigned. The chapter-house of the hospital, 24 September, 1445.

161. Licence for the brethren, or convent, of the said hospital to elect a prior, or master. Woky, 1 October, 1445.

162. Appointment by the bishop,—in pursuance of a com- f. 41.  
promise whereby Stephen Compton and Walter Emyet, priests and brethren of the said hospital, to whom alone the right of electing a prior, or master, pertains, have unanimously chosen him to exercise their power of appointment,—of Brother Thomas Yle, priest, professed in the house, or hospital, of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater, to be prior, or master, of the aforesaid hospital of Wells, with the assent of his master and convent of Bruggewater. 4 October, the same place and year.

On the same day, the bishop by word of mouth ordered Master John Bernard, canon of Wells, to install and induct the said Thomas.

163. Signification to the bishop by Thomas Pylton, master of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater, and the convent thereof, that they hereby grant licence for the said Thomas Yle to consent to his election as prior, or master, of the aforesaid hospital of Wells, and to undertake the said office. The chapter-house of the hospital, 4 October, 1445.

164. Institution of Sir William Braynoke, priest, as perpetual chaplain of the second chantry of the Holy Trinity in the church of Wollavyngton, vacant by the death of Sir John Horneblowyngton, on the presentation of Alexander Hody, esquire, found by

1445. inquisition to be the true patron thereof. Woky, 4 October, 1445.

165. Institution of Sir John Horne, priest, as perpetual chaplain of the third perpetual chantry of the Holy Trinity in the church of Wollavyngton, on the like presentation. Date as above.

f. 42. 166. Assignment by the bishop to Nicholas Cosyn, late master, or prior, of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Wells, resigned, with the assent of Thomas, the present prior, and the convent of the hospital, of a yearly pension of 10*l.* out of the fruits, etc. of the hospital, until he be provided with a benefice or some other acceptable competence; and of a house lately built by him at the east end of the stable opposite the great gate of the hospital, with the small stable there for the use of his horse, and with free entry and exit: as the bishop does not wish that in his old age he should be forced to beg for the necessities of life, to the disgrace of the clerical order. In the event of the pension being in arrear for six weeks after any term of payment, or of this ordinance being violated in any way, all the fruits, etc. of the hospital shall be *ipso facto* sequestrated until reparation be made. 5 October, the same place and year.

The common seal of the hospital was affixed to the above in the chapter-house on the same day.

167. Commission to Master John Bernard, canon of Wells, to be the bishop's official [in the same terms as the commission to Master John Storthwayt, no. 3 above]. Date as above.

168. Commission to Master John Stokys, bachelor in both laws, to be the bishop's commissary-general and official of his peculiar jurisdiction during pleasure [in the same terms as the commission to Master William Fulford, no. 4 above]. Date as above.

f. 43. 169. Institution of Sir Thomas Wayte, priest, in the person of Sir John Way, his proctor, as rector of the church of Brempton, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Forde, on the presentation of Alice Wynford, lady of Brempton. 6 October, the same place and year.

170. Institution of Sir John Bloode, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish, or prebendal, church of Yatton, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Bisshopp, on the presentation of Sir John Macworth, canon of Wells and prebendary of Yatton. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. The bishop's inn at London, 28 October, 1445. 1445.

171. Institution of Master Philip ap Rys, doctor of decrees, as rector of the church of Melles, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Beconyll, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction as above. 21 November, the same place and year.

172. Institution of Sir Walter Hoyggys, rector of the church of Cosyngton, as rector of the church of Hawkerigge, on the presentation of Alexander Hody, esquire, in pursuance of an exchange of benefices between him and Sir Stephen Chapman; and institution of the said Stephen, in the person of William Gascoigne, literate, his proctor, as rector of Cosyngton, on the presentation of John Trethek, esquire. The said Sir Walter, by a bond remaining in the registry in London, bound himself in 40*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of the above admissions having been made without previous inquisition as to the patronage of the benefices. 22 November, the same place and year.

173. Commission to Master John Bernard, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals, Master Robert Tarry and Master John Stokys, bachelors in both laws,—on information that the college, or society, of vicars of the choir of Wells cathedral are accused of many excesses, insolences and abuses against the sacred canons, the honour of the clerical order and the statutes and ordinances of their church, and that there are among them some men of such intolerable presumption and audacity that not only have they presumed in times past to create and stir up seditions, discords, tumults, insults, conventicles, conspiracies, conjurations and confederacies, but they are even striving to upset every rule of good discipline and every form of good life, and utterly to pervert the monitions and injunctions which the bishop laid on them in



1445. his visitation as ordinary, and the very statutes in accordance with  
f. 44. which they are bound to live,—to make enquiry as to the state of the said college and the persons and things thereof, to correct, reform and punish whatever they shall find amiss, even to the extent of inflicting the penalty of suspension, deprivation, removal or exclusion, and do whatever else is necessary or proper in the matter. 20 November, the same place and year.

174. Peremptory citation of Brother Richard Glastenbury, prior of the house, or conventual church, of canons of St. Mary, Bruton, and his fellow-canons, to appear before the bishop in their chapter-house on Tuesday after St. Lucy the Virgin next, to wit 14 December, and so from day to day; as the bishop, hearing by common report that their house is accused, among good and sober men, of dilapidation, incontinence and many other abuses and excesses, has decided to come down in person and make enquiry as to the truth of the said report and the general state of the house. 30 November, the same place and year.

175. Commission to Dan Richard, prior of Wytham in Selwod, of the Carthusian order, and Master Andrew Holes and Master Robert Stillyngton, doctors of laws, to hold the said enquiry in place of the bishop, who is hindered by arduous business,<sup>1</sup> and to correct, reform and punish whatever they shall find amiss, even to the extent of inflicting the penalty of suspension, deprivation, removal, or exclusion, and do whatever else is necessary or proper in the matter. 7 December, the same place and year.

f. 45. 176. Commission to the same,—on a report that the said Brother Richard Glastenbury, prior of Bruton, is accused and publicly defamed, in his own priory and throughout the town and parish of Bruton and the neighbourhood, of such detestable crimes, especially simony, incontinence and notorious dilapidation of the possessions of his priory, that the bishop can no longer pass them over in silence,—to enquire as to the said report, to punish and correct his excesses, even by removal and deprivation,

<sup>1</sup> Parliament was sitting from the 20th of October to the 15th of December.

to interdict or suspend him from his administration, appoint one or more suitable administrators in his place, and do whatever else is necessary or proper in the matter. Date as above. 1445.

177. Collation to Master John Sparhawk, professor of theology, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Ashill vacant by the resignation of Master Richard Moresby ; and institution of the said John, in the person of Master John Malyns, clerk, notary-public, his proctor. 5 December, the same place and year.

178. Institution of Sir Walter Lovekyn, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Nyenhede, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Cook *alias* Erle, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. 6 December, the same place and year.

179. Attestation by William Langton, clerk, of the diocese of York, notary-public, of the nomination by the bishop of Master Thomas Chapman, clerk, of the diocese of York, bachelor in laws, as his proctor, agent and special envoy, to visit the Holy See every three years on behalf of the bishop and his churches of Bath and Wells in accordance with canonical law, to make and do the customary acknowledgments and services there, to settle and agree the requisite acquittances for them, to ask for and obtain the benefit of absolution from all sentences of suspension, excommunication, or interdict, laid on the bishop or his said churches, to excuse the bishop from personal visitation of the Holy See, and generally to do whatever is necessary or proper in this behalf, even if it be some matter more weighty than the above which by its nature requires a special order.<sup>1</sup> Present, Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelor in both laws, Richard Erle and John Compayne, literates, of the dioceses of London, Worcester and Salisbury. The bishop's inn in the parish of St. Clement in the suburb of London, 8 December, 1445.

180. Commission to Master John Bernard, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals,—on receipt by the bishop of a presentation f. 46.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Chapman had received a similar commission, with two other persons, in 1433. *Reg. Stafford*, p. 140.

1445. of Sir John Pike, chaplain, to the perpetual chantry, or chapel, of Northnewton by Edward Hull, knight, keeper and governor of the forests and park of Pederton and Menedeep,—to admit and institute the said Sir John, after satisfying himself as to the vacancy of the chantry, or chapel, and the right of the said Edward to present. Dogmersfeld, 21 December, 1445.

181. Commission to Master John Bernard, canon of Wells, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals, and Master John Stokys, bachelor in both laws, to proceed in the hearing of a dispute which has arisen, or is expected to arise, between William Tewkesbury and Richard Fowey, monks of Glastonbury, of the one part, and Dan Nicholas Frome, abbot of Glastonbury, of the other part, on account of a certain pronouncement and decree touching the unjust imprisonment of the said monks and other grievances, and to determine the said matter. 30 December, the same place and year.

182. Commission to Master John Stokys and Master John Sparhauke, bachelors in both laws, on receipt by the bishop of a presentation of Sir Philip Jekyn, priest, to the church of Porteshede, said to be vacant by the death of Sir Richard Mason, by John, earl of Shrewsbury, lord Talbot and of Furnyvale, to enquire as to the vacancy of the church and the right of patronage thereto; as the bishop has no certain proof of the earl's right. 28 December, the same place and year.

1446. 183. Institution of Sir William Tregelst', priest, as rector of the church of Rowborough, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Neuport,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol. Dogmersfeld, 8 January, 1445[-6].

And thereupon the said Sir William submitted himself to the ordinance and judgement of the bishop in regard to the assignment of a yearly pension of the fruits of the church to the resigning rector.

1445. 184. Letter from the bishop to the prior of Bath. The bishop

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

has heard that that incorrigible person, Robert Vise, the prior's fellow-monk, has again broken his rule and returned to the world and his former detestable manner of life, and is behaving himself at the priory of Stokeurcy in exactly the same way as he formerly did. If this be so, the bishop is greatly surprised that the king's letters and his own orders have not had more weight with the prior. For he cannot easily believe that Robert could have escaped from the imprisonment which was ordered for him without the prior's assent or connivance, or at least carelessness and negligence. Nothing in the matter annoys him more than the fact that through the prior's fault he (the bishop) has incurred the king's displeasure, although he has no doubt that when the truth is known the king will turn his anger against the prior, as is just. None the less, he proposes to visit with canonical punishment the contempt of his authority and the mockery of his orders. He therefore wishes the prior to certify him with all speed whether the above facts are true, and if so, how they happened and what excuse he has to offer. Dogmersfeld, 27 December. 1445.

185. Commission to Master John Bernard, succentor of Wells, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals, to publish with all speed the appointment of the persons mentioned in the enclosed schedule as penitenciers and confessors to hear the confessions of the bishop's subjects in the various deaneries of the diocese and absolve them according to the form instituted by the church from all their crimes and sins except the following, which the bishop reserves for his own pontifical authority, to wit—deflowering of nuns and virgins dedicated to God, notorious and long continued adultery and incest, perjury committed in assizes, indictments and causes involving death, disinheritance, or grave prejudice, breaches of parks and other violence and injury to the bishop or his cathedral churches of Bath and Wells, or to their rights, liberties and possessions, oppression and crass and negligent endangering of infants, and all ecclesiastical censures. The vicar-general is to inform the bishop of his action in the matter before the Purification next. Dogmersfeld, 8 January, 1445[-6]. 1446.

## 1446. Schedule :—

f. 47.

Deanery of Bath. The sub-prior of the cathedral church ; Master John Sparhauke, vicar of Southstoke<sup>1</sup> ; and Master Richard Smyth, M.A., rector of Claverton.

Deanery of Radcliff. The vicar of Radcliff, B.A. ; Master John Austell, bachelor in both laws, rector of Wynfrith ; and Sir Robert Oxenford, B.A., vicar of Cheiwe.<sup>2</sup>

Deanery of Axbrugg. Master John Pederton, doctor of theology, vicar of Chedder ; the vicar of Congresbury ; and the rector of Weston.

Deanery of Cary. Sir Richard Wiche, rector of Northcaddebury ; Master Henry Moteford, bachelor in both laws, rector of Battecombe ; and Master Thomas Fareman, bachelor in decrees, vicar of Estpennard.<sup>3</sup>

Deanery of Frome. The vicar of Welowe ; and Master Henry Clere, bachelor in decrees, chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine, Frome.

Deanery of Merston. Master John Combe, rector of Horsyngton<sup>3</sup> ; Master William, bachelor in laws, rector of Westcoker ; and the vicar of Estcammell.

Deanery of Yvelchestre. Master Richard Heth, bachelor of theology, rector of Lymyngton ; Master John Heth, M.A., rector of Tyntenell ; Master John Perch, M.A., rector of Charleton Makerell ; and the vicar of Mertok.

Deanery of Powlet. The vicar of Puryton.

Deanery of Crukern. The principal rector of Crukern ; Master John of Stokys, vicar of Ilmestre<sup>3</sup> ; and the vicar of Cherde.

Deanery of Taunton. Master John Hanham, M.A., rector of Monkton ; Master Robert Asshcombe, M.A., vicar of Welyngton ; Master William North, bachelor in both laws, vicar of North Cory<sup>3</sup> ; and Master Walter Roche, bachelor in laws, rector of Combeflory.

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

<sup>2</sup> There is no record of his institution, and it will be seen below (no. 301) that John Bubbe was instituted to the vicarage of Chew in 1447, in direct succession to Thomas Compton, who had been instituted in 1437[-8]. *Reg. Stafford*, p. 213.

<sup>3</sup> There is no record of the institution of any of these incumbents.

Deanery of Dunster. The prior there; Master Thomas 1446.  
Twyford, bachelor in laws, rector of Luccombe; and Master  
Thomas Pay, bachelor in laws, rector of Huyssh.

Deanery of Bruggewater. Master Robert Norys, M.A., vicar  
of Northpederton; and the vicar of Bruggewater.

Jurisdiction of Glastonbury. Master Walter Copelond, M.A.,  
vicar of Weston; and Master John Lavender, M.A., vicar of  
Butteley.

186. Commission to Master John Stokys, bachelor in both  
laws, the bishop's commissary-general,—inasmuch as Master  
Andrew Holes and Master Robert Stillyngton, doctors of laws,  
in pursuance of the bishop's commissions to them touching the  
priory of Bruton (nos. 175 and 176 above), have assigned a day,  
to wit Monday after St. Hilary, that is the 18th day of this  
month, for Brother Richard Glastenbury, who claims to be prior  
of Bruton, to produce in the chapter-house of his convent the  
books, codices and rolls dealing with the state of the convent  
at the end of the time of Brother John Shoyll, late prior, and to  
put in writing an explanation and account of his own adminis-  
tration of the priory for this last year, and to produce in writing  
a state of the priory, or else to see and hear himself excommuni-  
cated in writing unless he can show reasonable cause to the  
contrary, and have prorogued the matter to that day in the  
chapel of St. Katharine, Bruton, commonly called the parish  
church of Bruton, but are prevented by manifold occupations  
and impediments, as they say, from attending to the matter on  
that day and at that place,—to carry out the said investigation,  
and, if the said Brother Richard fail to satisfy them, to proceed  
against him and adjourn the matter until 17 March next at the  
same place. 8 January, 1445[-6].

187. Institution of Sir Philip Jekyn, priest, as rector of the  
church of Porteshede, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Mason,  
on the presentation of John, earl of Shrewsbury, lord Talbot  
and of Furnyvale, found by inquisition to be the true patron.  
The bishop's inn at London, 6 January, 1445[-6].

188. Attestation by William Langton, clerk of the diocese f.48.

1446. of York, notary-public, of the resignation by Master Adam de Moleyns, doctor of laws, keeper of the king's privy seal, archdeacon of Taunton and prebendary of the prebend of Milverton annexed thereto, of his said archdeaconry and prebend, and of the bishop's admission of the said resignation, in the presence of John Haward and Henry Whiom, esquires, of the dioceses of Norwich and Lincoln, and the said notary. The great chamber of the inn of the said Master Adam in the parish of St. Clement without the bar of the Temple, London, 19 January, 1445[-6].

189. Collation to Master Andrew Holes, doctor of decrees, absent in remote parts, of the archdeaconry of Taunton and the prebend of Milverton annexed thereto. The bishop's inn at London, the same day and year.

On account of the absence of Master Andrew, the bishop, on 13 February, ordered letters to be made out deputing Master Nicholas Upton, canon of Wells, to invest him and take his oath of obedience. And on the same day a letter of induction was written to the dean or the subdean of Wells, or, in their absence, the president of the chapter, and the chapter of Wells.

190. On 3 February, 1445[-6], the bishop in his inn at London, by virtue of a commission from William, bishop of St. Davids, and by his own authority, approved an exchange of benefices between Master Andrew Holes, doctor of decrees, canon of the cathedral church of St. Davids and prebendary of Marthere therein, and Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, canon of Wells and prebendary of Estharpree, received the resignation of Master Andrew, and collated his canonry and prebend to Master Robert, specially reserving the latter's induction and installation for the bishop of St. Davids, and collated to Master Andrew, in the person of Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelor in both laws, his proctor, the canonry and prebend of Master Robert, sending a letter for his induction and installation to the dean, or the subdean, of Wells, or, in their absence, to the president of the chapter, and the chapter of Wells.

191. Commission to Master John Stokys and Master John Sparhauke, bachelors in both laws, to enquire as to the vacancy

and patronage of the church of Middelchynnok *alias* Chynnok 1446.  
Belli, to which James Ormond, knight, son and heir of the earl  
of Ormonde, has presented Sir Thomas Curteys, priest. The  
bishop's inn at London, 4 February, 1445[-6].

192. Institution of Sir William Veysy, priest, in the person  
of Thomas Est, clerk, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the parish  
and prebendal church of Wedemore, vacant by the resignation  
of Sir Philip Melles, on the presentation of Sir John Forest, dean  
of Wells. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official.  
10 February, the same place and year.

And thereupon the said proctor, on behalf of Sir William, sub-  
mitted himself to the ordinance and judgement of the bishop  
in regard to the imposition on the fruits of the vicarage of a  
yearly pension for the resigning vicar.

193. Collation to Sir John Pedewell, priest, of the church  
of Wodewyk, vacant and in the bishop's collation by six months'  
lapse of time ; and institution of him as rector. The said Sir  
John swore on the Gospels to preserve the bishop from trouble  
in respect of the said collation, and to resign the church immedi-  
ately, under a penalty of 20*l.*, if required by the bishop so to do.  
Date as above.

194. Grant, for one year, of forty days' indulgence to all *f. 49.*  
contrite persons who shall render assistance in goods or legacies  
to the ancient almshouse without Busshopgate, London, com-  
monly called the hospital of St. Mary of Bethleem, the rents and  
profits of which are not sufficient to support the multitude of miser-  
able persons of both sexes dwelling there, who are so alienated  
in mind and possessed of unclean spirits that they must be  
restrained with chains and fetters ; and order to all ecclesiastics  
of the diocese to admit the proctors, or envoys, of the hospital  
when they come seeking alms, to expound to the people their pious  
and meritorious work, and to promote their mission effectually  
by word and example. Anything given to the said proctors is to  
be handed over to them in its entirety, without any deduction  
or retention under colour of a fee. 1 March, the same place  
and year.



1446. 195. Institution of Master John Kyrkeby, priest, as rector of the church of Hyghamme, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Mary, Glastonbury. 7 March, the same place and year.

196. Institution of Master William Hoper, doctor of laws, as perpetual portionary of the third portion in the parish church of Crukern, on the presentation of Thomas Courtenay, earl of Devon and lord of Okhampton. 18 March, the same place and year.

197. Institution of Sir Thomas Curteys, priest, in the person of Sir Robert Curteys, his proctor, as rector of the church of Myddelchynnok *alias* Chynnok Belli, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Glover, on the presentation of James Ormond, knight, son and heir of the earl of Ormonde, found by inquisition to be the true patron in right of Avice his wife.<sup>1</sup> Woky, 2 April, 1446.

198. Collation to Sir John Love, chaplain, of the church of Northbarrowe, vacant and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as rector. 7 April, the same place and year.

199. Commission to Master John Sparhauk, bachelor in both laws, to enquire as to the vacancy and patronage of the church of Orchardleygh, said to be vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Hyworth ; as William Westbury, esquire, lord of half the manor of Orchardleygh, has presented Sir William Loveday, priest, thereto. 12 April, the same place and year.

200. Licence for Dan Richard Launt, monk, to serve the chapel of the town, or hamlet, of Michaelstoke,<sup>2</sup> which is dependent on the parish church of Dultyng, for one month, and to administer the sacraments and sacramentals to those dwelling there, notwithstanding that he is a monk. 13 April, the same place and year.

f. 50.

201. Assignment by the bishop to Sir Philip Melles, late vicar

<sup>1</sup> Avice, daughter and heiress of Sir Richard Stafford.

<sup>2</sup> Stoke Lane, or Stoke St. Michael.

of the church of Wedmore, with the assent of Sir William Veysy, 1446.  
the present vicar, and Sir John Forest, deceased, late dean of Wells, [patron] of the vicarage, of a yearly pension of 10 marks, to be paid by the present vicar and his successors out of the fruits, etc. of the vicarage, as well as the building erected by him on the east side of the dwelling-house of the vicarage as a residence for himself and his servants, with easements suitable to his estate in the hall, kitchen, garden and curtilage of the said dwelling-house, and with free entry and exit at suitable times ; as the said Sir Philip, after long and praiseworthy service, is now so broken with age and infirm that he can no longer serve his vicarage and has resigned it into the bishop's hands, and the bishop is not willing that he should be forced in his old age to beg for the necessities of life, to the reproach of the clerical order. The present vicar has sworn on the Gospels to observe this award ; and all future vicars during Sir Philip's lifetime are to make the like oath immediately after their admission. In the event of the present vicar or any of his successors failing to pay any instalment of the said pension within a month of its falling due, he shall *ipso facto* incur a penalty of 20s. to be paid on demand to Sir Philip and the bishop equally ; and if the said penalty be not paid the fruits, etc. of the vicarage shall *ipso facto* be sequestered until the present ordinance be fulfilled in all respects. 25 April, the same place and year.

Moreover, on the same day, the bishop, being informed by confession of the said Sir William and by testimony of other trustworthy persons then present that the aforesaid Sir Philip had at his own costs educated Sir William from early youth, and had supplied him with the necessities of life when he was studying in the schools, ordained that Sir William, so long as he remained vicar of Wedmore, should pay Sir Philip 26s. 8d. yearly in addition to the aforesaid 10 marks ; provided that, on his retirement from the vicarage or his death, the said additional payment should utterly cease. Sir William swore on the Gospels to make this additional payment. Present, William Gye, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, and John Machon, clerk, of the dioceses of Bath and Wells and Worcester, and William Langton, notary-public.

1446. 202. Collation to Sir Thomas Been, perpetual vicar of a stall in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the sixteenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, vacant by the death of Sir John Chapman. 3 May, the same place and year.
- f. 51. 203. The like to Sir Thomas Mychell, of the twelfth chamber on the west side. Date as above.
204. The like to Thomas Smyth, clerk, of the first chamber on the west side. Date as above.
205. The like to Richard Hayne, clerk, of the fifteenth chamber on the east side. Date as above.
206. The like to Nicholas Russell, clerk, of the sixth chamber on the west side. 4 May, 1446.
207. Commission to Master William Fulford, canon of Wells, to hear and determine the cause pending before certain of the bishop's commissaries between Sir John Warwyk, perpetual vicar of the church of Tykenham, complainant, and the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol, proprietaries of the said church and patrons of the vicarage, defendants, touching an augmentation of the portion of the said vicarage.<sup>1</sup> Banwell, 5 May, 1446.
208. Collation to Master William Hoper, doctor of laws, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Estharpstre; and institution of him accordingly. 8 May, the same place and year.
209. Collation to Master Richard Hoore, canon and residentiary of Wells, of the canonical houses in Wells situated between the dwelling-house of the dean of Wells on the west and the house of the archdeacon of Wells on the east, vacant by the resignation of Master John de Obizis, doctor of decrees, canon of Wells,<sup>2</sup> to hold the same so long as he shall remain a residentiary, be willing to dwell personally in the houses and keep them in repair, and secure no grant of other canonical houses more acceptable to him. 9 May, the same place and year.
210. Commission to Master William North and Master John

<sup>1</sup> See no. 37 above.      <sup>2</sup> Papal nuncio and collector in England.

Sparhawk, bachelors in both laws, to enquire as to the vacancy and patronage of the church of Brokley, to which William Gascoigne, who affirms that he is patron, has presented Sir Robert Barrey, chaplain. 20 May, the same place and year. 1446.

211. Letters dimissory for William Nele, deacon, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, to the order of priesthood. Woky, 26 May, 1446.

212. Commission to Master John Bernard, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals, to give effect with all possible speed to a letter to the bishop from Robert, bishop of London, dated in the manor of Stebenhith, 12 May, 1446, transmitting an order by John, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in the manor of Lamhith, 7 May, 1446, for the summoning of a convocation of the clergy of the province of Canterbury to be held in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, on Wednesday the 22nd June next, in pursuance of the king's letter of privy seal (quoted) dated at Westminster, 7 May, 24 Hen. VI. The vicar-general is to certify the bishop by the feast of St. Botolph the Abbot next as to his action. 28 May, the same place and year. f. 52.

213. Certificate by the bishop to John, archbishop of Canterbury, that, in pursuance of the archbishop's orders, he has cited the subdean of Wells, the deanery being vacant, and the prior of Bath, the chapters of Wells and Bath, the archdeacons, all the abbots and priors having convents under them, and other the prelates of his churches, exempt and non-exempt, and the clergy of his cities and diocese, to appear at the said convocation as follows, to wit the prior, archdeacons, abbots, priors and prelates in person, each chapter by one proctor, and the clergy by two proctors. The bishop will appear in person, God willing. The names of the persons cited are contained in the annexed schedule. Dogmersfeld, 17 June, 1446.

Schedule :—

The prior of Bath ; the chapter of Wells, the deanery being vacant ; the chapter of Bath ; the abbots of Glastonbury, Kaynesham, Mochelney, Athelney and Cleeve ; the priors of Bruton, Montagu and Taunton ; the clergy.

1446. 214. Appointment, during pleasure, of Henry Clyfford, esquire, to be bailiff of the bishop's liberties of Bath and Wells [as above, no. 68]. Woky (date left blank), 1446.

215. On 23 June Master John Raynold, subdean of Wells, exhibited before the bishop in Dogmersfeld manor an indenture under the common seal of the prior and chapter of Bath and the privy seal of John Trethek, esquire, and prayed that it might be registered, in the interests of the bishop and his successors and the dean and chapter of Wells. The bishop ordered accordingly. The indenture is as follows :—

f. 53. 216. Quadripartite indenture <sup>1</sup> between William, prior, and the convent of Bath, and John Trethek, esquire, witnessing that the prior and convent will every year, on some day in the octave of the Epiphany, hold an obit of the said John in the choir of the priory church, saying and performing divine services and obsequies with note solemnly and honorably and with a solemn peal of bells, in the manner that has been customary for special benefactors of the priory, for the souls of Richard, late king of England, Tideman, late bishop of Worcester, the said John Trethek, and Joan late his wife, and his relations and benefactors, and all the faithful departed ; and on the day of the obit in every year they will distribute *1d.* to each monk professed and resident there to celebrate mass and pray for the said souls. For every breach of the above undertaking they bind themselves to pay *100s.* to the dean and chapter of Wells ; and if the dean and chapter fail to levy the said penal payment, they bind themselves to pay the same to the bishop of Bath and Wells for the time being. Moreover, in any case of non-payment they submit themselves and their manor of Asshwyk, co. Somerset, to the coercion, distrainment and jurisdiction of the bishop and his successors as often as the above undertaking be not kept. The chapter-house of Bath, 23 September, 23 Hen. VI.

217. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Henry Fraunceys, clerk, M.A., of Welwe, acolyte. Dogmersfeld, 3 June, 1446.

<sup>1</sup> This is entered also in one of the capitular registers at Wells. *Cal.* vol. i. p. 466.

218. Institution of Sir Robert Willy, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Swell, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Derby, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton. 8 June, the same place and year. 1446.

219. Collation to Master William Crowton, M.A., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wandestre vacant by the resignation of Master John Marchall, bachelor in both laws, handed to the bishop on the previous day by his proctor, Master John Porter, clerk, notary-public. There were present at the said resignation, on 6 July, Master William Mowter, bachelor in theology, and Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelor in both laws, and at the collation, institution and investiture, on 7 July, the same Master Thomas, John Withir, and William Langton, clerk, notary-public. The bishop's inn at London, 7 July, 1446.

220. Institution of Sir Robert Belyherd, priest, in the person of Master John Bugg, notary-public, his proctor, as rector of the church of Charleton Makerell, vacant by the resignation of Master John Perche, on the presentation of Henry Horsy, esquire. The said proctor bound himself under a penalty of 40*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of the said institution having been made without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. 10 July, the same place and year.

221. Institution of Sir Robert Barrey, priest, in the person of Ralph Thursteyn, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Brokley, vacant by the death of Sir John Mark *alias* Brettill, on the presentation of William Gascoigne in right of Joan his wife, formerly the wife of John Scovile, esquire, the true heir and lord of the entire manor of Brokley, a third part of which, with the advowson of the church, was assigned to the said Joan as dower after the death of John Scovile, as appears by the certificate of an inquisition taken as to the right of patronage of the church. And thereupon the said proctor on behalf of Sir Robert resigned the church of Chelvey, which Sir Robert then held. Present, John Gauter the younger and Walter Waryun, literates, of the dioceses of Bath and Wells and Winchester, and William Langton, notary-public. 12 July, the same place and year.

1446. 222. Institution of Sir John Pedewell, priest, in the person of Sir Thomas Lucas, chaplain, his proctor, as rector of the church of Chelvey, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Barrey, on the presentation of Henry Gryffyth, esquire. The said proctor and rector bound themselves under a penalty of 40*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of the said institution having been made without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. 13 July, the same place and year.

223. Collation to Sir John Warpton, priest, of the perpetual vicarage of the parish, or prebendal, church of Tymbrescombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Taillour and in the bishop's collation because Sir John Birkehede, canon of Wells and prebendary of Tymbrescombe, presented to the vicarage a certain Sir John Colford, who was rejected because of his insufficient understanding of the Scriptures ; and institution of the said Sir John Warpton accordingly. 14 July, the same place and year.

224. Collation to Sir Thomas Chambrelayn, priest, of the church of Claverton, vacant by the resignation, on the same day, of Master Richard Smyth, M.A., and in the bishop's collation by right ; and institution of Sir Thomas accordingly. Dogmersfeld, 23 July, 1446.

225. Institution of Sir Richard Prowtyng, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Portbury, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Ravys, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol. 5 August, the same place and year.

226. Institution of Sir William Cayll, priest, as rector of the church of Kydesford, vacant by the death of Sir William Tyler, on the presentation of John Bluet, esquire. Woky, 23 August, 1446.

227. Collation to Master John Morton, professor of theology, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe XV. vacant by the confirmation of the election of Master Nicholas Carent, licentiate in laws, as dean of Wells, and his acquisition of the deanery, to which the prebend of Wedmore I. is annexed ; and institution and investiture of the said Master John, in the person

of his proctor, Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelor in both laws, 1446. accordingly. 28 August, the same place and year.

228. Collation to Sir William Loveday, priest, of the church of Orchardleygh, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Hyworth and in the bishop's collation by reason of the neglect of William Westbury, gentleman, the patron, to present within six months of the notification of the vacancy; and institution of Sir William as rector. 29 August, the same place and year.

229. Institution of Sir John Riche, priest, as rector of the church of Whetehill, vacant by surrender of Sir John Love, on his obtaining the church of Northbarrowe by the bishop's collation, on the presentation of Thomas Kyryell, knight, and Cecily, his wife, in right of the latter.<sup>1</sup> Evercriche, 31 August, 1446.

230. Commission to Master William North, bachelor in both laws, to make enquiry by the oath of neighbouring rectors, vicars and other trustworthy persons touching a petition from William Westbury, gentleman, alleging that the parish church of Fayroke, which he asserts to be of his patronage, is so poorly endowed, and the fruits, etc. thereof have become so scanty, that the rector cannot live in decency and support the charges incumbent on the church, with the result that the church is generally destitute of divine service, and the cure of souls is neglected, and praying the bishop to unite and incorporate the said church with the parish church of Berkeley, of which the petitioner is also patron, on the ground that the latter church is equally poor and is not more than a mile distant from Fayroke. Date as above. f. 55.

231. Commission to the same,—on a report that the church of Laverton, which is of the bishop's patronage and collation, and the church of Hardyngton, which is said to be of the patronage of the abbot and convent of Keynesham, are poorly endowed, etc. [as in the last entry]—to make enquiry as to the patronage of the said churches, by the oath of neighbouring rectors, vicars and other trustworthy persons, and ascertain the value of their endowments,

<sup>1</sup> Cecily, daughter and heiress of John Stourton, relict of John Hill. *Some Somerset Manors*, pp. 313, 314, 345, 346.



1446. how far distant they are from each other, and whether either of them is the subject of litigation or liable to payment of pension or portion, and make such other enquiries as are proper; as the bishop intends to unite the two churches, provided the abbot and convent and other persons interested will give their consent. Date as above.

232. Commission to the same to make enquiry touching a report that certain lay persons whose names are unknown have for some time been in possession of fruits, rents, profits, tithes, oblations and other emoluments and things which pertain to the parish churches of Hardyngton, Whatley and Orchardleygh, and have converted them to prohibited and profane uses and disposed of them at their pleasure, and daily continue to do so. Chiew, 10 September, 1446.

f. 56. 233. Institution of Sir John Weye, priest, as rector of the church of Northperot, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Maydekyn, on the presentation of Reynold West, knight, lord le Warre. Thereupon, the new rector bound himself under a penalty of 40*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of the said institution having been made without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. Immediately after his admission, the rector submitted himself and his church to the ordinance of the bishop in regard to the assignment of a yearly pension to Sir John Maydekyn, the resigning rector. Present, Sir John Trevenant, canon of Wells, William North, bachelor in laws, and others, and William Langton, the bishop's registrar. Taunton priory, 24 September, 1446.

234. Attestation by William Langton, clerk, notary-public, of the resignation of the church of Asshbritell into the bishop's hands by Master Robert Asshcombe, rector, and of the bishop's admission thereof. Present, Master William North, bachelor in laws, John Bokelond, clerk, and the notary. The principal chamber of the manor of Wyvelescombe, 26 September, 1446.

235. Institution of Sir William Holden, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish and prebendal church of Estharptry, vacant

by the resignation of Sir John Colson, on the presentation of Master William Hoper, canon of Wells and prebendary of Est-harptre. Banwell, 3 October, 1446. 1446.

236. Probate of the will (not quoted) of Isabel Brunstill, late of Banwell, and commitment of the administration thereof to John Walissh, named executor. John Henton, the other executor, refused administration. Later on in the same day, when the scantiness of the deceased's goods was more fully known, the bishop exempted the executor from rendering any further account. Banwell parish church, 6 October, 1446.

237. Commission to Master John Raynold, Master John Bernard and Master William Fulford, residentiary canons of Wells,—at the instance of Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, and on a report that the principal dwelling-house and the other manors of the deanery, and the chancels of the churches of Wed-mour and Merke annexed thereto, are ruinous and defective in many ways, owing to the culpable negligence of Sir John Forest, sometime dean, or his officers,—to summon before them the executors of the late dean and all other persons interested, to make enquiry as to the state of the said dwelling-house, manors and chancels, to wit in what state Sir John found them, how much he received from his predecessor for their repair, in whose time and through whose fault the defects happened, and for how much they can be repaired, and to hear and determine any causes or matters which may arise out of the said enquiry.<sup>1</sup> Banwell, 8 October, 1446.

238. Institution of Sir John Pedewell, priest, as rector of the church of Asshbritell, vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Asshcombe, on the presentation of John Hull, donzel (*domicellum*). Woky, 10 October, 1446.

239. Collation to Sir William Paslay, priest, of the church of Lucton, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Swift and in the bishop's collation by the lapse of six months; and institution of him as rector. Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Letters of Margaret of Anjou*, p. 94; *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 116.

1446. 240. Institution of Sir John Benet, priest, as rector of the  
*f. 57.* church of Soke, vacant by the death of Sir George Courtney, on  
 the presentation of William Bonevyle, knight. Date as above.

241. Institution of Sir John Ward, priest, in the person of  
 Bartholomew Myddelton, literate, his proctor, as rector of the  
 church of Blakedon, vacant by the death of Master William  
 Penkerich, on the presentation of John, duke of Exeter. The  
 bishop's inn at Warmynstre, 12 October, 1446.

242. Licence for Master John Kirkeby, rector of Hyghamme,  
 to be absent from his church during the bishop's pleasure and to  
 let at farm the fruits, etc. thereof; provided he arrange for the  
 service of the church and leave a suitable proctor there to answer  
 to the bishop and his ministers. The bishop's inn at London,  
 11 November, 1446.

243. Licence [as above, no. 14] for the collectors and envoys  
 of the hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to collect for  
 two years in the diocese. 18 November, the same place and year.

244. Institution of Master Thomas Bartlot, priest, M.A., as  
 perpetual vicar of the church of Yevell, vacant by the resignation  
 of Sir John Lilly, on the presentation of the abbess and convent  
 of St. Saviour, St. Mary and St. Bridget, of Syon. Woky, 18  
 December, 1446.

245. Institution of Sir Robert Hayme, priest, as perpetual  
 vicar of the church of Ilbrewer, vacant by the resignation of Sir  
 John Baron, on the presentation of the master and brethren of the  
 hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater. Date as above.

246. Institution of Brother William Wenlok, professor of  
 theology, of the order of Augustinian Friars Hermits,—by virtue  
 of a papal dispensation to him to hold any ecclesiastical benefice  
 with cure usually held by secular clerks, even if it be a parish  
 church or a perpetual vicarage,—as rector of the church of Pille,  
 vacant by the resignation of Sir Hugh Benet, on the presentation  
 of William Bourghier, knight. Woky, 20 December, 1446.

And thereupon the new rector swore on the Gospels to preserve

the bishop from trouble on account of the said admission, under a penalty of 100 marks. And the bishop, having examined the said dispensation and found it genuine, ordered it to be entered in the register. Present, Master William North and Master John Machon, notaries-public. 1446.

The above-mentioned papal dispensation. Florence, 7 May, 1445.<sup>1</sup>

247. Order to the master, or prior, of the house, or hospital, of St. John the Baptist, Wells, to receive Brother John Helier, who has long been professed in the house, or hospital, of St. John the Baptist, Bristol, as a brother of his house, and treat him as if he had been professed therein from the beginning ; as he has represented to the bishop that for certain causes known to the bishop he cannot nowadays live quietly and serve God freely at Bristol, for which reason he has prayed that he may, with the assent of his master, or prior, migrate to Wells. Woky, 24 January, 1446[-7]. 1447. f. 58.

248. Probate of the will (not quoted) of Joan wife of John Ballard, of the parish of Banwell, and grant of administration to the said John, the executor named therein. Banwell manor, 31 December, 1446. 1446.

249. Institution of Sir William Rows, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Dunster, vacant by the removal and deprivation of Sir William Russell for certain just causes, as testified by Master William North, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. Banwell, 11 January, 1446[-7]. 1447.

250. Probate of the will (not quoted) of John Ekyn, of Banwell, 'cordwaner,' and grant of administration to David Spenser, the executor named therein. Sir John Garnesey, perpetual vicar of Banwell, the co-executor, refused administration. And when the scantiness of the deceased's goods became known to the bishop he exempted the said David from rendering any account. 12 January, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> This is not entered in the Papal Register.

1447. 251. Collation to Sir John Hill, priest, vicar choral of Wells cathedral, of the nineteenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. Woky, 24 January, 1446[-7].

252. Presentation by the bishop of Sir William Bonsquyer, priest, to William, bishop of Salisbury, for admission to a perpetual chantry in the church of Whitchirche, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Burter. 25 January, the same place and year.

253. Institution of Sir John Pedewell, priest, in the person of Master John Machon, notary-public, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Stoke Gommer, vacant by the death of Sir John Oweyn, on the presentation of the subdean and chapter of Wells, the dean being absent. The bishop's inn at London, 8 February, 1446[-7].

254. Institution of Sir William Danyell, priest, in the person of Thomas Danyell, esquire, his proctor, as rector of the church of Cheden, vacant by the death of Sir William Russell, on the presentation of Henry Percy, knight, lord of Ponynges. Present, Sir John Trevenant, canon of Wells, Master Thomas Bromehale, bachelor in both laws, and others, and William Langton, notary-public, the bishop's scribe. Bury St. Edmunds, in the parliament held in the monastery there, 25 February, 1446[-7].

255. Institution of Master John Bycombe, bachelor in decrees, as rector of the church of Nony, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Gylys, on the presentation of John Bluet, Sir John Baty, chaplain, Martin Jacob and John Shete, to whom the lordship of Nony, with all its rights and appurtenances, has been let at farm as tenants in common for a term of years by Thomas Mountford, lord of Nony. Dogmersfeld, 21 March, 1446[-7].

f. 59. 256. Institution of Sir Robert Curteys, priest, in the person of Master John Machon, clerk, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Bergh,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Briggeman, on the presentation of Master Thomas Bubwith, archdeacon of Wells. Dogmersfeld, 6 April, 1447.

<sup>1</sup> Berrow.

257. Collation to Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, in the person of John Bosvile, clerk, his proctor, of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Congresbury, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Kene and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him accordingly. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general, Master Thomas Faireman, vicar of the church of Estpennard, and Sir John Garnesey, vicar of the church of Banwell. 4 April, the same place and year. 1447.

258. Commission to Master Walter Strutynger, bachelor in laws, and Master Thomas Twiford, M.A., to make enquiry as to the patronage of the church of Exford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Mille, to which Sir Richard Conybeare, chaplain, has been presented by John Talbot, lord of Lile, and John Neuton, esquire, who allege that they are patrons in right of their wives.<sup>1</sup> 8 April, the same place and year.

259. Commission to Master John Bernard, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals, to receive and examine the certificate of the above enquiry as to the patronage of Exford, and to institute Sir Richard Conybeare as rector if the right of the alleged patrons be confirmed. Date as above.

260. Commission to Master William North and Master Walter Roche, bachelors in both laws, to make enquiry as to the patronage of the church of Whitstaunton, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Caas, to which Sir Walter Osseborn, chaplain, has been presented by Roberta late the wife of James Haryngton ; as the bishop has no certain proof of her right to present. 22 April, the same place and year.

261. Commission to Master John Bernard [as in the last entry but one, *mutatis mutandis*]. Date as above.

262. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Topp, clerk. Dogmersfeld, 23 March, 1446[-7].

<sup>1</sup> Joan and Isabel, daughters and coheiresses of Thomas Cheddar.

1447. 263. Commission to Master John Stokys and Master William North, bachelors in both laws, John Shelford, rector of the church of Westcamell, Sir John Bonde, perpetual vicar of the church of Somerton, and Sir Philip Lewys, perpetual vicar of the church of Long Sutton, to claim and receive on behalf of the bishop, from all the king's justices, bailiffs, or other persons appointed to deliver prisoners in the diocese, all clerks accused of any crimes, and to bring them to the bishop's prison and gaol. Dogmersfeld, 22 April, 1447.

264. Commission to the said Master John Stokys and Master William North to hear and determine a cause between the prioress and convent of Bokelond and Master Robert Noris, perpetual vicar of the church of Northpederton, touching the withholding of a yearly pension of 4 marks alleged to be due to the prioress and convent from the vicarage by ancient custom. Date as above.

f. 60. 265. Commission to Master John Bernard, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals,—in view of the present wild and unhealthy weather, and the floods of rain and storms of wind which are prevalent,—to cause solemn and public processions, with the singing of the litany and other special collects, to be held on every Wednesday and Friday in the cathedral churches of Bath and Wells and all other regular, conventual, parish and prebendal churches throughout the diocese, with prayers for the firmer establishment of the unity of the church and peace between parties and kingdoms, and especially for the prosperity of the king, and also for the increase and fertility of the fruits of the earth and fine weather; and grant of forty days' indulgence to all persons who shall be present at the said processions and devoutly repeat the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation. Date as above.

266. Commission to the abbot and convent of Cleeve,—in pursuance of the king's writ <sup>1</sup> dated at Westminster, 17 April, 25 Henry VI, ordering the bishop to appoint some trustworthy clergy of his diocese to levy and collect in his said diocese the

<sup>1</sup> Fine Roll, 25 Hen. VI, m. 8.

entire tenth of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions with certain exceptions, payable in moieties at Midsummer, 1447, and Midsummer, 1448, which was granted to the king by the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury in their last convocation in the church of St. Paul, London, begun on Friday, 22 June, 1446, and continued until 8 July following,—to collect both moieties of the said tenth [as in the above commission to the abbot and convent of Athelney, no. 100]. The bishop's inn at London, 5 May, 1447. 1447.  
f. 61.

Schedules enclosed, as after the next entry.

267. Notification to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the appointment of the above collectors. 14 May, the same place and year.

Schedules enclosed [as above, no. 100, except that the vicarage of Southstoke, in the deanery of Bath, is omitted from the first schedule]. f. 62.

268. Collation to Master Robert Tarry, bachelor in laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Hasilbere vacant by the death of Sir John Stopyndon<sup>1</sup>; and institution, etc. accordingly. Dogmersfeld, 18 May, 1447.

269. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Harwod *alias* Saddeller, of Taunton, acolyte. College of St. Mary by Winchester, 24 May, 1447.

270. Inhibition to James, bishop of Achonry,—on a report that, without the bishop's consent, he is proposing to celebrate general orders in the bishop's diocese and jurisdiction and attempt other things harmful and prejudicial to the bishop's authority and dignity,—against ordaining any persons, whether of the said diocese or elsewhere, without the bishop's licence; or celebrating any orders, whether minor or holy, general or special, or doing anything else prejudicial to the bishop's authority. The inhibition is also addressed to all other bishops. Dogmersfeld, 22 May, 1447.

On 28 May, in the great chamber there, the bishop inhibited the said bishop of Achonry in the same terms by word of mouth.

<sup>1</sup> John Stopyndon was Keeper of the Rolls of Chancery.



1447. Present, Master John Moreton, professor of theology, Master Robert Tarry, bachelor in laws, and Sir John Trevenaunt, chaplain, canons of Wells, Master John Machon, and William Langton, notary-public.

271. Institution of Sir Walter Osborn, priest, as rector of the church of Whitstaunton, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Caas, on the presentation of Roberta late the wife of James Haryngton, found by inquisition to be the true patron.  
*f. 63.* The said Sir Walter bound himself under a penalty of 100 marks to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his admission to the said church. 29 May, the same place and year.

272. Certificate by Master John Russell, bachelor in both laws, —in pursuance of a commission to him and Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelor in both laws, dated in the bishop's inn at London, 12 May, 1447, to make enquiry as to the patronage of the church of Whitstaunton and other matters relating to the said church, in place of Master William North and Master Walter Roche, whose commission (no. 260 above) the bishop has revoked, —stating that he held the said enquiry on 20 May in the parish church of Norton Philip, by the oath of Master Thomas Mersh, rector of Henton St. George, Sir William Benet, rector of Radestok, Sir John Clement, rector of Deneyate, Sir Ralph Hillary, rector of Chafcombe, Sir John Rode, rector of Farley Hungerford,<sup>1</sup> Sir David Lauraunce, rector of Thelesford, Thomas Tournay, esquire, of Thelesford, John Warre, esquire, of Chipley, John Strugge, of Rode, John Coteler, of Henton St. George, William Everdon, of Denyngton, Robert Kirton, of Henton aforesaid, and John Lucas, of Rode. They say as follows:—The church has been vacant since 1 January last. The said Roberta is the true patron for this turn, because long ago William Staunton, esquire, being seised in demesne as of fee of the manor of Whitstaunton with the advowson of the church, gave the same to Thomas Hogon, esquire, in tail, who, being seised thereof, took to wife the said Roberta Lye and had issue by her John Hogon. On the death of Thomas, the premises descended to John his son and heir, a

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

minor, whose wardship and marriage pertained to Richard, 1447.  
earl of Salisbury, of whom, as of his manor of Shepton Montagu,  
the premises are held. The said earl therefore seized the premises  
and demised them at farm to Roberta for the duration of John's  
minority. John is still a minor, so that the right of presentation  
to the church for this turn pertains to her by virtue of the said  
demise. The said earl was the last to present, and he presented  
Master Thomas Caas, before the said grant to Roberta. The  
church is not the subject of litigation, nor is it liable to pension  
or portion. It is taxed at 8½ marks. The presentee, Sir Walter  
[Osborn], is of good character and legitimate birth. He is not  
beneficed elsewhere. No simony or other illicit agreement has  
taken place; nor is there any reason why the presentation should  
not take effect. Norton Philip, 20 May, 1447.

At the personal request of the person making this certificate  
the dean of Malmesbury affixed his seal of office thereto.

273. Institution of Sir William Banyng, chaplain, as perpetual  
vicar of the church of Holy Cross in the suburb of Bristol, vacant  
by the death of Sir John Jordan, on the presentation of the prior  
of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Dogmers-  
feld, 27 May, 1447.

274. Collation to Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, *f. 64.*  
the bishop's chancellor, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of  
Whitchirche vacant by the death of Sir John Lane; and institu-  
tion, etc. accordingly. 6 June, the same place and year.

275. Collation to Master Henry Carpenter, bachelor in laws,  
of the church of Stokegifford, vacant and in the bishop's collation  
by right; and institution of him as rector. Date as above.

276. Institution of Sir John Sloo, priest, in the person of  
Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelor in both laws, his proctor, as  
perpetual vicar of the church of Dunster, on the presentation of  
the prior and chapter of Bath. Date as above.

277. Institution of Sir John Bould, priest, as rector of the  
church of Cheddeseye, vacant by the death of Sir John Lane,

1447. on the presentation of William, marquess of Suffolk and earl of Pembroke, great chamberlain of England. Date as above.

278. Peremptory citation of Walter, abbot of Keynesham, and his fellow-canons, to appear before the bishop in their chapter-house on Monday after SS. Peter and Paul, to wit 3 July next, and so from day to day ; as the bishop,—having heard by common report, which has reached the ears of the highest in the realm and even the king, that the religious of the said convent have, through the abbot's weak and negligent governance, fallen into such evil and detestable ways that they have not scrupled to commit every kind of wickedness, even wilful homicide, mutilation, perjury and other fearful crimes, leaving their cloister and wandering abroad in their foolishness, pursuing all the vanities, pleasures and dissolute ways of the world, stirring up discords, hatreds, strifes and seditions among themselves, turning good order into disorder, and trampling underfoot the rule and method of right living and the injunctions and admonitions which the bishop laid on them in his visitation and subsequently,—has decided to come down in person and make enquiry as to the truth of the above report and the general state of the house and its members. 8 June, the same place and year.

f. 65. 279. Commission to Master John Bernard, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals, to hold the said enquiry in place of the bishop, who is hindered by arduous business, and to correct, reform and punish whatever he shall find amiss, even to the extent of inflicting the penalty of suspension, deprivation, removal, or exclusion, and do whatever else is necessary or proper in the matter. The bishop's inn at London, 23 June, 1447.

280. Collation to Sir John Walshe, priest, in the person of Sir John Wey, his proctor, to the church of Estham, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Were and in the bishop's collation owing to six months' lapse of time, in accordance with the Lateran council ; and institution of him as rector. 28 June, the same place and year.

281. Attestation by Master John Machon, notary-public, of

the resignation by Master William Langton, as proctor of Master Robert Stillyngton, canon of Wells and prebendary of Whitchirche, of the said canonry and prebend ; and of the admission by the bishop of the said resignation. Present, Master Robert Tarry, bachelor in laws, and Sir John Trevenant, canons of Wells, and the notary. Dogmersfeld manor, by the entry of the chapel, 24 July, 1447. 1447.

282. Collation to Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, in the person of Master William Langton, his proctor, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of St. Decuman's vacant by the death of Sir William Stevenes.<sup>1</sup> The bishop's inn at London, 30 June, 1447.

Institution and investiture of the said Master Robert. Dogmersfeld, 24 July, 1447.

283. Attestation by William Langton, notary-public, the bishop's registrar, of the resignation by Master John Moreton, professor of theology, canon of Wells and prebendary of Combe XV, of his canonry and prebend ; and of the admission by the bishop of the said resignation. Present, John Gauter, gentleman, the younger, John Compayne, clerk, and the notary. 25 July, the same place and year.

284. Collation to the said Master John Moreton of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Whitchirche vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Stillyngton ; and institution, etc. accordingly. Date as above.

285. Collation to Master Thomas Bromehale, bachelor in both laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe XV. vacant by the resignation of Master John Moreton ; and institution, etc. accordingly. Date as above. f. 66.

286. Collation to Sir Thomas Tailliour, priest, in the person of Master John Machon, clerk, his proctor, of the chapel with cure of St. Laurence, Spertgrove, vacant by the death of Sir

<sup>1</sup> The will of William Stevenes, precentor of Wells, proved on 31 July, 1447, contains a bequest of 20s. to the fabric of the church of St. Decuman's. *Somerset Med. Wills*, pp. 157-159.

1447. John Grendon and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time, in accordance with the statutes of the Lateran council; and institution of him as perpetual chaplain. Evercriche, 7 August, 1447.

287. Collation to Sir Thomas Parker, priest, of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Pilton, vacant by the death of Sir Walter Alexandre and in the bishop's collation by reason of his custody of the precentorship of Wells, then vacant; and institution of him as perpetual vicar. Letter of induction to Sir Richard Atkyns, rector of the church of Hornyngdon,<sup>1</sup> the bishop's commissary for the purpose. 12 August, 1447.

288. Commission and order to the archdeacons of Wells, Taunton and Bath,—in pursuance of a bull of Pope Nicholas V, dated at St. Peter's, Rome, 12 Kal. Apr. 1446[-7], to John, archbishop of Canterbury, transmitted by the archbishop to Robert, bishop of London, by letters dated in Lamhith manor, 9 June, 1447, and by the bishop of London to the bishop of Bath and Wells by letters dated in his palace of London, 10 July, 1447, requesting the archbishop to order solemn processions with the mass of the Holy Ghost to be held in his diocese and province, in which prayers may be offered to God on his (the pope's) behalf on his recent election,—to cause the said processions to be held with all speed in the cathedral churches of Bath and Wells and all other regular and secular churches of the diocese. Banwell, 16 August, 1447.

f. 67. 289. Letters dimissory to all orders for Robert Peny, of Bruton, who has the first tonsure. 4 September, the same place and year.

290. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for John Trowe and Agnes his wife to have masses and other divine services celebrated in the presence of themselves and their servants and household in the chapel, or oratory, or other suitable place within

<sup>1</sup> Richard Adekyns had been instituted vicar of Pilton in 1418, but had resigned that church in or before 1428. *Reg. Bubwith*, p. 343; *Reg. Stafford*, p. 64.

their manor of Playnesfeld,<sup>1</sup> provided that no prejudice to their parish church result therefrom. 6 September, the same place and year. 1447.

291. Collation to Sir John Body, priest, of the vicarage of the church of Stowey by Chiew, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Travwynter and in the bishop's collation by right; and institution of him as perpetual vicar. Letter of induction to Master John Stokes, keeper of the peculiar jurisdiction of Chiew. Present, Sir William, rector of the church of Bledon, Sir John Garnesey, vicar of the church of Banwell, and William Langton, notary-public. 9 September, the same place and year.

292. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest for Thomas Gunwyne, of Nony, subdeacon. 23 September, the same place and year.

293. Institution of Sir Thomas Heynes, priest, as rector of the church of Wroxhale, vacant by the death of Sir William Stevenes, on the presentation of Theobald Gorges, knight. Woky, 1 October, 1447.

294. Commission to Master Walter Roche, bachelor in both laws, to enquire as to the patronage of the church of Monkeselver, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Belham, to which Sir John Lashow, priest, has been presented by the abbot and convent of Teukesbury, who allege that they are proprietaries of the priory of Goldclyff and consequently patrons of the said church. 2 October, the same place and year.

295. Collation to Geoffrey Holme, clerk, vicar of the choir of Wells cathedral, of the eighteenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. Date as above.

296. Exemplification and ratification by the bishop of letters of Robert, prior, and the chapter of Bath, dated in their chapter-house, 16 Kal. Sept. (17 August), 1308, confirming letters of Walter, late bishop of Bath and Wells, dated at Woky, 7 Id. Jan. [7 January], 1302, reciting that a dispute has arisen between

<sup>1</sup> Plainsfield, in Over Stowey.

1447. Master Henry Husee, chancellor of Wells, rector of the church of Kyngesbury, and Sir William of Lamport, vicar of the church of Kyngesbury, as to the portions received by the vicar, and that both parties have submitted to the bishop's ordinance in the matter, and that he has decreed that the vicars shall in future receive the following portions, to wit a dwelling-house with a curtilage, 13*a.* of arable in the demesne fields of the rector, as already assigned to Sir William, 1*a.* of meadow lying by Sir William's garden, all manner of oblations arising in the church, together with mortuary fees of the parishioners and oblations arising in the chapel of St. Mary Magdalen which is in the rector's court (*curia*), the tithe of lambs, calves, foals, geese, young pigs, doves, eggs, wool, flax, honey, cheese, milk, butter, apples and pears, from the parishioners and from the bishop's court in Kyngesbury, and a third part of the tithe of hay from the parishioners, with the whole tithe of hay from the bishop's demesne in the manor of Kyngesbury. The vicars shall render to the rector 2*s.* yearly as rent for the dwelling-house, and 12*d.* at Martinmas and 12*d.* at Whitsun for a space granted by the rector to the vicars for enlarging their court. They shall also maintain at their own cost a suitable chaplain and a clerk to serve them in the church; and shall give holy water to a suitable clerk who shall attend (*frequentabit*) the schools on ordinary days and minister to them in the church on Sundays and feast days. They shall also maintain the lights in the chancel of the church, but no other charge shall they acknowledge.<sup>1</sup> Woky, 2 October, 1447.

297. Institution of Sir John Jonys, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Asshton, vacant by reason of Sir Thomas Heynes, the late vicar, obtaining the church of Wroxale, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. Banwell, 5 October, 1447.

298. Probate by Master Thomas Bromhale, the bishop's commissary, of the will (not quoted) of John Marys, of the parish of Banwell, and grant of administration to Joan, the testator's relict and executrix. She was exempted from rendering an account because of the smallness of the estate. Banwell parish church, 7 October, 1447.

<sup>1</sup> *Two Chartularies of Bath*, part ii. p. 167.

299. Attestation by William Langton, clerk, notary-public, of the resignation by Thomas Abendon, Augustinian Friar, inceptor of theology, of the church of Creket Malerbe. Present, Master John Moreton, professor of theology, canon of Wells, John Straunge, and the notary. Banwell manor, 12 October, 1447.

300. Collation to the said Thomas Abendon of the perpetual vicarage of Stokelond Gauntez, vacant by the death of Sir John Cole and in the bishop's collation by right ; and institution of him as perpetual vicar. Date as above.

301. Collation to Sir John Bubbe, priest, of the perpetual vicarage of Chiew, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Compton and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him accordingly. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, keeper of the peculiar jurisdiction there, or, in his absence, to Sir Simon, parochial chaplain of the said church. 14 October, the same place and year.

302. Collation to Robert Norys, vicar choral of Wells cathedral ; of the tenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 26 October, the same place and year.

303. The like to Sir John Combe, of the eleventh chamber on the east side. Date as above.

304. Institution of Master Robert Mathew, priest, M.A., as perpetual vicar of the church of Cleeve, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Sym, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cleeve. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 30 October, the same place and year.

305. Collation to Master John Bernard, bachelor in decrees, of the precentorship of Wells, vacant by the death of Sir William Stevenes ; and institution, etc. accordingly. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general. f. 69.

Resignation by the said Master John, in consequence of the said collation, of his church of Kelveston. Present, Sir John Trevenant, canon of Wells, Sir Robert Caitour, vicar in the choir



1447. of Wells, and William Langton, the bishop's registrar. Woky, 8 November, 1447.

306. Commission to Master John Raynold, subdean of Wells, and Master John Pederton, professor of theology, residentiary canons, Sir John Trevenant, canon, and Sir John Pedewell, vicar, of Wells cathedral, to be coadjutors of Master Thomas Bubbewith, archdeacon of Wells, who is so broken with old age, sickness and feebleness of body that he cannot satisfactorily perform the duties of his office or manage his own affairs; and grant to them of free administration of all his goods and things, with all the usual powers of coadjutors. Date as above.

307. Collation to Henry Abyndon, clerk, of the succentorship of Wells, vacant by the resignation of Master John Bernard and in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution, etc. accordingly. Letter of induction to the said Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells. The bishop's inn at London, 24 November, 1447.

308. Institution of Sir John Wynnyngham, priest, in the person of Master Thomas Bromehale, bachelor in both laws, his proctor, as rector of the church of Kelveston, vacant by the resignation of Master John Bernard, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury. 26 November, the same place and year.

309. Collation to Master John Morton, professor of theology, canon of Wells, for so long as he shall continue canon, of the houses in Wells which Sir John Lane inhabited while he was a residentiary canon. Woky, 27 November, 1447.

310. Institution of Master John Stretton, bachelor in both laws, as rector of the church of Norton under Hamden, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Bigge, on the presentation of Sir William de la Pole, marquess and earl of Suffolk, earl of Pembroke, and great chamberlain of England.<sup>1</sup> 19 December, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> John Straton *alias* Wode, rector of Norton under Hamdon, obtained a dispensation, in 1448, to hold an additional benefice. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 41.

311. Collation to Sir John Trevenaunt, priest, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmour II. vacant by the consecration of Sir John de la Bere as bishop of St. Davids ; and institution, etc. accordingly. 20 December, the same place and year. 1447.

312. Collation to Master John Boleyn of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Holecumbe vacant by the resignation of Sir John Trevenant ; and institution, etc. accordingly. 21 December, the same place and year.

313. Order to the reeve of the city of Bath to pay 100s. yearly to the master and brethren of the hospital of St. John, Bath, out of the bishop's rents of the city, starting at Easter next ; as the bishop has granted them the said annuity in recompense for the sheaves and other things which they say they have long been wont to receive from his predecessors. Wells palace, 3 January, 1447[-8]. 1448.

314. Whereas Sir John Symmes, vicar of the church of Cleeve, realising his great age and bodily weakness, and his inability to labour longer in the Lord's vineyard, has resigned his vicarage, and the bishop, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cleeve, has instituted Master Robert Mathew, M.A., as vicar in his place, it has seemed good to the bishop, after consultation with the abbot and convent and the said Master Robert, to assign an annuity and yearly pension to Sir John, who has no patrimony or fortune of his own, in order that he may not be forced to beg for the necessities of life, to the reproach of the order of priesthood. He therefore assigns to him a yearly pension of 100s. for life, to be paid by the present vicar and his successors out of the fruits, rents and proceeds of the vicarage, as well as a chamber built by him on the west side of the hall of the vicarage and the small garden made by him on the south side of the curtilage of the vicarage, with free entry and exit at suitable times. The present vicar has sworn on the Gospels to observe this award on pain of incurring the greater excommunication, which the bishop hereby promulgates against him as often as payment of the pension is delayed wholly or partly for a month after any term of payment. In the event of *f. 70.*

1448. the present vicar or any of his successors failing to pay any instalment of the pension within a month of its falling due, or violating this award in any way, the fruits, etc. of the vicarage shall *ipso facto* be sequestrated. Every future vicar shall make oath, at the time of his admission and institution, to pay the said pension, and special mention of the said charge is to be made in the letters of admission and institution of every such future vicar. Woky, 10 January, 1447[-8].

315. Institution of Sir John Lashowe, priest, as rector of the church of All Saints, Monkeselver, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Belham, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Tewkesbury, proprietaries of the priory of Goldeclif, which is annexed to their monastery, and consequently patrons of the said church, as appears by inquisition. Banwell, 10 January, 1447[-8].

316. Grant of forty days' indulgence to all contrite persons who shall give or bequeath of their goods for the relief of Robert Molyneus, who was lately taken captive by the Turks and Saracens in the service of the king of Hungary and prince of Moureyt, and has not the wherewithal to pay the huge (*nimis excessiva*) sum required for redeeming the pledges he has left behind them in captivity. 20 January, the same place and year.

f. 71. 317. Collation to Sir Robert Reve *alias* Mersh, priest, in the person of Master John Machon, notary-public, his proctor, of the church of Henton St. George, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Mersh and in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as rector. Date as above.

318. Assignment to the said Master Thomas Mersh of a yearly pension of 10 marks out of the fruits, etc. of the church of Henton St. George, [in terms similar to the assignment made to the retiring vicar of Cleeve, no. 314, except that no mention is made in this case of the great age of the retiring rector]. Banwell chapel, 20 January, 1447[-8].

1447. 319. Grant for life to the bishop's servant, William Mytton, for long service, of the keepership of the bishop's park of West-

bury, with such wages and profits as Richard Sprot, the last keeper, received. Banwell, 25 December, 1447. 1447.

320. Institution of Sir John Howell, priest, in the person of Thomas Rever, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of St. Peter, Wynsford, vacant by the resignation of Sir Adam Colyns, on the presentation of the prior and convent of St. Nicholas, Berlich. Banwell, 21 January, 1447[-8]. 1448.  
f. 72.

321. Order to the archdeacons of Wells, Taunton and Bath, —on a report which has reached the bishop that tithes of lambs, foals, calves and the other young of animals are not properly paid by some of his subjects, partly on account of the cowardice of the incumbents of churches and partly through ignorance of a certain constitution relating to the manner and form of payment of such tithes, the tenor of which is as follows <sup>1</sup>:—

‘As to the young of animals, we have decided that for six lambs, and under, 6 halfpence may be given for tithe, but for seven lambs, or more, a lamb shall be given for tithe (*septimus agnus et supra detur pro decima*) ; provided nevertheless that the rector receiving the seventh lamb shall give the parishioner 1½*d.* in compensation, and 1*d.* for the eighth lamb and ½*d.* for the ninth. Or the rector may wait until the following year to receive his full tithe if he prefers, in which case he shall always demand the second best lamb of the second year, or the third best at least, in compensation for having waited. Similarly, he who gives his seventh or eighth lamb as tithe shall give the third best at least, not the best or the worst. And so with foals, calves and other young of animals,’

—to cause the said constitution to be publicly declared in the vulgar tongue in all the churches of their archdeaconries, with an admonition to the parishioners that they obey the same in all respects within a month, under penalty of incurring the greater excommunication. 22 January, the same place and year.

322. Licence for Master William North, perpetual vicar of the parish church of North Cory, to celebrate masses and have masses celebrated in his presence within the habitation of his

<sup>1</sup> Lyndwode, *Constitutiones Provinciales*, lib. iii. tit. 16.

1448. vicarage and in any other places ordained for divine worship in the diocese; provided no prejudice be done to any parish churches. Woky, 25 January, 1447[-8].

323. Peremptory admonition and order to Master Thomas Bubwith, archdeacon of Wells, to be obedient to the coadjutors whom the bishop has appointed for him on account of his old age (no. 306), under penalty of incurring the greater excommunication. Date as above.

324. Commission to Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, and Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general,—in consequence of continuous complaints that some of the clergy of the diocese holding benefices with cure, to wit parish churches and their perpetual vicarages, collect and receive all the emoluments and yearly fruits of their benefices, but refuse to undertake the office and charge annexed thereto, or to reside therein,—to enquire as to the names of non-resident clerks in the diocese, admonish them to return to their benefices within the period defined by the canons, proceed against any who are contrariant or contumacious, and deprive them of their benefices if necessary, and do whatever else is necessary and proper in the matter. Dogmersfeld, 5 February, 1447[-8].

325. Letters dimissory to all orders for John FitzJames, the younger, of Redlich. 10 February, the same place and year.

. 73. 326. Commission to Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general,—on a report that the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol, have appropriated the church of Tykenham, alleging themselves to be proprietaries thereof, and that no vicarage, or at any rate a very poor and barren one, has been set up there,—to enquire by what title they hold the church, and whether there is a vicarage there, and, if so, how it is endowed. If the church is duly appropriated to the abbot and convent, and no vicarage has been set up there, he is to ordain a perpetual vicarage and endow it suitably. If there is an existing vicarage there, and Sir John Warwyk, who acts as vicar, wishes to take action against the abbot and convent with a view to securing an augmentation of the same, the commissary is to take cognisance

of the case and bring it to a due and canonical termination. 1448.  
Woky, 31 March, 1448.

327. Grant to Thomas, prior of the cathedral church of SS. Peter and Paul, Bath, and the convent of that place, and their successors,—in view of the many hardships, dangers and losses sustained and incurred by them and their servants about the carriage of timber and fuel from their wood called 'Southwode,' parcel of their manor of Forde,<sup>1</sup> to their house and monastery in Bath, owing to the length of the ancient common way leading from the said wood and manor to Bath, which is often deep, dangerous and muddy through floods,—that they may build a bridge 20 feet in breadth across the bishop's moiety and part of the river Awone opposite to a field of his called 'Allersmede *alias* Allersmore,' in his manor of Claverton, dig in his soil in the said moiety and on the bank of the river, fix stones, etc. for the support of the bridge, repair the bridge, or build a fresh one whenever necessary, and make a way, or path, of the above breadth, from the said bridge across the said field to a gate called 'Allersgate,' and thence to a way lying between Claverton and Combe, and thence over the bishop's soil northwards as far as a furlong called 'Middelforlongne' on the west side of the said way, and so westwards over the said furlong by the 'southmere' thereof, and over a furlong of the bishop's called 'Hyforlongne' as far as a path called 'Parkers Pathe,' and across the said path and through a piece of the bishop's land called 'a grovelynche' as far as the east end of a small wood called 'a grove,' commonly called 'Wilkynsgrove,' and from there under the south side of a certain bank called 'the hurst' as far as the end of the said bank, and from thence as far as the south side of a close under the aforesaid small wood, and along the hedge of the said close as far as the west end of the aforesaid small wood, and from thence as far as the highway over the hill called 'Clavertons Doune' lying between Claverton and Bath and leading to Bath. This bridge and path they may for ever use for the passage of their carts, wagons and carriages between their manor of Forde and the city of Bath. Banwell, 3 April, 1448.

<sup>1</sup> Bathford.

1448 328. Probate by Master Thomas Bromhale, the bishop's commissary, of the will (not quoted) of William Mayow, of Banwell, and grant of administration to Agnes, the testator's relict and executrix. She was exempted from rendering an account by reason of the smallness of the estate. Banwell parish church, 6 April, 1448.

329. Collation to Peter Courteney, clerk, in his absence, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe IX. vacant by the death of Master William Skelton. Date as above.

Institution and investiture of the said Peter as canon and prebendary. Present, Master John Moreton, Sir John Trevenant and William Langton. Woky, 12 April, 1448.

330. Commission to Master John Stokys, commissary-general, at the instance of Sir Thomas Haynes, rector of the church of Wroxhale, to enquire as to the defects which have arisen in the chancel of Wroxhale church, the dwelling-house of the rectory there, and the other buildings and things belonging to the said church, through the fault and negligence of Sir William Stevenes, the last rector. Woky chapel, 12 April, 1448.

f. 74. 331. Commission to the same to examine a charge of incontinence, adultery and incest between Sir Thomas Bray, rector of the church of Newton Saynctloo, and Cecily the wife of Ellis Smyth, his parishioner and spiritual daughter, and to proceed in that matter even to the point of depriving the said Thomas of his church, if his misdeeds deserve it.<sup>1</sup> Woky, 12 April, 1448.

332. Commission to the same, at the instance of Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, to enquire as to the defects, etc. which have arisen in the chancel of the church of Pilton, which church belongs to the precentorship of Wells, and in the dwelling-house of the rectory and the other buildings and things belonging to the said church, through the fault and carelessness of Sir William Stevenes, the last precentor, summoning to the enquiry

<sup>1</sup> See no. 418 below.

the executors or administrators of the said Sir William and all others concerned.<sup>1</sup> 14 April, the same place and year. 1448.

333. Institution of Master John Payne, priest, bachelor in decrees, as perpetual vicar of the parish, or prebendal, church of Yatton, vacant by the death of Sir John Blode, on the presentation of Master John Macworth, canon of Wells and prebendary of Yatton. Present, Master John Moreton, Master Thomas Mersh and William Langton, registrar. The bishop's lodging in the dwelling-house of Richard Page, of Warmynstre, 16 April, 1448.

334. Presentation by the bishop to William, bishop of Salisbury, of Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, [for admission] to the church of Asshbury in the diocese of Salisbury, vacant by the death of Master William Skelton. Dogmersfeld, 17 April, 1448.

335. Commission to Master John Bernard, official of the consistory of Wells, and Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general, to enquire as to the patronage and vacancy of the church of Horsyngton, to which Master John Austell has been presented by John Kemys, esquire, who claims to be patron. The bishop's inn at London, 26 April, 1448.

Subsequently, on 6 May, at the same place, the bishop received the king's writ, dated at Westminster, 31 April, 26 Henry VI, prohibiting him from admitting a parson to the said church until it had been decided in the king's court whether the advowson belonged to the said John Kemys or to Theobald Gorges, knight, who also claimed it.

On 6 July, at the same place, the bishop, on receiving a presentation by Theobald Gorges, knight, of Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, to the said church, issued a commission to Master John Stokys and Master William North, bachelors in both laws, and Thomas Been, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, to enquire as to the vacancy and patronage of the church.

On the same day, another commission issued to Master William North and Master Thomas Faireman, vicar of the church of

<sup>1</sup> His will, proved in July 1447, contains a bequest of 20s. to the fabric of Pilton church. *Somerset Med. Wills*, p. 157.



1448. Estpennard, bachelor in decrees, to institute Master Thomas MerSSH as rector, in the event of it being found that the claim of Sir Theobald was well grounded.

Subsequently, on 23 July, in the manor of Dogmersfeld, the said Master Thomas MerSSH exhibited certificates made by Master William North, in pursuance of the two last-mentioned commissions to him, whereby it appeared that on 15 July in the church of Horsyngton, having satisfied himself by inquisition touching the right of Sir Theobald to present, he instituted Master Thomas MerSSH as rector of the said church, vacant by the death of Master John Combe, on the presentation of the said Sir Theobald.

- f. 75. 336. Certificate by Master William North that, on receipt of the bishop's commission of 6 July to enquire as to the vacancy and patronage of the church of Horsyngton, he summoned the following persons, to wit Master Thomas Fairman, vicar of Estpennard, Sir John Combe, rector of Weston Bamville, Sir Nicholas Wythill, vicar of Castelcary, Sir John Corbet, vicar of Milborn Port, Sir John Smyth, vicar of Evercriche, and Sir Ralph Freer, chaplain, as well as William Hanam, William Brice, Nicholas Mille, John Blakemore, John Barbour, William Itery, John William, John Smyth and Thomas Hoper, of the parish of Horsyngton, to appear before him in the church of Horsyngton on 15 July, and that their finding was as follows:—Sir Maurice Russell, knight, being seised in his demesne as of fee of the manor of Horsyngton, which is held of the king in chief by knight's service and to which the advowson belongs, married a certain Joan, who survives, and had issue by her a certain Thomas. Afterwards he died seised, leaving Thomas a minor. The king by letters patent granted the custody of the manor during the minority of Thomas, together with the advowson, to Thomas duke of Clarence. The duke appointed the lady Margaret, his wife, as his executrix, and afterwards died.<sup>1</sup> After his death, the church became vacant by the death of Sir John Sparke, chaplain; and the lady Margaret, as executrix, presented Master John Combe. Afterwards, the said Thomas, son of Sir Maurice,

<sup>1</sup> *Royal Wills*, p. 230. He was slain in March 1421.

died without issue.<sup>1</sup> Thereupon the right to the manor, together with the advowson, reverted to John Haket, esquire, as his kinsman and heir, that is to say as son of Alice, Sir Maurice's sister. By gift and feoffment of the said heir, the aforesaid Sir Theobald Gorges *alias* Russell, knight, together with Sir Giles Dawbeney, knight, and Sir Thomas Beucham, knight, both now deceased, and William More, Thomas Brown, Walter Portman, Alexander Hody and William Gascoigne, had the said heir's estate in the manor and advowson. Afterwards, the said Sir Theobald released all his right therein to his co-feoffees, and they, except the two deceased knights, granted the same to him and the lady Joan, his wife, and the heirs of their bodies. So, he is the sole and true patron of the church. Master John Combe, the last rector, died on 10 April last. Master Thomas Merssh, the presentee, is suitable in birth, knowledge and character, and is a priest. No simony or illicit agreement has taken place in connexion with his presentation. Sealed with the seals of the official of the archdeacon of Wells and the said inquisitors. Horsyngton, 15 July, 1448.

337. Institution of Sir Thomas Colyns, rector of Bageworth, in the person of John Stokys, his proctor, as rector of the church of Benefeld, in the diocese of Salisbury, on the presentation of abbot and convent of St. Mary's, Cirencestre; with special reservation to the bishop of Salisbury of the induction and canonical obedience of the said Sir Thomas.

Institution of Master Richard Bristow, late rector of Benefeld, as rector of the church of Bageworth, on the presentation of Richard Hampton, of Estharpstre, esquire.

The above exchange of benefices was approved and executed by the bishop by virtue of a commission from William, bishop of Salisbury. The bishop's inn at London, 27 April, 1448.

338. Institution of Sir Edmund Yalton, priest, as rector of the church of Stoke upon Sea,<sup>2</sup> vacant by the resignation of Master John Payne, on the presentation of John More and Richard Roucetre. And because the said Edmund seemed to

<sup>1</sup> Inq. p.m., 10 Hen. VI, 39.

<sup>2</sup> Now called Walton-in-Gordano.

1448. the bishop to be too simple and mediocre in knowledge for the cure of souls, he took from him an oath that he would diligently study letters and the Scriptures for two years, and admitted him for the time being as rector, at the instance of Richard Newton, justice. Present, Master Thomas Merssh, Thomas Eustace and William Langton. 28 April, the same place and year.

f. 76. 339. Institution of Sir John Bubbe, vicar of the church of Chiew, as rector of the church of Horsmunden in the diocese of Rochester, on the presentation of Sir Henry Percy, knight, lord of Ponynge, Edward Ponynge, M.A., and Robert Ponynge, esquire; with special reservation to the bishop of Rochester of the induction and canonical obedience of the said Sir John.

Institution of Sir John Meteve, late rector of the church of Horsmunden, as perpetual vicar of the church of Chiew, which is in the bishop's collation by full right. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, keeper of the peculiar jurisdiction there, or, in his absence, Sir Simon, chaplain of Chiew.

The above exchange of benefices was approved and executed by the bishop by virtue of a commission from John, bishop of Rochester, and in the presence of John Machon, Thomas Eustace and William Langton. 30 April, the same place and year.

340. Attestation by William Langton, notary-public, of the resignation by Master Robert Stillyngton of the vicarage of the church of Congresbury, reserving to himself the right to receive the fruits, proceeds and oblations thereof until Michaelmas next. Present, John Bosvile and William Hoper, literates, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, and the notary. Date as above.

341. Institution of Sir Robert Ferby, perpetual vicar of the church of Combe St. Nicholas, as perpetual vicar of the church of Tenham, in the diocese of Canterbury, on the presentation of Master Thomas Chichele, doctor of decrees, prothonotary of the apostolic see and archdeacon of Canterbury; with special reservation to the archbishop of the induction and canonical obedience of the said Sir Robert.

Institution of Sir Richard Heycroft, late vicar of the church of Tenham, as perpetual vicar of the church of Combe St. Nicholas,

on the presentation of Master Richard Hore, provost and canon of Wells. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general. 1448.

The above exchange of benefices was approved and executed by the bishop by virtue of a commission from John, archbishop of Canterbury, in the presence of John Bosvile, John Huchon and William Langton. 6 May, the same place and year.

342. Collation to Master Nicholas Cloos, professor of theology,<sup>1</sup> in the person of Master William Langton, notary-public, his proctor, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmour IV. vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Aiscough; and institution, etc. accordingly. Present, Master Thomas Merssh, Thomas Purveour, and John Machon, notary-public. Dogmersfeld, 16 May, 1448.

343. Institution of Master John Rigge, M.A., as rector of the church of South Cadbury, on the presentation of Walter, lord of Hungerford, knight. Present, Master Thomas Boleyn, canon of Wells, John Appesford and William Langton. 25 May, the same place, and year.

344. Institution of Sir John Pedewell, priest, in the person of Master John Machon, clerk, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wynscombe, vacant by the death of Sir Henry Martyn, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells, the dean being absent. Present, John Bosvile, Thomas Westley and William Langton, the bishop's registrar. The bishop's inn at London, 29 May, 1448.

345. Institution of Sir Richard Huchyn, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Stokegommer, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Pedewell, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells, in the absence of the dean. Present, as above. Date as above.

346. Institution of Sir John Goodyng, rector of Bekynton, as perpetual chaplain and master of the chantry of Maunton, in

<sup>1</sup> Nicholas Cloos, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, afterwards bishop of Carlisle.

1448. the diocese of Lincoln, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Lincoln cathedral, the dean being excommunicate ; with special reservation to the bishop of Lincoln of his induction and canonical obedience.

f. 77. Institution of Sir Nicholas Pierson, late master of the said chantry, as rector of the church of Bekynton, on the presentation of Edmund Hungerford, knight, patron for this turn by reason of the minority of Thomas Seymour (*de Sancto Mauro*), who is in his wardship by assignment of the king.

The above exchange of benefices was approved and executed by the bishop by virtue of a commission from William, bishop of Lincoln, in the presence of John Bosvile, Thomas Westley, and William Langton, registrar. Date as above.

347. Collation to Sir John Knocston, priest, in the person of Master John Walbrond, notary-public, his proctor, of the church of Stokegifford, vacant by the resignation of Master Henry Carpenter and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him as rector. Present, Thomas Eustace, Richard Parkerton, of Claverton, and William Langton. 9 June, the same place and year.

348. Licence for Stephen Hoper, of Yevel, merchant, on account of his age and bodily weakness, to have masses and other divine offices celebrated and said by a suitable chaplain in the chapel, or oratory, or other suitable place within his dwelling in the parish of Yevel, provided the church of Yevel suffer no prejudice. 12 June, the same place and year.

349. Collation to Sir Robert Slymbrigg, priest, of the church of Chelvey, vacant and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as rector. Present, Richard Erle, John Compeyne and William Langton. Dogmersfeld, 21 June, 1448.

350. Institution of Sir John Warpton, priest, as rector of the church of Cloteworthi, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Dawkyn, on the presentation of William Clowtesham of Tymbrescombe and Margaret his wife, patrons for this turn, and for every turn alter-

nately with the heirs of John Arundel, in right of the said Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Lambroke.<sup>1</sup> The said Sir John promised, under a penalty of 40*l.*, to preserve the bishop from trouble in respect of his admission to the said church. Present, John Compeyn, John Payne and William Langton. 26 June, the same place and year. 1448.

351. Appointment of Sir John Trevenant, canon of Wells, and Sir John Haydour, vicar of Wells cathedral, the bishop's surveyor, and each of them, to claim, exact, receive and levy from all the bishop's reeves, bailiffs, officers, ministers, tenants and other debtors whatever sums of money are due to the bishop in the diocese, and to implead such debtors, if necessary, in any ecclesiastical or secular court, and to give receipts and acquittances, and to do whatever the bishop might do in regard to the premises if he were present. 29 June, the same place and year.

352. Institution of Sir John Roberd, priest, as rector of the church of Culve *alias* Kylve, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Grene, on the presentation of Henry Horsy, esquire, Thomas Hardegrave and John Storke, patrons for this turn by reason of a feoffment of the manor and advowson of Culve made to them by John Roger the elder, lord of Culve. Inasmuch as the said Sir John, in order that he might be spared labour and expense, was admitted as above without any previous inquisition taken as to the right of those presenting, he entered into a bond in 40*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble in respect of his said admission. He also undertook that, in order to increase his understanding of the Scriptures and letters, which seemed very mediocre at the time of his admission, he would have some suitable chaplain in his church for two years, and during that time attend some suitable school where he might learn the rules of grammar and obtain at least a grammatical understanding of the Scriptures, offering himself for examination by the bishop, or his successor, at the end of the period. Present, Master John Moreton and Sir John Trevenant, canons of Wells, John Machon, and William Langton, notary-public. Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> *Some Somerset Manors*, p. 212.

1448. 353. Institution of Sir Richard Prowtyng, priest, as rector of the church of Clopton, vacant by the death of Sir John Dyer, on the presentation of Richard Arthur, esquire, lord of Clopton. Present, Richard Erle, gentleman, John Payne, and William Langton, the bishop's registrar. 30 June, the same place and year.

Commission to Master John Sparhawk, bachelor in both laws, to enquire as to the state of the said rectory and the defects in the chancel of the church, the dwelling-house of the rectory, and other houses and things there which have happened owing to the carelessness of the late rector, and to sequester all the fruits, things and goods of the said late rector, in order that provision may be made for the necessary repairs. Date as above.

354. Institution of Sir Richard Ley, chaplain, in the person of John Lewys, literate, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Virgin Mary in the church of Est Coker, vacant by the death of Sir Nicholas Brewer, on the presentation of Philip Courteney, knight. Present, Master Thomas Boleyne, Thomas Warreyn, and William Langton, notary-public and bishop's registrar. 1 July, the same place and year.

355. Institution of Sir Thomas Smyth, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Portbury, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Prowtyng, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol. Although the said Sir Thomas seemed to the bishop to be hardly fit to hold a benefice with cure, nevertheless, in view of his youth and the liveliness and aptness (*capacitas*) of his mind, he admitted him to the vicarage, giving him strict injunctions to apply himself with diligence for two years to increasing his knowledge of the rules of grammar and obtaining a better knowledge of letters and at least a grammatical understanding of the Scriptures, and to offer himself for examination by the bishop, or his successor, within a month after Michaelmas, 1450, on condition that, in the event of his being found not to have made sufficient progress by then, he should resign his vicarage. He swore on the Gospels to observe the above conditions, and entered into a bond in 10*l.* for greater

security. Present, Master Thomas Bromhale, Thomas Eustace 1448.  
and William Langton. 16 July, the same place and year.

356. Institution of Thomas Randell, clerk, as rector of the church of Babbecary, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Smyth, on the presentation of Edmund Hungerford, knight, patron for this turn by reason of the minority of Thomas Seymour (*de Sancto Mauro*), son and heir of John Seymour, who is in his wardship by assignment of the king.

Assignment by the bishop of a yearly pension to the resigning rector, as below (next entry). Present, Master John Morton, Master Thomas Bromehale, William Langton and others. 17 July, the same place and year.

357. Assignment to Sir John Smyth, late rector of the church of Babbecary, who has resigned it, on account of his great age and bodily weakness and his inability to labour longer in the Lord's vineyard, of a yearly pension of 8 marks for life, to be paid by the present rector and his successors out of the fruits, etc. of the said church, as well as a low house with a chamber built over it adjoining the kitchen of the dwelling-house of the rectory, with free entry and exit at suitable times. [Other conditions as in no. 314 above.] Date as above. f. 79.

358. On a piteous relation by John Person the younger, of Winchester, the bearer, showing that a certain William Mottu (*alias* Motton) of Southampton, merchant, fell into the hands of French pirates while trading to Aquitaine, and was subsequently sold by them for 100*l.* to a certain Richard Bradkirk, esquire, *vicomte* of Baieux, and that, when it came to the knowledge of the petitioner that for lack of this sum as ransom the said William was still being held in captivity, he became surety for the 60*l.* which still remained unpaid to the said Richard, and made himself the said William's pledge and hostage in the keeping of the same Richard until that sum should be fully paid, for which kindness he has received no reward, but owing to the ingratitude of the said William, who refused to return to captivity or make provision for payment of the 60*l.*, he is in the power of Richard and has borne for some seven years the tortures of chains and prison and the



1448. hard fare of bread and water once a day, and then not to repletion (*saturitatem*), and has moreover now become responsible, owing to the death of William Mottu, for the entire sum of 60*l.* by virtue of his suretyship, and unless this sum be fully paid within a prescribed period he must needs, in accordance with his promise and word of honour to his creditor, re-enter his dreaded prison and undergo pains not unlike those set out above, nay rather even more intolerable, it is feared ; the bishop, in order to relieve the petitioner in his wretchedness and want, hereby grants forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall give, bequeath or assign any of their goods for his assistance ; for one year only. 22 July, the same place and year.

f. 80. 359. Institution of Sir John Hopkyns, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Were, vacant by the death of Sir Walter Bongent, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol ; [subject to the same conditions regarding study as in the case of the vicar of Portbury above, no. 355]. Present, Master John Moreton, Master William Mowter, Thomas MerSSH, rector of the church of Horsyngton, and William Langton. 2 August, the same place and year.

360. Institution of Sir Robert Parfyte, rector of the church of Shepton Malet, canon of Hereford and prebendary of Ewythynghon, as rector of the church of Symondesbargh in the diocese of Salisbury, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cerne ; with special reservation to the bishop of Salisbury of his induction and canonical obedience.

Collation to Master Nicholas Carent, late rector of Symondesbargh, in the person of Master Thomas MerSSH, his proctor, of the above-mentioned canonry and prebend in Hereford cathedral ; and institution of him, in the person of his said proctor, as rector of the church of Shepton Malet, on the presentation of John, archbishop of Canterbury, John Seymour, knight, Thomas Uvedale, esquire, and Richard Cook, patrons for this turn as feoffees in the lands and lordships of Reynold la Warr, lord de la Warre, and especially in his moiety of the lordship of Shepton Malet.

The above exchange of benefices was approved and executed

by the bishop by virtue of commissions from William, bishop of Salisbury, and Thomas, bishop of Hereford, in the presence of Master John Kirkeby, John Compayn and William Langton. 18 August, the same place and year. 1448.

361. Institution of Sir John Spencer, priest, as chaplain of the third perpetual chantry in the church of Wollavyngton, vacant by the death of Sir John Horne, on the presentation of Alexander Hody, esquire. Present, Master Thomas Smyth, M.A., Richard Roche, of Frome, and William Langton. Evercriche, 25 August, 1448.

362. Licence for Sir John Crede, chaplain of the perpetual chantry at the altar of St. Andrew in the church of Frome, who is smitten with leprosy, to absent himself therefrom and live at the chapel, or hermitage, of Langley in the forest of Selwood, or elsewhere as convenient, so long as his malady lasts, withdrawing himself utterly from the society of men in order to avoid the peril of infecting other persons, and in the meantime to receive all the emoluments of his chantry for his support. Date as above.

363. Collation to Sir John Hampton, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the sixteenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close, to hold according to the form laid down by Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop. Woky, 28 August, 1448.

364. Institution of Sir Lewis Davy, priest, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as rector of the church of Stoklynch Mary,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the death of Sir John Lopynford, on the presentation of Florence Denebaude and William Powlet, knight. Present, Master William North, Master Robert Peusesey, and William Langton. Banwell, 29 August, 1448. f. 81.

365. Dispensation for Master Thomas Bubwith, archdeacon of Wells, on account of his old age and weakness, to exercise the sacred office of visitation in his archdeaconry by his official and other ministers; and order to all rectors and vicars of the arch-

<sup>1</sup> Stocklinch Ottersay.

1448. deaconry to obey the said official and ministers in all things and pay them the procurations and other things due to the archdeacon. 31 August, the same place and year.

366. Probate by Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, the bishop's commissary, of the will (not quoted) of John Bustell, of the parish of Banwell, and grant of administration to Joan, the testator's relict, and John, the testator's son, the executors named in the will. Present, John Payne and Thomas Westley, literates, and William Langton. The chapel in Banwell manor, 31 August, 1448.

367. Institution of Sir Richard Vyntener, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Sampford Arundell, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Nicholl, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Canonlegh. Present, Master Robert Stillyngton, Thomas Purveour and William Langton. Banwell, 6 September, 1448.

368. Collation to Sir William Nicholl, priest, of the perpetual chantry of Ford, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as perpetual chaplain. Present, as above. Date as above.

369. Licence for Sir Walter Strotinger, bachelor in laws, rector of the church of Wotton, to be absent in any university for three years, receiving meanwhile the entire fruits of his benefice and letting his church at farm to suitable persons; provided that the cure of souls be not neglected, and that he leave a proctor there to answer in his stead for all charges due from him. Wyvelescombe, 16 September, 1448.

370. Admission of John Pollard and Philip Ocborn, Friars Minors, to hear confessions and act as penitenciers in the diocese, during good behaviour, on the presentation and recommendation of Thomas, provincial minister of their order in England. Lygeard parish church, 16 September, 1448.

371. Institution of Sir Lewis Davy, priest, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as chaplain of the perpetual

chantry in the church of Stokelynche Mary,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the death of Sir John Lopynford, on the presentation of Florence Denebaude and William Powlet, knight. Present, Master Robert Norys, John Compayne, and William Langton. Wyvelescombe, 18 September, 1448.<sup>2</sup> 1448.

372. Institution of Sir (*name blank*), priest, as chaplain of the perpetual chantry of the Holy Ghost in the church of Charleton Adam, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Clerk, on the presentation of John Lymyngton, esquire. Present, Master John Kyrkeby, rector of the church of Hyghame, Thomas Merssh, rector of the church of Horsyngton, and William Langton, notary-public. 19 September, the same place and year.

373. Commission to Master Walter Roche, bachelor in both laws,—on a report that, although a certain William Braye and Alice Sydenham, of the parish of Milverton, some time ago entered into a mutual contract of marriage, and moreover, by authority of the church in Wales, where the under-mentioned impediment was concealed, procured that the said marriage should actually be celebrated, or rather profaned, nevertheless the marriage cannot lawfully hold good, nor can the said William and Alice remain therein as lawful spouses, because, long before the contract of marriage, the said Alice, by lifting from the sacred font a certain Robert, natural son of the said William, entered into such a bond of spiritual relationship with the said William that he and she are forbidden by the decrees of the fathers to enter into a contract of matrimony,—to enquire as to the truth of the said impediment, which William and Alice have often confessed before the bishop in form of law, proceed in the matrimonial cause or matter of making a divorce between them, hear and determine the said cause, and divorce them if the impediment be found to be genuine. 22 September, the same place and year.

374. Institution of Sir John Feeld, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish, or prebendal, church of Estharpree, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Holden, on the presentation of Master f. 82.

<sup>1</sup> See note, p. 101.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. no. 364 above.

1448. William Hoper, canon of Wells and prebendary of Estharpstre. Present, Master John Moreton, Master Thomas Mersh and William Langton. Banwell, 25 September, 1448.

375. Institution of Dan William Somersete, monk of Eynysham, in the diocese of Lincoln, by virtue of the under-mentioned papal dispensation (next entry), as rector of the church of Sutton Byngham, vacant by the resignation of Sir William William,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of Roger Wyke, esquire. Present, John Payne, Thomas Westley and William Langton. 27 September, the same place and year.

[1441.] 376. Dispensation by Pope Eugenius IV. for the above-mentioned Dan William Somersete, a priest, to receive and hold any ecclesiastical benefice usually held by secular clerks, even if it be a parish church or a perpetual vicarage, and to exchange it for another like benefice at his pleasure. Florence, *prid non. Febr.* (4 Feb.), 1440[-1].<sup>2</sup>

377. Institution of Sir Henry Browynyng, priest, as rector of the church of Burnet, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Greffrey, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury. Present, Master John Fitz Warreyn, Thomas Smyth and William Langton, notary-public. An upper chamber wherein the bishop was lodging in the house of the Augustinian Friars, Bristol, 2 October, 1448.

378. Institution of Sir John Yate, priest, as rector of the church of Telesford, vacant by the death of Sir David Lauraunce, on the presentation of Walter, lord of Hungerford, knight. Present, Master Thomas Merssh, Master John Russell and William Langton. 5 October, 1448.

379. Collation to Sir John Spencer *alias* Hilton, priest, of the church of Chelworth, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Wormebrige and in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as rector. Present, William Edmond, Thomas Eustace and William Langton, notary-public. Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

<sup>2</sup> This is not entered in the *Calendar of Papal Letters*.

380. Commission to any catholic bishop, at the request of some of the parishioners of the church of Burnham, to reconcile the said church and the churchyard thereof, which have been polluted by the shedding of blood and the killing of a certain Richard Hopkyns in a conflict which arose between him and John Gover. Banwell, 7 October, 1448.

381. Order to all abbots and priors and the clergy of the diocese publicly and solemnly to announce in their churches on Sundays and feast days at mass, whenever required so to do, that Sir Thomas Northron, who calls himself chaplain of Pensford, is excommunicated, and the said chapel placed under interdict, on account of the said Thomas having been admitted by the people of the town of Pensford to preach in the said chapel, and having openly and publicly preached the word of God there, without being authorised by special privilege or by the bishop's licence, in contravention of the provincial constitutions. Woky, 9 October, 1448.

382. Commission to Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, *f. 83.* and Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general,—on information that Robert Vere, Friar Preacher, of Gloucester, Dan Richard Walley and Dan William Pensford, monks of Bath cathedral, and a secular chaplain whose name is unknown, being well aware of the interdict laid on Pensford chapel (last entry), wantonly violated the said interdict by publicly celebrating mass and taking part in divine service in the chapel, at the instance of Robert Tanner, of Pensford,—to take cognisance of the above report in form of law, to enquire as to the truth thereof, and take action against the said offenders and all others found blameworthy in the matter, according to the nature and quality of their misdeeds. The bishop's inn at London, 12 November, 1448.

383. Commission and order to all rectors, vicars and chaplains of the archdeaconry of Bath publicly and solemnly to announce that the bishop, in consideration of the approach of Christmas and at the request of James Ormond, knight, has released Pensford chapel from interdict, reserving to himself the

1448. power to punish and correct offenders in connexion therewith. 26 November, the same place and year.

384. Institution of Sir John Wormebrige, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Corston, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Davy *alias* Melyn, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. Present, Sir John Garnesey, vicar of the church of Banwell, John Bokelond and William Langton. The dwelling-house of Bekynton rectory, 14 October, 1448.

385. Collation to Thomas Holywell, perpetual vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the tenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. Date as above.

386. Commission to John Trevenaunt, the bishop's receiver-general, John Haydour, the bishop's surveyor, John Fraunceys, the bishop's under-steward, and Thomas Smyth, the bishop's auditor, or any two of them, of whom the auditor is to be one, to audit the accounts of all the bishop's bailiffs, farmers, reeves and other officers and ministers. Dogmersfeld, 31 October, 1448.

387. Institution of Sir John Geffray *alias* Honycote, priest, in the person of Master John Tregodek, clerk, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Karunton, vacant by the death of Sir John Adam, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. Present, Master Thomas Bromhale, Master Thomas Merssh, and William Langton, notary-public. The bishop's inn at London, 5 November, 1448.

388. Collation to William Syngleton, clerk, perpetual vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, counting from the gates of the close. Date as above.

389. Grant by William, bishop of Winchester, to the bishop of licence to confer and celebrate minor and holy orders (*ordines tam minores quam sacros*) in his manor of Dogmersfeld, or in the church there, they being in the diocese of Winchester, and to exercise there his episcopal and ordinary jurisdiction among his own subjects only, during pleasure. Suthwerk, 18 November, 1448.

390. Collation to Master John Spekynton, clerk, M.A., of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Holecumbe, and institution accordingly. Dogmersfeld, 1 December, 1448. *f. 84.*

A letter of induction was issued on 15 January following to the dean or the subdean of Wells, or, in their absence, to the president of the chapter. 1449.

391. Institution of Sir Lewis Davy, priest, as rector of the church of Charlecombe, vacant by the death of Sir John Martyn, on the presentation of John Barr, knight, and Joan his wife, patrons in right of the said Joan, daughter and heiress of Thomas Rigge, esquire.<sup>1</sup> Dogmersfeld, 5 December, 1448.

392. Institution of Sir Thomas Tayllour, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Sowe, vacant by the resignation of Master Walter Copelond, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. Present, Master John Moreton, Thomas Smyth, William Edmond and William Langton. 16 December, the same place and year.

393. Institution of Sir Robert Clake, priest, as rector of the church of Penne Dommer, vacant by the resignation of Sir Lewis Davy, on the presentation of William Dawbeney, esquire. Present, Richard Erle, John Compayne and William Langton. The rector entered into a bond in 20*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his having admitted him without previous enquiry as to the right of patronage. 19 December, the same place and year.

394. Letters dimissory for John Webber, of Donyate, and Thomas Wode, of Lyngge, acolytes, John Lydford, of Lydford, and Robert Strete, of Strete, subdeacons, and Thomas Randell, rector of Babbecary, deacon, all born in the diocese of Bath and Wells, to receive such orders as they have not yet received. 21 December, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> Joan, daughter and heiress of Thomas Rigge, married firstly to Robert Greyndour and secondly to Sir John Barre. She died in 1484. *Some Somerset Manors*, pp. 348, 349.



1449. 395. Collation to Thomas Abendon, Augustinian Friar, inceptor of theology,—on admission of his resignation of the perpetual vicarage of Stokelond Gauntez and in virtue of a dispensation of the apostolic see,<sup>1</sup>—of the perpetual vicarage of the parish, or prebendal, church of Tymbrescombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Warpton and in the bishop's collation by right, because Master John Birkehede, canon of Wells and prebendary of Tymbrescombe, knowingly presented to the said vicarage a certain Sir Nicholas Eggebury, priest, who, being manifestly defective in letters, was rejected by the bishop as unsuitable. Dogmersfeld, 16 January, 1448[–9].

396. Appointment of John Fraunceys the younger as bailiff of the city, or borough, of Wells, during the bishop's pleasure. 17 January, the same place and year.

397. Commission to Master John Stokys, commissary-general, to induct Master John Bernard into possession of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Congresbury, vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Stillington and in the bishop's collation by full right, the bishop having collated the same to the said Master John on 24 October last at Dogmersfeld. 26 January, the same place and year.

398. Institution of Master Thomas Yong, priest, bachelor in laws, as perpetual vicar of the church of Staunton Drew, vacant by the death of Sir William Stapil, on the presentation of Master Thomas Warde, archdeacon of Bath. 27 January, the same place and year.

399. Institution of Sir Richard Swan, priest, B.A., as perpetual vicar of the church of Burnham, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Haydour, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells, the dean being absent. 3 February, the same place and year.

f. 85. 400. Collation to Sir Stephen Morpath, clerk, in his absence, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Compton Dunden vacant by the death of Master Richard Leyot ; and commission to Master

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. ix. p. 355 (Nov. 1443).

John Bernard, the bishop's vicar-general, to receive his oath of canonical obedience. Date as above. 1449.

401. Collation to Master Thomas Gascoigne, professor of theology, then absent at Oxford, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe X. vacant by the death of Master John Burdet. 7 February, the same place and year.

On 15 February, Sir David Hampstede, priest, proctor of the said Master Thomas, took the oath of canonical obedience in his name in the bishop's inn at London.

402. Licence for the proctors and envoys of the hospital of the Holy Trinity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to make collections in the diocese for two years. London, 12 February, 1448[-9].

403. Institution of Sir Thomas David, priest, as rector of the church of Langrige, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Yong, on the presentation of Thomas Cryklade and Alice his wife. The bishop's inn at London, 16 February, 1448[-9].

404. Institution of Master John Lax, bachelor in laws, in the person of Sir William Lax, priest, his proctor, as rector of the church of Strete, vacant by the death of Master John Stone, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. And because the said proctor in his deed of appointment had not special power given to him to take the oath of canonical obedience on behalf of the said rector, he and Thomas Canynges, of London, entered into a bond in 100*l.* that the rector would come to the bishop and take the oath before the Translation of St. Thomas next. 21 February, the same place and year.

405. Collation to Sir Richard Hayman, priest, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmour V. vacant by the death of Master Walter Shirleyngton. Date as above.

406. On 5 March, Master Thomas Boleyn,<sup>1</sup> having a collation

<sup>1</sup> For particulars concerning Thomas Boleyn, afterwards precentor of Wells, see *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. lxi. pp. 1-10.

1449. of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Dultecote *alias* Dultyn-cote vacant by the death of Master William Byconel,<sup>1</sup> dated at Dogmersfeld, 5 November. last, appeared before the bishop in his inn at London and took the oath of canonical obedience. Whereupon he had the customary letter of induction.

407. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Person, of Bradford, clerk, who has the first tonsure. The bishop's inn at London, 6 March, 1448[-9].

408. Institution of John Davy *alias* Hemmyng, clerk, B.A., in the person of Master John Stretton, doctor of laws, his proctor, as rector of the church of Swayneswyk, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Yate, on the presentation of Edmund Blunt, esquire. The said proctor swore to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his having admitted him without first satisfying himself by enquiry as to the right of patronage. Present, Master Thomas Merssh, William Edmund and William Langton. 14 March, the same place and year.

409. Licence for Brother William Strete, priest, professed monk of the monastery of St. Mary, Glastonbury, to migrate to the priory of St. Mary, Thetford, in the diocese of Norwich; in pursuance of a papal indulgence authorising him to migrate from Glastonbury to another monastery of the same order and of equally strict, or stricter, observance, after asking, but not necessarily obtaining, the permission of his superior, and on his petition showing that he has obtained the permission of the abbot of Glastonbury to move to Thetford.<sup>2</sup> Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> For particulars concerning William Byconel, his will, and his monument in the cathedral church of Wells, see *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xl. pp. 185-208; vol. lxix. pp. 16-18, 27, 28.

<sup>2</sup> William Strete found it expedient to obtain a formal pardon for having procured the papal bull without royal licence. *Acts of the Privy Council*, vol. vi. p. 66; *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-1452, p. 218. (*Fædera*.) In the next year, he obtained a bull allowing him to accept a benefice usually held by a secular clerk. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 170. Nevertheless, he is described as a monk of Glastonbury, excluded by the abbot, in a later bull, which gives a very curious account of his troubles. *Ibid.* pp. 530-532.

410. Institution of Sir Richard Glyde, priest, in the person of John Lewys, literate, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary the Virgin in the church of Est Coker, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Ley, on the presentation of Philip Courtenay, knight. 15 March, the same place and year. 1449.  
f. 86.

411. Institution of Master Thomas Lye, priest, as rector of the church of Westludford, vacant by the death of Sir John Richard,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Mary Graces, by the Tower of London, patrons for this turn by reason of a grant to them by the king of, *inter alia*, the manor of Ludford and the advowson of the said church from the time of the death of John, late duke of Exeter, until the full age of Henry his son and heir. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 19 March, the same place and year.

412. Collation to Master John Stokys, bachelor in both laws, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Milverton II; and institution, etc. accordingly. 24 March, the same place and year.

413. Letters dimissory to all orders for Master John Howes, of Somerton, M.A., who has the first tonsure. The bishop's inn at London, 28 March, 1449.

414. On 28 March, in the bishop's inn at London,—a certificate having been received from John, bishop of St. Davids, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Master Lewis Reede, rector of Carew, in the diocese of St. Davids, and Master Philip ap Rys, doctor of decrees, rector of Melles, whereby it appeared that the said bishop, acting by his own authority and on the authority of letters of the bishop of Bath and Wells, had authorised the said exchange, received the resignation of the said Master Philip, and instituted Master Lewis Reede as rector of Melles, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury,—the said Master Lewis appeared in person before the bishop of Bath and Wells and took the oath of canonical obedience.

<sup>1</sup> His will, dated 14 December, 1448, was proved 7 January, 1448[–9]. *Somerset Med. Wills*, pp. 162, 163.

1445. 415. Notification to the bishop by John, archbishop of Canterbury, that in his last convocation, with the unanimous consent of the bishops and clergy and at the repeated request of the king, he decreed and ordained that throughout the province of Canterbury the feast of the Translation of St. Edward, King and Confessor, should henceforth be solemnly celebrated every year with a twofold office ; and order and strict injunction to celebrate the said feast accordingly and cause it to be celebrated throughout his diocese by clergy and laity alike. Croydon manor, 1 October, 1445.

1449. 416. Institution of Sir William Grenehill, chaplain, in the person of Sir William Mylde, chaplain, his proctor, as rector of the church of Sutton Mountagu, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Tayllour, on the presentation of William Mountagu, esquire. Dogmersfeld, 8 April, 1449.

417. Institution of Sir John Coppe, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Mershton, vacant by the deprivation of Sir William Clerc, on the presentation of the prioress and convent of Polslo, in the diocese of Exeter. 20 April, the same place and year.

418. Institution of Master Thomas Mannyng, in the person of Richard Tyrell, his proctor, as rector of the church of Nywton Seyntloo, vacant by the deprivation of Sir Thomas Bray, on the presentation of William, lord Botreaux, knight.<sup>1</sup> The bishop's inn at London, 28 May, 1449.

419. Institution of Sir Walter Osbourn, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Frome, vacant by the death of Sir Walter Wotton, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cirenchester. Dogmersfeld, 2 June, 1449.

420. Letter from William, bishop of Winchester, who, as subdean of the church of Canterbury, is bound to receive and execute the orders of the said church during the voidance of

<sup>1</sup> He had inherited the advowson through his mother, Elizabeth St. Lo.

the church of London, which is invested with the title and honour of this deanery, transmitting to the bishop for execution an order from John, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Lamethith, 19 May, 1449, for the summoning of a convocation of the clergy of the province of Canterbury to be held in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, on 1 July next, in pursuance of the king's letters of privy seal (quoted), dated at Westminster, 18 May, 27 Hen. VI. Suthwerk manor, 27 May, 1449.

421. Institution of Master Thomas Boleyn as rector of the church of Wryngton, vacant by the death of Master John de Obizis, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Dogmersfeld, 5 June, 1449. *f. 88.*

422. Certificate by the bishop to John, archbishop of Canterbury, that, in pursuance of the above order (last entry but one), he has cited the dean and chapter of Wells, the prior and chapter of Bath, the archdeacons of Wells, Bath and Taunton, the abbots of Glastonbury, Michelney, Athelney, Clyve and Keynesham, the priors of Bruton, Mountagu and Taunton, and the clergy of the diocese, to appear at the said convocation as follows, to wit the dean of Wells, the prior of Bath, the archdeacons, the abbots and the priors in person, each chapter by one proctor, and the clergy by two proctors. The bishop will appear in person. The names of the persons cited are contained in the annexed schedule. 12 June, the same place and year.

Schedule :—

Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, and the chapter.

Dan Thomas Lacok, prior of Bath, and the chapter.

Master Thomas Bubwyth, archdeacon of Wells.

Master Thomas Ward, archdeacon of Bath.

Master Andrew Hooles, archdeacon of Taunton.

Dan Nicholas Frome, abbot of Glastonbury.

Dan John Cherde, abbot of Mochilney.

Dan John Pedyrton, abbot of Athilney.

Dan David Joyner, abbot of Cleeve.

Brother Thomas Bekynsfeld, abbot of Keynesham.

Brother John Henton, prior of Bruton.

1449. Dan John Benet, prior of Montagu (*de Monte Acuto*).  
 Brother Richard Glene, prior of Taunton.  
 The clergy of the diocese.

423. Institution of Sir William Brytte, priest, as rector of the church of Clopton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Prowtyng, chaplain, on the presentation of Richard Arthur, esquire, lord of Clopton. 14 June, the same place and year.

424. Institution of Sir John Lassow, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Stokegommer, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Huchons, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Wells. Winchester, 4 July, 1449.<sup>1</sup>

425. Institution of Sir John Stone, chaplain, as rector of the church of Myddelchynnok, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Curteys, on the presentation of Sir James Ormound, earl of Wiltshire. Winchester, 10 July, 1449.

426. Institution of Sir Thomas Cukkeford as rector of the church of Samford Britte, on the presentation of Sir Philip Courtenay, knight. Winchester, 12 July, 1449.

- f. 89. 427. Collation to Master John Wygrym of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe I. vacant by the death of Master John de Obizis ; and institution, etc. accordingly. Dogmersfeld, 16 July, 1449.

On 26 July the said Master John, in the person of Master Thomas Bromehale, his proctor, took the oath of canonical obedience.

428. Commission to Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, and Master John Stokes, canon thereof, to make enquiry as to the right of patronage of the church of White Staunton, which is vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Osborn ; as Sir William Lumbard *alias* Clerc has been presented thereto both by Roberta Haryngton, widow, and by John Brytt, of Thornecombe, and the bishop cannot learn from inspection of his registers or otherwise which of them is the true patron. The bishop's inn at London, 18 July, 1449.

<sup>1</sup> Parliament was in session at Winchester from 16 June to 16 July.

429. Institution of Sir William Mychel, chaplain, as rector of the church of Almesford, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Pypet, on the presentation of the lord la Zouche and Saymour. Date as above. 1449.

430. Institution of Sir Robert Hillond, chaplain, as rector of the church of West Coker, vacant by the death of Master William Hikkcs, on the presentation of Thomas Courtenay, earl of Devon; with special provision for two years' study [as in the case of Sir Thomas Smyth, no. 355 above, *mutatis mutandis*]. Present, Master John Moreton, Master Thomas Mersshe, Master John Machon, notary-public, and William North, notary-public. 24 July, the same place and year.

431. Request to the king for the arrest of Laurence Compton, of Bekynton, who has been under excommunication for forty days and more, and remains contumacious, in contempt of the keys of Holy Church. 26 July, the same place and year.

432. The like for the arrest of Robert Tanner, of Pensford. Date as above.

433. Institution of Sir John Benet as rector of the church of Beere,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the death of Sir Robert Hurneman, on the presentation of Thomas Herbert and Agnes his wife. Bruton, 6 August, 1449.

434. Assignment to Sir Richard Huchons,—on his resignation *f. 90.* of the vicarage of Stokegommer, to which the bishop has admitted Sir John Lassow, priest, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Wells,—of a yearly pension of roos. out of the fruits, etc. of the said vicarage [in terms similar to the assignment made to the retiring vicar of Cleeve, no. 314 above, except that no mention is made in this case of the great age of the retiring vicar]. Wells palace, 11 August, 1449.

435. Institution of Master John Lucas, M.A., as rector of the church of Kelveston, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Wynnyngham, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury. 12 August, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> Beer Crocombe.



1449. 436. Collation to Sir William Clyve, chaplain, of the vicarage of the church of Netherstowey, which is in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time. Woky, 21 August, 1449.

f. 91. 437. Collation to Andrew Grantham, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the third chamber on the east side of the vicars' close there, counting from the entry, to hold the same and dwell therein, for so long as he shall remain a vicar of the said cathedral, of good report and honest conversation, in accordance with the statutes and ordinances of Sir Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop. He is to repair, maintain and roof the said chamber, and if for a whole year he fail to dwell there in person, or neglect to repair it, he shall be utterly deprived of it. Date as above.

438. Request to the king for the arrest of Thomas Sponehey, of Fresshford, who has been under excommunication for forty days and more, and remains contumacious, in contempt of the keys of Holy Church. 22 August, the same place and year.

439. Peremptory citation of the prior and chapter of Bath to appear before the bishop, or his commissaries, on 11 September next at the hour of chapter in their chapter-house; as he intends to hold a visitation of the cathedral church of Bath, both in head and in members, on that day. The prior is to cite any absent persons who are bound by custom or law to be present. Banwell, 27 August, 1449.

440. The like citation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham to a visitation of their abbey to be held on Monday after the Nativity of the Virgin next. Date as above.

441. Strict injunction and order to the archdeacon of Bath and his official, and all the rectors, vicars and chaplains of the city and archdeaconry of Bath,—on a report which has reached the ears of the bishop that the heavenly gift of warm and healing waters with which the city of Bath has been endowed from of old is turned into an abuse by the shamelessness and uncleanness of the people of that city, insomuch that, when any persons, whether male or female, go to the said waters to bathe and

recover their health, and through modesty and shame try to cover their privy parts, the men with drawers (*femoralibus*) and the women with smocks (*subunculis*), they, the said people, by what they say is an established custom of the city, barbarously and shamelessly strip them of their said garments and reveal them to the gaze of the bystanders, and inflict on them not only the loss of their garments but a heavy monetary fine,—during mass on Sundays, solemn days and feast days, to admonish all the citizens of Bath, and all others staying there, that they abstain from such excesses under penalty of the greater excommunication, and to enjoin on them, under a like penalty, that henceforth no males or females who have reached puberty go to the baths without wearing such drawers and smocks or other linen garments. Banwell, 29 August, 1449. 1449.

442. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Joan Courtenay, widow, of the parish of Wythecombe,<sup>1</sup> to hear divine offices and have mass celebrated by a suitable chaplain in the oratory or other suitable place in her manor of Wythecombe, provided no prejudice to her parish church be occasioned thereby. Date as above. f. 92.

443. Peremptory citation of the dean of Wells, or, in his absence, the president of the chapter, to appear before the bishop in the chapter-house of Wells on 1 October next, together with all the members of the chapter and church of Wells, who are to be peremptorily cited by him; as the bishop intends to hold a visitation on that day. 31 August, the same place and year.

444. Commission to Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, and Master John Stokes, canon thereof, to hold the visitations of the prior and chapter of Bath and the abbot and convent of Keynesham referred to above (nos. 439, 440), as the bishop has been suddenly called away from his diocese on urgent business by letters from the king, and cannot hold the visitations in person, as he had intended. Wells palace, 8 September, 1449.

<sup>1</sup> Joan, daughter and coheirress of Ralph Durburgh, relict of John Courtenay. *Some Somerset Manors*, p. 49.

1449. 445. Licence for Master John Stokes, canon of Wells, to celebrate mass and cause it to be celebrated in his house in Wells and anywhere else in the diocese, without doing prejudice to the rights of others. Date as above.

446. Institution of Master Roger Smyth, bachelor of theology, as chaplain of the chantry of the late Robert Chepe newly founded in the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, Bristol, vacant by the death of Sir William Scragge, on the presentation of the master and brethren of the fraternity of the chapel of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the bridge of Awone in Bristol. The bishop's inn at London, 19 September, 1449.

447. Institution of Sir William Panys, chaplain, as rector of the church of All Saints, Monkeselver, vacant by the demission of Sir John Lashowe, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Tewkesbury as proprietaries of the priory of Goldclyff, in the march of Wales. Woky, 29 September, 1449.

448. Writ of *venire facias* ordering the bishop to cause Richard Hendyburgh, parson of Cricheston, to come before the justices at Westminster in one month from Michaelmas, to answer John, prior of Bruton, in a plea that he render to him 10 marks 2s. 8*d.* which he owes him as arrears of a yearly rent of 8s. ; the sheriff of Somerset having made return to the said justices in the quinzaine of Trinity that the said Richard is a beneficed clerk and has no lay fee in the sheriff's bailiwick whereby he may be distrained. Tested by J. Prisot. Westminster, 25 June, 27 Henry VI. Roll 87. Bruyn.

449. Return by the bishop that he has cited and warned the said clerk to appear as above, under penalty of sequestration and the greater excommunication. Wells palace, 29 September, 28 Henry VI.

f. 93. 450. Institution of Sir John Baly, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Aysshton by Bristol,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the death of Sir John Jonys, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. Woky, 30 September, 1449.

<sup>1</sup> Long Ashton.

451. Institution of Sir John Body, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Staunton Drewe, vacant by the death of Master Thomas Yonge, on the presentation of Master Thomas Warde, doctor of decrees, archdeacon of Bath. Letter of induction to the said archdeacon or his official. Wells palace, 1 October, 1449. 1449.

452. Resignation by the said Sir John Body of the parish church of Stowey by Chiewe, of which he is rector. Present, Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, Master John Stokes, canon thereof, and William North, of the diocese of Salisbury, notary-public. Date as above.

453. Institution of William Lumbard *alias* Clerc, clerk, as rector of the church of Whitestaunton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Osborn, on the presentation of Sir William Boneville, knight, lord Boneville of Chiewton, and William Stafford, esquire, to whom John Hugyn and John Britte, lords of the manor of Whitestaunton and patrons of the church, granted power to present for this turn. 4 October, the same place and year.

454. Award by the bishop, in a dispute between Master Thomas Fayreman, perpetual vicar of the church of Est Pennard, and Richard Oke, William Costyrel, Richard Wason, John Pedlewr, Robert Wason, William Wason, John Clerc, Thomas Donne, Henry Mathew *alias* Balle, Stephen Wakebrigge, Thomas Rull, Robert Cuppere, John Bussh, John Stevenes, John Wason, John Boole, John Lauerence, William Jonys, John Attwode, John Cupper and William Pulter, who comprise the community and major part of the parishioners of the parish church of Bradley, which is united and incorporated with the said church of Estpennard, on a complaint that the vicar has neglected and refused to serve the said church of Bradley and the parishioners thereof in divine offices and in sacraments and sacramentals, and specifically has neglected to have matins and masses and vespers said there on Sundays and feast days, and masses on every fourth and sixth day of the week throughout the year. The vicar and his successors are at their own expense to provide a chaplain

1449. to say matins, masses and vespers in the said church of Bradley, as specified above, unless there be some reasonable impediment, and the parishioners and their successors are to grant to the vicar and his successors the use of the dwelling-house built by the said parishioners, in the churchyard, on the west side of the church, as a chamber for the said chaplain, and to repair and rebuild the same whenever necessary. Present, Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, Master John Stokes, canon thereof, and many others. Sealed with the seal of the bishop and marked with the sign and subscription of Master William North, notary-public, the bishop's scribe. 1 October, the same place and year.

f. 94. 455. Commission to Master John Stokes, canon of Wells, the bishop's commissary-general, and Master John Austyll, bachelor in both laws, to make enquiry as to the truth of a report which has reached the ears of the bishop that some men and women of Bristol and several other places in the diocese are suspected and accused of heresy; and appointment of them as inquisitors of heresy throughout the diocese. They are to certify the bishop of the names and surnames of the persons so accused. 3 October, the same place and year.

456. Institution of Master William Peryn, M.A., chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Banwell, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Gernesey, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton. Letter of induction to Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general. Chiewe, 10 October, 1449.

457. Institution of Sir Martin Hervy, chaplain, as chaplain or rector of the chantry, or parish church, of Bychiewe Stoke,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation of Sir Stephen Conyngeston, on the presentation of Nicholas Seyntlo, esquire. Letter of induction as above. 18 October, the same place and year.

458. On 18 October, 1449, Sir John Yonge, chaplain, late of the parish of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol,—who, about the beginning of October a year ago, was taken by the bishop's ministers on suspicion of heresy and placed by the bishop at his

<sup>1</sup> Chewstoke. See *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. lxxviii. p. 52.

own expense in the custody of the abbot and prior of Mochelney, 1449.  
on account of their great knowledge of letters,—was produced before the bishop in the manor of Chiew by the servants of the abbot, and, on being interrogated by the bishop, confessed and acknowledged the contents of a paper schedule which the bishop had in his hands, to wit a memorandum that on 6 December, 1448, in the oratory of the chamber of the abbot of Mochelney, he the said Sir John Yonge, in the presence of William North, notary-public, Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general, and Thomas Daunce, after much speech with Dan John Cherde, abbot, and Dan Thomas Pyp, prior, of Mochelney, acknowledged his part in the undermentioned interrogatories, publicly admitted that he had erred and caused many persons of the town and suburbs of Bristol and elsewhere to err in many parts thereof and in divers other articles, and submitted himself absolutely to the bishop's correction and punishment. The interrogatories are as follows :—

(1) *Whether after consecration there is on the altar the true body of Christ and not the substance of material bread or wine ?* He once held that there is on the altar the true body of Christ and also material bread.

(2) *Whether a bishop or priest, being in mortal sin, ordains, consecrates, confirms or baptizes ?* He held that he does not.

(3) *Whether it is established (fundatum) in the Gospel that Christ ordained the mass ?* He held that it is not ; but Christ said, ' As often as ye do this ye shall do it in remembrance of my passion.'

(4) *If a man be contrite, whether then confession to others is of use to him ?* He held that it is not ; but the contrite man is bound to consult the priest touching all his sins, and the priest shall then impose penance on him, saying—' Go, and sin no more.' Then God absolves him ; for absolution in this case is reserved to God alone.

(5) *Whether it is necessary for the soul to confess to a priest ?* He held that it is not, as declared above ; and also that no one, however sinful he be, needs to be absolved by the pope.

(6) *Whether anyone after Urban VI. is to be accepted as pope ? And whether the pope is the true vicar of Christ on earth ?* He

1449. held that he is not, because the best man is the vicar of Christ on earth.

(7) *Whether it is contrary to Holy Scripture for ecclesiastics to have possessions ?* He held that it is.

(8) *Whether any prelate ought to excommunicate a man unless first he knows that he is excommunicated by God ?* He held that he ought not ; but as often as the prelate excommunicates, so often God blesses.

(9) *Whether a man ought to leave preaching or hearing the word of God on account of the excommunication of men ?* He held that he ought not.

(10) *Whether a deacon or priest may preach the word of God without the authority of the apostolic see or a Catholic bishop ? And whether anyone without distinction may preach the word of God ?* He held that anyone may preach the word in churches and elsewhere, except women, who may not preach in churches on account of the word of the apostle.

(11) *Whether temporal lords can at their pleasure take away from ecclesiastics their temporal goods ?* He held that they can.

(12) *Whether the people (populares) can or may lawfully correct delinquent lords at their pleasure ?* He held that they can.

(13) *Whether tithes ought to be given to parsons (personis ecclesie) ?* He held that they ought not, but to the poor and needy. But the oblations of the four principal days of the year ought to be given to parsons.

(14) *Whether they are pure alms ?* He held that they are.

(15) *Whether parishioners can withhold them on account of the sins of their prelates ?* He held that they can, as above.

(16) *Whether a man who enters any private religious order, whether of those with possessions, or of mendicants, is rendered more able and certain to keep God's commands ?* He held that he is not.

(17) *Whether friars are bound to gain a living by the labours of their hands, and not by mendicancy ?* He held that they are.

(18) *Whether religious living in private religious orders are of Christ's kingdom (regione Christiana) ?* He held that they are not, but of the devil's.

(19) *Whether it is lawful for a priest to accept a salary of*

*temporal goods to pray for the deceased?* He held that it is not, 1449.  
because such a one is guilty of simony, and persons guilty of  
simony in orders and in rewards cannot confess. f. 95.

(20) *Whether a priest has power to make the Body of Christ?*  
He held that he has.

(21) *Whether a boy born of a Christian woman needs to be  
baptized in water? And whether baptism in water according to  
the custom of the church is necessary for the salvation of his soul?*  
He held that it is so.

(22) *Whether excommunication by the pope or any prelate is  
to be feared?* He held that it is not.

(23) *Whether it is necessary to believe that the church of Rome  
is supreme among the other churches?* He held that it is not,  
because the smallest chapel of the diocese of Bath and Wells is  
of as much authority as the church of Rome.

(24) *Whether confirmations of young persons, ordinations of  
clergy and consecrations of places are necessary or lawful?* He  
held that they are.

(25) *Whether Augustine, Benedict and Bernard did well in  
having possessions and instituting private religious orders?* He  
held that they did not.

(26) *Whether Lent was ordained by God, and whether it is  
necessary to fast therein and abstain from flesh and milk-food?*  
He held that it is not.

(27) *Whether the fasts instituted by the Church are profitable for  
the salvation of the soul and are to be observed by the faithful of  
Christ?* He held that they are not, except the fasts of the four  
seasons (*quatuor temporum*).

(28) *Whether venerations of the Cross or of images should be  
done?* He held that they should not.

(29) *Whether oblations made to images in churches in honour  
of the Saints whom those images represent are meritorious?* He  
held that they are not.

(30) *Whether pilgrimages to holy places are necessary or meri-  
torious for the salvation of the soul?* He held that they are not,  
but every step of the pilgrims turns them towards sin (*tendit  
eis in peccatum*).

(31) *Whether prayers are to be made to any Saints?* He held



1449. that prayers should be made that they will pray to God for us.

(32) *Whether prayers should be addressed to God only?* He held that they should.

(33) *Whether it is lawful for a man to bless himself with the sign of the Cross?* He held that it is.

(34) *Whether the pope or the bishops can make constitutions?* He held that they can not.

(35) *Whether decrees, decretals, or constitutions, statutes papal, synodal or provincial, are to be observed?* He held that none of them are to be observed or ordained.

(36) *Whether it is lawful to swear on the Book?* He held that it is not.

(37) *Whether an oath taken in either court, to wit ecclesiastical or temporal, in customary cases and in the usual manner, is lawful?* He held that it is not.

(38) *Whether the genuflexions, bowings, incense-burnings, kissings, burnings of candles and sprinklings of holy water, accustomed to be done in church, are lawful and meritorious?* He held that they are not.

(39) *Whether all things ought to be in common?* He held that they ought.

(40) *Whether the Sabbath and the principal feasts are necessarily to be observed and made holy, or at a man's pleasure?* He held that the Sabbath is necessarily to be observed and made holy, but the other feasts by no means, except the feasts of the Blessed Virgin and the Apostles.

(41) *Whether it is lawful for a priest to have a wife?* He held that it is not.

(42) *Whether evil men are part of the Catholic church?* He held that they are not.

Thereupon the bishop pronounced the said John a heretic and excommunicated; and he prostrated himself, implored the mercy of God and absolution, and submitted himself absolutely to the bishop's correction and punishment. Then the bishop, considering the bodily weakness and great age of the said John, the known improvement in his way of life, and his true penitence as attested by the aforesaid abbot and prior, absolved

him from the sentence of excommunication after he had given security to obey the law and abide by the commands of the church. The following abjuration, drawn up in writing, was then made by the said John by the mouth of William North, he himself being blind :— 1449.

' In the name of God, Amen. Tofore you, right worshipful fadre in God, Thomas by the grace of God bisshop of Bathe and of Welles, I, John Yonge, preste, of your diocise and jurisdiccon and your subject, detect, denounced and noysed to youre reverend fadrehod suspect of heresy and errours, beyng in doome and jugement afor youre said reverend fadrehod, felyng, undrestand yng, knowyng and wel perceyving that, afore this houre, I, foresaid John Yonge, have halde and taughte divers articles and opinions agenst the feith of Holy Chirche and contrarie to the determinacon of the same, that is to seye that the leest chapel of the diocise of Bathe and Welles is of also grete auctorite as the chirche of Rome, also that the best man of the worlde is pope, also that confession is not necessary to a contrite persone, also that a person, be he never soo synful, nedeth not to goo to the pope to be shrieve, for God only assoyleth, and that every man, woman and childe in Lente may lafully ete flessch, milke, boter and chese, also that noo faste ordeined by the chirche is to be holde but the faste of *quatr' tempr'*,<sup>1</sup> nor such fastes ordeined by the chirche beth not proffit-able to helth of mannes soule, also noo saintes eves beth to be faste but the v. eves of Oure Lady and the Apostoles eves, also that noo body shulde worshippe noone ymages in the worship of them that theke ymages presenteth ne offere to theim, also that pilgremages be not necessary to the helthe of soule but every pace of pilgremage goers turneth them into synne, also that noo body sholde praye to Oure Lady, Sainte Katerine, or any other Saint, but oonly to God Almighty, also that noone halyday ought to be kept but the Sonday, Oure Lady dayes and the dayes of thaposteles, also that every mannes goodes shulde be comyn, also that it is lawful for every man and woman to preche the word of God, but wemen may not preche in holy chirche as men may, and many othre articles and opinions ayens

<sup>1</sup> The Ember Days of the four seasons.

1449. ' the feith of Holy Chirche and contrary to the determinacon of  
' the same, as before rehersed in the said bille of myn confession,  
' also knowyng that I have communed, felowshipped wetingly  
' with suspect men and wemen of errours and heresy in prive  
' places and herd their redyng and techyng and yeven credence  
' and feith to their lore and techyng and favoured theim and  
' received them into myn hous, furthermore I have wetyngly  
' had withinne me and halde Englyssh bokes of errours and  
' heresyxs xl. dayes and not shewed them to you nor youre  
' officers, also I have writen and doo to be writen divers Englissh  
' bokes of errours and heresyys and rad in theim and taughte  
' theim to othre men and women ;

' Wherefore I, John Yonge, by you, reverend fadre in Cryst  
' aforesaid, the whiche have cure of my soule, and by other  
' worthi clerkes truly and sufficiently informed, knowledge and  
' knowe wel that the articles above rehersed ben erroneous and  
' ayenst the trewe beleve and the true Cristyn feith and the  
' determinacon of Holy Chirche. I willing with a pure hert and  
' free wyl to fursake the forsaid errours and heresyxs and all  
' other, and to turne to the unyte of Holy Chirche and to halde  
' the true feith after the techyng of Holy Chirche and the deter-  
' minacon of the same, promitte me truly fro hensforth to halde  
' the true feith and doctrine of Holy Chirche, and the errours  
' and heresyxs aforesaid and al maner of other errours and  
' heresyxs, al articles and opinions or doctrine that is ayens the  
' true feith or determinacon of Holy Chirche, I fursake, renunce  
' and abjure, and I swere upon this Boke that after this houre I  
' shal never halde, preche, teche heresy nor errours ne heresyxs  
' nor errours, ne no maner doctrine ayenst the feith or deter-  
' minacon of Holy Chirche, ne I shal receive, favour, nor counsail,  
' ne defende, nor nowise socoure or supporte, by myself or any  
' other mene persone, prively or openly, any man or woman that  
' haldeth or techeth any suche fals doctrine, nor yeve feith to  
' theim, wetingly felowshippe with theim, ne conforte them, nor  
' receive them into myn hous, ne yeve them mete, drynke, cloth,  
' nor monnoye, ne sende to theim no maner of yiftes or presentes.

' Furthermore, I swere that fro this hour forth the wetyngly I  
' shal never halde ne kepe nor doo write noo Englissh bokes of

'errours and heresyys, ne by my self ne by noon other persone, 1449.  
'prively ne openly, but al maner bokes, quayers, or rolles  
'conteynyng errours and heresyys that I have doo write and that  
'I have in myn owne kepyng, or that I knowe in other mennys  
'or womennes kepyng, and bokes, quayers, or rolles that happeth  
'me herafter to receive of other men or woomen or to knowe of  
'whom thei ben writ or endited, to you, reverend fader, or to  
'youre officers or to their ordinaries I shal deliver and detect  
'theire persones in as hasty tyme as I may goodly. And yef I  
'may knowe any persones, men or women, suspect of errours  
'and heresyys, or fautours, counsaillers, confortatours, defen-  
'sours, receptatours, or that maken any prive conventicles con-  
'traryyng the commune doctrine of the Chirche, and namely of  
'the chirche of Rome, and the conversacon of other true Cristen  
'men, I shal denounce theim unto you, reverend fader, or to their  
'ordinairs also sone as I godely may. Soo helpe me God and  
'the holy dome.'

On which abjuration the said Sir John made the sign of the *f. 96.*  
Cross with his thumb and kissed it. There were present Master  
John Moreton and Master John Pope, professors of theology, Dan  
John Cherde, abbot of Mochilney, Dan Thomas Pyp, licentiate  
in theology, prior of Mochilney, William North, clerk of Salisbury  
diocese, notary-public, and many others.

459. Collation to Brother William Salford, monk, of the  
cathedral church of Bath, of the office of sacristan thereof during  
the bishop's pleasure. Bath, 23 October, 1449.

460. Letter from William, bishop of Winchester, as sub-  
dean of the church of Canterbury, transmitting to the bishop  
for execution an order from John, archbishop of Canterbury,  
dated in his manor of Lamehith, 2 October, 1449, for the sum-  
moning of a convocation of the clergy of his province to be  
held in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, on 14 November  
next, in pursuance of the king's letters of privy seal (quoted)  
dated in the king's manor of Eltham, 2 October. Wolvesey  
palace, 11 October, 1449.

461. Commission to Master John Stokes, canon of Wells,

1449. Master William North and Sir John Haydore to act as keepers of the archdeaconry of Wells during the vacancy caused by the death of Master Thomas Bubwyth. Wells palace, 23 October, 1449.

f. 97. 462. Institution of Sir William Cayrus, chaplain,<sup>1</sup> as rector of the church of Brempton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Wayte, on the presentation of Alice Wynforth. 24 October, the same place and year.

463. Collation to Master Andrew Holes, then absent, of the archdeaconry of Wells, vacant by the death of Master Thomas Bubwyth. Date as above.

464. Institution of Sir John Spoore, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Langasshton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Baly, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. Banewell, 3 November, 1449.

465. Certificate by the bishop to John, archbishop of Canterbury, that in pursuance of the above order (no. 460) he has cited the clergy of the diocese, as specified in the annexed schedule, to appear at the coming convocation in London. [The details of the certificate and schedule are identical with those of the similar certificate and schedule dated 12 June, 1449 (no. 422), except that the archdeacon of Wells is omitted. Master Andrew Hooles is summoned as archdeacon of Taunton.] Woky, 7 November, 1449.

466. Licence for Sir Walter Osbourn, perpetual vicar of the church of Frome, to celebrate and cause celebration to be made in his house there and anywhere else in the diocese, without prejudicing the rights of others. Frome, 11 November, 1449.

467. Institution of Sir William Vylers *alias* Baker, vicar of the church of Bradeford, in the person of Thomas Westley, his proctor, as rector of the church of Tymbresbarough, on the presentation of Sir William Palton, knight; and institution of Sir John Andrew *alias* Edwyke, rector of the church of Tymbres-

<sup>1</sup> William Cayrus had been instituted to the rectory of Frome St. Quantyn, co. Dorset, in 1446.

barough, as perpetual vicar of the church of Bradeford, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Berliche: The said institutions were made in pursuance of an exchange of benefices approved and authorised by the bishop. Haytesbury, in the diocese of Salisbury, the same day and year. 1449.

468. Collation to Sir John Wansford, residentiary canon of Wells, of the canonical houses in Wells last in the possession of Master Peter Stucley, now void by his resignation and in the bishop's collation by full right, to hold for so long as he shall be a residentiary canon. The bishop's inn at London, 19 November, 1449. f. 98.

469. Institution of Sir John Fytzhide, chaplain, as rector of the church of Netelcombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Crofte, on the presentation of Joan relict of Simon Ralegh. In view of his lack of learning, he was enjoined to study for four years and present himself for examination by the bishop at the end of every year. [The terms and conditions of this injunction are identical with those set out in the institution of Thomas Smyth as vicar of Portbury, no. 355 above, except that the bond is for 20*l*.] Present, Master Thomas Merssh, John Machon and William North, clerk, of Salisbury diocese, notary-public. 23 November, the same place and year.

470. Institution of Sir John Peter, chaplain, as rector of the church of Alyngford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Fytzhide, on the presentation of Joan relict of Simon Ralegh. Letter of induction to Master John Stokes, canon of Wells, Master William North, and Sir John Haydore, keepers of the archdeaconry of Wells during its vacancy. Date as above.

471. Request to the bishop by Joan Ralegh, relict of Simon Ralegh, to assign a life pension to Sir John Crofft, chaplain, who has resigned his church of Netilcombe, of which she is patron, on account of old age, and must needs beg for the necessities of life, to the disgrace of the clerical order, unless he receive help from elsewhere. Elvenden, 27 November, 1449.

472. Notarial attestation of the appointment by Sir John  
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1449. Fytzhide, chaplain, newly instituted rector of the church of Netilcombe, of Nicholas Luffyngcote as his proctor to deliberate with the bishop on his behalf with regard to a yearly pension to be assigned to the aforesaid John Croft, late rector, out of the fruits, etc. of the said church, and to assent thereto on behalf  
f. 99. the present rector and his successors. Present, Sir John Petre, rector of Alyngford, and Nicholas Cwyly, of the diocese of Bath and Wells. The bishop's registry in his inn at London without the Bars of the New Temple of the Danes (*Dacorum*), 23 November, 1449.

473. Assignment by the bishop to the said John Croft of a yearly pension of 4 marks for life, to be paid by the present rector of the church of Netilcombe and his successors out of the fruits, etc. of their church. [The terms and conditions are similar to those set out in the assignment to the retiring vicar of Cleeve, no. 314.] The bishop's inn at London, 28 November, 1449.

- f. 100. 474. On the same day, Master Andrew Hooles, doctor of decrees, to whom, in his absence, the bishop collated the arch-deaconry of Wells (no. 463 above), appeared before the bishop, and after rendering thanks, as was proper, humbly asked the bishop to assign him a term in which to consider whether he would accept the said collation or not. The bishop, who appeared to be not well pleased with this request, assigned him the 20th of April next, which Master Andrew accepted, as it seemed. Present, Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in laws, and John Wysdam, literate, of the dioceses of Lincoln and Norwich, and William North, notary-public.

475. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Hemmyng *alias* Davy, rector of Swayneswyke. 29 November, the same place and year.

476. Licence for the same to study for two years. Date as above.

477. The king's writ <sup>1</sup> to the bishop ordering him to appoint some trustworthy persons of the clergy of his diocese to collect in

<sup>1</sup> Fine Roll, 28 Hen. VI, m. 23.

his said diocese the whole tenth of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions with certain exceptions, payable in moieties at the Annunciation next and the Annunciation, 1451, and the 6s. 8*d.* from all secular chaplains, friars or other religious persons serving parish churches or receiving stipends or *annualia*, and from all other chaplains having chantries which are not taxed, with certain exceptions, payable at the Annunciation next, and the fourth part of a tenth, in addition to the said whole tenth, of all goods and possessions of all persons having royal letters of exemption from collection of tenths, payable at the Annunciation next, which were granted to the king by the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury in their last convocation in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, begun on Tuesday 1 July last and continued until 28 July following. Westminster, 18 October, 28 Henry VI. 1449. f. 101.

478. Notification by the bishop to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the appointment of the prior and convent of Taunton to collect the said tenth from all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions in the diocese which are taxed and accustomed to pay tenths, and also from such of the untaxed benefices of the diocese as are specified in the annexed schedule in accordance with the estimate of their yearly value noted therein,—excepting the goods, benefices and possessions of the poor nuns of Canyngton and Barowe, and also the taxed benefices specified in the said schedule which are exempt on account of their poverty,—and also the fourth part of a tenth payable by such persons as are exempt by royal letters from collection of tenths; and of the appointment of the prior and convent of Montagu to collect the 6s. 8*d.* from all chaplains, etc. The bishop's inn at London, 5 December, 1449.

Schedules enclosed [as above, no. 100, except that the church of Blakeford and the vicarage of Southstoke are omitted from the first schedule]. f. 102.

479. Commission to the prior and convent of Taunton to collect the said tenth and fourth part of a tenth. Date as above.

480. Commission to the archdeacon of Bath, or his official,



1449. —in pursuance of the said grant by convocation of an additional  
f. 103. fourth part of a tenth from the goods and possessions of all persons exempted by royal letters from the collection of tenths, and the grant of 6s. 8d. from all secular chaplains, friars and other religious persons serving parish churches or receiving stipends and *annualia*, and from all other chaplains having chantries which are not taxed, except chaplains studying in the universities of Oxford and Cantebriegg at the time of the grant, chaplains living by alms and dwelling in poor hospitals and other poor places, chaplains staying in the king's colleges of St. Mary, Eton, St. Mary and St. Nicholas, Cantebriegg, and All Souls, Oxford, the college at Cantebriegg of the foundation of king Edward, and the colleges at Oxford and near Winchester of the foundation of William Wykham, and all secular and religious chaplains, otherwise liable to payment of tenth, who between 28 July last and the term for levying the tenth shall have been indicted of rape or other felony, provided their diocesans certify the king in the Exchequer and the collectors of the tenth, before the term of payment, as to their honourable life and good report in respect of the matter of which they are indicted,—to certify the bishop of the names and surnames and other descriptions of all persons exempt from the collection of tenths as above, and of all secular priests, friars and other religious persons in the archdeaconry of Bath who ought to contribute in accordance with the aforesaid grant, and of all chaplains of the archdeaconry studying in the universities of Oxford and Cantebriegg at the time of the grant, or living by alms and dwelling in poor hospitals and other poor places. The certificate is to be sent in by the Conversion of St. Paul next. The bishop's inn at London, 6 December, 1449.

481. Institution of Sir John Fytz James, chaplain, in the person of Richard Pettevyn, his proctor, as rector of the church of Astyngton, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Denys, on the presentation of Alexander Hoody and John Bluet. Letter of induction to Master John Stokes, Master William North and Sir John Haydore, keepers of the archdeaconry of Wells during its voidance. 8 December, the same place and year.

482. Collation to Master Thomas Warde, doctor of decrees, 1449.  
archdeacon of Bath, in the person of Master William Durant,  
his proctor, of the church of Stone, in the diocese of Rochester,  
by virtue of a commission to the bishop from John, bishop of  
Rochester ; and institution of him as rector thereof, with special  
reservation to the latter bishop of his induction and canonical  
obedience.

Collation to Master William Sprever, doctor of laws, rector  
of the church of Stone, of the archdeaconry of Bath.

The above institution and collation were made in pursuance  
of an exchange of benefices approved and authorised by the  
bishop. 10 December, the same place and year.

483. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Harry, sub-  
deacon, of Taunton. 18 December, the same place and year.

484. Collation to Sir Robert Smyth, chaplain, in the person  
of John Basket, esquire, his proctor, of the canonry of Wells  
and prebend of Combe VII. vacant by the resignation of Master  
John Arnold. Dogmersfeld, 27 December, 1449.

485. Institution of Sir John Fraunceys, chaplain, as per- 1450.  
petual vicar of the church of Forde,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation  
of Sir Thomas Leynerd, on the presentation of the prior and  
chapter of Bath. Dogmersfeld, 16 January, 1449[-50].

486. Certificate by the official of the archdeacon of Bath in *f. 104.*  
reply to the bishop's commission above (no. 480). The names  
required are contained in the annexed schedule. Bath, 20  
January, 1449[-50]. Received by the bishop in his manor of  
Dogmersfeld on 25 January.

Schedule :—

Deanery of Bath.

St. Michael Without. Sir Richard Grymmesby, parochial  
chaplain.

Bath priory. Sir John Burgeys and Sir John Silverthorn,  
anniversary chaplains.

<sup>1</sup> Bathford.

1450. Stall. Sir Richard Cokerel, anniversary chaplain.  
 Newton Seynlo. Sir William Grene, parochial chaplain.  
 Swayneswyk. Sir Thomas Lyons, parochial chaplain.  
 Fressshford. Sir William Beriman, parochial chaplain.  
 Bathewyk. Sir William Grey, parochial chaplain.

Deanery of Raddeclyf.

- Raddeclyff. Sir Robert Boueknoll, chaplain of St. Mary ; Sir John Wyke, chantry ; Sir John Plasterer *alias* Forst, chantry.  
 St. Thomas.<sup>1</sup> Sir Richard Wyght, chantry ; Sir William Wellyshote, chantry ; Master Roger Dyer, chantry ; Sir John Bogheyn, chaplain.  
 Temple.<sup>1</sup> Sir John Ryce, parish priest ; Sir Robert Maister, chaplain of St. Mary ; Sir John Raynold, chantry ; Sir John Davy, the elder, chaplain of St. Katharine ; Sir John Davy, the younger, chaplain ; Sir Thomas Galwey, chaplain of Sheve.  
 Borton.<sup>2</sup> Sir John, parish priest.  
 Clyvedon. Sir John Hydale,<sup>3</sup> chantry.  
 Porteshede. Sir Richard, chaplain there.  
 Wryngton. Sir Richard Barbour, parish priest.  
 Obley. Sir William Stevens, parish priest.  
 Nemnette. Sir David, parish priest.  
 Pensford. Sir John Clerc, chaplain.  
 Poblowe. Sir John Canon.  
 Whitechurch. Sir Nicholas Geoffrey, chaplain.  
 Merkesbury. Sir William, monk.  
 Keynesham. Sir John Welleknowe.  
 Bristelton.<sup>4</sup> Sir Philip, parish priest.  
 Biryngton.<sup>5</sup> Sir Thomas Pecock, parish priest.

487. The like certificate by John Stokes, one of the keepers of the archdeaconry of Wells during its vacancy. Wells, 20 January, 1449[-50]. Received by the bishop as above.

<sup>1</sup> In Bristol.

<sup>2</sup> Flax Bourton.

<sup>3</sup> This appears to be a surname, but there was a chapel of this name at Clevedon.

<sup>4</sup> Brislington.

<sup>5</sup> Burrington, attached to Wryngton.

Schedule :—

1450.

## Deanery of Frome.

Frome. Sir John Paryce, parochial chaplain ; Sir John Grove, chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary ; Sir Walter Silfyn, chaplain of the chantry of St. Nicholas ; Sir John Crede, chaplain of the chantry of St. Andrew ; Sir John Folyet, anniversary chaplain ; Master Henry Clere, chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine.<sup>1</sup>

Rode. Sir Robert Kirkeby, parochial chaplain.

Welewe. Sir Richard Grymston, parochial chaplain.

Henton. Sir John York, parochial chaplain.

Mellys. Sir William Nobyl, parochial chaplain.

Cameley. Sir William Grene, parochial chaplain.

Foxcote. Sir Nicholas Bele, parochial chaplain.

Combhawey. Sir Denis Chapeleyn, parochial chaplain.

Nony. Sir John Colet, parochial chaplain ; Sir William Pytteman, chantry chaplain ; Sir Simon Crede, anniversary chaplain.

Stratton. Brother John Welles, parochial chaplain.

Radestoke. Sir Laurence Iryssh, parochial chaplain.

Enneburgh. Sir Henry Wath, parochial chaplain.

Eston Major.<sup>2</sup> Sir John Lewys, parochial chaplain.

Farley. Sir Robert Rode, chantry chaplain ; Sir John Chichestre, chaplain of another chantry ; Sir John Kilmer, stipendiary chaplain of the lord of Hungerford ; Sir John Smyth, stipendiary chaplain of the same.

Lygh. Sir John Bayford, parochial chaplain ; Sir Thomas Elys, anniversary chaplain.

Bokelond Dynham. Brother Nicholas Weyth, parochial chaplain.

## Deanery of Cary.

Corscombe. Sir Richard Atkyn, chantry chaplain.

Batcombe. Master John Simon, parochial chaplain.

Bruton. Sir Alexander Dyer, parochial chaplain ; Sir John Pluyver, anniversary chaplain.

Dycheate. Sir Thomas Cupper, parochial chaplain.

Wyncalton. Sir Stephen Ysaac, anniversary chaplain ; Sir William Edward, parochial chaplain ; Sir Richard Heyne, anniversary chaplain.

<sup>1</sup> See no. 145.<sup>2</sup> Stoneaston, attached to Chewton Mendip.

1450. Compton Paunsfot. Sir John Sampford, parochial chaplain.  
 Northcadbury. Sir Richard Wyche, parochial chaplain ; Sir  
 William Jonys, anniversary chaplain.  
 Southbarowe. Sir William Pasla, parochial chaplain.  
 Lovyngton. Sir John Love, parochial chaplain.  
 Babbecary. Sir John Corte, parochial chaplain.  
 Alludeford. Sir William Crotyll, parochial chaplain.  
 Brotton. Sir John Wegge, parochial chaplain.  
 Stoke. Sir Otes (*Odo*) Carny, parochial chaplain.  
 Shepton Malet. Sir Thomas Walleford, parochial chaplain ; Sir  
 John Cerne, anniversary chaplain.  
 Whethull. Sir John Northlode, parochial chaplain.  
 Westludford. Sir John Wrong, chaplain.  
 Bradeley.<sup>1</sup> Sir John Wheler, parochial chaplain.  
 Kyngton.<sup>2</sup> Sir Matthew Peke, stipendiary chaplain.

#### Deanery of Mersshon.

- Clowesworth. Sir William Somerset, parochial chaplain.  
 Sampford.<sup>3</sup> Brother William Coton, parochial chaplain.  
 Camel Regine. Sir William Tanner, parochial chaplain.  
*f. 105.* Horsyngton. Sir John Cornysch, parochial chaplain.  
 Corfton.<sup>4</sup> Sir William Clymmowe, parochial chaplain.  
 Yevyll. Sir John Martyn, chantry chaplain ; Sir John Wen-  
 yngham, stipendiary chaplain ; Sir John Gurdeler, anniver-  
 sary chaplain ; Sir John Bellman, anniversary chaplain ; Sir  
 John Shopper, anniversary chaplain ; Sir Henry Shepehurd,  
 anniversary chaplain.  
 Trent. Sir Henry Byre, stipendiary chaplain.  
 Hengstrig. Sir William Eton, chantry chaplain.  
 Rympton. Sir John Devenysch, parochial chaplain.

#### Deanery of Ylchestre.

- Mertok. Sir Roger Frye, anniversary chaplain ; Sir Robert  
 Toly, chaplain celebrating in the lord's manor ; Sir John  
 Smyth, stipendiary chaplain.  
 Chesilburgh. Sir William Sadde, parochial chaplain.

<sup>1</sup> West Bradley.<sup>2</sup> Keinton.<sup>3</sup> Sandford Orcas.<sup>4</sup> Corton Denham.

Westchynok. Sir Thomas Sycely, parochial chaplain. 1450.  
 Norton. Sir John Heyne, parochial chaplain.  
 Stoke under Hampden. Sir Thomas Cokkes, parochial chaplain.  
 Hasilbere. Sir John Nevyll, parochial chaplain.  
 Northperet. Sir John Waleys, parochial chaplain.  
 Tyntenhul. Sir Thomas Bryten, parochial chaplain.  
 St. John's, Ilchestre. Sir Thomas Horneby, parochial chaplain.  
 Lymyngton. Sir Thomas Dygon, chantry chaplain.  
 Yvelton. Sir Richard Gybbys, parochial chaplain.  
 Mylton Podymour. Sir John Wyght, parochial chaplain.  
 Kyngeston. Sir William Larder, parochial chaplain.  
 Alre. Sir Hugh Bowey, chantry chaplain.  
 Hyham. Sir John Vyell, parochial chaplain.  
 Netherham. Sir Henry Basket, parochial chaplain.  
 Langport. Sir John Smyth, chantry chaplain ; Sir William  
 Tayllour, chaplain of another chantry ; Sir John Merssh, paro-  
 chial chaplain.

## Deanery of Powlet.

Honspyl. Master John Balsham, parochial chaplain ; Sir  
 Thomas Ady, anniversary chaplain.  
 [Blank.] Sir William Davy, parochial chaplain.  
 Wollavington. Sir Walter Corff, chantry chaplain ; Sir William  
 Brekenok, chaplain of another chantry.

## Deanery of Axbrugg.

Axbrugg. Sir Richard Jonys, parochial chaplain ; Sir William  
 Frenssh, stipendiary chaplain.  
 [Blank.] Sir John Stevenes, parochial chaplain.  
 [Blank.] Sir Robert Ady, parochial chaplain.  
 [Blank.] Sir Hugh Luve, parochial chaplain.  
 [Blank.] Dan John Stone, monk, parochial chaplain.  
 Wykelaurence. Sir William Aysford, parochial chaplain.  
 Poxton.<sup>1</sup> Sir Richard Gorney, parochial chaplain.  
 Congesbury. Sir John Benham, parochial chaplain ; Sir John  
 Thvelyn, stipendiary chaplain.  
 Churchull.<sup>2</sup> Sir Richard Warwyk, parochial chaplain.

<sup>1</sup> Puxton, attached to Banwell.    <sup>2</sup> Churchill, attached to Banwell.

1450. Loxton. Sir John Canon, parochial chaplain.  
 [Blank.] Sir William Warde, parochial chaplain.  
 Blakedon. Sir Lewis Ely, parochial chaplain.  
 Banewel. Sir John Crosse, anniversary chaplain.  
 Lympsam. Sir Thomas Michel, parochial chaplain.  
 Prydy. Sir John More, parochial chaplain.  
 Chedder. Sir Richard Alwyn, parochial chaplain ; Master John  
 Mersshe, chantry chaplain ; Sir William Style, chaplain of  
 another chantry ; Sir John Whitesone, anniversary chaplain.  
 Merke. Sir John Westernne, parochial chaplain ; Sir Robert  
 Vyel, anniversary chaplain.  
 Alverton.<sup>1</sup> Sir William Meleyn, stipendiary chaplain.

#### Jurisdiction of the city of Wells.

Church of St. Cuthbert. Sir Stephen Alva, parochial chaplain ;  
 Sir Henry Burgeys, chaplain of the fraternity of St. Mary ; Sir  
 William Chamberlain, chaplain of the Holy Trinity ; Sir John  
 Mathew, anniversary chaplain ; Sir John Tyler, anniversary  
 chaplain ; Sir John Riche, anniversary chaplain.

#### Jurisdiction of Glastonbury.

St. John's, Glastonbury. Sir Nicholas Bourton, parochial  
 chaplain ; Sir John Benet, stipendiary chaplain ; Sir William  
 Gargrove, stipendiary chaplain ; Sir William Morefeld, stipen-  
 diary chaplain ; Sir William Baker, stipendiary chaplain.  
 St. Benignus. Sir John Person, parochial chaplain.  
 Westpennard. Sir William White, parochial chaplain.  
 Walton. Sir William Laxe, parochial chaplain.  
 Shapewyke. Sir John Burgeys, parochial chaplain.  
 Sutton and Stowell. Sir Matthew Benet, parochial chaplain.  
 Chilton and Edyngdon. Sir John Wynkylton, parochial chaplain.  
 Otherey. Sir John Kyngesware, parochial chaplain.  
 Middelsowey. Sir Roger Snell, parochial chaplain.

488. The like certificate by the official of the archdeacon of  
 Taunton. Taunton, 20 January, 1449[-50]. Received by the  
 bishop as above.

<sup>1</sup> Chapel Allerton.

Schedule :—

1450.

## Deanery of Dunster.

Cleeve. The abbot and convent are exempt from the collection of tenths, as they say.

Porlok. Sir Richard God, parochial chaplain.

Wotton. Sir Richard Chapel, parochial chaplain.

Wynsford. Sir Robert Maffay, parochial chaplain.

Dunster. Sir Adam Colyns, chaplain of the chantry of St. Laurence.

Lullukkesburgh. Sir Oliver Calinatt, parochial chaplain.

Carampton. Sir William London, parochial chaplain.

Welyngton.<sup>1</sup> Sir Richard Frerys, parochial chaplain.

Wachet. Sir William Smyth, anniversary chaplain.

Torlond.<sup>2</sup> Sir John Juwe, parochial chaplain.

Filfyd.<sup>3</sup> Sir Thomas, parochial chaplain.

Mylverton.<sup>4</sup> Sir Simon, chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary.

## Deanery of Bruggewater.

Bruggewater. Sir John Wheler, parochial chaplain ; Sir Thomas Hardyng, chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary ; Sir Thomas Burgeys, anniversary chaplain ; Sir William Mersshwyl, anniversary chaplain ; Sir William Cary, anniversary chaplain ; Sir John Grenenow, anniversary regular canon ; Sir Richard Smyth, anniversary chaplain ; Sir Richard Jarscombe, anniversary chaplain ; Sir John Spenser, anniversary chaplain.

Chedesey. Sir John Bulte, anniversary chaplain.

Northpederton. Sir John Cary, anniversary chaplain ; Sir Robert Wodesford, chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary ; Sir John Ryke, anniversary chaplain.

Canyngton. Sir Thomas Hidam, anniversary chaplain ; Sir Walter Haythesford, anniversary chaplain.

Enmere. Sir John Taberer, anniversary chaplain.

Idstoke.<sup>5</sup> Sir David Harneys, chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary.

Stokecursy. Sir John Wygmore, anniversary chaplain.

<sup>1</sup> Williton. Cf. *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. lxviii. p. 96.      <sup>2</sup> Tolland.

<sup>3</sup> Fitzhead.

<sup>4</sup> Milverton is in the deanery of Taunton.

<sup>5</sup> Idstock, in Chilton.



1450. Lilstoke.<sup>1</sup> Sir John Amery, parochial chaplain.  
 Strengston. Sir Robert Pollard, parochial chaplain.  
 Spaxton. Sir Stephen Chepman, anniversary chaplain.  
 Bokeland.<sup>2</sup> Sir Robert Cooke, anniversary chaplain.  
 Craucombe. Sir John Norman, anniversary chaplain.  
 Bromfeld. Sir John Hoyges, parochial chaplain; Sir Peter,  
 anniversary chaplain.

Deanery of Taunton.

- Taunton. Sir John Waleys, anniversary chaplain; Sir Thomas  
 Cary, parochial chaplain; Sir Thomas Hardyng, anniversary  
 chaplain; Sir William Cogan, chaplain of the chantry of St.  
 Anne; Sir Ralph Hylling, anniversary chaplain; Sir John Lyff,  
 anniversary chaplain; Sir William Boys, anniversary chaplain;  
 Sir Richard Pomerey, chaplain of the chantry of St. Andrew;  
 Sir Robert Peny, anniversary chaplain; Sir John Benet, chap-  
 lain of the chantry of St. Mary; Sir John de Cory, anniver-  
 sary chaplain; Sir John Garnesyman, anniversary chaplain.  
*f. 106.* Hull Episcopi. Sir Geoffrey Chaundeler, parochial chaplain.  
 Norton.<sup>3</sup> Sir Robert Faundorey, parochial chaplain.  
 Hilleferons. Sir Ralph Orchard, parochial chaplain.  
 Trulle. Sir John Coke, parochial chaplain; Dan Robert White,  
 monk, anniversary chaplain.  
 Wilton. Sir William Nicoll, parochial chaplain.  
 Thurlebere. Sir John Fraunkeham, parochial chaplain.  
 Russhton. Sir Nicholas Amyn, parochial chaplain.  
 Thedon (*sic*).<sup>4</sup> Master Thomas Hamlyn, parochial chaplain.  
 Kyngeston. Sir John Cadbury, anniversary chaplain.  
 Orchard. Sir Humphrey Fox, anniversary chaplain.  
 Lygh.<sup>5</sup> Sir Roger Wheler, parochial chaplain.  
 Bokelond. Sir Nicholas Fraunceys, parochial chaplain.  
 Northcory. Sir William Soper, anniversary chaplain; Sir  
 William Dollyng, anniversary chaplain.  
 Oterford. Sir Stephen, parochial chaplain.  
 Cotheleston. Sir Richard Beram, parochial chaplain; Sir Robert  
 Redehere, anniversary chaplain.

<sup>1</sup> Lilstock, attached to Stogursey and Kilton.

<sup>2</sup> Buckland, in North Petherton.

<sup>4</sup> Cheddon.

<sup>3</sup> Norton Fitzwarren.

<sup>5</sup> Angersleigh.

Lydeyard Laurence. Sir Robert Smyth, parochial chaplain. 1450.  
 St. James [Taunton]. Sir Lewis ap Rys, parochial chaplain ; Sir  
 Nicholas Bowey, anniversary chaplain ; Sir John Mory, anni-  
 versary chaplain ; Sir William Bowyer, anniversary chaplain.  
 Asshbritel. Sir John Blakealler, parochial chaplain.  
 Welyngton. Sir Nicholas Cokesden, parochial chaplain ; Sir  
 John Yonge, anniversary chaplain ; Sir William Blanchard,  
 anniversary chaplain.

### Deanery of Crukern.

Crukern. Sir Walter Prest, parochial chaplain ; Sir John Benet,  
 anniversary chaplain ; Sir John Pernam, chantry chaplain ;  
 Sir William Best, parochial chaplain.  
 Ilmyster. Sir Robert Marke, parochial chaplain ; Sir John  
 Ryppe, anniversary chaplain ; Sir John Rugge, anniversary  
 chaplain ; Sir John Repe, anniversary chaplain ; Sir John  
 Casselyne, anniversary chaplain.  
 Dunnyate. Sir Nicholas Clerk, chantry chaplain.  
 Kyngeston. Sir John Hoper, parochial chaplain.  
 Barington. Sir John Gyles, parochial chaplain.  
 Drayton. Sir John Vyncent, parochial chaplain.  
 Lapyn. Sir William Humfrey, parochial chaplain.  
 Seventon Mare.<sup>1</sup> Sir John Stephenes, parochial chaplain.  
 Staunton. Sir Nicholas Cokes, parochial chaplain.  
 Hache. Sir Philip Porter, parochial chaplain.  
 Kyngesbury. Sir John Wagge, anniversary chaplain.  
 Bokelond Mare.<sup>2</sup> Sir Richard Cornyssh, parochial chaplain.  
 Bradewey. Sir William Pollard, parochial chaplain.  
 Stapyl. Sir John Croke, parochial chaplain.  
 Knolle. Sir John Holeleg, parochial chaplain.  
 Pederton. Sir William More, chantry chaplain ; Sir Robert  
 Clake, anniversary chaplain ; Master Robert Plovyon, parochial  
 chaplain.  
 Chelyton. Sir John Frenssh, parochial chaplain.

489. Commission to the prior and convent of Montagu  
 (*Montis Acuti*) to collect 6s. 8d. from the chaplains mentioned

<sup>1</sup> Seavington St. Mary.

<sup>2</sup> Buckland St. Mary.

1450. in the above schedules, in accordance with the aforesaid grant in convocation, and to pay the same in the Exchequer at the Annunciation next. The bishop's inn at London, 26 January, 1449[-50].

490. Certificate by the bishop to the prior and convent of Taunton,—in accordance with the proviso in the aforesaid grant in convocation requiring that before 1 February every bishop shall certify the collectors in his diocese of the names and surnames of those exempt persons who ought to pay a fourth part of a tenth,—that the required names are written in the enclosed schedule. Date as above.

Schedule :—

The abbot and convent of Cleeve.

The prior and convent of Montagu (*de Monte Acuto*).

- f. 107. 491. Transmission by the bishop to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the above schedules containing the names of those persons who are liable to pay 6s. 8d. and a fourth part of a tenth respectively in accordance with the aforesaid grant in convocation. 30 January, the same place and year.

492. Commission to Master John Bernard, Master John Stokes, Sir John Trevenant and Sir John Haydore to exercise the office of provost of Wells during the vacancy caused by the death of Master Richard Hore.<sup>1</sup> 4 February, the same place and year.

493. Request to the king for the arrest of Robert Tanner and Isabel Helier, of Pensford, and Laurence Compton, of Bekynton, who have remained under excommunication for forty days and more, despising the keys of Holy Church. 11 February, the same place and year.

494. Collation to Sir John Sturrey of the church of Gotehyll, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as rector. Letter of induction to Master John

<sup>1</sup> The will of Richard Hore was proved on 21 January, 1450. *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xl: p. 203.

Stokes, William North, and Sir John Haydore, keepers of the archdeaconry of Wells. 14 February, the same place and year. 1450.

495. Institution of Roger Fabell, clerk, as rector of the church of Maperton, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Bekke, in the person of John Machon, his proctor, on the presentation of Sir John Dynham, knight, found by inquisition to be the true patron. Letter of induction (as above, last entry). And then the bishop, at the petition of the said proctor, and with the assent of the new rector, assigned to the resigning rector a yearly pension of 8 marks for life out of the emoluments of the church. 8 March, the same place and year.

496. Letter from the bishop to the dean of Wells. After long continued forbearance, the bishop is compelled at last to write to him on a subject which cannot any longer be passed over without offence to the divine majesty. On many occasions, and especially at his last ordinary visitation in Wells cathedral, grievous complaints have been laid before him that the dean, in despite of the nature of his dignity, the statutes and customs of his church, and his oath, has been absent for many years from the place where he is bound to reside in person and continuously, whereby not only have the greatest errors and excesses grown up there through his fault and negligence, and grave scandal been caused, but the observances of the sacred ministry and good order generally have been perverted. The bishop, therefore, exhorts him in the Lord and straightly requires him to put aside his other occupations and take up residence as soon as possible, knowing that, if he neglect to do so, his temerity will not be left unpunished. This admonition the bishop has written before taking other steps, so that the dean may clearly see that he would rather induce him by kindness to undertake the burden of his office than compel him by the severity of the law and canonical distraint. Written *manu mea*. London, 11 March, 1449[-50].

497. Attestation by William North, clerk, of the diocese of Salisbury, notary-public, of an appeal (*provocatio*) by the bishop to the Apostolic See, and for the protection of the court of Canterbury, in view of grave prejudice which threatens him and his 1445.  
f. 108.

1445. churches of Bath and Wells. Present, Dan Ralph Maskal, monk of Winchester cathedral, and Master John Bayly and Master Thomas Bromhale, bachelors in both laws, of the dioceses of Salisbury, Lincoln and London. The great chamber in Dogmersfeld manor, 25 January, 1444[-5].

1450. 498. Collation to Master John Kyrkeby, M.A., in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, of a canonry in Wells cathedral and the prebend of Wedmore IV. therein ; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 5 April, 1450.

499. The like collation of a canonry and the prebend of Wedmore II. to Sir Thomas Kirkeby, keeper of the king's rolls.<sup>1</sup> 6 April, the same place and year.

500. Collation to Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, canon of Wells, of the canonical houses in Wells between the dwelling of the dean of Wells on the west and the house of the archdeacon of Wells on the west (*sic*), which were last inhabited by the late Master Richard Hooore, provost and canon of Wells. 9 April, the same place and year.

501. The like collation to Master Thomas Boleyn, bachelor in laws, canon of Wells, of the canonical houses in Wells last inhabited by the late Master John Reynold, sub-dean and canon. Date as above.

502. Collation to Master Lewis Rede, canon of Wells, of the canonical houses in Wells last inhabited by Master John Arnold, late canon of Wells, to hold for so long as he shall remain a residentiary canon, be willing to inhabit the houses in person and keep them in repair, and secure no grant of other more acceptable ones. Date as above.

f. 109. 503. Collation to Sir John Trevenant of the provostship of Wells and the prebend of Combe XII. annexed thereto, vacant by the death of Master Richard Hooore ; and institution accordingly. Letter of collation and installation to Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, Master Andrew Hooles, archdeacon of Taunton, and Master John Stokes. Woky, 13 April, 1450.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Kirkeby was appointed Keeper of the Rolls of Chancery, 29 March, 1447. *Cal. Pat. Rolls*.

504. Collation to Thomas Purveour, B.A., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Ilton vacant by the death of Master John Reynold ; and institution and investiture of him in the person of Master William North, his proctor. Banewell, 14 April, 1450.

505. Institution of Sir John Lewes, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the late Robert Chepe in the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, Bristol, vacant by the resignation of Master Roger Dyer, on the presentation of Sir John Crewood, chaplain, master of the fraternity of the chapel of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary on the bridge of Avon, Bristol, and the whole of the said fraternity. Date as above.

506. Attestation by John Machon, clerk, of the diocese of Worcester, notary-public, of the resignation by Master Andrew Hooles, doctor of decrees, archdeacon of Taunton, canon of Wells and prebendary of Milverton I. annexed to the said archdeaconry, by proxy of Master William North, bachelor in laws, notary-public of the diocese of Salisbury, of his said archdeaconry, and of his acceptance of the collation of the archdeaconry of Wells made to him, in his absence, by the bishop. Present, Master William Peryn, M.A., and Sir William Kyng, B.A., of the diocese of London. The great hall of the manor of Banewell, 15 April, 1450.

507. Institution of the said Master Andrew as archdeacon and canon of Wells and prebendary of the said prebend.<sup>1</sup> Letter of induction to Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells and official of the bishop and his consistory, Master William Sprever, archdeacon of Bath, and Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general. Wells palace, 18 April, 1450.

508. Licence, for three years, for Master William Pyper *alias* Free, M.A., rector of the church of Mylton Podymore, to absent himself therefrom while studying letters wherever such study flourishes in England, and to demise his church to suitable persons, whether literate or not, and to receive the fruits thereof ; provided that in the meantime divine service and the cure of

<sup>1</sup> The prebend of Huish should have been mentioned by name.

1450. souls be not neglected, and that he appoint a suitable proctor in his church to answer for him to the bishop and his ministers. 19 April, the same place and year.

509. Collation to Sir Robert Ymberley, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the second chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. Date as above.

510. Collation to Master John Moreton, S.T.P., of the church of Axbrugge, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Parle. Date as above.

f. 110. 511. Collation to Master Thomas Boleyn, canon of Wells, of the subdeanery of Wells and the parish church of Woky annexed thereto, vacant by the death of Master John Reynold; and institution accordingly. Letter of installation to Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells and official of the bishop and his consistory, Master Andrew Hooles, archdeacon of Wells, and Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general. 20 April, the same place and year.

512. Commission to Master John Stokes, Master Walter Roche and Master William North to act as keepers of the archdeaconry of Taunton during the vacancy caused by the resignation of Master Andrew Hooles, doctor of decrees. 22 April, the same place and year.

513. Institution of Sir John Silverthorn, chaplain, in the person of Richard Schesby *alias* Parker, his proctor, as rector of the church of Northstoke, vacant by the death of Sir William Guye, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. 22 May, the same place and year.

514. Institution of Sir John Large, chaplain, in the person of Nicholas Lovyngcote, his proctor, as rector of the church of Netilcombe, vacant by the death of Sir John Fitzhide, on the presentation of Joan Raleigh, lady of Netilcombe. Letter of induction to Master John Stokes, Master Walter Roche and Sir John Haydore, keepers of the archdeaconry of Taunton. 23 May, the same place and year.

515. Appointment of Master Walter Roche and Master William North, bachelors in both laws, Sir Philip Lewys, perpetual vicar of the church of Long Sutton, and Sir John Jede, perpetual vicar of the church of St. Mary Magdalen, Taunton,<sup>1</sup> to claim and receive on behalf of the bishop, from all the king's justices, stewards, constables, bailiffs or other ministers having power to deliver prisoners, all clerks or other ecclesiastics taken, arrested, or imprisoned in the county of Somerset for any crime or trespass. 26 May, the same place and year. 1450.

516. Institution of Sir William Elys, chaplain, as rector of the church of Westludford, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Lye, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of the monastery of Graces, by the Tower of London. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Banewell, 4 June, 1450.

517. Institution of Thomas Overay as rector of the church of Chedon, vacant by the resignation of Master William Danyel, M.A., on the presentation of Henry Percy. Letter of induction as above (no. 514). 16 June, the same place and year.

518. Dispensation for the above, for two years, in accordance with the chapter *Cum ex eo*. Date as above.

519. Grant by the bishop,—on representations by the vicar and parishioners of the parish church of Yevell that on the feast of Holy Trinity last 117 houses in that town were accidentally destroyed by fire, among them being 15 dwellings belonging to the chantry of the Holy Trinity in the said church, 11 belonging to the chantry of the Virgin Mary outside the said church, 19 belonging to another chantry of the Virgin Mary in the said church, and 2 belonging to the almshouse of the town, and that they intend to rebuild the same if helped by the charity and alms of the faithful,—of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons giving of their goods for the above purpose; to last for one year. Wells palace, 26 June, 1450. f. 111b.

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.



1450. 520. Collation to Richard Norman of the first chamber on the west side of the vicars' close of Wells. 4 August, the same place and year.

521. The like to John Oliver of the twelfth chamber on the same side. Date as above.

522. Licence for Master Henry Fraunceys, M.A., of Welewe, to preach anywhere in the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. 7 August, the same place and year.

523. Grant by the bishop of forty days' relaxation from penance to all contrite persons who shall visit the chapel of the *Domus Dei* of Henton, of the Carthusian order, built in honour of the Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist, on the feasts of the Annunciation and the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, or celebrate mass therein, and say the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation or other prayers for the peace of the church and the good estate and tranquillity of the king and realm of England, including in the grant the ministers of the said mass and all persons present thereat. Date as above.

524. Licence for Master John Moreton, S.T.P., canon of Wells, to celebrate mass and to have it celebrated in the oratory of his dwelling, or elsewhere in the diocese, without doing prejudice to the rights of others. 8 August, the same place and year.

525. Institution of Sir John Lece, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of St. Cross in the suburb of Bristol, vacant by the death of Sir William Banyng, on the presentation of Brother Robert Botill, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England; saving a yearly pension of 100s. alleged by the prior to be due to the said hospital from of old. 11 August, the same place and year.

526. Institution of Master John Moreton, S.T.P., as rector of the church of Axbrugge, to which he was collated by the bishop at another time. Date as above.

527. On 13 August, in the palace of Wells, there appeared in person before the bishop Sir John Roberd, rector of Culve, who

should have appeared about the 29th June last in accordance with the protocol of his institution made on 29 June, 1448, and purged his delay by pleading bodily infirmity and the lack of a chaplain. The bishop accepted his excuse; but, inasmuch as on examination it appeared that he had made hardly any progress in grammar during the last two years, the bishop enjoined on him once more that he should attend some grammar school for a year from Michaelmas next, and submit himself for examination at the end of the year, on pain of being deprived of his benefice. Present, Master John Moreton, canon of Wells, Thomas Daberichecourt, literate, and William North, clerk, of the diocese of Salisbury, notary-public. 1450.

528. Notification to Thomas Longe and John Mille, wardens and keepers of the goods of the church of Kyngeston,<sup>1</sup> and all present and future parishioners thereof, that,—on their petition showing that the festival of the dedication of their church has from of old been celebrated on the eve of the Purification of the Virgin Mary, but that they wish to have it changed to the first Sunday in October, in order that it may be observed with more solemnity and devotion than was possible at the former date,—the bishop hereby changes the said festival accordingly, with the consent of the dean and chapter of Wells, who are impro- priators of the church for the use of the vicars choral of Wells cathedral; and in order to excite the parishioners to observe the said festival with greater devotion, grants forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall attend divine service in the said church and piously say the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation on the first occasion on which the festival of dedication shall be celebrated on the first Sunday in October. Wells palace, 17 August, 1450. f. 112.

529. The king's writ<sup>2</sup> ordering the bishop to appoint some trustworthy persons of the clergy of his diocese to collect therein an entire tenth of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions, with certain exceptions, payable in moieties at the Annunciation, 1452, and the Annunciation, 1453, and 2s. in the pound of the

<sup>1</sup> Kingston near Ilminster. *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 296, 380, 381.

<sup>2</sup> Fine Roll, 28 Hen. VI, m. 11.

1450. goods and possessions of all archbishops, bishops, prelates, abbots, priors and other secular and regular clerks promoted to elective
- f. 113. benefices, with certain exceptions, payable at once, and a fourth part of a tenth, in addition to the said whole tenth, of the goods and possessions of all persons exempted by royal letters from collection of tenths,—all which were granted to the king by the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury in their last convocation in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, begun on Friday, 14 November, 1449, and continued until 17 July following ; as well as 2s. in the pound of the goods and possessions of men of religion and others who have by royal letters obtained relief from being bound to contribute to tenths with the rest of the clergy, which sum was granted in the said convocation for the defence of the church of England to John, archbishop of Canterbury, and was by him granted to the king. Westminster, 1 August, 18 Henry VI.
- f. 114. 530. Commission to the abbot and convent of Glastonbury to collect the said tenth from goods, etc. in the diocese of all non-elective benefices which are taxed, and also of such of the untaxed benefices as are specified in the annexed schedule, in accordance with the estimate of their yearly value specified therein, and 2s. in the pound from goods, etc. in the diocese of all elective benefices mentioned in the said schedule—excepting the goods and possessions of the priors of Worspryng and Staverdale, the masters of the hospital[s] of St. John of Bruggewater, Wells, Bath and Bristol, and the poor nuns of Canyngton and Barwe, the taxed benefices specified in the said schedule which are exempt on account of their poverty, and the benefices, goods and possessions of all rectors, vicars and other beneficed ecclesiastics of the diocese who, between the date of the said grant and the term for making the last payment of the said tenth, shall have been indicted of felony, provided the bishop certify the treasurers, receivers and collectors of the said tenth, before the term of payment, as to their honourable life and good report in respect of the matter of which they are indicted—and a fourth part of a tenth of the goods and possessions of all such persons as by royal letters are exempted from the collection

of tenths, whose names are also written in the said schedule. 1450.  
Wells palace, 22 August, 1450.

Schedules enclosed :—

(1) Names of abbots and others promoted to elective benefices :  
The prior of Bath ; the dean of Wells ; the abbots of Glastonbury, Mochilney, Athelney, Keynesham and Cleeve ; the priors of Bruton, Montagu (*de Monte Acuto*), Taunton and Berlegh ; the abbot of St. Augustine's, Bristol ; the prior of Bradynghster ; the abbots of Shirborn, Tewkesbury, Cirencester (*Cicestrie*), Flexlegh, St. Neots and Whitelond ; the priors of Winchester, Wormelegeh, Merton, Bradelegeh, Stodelegeh and Brymmore ; the abbesses of Shaftesbury, Wherewell and Wylton ; the prior of Bermondesie ; and the abbot of Forde.

(2) Names of persons exempted by royal letters from collection of tenths :—

The abbot of Cleeve and the prior of Montagu (*de Monte Acuto*). f. 115.

(3) Benefices not accustomed to pay tenths but exceeding 12 marks in yearly value :—

[As above, no. 100, except that the church of Blakeford and the vicarage of Southstoke are omitted.]

(4) Benefices accustomed to pay tenths but exempt on account of poverty :—

[As above, no. 100, except that the vicarage of Westbury, in the deanery of Axbrugg, is added, and the church of Thornefawcon, in the deanery of Taunton, is substituted for the church of Saunford Arondell.]

531. Notification to John, cardinal priest of St. Balbina, archbishop of York, John, archbishop of Canterbury, and the bishops of London and Winchester (named in the above king's writ as treasurers and receivers of the aforesaid tenth and other payments), of the appointment of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury as collectors thereof. Wells palace, 23 August, 1450.

Schedules enclosed, as above.

f. 116.

532. Licence for Master Thomas Drayton, bachelor in both laws, rector of Lydeyard St. Laurence, on account of his bodily weakness and defective sight and for other reasons, to be absent from his church and to demise it at farm to suitable persons during

1450. the bishop's pleasure, receiving the fruits thereof as if he were resident in person ; provided that in the meantime divine service and the cure of souls be not neglected, and that he leave there a suitable proctor to undertake the charges incumbent and answer for him to the bishop and his ministers. Woky manor, 2 September, 1450.

533. Release and quit-claim by the bishop, Nicholas Carent, dean of the church of St. Andrew, Wells, and the chapter thereof, and Thomas Lacok, prior of the monastery of SS. Peter and Paul, Bath, and the convent thereof, to William Rodberd, clerk, of all personal actions which they have, had, or may in future have, against him. 10 August, 28 Hen. VI.

Sealed by the bishop in the palace of Wells, 13 September, 1450.

534. On 15 September, in Wells palace, the bishop received a certificate from John, bishop of St. Davids, in the matter of an exchange between Sir John Fyne, rector of the church of Stoke-tristre, and Sir Richard Drake, rector of the church of Gomfreiston, in the diocese of St. Davids, whereby it appeared that the said bishop of St. Davids, acting by authority of a commission from the bishop, had authorised the said exchange and instituted Sir Richard as rector of Stoketristre, on the presentation of William, earl of Arundel and lord of Matrevers. Afterwards, on receiving the oath of canonical obedience from Sir Richard Widlok, vicar of Penale, proctor of the said Sir Richard Drake, a letter of induction was written to the archdeacon of Wells.

535. Collation to Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, of the archdeaconry of Taunton in Wells cathedral and the prebend of Milverton annexed thereto, vacant by the resignation of Master Andrew Hooles, doctor of decrees ; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 20 April, 1450.

536. Commission to Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells and official of the bishop and his episcopal consistory of Wells, Master John Trevenaunt, provost of Wells, and Master John Stokes, canon thereof, the bishop's commissary-general, to induct

the said Master Robert as archdeacon and prebendary. Woky, 1450.  
16 September, 1450.

537. Demise and confirmation by the bishop to John Donne, f. 117.  
Felice his wife, and Thomas their son, of a tenement in North-  
yeatestrete, Bathe, formerly held by Richard Clerke, lying be-  
tween a tenement of the mayor and commonalty of Bathe on  
the north and a lane leading to the mill on the south, and con-  
taining 70 feet in length and 30 feet in breadth, to hold the same  
for life and in survivorship, rendering 26s. 8d. yearly to the bishop  
and his successors, and doing suit to the bishop's court there  
twice a year; with proviso for re-entry in case of their failure to  
keep the tenement in repair and pay the said rent. Witnesses,  
William Hoge kyns, mayor of Bathe, Roger Stanburgh, William  
Drayton and others. Thursday after the Exaltation of the Holy  
Cross, 29 Henry VI.

538. Institution of William Childe, B.A., as rector of the  
church of Westludford, vacant by the resignation of William  
Elys, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of the mon-  
astery of Graces, by the Tower of London, who by royal grant  
have the right of presenting from the time of the death of John,  
late duke of Exeter, until the full age of Henry his son and heir.<sup>1</sup>  
Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Woky,  
18 September, 1450.

539. Commission and injunction to the dean of Frome and  
all rectors, vicars and chaplains with or without cure in the said  
deanery,—on a report that some parishioners of the church of  
Mellys who dwell in the little town (*villula*), or hamlet, of Lygh  
in the parish of Mellys, have often threatened and still daily  
threaten to carry away and dispose at their pleasure of certain  
fruits, tenths and proceeds of the said church which belong to  
the rector thereof,—to admonish the said parishioners and all  
others in the parish church aforesaid and the chapel of Lygh,  
on Sundays and feast days, when called upon so to do,

<sup>1</sup> John, duke of Exeter, died 5 August, 1447. His son obtained livery  
of his lands, without proof of age, 23 July, 1450, eleven months before  
attaining his majority. *Complete Peerage*, vol. v. p. 212.

1450. that they abstain from such bold and unlawful acts under penalty of the greater excommunication . . . . [*Unfinished and undated.*]

f. 118. 540. Notification to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the appointment of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury to collect the tenth and other payments mentioned above (no. 530), and to pay the same to the treasurers and receivers thereof. Woky, 22 September, 1450.

Schedules enclosed, as to the said collectors.

541. Institution of Master John Moreton, S.T.P., in the person of — Stodeham, his proctor, as rector of the church of Charleton Mesgros, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Suggenhill, on the presentation of Richard Chokke, William Pavy and William Clerk. Banewel, 27 September, 1450.

542. Institution of Richard Suggenhyll, chaplain, in the person of William Stodeham, his proctor, as rector of the church of Benangger, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Brian, on the presentation of Master John Moreton, canon of Wells and prebendary of Whitechurche. Date as above.

543. Institution of Sir Thomas Shortrugg, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Somerton, vacant by the death of Sir John Bonde, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Mochilney. In view of his lack of learning, he was enjoined by Master Thomas Mersshe, the bishop's commissary-general, to study for a year, and offer himself for examination by the bishop within a month after Michaelmas, 1451. [The conditions are similar to those set out in the institution of Thomas Smyth (no. 355 above), except that no security bond is mentioned.] Present, Sir William Kyng, chaplain, John Happesford, and William North, clerk, of the diocese of Salisbury, notary-public. The chapel in Banewel manor, 29 September, 1450.

Subsequently, the said Sir Thomas swore in the presence of the bishop to carry out the said injunction. Present, Master Robert Peusesey, Master Thomas Merssh, and William North, as above.

544. Manumission of William Rodberd, clerk, bondman of the bishop's manor of Kyngesbury. 10 October, 29 Hen. VI. 1450. f. 119.

545. Manumission of Thomas Briddeporte *alias* Buddeporte, bondman of the bishop's manor of Hewysshe, co. Somerset, and all his offspring (*sequela*). Date as above.

546. Institution of Sir John Stampe, in the person of John Lewes, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wynsford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Howell, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Berliche. Woky, 11 October, 1450.

547. Order to all rectors, vicars and chaplains with cure in the diocese to receive with kindness David Frenssh and Thomas Walssh when they come seeking alms from the faithful, and to be zealous in expounding their case to the people; as they have spent long years in the king's wars in the realm of France, the duchy of Normandy and elsewhere, have been taken prisoner many times, have sold their inheritances, possessions and goods to pay excessive and intolerable ransoms for their delivery from captivity, and now at last have been driven out of the said realm and duchy, crossing with white staves in their hands and leaving behind them the few goods that remained to them, so that they are by miserable want and poverty reduced to begging. Grant, for one year, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons giving of their goods for the relief of the said David and Thomas. Woky, 17 October, 1450.

548. Collation to Oliver Dynham of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmore III. vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Assheden. Woky, 19 October, 1450.

549. Notarial attestation of an ordinance and decree by the bishop,—with the consent of Theobald Gorges, knight, patron of the parish church of Wroxhale, Sir Thomas Haynes, priest, rector thereof, with the counsel and assent of the chapters of the cathedral churches of Wells and Bath, and at the request of Master John Storthwayt, chancellor and canon of Wells, who by his petition has represented to the bishop that he is earnestly desirous that certain masses may be celebrated daily in future



1450. at the altar of the Holy Cross erected on the north side of Wells cathedral, and has prayed that a pension of 10*l.* of the fruits, proceeds and offerings of the said parish church may be imposed by the bishop for that purpose with the assent of the said patron and rector and others interested,—that the present rector of
- f. 120. Wroxhale and his successors shall pay a yearly pension of 10*l.* to the dean and chapter of Wells by equal instalments at Christmas, Lady Day, Midsummer and Michaelmas, or within fifteen days thereafter, beginning at Christmas next, for the support of certain masses to be said daily for ever at the aforesaid altar for the good estate of the said Theobald and others during their lives, and for their souls after their death, and for the support of other works of devotion and piety according to the ordinance of the said Master John. In compensation for the hurt (*lesionem*) received by the dean and chapter the bishop specially reserves a payment of 40*d.* yearly to be retained by them out of the said 10*l.* He also imposes a payment of 12*d.* yearly as indemnity for the archdeacon of Bath. Any rector failing to pay the said pension is subjected to a penalty of 40*s.* ; and each succeeding rector is
- f. 121. to swear to observe the present decree. In the event of payment being wholly or partly in arrear for twenty-four days, the fruits of the said church are to be sequestrated and remain in the custody of the archdeacon of Bath or his official, or of the dean of Radclyve, until the said arrears, the aforesaid penalty, and all expenses and damages incurred, be fully satisfied. In the event of payment being delayed for forty days after any of the said terms, the rector shall incur the penalty of the greater excommunication. Present, Master Robert Stillington, doctor of laws, canon of Wells, Master William North and Master John Machon, scribes, and Thomas Been, William Vowell and John at Water, notaries-public. The bishop's chapel in Wells palace, 16 September, 1450.<sup>1</sup>

550. Institution of Sir John Kyngyswere, priest, B.A., as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Margaret, Wyke Perham,<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 456-458, 465.

<sup>2</sup> Wick, in the parish of Curry Rivel, sometimes described in the episcopal registers as Wyke near Langport.

vacant by the death of Sir John Elcombe, on the presentation of John Baylly, gentleman, of Wyke Perham. The bishop's inn at London, 17 November, 1450. 1450.

551. Institution of Sir Thomas Shaul, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of Robert Chepe founded in the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, Bristol, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Lewys, on the presentation of Sir John Crewode, chaplain, master of the fraternity of the chapel of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary on the bridge of Avone, Bristol, and the whole of the said fraternity. 20 November, the same place and year.

552. Institution of Sir Simon Symmys *alias* Tayllour as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Virgin Mary in the church of Frome, on the presentation of Robert Leversegge, lord of Frome. 11 December, the same place and year.

553. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Master Thomas Smyth, M.A., of the diocese of Bath and Wells. 18 December, the same place and year.

554. Faculty to the dean of Wells, or, in his absence, the sub-dean, or, in the absence of both of them, the president of the chapter, and the chapter of Wells,—inasmuch as the cathedral church of Wells, as the bishop long ago discovered at his visitation thereof, is notoriously in need of very great repairs in its roof and elsewhere, and its possessions, rights and liberties are beyond measure oppressed and withdrawn by its enemies and the enemies of Christ, and no portion, or at least no sufficient portion, of the fruits thereof pertains from of old to the repair of its structure and the defence of its rights and liberties, and whereas the dean and canons of the cathedral, and the holders of dignities, *personatus* and perpetual offices therein, are bound by oath to preserve the said rights and liberties and support the said charges, and without the assent of all the canons, both residentiary and others, or the majority of them, no remedy can be applied in the matter, or at any rate not so quickly as with their counsel and consent,—to summon to the chapter-house of the said church all the said canons and holders of dignities and others, make 1451.  
f. 122.

1451. ordinances and decisions touching the above and other matters concerning the state of their church, and put the said ordinances and decisions into execution by sequestration or otherwise. The bishop's inn at London, 29 January, 1450[-51].

555. Institution of Sir John Simondes, priest, in the person of Master Thomas Mersshe, his proctor, as rector of the church of Ore, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Godde, on the presentation of Richard Kelly, esquire. 16 February, the same place and year.

556. Institution of Sir Robert Redehed, chaplain, as rector of the church of Gotehurst, on the presentation of Alexander Hody, William Arthur and William Magot. Date as above.

557. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Peytrell, of the diocese of Bath and Wells. 18 February, the same place and year.

558. Institution of Master Robert atte Woode, inceptor in decrees, as rector of the church of Chedesey, vacant by the death of Sir John Boold, on the presentation of the duchess of Suffolk. 23 February, the same place and year.

559. Decree by the bishop,—on the submission to him of a difference between the abbot and convent of Teukesbury, proprietaries of the parish church of Puryton, and Sir John Strange, vicar of Puryton, as to the portion of the vicarage of the said church, the abbot and convent being represented by their proctor, Master William Vance, bachelor in both laws,—that the vicar and his successors shall have a suitable dwelling, built at the expense of the abbot and convent, on ground called 'the persons close,' opposite the south door of the church, which they (the vicars) shall maintain at their own costs; and the whole of the enclosure called 'the persons close,' with two acres of meadow, one in the Northmede and the other in the Fistylmede; and four acres of pasture called 'the vicarys more' near Oxhey; and all personal tithes of all the parishioners, with all oblations; and all lesser and minute tithes, except those of the tenement in which Walter Wyke dwells, the cottage held by the said Walter,

and the tenement in which Thomas Geffreys dwells ; and all tithes of mills in the parish ; and 26s. 8*d.* yearly from the abbot and convent. And because the abbot and convent will have all the greater, real, and predial tithes, and the whole tithe of hay, the bishop imposes on them all ordinary and extraordinary charges incumbent on the church, except that the vicars shall repair and maintain the chancel, provide bread and wine for celebrations, provide two processional lights at the high altar, pay tenths (extended at 8s. 8*d.*) to the king as hitherto, pay procurations to the ordinaries by reason of visitation, as hitherto, pay all subsidies as granted, pay the expenses of proctors of the clergy elected to be present at provincial and synodal convocations, pay 10s. 4*d.* yearly to the archdeacon, to wit 7s. 5½*d.* for his procuration, 22½*d.* for Easter rent, and 12*d.* for the gift of St. Martin, provide or procure a rural dean to serve the ordinaries in the deanery of Powlett as often as such charge shall fall on the said church by the custom of the deanery, and serve the chapel of Downende in the said parish and support the charges incumbent thereon. 27 February, the same place and year. 1451.

560. Ratifications of the above decree by the abbot and convent of Teukesbury and the vicar of Puryton. Date as above.

561. Collation to Henry Eryum, clerk, B.A., in the person of Sir John Trevenant, his proctor, of the free chapel of Blackeford,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation of Thomas Purveour, and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him as warden thereof. Letter of induction to Master William Peryn, vicar of Banuell, and Sir John Haydore, the bishop's surveyor. 3 March, the same place and year.

562. Commission by the bishop to Richard, bishop of Salisbury, to examine, approve and authorise a proposed exchange of benefices between Master John Balsham, rector of Chesylburgh,<sup>2</sup> and, Master John Hethe, rector of Myntern, in the diocese of Salisbury, to receive the resignation of the former, and to institute the latter as rector of the church of Chesilburgh, to which he has been presented by John, archbishop of Canterbury, William f. 124.

<sup>1</sup> Blackford in Wedmore.

<sup>2</sup> There is no record of his institution.

1451. Bonvyale, knight, Nicholas Assheton, John Moone, Robert Parfite, William Kelewey, and Thomas Martyn, the present holders of the right of presentation. The induction of the new rector of Chesilburgh and his canonical obedience are to be specially reserved to the bishop. The bishop's inn at London, 25 March, 1451.

563. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest for Robert Gent, B.A., subdeacon, of the diocese of Bath and Wells. 7 April, the same place and year.

564. Licence, for two years, for Geoffrey Hide, of Wevelescumb, proctor of the hospital of the Holy Trinity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to collect alms and charitable gifts in the diocese, for the maintenance and relief of the said hospital. Wells palace, 1 May, 1451.

565. Institution of Roger Whynger, priest, as rector of the church of Backewell, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Ferroure, on the presentation of Sir Walter Rodeney, knight. Date as above.

566. Institution of Sir William Russell, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Dunster, vacant by the death of Sir John Sloo, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. 2 May, the same place and year.

567. Collation to Master John Bernard, bachelor in decrees, of the treasurership of Wells, vacant by the death of Master Peter Stucle. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general. 3 May, the same place and year.

568. Institution of Sir John Thomas, chaplain, as rector of the church of Telysford, vacant by the resignation of the late rector, on the presentation of Robert Hungerford, lord Hungerford. Banwell, 8 May, 1451.

569. Institution of Sir Nicholas Cockys, chaplain, in the person of Sir Richard Whitehorn, his proctor, as rector of the church of Stokelinche Mawdalen, on the presentation of John Coker. Woky, 13 May, 1451.

570. Collation to John Olyvere, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the twelfth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, to be held and inhabited by him according to the form laid down by Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop of Bath and Wells. Date as above. 1451.

571. The like to Richard Norman of the first chamber on the west side. Date as above.

572. The like to John Menyman of the eighth chamber on the east side. Date as above.

573. Institution of Master John Hobbez, M.A., as perpetual vicar of the church of Buddeclegh, vacant by the death of Master John Lavendre, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. Wells palace, 17 May, 1451.

574. Institution of Sir John Meke as perpetual chaplain of the chantry at the altar of St. Calixtus in Wells cathedral for the soul of Sir Henry Husee, sometime dean of Wells, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Bryggeman, on the presentation of Master Thomas Boleyn, subdean of Wells and president of the chapter, in the absence of the dean, and the chapter of Wells. Woky, 25 May, 1451. f. 125.

575. On 6 March, 1450-[51], Master Thomas Boleyn, in the house of his dwelling near Westminster, by virtue of commissions granted to him by John, archbishop of York, cardinal priest of St. Balbina, and Thomas, bishop of Bath and Wells, considered and approved a proposed exchange of benefices between Master Robert Styllington, doctor of laws, canon of Wells and prebendary of St. Decuman's, and Master John Bradston, bachelor in decrees, canon of York and prebendary of Fenton, received from both parties the resignations of their respective canonries and prebends, and collated each of them to the canonry and prebend resigned by the other. Present, John Gowles, literate, and Henry Aleyn, clerk, of the dioceses of Exeter and Ely.

576. On 10 April, 1451, Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, the bishop's vicar-general in spirituals, received in his inn

1451. at Wells a certificate from Richard, bishop of Salisbury, touching his execution of a commission to him to institute Master John Hethe, rector of Myntern, as rector of Chesilburgh, on an exchange of benefices with Master John Balsham (no. 562 above). On receipt by the said vicar-general of the oath of canonical obedience from Master John Hethe, in the person of John Abbot, his proctor appointed under the sign and subscription of Thomas Daunce, clerk, of the diocese of Winchester, notary-public, the customary letter of induction was written to the archdeacon of Wells or his official.

577. Collation to Master John Kirkeby of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wevelescumb vacant by the death of Master Peter Stucle; and institution accordingly. Woky, 12 May, 1451.

578. Injunctions by the bishop to the prior and convent of Taunton arising out of the bishop's visitation of the priory:—

(1) The common seal of the priory is to be kept in a chest with three locks, the three keys of which are to be held by the prior or his deputy, the sub-prior and the precentor respectively.

(2) The deeds (*evidencie*) of the priory are to be kept in a similar chest.

(3) The prior is to exhibit to the bishop before the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr next a full inventory of the live stock and dead stock of the priory, under the penalties of contempt and perjury.

(4) Every canon is to exhibit to the bishop or his commissary on the morrow of Midsummer next, and every year in future to the prior, a full inventory of all the goods in his custody.

(5) All the debts of the priory are to be written out clearly and distinctly, with the names of the creditors, the reasons for the debts, and the securities given.

(6) All corrodies and liveries issuing from the priory which were not granted by the prior and convent, if there be any, are to be revoked; and all corrodies and liveries at present issuing from the priory are to be specified.

(7) The prior is to return to the convent before the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr all their jewels, under the penalties aforesaid. 1451.

(8) The canons are not to invite to themselves any men from outside to the prejudice and dishonour of the priory or any person thereof.

(9) The canons are not to swear by the limbs of God under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Friday.

(10) The sub-prior is not to be remiss in his corrections, under penalty of suspension from office for a month.

(11) The canons are not to invite women to their chambers, *f. 126.* or eat or drink with them there, without the licence of the prior, or, in his absence, the sub-prior, or, in his absence, the third prior, under penalty of losing their chambers.

(12) The canons are to keep refectory duly, and the sub-prior is to eat there at least three times a week, unless there be a legitimate excuse.

(13) No canon, except the cellarer and the kitchen steward, is to go out of the priory into the town of Taunton, or to eat or drink there, without licence as above, under penalty of losing his common recreation (*solacium*) for the following year.

(14) Those going through (*transeuntes*) in common recreation are to speak together, eat together and be together at dinner, under the aforesaid penalty, unless there be a reasonable or legitimate excuse.

(15) The canons are to keep silence at suitable times and places according to the requirements of their order.

(16) The prior and the sub-prior are not to be too familiar with the lesser canons, or *vice versa*.

(17) The canons are to be in their dormitory every night at the eighth hour, unless there be a reasonable or legitimate excuse.

(18) The canons are not to be allowed to be idle (*otiosi*), but each of them according to his disposition is to be assigned some virtuous work by the prior and sub-prior.

(19) The canons are not to reveal to outsiders the councils of the priory, especially the acts in chapter (*facta capitularia*).

(20) The lesser canons are at all times and places to show befitting reverence to their seniors.



1451. (21) The sacristan is to close all the doors of the priory church, except the door of St. Botolph, every day immediately after high mass, and they are to remain closed until the warning for vespers. Immediately after vespers they are to be closed again, and to remain closed until the beginning of prime. This the sacristan shall do under penalty of loss of office for the following term.

(22) All the canons are to have their linen clothes washed by the common laundress of the priory. They are not in future to have separate laundresses, as they have been wont to have.

(23) The canons are not to leave the choir and wander about the church or any part thereof during divine service, unless there be some reasonable or legitimate cause.

The chapter-house of the priory, 9 June, 1451.

579. Collation to Sir John Haydour of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Codeworth vacant by the death of Sir John Coge; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 13 June, 1451.

580. Institution of Sir Robert Wodeford, chaplain, as rector of the church of Sevenhamton St. Michael, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Carter, on the presentation of Alexander de la Lynde. Woky, 22 June, 1451.

581. Commission to Dan John Cherde, abbot of Mochelneye, to take cognisance of all matters discovered by the bishop in his visitation of Taunton priory, to correct and punish all such defects and excesses as have not yet been corrected and punished, to draw up salutary injunctions for the prior and convent in pursuance of the said discoveries, and to do whatever else is necessary or fitting in regard to the premises. Wells palace, 18 June, 1451.

582. Injunctions by the abbot of Mochelneye to the prior of Taunton, 25 June, 1451:—

(1) He is not henceforth to receive any moneys entrusted to him, under a bond or otherwise, to the detriment of the priory, as he would avoid the penalties of contempt and perjury.

(2) He is not in anywise to meddle with the administration of the goods, things and chattels of the priory until the debts of the priory have been fully paid, under the aforesaid penalties.

(3) He is to be in the university of Oxford by 1 August next 1451. at latest, under the same penalties.

583. Collation to John Bochell, clerk, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Wedmore IV. ; and institution and investiture of him in the person of Master Simon Roo, his proctor. Woky, 2 July, 1451.

584. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer of Wells, and Master John Austell, bachelor in both laws, to take cognisance of all matters discovered by the bishop in his still pending visitation of the abbey of Keynesham, to correct and punish all such defects and excesses as have not yet been corrected and punished, to make a fresh visitation of the abbey if necessary, and to do whatever else is necessary and fitting in regard to the premises. 3 July, the same place and year.

585. Institution of Sir John Knolman, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as rector of the church of South Cadbury, vacant by the resignation of Master John Rygge, on the presentation of Sir Robert Hungerford, lord Hungerford, knight. 4 July, the same place and year.

586. Injunctions by the bishop's commissaries (last entry but one) to the abbot and convent of Keynesham :—

(1) The prior, and, in his absence, the sub-prior, are not to be remiss in their corrections, under penalty of suspension from office for a month.

(2) No canon is to eat outside the refectory without the licence of the prior, or, in his absence, the sub-prior, except those who are at the abbot's table.

(3) All the canons are to certify the abbot once a year as to the goods in their custody and their debts and credits.

(4) The abbot, the prior and the sub-prior, and the seniors of the abbey, are not to be too familiar with the lesser canons, or *vice versa*.

(5) The lesser canons are at all times and places to show befitting reverence to the abbot, the prior and the sub-prior, and to their seniors.

1451. (6) All the canons are to repair to the choir at the times of divine service every night and day, and to the chapter at chapter time ; and they are not then, or at any other time, to wander about the outer court or the church of the abbey or elsewhere, or to stand or sit there at all, without the licence of the prior, or, in his absence, the sub-prior.

(7) No canon, except the chamberlain, the kitchen steward and the cellarer, is to go outside the bounds of the church and cloister into the town of Keynesham or elsewhere, or to eat or drink there, without the licence of the abbot, or, in his absence, the prior, or, in the absence of both of them, the sub-prior, under penalty of imprisonment for the following term.

(8) [As no. 17 in the Taunton injunctions above.]

(9) The sacristan is to close all the doors of the church and cloister every day immediately after high mass, and they are to remain closed until the warning for vespers, and immediately after vespers they are to be closed again and remain closed until the beginning of prime of the following day, except the south door of the cloister, which is to be closed all night and during refectons. This the sacristan is to do under penalty of loss of office for the following term.

(10) [As no. 22 in the Taunton injunctions above.]

(11) Every day the canons eating in the refectory are to put aside a part of their helpings (*ferculis*) for the common alms of the refectory.

(12) The canons are not to send their helpings of food into the town to any other persons than their parents and relations, without the licence of the prior, or, in his absence, the sub-prior.

(13) [As no. 18 in the Taunton injunctions above.]

(14) The canons are not to reveal to outsiders the councils of the abbey, especially the acts in chapter, under penalty of keeping to the cloister with its additions (*appendiciis*) for a fortnight.

(15) [As no. 15 in the Taunton injunctions above.]

(16) All the officers of the abbey are to render account of their administrations every year to the abbot, the prior, the sub-prior and the senior of the convent.

(17) The canons are not to invite or receive in their chambers

any women, or eat or drink with them there, without licence of the prior, or, in his absence, the sub-prior, under penalty of imprisonment. 1451.

(18) The apple-orchard of the abbey is to be better kept in future, and new trees are to be planted every year.

(19) [As no. 9 in the Taunton injunctions above.]  
9 July, 1451.

587. Licence to Brother Richard Gleen, prior of Taunton,—on his petition showing that he could not fulfil within the specified times the injunctions laid on him to exhibit to the bishop an inventory of the priory stock before the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr next and to be in Oxford university by 1 August next, without great prejudice to the priory, and praying the bishop to grant that he may stay in some place of religion in the diocese until Michaelmas next, in order to complete the said inventory, make arrangements with the creditors of the priory, fix days for repayment of the priory debts, and do some other things for the evident advantage of the priory,—to stay with the abbot in the abbey of Athelney until Michaelmas next, and in the meantime to have access as often as he shall think fit to his said priory, and stay there with his fellow-brethren in the refectory and dormitory or some other proper chamber, provided no excessive charge be laid on the priory because of such access ; and postponement of the production of the said inventory and the prior's journey to Oxford until the morrow of Michaelmas next. Wells palace, 9 July, 1451.

588. Institution of Master Ralph Carnarthin, bachelor in decrees, as rector of the church of Poyntyngton, vacant by the death of Sir William Hardyng *alias* Hardy, on the presentation of Nicholas Aysshton, patron for this turn by grant of John Colshull, knight, and Elizabeth his wife, and John Welughby, esquire, and Anne his wife.<sup>1</sup> Woky, 15 July, 1451.

589. Transmission to the bishop by Thomas, bishop of London, of letters of John, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in

<sup>1</sup> Dame Elizabeth Colshull and Anne Willoughby were the daughters and coheiresses of Sir Edmund Cheney, of Poyntington.

1451. the manor of Lambhith, 16 June, 1451, ordering the bishops of  
f. 128. his province to admonish their subjects, both clerks and lay  
persons, in their cathedral, conventual, collegiate, and parochial  
churches, on Sundays and feast days, to return to the Lord their  
God in word, deed and act, bring forth fruits worthy of repentance,  
atone for their iniquities by alms and fastings, and with all  
humility of heart make solemn processions in or round their  
churches every Wednesday and Friday for the peace and tran-  
quillity of the church, the king, and the realm of England, with  
chanting of the litany or with special collects for peace. Wykeham  
manor, 24 June, 1451.

590. Institution of Sir Thomas Marcham, chaplain, as rector  
of the church of Charleton Makerell, vacant by the death of Sir  
Robert Belherd, on the presentation of Henry Percy, lord of  
Ponynges. Wells palace, 22 July, 1451.

591. Letters dimissory to all orders for Thomas Folkey, of  
Ilchestre, who has the first tonsure. 21 August, the same place  
and year.

592. Institution of Sir Richard Hayne, chaplain, as rector  
of the church of Stoke Tristre, vacant by the resignation of Sir  
Richard Drake, on the presentation of William, earl of Arundel,  
lord of Mautravers. Afterwards, in consideration of the feeble-  
ness of the resigning rector, the bishop assigned to him a yearly  
pension of 40s. out of the fruits of the said church, and the new  
rector made oath on the Gospels to pay the same. Present,  
John Compayne and Thomas Dycyngsale, clerks, of the dioceses  
of Salisbury and Durham, and William North, bachelor in laws,  
of Corton, in the diocese of Salisbury, notary-public. Woky,  
26 August, 1451.

593. Exemplification by William North, bachelor in laws, of  
Corton in the diocese of Salisbury, and John Touker, clerk, of  
the diocese of Bath and Wells, notaries-public, of a decree by the  
bishop,—in pursuance of a petition from Sir John Chambour,  
parochial chaplain of the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, in  
the suburb of Bristol, and Philip Mede, John Port and William  
Wykeham, parishioners of the said chapel, praying that, whereas

there was and is in the said chapel a chantry of one chaplain commonly called ' Welles Chauntry,' for the endowment of which two halls with the adjacent shops and other appurtenances were bequeathed, as appears by a transcript of the foundation deeds <sup>1</sup> made by order of John the bishop's official in the chapel of St. Mary by the cloister of Wells on 14 November, 1417, at the request of Sir Roger Crompe, priest of the said perpetual chantry, and the said shops and appurtenances are so decayed and ruinous through age and lack of repair that they have long been insufficient for the maintenance of the chaplain, and whereas a certain John Baskarfeld, deceased, a parishioner of the chapel, gave 48*l.* for the repair and improvement of the premises on condition that in future every chaplain of the chantry should be specially bound to pray for his soul and the soul of Margaret his wife, the bishop will be pleased to make a decree and ordinance accordingly,—that every future chaplain of the chantry shall remember by name in his masses and prayers the said John Baskarfeld, who is deservedly to be considered the second founder of the chantry, and Margaret his wife, as well as Richard of Welles, the first founder. Present, Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, Sir John Wansford, canon of Wells, and many others. The bishop's chapel in Woky manor, 28 August, 1451. 1451.  
f. 129.

594. Institution of Sir John Coppe, chaplain, as rector of the church of Rympton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Bekynton, on the presentation of William, bishop of Winchester. Woky, 31 August, 1451. f. 130.

595. Institution of Sir John Smyth, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Cammel,<sup>2</sup> vacant by the death of Master Thomas Makelesfeld, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cleeve. Wells palace, 2 September, 1451.

596. Letters dimissory to all orders for Thomas Parys, B.A., of Westpennard, who has the first tonsure. Woky, 11 September, 1451.

<sup>1</sup> The foundation deed and the bishop's confirmation are given in the *Register of Bishop Ralph de Salopia*, pp. 162, 163.

<sup>2</sup> East, or Queen, Camel.

1451. 597. Institution of Sir Stephen Colyber, chaplain, in the person of Master William North, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Aysshyl, vacant by the death of Sir Roger Jewel, on the presentation of Master John Sperhauke, canon of Wells and prebendary of the said prebend. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 15 September, the same place and year.

f. 131. 598. Grant to William Vouell, master of the city, or borough, of Wells, and the burgesses thereof and their successors for ever, of licence to take water from the spring called ' Seynt Andrewe-welle ' within the precinct of the palace of Wells, and lead it by pipes, etc. as far as the cross in the market-place and elsewhere, as they shall think fit. 20 September, 1451.

Confirmed by the prior and convent of Bath and the dean and chapter of Wells, 22 September, 1451.<sup>1</sup>

599. Assignment by the bishop to Sir John Bekynton, chaplain,—on his resignation of the church of Rympton, to which the bishop has admitted Sir John Coppe as rector, on the presentation of William, bishop of Winchester,—of a yearly pension of 6 marks out of the fruits of the said church [in terms similar to the assignment made to the retiring vicar of Cleeve, no. 314]. Woky, 31 August, 1451.

f. 132. 600. On 22 September Sir John Roberd, rector of Culve, appeared before the bishop for examination in accordance with the bishop's injunction of 13 August, 1450 (no. 527), was found to have a competent knowledge of the rules of grammar and understanding of the Scriptures, and was accordingly exempted from further examination and given leave to absent himself from his church for two years in order to study. Present, Master John Pope, S.T.P., Reynold Baker, and others, and also William North, notary-public.

601. Appointment, during the bishop's pleasure, of John FitzJames, esquire, to be steward of all the bishop's hundreds,

<sup>1</sup> A full abstract of this grant is given in *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. i. p. 433.

lordships, lands and tenements, within and without the county 1451.  
of Somerset. Wells palace, 16 September, 1451.

602. Appointment, as above, of the same John as bailiff of the bishop's liberties of Bath and Wells, with all executions of writs and plaints, attachments, forfeitures, escheats, keepings of the peace, and assises of bread, ale and all other victuals and things whatsoever, receiving the customary fees and wages. Date as above.

603. Collation to Thomas Purviour, B.A., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Yatton vacant by the death of Master John Mackeworth; and institution accordingly. 29 September, the same place and year.

604. Collation to Master William Say, bachelor of theology, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Ilton vacant by the resignation of Thomas Purviour, B.A.; and institution accordingly. His oath of canonical obedience was taken by John Stone, his proctor. 3 October, the same place and year.

605. Institution of Sir Nicholas Cokesden, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Nienhede, vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Lovekyn, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. 22 October, the same place and year.

606. Collation to Master Thomas Boleyn, canon of Wells, of the precentorship thereof, vacant by the resignation of Master John Bernard; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction to Master Thomas Merssh and Master Robert Peuesey, bachelors in both laws. 25 October, the same place and year.

607. Collation to Sir William Sengleton, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the fifth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close there. Date as above.

608. The like to Sir John Segerlegh, vicar as above, of the tenth chamber on the east side of the said close. Date as above.

609. Institution of Sir John Garge, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Compton Dando, on the presentation of



1451. the prior and chapter, or convent, of Bath. 27 October, the same place and year.

610. Collation to (*no name given*) of the fourteenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close of Wells. 4 November, the same place and year.

611. Institution of Sir Thomas Peverel, chaplain, as rector of the church of Cameley, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Pellyn,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of the prior and chapter, or convent, of Bath. A yearly pension of 40s. from the emoluments of the church was assigned to the resigning rector. 6 November, the same place and year.

612. Institution of Sir John Horne, chaplain, as rector of the church of Babbecary, vacant by the death of Master Thomas Rendel, on the presentation of Thomas Seymour (*de Sancto Mauro*), esquire. 8 November, the same place and year.

613. Collation to Master John Bernard, treasurer and residentiary canon of Wells, of the canonical houses in the city of Wells last inhabited by Master Thomas Boleyn, canon of Wells. 9 November, the same place and year.

f. 133. 614. Foundation by John Storthwayt, chancellor and canon of Wells, of a chantry, to be called the chantry of the Holy Saviour, the Blessed Virgin and all the elect of God, at the altar of the Holy Cross on the north side of Wells cathedral; Sir John Riche to be the first chaplain. Wells, 14 November, 1451.<sup>2</sup>

Approval and confirmation by the bishop. Wells palace, 18 November, 1451.

f. 135. 615. Collation to Master John Spekyngton of the subdeanery of Wells and the parsonage of Woky annexed thereto, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Boleyn; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction to Master John Bernard,

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

<sup>2</sup> A full abstract of this foundation deed is given in *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 456-8. The Latin text is printed in full in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, vol. ii. p. 280.

official of the bishop's consistory, and Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general. Wells palace, 20 November, 1451.

616. Strict injunction to the sub-prior and convent of Taunton, under penalties of perjury, disobedience and contempt, to put a stop at once to all liveries of bread and ale going out of the priory to the town of Taunton, whether to poor persons or to the servants of the priory, compensating the said servants with food, drink and salaries suitable to their tasks. The bishop, in his visitation of the priory, ordered the said stoppage to be made, so that the priory might shake off the load of debt with which it was oppressed ; but he is now informed that, not only have the said liveries been continued, but others are being paid which have been granted by the prior without authority since the said visitation. 28 November, the same place and year.

617. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer of Wells, Master John Stokes, canon thereof, and Master William North, bachelor in laws, to hold a visitation of the hospital of St. John, Bath, in its head and members, and to take action in accordance with their findings ; as the bishop is prevented by urgent business from visiting the hospital in person, as he had intended. 29 November, the same place and year.

618. Institution of Sir John Taylour *alias* Penbroke, chaplain, as rector of the church of Swayneswyke, vacant by the resignation of Master John Davy *alias* Hemmyng, on the presentation of Edmund Blunt, esquire. The presentee swore to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his not having fully verified the right of the person presenting. Present, Thomas Smyth, John Compayne and John Touker, notary-public. 2 December, the same place and year.

619. Grant by the bishop to John Saundre, Isabel his wife, and Joan their daughter, of a tenement containing a virgate of land at Wyke, in the bishop's manor of Congresbury, now held by John Rodberd, and also a tenement containing  $\frac{1}{2}$  virgate of land lately divided into two parts, a toft containing  $\frac{1}{2}$  fardel of land, 2 closes of land and pasture called ' Whipseyn ' containing

1451. 4 acres, and 2 closes called 'Waterlete' and 'Fryselond' respectively, lately belonging to Richard Firley, in the bishop's manor of Welyngton, to hold for life and in survivorship, rendering for the tenement in Congresbury, as well for rents as for works, 18s. yearly, and for the premises in Welyngton, as well for rents as for works, 20s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. yearly, and also doing suits to the bishop's courts at those places twice a year, and paying heriots. Provisoos for distrain and re-entry in the event of the rents being in arrear. 3 December, the same place and year.

620. Appointment of John Shepehurd and Thomas Baker as the bishop's attorneys to deliver seisin of the premises. Date as above.

f. 136. 621. Institution of Sir Michael Pynon, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Swelle, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Wyly, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton. 8 December, the same place and year.

622. Letters dimissory to all orders for Master Thomas Wodehele, M.A., of Gregory Stoke, in the parish of Northcory, who has the first clerical tonsure. 12 December, the same place and year.

623. Institution of Master John Combe, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Corston, vacant by the death of Sir John Wormeriche, on the presentation of the prior and chapter, or convent, of Bath. 14 December, the same place and year.

624. Institution of Sir John Wyndouer, perpetual vicar of the church of Yartecombe, in the diocese of Exeter, in the person of Sir John Reynold, his proctor, as rector of the church of Maperton, on the presentation of Sir John Dynham, knight; and institution of Sir Roger Fabell, rector of Maperton, as perpetual vicar of Yartecombe, on the presentation of Margaret, abbess of the monastery of St. Saviour, St. Mary the Virgin and St. Bridget, of Syon, and the convent thereof, with reservation of the episcopal rights and customs of the bishop of Exeter. The said exchange of benefices was carried through by the bishop by commission

from Edmund, bishop of Exeter. 19 December, the same place 1451.  
and year.

625. Institution of Master William Silk, M.A., as rector of the church of Kyngesdon, vacant by the death of Sir John Trewarth, on the presentation of James, earl of Wiltshire. Banwel, 27 December, 1451.

626. Letters dimissory to all orders for William Roalph of the parish of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol, clerk. 31 December, the same place and year.

627. Grant, during the bishop's pleasure, to John Lewis, clerk, of the office of bishop's scribe, or registrar, in all matters of corrections and excesses of the bishop's subjects, whether male or female, which shall be tried before the bishop's commissary-general and official of his peculiar jurisdictions of Cherde, Welyngton and Chiew, and in all causes which shall be begun in the said jurisdictions and before the said official; with the usual fees and emoluments. Banwel, 2 January, 1451[-2]. 1452.

628. Institution of Sir John Gayne, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Stanton Drew, on the presentation of Master William Spreuer, doctor of laws, archdeacon of Bath. 3 January, the same place and year.

629. Grant, during the bishop's pleasure, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons making gifts or bequests for the construction and repair of the bridge and causeways of the city of Bath. Wells palace, 12 January, 1451[-2]. f. 137.

630. On 13 January in the same year, about the fifth hour in the morning, the bishop in his own person consecrated and dedicated the altar which he had set up in honour of the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr in the chapel made by him immediately adjoining the presbytery in Wells cathedral, and then celebrated the mass of the Blessed Virgin thereat, in the presence of the dean and some canons of his cathedral, and very many other men and women.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Somerset & Dorset Notes & Queries*, vol. xvii. p. 123.

1452. 631. Institution of Sir William Grose, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Hampton,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation of Sir Henry Coventre, on the presentation of the prior and chapter, or convent, of Bath. Wells palace, 14 January, 1451[-2].

632. On 15 January in the same year, about the fifth hour in the morning, the bishop, clothed in the pontifical ornaments of his consecration day, in which he will be buried, consecrated his tomb in the above-mentioned chapel situated under representations (*quasi ymagines*) of Life and Death, and then, in the aforesaid pontifical ornaments, celebrated a *requiem* mass at the above-mentioned altar for the souls of the bishops, and of his parents and all the faithful departed; in the presence of the dean and some canons of the cathedral, and many other men and women.<sup>2</sup>

633. Collation to Sir John Wansford, residentiary canon of Wells, of the canonical houses in the city of Wells which are vacant by the resignation of Master Peter Stucle. Wells palace, 15 January, 1451[-2].

634. Collation to Richard Burnel, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the fourteenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. 17 January, the same place and year.

635. Institution of Master John Combe, M.A., as rector of the church of Brotton, vacant by the death of Sir John Rayne, on the presentation of William, lord la Zouche and Seymour, knight. Frome, 18 January, 1451[-2].

636. Collation to Master Thomas Swyfft, bachelor in both laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Dynre vacant by the resignation of Master Nicholas Upton; and institution accordingly. The oath of canonical obedience was taken on his behalf by Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor. Ambresbury, 19 January, 1451[-2].

637. Collation to Sir Richard Hayman of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Lytton vacant by the death of Master

<sup>1</sup> Bathampton.

<sup>2</sup> Printed as above.

John Storthwayte; and institution accordingly. The bishop's inn at London, 2 February, 1451[-2]. 1452.

638. Institution of Master Richard Mannyng, doctor of decrees, in the person of Master Thomas Gyan, his proctor, as prebendary of the church of Bathwyke, vacant by the death of Master John Storthwayte, on the presentation of Anne, abbess, and the convent of Wherewel. 6 February, the same place and year.

639. Institution of Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, as rector of the church of Lymplesham, vacant by the death of Master John Storthwayte, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Date as above.

640. Institution of Sir Walter Aysshford, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Canyngton, vacant by the death of Sir John Grene, on the presentation of Joan, prioress, and the convent of Canyngton. Bagshot, in Winchester diocese, 18 February, 1451[-2]. f. 138.

641. Institution of Master Walter Roche, bachelor in decrees, in the person of John Touker, clerk, his proctor, as rector of the church of Elworthy, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Davy, on the presentation of Robert Botyll, prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Dogmersfeld, 21 February, 1451[-2].

642. Institution of Sir William More, chaplain, in the person of Reynold Parker, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Penne Dummere, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Clarke, on the presentation of William Daubeney, esquire. 7 March, the same place and year.

643. On 21 March, in Wells palace, the bishop received a certificate from Richard, bishop of Salisbury, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir Thomas Tregauran, rector of Templecomb, and Sir Roger Jannys, rector of Lydlynche, in the diocese of Salisbury, by which it appeared that the said bishop of Salisbury, acting by authority of a commission from the bishop, had authorised the said exchange and instituted Sir Roger as rector of Templecomb, on the presentation of the abbess and

1452. convent of Shaftesbury, specially reserving to the bishop of Bath and Wells the induction and canonical obedience of the said Sir Roger.

644. Collation to Master John Bernard, treasurer and residentiary canon of Wells, of the canonical houses in Wells which were last inhabited by Master John Storthwayte, late chancellor and residentiary canon, and are now vacant by his death, to hold for so long as he shall remain a canon and be in residence. Wells palace, 21 March, 1451[-2].

645. Collation in like terms to Sir John Haydor, residentiary canon of Wells, of the canonical houses last inhabited by the above-mentioned Master John Bernard. 3 March, the same place and year.

646. Institution of Sir John Squyer, chaplain, as rector of the church of Babyngton, vacant by the death of Sir John Cleve, on the presentation of William, lord Botreaux, knight. Wells palace, 4 April, 1452.

647. Presentation by the bishop of Sir William Kyng *alias* Holben, chaplain, to Richard, bishop of Salisbury, for admission to the perpetual vicarage of the church of Whitchirche in Mersshwodevale, in the diocese of Salisbury. 9 April, the same place and year.

648. Grant by John, archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas, bishop of London, William, bishop of Winchester, Edmund, bishop of Exeter, Thomas, bishop of Ely, Thomas, bishop of Bath and Wells, John, bishop of Worcester, Walter, bishop of Norwich, Richard, bishop of Salisbury, and Reynold, bishop of Hereford, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons making gifts or bequests for the rebuilding of a chapel long since founded in the parish of Cleeve in honour of the Virgin Mary, in which the only-begotten Son of God and of the said Virgin has deigned to work signs of miracles and numberless recoveries of health (*salutis remedia*) by the merits of his glorious

f. 139.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> At this point the folios are bound up in their wrong order, as follows, 138, 151-62, 139-50.

Mother ; as a great hill there has horribly fallen on the said chapel as a result of the continued abundance of rains and fierce flood of waters, and has thrown it to the ground with the adjoining buildings and overwhelmed it utterly,—the image, however, and the altar upon which it was placed, being marvellously preserved intact, by the power of God, it is believed,—and the abbot and convent of Cleeve intend to build another chapel there in some convenient place, not sparing labour or expense, but their means are not sufficient to compass so sumptuous a work unless they be helped by the alms of the faithful. This grant is to last for three years only. 15 March, 1451[-2]. 1452.

Sealed by the bishop in Wells palace on 11 April, 1452.<sup>1</sup>

649. Collation to Master John Fraunceys, M.A., of a perpetual chantry in the church of Whatleyh, in the bishop's collation owing to six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as perpetual chaplain thereof. And inasmuch as the fruits and proceeds of the chantry have decreased to such an extent that the charges imposed on it at its foundation cannot be supported, the said Master John did not at his admission take the customary oath to observe the conditions laid down when the chantry was founded. Wells palace, 11 April, 1452.

650. Collation to Master John Pope, S.T.P., of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Wedmore V. ; and institution accordingly. 12 April, the same place and year.

651. Institution of Sir Stephen Coulyng, chaplain, in the person of Sir Robert Cornewale, chaplain, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of a chantry in the church of Combflory, vacant by the death of Sir Nicholas Fraunceys, on the presentation of Eleanor Fraunceys, lady of Combflory. 14 April, the same place and year.

652. Institution of Sir John Viell, priest, in the person of Thomas Kirkeby, his proctor, as rector of the church of Donkerton, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Gybbes, on the presentation of William Bampfled, esquire. The proctor made oath

<sup>1</sup> See no. 934 below.



1452. and entered into a bond to preserve the bishop from harm on account of his having admitted Sir John to the church without previous enquiry as to the right of the person presenting. Date as above.

653. Collation to Walter Frankleyn, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, to possess the same and dwell therein in the manner laid down by Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop. 17 April, the same place and year.

654. Injunctions by the bishop to the prior and convent of Bruton arising out of the bishop's visitation of the priory :—

(1) No canon of the priory is to lie with another canon within the precinct of the priory or outside it, nor have any other person lying with him in the dormitory or outside it, under penalty of keeping to the cloister and observing silence for a month, and fasting on bread and water in the meantime on every Wednesday and Friday.

(2) No canon is to lie outside the dormitory or go outside the bounds of the priory without leave of the prior or the sub-prior, under the same penalty.

(3) No canon is to play at dice inside or outside the priory, under penalty of fasting on bread and water the whole of the following Friday.

(4) The lesser canons are to be instructed in grammar daily at suitable hours.

(5) In the dormitory, the choir and the cloister, and in other appointed places in the priory, the canons are to keep silence according to their rule.

(6) The infirmary is to be built anew as quickly as possible.

(7) The senior canons are not without leave of the prior and for reasonable causes to draw to themselves the lesser canons, under penalty of standing in the cloister throughout the following day and being deprived of flesh food for a month.

(8) The lesser canons are to be obedient to the prior and other senior canons, and show them due reverence.

(9) No woman, especially suspected ones, among whom Margaret Stowel is particularly notorious, are to be allowed to

enter the priory. The prior and the sub-prior are to see that this injunction be effectually observed, under penalty of fasting on Lenten fare every Monday for a month if they be found negligent or culpable. 1452.

(10) The bishop admonishes and exhorts all the canons not to accustom themselves to oaths or dare to swear by the humanity of Christ or any of the members of Christ ; all oaths, and especially the above mentioned, being by divine and human laws forbidden not only to men of religion but to all Christians. If anyone contravenes thus, let him fast on bread and water every Friday for a month. The bishop charges the consciences of the prior, the sub-prior and the third prior to secure the due observance of this injunction, under the like penalty in case of negligence. f. 140.

(11) Inasmuch as it is found that the practice of hunting has led to many evils among the canons, and especially to dissoluteness, incontinence and great ill-repute, the bishop strictly enjoins on them not to practice or take part in hunting except for the sake of recreation, and then only by leave of the prior or the sub-prior, and in the presence of one of them, or some other senior canon appointed by them, under penalty of abstinence from flesh food for a week.

(12) No canon is to reveal the secrets of the house, especially any matters dealt with in chapter, under penalty of keeping complete silence for a month. Every offender is moreover to be excluded from the chapter while chapter acts are being dealt with, unless he be summoned for correction by the prior, the sub-prior, or the third prior.

(13) Inasmuch as many scandals have arisen, and also divine worship in the priory is not a little diminished, by the dispersal of canons among the churches and chapels with cure which pertain to the priory, the bishop strictly enjoins that in future all the canons remain continually in the cloister and within the bounds of the priory according to their rule, not exercising the cure of souls outside or serving the aforesaid churches or chapels, and that the prior, under penalty of suspension, cause the said churches and chapels to be served by secular priests and not by canons.

(14) Inasmuch as it was found in the said visitation that

1452. confabulations and conspiracies, and sometimes drinking-bouts and gluttonous feasts (*ingurgitaciones*), have heretofore been held in the canons' private chambers, and that too at improper times, so that the cloister and choir are deserted, divine offices are performed negligently, and true religion is wholly profaned, the bishop enjoins on the prior and the sub-prior to see to it that no such things happen in future, and to remove, within three days from the receipt of these injunctions, any possessors of chambers found guilty of such practices, under penalty of incurring, *ipso facto*, immediate suspension from office on account of their previous culpable negligence.

(15) Inasmuch as it was found that Brother Robert Gold-smyth, the sub-prior, is remiss and negligent in his corrections, and too familiar with the lesser canons, especially John Stocton and Thomas Walter, so that the latter have dared to wander abroad outside the priory, to disobey the prior, and to treat with neglect the observance of the rule, the bishop enjoins on the sub-prior, under penalty of perpetual removal from office, that he correct his behaviour in this respect henceforth.

(16) The conventual bread, which has been, and is, very defective in quality and quantity, is to be improved and made of pure wheat only, and the quantity is to be in accordance with ancient custom and the practice in similar religious houses. And the ale, which was found at the visitation to be too thin, is to be improved. The prior himself has promised that both these matters shall be put right.

(17) The prior is to show himself diligent in levying and collecting the rents and proceeds of the priory.

(18) The constitution of the order forbidding anyone to speak after compline is to be strictly observed, and after compline all the canons are to go straight to the dormitory. If any of them, except those excused from entering the dormitory and abstaining from speech by reason of their office or for some reasonable cause approved by the prior, the sub-prior, or the third prior, leave the dormitory for a drinking-bout or any other insolence, and is convicted thereof in chapter, he shall keep the cloister and abstain from flesh food for a week; and on a second conviction he shall fast on bread and water every Wednesday and Friday for three

whole months. And moreover the bishop strictly enjoins that no one take any food or drink into the dormitory, under penalty of keeping complete silence for two months. This penalty is not to be relaxed by anyone except the bishop. 1452.

(19) The canons are not to send any letters except open ones, or to receive closed letters without showing them to the prior, or, at his order, to the sub-prior, under penalty of fasting on bread and water every Wednesday and Friday and imprisonment for two months.

(20) The prior is to see to it that the kitchen steward and the cellarer do not so commonly and frequently go to the town on market days to buy and sell, as if they were mere lay persons. By doing this they and those by whose order they act are *ipso facto* suspended from office by the constitution of Othobon.

The following injunctions which the bishop has found in the register of John, late bishop of Bath and Wells, now archbishop of Canterbury, are subjoined with a view to impressing them on the memories of the prior and convent.<sup>1</sup> Bruton, 19 April, 1452.

655. Institution of Sir John Brystowe, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Milton Clyvedon, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Brydport, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton. Date as above. f. 141.

656. Indenture whereby Master John Bernard, canon of Wells and prebendary of Wormister, co. Somerset, demises the said prebend to John Browse, of Lanscherley, 'housbondman,' Agnes his wife, and John their eldest son, for life and in survivorship, at a yearly rent of 12 marks, reserving a hall, a kitchen and other chambers in the upper part of the hall to be set apart for the said Master John and his successors whenever they have to stay there or desire to remain there, together with the park, or wood, of Wormister, reserving to him the other great trees outside the park which belong to the prebend. Proviso for distraint in the event of the rent being in arrear for a fortnight.

<sup>1</sup> The injunctions mentioned are those referring to decent behaviour in church, obedience, and the rendering of account by the prior. See *Reg. Stafford*, pp. 81, 82.

1452. The lessees shall keep in repair the hall and other buildings belonging to the prebend, defend the rights, customs and liberties of the prebend, pay all pensions and portions due to Wells cathedral, especially the pension to a vicar choral, pay all tenths and royal taxes, support all ordinary and extraordinary charges incumbent on the prebend, and pay half the salary and expenses of the steward whenever he holds courts there. They shall have 'housebote' and 'haybote,' timber for purposes of husbandry, and half the fines, heriots and perquisites of the courts. Wells, feast of the Annunciation, 30 Hen. VI.

Confirmation of the above by the bishop. Wells palace, 21 April, 1452.

657. Institution of Sir Richard Hogies, chaplain, as rector of the church of Stawil, vacant by the death of Sir John Wulfe, on the presentation of Robert Copse, esquire. Wells palace, 22 April, 1452.

658. Collation to William Byspam, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the fifth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, to possess the same and dwell therein according to the manner laid down by Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop. Date as above.

659. Letters dimissory to all orders for Robert Cutte, clerk, B.A., born in the city of Wells. Banwel, 11 May, 1452.

660. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer of Wells, and Master William Fulford and Master John Stokes, [canons] of Wells, to receive in Bath cathedral on Tuesday next the purgation of Sir Thomas Lacok, prior of Bath, for some crimes charged against him since the bishop's visitation, and, if he can canonically make his purgation with a number of compurgators to be settled at their discretion, to pronounce him purged and restore him to his former state. 14 May, the same place and year.

661. Institution of Sir Richard Whyte, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Northcory, vacant by the resignation of

Master William North,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells. Letter of induction to the official of the peculiar jurisdiction of Northcory. 17 May, the same place and year. 1452.  
f. 142.

662. Collation to Master William Fulford, bachelor in both laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Codeworth vacant by the death of Sir John Haydour ; and institution accordingly. Date as above.

663. Collation to Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Cory ; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 28 May, 1452.

664. Collation to Master Thomas Chaundeler, bachelor of theology, of the canonical houses in Wells lately inhabited by Master John Bernard, treasurer and canon of Wells, now vacant by the death of Sir John Haydour. 4 June, the same place and year.

665. Licence for Agnes Pedewel, of Wells, in consideration of her age and bodily weakness, to employ a chaplain to celebrate masses and other divine offices in her presence in the chapel, or oratory, or other suitable place within her dwelling-place in Wells, provided that her parish church be not prejudiced in any way. 6 June, the same place and year.

666. Licence for the prior and convent of Bruton, notwithstanding the thirteenth of the injunctions recently issued to them by the bishop, to cause the parish church of Bruton, with the chapels of Wyke and Readlych annexed thereto, to be served by canons of the priory. 10 June, the same place and year.

667. Order and strict injunction to all rectors, vicars and chaplains of the diocese to receive courteously the proctor, or envoy, of the priory of Staverdale when he comes to their churches and places, and to expound to their congregations the indulgences and privileges granted to benefactors of the said priory, and allow him to expound the same without hindrance,

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

1452. notwithstanding any preachings of friars or other collections ; saving always the collection for the fabric of Wells cathedral. 11 June, the same place and year.

668. Licence for Sir John Huswyffe, chaplain of the diocese, to preach throughout the diocese in Latin or in the vulgar tongue, during the bishop's pleasure. Date as above.

669. Approval of an exchange of benefices between Sir Henry Yard, rector of Ayssholt, and Sir Stephen Chepman, rector of Cosyngton ; and institution of Sir Henry as rector of Cosyngton, on the presentation of Alexander Hody, esquire, and Sir John Capron, rector of Cherdlynche, and of Sir Stephen, as rector of Ayssholt, on the presentation of John Trowe, esquire. Dogmersfeld, 29 June, 1452.

- f. 143. 670. Collation to Master Thomas Chaundeler, bachelor in theology, warden of the college of St. Mary by Winchester, of the chancellorship of Wells, vacant by the death of Master John Storthwayt ; and institution accordingly. Dogmersfeld, 14 July, 1452.<sup>1</sup>

On 28 September, at Banwel, the oath of canonical obedience was taken by John Tregodek, clerk, proctor of the said Master Thomas ; and thereupon a letter of induction was written to Master John Bernard, treasurer of Wells, and Master William Fulford, canon thereof.

671. Institution of Sir Laurence Pile, chaplain, in the person of Thomas Smyth, his proctor, as chaplain of the perpetual chantry of the Virgin Mary in the church of Combflory, vacant by the resignation of Sir Stephen Coulyng, on the presentation of Eleanor Fraunceys, lady of Combflory. Dogmersfeld, 30 July, 1452.

672. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Emys, of Welyngton, acolyte. The bishop's inn at London, 17 August, 1452.

<sup>1</sup> *Correspondence*, vol. i. p. cxx.

673. Request to the king for the arrest of Sir John Kyng, rector of the church of Fydyngton, Nicholas Rewe, and Joan Dyer of Wells, who have been under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more, and remain obdurate. 18 August, the same place and year. 1452.

674. Institution of Sir Frank (*Franco*) Cootes, chaplain, in the person of Richard Uphill, literate, his proctor, as chaplain of the perpetual chantry of the Virgin Mary in the churchyard of Crukern, vacant by the death of Sir John Pernam, on the presentation of Thomas Courtenay, earl of Devon. Dogmersfeld, 23 August, 1452.

675. Institution of Master Henry Welles, M.A., in the person of Sir Thomas Birdford, his proctor, as rector of the church of Donyate, vacant by the death of Sir John Webbe, on the presentation of Richard, earl of Salisbury. Wells palace, 1 September, 1452.

676. Institution of Sir John Shopper, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Mudeford, vacant by the death of Sir John Elys, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells, the dean being absent. Woky, 3 September, 1452.

677. Institution of Sir Lewis Davy, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry at the altar of St. Calixtus in Wells cathedral for the soul of Sir Henry Husee, sometime dean of Wells, vacant by the death of Sir John Meke, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells, the dean being absent. Date as above.

678. Institution of Sir John Sampford, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of a chantry in the church of Nony, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Pitman, on the presentation of John Poulet, esquire. Woky, 5 September, 1452.

679. Institution of Sir Simon Chynnok, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Stoklond Gaunt, vacant by the resignation of Thomas Abendon, Friar Preacher, on the presen-



1452. tation of the master and brethren of the house of St. Mark, Bylleswyke *alias* Gauntes, by Bristol. Banwel, 7 September, 1452.

680. The same day and place the bishop received a certificate from Richard, bishop of Salisbury, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir John Trent, rector of Hornblowton, and Master John Balsham, rector of Myntern, in the diocese of Salisbury, from which it appeared that the said bishop of Salisbury, acting by authority of a commission from the bishop, had authorised the said exchange and instituted Master John as rector of Hornblowton, on the presentation of John Ayssh, esquire.

f. 144. 681. Certificate to the bishop by Master John Stokys, canon of Wells, the bishop's commissary-general, and Master John Middelton, bachelor in decrees,—in pursuance of a commission to them, dated at Woky, 3 September, 1452, to enquire as to the right of patronage and the circumstances of the following presentations to the perpetual chantry at the altar of St. Andrew and the chantry of St. John the Baptist in the church of Frome, whether they be two chantries or one and the same chantry, the bishop having received from John, cardinal archbishop of York, a presentation of Sir John Bayworth, chaplain, to the former chantry, said to be vacant by the death of Sir John Crede, and two presentations of Sir John Parys, chaplain, to the latter chantry, said to be vacant as above, one by James, earl of Wiltshire, and the other by John Talbot, knight, the elder, son of John, earl of Shrewsbury, Henry Fylongley, esquire, John Storke and William Bokelond,—that Master John Austil, rector of Camlerton,<sup>1</sup> Sir John Long, rector of Norton St. Philip, Sir John Mew, rector of Hardyngton,<sup>1</sup> Master Nicholas Perysson, rector of Bekyngton, Sir William Frensh, perpetual vicar of Clowford, Sir Gervase Camme, perpetual vicar of Norton Canonorum, Thomas Crase, of Frome, Thomas Twyneow, of the same, John Logyngton, of Lygh, Simon Lacy, of the same, John Compton the younger, of Bekyngton, John Alwode, of Clowford, and John Seward, of Melles, appeared before them (the commissioners) in

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of the institution of either of these incumbents.

the parish church of Frome, on 15 September last to make inquisition touching the premises, and found as follows :— 1452.

The chantry of St. John the Baptist became void by the death of Sir John Crede on 23 August last. The single chantry so vacant is commonly called 'the chantry of St. John the Baptist' and was founded, established and continued time out of mind by the lords of Frome. The said John Talbot, Henry Fylongley, John Storke and William Bokelond are the true patrons for this turn, because James, earl of Wiltshire, and Avice his wife, being seised in her right of the manor of Frome, with the advowson of the said chantry which belongs thereto, granted the same to the said persons, who are seised thereof in demesne as of fee. The last presentation to the chantry was made by Robert Leversegge, who was then in possession of the manor.<sup>1</sup> The chantry is not subject to pension or portion, nor is it taxed. Its estimated yearly value is 8 marks. Sir John Parys is suitable in birth, morals and behaviour, and is thirty one years of age and upwards. He is in priest's orders. As to the other presentee, Sir John Bayworth, they know nothing. No simony or other illicit agreement took place in connexion with the presentation of Sir John Parys. Frome, 15 September, 1452.

682. Institution of Sir John Parys, chaplain, as chaplain of the above chantry on the presentation of the said John Talbot and others (last entry). Banwel, 17 September, 1452.

683. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Roger Hylle, of Spaxton, acolyte. 24 September, the same place and year.

684. Institution of Sir John Clake, chaplain, as rector of the church of Penne Dummer, vacant by the resignation of Sir William More, on the presentation of William Daubeney, esquire. 1 October, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> The *Register of Bishop Stafford* states (p. 284) that the chantry to which John Crede was presented by Robert Leversegge, in 1443, was that of St. Andrew. A survey of 1548 gives some particulars concerning "the chauntries of Sainte Andrew *alias* Sainte John Baptyste." *Somerset Chantries*, p. 102.

1452. 685. Institution of Sir William Nycol, chaplain, as perpetual  
*f. 145.* chaplain of the third chantry of the Holy Trinity in the church  
 of Wollavyngton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Spencer,  
 on the presentation of Alexander Hody, esquire. 4 October, the  
 same place and year.

686. Institution of Sir Roger Birde, chaplain, as rector of  
 the church of Southecadbury, vacant by the resignation of Sir  
 John Knolman, on the presentation of Robert, lord Hungerford,  
 knight. 6 October, the same place and year.

687. Institution of Sir Robert Swanangre, chaplain, as per-  
 petual vicar of the church of Compton Dando, vacant by the  
 resignation of Sir John Garge, on the presentation of the prior  
 and chapter, or convent, of Bath. Date as above.

688. On 9 October the bishop, immediately before celebrating  
 mass in his chapel in the manor of Woky, ratified and approved  
 the following profession made by a certain John of Wellis, an  
 unmarried man, who desired to lead a hermit's life, serving his  
 Creator in perpetual chastity, to wit :—

‘ I, John of Wellis, not wedded, promytte and avowe to God  
 ‘ and Our Lady Seynt Mary and to al the Seyntes of Hevyne  
 ‘ the ful purpose of perpetual chastite after the rule of Seynt  
 ‘ Poule the heremite, in presence of yow, ryght reverent fader  
 ‘ in God Thomas, by the grace of God bisship of Bathe and of  
 ‘ Wellis. *In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti, Amen.*’

He delivered to the bishop the schedule whereon the above  
 protestation was written, marked with the sign of the cross,  
 because he could not write, and thereupon the bishop, after  
 completion of the solemnities requisite in such cases, with his  
 own hands invested him with a habit suitable to the estate of  
 hermit, in the presence of Master John Pope, S.T.P., and Thomas  
 Purviour, B.A., canons of Wells, John Wisdom, Thomas Smyth,  
 John Dancastre and John Compayne, literates, and many other  
 witnesses.

689. Licence for Master John Huyssh, M.A., vicar of the  
 church of St. Mary ‘ de Stallis ’, Bath, to preach the word of God

in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. Woky, 10 October, 1452.

690. Institution of James, bishop of Achonry, as master of the hospital of St. Katharine, Bedemynster, vacant by the resignation of John Fulford, Friar Preacher, S.T.P., on the presentation of Edmund, duke of Somerset, John, earl of Shrewsbury, and George, lord of Latemer. 11 October, the same place and year.

Afterwards, with the assent of the said bishop of Achonry and the other persons interested, the bishop assigned to the resigning master a pension of 24 marks, to be paid to him yearly by the new master and his successors out of the fruits and emoluments of the hospital.

691. Institution of Sir Thomas Gunwyne, chaplain, as rector of the church of Stokelinche Otrizer, vacant by the resignation of Sir Lewis Davy, on the presentation of Florence Denbaude, and William Poulet, knight. 15 October, the same place and year.

692. Institution of Master Thomas Davyes, bachelor in laws, as perpetual vicar of the church of Puryton, vacant by the death of Sir John Strange, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury, patrons by reason of their appropriation of the priory of Goldclyf, in the diocese of Llandaff. Date as above.

693. Institution of Sir Thomas Walford, chaplain, as rector of the collegiate church of St. Michael, Northcadbury, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Wyche, on the presentation of William, lord Botreaux, after he had sworn on the Gospels to observe the statutes and ordinances of the said church according to its foundation. And thereupon the bishop, with the assent of Sir Thomas and the other persons interested, assigned a pension of 10*l.* to be paid yearly for life to the resigning rector out of the fruits and emoluments of the church. 17 October, the same place and year. *f. 146.*

694. The said assignment of a yearly pension of 10*l.* to the retiring rector of Northcadbury. [The conditions are similar to

1452. those laid down in the case of the retiring vicar of Cleeve, no. 314 above.] Date as above.

695. Institution of Master Richard Wetton, doctor of laws, in the person of Simon Wirkesworth, his proctor, as prebendary of the church of Bathewyk, vacant by the death of Master Richard Mannyng, on the presentation of the king, patron thereof by reason of the temporalities of the monastery of Wherewel being in his hands.<sup>1</sup> 24 October, the same place and year.

f. 147. 696. Institution of Master Thomas Abendon, inceptor of theology, perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Tymberyshcomb, as rector of the church of Fydyngton, on the presentation of John Hylle, esquire, in pursuance of an exchange of benefices with Sir John Kyng; and institution of the said Sir John as perpetual vicar of Tymbryscomb, on the presentation of Master John Byrkhede, prebendary of Tymbryscomb. The above exchange was carried through by Master John Bernard, precentor of Wells, by the bishop's authority. Present, Master Stephen Morepath and Master William Fulford, canons of Wells, and Benet ap Howel, clerk, notary-public. The bishop's chapel in the palace of Wells, 24 October, 1452.

697. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Caundel, of Bristol, inceptor of arts, who has the first tonsure. Woky, 4 November, 1452.

698. Licence for Katharine Wadham, widow, of the parish of Yevel, to have a chaplain to celebrate masses and say other divine offices in her presence in the chapel, or oratory, of her manor of Preston in the parish of Yevel, and in other suitable places in the diocese, provided the parish churches of the said places be not prejudiced. 7 November, the same place and year.

699. Licence for Dan John Saundres, monk of Shirborn, in the diocese of Salisbury, doctor of theology, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> There is no corresponding entry on the Patent Roll.

700. Pleas before John Arundell, of Lychet Mawtreverse, Robert Hulle the younger, and John Stourton, justices of the peace and of oyer and terminer in the county of Somerset, held at Bruton on Saturday in Easter week, 2 Hen. V. as follows :— 1414.

It having been presented before the said justices that John Clerk, Thomas Clerk, John Baker the elder, John Baker the younger, Richard Clerk, William Jevan, John Clycch, John Mede, Richard Hoper, Thomas Lok, Richard Spore, Geoffrey Whytenyll, John Poutevyle, Richard Dynghurst, Thomas Dynghurst the younger, Walter Dende, John Rostell, John Howlet, Walter Chapman, Richard Pylard, John Artour, Henry Rede, Richard Rede, Walter Mede, John Mede, Richard Mede, William Vysshare, Richard Lambard, Thomas Saveray, John Lok and William Byllyng, of Blakeford, came to Langeyo in the parish of Merk on Monday after Midsummer day, 1 Hen. V. and there made an armed assault on John Colynessone and Philip Nicolas and took away their fish to the value of 100s. ; the sheriff was ordered to cause the said persons to come before the justices to answer for the trespass. They came this day by William Note, their attorney, and pleaded not guilty to the assault and anything against the peace, offering to prove this by the country, etc. As to the rest, they say that Nicholas, bishop of Bath, is lord of Blacford, and that he and his predecessors and the tenants of his said manor have time out of mind been used, in right of the church of St. Andrew, Wells, to fish in the said place called ' Langeyo ' from the Annunciation to the Nativity of the Virgin Mary. They, the defendants, are the bishop's tenants in the manor, and they fished and took fish in the said place and within the said period ; nor do they think the king's court would wish to impeach them thereof, etc. Robert Veel, suing for the king, says that the defendants are guilty of the trespass, offering to prove this, etc. So the sheriff is ordered to cause twenty-four free and lawful men of the neighbourhood to come before the justices at Yevelchestre on Thursday in Whitsun week next. The same day was given to Robert Veel and the defendants by their attorney. On that day, the said Robert and the defendants by their said attorney appear and the sheriff returns the names of the jurors. The jurors, being

1414. tried and sworn, say on their oath that the defendants are not guilty of the assault or anything against the peace, and that the bishop of Bath and his tenants have the above right of fishing. Names of the twelve jurors :—John Mylborne, John Bryce, Thomas Mychel, Nicholas Warman, Geoffrey Wylcokkes, Henry Lok, William Stapelton, John Mercer, John Brympton, John Magot the younger, William Drew and John Gilberd.

1452. 701. Order by the bishop to the archdeacons of Wells, Taunton and Bath, and their officials, to give effect to letters of John, cardinal archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Croidon, 1 October, 1452,<sup>1</sup> and transmitted to the bishop by letters of Thomas, bishop of London, dated in his manor of Wykeham, 13 October, 1452, ordering the bishops of the province to admonish their subjects, both clerks and laymen, to leave their evil ways, turn to God by the office of penance and devout confession, and make humble supplications for the prosperity of the king, and of the realms, lands, countries and lordships obedient to him, and especially for the happy outcome of the expedition of the earl of Shrewsbury and those who with him are about to adventure themselves for the protection and defence of England against the king's enemies, strictly enjoining on all presidents, provosts, governors, rectors, vicars, chaplains, clerks and others ministering in the churches and chapels of the diocese that on every Wednesday and Friday for a year from this date they solemnly celebrate processions, with litanies and other fitting supplications for the above objects. And, in order that the bishop's admonitions may be the more efficacious, the archbishop grants a hundred days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall be present at any of the said processions, or fast on any of the said days or any other day in the said year, or say mass or the seven penitential psalms with a litany, or a nocturn of the psalter of David, or the psalter commonly called St. Mary's, or make a pilgrimage, or do a work of supererogation in giving alms, or confess their sins in order to render themselves more acceptable to God in offering the above sacrifices. Woky, 11 November, 1452.

<sup>1</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, vol. iii. pp. 560-2.

702. The like order to the abbot and convent of Glastonbury for their jurisdiction. Date as above. 1452.  
f. 145.

703. Institution of Sir John Spencer, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Holy Ghost in the church of Charleton Adam, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Viel, on the presentation of William Brytte. Wells palace, 29 November, 1452.

704. Grant of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons of the diocese who shall make gifts or bequests for the maintenance and relief of the poor and infirm persons, and especially lepers, in the almshouse, or hospital, of St. Mary Magdalen by Langport; to last during the bishop's pleasure. 1 December, the same place and year.

705. Licence for Master William Silk, M.A., rector of Kyngesdon, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. Date as above.

706. Institution of Sir John Canon, chaplain, as rector of the church of Norton Malereward, on the presentation of Sir John Barre, knight. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, official of the peculiar jurisdiction of Chiewe. In view of his present lack of knowledge, the bishop enjoined on him that he should study for a year and submit himself for examination about the feast of the Purification, 1453. [The wording of the injunction is the same as that of the injunction to the vicar of Portbury, no. 355 above.] Present, Sir John Gayne, vicar of Staunton Drew, Sir Henry Hayne, chaplain, and John Touker, clerk, notary-public. 12 December, the same place and year.

707. Order and strict injunction to the abbot of Keynesham, —on information that he is not observing in his own person, or causing the other persons concerned to observe, the injunctions which the bishop in his last visitation imposed on the abbey,—to rectify this contempt without fail, so as to be able to answer to the bishop, conscientiously and faithfully on the next occasion, as he ought. 14 December, the same place and year.



1437. 708. Grant <sup>1</sup> by Master John Bathe, canon of Wells, to his servant, John Wolley, for good service to himself and the dean and chapter of Wells, of two tenements with curtilages in Wellys, lying on the north side of the highway called 'Estwall' and extending as far as the south side of the said canon's garden called 'Chirigarden,' which are now inhabited by William Taket and William Bonakir, to hold the same to him, his executors and assigns, for sixty years, rendering 18*d.* yearly at Michaelmas to the said canon and his successors. Witnesses, John Austil, John Fulbrok, John Rockes and others. 1 June, 1437.

f. 150. Confirmation of the above by John, bishop of Bath and Wells. The bishop's inn at London, 8 July, 1437.

Confirmation of the same by John Forest, dean, and the chapter of Wells. The chapter-house, Wells, 12 August, 1437.

1452. 709. Order to the archdeacon of Wells, or his official, to induct William Toly, clerk, into real and bodily possession of the *corpus* of the prebend of Bedemynster and Readclyf in the cathedral church of Salisbury; as Richard, bishop of Salisbury, has collated to him a canonry therein and the said prebend, the *corpus* of which is in the archdeaconry of Wells, and has asked the bishop to give orders for his induction. Banwel, 21 December, 1452.

And thereupon John Wolley, literate, proctor of the said William, took the oath of obedience to the bishop in respect of the said *corpus*. Present, Master John Pope, Master Thomas Merssh, and John Touker, clerk, notary-public.

710. Institution of Master Nicholas Mustard, bachelor in decrees, as rector of the church of Burnette, vacant by the resignation of Sir Henry Brownyng, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury. Banwel, 23 December, 1452.

1453. 711. Collation to Sir John Chambyr, chaplain, of the perpetual chantry of Richard of Welles, sometime burgess of Bristol, in the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, Bristol, which is vacant and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution accordingly. Banwel, 1 January, 1452[-3].

<sup>1</sup> This entry does not relate to the episcopate of Thomas Bekynton.

712. Letters dimissory to all orders for Master William Gyfford, M.A., of Chiewton. Date as above. 1453.

713. Institution of Master Thomas Been, bachelor in decrees, as rector of the church of Benangre, on the presentation of Master John Morton, canon of Wells and prebendary of Whit-churche. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Present, Master Thomas Merssh and Master Robert Peuesy, bachelors in both laws, and John Touker, notary-public. Dogmersfeld, 5 January, 1452[-3].

714. Institution of Sir Richard Forde, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of Newton Forest *alias* Plecy, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Pyke, on the presentation of William Gascoigne, donzel (*domicellum*). Banwel, 11 January, 1452[-3].

715. Letters dimissory to all orders for Thomas Averoy, B.A., born in Wells. Wells palace, 17 January, 1452[-3].

716. Collation to Sir William Baron, chaplain, of the perpetual vicarage of the prebendal church of Hasilbere, vacant and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as vicar. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 21 January, the same place and year.

717. Indented writing being a grant by the bishop to Hugh Forster and Margaret his wife of two tenements and two half-virgates of land in Wevelescomb lately held by Henry Colbron, to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering 18s. yearly to the bishop and his successors, doing suit of court there twice a year, and paying heriot after the deaths of both of them; with proviso for re-entry and distraint if the rent be in arrear for a fortnight, and for re-entry and re-possession if the rent be in arrear for a quarter, or if Hugh or Margaret grant away their estate in the premises without the bishop's licence, or commit waste. Banwel, 20 January, 31 Hen. VI.

718. Letter from Thomas, bishop of London, transmitting to the bishop for execution an order from John, archbishop of f. 151.

1453. Canterbury, dated in his manor of Croydon, 24 December, 1452, for the summoning of a convocation of the clergy of the province of Canterbury to be held in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, on Wednesday, the 7th of February next, in pursuance of the king's letters of privy seal (quoted) dated in the king's manor of Shene, 15 December, 31 Hen. VI. Wykeham manor, 8 January, 1452[-3].

719. Commission and order to the archdeacon of Bath or his official, in pursuance of the above order, to warn the prior of Bath and the abbots, priors and other prelates of churches in his archdeaconry, whether exempt or not exempt, to appear in person at the said convocation, and the chapter of Bath to appear by one proctor, and to cause all rectors and vicars of the archdeaconry to appear before the bishop or his commissary in Wells cathedral on Tuesday the 30th January for the purpose of electing, in conjunction with the other rectors and vicars of the diocese, two proctors to represent the clergy in the said convocation. Wells palace, 21 January, 1452[-3].

f. 152. 720. Institution of Sir Thomas Wode, chaplain, B.A., as rector of the church of Thurlockeston, vacant by the resignation of Sir Laurence Pile, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. 23 January, the same place and year.

721. Institution of Sir John Hamme, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine the Virgin in the church of Nony, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Sampford, on the presentation of John Poulet, esquire. 24 January, the same place and year.

722. Certificate by the bishop to John, archbishop of Canterbury, that in pursuance of the above order (no. 718) he has cited the clergy of the diocese, as specified in the annexed schedule, to appear at the coming convocation in London. 1 February, the same place and year.

Schedule :—

Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells.

The chapter of Wells.

Dan Thomas Lacok, prior of Bath.

1453.

The chapter of Bath.

Master Andrew Hooles, archdeacon of Wells.

Master William Spreuer, archdeacon of Bath.

Master Robert Stillyngton, archdeacon of Taunton.

Dan Nicholas Frome, abbot of Glastonbury.

Dan John Cherde, abbot of Mochelney.

Dan John Pederton, abbot of Athelney.

Dan David Joyner, abbot of Cleeve.

Brother Thomas Bekynsfeld, abbot of Keynesham.

Brother John Henton, prior of Bruton.

Dan Robert Mountagu, prior of Montagu (*de Monte Acuto*).

The clergy of the diocese.

723. Appointment by the bishop of Reynold, bishop of Chichester, and Master John Stokes and Master Thomas Merssh, bachelors in both laws and canons of Wells, to be his proctors in the coming convocation at London, he himself being unable to attend for certain true and reasonable causes. Date as above.

724. Request to the sheriff of Somerset, or his deputy, and the keeper of the king's prison, or gaol, at Ilchestre, to deliver to William Coke, of EnmERE, and John Style, of Fydyngton, the bishop's envoys, a certain Sir John Kyng, late rector of Fydyngton, who has been committed to prison pursuant to the king's order on account of his rebellion, contempt and manifest offence in not obeying certain lawful and canonical admonitions and injunctions laid on him by Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general, and remaining obdurate under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more; as the said Sir John *f. 153.* has repented and given security to obey the law and stand by the commands of the Church, and wishes to obtain the benefit of absolution. Date as above.

725. Institution of Master Thomas Chauntre, M.A., as rector of the church of Yarlyngton, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Bayly, clerk, on the presentation of Richard, earl of Salisbury. The new rector entered into a bond in 20*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble by reason of his having admitted him without

1453. previous inquisition as to the right of patronage of the church. 2 February, the same place and year.

726. Letters dimissory to all orders for Master John Jacob, of North Pederton, bachelor in laws. 4 February, the same place and year.

727. Collation to William Borugh, vicar of the choir of Wells cathedral, of the second chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 6 February, the same place and year.

728. Collation to Sir Simon Belton, chaplain, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe IV. vacant by the death of Master Thomas Cirectr' (*sic*) ; and institution accordingly. The bishop's inn at London, 24 February, 1452[-3].

Afterwards, on 17 December following, at Woky, Sir John Hylle, chaplain, took the oath of canonical obedience as his proctor, and the usual letter of induction was written.

729. Letters dimissory to all orders for Thomas Turnegay *alias* Smyth, of Somerton, who has the first tonsure. Date as above.

730. Writ of summons to the bishop to the parliament to be held at Redyng on 6 March next ; with *premunientes* clause. By K. Westminster, 11 January, 31 Hen. VI.

731. Appointment by the bishop of John, bishop of Rochester, Thomas, bishop of Ely, and Richard, bishop of Salisbury, or any one of them, to be his proctors in the aforesaid parliament, he himself being unable to attend. The bishop's inn at London, 1 March, 1452[-3].

f. 154. 732. Notification by Thomas, bishop of Ely, Thomas, bishop of Bath and Wells, and William Wytham, doctor of laws, commissaries appointed by John, late archbishop of Canterbury, to make scrutiny, examination, allowance and search touching the goods of Humphrey, late duke of Gloucester, that they have admitted to strict examination and voluntary and public account certain persons deputed by the king to administer the said goods,

that Master John Somerseth, chancellor of the Exchequer, has on every day of the examination been prompt and ready to reply by writings and witnesss to any person bringing accusations or arguments against him, and has so demeaned himself from the beginning of the enquiry until now as to earn the repeated commendations of the commissaries, and that, having held their sessions for much more than two years at the house of the Friars Preachers, London, and perceiving the manifest truthfulness of the said Master John, especially in regard to his declarations as to the charges and receipts of the said goods which came to his hands, they have thought fit, at his petition, to settle and deliver to him in writing under their seals the total value of all the goods so received by him. They therefore declare that the true and entire value of the goods of the late duke which have in any way come to the hands of the said Master John is 1116*l.* 4*s.* 9½*d.* and no more, as is more fully and particularly contained in the book of charges of the said Master John remaining with the commissaries. London, 2 March, 1452[-3]. 1453.

733. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Lumbury, of Mynehede, B.A. The bishop's inn at Reading, 14 March, 1452[-3].

734. The like for John Thomas, of Harptre. 16 March, the same place and year.

735. Grant by the bishop of forty days' indulgence to all confessed and contrite persons who shall make grants or assignments for the repair and building of a chapel of the Virgin Mary in the churchyard of the chapel of Lyverpoll commonly called 'the chapel of Seynt Mary of the Keye,' or for the sustenance of a chaplain to celebrate masses therein, or who shall devoutly repair to the said chapel and say the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation and other pious prayers, or enrich the chapel with any ornaments. 20 March, the same place and year.

736. Institution of Sir Robert Parys, priest, regular canon of the priory of St. Stephen the Protomartyr, Launceston, who has a dispensation from the apostolic see to hold any ecclesiastical

1453. benefice, as perpetual vicar of the church of Corfton, vacant by the death of Master John Combe, on the presentation of the prior and convent, or chapter, of Bath. 23 March, the same place and year.

737. The said dispensation.<sup>1</sup> St. Peter's, Rome, Id. Feb. (13 Feb.), 1451[-2].

f. 155. 738. Notification by Thomas, bishop of Ely, and Thomas, bishop of Bath and Wells, arbitrators between Thomas Gay the elder, William Kylpyn, and Thomas Gay the younger, of the one part, and Robert Stillyngton, clerk, of the other part, in regard to all actions, trespasses, controversies and disputes between the said parties prior to 24 February, 31 Hen. VI, that they, the said arbitrators, on this 23rd day of March in the same year, award as follows:—The first-named parties shall pay to Robert Stillyngton 20*l.* on the feast of St. George next, 20*l.* on the feast of All Saints following, and 20 marks at Easter following, and then both parties at their own costs shall wholly withdraw the said actions, etc. and exchange general acquittances.

739. Notification by the bishop, as judge delegated by the apostolic see <sup>2</sup> in a cause relating to the repair of the chancel of the church of Aysshbury, and of other places belonging to the said church, between Master Robert Stillyngton, rector of Aysshbury, plaintiff, and Thomas Gay the elder, citizen of London, and Sir William Kylpyn, chaplain, executors of the will of Sir William Skelton, late rector, defendants, that he has caused the said Thomas, in the person of John Goold, his proctor, to be absolved from the sentence of excommunication which he lately incurred for his rebellion and contumacy in not obeying certain admonitions laid on him by the bishop, his said proctor having made oath on his behalf to obey the law and abide by the orders of the church; and order [to all rectors and others of the diocese] solemnly to proclaim the said absolution in their parish churches on Sundays and festivals during mass, and

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x, p. 108.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x, p. 201.

wherever else it shall seem appropriate. Dogmersfeld, 22 March, 1453. 1452[-3].

740. Collation to Master John Pope, S.T.P., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe III. vacant by the death of Master Richard Cordon <sup>1</sup>; and institution accordingly. Dogmersfeld, 3 April, 1453.

741. Collation to Sir Thomas Downe, chaplain, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmore V. vacant by the resignation of Master John Pope; and institution accordingly. 6 April, the same place and year.

742. Institution of Sir John Brice, chaplain, as rector of the church of Weston in Gordano, vacant by the death of Sir Walter Touker, on the presentation of Ralph Percyvale, donzel. In view of his present lack of knowledge the bishop, by Master John Pope, his commissary, enjoined on the said Sir John that he should study for two whole years in the schools at Wells and offer himself for examination in Easter week of each year. [The wording of the injunction is similar to that of the injunction to the vicar of Portbury, no. 355 above.] Present, *f. 156.* Thomas Purviour, canon of Wells, Thomas Horne, literate, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, and John Touker, clerk, notary-public. 12 April, the same place and year.

743. Institution of Sir William Modford, chaplain, in the person of Master Robert Modford, his proctor, as rector of the church of Clowesworth, vacant by the resignation of Master William Dayfote, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Montagu (*Montis Acuti*). Present, William Hornby and Thomas Taylour, literates, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, and John Touker. 18 April, the same place and year.

744. On 19 April, the same place and year, the bishop received a certificate from Master John Bernard, canon and treasurer of

<sup>1</sup> Richard Browne *alias* Cordon, archdeacon of Rochester and canon of York, Wells, and St. Asaph, made a will of prodigious length, which contains many references to Wells. *Registrum Cancellarii* (Oxford Historical Society), vol. i. pp. 299-311.



1453. Wells, and vicar-general in spirituals during the bishop's absence in remote parts, whereby it appeared that he had instituted Sir John Crome, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Eston in Gordano, on the presentation of Sir Robert Parfyt, canon of Wells and prebendary of Eston in Gordano. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official.

745. Institution of Sir John Wylt, chaplain, in the person of John Touker, clerk, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Virgin Mary in the church of Estcoker, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Glede, on the presentation of William Courtenay, esquire. Date as last above.

746. Request to the king for the arrest of Sir Thomas Northron, chaplain, who is excommunicated for manifold contumacies and offences in a matter concerning the correction of his soul, and has remained obdurate under excommunication for forty days and more. The bishop's inn at London, 1 May, 1453.

747. Licence for the proctors and envoys of the hospital of the Holy Trinity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to make collections in the diocese, for two years only. Date as above.

748. Institution of Master Thomas Mannyng, bachelor in decrees, in the person of John Champneys, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Alre, vacant by the death of Sir John Sowe<sup>1</sup>, on the presentation of William, lord Botreaux, knight. 8 May, the same place and year.

749. Notification by Thomas, bishop of Ely, and Thomas, bishop of Bath and Wells, that, acting in pursuance of a commission to them and others from John, late archbishop of Canterbury (recited), they have summoned Master John Somerseth, chancellor of the Exchequer, who, with others, was appointed by the king to collect and dispose of the goods of Humphrey, late duke of Gloucester, to appear before them and render a declaration and account of his receipts and disposals of such of the goods of the late duke as have come into his hand, and that, not

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

only by his said declaration and account and other lawful documents, but also by the evidences and replications of other persons who sought to impugn his account, they (the commissaries) find that the said Master John has paid to creditors and converted to pious and necessary uses whatever came into his hands. They therefore release him from all further rendering of account, and discharge and acquit him by these presents. The inns of the said bishops at London, 16 May, 1453.

The above-mentioned commission :—

Commission by John, archbishop of Canterbury, to Thomas, [1450.] bishop of London, William, bishop of Winchester, Thomas, bishop of Ely, Thomas, bishop of Bath and Wells, Master Clement Denston, archdeacon of Sudbury in the diocese of Norwich, and Master William Wytham, doctor of laws, of the diocese of Lincoln, reciting that the archbishop lately committed the administration of the goods of the late duke, which by immemorial prerogative belongs to him because the duke died intestate and had goods in divers dioceses of the province of Canterbury, to the king, and that the king, being prevented by urgent affairs from taking the charge on himself, appointed James Fenys, knight, then lord of Say, Thomas Stanley, knight, controller of the king's household, Master John Somerseth and Master Richard Chestre, to administer and dispose of the said goods as his deputies, and that a complaint has reached the archbishop's ears that the said deputies have converted some of the goods to their own uses, dissipated, wasted and consumed others, and neglected to exact and collect divers of the duke's debts ; and appointing the said bishops and others named to summon the said deputies, including the executors or administrators of James Fenys, who is now dead, before them, receive and audit the accounts of their administration of the said goods, and make the necessary allowances and disallowances. And moreover, inasmuch as some of the duke's goods still remain in the hands of divers persons and are unadministered, and the king has heard that they are not converted to pious uses for the weal of the duke's soul, or employed in payment of the duke's debts, the archbishop, with the consent and at the request of the king, commissions Henry, viscount of Bourghchier, Ralph, lord Cromwel, baron, John Fastolffe and

f. 157.

[1450.] Thomas Tirel, knights, and Richard Waller and Thomas Rothewel, esquires, to administer and dispose of such goods, in whosever hands they may be, demand and collect the debts due to the duke, and pay the sums owed by him ; and appoints them administrators of all the duke's goods, revoking the powers granted by the king to his aforesaid deputies. Lamehyth, 4 September, 1450.

1453. 750. Institution of Sir James Bekyngham, chaplain, as rector of the church of Whatle, vacant by the death of Sir William More, on the presentation of David Cervyngton, esquire. Dogmersfeld, 18 May, 1453.

751. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Richard Wyly, of Cherde, subdeacon. Date as above.

752. Collation to Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmore IV. vacant by the death of John Bochell, clerk ; and institution accordingly. 30 May, the same place and year.

753. Collation to Master Robert Peuesy, bachelor in decrees, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Cory ; and institution accordingly. 31 May, the same place and year.

f. 158. 754. Institution of Sir John Croke, chaplain, as rector of the church of Thornfawkyn, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Mere, on the presentation of Isabel Chedder, lady of Thornfawkyn. 7 June, the same place and year.

755. Letters dimissory to all orders for Thomas Kymer, who has the first clerical tonsure. The bishop's inn at London, 12 June, 1453.

756. Authorisation by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Master John Saundres, rector of Merkesbury, and Sir Stephen Chepman, rector of Ayssholte ; and institutions of the said Master John, in the person of Richard Touker, notary-public, his proctor, as rector of Ayssholte, on the presentation of John Trowe, esquire, and of the said Sir Stephen as rector of

Merkesbury, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of 1453.  
Glastonbury. 15 June, the same place and year.

757. Institution of Sir Peter Thomas, chaplain, as rector of the church of Brussshford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Erle, on the presentation of William Bryt, esquire. 27 June, the same place and year.

758. Institution of Sir Morgan Philip, chaplain, B.A., as rector of the church of Netelcombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Large, on the presentation of Joan Ralegh, relict of Simon Raleygh, esquire. 2 July, the same place and year.

759. Institution of Sir William Bonsquyer, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wynsham, vacant by the resignation of John Comlond, on the presentation of Sir John Trevenaunt, provost of Wells. In view of his present lack of knowledge, the bishop, by Master John Pope, his commissary, enjoined on him that he should apply himself to study for a whole year and offer himself for examination about the feast of the Assumption, 1454. [The wording of the injunction is similar to that of the injunction to the vicar of Portbury, no. 355 above.] Present, John Wysdom and John Dancastre, literates, and John Touker, notary-public. Date as above.

760. Institution of Dan John Cadbury, monk of Glastonbury, who has a papal dispensation to hold any ecclesiastical benefice, in the person of Thomas Smyth, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Weston Bamfeld, vacant by the resignation f. 159.  
of Sir John Combe, on the presentation of William Montagu, esquire. 9 July, the same place and year.

761. The said dispensation.<sup>1</sup> Fabriano, 10 Kal. Sept. (23 [1450.] Aug.), 1450.

762. Indenture between the bishop and Antony Vilate, being a demise to the said Antony of a tenement with an adjacent garden and other appurtenances in the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New Temple, London, lying between

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 67.

1453. a tenement occupied by Thomas Conquere, 'bokebynder,' on the west, a tenement wherein John Cryke dwells on the east, the bishop's inn on the south, and the highway on the north, to hold the same for sixty years from Michaelmas next, rendering 10s. yearly to the bishop and his successors. The lessee and his executors and assigns undertake to keep the premises in proper repair, to pave the pavement in the highway opposite thereto as far as 'le canell,' otherwise called 'le chanell,' to support all other charges due therefrom, and to leave the premises in good repair at the end of the term, except only the principal timber. Provisoes for distraint if the rent be in arrear for a fortnight, and for re-entry if the rent be in arrear for a month and sufficient distraint cannot be found. 9 July, 31 Hen. VI.

763. Indenture between the bishop and John Lambarde, of the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New Temple, London, 'sadiller,' Alice his wife, and Robert Lambarde their son, being a demise to them of two tenements with adjacent gardens and other appurtenances in the said parish lying between a tenement occupied by John Sandes on the west, a tenement wherein Thomas Swyft, 'baker,' dwells, on the east, the highway on the north, and the garden of the bishop's inn on the south, to hold the same for fifty years from Michaelmas next, rendering 26s. 8d. yearly to the bishop and his successors. [Other conditions as in the previous entry.] Date as above.

f. 160. 764. Institution of Sir John Combe, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Woky, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Golclyffe, on the presentation of Master John Spekyngton, sub-dean of Wells. Letter of induction to the official of the peculiar jurisdiction of Woky. Dogmersfeld, 11 July, 1453.

765. Demise at farm to John Draper, of Rye in the parish of Odeham, 'husbondman,' of all the demesne lands, meadows, feedings and pastures of the bishop's manor of Dogmersfeld, together with the upper chamber, with a stable below it, of the outer gate of the manor, and a barn and oxhouse on the north side of the said gate, and also pannage of swine within the said farm and all the dung produced in the aforesaid manor, with

‘housbote,’ ‘heybote,’ pasture and pannage of the park, and the first crop of Burymede, except from the Purification to St. Peter’s Chains, to hold the same for nine years, rendering 8*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly to the bishop and his successors ; and grant that the said John may hold of the bishop and his successors, during the said term, a messuage and a virgate of land of ancient tenure formerly held by Thomas Wynter, the elder, rendering the rents, customs and services which the said Thomas used to render. The lessee is to keep in repair all the enclosures of the premises, and leave them in as good a state as he received them in, except that the bishop and his successors will do all repairs to the chamber, the barn and the oxhouse, and maintain the enclosure of Burymede. Proviso for resumption of the premises if the lessee fail to keep the premises in repair, or neglect to pay his rent within a month after any term of payment. The said John Draper shall be the bishop’s bailiff of the aforesaid manor during the said term, receiving yearly the same winter livery as the bishop’s yeomen receive. He shall clear the east close of Busshylese of thorns and thistles at his own expense, reserving for the bishop and his successors, on demand, the summer pasturage of the said meadows for the bishop’s horses, and receiving 1*d.* a week for the pasturage of each horse. Dogmersfeld, 25 March, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.

766. Licence for Sir William Brytte, rector of Clopton, to absent himself from his church for two years while studying at Oxford university, and to let his said church at farm for that term, receiving the rents, etc. thereof ; on condition that he provide for the service of the church and the cure of souls, appoint a sufficient proctor to answer to the bishop in his stead, and make good the damage of his absence by distributing alms among his poor parishioners as the bishop shall decide. Wells palace, 3 August, 1453.

767. Institution of Sir Robert Parys, priest, regular canon of the priory of St. Stephen the Protomartyr, Launceston, who has a dispensation from the apostolic see to hold any ecclesiastical benefice,<sup>1</sup> as rector of the church of Newton Seyntlo, vacant by

<sup>1</sup> See no. 737 above.

1453. the resignation of Master Thomas Mannyng, on the presentation of William, lord Botreaux, knight. Banwel, 7 August, 1453.

768. Institution of Sir Richard Glyde, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Stokecursy, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Trebon, on the presentation of the provost of the king's college of St. Mary, Eton, and the same college. In view of the impotence and debility of the retiring vicar, the bishop assigned to him, with the assent of the new incumbent, a yearly pension of 6 marks for life from Christmas next out of the fruits and emoluments of the vicarage. Present, Thomas Purviour, canon of Wells, William Kyng, chaplain, and John Touker, notary-public. 12 August, the same place and year.

- f. 161. 769. The said assignment of a yearly pension of 6 marks to the retiring vicar of Stokecursy. [The conditions are similar to those laid down in the case of the retiring vicar of Cleeve, no. 314 above.] Date as above.

770. Notification to the dean of Wells of the bishop's intention to hold a visitation at Wells cathedral on Tuesday after Michaelmas next, to wit 2 October, and at Bath cathedral at some subsequent date; and citation of the dean personally, and order to him to cite all those of the chapter and church of Wells who ought to undergo the said visitation, and to warn all those holding dignities, archdeaconries, parsonages, prebends, or vicarages, in the said church, who also hold at the same time other and incompatible benefices, that they are to produce in form of law the authority, dispensation and title whereby they hold the same. Wells palace, 2 August, 1453.

771. Institution of Sir John Sampford, chaplain, as rector of the church of Almesford, vacant by the death of Sir William Lye *alias* Michel, on the presentation of William, lord le Zowche and Seymour, knight. 18 August, the same place and year.

772. Attestation by John Touker, clerk, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, notary-public, of the nomination by the bishop of Master Michael Amici, abbreviator of apostolic letters, Master William Radclyffe and Master Thomas Hope, who are sojourning

in the court of Rome, as his proctors, etc. to visit the Holy See 1453.  
every three years on behalf of the bishop and his churches of  
Bath and Wells. [The terms are identical with those of the  
appointment of Master Thomas Chapman, no. 179 above.]  
Present, Master John Pope, S.T.P., and Sir Walter Osborn, per-  
petual vicar of the church of Frome. Banwel, 28 August, 1453.

773. Institution of Sir John More, chaplain, as perpetual *f. 162*  
chaplain of the chantry of St. John the Baptist in the church of  
Frome Braunch, vacant by the death of Sir John Parys, on the  
presentation of James, earl of Wiltshire and Ormonde. Wells  
palace, 19 August, 1453.

774. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer and  
canon of Wells, and Master William Fulford, canon thereof,—on  
information that certain things are being wantonly and negli-  
gently done by the canons of Taunton priory, in contravention  
of the bishop's admonitions and injunctions,—to go to the priory,  
reform, correct and punish what is done amiss, and do whatever  
else shall seem necessary or suitable. 20 August, the same place  
and year.

775. Institution of Hugh Wylkyns, clerk, as rector of the  
parish church of Sutton Byngnam, vacant by the resignation of  
Sir William Somersete, on the presentation of Roger Wyke,  
esquire. And because the said church is only esteemed to have  
a cure, but in fact has none (*habitu solummodo et non actu curata  
existit*), the bishop granted a dispensation to the said Hugh, on  
account of his intelligence and his desire to attend the schools,  
to retain the said church, notwithstanding his minority, so long  
as it has no actual cure, in order that with the fruits thereof  
he may make better progress in letters. Present, the rector of  
Hardyngton, Thomas Horn, literate, and John Touker, notary-  
public. 24 August, the same place and year.

776. Institution of Sir Robert Dynt, chaplain, as perpetual  
vicar of the church of Puryton, vacant by the resignation of  
Master Thomas Davy, on the presentation of the abbot and  
convent of Teukesbury as proprietaries of the priory of Gold-  
clyffe, in the march of Wales. Banwel, 26 August, 1453.



1453. 777. Writing indented, being a grant by the bishop to Reynold Baker, his servant, and Isabel his wife, of two messuages, a virgate of land and three fardels of land and meadow in Banwel manor formerly held for life by Nicholas Catour and Joan his wife by demise of Ralph Erghum, late bishop, and afterwards held by William Halle by demise of John Stafford, late bishop, and by him (the said William) surrendered to the bishop,—to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering 27s. 1½d. yearly to the bishop and his successors ; saving always suit to their court of Banwel twice a year, to wit at Michaelmas and Easter, and heriots when they fall due. Witnesses, John Trevenaunt, clerk, John FitzJames and John Austil, esquires, Richard Erle, John Gauter and others. 30 August, the same place and year.

f. 163.<sup>1</sup> 778. Appointment of Thomas Smyth, John Touker and John Shepehurd as the bishop's attorneys to deliver seisin of the above. Wells palace, 18 October, 32 Hen. VI.

779. Grant for life to John Shepehurd *alias* Bour, the bishop's servitor, of the office of keeper of the park of Banwel, receiving 40s. yearly from that manor and such profits as William Whytyngton, his immediate predecessor, received. Banwel, 1 January, 31 Hen. VI.

780. The king's writ to the bishop ordering him to appoint some trustworthy clergy of his diocese to collect therein two whole tenths of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions with certain exceptions (payable in four instalments at Martinmas next, Martinmas, 1454, Martinmas, 1455, and Martinmas, 1456), and also a moiety of a tenth payable at Martinmas next, in addition to the said two whole tenths, of all benefices and possessions of all persons of religion who are exempt from the collection of tenths, which were granted to the king by the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury in their last convocation in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, begun on 7 February last and continued until 3 March following. Westminster, 14 July, 31 Hen. VI.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wrongly numbered 153 in the register.

<sup>2</sup> Fine Roll, 31 Hen. VI. m. 11.

781. Commission to the prior and chapter of Bath to collect **1453.**  
 in two instalments the first of the above two tenths from all *f. 164.<sup>1</sup>*  
 ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions in the diocese  
 which are taxed and accustomed to pay tenths, and also from  
 such of the untaxed goods, benefices and possessions as are  
 specified in the annexed schedule, in accordance with the estimate  
 of their yearly value noted therein, excepting the goods, etc. of  
 the poor nuns of Canyngton and Barowe and also the taxed  
 benefices specified in the said schedule which are exempt on  
 account of their poverty ; and also the moiety of a tenth payable  
 by such persons as are exempt by royal letters from the collection  
 of tenths, whose names are also given in the said schedule.  
 Wyvelescomb, 11 September, 1453.

Schedule :—

(1) The list of untaxed benefices which are to pay on this  
 occasion is the same as that given on pp. 112-13 of *Stafford's*  
*Register*, with the following omissions :—

Deanery of Bath. The vicarages of St. Mary de Stallis and  
 Southstoke.

Deanery of Raddeclyffe. The churches of Henton Bluet and  
 Staunton Priour and the vicarage of Yatton.

Deanery of Cary. The church of Blakford.

Deanery of Axbrugg. The vicarages of Bannewell, Eastbrent  
 and Worle.

Deanery of Taunton. The church of Kidesforde.

Deanery of Dunster. The churches of Skilgate and Wydecombe  
 and the vicarage of Brompton Regis.

Deanery of Brigwater. The church of Fydington.

Deanery of Ilchestre. The church of Pytteney and the vicarage  
 of Kyngesbury. *f. 165.*

Deanery of Mersshton. The vicarages of Henstrugge and Mode-  
 ford.

(2) The list of taxed benefices exempted from payment on  
 account of poverty is the same as that given on pp. 114-15 of  
*Stafford's Register*, with the following exceptions :—

Deanery of Axbrugg. The churches of Stokegiffard and Uphull

<sup>1</sup> Wrongly numbered 154 in the register.

1453. are omitted. The vicarage of Mere is (correctly) given as Were.

Deanery of Cary. The vicarage of Pilton and the churches of Lameyate, Brotton and Eastludford are omitted. The vicarage of Evercriche is added.

Deanery of Taunton. The church of Somford Arondell is omitted. The vicarage of Taunton is added.

Jurisdiction of the dean of Wells. The vicarages of Westbury and Pulton are added.

Deanery of Radclif. The church of Tymesbarwe is omitted.

(3) Persons exempted by royal letters from the collection of tenths :—

The abbot of Cleeve.

The prior of Montagu (*de Monte Acuto*).

782. Commission to the abbot and convent of Mochelney to collect the second of the two tenths granted by the clergy of the province in their last convocation. Wevelescomb, 20 September, 1453.

783. Notification to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the above two commissions. Wells palace, 1 October, 1453.

f. 167.<sup>1</sup> 784. Licence for Robert Cotes and Elizabeth his wife, of the parish of Wyvelescomb, to have a suitable chaplain to celebrate divine services in the presence of themselves and their household servants in the chapel, or oratory, within their dwelling at Allery in the said parish, and elsewhere in the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. (Date omitted.)

785. Collation to Sir Thomas Massy, chaplain, of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Stowey by Chiewe, in the bishop's collation by full right. Letter of induction to Master John Stokes, keeper of the peculiar jurisdiction of Chiew. Wells palace, 9 October, 1453.

786. Commission to Master Thomas Merssh, canon of Wells, and Master Nicholas Pittes, perpetual vicar of the church of

<sup>1</sup> Folio 166 is missing. It appears from the catch-words at the foot of the dorse of folio 165 that the first entry was an indenture.

Redclyffe,—inasmuch as John Holford, Friar Preacher, S.T.P., master of the hospital of St. Katharine, Bedemystre, has resigned his hospital on account of old age and bodily weakness, and has prayed the bishop to assign him a yearly pension out of the fruits and revenues of the hospital for his sustenance,—to make enquiry in the parish church of Bedemystre as to the yearly value and endowments of the hospital, the amount of yearly pension which the present master and his successors can support, and all other necessary and customary matters. 10 October, the same place and year. 1453.

787. Dispensation by Pope Nicholas V.<sup>1</sup> for John Morton, rector of Saham in the diocese of Norwich, S.T.P., to hold an additional benefice, as well as the canonry of Wells and prebend of Whitecherche, which he also holds. St. Peter's, Rome, 1 June, 1450. [1450.]

788. Order to all rectors, vicars, chaplains and other literates throughout the diocese solemnly and publicly to announce in their churches on Sundays and festivals, when required so to do, that Robert Specheley, having taken his bodily oath to obey the law and abide by the commands of the Church, has been absolved by the bishop from the sentence of excommunication pronounced against him on account of his manifest contumacy in not appearing before the bishop when summoned to answer touching his usurpation of the bishop's jurisdiction and violation of the liberty of the Church. 12 October, the same place and year.

789. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for William Corker, B.A., acolyte, of Wells. Date as above. f. 168.

790. Recommendation to all sons of Holy Church of Dan Stephen Deverel *alias* Cotel, professed monk of Glastonbury, who has been ordained to all orders, is of honourable life and conversation, is free from any charge of apostacy or other known crime, and is not bound by any sentence of suspension, excommunication or interdict. The said Stephen is about to go to places that may be distant and unknown, and is going with the bishop's

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 60.

1453. blessing for reasons that are honourable and approved by him, and, lest he be anywhere debarred as an unknown person from the exercise of his orders in divine services, the bishop requests all persons to receive him with kindness and treat him with favour. Wells palace, 17 October, 1453.

791. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Palmer, of Crukern, acolyte. Date as above.

792. Ratification by the bishop of a deed, dated 10 October, 1453, by Walter Portman and Walter Hassheford, feoffees of Simon Raleigh, esquire,<sup>1</sup> of and in the manor of Cudecomb Raleigh and 2 messuages, 2 tofts, 106*a.* land and 8½*a.* meadow in Netilcombe, Kageley, Sampford Britte, Eylesworthy and Wythecomb, whereby, in pursuance of the oft-repeated wish of the said Simon, they found and establish, with the king's licence granted by letters patent dated at Westminster, 22 February, 21 Hen. VI.,<sup>2</sup> a perpetual chantry of one chaplain to celebrate divine service for ever in a chapel of St. John the Baptist erected by the ancestors of the said Simon within the church of St. Mary, Netilcombe, on the south side thereof, and from time immemorial maintained and repaired by them, wherein their bodies rest, for the weal of Joan late the wife of the said Simon during her lifetime, and for her soul after her death, and for the souls of the said Simon, John Raleigh, knight, and Ismanna his wife, and William Dodesham, the younger, and Joan his wife,—the manor of Codecombe Raleigh being now held of the said William in chief, as of his manor of Codecombe Mohun,—and for the souls of the parents, ancestors, kinsmen and benefactors of the above persons, and all the faithful departed. The chantry is to be called the chantry of Simon Raleigh for ever, and the successive chaplains are to be called the chaplains thereof and may be impleaded as such. For the sustenance of the chaplains the said feoffees grant to them the aforesaid manor and other lands. The ordinances governing the chantry are to be as follows:—

The successive chaplains are to be satisfactory in conduct and knowledge. They are to be commonly known as 'Simon

<sup>1</sup> Cf. the shorter English text printed in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden Society), pp. 22–6.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 21, 22.

Raleghis perpetuel chauntery prest.' They are to reside continually in a messuage or dwelling-house lately built in Netilcombe,—which, with the garden and close adjacent thereto, is parcel of the premises granted as above,—and to abstain from all manner of secular cares, administrations and offices, and from huntings and public business, and from stipends and salaries paid by others, and from all things whereby occasion of wandering or absenting themselves might arise. They are daily to celebrate mass and other divine offices at the altar in the said chapel, and not elsewhere, for the persons aforesaid; and every day they shall wait for the said Joan, when she is at Netilcombe, and after her death for the heirs of the said Simon when they are likewise there, until the tenth hour, before beginning mass, except by special licence. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout the year they shall say the service of the dead, to wit *placebo, dirige* and the commendation of souls, except when a greater feast falls on one of those days, and then they shall say it on the morrow. Every day at the commencement of mass, immediately after the confession and absolution, they shall in the vulgar tongue bid those present to say the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation for the souls of Simon Ralegh and the others named above, and thereupon devoutly and in silence say the same themselves and then begin their mass. At every mass they shall say the following two collects with the canon and post-communion, to wit *Inclina, Domine, aurem tuam ad preces nostras quibus misericordiam tuam supplices deprecamur ut anima famuli tui Simonis fundatoris mei et animas famulorum famularumque tuarum et animas omnium fidelium defunctorum quas de hoc seculo, etc.*; and *Fidelium Deus omnium conditor et redemptor, etc.* Every day, immediately after matins, vespers and the other canonical hours, they shall devoutly say this versicle in the hearing of those present, *Anima Simonis fundatoris mei et anime omnium fidelium defunctorum per misericordiam Jesu Christi in pace requiescant. Amen.* Once a week throughout the year they shall celebrate the mass for the dead for all the souls aforesaid; and on every other day, when they celebrate the mass of the day or some other mass, they shall say, before or after mass, the commemoration or remembrance for the dead, with the above

1453.

f. 169.

1453. two prayers. Every day, immediately after mass and before leaving the chapel, they shall stand there and devoutly say the psalm *De profundis clamavi*, with the Lord's Prayer, the Angelic Salutation and the two prayers aforesaid, for the soul of the said Simon and the souls of the others recited above, and also the above versicle. The anniversary day of the death of the said Simon and the other persons mentioned above is to be observed on 8 February in every year. In the preceding night *placebo* and *dirige* and the commendation of souls, and on the following day the mass of *requiem* for all the souls aforesaid,—with or without note at the discretion of the chaplain according to the assistance available from chaplains and clerks,—shall be devoutly said and faithfully observed, with solemn tolling of bells. If the heirs of the said Simon or their assigns, lords of the manor of Netilcombe, should be unwilling to maintain the aforesaid chapel in repair, the chaplains shall be bound to make, repair and maintain at their own costs a smaller but sufficient chapel there; and they shall keep safely without damage the missal, portas and other books, and the chalice, jewels, vestments, ornaments and all other goods granted for the support of the chantry, and repair them when necessary at their own costs, and replace them when used up or taken away. Each chaplain, a month after his admission, shall make an inventory, by indenture with the abbot of Cleeve, of all the goods and moveables belonging to the chantry; and every chaplain shall provide a man or boy, bread, wine and wax for the daily service of the mass, and proper lights for the chantry. The chaplains shall reside continually in the aforesaid dwelling, without cohabitation with women or suspected persons, except that for six separate (*discontinuas*) weeks every year they may be allowed by the said Joan and the heirs of Simon, then being resident at Netilcombe, or otherwise by the abbot of Cleeve, to be absent on visits to friends or pilgrimages, or about their own just and necessary business, provided that during their absence they say and celebrate all the aforesaid services in some suitable place. But such leave of absence is not to be asked for except for the above reasons, or for the sake of necessary recreation. If any of them is
- f. 170.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wrongly numbered 171.

absent for more than the said six weeks without necessary and reasonable cause, or if he cuts down any great timber in the manor and tenements granted to the chantry as aforesaid, except for the maintenance of the chantry and the dwelling thereof, and then by view of the said Joan and the heirs of Simon or their assigns, he shall *ipso facto* be deprived of all his right and possession in the chantry. The chantry shall also become vacant *ipso facto* if any chaplain alienate, sell or excessively dilapidate the manor and premises granted to the chantry as aforesaid or any part thereof, or be convicted of incontinence or wilful perjury before his judge, or of theft, larceny, homicide, rape, treason, felony, or any other crime involving loss of life or limb, before the secular judge, or be detained in the prison of the ordinary, or be outlawed for felony, or abjure the realm, or commit any other offence for which he ought to be suspended for ever or otherwise degraded from his office. The chaplains shall be subject to visitation by the bishop of Bath and Wells, or by the guardian of the spirituality of the bishopric during the voidance of the see. Whenever the chantry becomes vacant, a new chaplain shall be presented to the bishop or the guardian of the spirituality by the said Joan during her lifetime, and after her death by the heirs of Simon, within four months of the notification of the vacancy. If they fail to present, the abbot of Cleeve shall present within two months after the four months have elapsed; and if he fail, the bishop or the guardian of the spirituality may collate within two months after the lapse of six months from the time of the vacancy. The revenues of the chantry during vacancies are to be received by the said Joan during her lifetime, and after her death by the said abbot, and expended on the books, chalice and ornaments of the chantry, or on the necessary repair thereof. If the said revenues during any vacancy shall amount to 20s. clear, then the said abbot, after Joan's death, shall take 6s. 8d. for his pains, and expend the residue as above. If in future the inheritance of the said Simon shall be divided among coheirs, the patronage of the chantry shall belong wholly to the eldest of such coheirs. Every chaplain, on his admission or institution, when he takes the oath of canonical obedience to the bishop, shall also take his bodily oath on the Gospels to observe all the

1453.



1453. ordinances of the chantry ; otherwise his admission or institution shall be null.

The above-mentioned royal letters patent, as well as this composition, and all other charters, writings and muniments relating to the chantry, shall remain in the abbey of Cleeve in the custody of the abbot, for the use of the chantry and the chaplains thereof. Provided always that, if John Croft, rector of Burwardescote in the diocese of Lincoln, shall be presented to the chantry by the said Joan or the heirs of Simon, he may receive and have the same, together with his said church, so long as he celebrates divine service, or causes it to be celebrated, in form aforesaid according to his judgement and conscience, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the above ordinances. But his successors are to reside in person and observe all the other ordinances aforesaid. Wells palace, 20 October, 1453.

- f. 171. 793. Institution of Sir Thomas Smyth, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Lesse, on the presentation of Brother Robert Botyll, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. 25 October, the same place and year.

794. Dispensation by Pope Nicholas V.<sup>1</sup> for John Jordan *alias* Stoke, perpetual vicar of the church of Ilmystre, to hold for life an additional benefice with cure. St. Peter's, Rome, 3 Kal Sept. (30 August), 1453.

795. Institution of Sir William Russell, chaplain, as rector of the church of Cameley, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Peverell, on the presentation of the prior and convent, or chapter, of Bath. Wells palace, 27 October, 1453.

796. Commission to Master William Fulford and Master John Stokes, canons of Wells, Simon Roo, M.A., and Sir John Erle, chaplain, to take cognisance of certain matters which were detected in the bishop's visitation of Wells cathedral, and to determine the same canonically, correct and punish all defaults and excesses relating thereto, and do whatever else they shall con-

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 137.

sider necessary and suitable in the matter. 28 October, the same 1453.  
place and year.

797. Institution of Sir John Croft, chaplain, as perpetual *f. 172.*  
chaplain of the chantry of Simon Ralegh newly founded in the  
church of St. Mary, Netilcombe, on the presentation of Joan  
sometime wife of the said Simon. The said John took his bodily  
oath to observe the statutes and ordinances of the chantry  
according to the foundation thereof. 31 October, the same place  
and year.

798. Appointment by the bishop of Thomas, bishop of Ely,  
John, bishop of Rochester, John, bishop of Hereford, Robert  
Botil, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England,  
and John Stourton, lord of Stourton, or any of them, to be his  
proctors in the parliament to be held at Redyng on 12 November  
next, he himself being unable to attend. 3 November, the same  
place and year.

799. Commission to Richard Walshaw and James Fitz James,  
of Ennemer, to levy and collect all the fees, pensions and debts  
in the diocese which belonged to Edward Hulle, knight, at the  
time of his death,<sup>1</sup> to give acquittances and discharges to his  
debtors, and to do whatever else is necessary in the matter ;  
provided they render account to the bishop at his request. 10  
November, the same place and year.

800. Institution of William Herte, clerk, as rector of the  
church of Standerwyke, vacant by the resignation of Master  
Walter Roche, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of  
Cirencester. 12 November, the same place and year.

801. Commission to Master John Stokys, canon of Wells, the  
bishop's commissary-general,—on a general report that Dan  
Thomas, pretended prior of Bath cathedral, is so gravely and  
publicly accused of divers detestable crimes, and especially of  
simony and usurpation of the bishop's ordinary jurisdiction, that  
the bishop can no longer pass over it in silence,—to take cog-

<sup>1</sup> Sir Edward Hull, K.G., was slain in 1453. See no. 815 below.

1453. nissance of the said crimes, punish and correct them canonically, even by removal, deprivation, suspension, or interdict, if necessary, and do whatever else shall seem necessary or expedient in the matter. 16 November, the same place and year.

f. 173. 802. Collation to Sir Walter Osborn, chaplain, of the canonry and prebend of Shalford *alias* Shaldeford, in Wells cathedral, vacant by the resignation of Master John Arundel; and institution, etc. accordingly. Letters to the dean, or the sub-dean, or, in their absence, the president of the chapter, and the chapter of Wells, for induction to the canonry; and to the bishop of London for induction to the *corpus* of the prebend. 30 November, the same place and year.

803. The said letter of induction to Thomas, bishop of London. Date as above.

804. Collation to Master John Morton, doctor of laws, in the person of Master John Stokys, canon of Wells, his proctor, to the canonry of Wells and prebend of Dynner *alias* Dynre vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Swyfte; and institution, etc. accordingly. 3 December, the same place and year.

805. Institution of Sir John Norton, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Staunton Drew, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Gayn, on the presentation of Master William Sprevere, doctor of laws, archdeacon of Bath. Present, Master William Fulford, canon of Wells, Richard Chocke, and John Touker, notary-public. Woky, 13 December, 1453.

806. Commission to Master John Stokes, bachelor in both laws, the bishop's commissary-general, to take cognisance of, and summarily and quietly (*sine strepitu*), without judicial formalities, determine, a matrimonial cause which John Gore, the elder, of the parish of Kyngeston, is bringing, as he says, against Christine Decon, daughter of Thomas Decon, of the same. 14 December, the same place and year.

807. Institution of John Pym, clerk, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as rector of the church of Allyngford,

vacant by the resignation of Sir John Petir, on the presentation of Joan relict of Simon Ralegh, esquire. 15 December, the same place and year. 1453.

808. Institution of Sir John Valens, Augustinian canon, having a papal dispensation to hold any ecclesiastical benefice, as rector of the church of Combefflory,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the death of Master Walter Roche, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. 16 December, the same place and year.

809. Institution of Sir John Trevenaunt, canon of Wells, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as rector of the church of Ellesworthe, vacant by the death of Master Walter Roche, on the presentation of Brother Robert Botyl, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Banwel, 22 December, 1453.

810. Indented writing, being a grant by the bishop to Thomas Dauberichcourt and Beatrice his wife, the bishop's kinswoman, of all the lands, meadows and pastures called 'Grenecastel,' 'Foreshottes' and 'Bolehurst' within the bishop's manor of Wells, formerly held by Agnes Rabas, late sister of Ralph Erghum, bishop of Bath and Wells, to hold the same for their lives and in survivorship, rendering to the bishop and his successors 32s. yearly. Witnesses, Richard Chocke, John Austil, John Fitz James, John Gautier, Richard Erle, and many others. 27 December, the same place and year. f. 174.

811. Appointment of Sir John Trevenaunt, the bishop's receiver, and John Shepehurd, as his attorneys to deliver seisin accordingly. Date as above.

812. Institution of Sir John Howell, chaplain, as rector of the church of Porteshede, vacant by the death of Sir Philip Jekyn, on the presentation of Margaret, countess of Shrewsbury. Banwel, 2 January, 1453[-4]. 1454

813. Licence for Eleanor Fraunceys, widow, of Combefflory,

<sup>1</sup> John Valens occurs later in the register as titular bishop of Tenos and suffragan in the diocese of Bath and Wells.

1454. to have masses and other divine offices celebrated in the presence of herself and her household in the chapel, or oratory, of her manor of Combeflory, or at other suitable places in the diocese, without prejudice to the rights of others. 11 January, the same place and year.

814. Institution of Master John Stokys, residentiary canon of Wells, as perpetual vicar of the church of St. Cuthbert, Wells, vacant by the death of Sir John Grene, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells. Letter of induction to Sir John Riche and Sir Henry Hayne, chaplains, specially appointed as the bishop's commissaries in this behalf. 13 January, the same place and year.

1452. 815. Testament of Edward Hulle, knight.<sup>1</sup> If he die in England, he wishes to be buried as near as possible to his mother. If he die before her, he prays her to cause a hundred masses to be said for his sinful soul, to wit twenty of the Blessed Trinity, twenty of the Holy Ghost, twenty of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, twenty of the Holy Cross, and twenty of *requiem*, and to offer one penny at every mass and give another to some poor person. He bequeaths the outer part of his long robe (*toge talaris*) of 'crymysyn velowet' to the church of Ennemer, to make a vestment in honour of God, the Mother of God, and St. Michael the Archangel, patron of the said church; 100s. to the chapel of the Virgin Mary, Clive, to be used according to his mother's discretion; and 33s. 4d. to the chapel of St. Mary of Attescomb, for some memorial to remain there according to his mother's discretion. He prays his mother to be gracious to his wife. He wishes his wife to have all the fur linings (*penules*) of his robes, and his mother to have all the outer parts or stuffs of the same for use in divine services. He appoints his mother, Eleanor Hulle, executrix. 26 August, 1452.

1454. Probate of the above, and grant of administration to the said  
f. 175. Eleanor. The chapel in Banwel manor, 15 January, 1453[-4].

<sup>1</sup> Sir Edward Hull, K.G., son of John Hull by Eleanor his wife, daughter of John Malet, the heiress of Enmore. *Some Somerset Manors*, pp. 272, 275; *Journal of Thomas Beckington*, ed. Nicolas.

816. Indenture between the bishop and Robert Braybroke 1454.  
of the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New  
Temple, London, and Edith his wife, being a demise at farm  
to the said Robert and Edith of a tenement with an adjacent  
garden in the said parish, lying between tenements inhabited by  
Robert Mercer and Thomas Myreweder on the west and east  
respectively, the bishop's inn on the south, and the highway on  
the north, to hold the same for fifty years from Michaelmas next,  
rendering 10s. yearly to the bishop and his successors. [Other  
conditions as above, no. 762.] 15 January, 32 Hen. VI.

817. Indenture between the bishop and Robert Mercer, of  
the same parish, and Joan his wife, being a demise to the said  
Robert and Joan of a tenement with garden in the same parish,  
between tenements inhabited by Thomas Burford and Robert  
Braybroke on the west and east respectively, the bishop's inn  
on the south, and the highway on the north. [Terms and  
conditions as above.] Date as above.

818. Indenture between the bishop and John Sandon, of the  
same parish, the elder, 'glover,' and Joan his wife, being a  
demise to the said John and Joan of a tenement with garden  
in the same parish, lying between tenements inhabited by Henry  
Brampton and John Lambard on the west and east respectively,  
the highway on the north, and the garden late of Geoffrey Godelok  
on the south. [Terms and conditions as above, except that the  
rent is 13s. 4d.] Date as above.

819. Indenture between the bishop and William Kyng *alias* f. 176.  
Fynk, 'skynner,' of the same parish, and Emmota his wife, being  
a demise to the said William and Emmota of a tenement with  
garden in the same parish, lying between tenements inhabited by  
Thomas Swyfte and John Huchyn on the west and east respec-  
tively, the highroad on the north, and the bishop's garden on the  
south. [Terms and conditions as above. Rent 13s. 4d.] Date  
as above.

820. Tripartite indenture, being a decree by the bishop, made  
with the assent of William, master of the house of St. Mark,

1454. Bristol, and the brethren thereof, patrons of the vicarage of Stokeland, that the said vicarage, which is so poorly endowed that it cannot suitably support a vicar and the charges incumbent thereon, shall be newly endowed and augmented as follows :— The vicars shall have the houses and buildings which former vicars have had, and 15*a.* arable land in the town field, whereof 8*a.* lie in a croft called 'Longlande,' 5½*a.* in 'Pannecrofte,' and 1½*a.* in 'Pesecrofte,' 2½*a.* meadow in 'Le Fysshpole,' 2½*a.* several pasture in 'Longmede,' and all tithes of hay except those of the demesne meadows of the said master and brethren and meadows lately turned from arable to meadow, or which may in future be so turned. They shall also have all tithes of reeds or rushes, and all tithes of wool, milk, apples, hemp, flax, lambs, calves, foals, young pigs, geese and doves, and all obventions, oblations and lesser tithes belonging to the church, as well of the court of the master and brethren as of all the parishioners, except tithe of the swans of the master and brethren. They shall also have 28*s.* yearly in money by tale, to be paid to them in four equal instalments at Easter, Midsummer, Michaelmas and Christmas. The master and brethren shall maintain all ordinary and extraordinary charges pertaining to the church or the chancel thereof, and the ecclesiastical ornaments pertaining to the rector, except for two processional wax candles which the vicar shall maintain at his own costs. Banwel, 26 January, 1453[–4].

821. Request to the king for the arrest of Sir John Bellynger, chaplain, who has been under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more for manifold contumacies and manifest offences judicially contracted in a matter concerning the correction of his soul, and remains obdurate. 27 January, the same place and year.

822. Institution of Sir John Balam, chaplain, of the diocese of Exeter, as perpetual vicar of the church of Estcoker, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Mapoudre, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Exeter. Woky, 1 February, 1453[–4].

f. 177. 823. Institution of Sir John Colet, priest, as rector of the church of Charlecombe, vacant by the death of Sir John Lewys,

on the presentation of John Barre, knight, patron in right of 1454.  
Joan his wife.<sup>1</sup> Wells palace, 6 February, 1453[-4].

824. Institution of Sir William Elkyngton *alias* Waynfflete, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine in the parish of Frome, vacant by the resignation of Master Henry Clere, on the presentation of James, earl of Wiltshire and Ormonde. 7 February, the same place and year.

825. Indenture tripartite, being a decree by the bishop,— 1453.  
after reciting letters of Walter de Haselshawe, official of Robert, sometime bishop of Bath and Wells, dated at Wells, 6 Non. May (2 May), 1281, whereby, with the consent of the prior and convent of Berlich, to whom the church of Wynesford is appropriated, and Sir Matthew of Malton, vicar of the said church, he ordained a vicarage in the church as follows, to wit that the vicar should receive as his portion the whole tithe of wool, lambs, foals, calves, young pigs, geese, cheese, butter, flax and honey, and all other lesser tithes, and all oblations and obventions belonging to the altarage of the church, together with mortuary dues, a tithe of all mills in the parish, and the whole tithe of hay, except the tithe arising from the rector's demesne, and should also have the croft lying between the rector's court and the river Exe, as ditched-in (*infossatum*), with the chaplain's house situated within it and the long oxhouse situated outside it, together with pasture for all his beasts in the parishioners' common pasture, but should receive no lesser tithes of the animals of the prior and convent of Berlich staying or feeding anywhere in the parish, and that he should pay 10s. a year to the said prior and convent on the feast of the Circumcision, and undertake all ordinary charges, the prior and convent undertaking two-thirds of the extraordinary charges, and the vicar the remaining third, and power being reserved to the bishop and his successors to vary the said ordinance,—that more generous provision must be made for the vicar in these times, seeing that the fruits, etc. of the vicarage consist chiefly of the tithes of lambs, calves and other beasts, for the feeding and agistment of which no parcel of land has hitherto been

<sup>1</sup> See no. 397 above.



1453. available for him, or is available at present. The bishop therefore, with the consent of Thomas, the prior, and the convent of Berlich, endows and augments the vicarage with the following parcels of land and pasture, which once belonged to the glebe of the rectory, consisting of six crofts with a meadow, whereof three crofts and the meadow lie between the highway leading from Wynsford Boson to the village of Exford and the river Exe, on the south, and the other three between the said highway and the holding of Richard Kyng, of Northcote, and the common pasture called 'Virsdon,' on the north. The vicar is to pay to the prior and convent for the said parcels 18s. yearly as rent, and 2s. yearly for fine, heriot and all other services. He shall also receive, as an augmentation of his portion, the whole tithe of hay arising from the rector's demesne. He shall provide at his own costs two processional candles which are to burn only at times of processions, as hitherto. Woky, 8 February, 1453[-4].

826. Commission to Master John Bernard and Master John Stokes, canons of Wells,—inasmuch as a certain John Stephens *alias* Thurlewyn, late of Lyegh in the parish of Publowe, who was brought before certain persons who are not his judges, to wit the king's justices having no jurisdiction over him, and accused of having often broken and entered the closes and houses of divers men and taken away therefrom many ewes, sheep, lambs and hoggets, as set out in the annexed schedule (not entered), and who, after being taken and imprisoned by the lay power, was handed over to the bishop for judgement, now desires his innocence to be publicly declared, and has prayed the bishop to receive his purgation to that end,—to make the customary public proclamations on Sundays and festivals in Wells cathedral and other suitable churches and public places, give a hearing to any persons who may wish to accuse the said John, and administer justice to them and him, or, if no accusers appear against him, to admit and receive his purgation, deliver him from prison, and do whatever else is requisite and expedient in the matter. 20 February, the same place and year.

f. 178.

827. Institution of Sir John Repe, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Estcoker, vacant by the resignation of

Sir John Ballam, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Exeter. 26 February, the same place and year. 1453.

828. Request to the king for the arrest of Richard Tyllly, of the parish of Taunton, who has been under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more, in accordance with the canon *Si quis suadente diabolo*, for having laid violent hands on Sir Ralph Hylling, a priest, and beaten and wounded him to the shedding of blood, and remains obdurate. Date as above.

829. Institution of Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, in the person of Richard Touker, notary-public, his proctor, as rector of the church of Stratton on the Fosse, vacant by the resignation of Master Richard Leyty, on the presentation of Edmund, duke of Somerset, constable of England. 27 February, the same place and year.

830. Institution of Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, as rector of the church of Hunspyl, vacant by the death of Sir John Arundel, on the presentation of Sir William Burchier, knight, lord Fitzwareyn.<sup>1</sup> 5 March, the same place and year.

831. Indenture between the bishop and Thomas Conquere *alias* Bokebynder, of the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New Temple, London, and Christine his wife, being a demise to the said Thomas and Christine of two tenements with gardens in the said parish, one of which lies between a tenement inhabited by John Cornewale on the east, the entry of the bishop's inn on the west, the highway on the north, and the bishop's inn on the south, and the other lies between tenements inhabited by John Sandon the younger and John Pyry on the west and east respectively, the highway on the north, and the bishop's inn on the south,—to hold the same for fifty years from Michaelmas next at a rent of 20s. [Other conditions as above, no. 766, with the addition that the lessees are to keep in repair the cob wall (*muro luteo*) between their garden and the way leading into the bishop's inn. 1 March, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> See Feet of Fines, Divers Counties, 21 Hen. VI. and *Complete Peerage*, vol. v. pp. 507, 508.

1454.  
f. 179. 832. Institution of Master Thomas Mone, bachelor in decrees, in the person of David Whittok, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Brotton, vacant by the deprivation of Master John Combe, on the presentation of Sir William, lord le Zouche and Saymour, knight. Woky, 27 March, 1454.

833. Collation to Sir John Feryngen, chaplain, of the church of Halton, vacant by the death of Sir John Wegge and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 2 April, 1454.

834. Collation to William Grene, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the seventh chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 10 April, the same place and year.

835. Institution of Sir Thomas ap David *alias* Gough, priest, as rector of the church of Clopton, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Brytte, on the presentation of Richard Arthur, esquire. 14 April, the same place and year.

836. Collation to Sir John Menyman, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the thirteenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 27 April, the same place and year.

837. Institution of Sir William Hyllary, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Shepton Montagu (*Montis*), vacant by the death of Sir William Cotton, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton. Woky, 30 April, 1454.

838. Indenture between the bishop and John Crykette, 'furbour,' being a demise to the said John of a tenement in the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New Temple, London, lying between tenements inhabited by John Cornewale, 'taylour,' and John Sandon, 'glover,' the younger, on the west and east respectively, the bishop's inn on the south, and the highway on the north, to hold the same for fifty years from Easter next at a rent of 12s. [Other conditions as above, no. 766.] 1 May, 32 Hen. VI.

f. 180. 839. Collation to Sir William Paslay, chaplain, of the church of Thorne Coffyn, vacant by the death of Sir John Golyght and

in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution accordingly. Woky, 7 May, 1454. 1454.

840. Licence for Master Nicholas Pyttes, M.A., perpetual vicar of the church of St. Mary Reddeclyffe, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. 8 May, the same place and year.

841. Licence for William Canyng and Joan his wife, and William Canyng their son and Isabel his wife, of the parish of St. Mary Reddeclyffe, Bristol, to have divine services celebrated in their presence in any place fit for divine worship within the dwelling of the said William, during the bishop's pleasure; without prejudice to the rights of others. Date as above.

842. Relaxation by the bishop, on good reports of the behaviour and rule of Richard, prior of Taunton, of the injunctions laid on him on 25 June, 1451 (no. 582 above). Date as above.

843. Collation to Sir Roger Elmeley, chaplain, of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Corston, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 11 May, 1454.

844. On a petition from Master Thomas Boleyn, precentor of Wells, showing that there are three dwellings, little more than two miles apart, which pertain to his precentorship and the parish church of Pilton annexed thereto, of which the principal one is a sumptuously adorned building by Wells cathedral, the second is built near the chapel of Wotton, which is dependent on the parish church of Pilton and in the said parish, and the third, anciently called the rectory of Pilton, is a large house in need of repair, standing by itself about a mile distant from the parish church, and with no dwellings or houses near it, and that the repair of these dwellings, and especially of that called the rectory of Pilton, is too costly and burdensome to the precentorship, and praying the bishop to decree that the dwelling in Wells and that near the chapel of Wotton ought to be sufficient for the precentor and his successors, and that they ought to be bound to maintain and repair them, but not the third dwelling, except

1454. the barn there ; the bishop notifies all persons that, having made enquiry as to the truth of the said petition, he hereby makes the required decree.<sup>1</sup> Date as above.

845. Collation to Sir John Benham, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the eighth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. Date as above.

846. Commission to Sir John Garnesey, perpetual vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, to be surveyor of all the manors and other places pertaining to the episcopal tables of Bath and Wells, with power to inspect, survey and repair the same, and do whatever else belongs to his office. Wells palace, 13 May, 1454.

f. 181. 847. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to John Wysdam and Ellen his wife of two messuages and two fardels of land in the manor of Chedder, and 7a. land called 'Boxbittone' and a parcel of pasture called 'Sherneham' in Chedder, all lately held by John Welles, to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering yearly 13s. 1d. for the messuages and fardels and 34s. 4d. for the residue, saving to the bishop and his successors suit to his court of Chedder twice a year and a heriot when it falls due. Warranty clause. Witnesses, Walter Rodeney, knight, John Fitz James and Richard Artour, esquires, William Hayward, Thomas Moor, and others. Date as above.

848. Collation to Master Roger Fabel, master of grammar, of the church of Norton St. Philip, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Long and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution accordingly. 14 May, the same place and year.

849. Collation to Hugh Pavy, B.A., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Estharpstre, vacant by the death of Master William Hoper ; and institution accordingly. Dogmersfeld, 19 May, 1454.

850. Institution of Sir John Howel, chaplain, in the person of Thomas Pole, his proctor, as portioner of the third portion in the church of Crukern, vacant by the death of Master William Hoper,

<sup>1</sup> The church of Pilton was served by a vicar.

on the presentation of Thomas Courtenay, earl of Devon. The bishop's inn at London, 26 May, 1454. 1454.

851. Letters dimissory to all orders for Walter Dyer, of Compton Martyn. 27 May, the same place and year.

852. Indenture between the bishop and John Sandon the younger, 'glover,' of the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New Temple, London, and Alice his wife, being a demise to the said John and Alice of a tenement in the said parish, lying between tenements inhabited by William Coterell and John Furbour on the east and west respectively, the highway on the north, and the bishop's inn on the south, to hold for fifty years at a rent of 10s. [Conditions as above, no. 766.] 2 June, 32 Hen. VI.

853. Institution of Sir John Toppe, chaplain, as rector of the church of Stawell, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Hoggis, on the presentation of Robert Cappys, esquire, patron in right of his wife. Dogmersfeld, 11 June, 1454.

854. Collation to Master Simon Roo, M.A., of the perpetual chantry at the altar in honour of Corpus Christi in Wells cathedral, vacant and in the bishop's collation by full right ; with reservation to the bishop of power to dispense with observance of the statutes and ordinances of the chantry because they are too strict and burdensome. 24 June, the same place and year.

855. Indenture between the bishop and Thomas Myreweder and Isabel, his wife, of the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New Temple, London, being a demise to the said Thomas and Isabel of a tenement with garden in the said parish, lying between tenements inhabited by Robert Braybroke and William Dryler on the west and east respectively, the bishop's inn on the south and the highway on the north, to hold for fifty years from Michaelmas next at a rent of 10s. [Conditions as above, no. 766.] 1 July, 32 Hen. VI. f. 182.

856. Institution of Sir James Blachede, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Portbury, vacant by the resignation of Sir

1454. Thomas Smyth, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's by Bristol. Present, Master John Pope, S.T.P., Thomas Dauberichcourt, esquire, of the diocese of Winchester, and John Touker, clerk, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, notary-public. The bishop's inn at London, 4 July, 1454.

857. Indenture between the bishop and John Dalton of the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New Temple, London, 'fuller,' and Margaret his wife, being a demise to the said John and Margaret of a tenement in the said parish, lying between a tenement inhabited by William Dryler on the west, the bishop's inn on the east and south, and the highway on the north, to hold for fifty years from Michaelmas next at a rent of 10s. [Conditions as above, no. 766.] 17 July, 32 Hen. VI.

858. Institution of Sir John Maydynman, chaplain, in the person of William Heth, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Telesford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Thomas, on the presentation of Sir Robert Hungerford, knight, lord Hungerford and of Homet. The bishop's inn at London, 12 July, 1454.

859. Institution of Sir Thomas Dygon, chaplain, in the person of Thomas Smyth, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Kynwardeston,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the death of Sir John Oke, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Saviour's, Bermundeseye near London. 19 July, the same place and year.

- f. 183. 860. Indenture between the bishop and Henry Bramston *alias* Coke, of the parish of St. Clement Danes without the Bar of the New Temple, London, 'coke,' and Juliana his wife, being a demise to the said Henry and Juliana of a tenement in the said parish, lying between a tenement inhabited by John Sandon the elder on the east, a tenement lately inhabited by John Archard on the west, a garden lately belonging to Geoffrey Godelok on the south, and the highway on the north, to hold for fifty years from Michaelmas next at a rent of 13s. 4d. [Conditions as above, no. 766.] 23 July, 32 Hen. VI.

<sup>1</sup> Kingweston.

861. Transmission to the bishop by Thomas, bishop of London, of letters of John, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Lambhith, 2 March, 1453[-4]<sup>1</sup> ordering the bishops of the province to admonish and induce their subjects, both clerks and laymen, that for a whole year on Sundays and festivals, and also on Wednesdays and Fridays, with all humility of heart they cause solemn processions to be celebrated, with litanies and other suitable prayers, for the expulsion and utter removal of the power of the Saracens, who have not only subjected to their dominion the Holy Land, the city of Jerusalem, and the city of Constantinople with all the Greek country lying round it, but are daily going about to bring under their power the church and city of Rome and the surrounding Italian region, and to exterminate all the bounds of the Christians, and also for the restoration of the health and prosperity of the king and realm of England, especially in these days when the French are threatening the realm with armed forces by land and sea, and for the speedy cessation and pacification of all dissensions, discords, wars, enmities and mortalities; and granting a hundred days' indulgence [as no. 701 above]. The bishop's palace at London, 6 March, 1453[-4]. 1454.  
f. 184.

862. Institution of Sir John Hendy, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Compton Dunden, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Dygon, on the presentation of Master Stephen Morepath, canon of Wells and prebendary of Compton Dunden. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Woky, 2 September, 1454.

863. Institution of Sir John Mathewe, chaplain, as rector of the church of Swayneswike, vacant by the death of Sir John Pembroke, on the presentation of Edmund Blont, esquire. 6 September, the same place and year.

864. Letters dimissory to all orders for Master Thomas Dultyng, M.A., of Shepton Malet. 7 September, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, vol. iii. pp. 563, 564.



1454. 865. Institution of Sir John Erle, chaplain, B.A., as perpetual vicar of the church of Mertok, vacant by the death of Sir Henry Knocston, on the presentation of Master John Bernard, treasurer of Wells. Wells palace, 14 September, 1454.

866. Collation to Oliver Dynham, clerk, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Buclond Dynham, and institution accordingly. Letter of induction after the taking of the oath of canonical obedience by Master William Fulford, canon of Wells, his proctor. Date as above.

1452. 867. Dispensation by Pope Nicholas V.<sup>1</sup> for Hugh Sugar *alias* Noris, rector of Lymplesham, doctor of laws, to hold any two benefices with cure. St. Peter's, Rome, *Prid. Kal Maii* (30 April), 1452.

1454. f. 185. 868. Collation to Master John Pope, S.T.P., of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Westburys, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Smyth and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Present, Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, and Master Simon Roo, M.A., of the diocese of Bath and Wells, and others. This collation was received by the said Master John on the understanding that his acceptance thereof should discharge the dispensation granted to him by Pope Nicholas V. to hold two incompatible benefices.<sup>2</sup> Wells palace, 16 September, 1454.

869. On 17 September, in the chapel in Woky manor, the bishop accepted the said Sir John's resignation of the vicarage of Westbury, in the presence of Master Simon Roo, M.A., Master William Henton, bachelor in laws, and John Touker, notary-public ; and collated the same to Sir Richard Lambert, chaplain, in the person of Master Simon Roo, M.A., his proctor. Letter of induction as last above.

870. Assignment by the bishop to Sir William Smyth, late

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 135.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 134, where he is described as rector of Shere.

vicar of the church of Westbury, of a yearly pension of 4 marks out of the fruits, etc. of the said vicarage. [The assignment is in terms similar to that made to the retiring vicar of Cleeve, no. 314 above.] Woky, 16 September, 1454. 1454.

871. Institution of Sir Thomas Benet, chaplain, as rector of the church of Bere,<sup>1</sup> vacant by [the death] of Sir John Benet, on the presentation of William Harewell, esquire. 17 September, the same place and year.

872. Collation to Master Hugh Sugar of the church of Breen, *f. 186.* vacant by the death of Sir John Talbot and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution accordingly. Date as above.

873. Collation to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Wedmore III. Letter of induction after the said Master Hugh had taken the oath of canonical obedience and also the bodily oath required by the statute of Wells cathedral concerning impositions made and to be made for the repair of the fabric of the cathedral. Date as above.

874. Institution of Sir John Tayte, chaplain, as rector of the church of Elme, vacant by the deprivation of Sir William Sadeler,<sup>2</sup> on the presentation of William, lord Boneville of Chuton, knight, patron for this turn by reason of a feoffment made to him by William Stafford, esquire, of the manor and advowson of Elme. 19 September, the same place and year.

875. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest for Nicholas Dowce, of Wedmore. Wells palace, 21 September, 1454.

876. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Thomas Paulyn, of Mynhede, acolyte. 22 September, the same place and year.

877. Licence until further order for Dan Thomas, regular canon of Burcle, to serve the church of Burnham in masses and other divine offices, and to administer the sacraments and

<sup>1</sup> Beer Crocombe.

<sup>2</sup> There is no record of his institution.

1454. sacramentals, under the vicar of the said church, to those dwelling there. 23 September, the same place and year.

878. Certificate to the bishop by the official of the archdeacon of Bath that, in pursuance of the bishop's order dated at Woky, 6 September, 1454 (quoted), he has cited all abbots, priors, rectors and vicars holding dignities or benefices in the archdeaconry, and all parochial and stipendiary chaplains celebrating divine services there, and all holders of chapels, chantries, hospitals, dignities, spiritual offices, portions, pensions and spiritual payments, and eight, six, or four trustworthy men from every parish in the archdeaconry according to its size, and all persons not resident in their benefices, or who have let their benefices at farm, or who hold two or more incompatible benefices, to appear before the bishop or his commissaries at the visitation to be held on the days and at the places specified in a schedule to the bishop's said order; and has inhibited the archdeacon's deans and other ministers from doing or attempting anything to the prejudice of the said visitation. A list of those cited is enclosed (but not entered in the register). Bath, 26 September, 1454.

879. Certificate to the bishop by Thomas, prior of Bath, that, in accordance with the bishop's order dated at Woky, 6 September, 1454 (quoted), he has cited all the monks and brethren of the cathedral church of Bath to appear before the bishop on Tuesday after Michaelmas next, to wit 1 October, at the visitation of the cathedral church which the bishop proposes to hold in the course of his ordinary visitation. A list of those cited is enclosed (but not entered in the register). Bath, 28 September, 1454.

880. Licence for John Sherp, of Portbury, to have divine service celebrated in the presence of himself and his household in the oratory, or other suitable place, within his manor of Charleton in the said parish. Wells palace, 27 September, 1454.

881. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Pym, acolyte, rector of Allynghford.<sup>1</sup> Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> He had been instituted in the previous December.

882. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer, Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokys and Master John Pope, S.T.P., canons of Wells cathedral, to hold visitations of the prior and chapter of Bath, the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bath, the abbot and convent of Keynesham, and the clergy and people of the archdeaconry of Bath, on the days and at the places mentioned in the enclosed schedule ; as the bishop is unable to hold the said visitations personally, as he had intended, owing to grave infirmities which have come on him since he issued his letters of visitation. 29 September, the same place and year. 1454.

883. Request by the bishop to Master Henry Webber, president of the episcopal consistory of Exeter, to transmit as soon as possible the whole process of the sentence of excommunication passed by him, or by his authority, on Sir Thomas Nordon *alias* Northorn, for rebellion and contumacy in not appearing and exhibiting his letters of orders, and also all other acts and processes against the said Thomas made by him, or by his authority ; as the bishop lately laid it to the charge of the said Thomas, who is detained in prison in the palace of Wells on suspicion of heresy, that he had been so excommunicated in the diocese of Exeter and was still under sentence of excommunication, and he replied that the said Master Henry had once told him that he had been so excommunicated, but beyond that he knew nothing of the alleged sentence of excommunication. 30 September, the same place and year.

884. Collation to Master John Pope, master of theology, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Hengestrugge vacant by the death of Sir Nicholas Stourgeon. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). Date as above. f. 188.

885. Collation to Master John Spekyngton, M.A., subdean of Wells, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Combe III. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). Date as above.

886. Institution of Sir Hugh David, chaplain, as rector of the church of Monkesylver, vacant by the death of Sir William Panys, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukes-

1454. bury, patrons as proprietaries of the priory of Goldclyff in the diocese of Llandaff. 4 October, the same place and year.

887. Collation to Master Thomas Chaundeler, bachelor of theology, chancellor of Wells, in the person of John Tregodek, clerk, his proctor, of a canonry in Wells and the prebend of Holcomb. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). 9 October, the same place and year.

888. Indenture, being a ratification by the bishop of the estate which Robert Stanshawe has in all the lands and tenements, as in messuages, arable lands, meadows, feedings, wastes and fisheries, in Garslade [and] Southgarslade in the bishop's manor of Wells, and also in fisheries at Garslade and at Bolehurst and Frogmer, with the reversion of divers lands in Garslade after the death of Agnes Raby, which John Stafforde, late bishop, by his writing dated 1 January, 8 Hen. VI, granted to Agnes his sister, late the wife of Robert Bradley, for life, jointly with Emma his mother, and which the said Agnes, in her pure widowhood, by her writing dated Saturday before Midsummer, 27 Hen. VI, granted, as all her estate therein, to the said Robert Stanshawe and John Bolour, who are still seised. Wells palace, 12 October, 33 Hen. VI.

889. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to Thomas Dauberichcourt, esquire, and Beatrice his wife, the bishop's kinswoman, of all the lands and tenements, as in messuages, arable lands, meadows, feedings, pastures, wastes and fisheries, in Garslade, Southgarslade and Northgarslade, as well as all the lands, meadows, feedings and pastures called 'Grenecastell,' 'Foreshottes' and 'Bolehurst,' and the whole fishery of Garslade, Bolehurst and Frogmer, in the bishop's manor of Wells, which were formerly held by Agnes Raby, sister of Ralph Erghum, late bishop of Bath and Wells, and subsequently by Emma the mother and Agnes Bradeley the sister of John Stafford, late bishop, by demise of the said bishops respectively,—to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering 32s. yearly to the bishop and his successors.<sup>1</sup> Warranty clause. Witnesses, Walter Rodenay,

<sup>1</sup> Beatrice Dabrighcourt died in possession of 'Carsolade,' shortly before May, 1493. Reynolds, *Wells Cathedral*, p. 185. For other variant forms of the name, see *Cal. Wells MSS.* vol. i. p. 606.

knight, John Fitz James, John Austel, Robert Stawel and James 1454.  
Clyfford, esquires, and others. Wells palace, 15 October, 33  
Hen. VI.

890. Ratification of the above grant by the prior and chapter,  
or convent, of Bath. The chapter-house, Bath, 17 October,  
33 Hen. VI.

891. The like ratification by John Spekyngton, subdean of *f. 189.*  
Wells and president of the chapter, the dean being absent, and  
the chapter of Wells. The chapter-house, Wells, 18 October,  
1454.

892. Appointment by the bishop of John Fitz James, his  
steward, Sir John Trevenaunt, his receiver, and Thomas Smyth,  
his auditor, as his attorneys to deliver seisin of the premises  
granted above. Wells palace, 15 October, 33 Hen. VI.

893. Institution of Sir Robert Donyngton, chaplain, as rector  
of the church of Langriche, vacant by the canonical deprivation  
of Sir Thomas Meleth,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of Alice Criclade, late  
the wife of Thomas Cricklade. Wells palace, 15 October, 1454.

894. Institution of Master Robert Geffrey, M.A., as perpetual  
vicar of the church of Estcoker, vacant by the resignation of Sir  
John Repe, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Exeter.  
17 October, the same place and year.

895. Commission to the perpetual vicar of the parish church,  
or chapel, of St. Mary Magdalen, and the curate of the chapel  
of St. James, Taunton,—inasmuch as the bishop has caused the  
following penance to be enjoined on Richard Tylly, of Taunton,  
for having laid violent hands on Sir Ralph Hyllng, chaplain, of  
Taunton, and beaten him to the shedding of blood and mutilation  
of members, to wit that with bare head and feet, and clothed  
only in a shirt and breeches, and holding in his hand the spade  
(*vanga*) with which he struck the said Sir Ralph, he shall on two  
Sundays walk in the procession round the said church, or chapel,

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution, unless he is to be identified with  
Thomas David.

1454. of St. Mary Magdalen, and on one Sunday similarly walk in the procession round the chapel of St. James, and also walk once round the market-place of Taunton, and when he comes to the middle of it stand still for a time at the discretion of the chaplain robed in a surplice and with a whip in his hand who follows him, and, after completing his said penance, bow before the high altar and say the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation five times, —to admonish the said Richard to undergo his penance accordingly, and, if he refuse, to cite him peremptorily to appear before the bishop on the eighth day following, or, if that be not a juridical day, on the next juridical day thereafter, to show cause why he should not be excommunicated or otherwise canonically punished. 18 October, the same place and year.

896. Institution of Sir William Fowler, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry founded at the altar of St. Calixtus in Wells cathedral for the souls of Sir Henry Husee and others, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells. 19 October, the same place and year.

897. Dispensation for William Herte, clerk, rector of Standerwyke, who is now studying in the university of Oxford, to retain his benefice, notwithstanding that he was instituted thereto as to a parish church with the cure of souls; as the bishop finds that nowadays the benefice has no cure and the church anciently built there has long since been utterly demolished. 26 October, the same place and year.

f. 190. 898. On 5 November, 1454, Sir Thomas Northorn *alias* Nordon, chaplain, appeared in person before the bishop in judicial session in the chapel within the palace of Wells, having until then been detained in prison in the said palace on strong suspicion of heresy. The bishop caused to be read aloud by John Touker, notary-public, in the presence of Master John Bernard, treasurer, and Masters William Fulford and John Stokys, canons, of Wells, and many others, the articles laid to the charge of the said Sir Thomas on 28 September last, and his answers thereto, as follows:—

(1) Are ecclesiastical censures duly inflicted and promulgated

by ordinaries of places, and especially bishops, to be feared and avoided by their subjects? *Ans*: They are. 1454.

(2) Ought those who pertinaciously despise such censures to be regarded as heretics, or at least strongly suspected of heresy? *Ans*: They ought.

(3) If an excommunicated person publicly denounced as such by his ordinary, and especially a bishop, remains obdurate in such excommunication for a year, is he to be considered a heretic, or at least strongly suspected of heresy? *Ans*: He is.

(4) Can an unlicensed priest publicly preach to clergy or people without offence to his conscience, notwithstanding ecclesiastical constitutions to the contrary? *Ans*: He can not.

(5) Can a person excommunicated by authority of his ordinary, and especially a bishop, lawfully celebrate and perform divine offices without offence to his conscience and a brand of irregularity? *Ans*: He can not.

(6) Ought a deacon or priest excommunicated by his ordinary to abstain from publicly preaching the word of God to clergy or people until he be absolved from his excommunication and reconciled to Holy Church? *Ans*: He ought.

(7) You, Thomas Nordon, in 1448, being then, as you asserted, chaplain of the chapel of Pensford, were excommunicated by me (the bishop), and publicly denounced as such, for rebellion and contumacy in not appearing and exhibiting your letters of orders. *Ans*: He confessed that this was so.

(8) In the same year you incurred sentence of the greater excommunication for having publicly preached in the said chapel without authority, in contravention of provincial constitutions, and you were publicly denounced as excommunicated in the said chapel and a number of churches in the diocese. *Ans*: He confessed that this was so.

(9) You had knowledge of the said excommunications, or at least you could and ought to have had. *Ans*: He confessed that this was so.

(10) As vicar of the church of Litelcomb, in the diocese of Salisbury, you incurred sentence of the greater excommunication for having celebrated in the said church a clandestine marriage between John Isbury and a certain Elizabeth, and you were



1454. publicly denounced as excommunicated by competent authority in the said diocese. *Ans* : He confessed that this was so, except for the last clause, which he denied. He added that he approached the then bishop of the said diocese, the immediate predecessor of the present bishop, who said he could not absolve him from the sentence, and remitted him to the archbishop of Canterbury to obtain absolution.

(11) When sojourning in the diocese of Exeter you were involved in a sentence of the greater excommunication by your ordinary for rebellion and contumacy in not appearing and exhibiting your letters of orders, and you were publicly denounced in the diocese as excommunicated. *Ans* : Master Henry Webber, president of the episcopal consistory of Exeter, once told him that he was excommunicated, but otherwise he does not know that he was excommunicated.

(12) You remained involved in the above sentences of excommunication for many years, and still so remain, despising ecclesiastical censures and the force of ecclesiastical discipline. *Ans* : He confessed that the first clause was correct. For the rest, he said he had been absolved in the court of Rome.

(13) Being thus manifoldly excommunicated you took part in the celebration of masses, and celebrated some masses yourself. *Ans* : He confessed that he often celebrated masses while so excommunicated, trusting in an appeal which he had lodged. He also confessed that he never prosecuted that appeal.

Thereupon the bishop, considering the said Sir Thomas to be strongly suspect of heresy on account of his said answers, caused him to make a general abjuration of all heretical doctrine. This he did there and then, reading from a paper schedule which he had in his hands, in the presence of Master John Bernard, Master William Fulford and Master John Stokys, canons of Wells, commissaries of the bishop in this behalf. This done, the said Master John Bernard, in the presence of the other two commissaries and with their consent, absolved the said Sir Thomas from all sentences of suspension and excommunication on account of his contumacy and rebellion. Present, Master John Pope, Master Thomas Merssh and Master Robert Peuesy, canons of Wells, John Dygon, notary-public, John Stoner, literate, and

others, as well as John Touker, the bishop's registrar and scribe of the acts. 1454.

899. Institution of Sir William Brytte, chaplain, as rector of the church of Bacwell, vacant by the death of Sir Roger Whynger, on the presentation of Walter Rodenay, knight. Woky, 5 December, 1454. *f. 191.*

900. Institution of Master John Lydford, bachelor in decrees, as rector of the church of Stratton on the Fosse, vacant by the resignation of Master Hugh Sugar, on the presentation of Edmund, duke of Somerset, constable of England. 6 December, the same place and year.

901. Declaration by the bishop,—at the request of Hugh Wylkyns, rector of the church of Sutton Byngnam, who intends to study letters at the schools,—that no cure of souls is in fact attached to the said church. And dispensation for the said Hugh to retain his church for seven years, provided it remains without cure, and to receive the fruits thereof, even though he be not promoted to holy orders in the meantime. Wells palace, 23 December, 1454.

902. Institution of Sir Robert Clerk, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Cammel,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation of Sir John Smyth, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cleeve. Wells palace, 2 January, 1454[-5]. 1455.

903. Grant by the bishop of forty days' indulgence to all confessed and contrite persons of the diocese who shall visit the hospital of St. Katharine within the parish of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol, and contribute to the building thereof, the maintenance of the poor and needy persons dwelling therein, and the repair of the chalices, books and other ornaments necessary for divine worship there. 9 January, the same place and year.

904. Collation to Sir John Benham, chaplain, of the church of Whetehil, vacant and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution accordingly. Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> East, or Queen, Camel.

1455. 905. Institution of Sir John Peryn, chaplain, in the person of Master William Peryn, his proctor, as rector of the church of Donyate, vacant by the resignation of Master Henry Welles, on the presentation of Richard, earl of Salisbury. 12 January, the same place and year.

906. Institution of Sir Philip Lewis, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry at the altar of St. Calixtus in Wells cathedral founded for the souls of Sir Henry Husee and others, vacant by the death of Sir Lewis Davy, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells. The bishop's inn at London, 14 February, 1454[-5].

907. Institution of Sir Thomas Turner, chaplain, in the person of Richard Mykows, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Pokyngton, vacant by the death of Sir John Craas, on the presentation of William, lord Boneville of Chuton. 18 February, the same place and year.

*Marginal note* : This institution is vacated, having been made in error through negligence of the patron.

908. Institution of Thomas Trevelyman, clerk, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as portioner of the second portion in the church of Crukern, vacant by the resignation of Master Henry Huchyn, on the presentation of Thomas, earl of Devon. 19 February, the same place and year.

f. 192. 909. Institution of Sir John Blykard, chaplain, in the person of John Pope, his proctor, as rector of the church of Erneshull, vacant by the death of Sir John Bremell, on the presentation of Edmund of Hadham, earl of Richmond, and Jaspar of Hathefeld, earl of Pembroke. 28 February, the same place and year.

910. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer, and Master John Trevenaunt, provost, of Wells, to put in execution in the city of Wells whatever is within the bishop's competence by virtue of a bull of Pope Nicholas V. dated at St. Peter's, Rome, Kal. Dec. (1 December), 1454, and subsequent letters dated at Rome, Non. Dec. (5 December), in the same year, con-

taining indulgences of the Jubilee year <sup>1</sup>; as the bishop is prevented by urgent business from attending thereto in person. 1455.  
Date as above.

The like commissions to the following :—

The prior of Bath, in the city of Bath.

The prior of Taunton, in the town of Taunton.

The vicar of the parish church of Radclyffe, Bristol, in the said parish church.

911. Order to the archdeacons of Wells, Taunton and Bath, or their officials, to give effect to letters of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Croydon, 19 January, 1454[–5],<sup>2</sup> and transmitted to the bishop by letters of Thomas, bishop of London, dated in his palace at London, 14 February, 1454[–5], ordering the bishops of the province to admonish their subjects that on Sundays and festivals, and also on Wednesdays and Fridays, with all humility of heart they cause solemn processions to be celebrated, with singing of litanies and other suitable prayers, for the utter removal and extinction of that fiercest of all persecutors of those who profess the Christian name, who, alas, has subjected to his power a great part of the Christian world and has gone about to exterminate the whole Christian religion, albeit the Christians have, with God's help, lately triumphed over a great part of his army, and for the speedy restoration of the health and prosperity of the king and realm of England; f. 193.  
and granting forty days' indulgence [as above, no. 861]. 4 March, the same place and year.

912. Institution of Sir William Syngleton, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Lang Sutton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Philip Lewis, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Athelneye. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official. 10 March, the same place and year.

913. Institution of Sir John Mor, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wemedon, vacant by the resignation of Sir

<sup>1</sup> See *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. pp. 265–6.

<sup>2</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, vol. iii. pp. 572, 573.

1455. John Fermer, on the presentation of the master and brethren of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater. Dogmersfeld, 15 March, 1454[-5].

914. Grant for life to Thomas Smyth, the bishop's servant, of the office of principal and general apparitor of the cities of Bath and Wells and the whole diocese, and within the jurisdiction thereof, with all the fees, profits and emoluments pertaining to the said office. He may exercise the office by deputy. 18 March, the same place and year.

915. Letters dimissory to all orders for William Braye, of Bruggewater, who has the first clerical tonsure. 19 March, the same place and year.

916. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Master William Chyld, M.A., rector of Westlydford, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese. Wells palace, 12 April, 1455.

917. Notification to all persons that Sir Hugh de Morainvilla, Benedictine monk of Bec Hellouin, in the diocese of Rouen, in priest's orders, was sent by his abbot to the priory of Goldclive in Wales, where he stayed two years, and that, on being expelled therefrom by the abbot of Tewkesburie, he sojourned for some time with Nicholas Seyntlo, esquire, in the bishop's diocese, where he duly and with decency performed his priestly office, and was of praiseworthy life and good behaviour, and that he is not accused of apostacy or any crime, so far as the bishop knows; and request to all persons to receive him kindly, treat him favourably, and hold out helping hands to him. 15 April, the same place and year.

918. Institution of Sir John Capron, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry, or benefice, of Forde by Baudryp,—which, on account of the slenderness of its fruits, proceeds and rents, the ruin of the walls and buildings, and the desolation of the chapel and dwelling-house thereof, has been declared by the bishop to be a compatible benefice,—on the presentation of Alexander Hody, esquire; after he had made oath to say the following

prayers once a month, to wit the exequies of the dead with nine lessons and the mass of *requiem*, for the souls of the founders of the said chantry, or benefice, and their parents and benefactors, and all the faithful departed, and also to commend the said souls specially in his masses when it enters his mind to do so (*cum menti sue occurrerit*). 16 April, the same place and year. 1455.

919. Institution of Sir Thomas Turner, chaplain, in the person of John Sarger, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Pokyngton, vacant by the death of Sir John Craas, on the presentation of William, lord Bonevyle of Chuton, knight. Woky, 19 April, 1455. f. 194.

920. Assignment of a yearly pension of 5 marks 6s. 8d. for life to Sir Philip Lewis, late vicar of the prebendal church of Long Sutton, out of the fruits, etc. of his late vicarage, with the consent of Sir William Sengleton, the present vicar. [The conditions are similar to those laid down in the case of the retiring vicar of Cleeve, no. 314 above.] Wells palace, 23 April, 1455.

921. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Busshe, of Sampford Orkeys, who has the first tonsure. Banwel, 29 April, 1455.

922. Collation to Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, of the church of Claverton, in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as rector. 10 May, the same place and year.

923. Institution of Sir William Prout, chaplain, as rector of the church of Wroxale, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Haynes, on the presentation of Theobald Gorges, knight, after he had made oath touching payment of a yearly pension of 10*l.* assigned by the bishop, for certain reasonable causes, to Wells cathedral [as above, no. 554]. 24 May, the same place and year.

924. Licence for Anne Palton, relict of William Palton, knight, to exhume the body of her late husband, which now lies buried in the chancel of the church of Corscumb, and have it transferred to a new chapel adjoining the south side of the said

1455. church which has been built since her said husband's burial and at his costs.<sup>1</sup> 3 June, the same place and year.

925. Institution of Sir Thomas Coote, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Shapewyk, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Bruton, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. 14 June, the same place and year.

- f. 195. 926. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer, Master William Fulford, Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general, and Master John Pope, S.T.P., canons of Wells, to hold visitations of the archdeaconries of Wells and Taunton, and of all abbots, priors and masters of hospitals in those archdeaconries, and their convents, and of all the bishop's peculiar jurisdictions in the diocese, on the days and at the places mentioned in letters lately transmitted to them; as the bishop is prevented by legitimate causes from holding the visitation in person, as he had intended. 17 June, the same place and year.

927. Certificate to the bishop by John Myddelton, official of Master Andrew Holees, archdeacon of Wells, that, in pursuance of the bishop's order dated at Banwell, 21 May, 1455 (quoted), he has cited the clergy of the archdeaconry to appear at the forthcoming visitation. [The terms of the certificate are similar to those of the certificate by the official of the archdeacon of Bath, no. 878 above.] Wells, 15 June, 1455.

928. A like certificate by Walter Strottyngger, official of Master Robert Styllington, archdeacon of Taunton. 16 July, 1455.

- f. 196. 929. Institution of Sir Roger Elmeley, on his resignation of the vicarage of Corston, as rector of the church of Staunton Priour, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Haukyns, on

<sup>1</sup> Sir William Palton died in January 1450. Dame Anne was his second wife. *Some Somerset Manors*, pp. 39, 40. The Palton chapel was at the east end of the south aisle. *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xxxiv. pp. 69, 72, 73; vol. liii. p. 67.

the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. Present, Roger Seymour, esquire, John Dancastre, literate, John Touker, notary, and many others. The chamber in Glastonbury monastery commonly called the Bishop's Chamber. 17 July, 1455.

930. Institution of Sir William Kyngton, chaplain, as rector of the church of Weston in Gordano, vacant by the deprivation of Sir John Bryce, on the presentation of Alice Bucsty and Agnes Horne, patrons for this turn. Athelneye monastery, 18 July, 1455.

931. Licence for the proctors and envoys of the hospital of the Holy Trinity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to make collections in the diocese for two years. Wyvelescomb, 23 July, 1455.

932. Institution of Master Robert Aysshcomb, bachelor in theology, as rector of the church of Ronyngthon, vacant by the deprivation of Sir William Forde,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. 3 August, the same place and year.

933. Institution of Master Thomas Hope, doctor of law, in the person of Sir William Slugge, his proctor, as rector of the church of Brompton Raff, vacant by the death of Sir John Lane, on the presentation of Master William Fulford, clerk, and Master Richard Moreton, patrons for this turn.<sup>2</sup> 10 August, the same place and year.

934. Commission to James, bishop of Bangor, to dedicate, consecrate and bless a chapel near the monastery of Cleeve, which David, abbot of Cleeve, lately caused to be built entire in honour of the Virgin Mary, and to delimit, consecrate and bless a small portion of land adjoining the same as a churchyard, and to do

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Hope, in minor orders, obtained a dispensation, in July 1455, from promotion to the subdiaconate, diaconate, or priesthood, for five years. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 118. William Fulford and Richard Moreton were apparently the attorneys of Baldwin Fulford, the patron of the living. The former of them was so appointed by him in 1450, for one year. *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1446-52, p. 309.



1455. whatever else is requisite in the matter ; provided always that the erection, consecration and blessing of the said chapel and churchyard do not turn to the detriment of the parish church. Evercryche, 23 August, 1455.<sup>1</sup>

935. Institution of Sir John Dier, chaplain, as rector of the church of Burnette, vacant by the deprivation of Sir Nicholas Mustard, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Tewkesburie. Woky, 29 August, 1455.

936. Injunctions imposed by the bishop on the abbot and convent of Mochelneye, delivered by Master Hugh Sugar, chancellor, and Master John Stokys, commissary-general, canons of Wells and commissaries of the bishop in this behalf, on 3 September, 1455 :—

f. 197.

(1) The kitchen steward is to see to it that henceforth suitable food be in readiness for the monks immediately after divine offices in the church, so that there be no delay, or very little, between the ending of the offices and the monks' meals, under penalty of losing his pension for a month.

(2) The abbot, or the cellarer, is to see to it that the conventual bread be made of good and unspoiled grain, under penalty of 6s. 8d. to be paid by the abbot to the bishop's alms.

(3) Before Michaelmas next, the abbot is to provide a chest with three locks and three keys for keeping the charters, evidences and muniments of the monastery. The abbot, the prior, and one of the brethren to be chosen by the convent, are each to have a key. Any charters, etc. which have been taken away or dispersed are to be sought for and got together before the said feast, and deposited in the chest by view and testimony of the bishop or his commissary, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(4) The abbot is to produce to the bishop in writing a full inventory of all the jewels in his custody and in the custody of the cellarer, the sacristan and the various monks, and also of the other ecclesiastical vessels of the monastery, and to render a

<sup>1</sup> For further particulars see no. 648 above ; *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1461-7, p. 527 ; and *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. vi. pp. 41-5 ; vol. lii. pp. 9-12.

faithful account of the state of the monastery, before the said 1455. feast.

(5) Once a year, all the monks are to produce to the abbot faithful inventories of the goods in their custody ; and the abbot is to see to it that these inventories be made, under the penalty of contempt.

(6) Before Michaelmas, 1456, the abbot is to have the dormitory of the monastery properly repaired, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(7) The abbot is to cause the houses near the north gate of the monastery, anciently founded and ordained for the maintenance of poor persons out of the alms of the abbot and convent, to be built anew in the accustomed place or another more suitable place, to the end that poor persons may from henceforth be maintained as of old, and may not be defrauded of their due alms.

(8) The precentor is to have the antiphonaries and graduals of the monastery duly corrected within a year, so that henceforth there be no discord in divine offices said with note, under penalty of loss of his pension for a term.

(9) All the monks, and especially Dan John Langport, are to abstain from drinking bouts, drunkennesses and other gluttonous feasts (*ingurgitacionibus*), under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following day and the following Friday.

(10) The monks are not to invite women into the monastery without special leave of the abbot or the prior, or in their absence the sub-prior, under penalty of keeping complete silence on the following day.

(11) The monks, and especially Dan John Langport, are not to swear by the limbs of Christ, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Friday.

(12) The prior is not to be remiss in his corrections, under penalty of suspension from office for a month.

(13) No monk is to leave the monastery, or to eat or drink outside it, without leave of the abbot or the prior, under penalty of losing his common recreation for a year.

(14) All the monks are to be in their dormitory immediately after compline, and none of them are to leave it before the hour

1455. of matins without special leave of the prior or, in his absence, the sub-prior, under penalty of keeping complete silence on the following day.

(15) All the monks are to show due reverence to their superiors, especially to the abbot, the prior and the sub-prior, and none of them are to use abusive, opprobrious, or dishonourable words to them, under penalty of keeping complete silence on the following day, or for two days if the offence be repeated, or for three days without hope of pardon for a third offence.

(16) The abbot is not to allow the cellarer, the kitchen steward, or any other monk to leave the bounds of the monastery to buy victuals or do any other business, but he is to employ a careful and discreet layman when necessity arises, under penalty of 40s. to be applied to the bishop's alms.

(17) The abbot is to cause better and stronger ale to be made in future for himself and his convent, as is customary in other monasteries, so that neither he nor his convent may be driven to get better ale from the neighbouring towns and places at their own cost, under penalty of 40s. to be applied to the fabric of Wells cathedral.

(18) The abbot is to read aloud these injunctions, or have them read, once a month at least in the chapter-house, in the presence of all the brethren assembled there, and to have them duly observed, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

937. Injunctions imposed by the bishop on the abbot and convent of Athelneye, delivered by Master Hugh Sugar, chancellor, and Master John Stokys, commissary-general, canons of Wells and commissaries of the bishop in this behalf, on 5 September, 1455 :—

(1) The abbot is from henceforth, as was the ancient custom, to see to it that a barber be kept in the monastery to shave the beards of the abbot and the convent, and a tailor to fit and make the habits of the monks ; and the said barber and tailor are to attend to the sick and infirm monks and serve them kindly in their necessities, receiving for their labours, as well from deceased monks as from novices, on their reception as brethren, such fees and stipends as by ancient custom are due to them. The observ-

ance of this injunction is subject to a penalty of 20s. to be applied to the bishop's alms. 1455.

(2) The abbot is once a year to exhibit in the chapter-house in the presence of the convent an account (*statum*) of the monastery in writing, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(3) The abbot is to cause all the clothes of deceased monks to be kept in proper custody, or else to dispose of them among the monks for the weal of the souls of the said deceased, whichever he shall think best, so that they be not spoiled or consumed by moths or otherwise, under penalty of 13s. 4d. to be applied to the bishop's alms.

(4) The abbot is to have the dormitory properly repaired before the Assumption next, under the penalty of contempt.

(5) Henceforth the more important matters of the monastery are to be dealt with in the chapter-house between the abbot and convent, and the abbot is not to presume to do anything in such matters without the counsel of the convent, or at least of the greater and more sensible part thereof, under the penalty of contempt and disobedience.

(6) The abbot is not to admit any tenants to vacant tenements of the monastery except on such security as will ensure the whole rent being paid to the monastery.

(7) None of the brethren is to reveal secret matters communicated in the chapter-house. If any of them be found guilty in this respect, he shall, during the next forty days, immediately on being warned by the abbot, the prior or the sub-prior by the pronouncement of the word *Benedicite*, leave the chapter-house and enter the dormitory, remaining there until it be intimated to him by some sign of the sub-prior that he should return to the chapter. If the offence be repeated, he shall undergo the same penalty during the following term; and for a third offence he shall be wholly excluded from chapter-house secrets during the following year.

(8) All the monks, and especially John Pimme, John Sorewel *f. 198.* and John Laurens, are to abstain from drinking bouts, drunkenness and other gluttonous feasts, under penalty of fasting with bread and water on the following day and the following Friday.

(9) [As no. 14 in the Muchelney injunctions, last entry.]

1455. (10) [As no. 15 in the same.]

(11) No monk is to keep away from divine offices, and especially matins, unduly, under penalty of losing the whole or half of his portion of bread and flesh or fish for that day,—which portion is to be given to the poor,—unless he can show that he was prevented by just labour or evident infirmity or some other impediment approved by the abbot or prior.

(12) No monk, and especially John Stylard, is to strike anyone with a knife or other aggressive weapon, or to draw any such weapon in order to strike, under penalty of keeping complete silence every Wednesday and Friday for three weeks. Should anyone refuse or delay to undergo the said penalty, or commit the same offence a third time, then the abbot shall inform the bishop, to the end that by his authority the delinquent may be transferred to some other strict (*artum*) monastery.

(13) The sacristan is to cause the doors of the church, and especially the doors between the church and the cloister, to be shut and made fast with locks and bars at proper times, under penalty of losing his pension for a month.

(14) The abbot and convent are not to receive any novices except such as they know to be suitable in morals and competent in letters; and the abbot is not to cause any novices to be professed against the will of the convent or the greater and more sensible part thereof, under the penalty of contempt.

(15) [As no. 13 in the Muchelney injunctions, last entry.]

(16) [As no. 12 in the same.]

(17) [As no. 18 in the same.]

938. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Dan Walter Castel, formerly a monk professed in the monastery of Eynesham, in the diocese of Lincoln, to serve the church of Stoke Gyfford, which is of the bishop's collation, in masses and other divine offices, and to administer the sacraments and sacramentals to the inhabitants there and take on him the cure of the church under the rector thereof. Wells palace, 7 September, 1455.

939. Collation to Sir Robert Thomas, chaplain, of the church of Claverton, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Merssh and in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of

him as rector. Present, Master Hugh Sugar, chancellor, Master John Stokys, commissary-general, and John Touker, notary-public. Bath priory, 11 September, 1455.

940. Institution of Sir Lewis Appries, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Batheyeston, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Roos, on the presentation of the prior and chapter, or convent, of Bath. Keynesham monastery, 12 September, 1455.

941. Institution of Sir John Cadbury, chaplain, as rector of the church of Mylton Podymore, vacant by the death of Master William Free, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Chiew, 14 September, 1455.

942. Institution of Sir John Muston, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Corston, vacant by the resignation of Sir Roger Elmeley, on the presentation of the prior and chapter, or convent, of Bath. Wells palace, 22 September, 1455.

943. Collation to Sir John Mathu, chaplain, of the perpetual vicarage of the prebendal church of Buckelond Dynham, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official. 4 October, the same place and year.

944. Award by the bishop,—on reference to him by the parties of a difference which has arisen between William Russel, William Torre and others, inhabitants of the town, or hamlet, of Mellys, of the one part, and Simon Lacy, Thomas Moor and others, inhabitants of the town, or hamlet, of Lygh within the bounds of the parish church of Mellys, and parishioners thereof, of the other part, on account of the said inhabitants of Lygh having failed to provide and offer bread to be blessed on Sundays in the said church in rotation (*cursorie*), with the other parishioners,—that the said Simon Lacy, Thomas More and others having domiciles or dwellings in the town, or hamlet, of Ligh shall in future provide and offer bread in their turn according to the ancient custom hitherto observed. 5 October, the same place and year. f. 199.

1455. 945. Presentation by the bishop to Richard, bishop of Salisbury, of William Bonsquyer, chaplain, for admission to the perpetual chaplaincy in the church of Whitcherche, which is in the bishop's presentation by full right. 16 October, the same place and year.

946. Dispensation by the bishop,—pursuant to a commission granted to him by Dominico, cardinal priest of Saint Cross in Jerusalem, penitencier of Pope Calixtus III, dated at St. Peter's, Rome, 2 Kal. Aug. (31 July), in the said pope's first year (1455),—for Nicholas Clerk, layman, and Joan Fitz *alias* Figis, to marry, notwithstanding that they are related in the fourth degree of consanguinity; and decree that the offspring of the marriage shall be legitimate. Woky, 27 October, 1455.

947. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer, and Master John Stokys, canons of Wells,—inasmuch as a certain John Hewe, late of Neth in Wales, 'laborer,' was brought before certain persons who are not his judges, to wit the king's justices having no jurisdiction over him, and accused of having on 5 May, 32 Hen. VI. broken and entered the house of Walter Boryette at Merygge, co. Somerset, and taken away 8 silver spoons, price 23s., and 19s. in money by tale, and of having on 4 March, 30 Hen. VI. broken and entered the house of John Hayes at Ayssholt, co. Somerset, and taken away a cup called a 'maser,' silver-gilt, price 24s., and 19s. in money by tale, and whereas, after being taken and imprisoned by the lay power, he was handed over as a clerk to the bishop for judgement, and now desires his innocence to be publicly declared and has prayed the bishop to receive his purgation to that end,—to make the customary public proclamations in the city of Wells and the town of Bruggewater on market days, and in the parish church of Ayssholt on some Sunday or festival, give a hearing to any persons who may wish to accuse the said John, and administer justice to them and him, or, if no accusers appear against him, to admit and receive his purgation on any day before the feast of St. Katharine next, declare his innocence of the charge, deliver him from prison, and do whatever else is requisite in the matter. 2 November, the same place and year.

948. Collation to Master John Spekyngton, subdean of Wells, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Eston in Gordano vacant by the death of Sir Robert Parfyt ; and institution accordingly. [Letter of induction as in no. 873 above.] 7 November, the same place and year. 1455.

949. Collation to Master Henry Eryum, M.A., in the person of Sir John Trevennaunt, provost of Wells, his proctor, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe III. vacant by the demission of Master John Spekyngton ; and institution accordingly. [Letter of induction as above.] Date as above. f. 200.

950. Collation to Sir John Garnesey, chaplain, of the free chapel of Blakeford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Trevennaunt, provost of Wells, proctor of Master Henry Eryum, M.A., last possessor of the said chapel ; and institution of him as warden. Letter of induction to Sir John Spencer, chaplain, of Merke, and Richard Burnel, vicar choral in Wells cathedral. Date as above.

951. Licence for William Mountagu, esquire, and Joan, his wife, to have a chaplain to celebrate masses and other divine offices in their presence in the chapel, oratory, or other suitable place in their dwelling-house of Henley, in the parish of Crukern, without prejudice to the rights of others. 18 November, the same place and year.

952. Institution of Sir John Gefferey, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Lockyng, vacant by the death of Sir John Baker, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Worspryng. 21 November, the same place and year.

953. Institution of Sir Richard Scayte, chaplain, as rector of the church of Elme, vacant by the deprivation of Sir John Tayte, on the presentation of William, lord Boneville of Chuton, patron for this turn by reason of a feoffment of the manor of Elme with the advowson of the church made to him by William Stafford, esquire, lately deceased, son and heir of Humphrey Stafford, knight. Date as above.



1455. 954. Collation to Sir Richard Symond, chaplain, of the church of Laverton, vacant by the death of Sir John Mewe and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him as rector. Date as above.

955. Institution of Sir John Petworthy, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Stokegomer, vacant by the death of Sir John Lassehowe, on the presentation of the president and chapter of Wells. He swore on the Gospels to pay the yearly pension of 100s. assigned by the bishop to Sir Richard Huchons, former vicar, unless the said Sir Richard should wish to remit or give him the said pension or a part thereof. Present, Master John Bernard, treasurer, and Master John Stokys, canons of Wells, and John Dygon and John Touker, notaries-public. 27 November, the same place and year.

956. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general, to take cognisance of certain matters which were detected in the bishop's personal visitation as ordinary of the monastery of Keynesham, which is still pending, and to determine the same canonically, correct and punish all defaults and excesses relating thereto, even by suspension or removal from office, impose penalties and injunctions, both corporal and pecuniary, in connexion therewith, receive resignations of offices in the bishop's name, and do whatever else they shall consider necessary and expedient in the matter. Wells palace, 28 November, 1455.

957. Injunctions imposed by the bishop on the abbot and convent of Keynesham, delivered by Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary in this behalf on 5 December, 1455, in the chapter-house of the said monastery :—

f. 201.

(1) Every night and day all the canons are to go to the choir at the time of divine service, and to the chapter-house at chapter time, and neither then nor at any other time are they to wander about the outer court or the church or elsewhere, or stand or sit there, without leave of the abbot, or the prior, or, in their absence, the sub-prior, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Wednesday.

(2) The canons are to keep refectory in their meals, and to have the sacred writings read there, and to listen thereto. No canon is to keep away from the refectory at such times without special leave of the abbot, or the prior, or, in the prior's absence, of the sub-prior, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Friday. 1455.

(3) No money is to be distributed to the canons individually for their victuals, as has been the bad custom recently, but a common and suitable diet is to be ministered to them in the refectory, under penalty of 13s. 4d. to be paid by the abbot for the fabric of Bath cathedral.

(4) The canons are to confess their sins to their fellows appointed by the abbot for the purpose, and not to others, under penalty of keeping to the cloister and its additions during the following week.

(5) The abbot, the prior and the sub-prior, and the seniors of the monastery, are not to be too familiar with the junior canons, or *vice versa*, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Friday.

(6) The junior canons are to shew due reverence to the abbot, the prior and the sub-prior, and to their seniors, and none of them is to use abusive, opprobrious, or dishonourable words to them, under penalty of keeping to the cloister during the following week, or for two weeks if the offence be repeated, and so on according to the number of offences.

(7) The abbot is not to be remiss in correction of his brethren, under penalty of suspension from the administration of spirituals for a year.

(8) The like in regard to the prior, and, in his absence, the sub-prior, under penalty of keeping to the cloister with its additions for a month.

(9) All the canons are to be in their dormitory immediately after compline, or at least by the eighth hour of the night, and they are not to leave it until the hour of matins without special leave of the abbot or the prior, or, in the prior's absence, of the sub-prior, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Friday.

(10) The canons are to keep silence at the accustomed times

1455. and places in accordance with the institutes and observance of their rule, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Wednesday.

(11) All the canons are to have their linen clothes washed by the common laundress of the monastery, and they are not in future to have special laundresses as has been their custom, under penalty of keeping to the cloister for a fortnight.

(12) Every canon eating in the refectory shall daily put aside a portion of his mess for the common alms of the monastery, under penalty of losing a moiety of his mess at his next meal.

(13) No canon shall send his mess, or any part thereof, to the town, except to his parents and relations, without leave of the prior, or, in his absence, of the sub-prior, under the same penalty.

(14) The canons are not in future to be allowed to be idle, but each of them according to his capacity and disposition is to be set to some good and virtuous work by the abbot, or the prior, or, in the prior's absence, the sub-prior.

(15) No canon is to reveal to outsiders the counsels of the monastery, especially those of the chapter, under penalty of keeping to the cloister and its additions for a month.

(16) The canons are not to invite or receive any women into their chambers, especially suspect ones, or eat or drink with them, without leave of the abbot, or the prior, or, in the prior's absence, the sub-prior, under penalty of imprisonment for a fortnight.

(17) All the canons are to abstain altogether from excessive drinkings and drunkennesses, and from undue confabulations and singings at night time in the sacristan's chamber or elsewhere, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Friday.

(18) Every canon is to produce to the abbot every year a full inventory of all the goods in his custody, and also of his debts and credits, and to show the abbot the actual goods; and the abbot is to see that this is done, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(19) Those canons who are officers of the monastery are to render yearly an account of their administrations in the presence of the abbot, the prior, the sub-prior, and two canons,

not officers, to be nominated by the abbot, under penalty of loss of office during the following year. 1455.

(20) The canons are not to swear by the limbs of Christ, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Friday.

(21) No canon is to go out of the bounds of the monastery to Keynesham town or elsewhere, or to eat or drink there, without leave of the abbot, or the prior, or, in their absence, of the sub-prior, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Wednesday and Friday.

(22) The sacristan is to shut all the doors of the church and cloister every day immediately after high mass, and they are to remain shut until the beginning of prime of the following day, except the south door of the cloister, which is to be shut at night time and during meals, unless there be some reasonable cause to the contrary, under penalty of losing his office for the following term and keeping to the cloister for the following month.

(23) The abbot is not to grant any corrody or livery, especially for life, without the observance of the rules laid down in the common laws and provincial constitutions, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(24) The abbot is not to allow any of his canons to sell wine in fairs or markets or elsewhere, especially in person, under penalty of 20s. to be paid by him to the bishop's alms.

(25) The abbot is not to manumit any bondman of the monastery without the assent of the greater and more sensible part of the convent, under penalty of suspension from administration of temporalities for a year.

(26) No canon is under any pretext to keep dogs within the bounds of the monastery, under penalty of keeping to the cloister and its additions.

(27) The abbot is to have the dormitory of the monastery repaired before Midsummer day next, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(28) The abbot, the prior and the rest of the canons are to abstain from unlawful confederacies, conspiracies, agreements and assemblies, under the penalty of contempt and disobedience.

(29) The abbot is not to allow any woman to inhabit the

1455. porter's lodge or elsewhere within the bounds of the monastery, under penalty of 20s. to be paid by him towards the fabric of Wells cathedral.

(30) The abbot is every year to produce and declare before the whole convent or the greater and more sensible part thereof an account of the monastery in writing, under the penalty of contempt and disobedience.

(31) The abbot is not to allow any of his brethren to go outside the bounds of the monastery to buy the house's victuals, but such purchases are to be made by a careful and discreet layman, under penalty of 40s. to be paid by the abbot to the bishop's alms.

(32) [As no. 18 in the Muchelney injunctions above.]

958. Institution of Sir Robert Kympe, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the chapel of St. John the Baptist near the town of Southpederton, vacant by the death of Sir William More, on the presentation of William Daubeney, esquire. Wells palace, 15 December, 1455.

f. 202. 959. Collation to John Huchyn, perpetual vicar of Wells cathedral, of the seventeenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, to hold in accordance with the statutes and ordinances of Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop of Bath and Wells. 20 December, the same place and year.

960. The like to John Roly, of the sixth chamber on the west side. Date as above.

961. Institution of Sir Richard Hewet, chaplain, in the person of John Hewet, his proctor, as rector of the church of Stokelinch Maudeleyn, vacant by the death of Sir Nicholas Cockys, on the presentation of Robert Coker, esquire. 22 December, the same place and year.

1456. 962. Appointment by the bishop of John, bishop of Rochester, Reynold, bishop of Chichester, Richard, bishop of Salisbury, James, bishop of Bangor, Robert Botil, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, John Stourton, lord of Stourton, Master Thomas Lyseux, dean of St. Paul's, London, and keeper

of the privy seal, and Master William Say and Master Thomas Boleyn, canons of Wells, as his proctors in the parliament adjourned to be held at Westminster on the 14th day of this month, he himself being unable to attend. Banwell, 8 January, 1455[-6]. 1456.

963. Institution of Sir Roger Jannys, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wedmore, vacant by the death of Sir William Veysy, on the presentation of Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells. Letter of induction to the dean, or his official. 11 January, the same place and year.

964. Institution of Master William de la Bere, M.A., as rector of the church of Templecombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir Roger Jannys, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury. 24 January, the same place and year.

965. Institution of Sir John Clyffe, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Dulverton, vacant by the death of Sir William Clyffe, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. 26 January, the same place and year.

966. Licence for Master Richard Swan, M.A., perpetual vicar of the church of Burnham, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese. 31 January, the same place and year.

967. Institution of Sir John Balle, chaplain, as rector of the church of Penne Dummer, vacant by the death of Sir John Clake, on the presentation of William Daubeney, esquire. Woky, 22 February, 1455[-6].

968. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Edwardes, clerk, of the diocese, acolyte, born in the parish of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol. Date as above.

969. Request to the king for the arrest of William Bucham *f. 203.* and John Parowe, of Ayssehyll, who have been excommunicated by the bishop for contumacy and have remained obdurate for forty days and more. 26 February, the same place and year.

1456. 970. Institution of Sir Henry Caunt, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Codecombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Squyer, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton. 9 March, the same place and year.

971. Commission to Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, canon of Wells,—inasmuch as Master John Pleymark, rector of the church of Trent, has appeared before the bishop in the chapel in Woky manor, and publicly denied certain crimes and excesses specified in the enclosed schedule (not given in the register), which the bishop in pursuance of his office has laid to his charge, offering to purge himself thereof,—to admit and receive the purgation of the said Master John in the parish church of Trent on Monday after Palm Sunday next, settling the number of compurgators at his own discretion, and to pronounce him purged so far as the ecclesiastical courts are concerned in the event of the said purgation being duly made, and further to do whatever else is necessary or expedient in the matter. 10 March, the same place and year.

972. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, Master William Fulford, Sir John Wansford and Master Thomas Merssh, canons of Wells, Simon Roo, M.A., and Richard Swan, M.A.,—in view of a presentation by William, lord of Botreaux, of Sir Henry Skynner *alias* Dunster, chaplain, to the collegiate church of Northcadbury, which he says is in his presentation,—to make inquisition as to the vacancy of the said church, the name of the last rector and canonical possessor thereof, the right of the person presenting, and the fitness of the presentee; and, if the said presentation be found to be in order, to institute the said Sir Henry and give orders for his induction. Woky, Wednesday, 10 March, between 10 and 11 a.m., 1455[-6].

973. By authority of the above commission, Master William Fulford,—having made inquisition in the chapel of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Wells, on 20 March, and having found that the said church of Northcadbury is vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Wyche and that there has been no canonical possessor thereof since the said resignation,—proceeded on the

same day, in the chapel of the Virgin Mary by the cloister of Wells cathedral, to institute the said Sir Henry, in the person of William Edmond, literate, his proctor, as rector of the said church, after he had sworn to observe the statutes and ordinances thereof, and ordered the archdeacon of Wells or his official to induct him. 1456.

974. Institution of Sir John Burgeys, chaplain, as rector of the church of Hornblowton, vacant by the resignation of Master John Balsham, on the presentation of John Ayssh, esquire. And because the said Sir John on his examination appeared to be unfit in knowledge and letters to have the cure of souls, the bishop enjoined on him that for a whole year he should diligently apply himself to obtaining at the least a grammatical and literal understanding of the Holy Scriptures and the daily round of divine offices, and that he should offer himself for examination before Easter, 1457. In the event of his being found by such examination to be still unfit, the bishop willed that he should forthwith *f. 204.* resign his said church when required so to do. All this he swore on the Gospels to do. Woky, 12 March, 1455[-6].

975. Institution of Sir John Trevennaunt, rector of Ellesworth, as rector of the church of Merkesbury, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury; and institution of Sir Stephen Chepman, rector of Merkesbury, as rector of the church of Ellesworth, on the presentation of the prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. The above exchange of benefices was authorised, and the institutions carried out, by Master John Bernard, treasurer of Wells, the bishop's commissary specially appointed for the purpose. 15 March, 1455[-6].

976. Collation to Hugh Pavy, canon of Wells, of the church of Chelleworth, in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as rector in the person of Richard Chocke, his proctor. Wells palace, 2 April, 1456.

977. Institution of Sir Richard Hawkyn, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Yatton, vacant by the death of Master John Payne,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of Master

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.



1456. Thomas Purviour, canon of Wells and prebendary of Yatton. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 3 April, the same place and year.

978. Collation to Master Richard Gautier, bachelor in laws, of the church of Stokegyfford, vacant by the death of Sir John Knocston and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him as rector. 4 April, the same place and year.

979. Grant to Sir Robert Catour, priest, perpetual vicar of Wells cathedral, of the chantry of 50s. ordained for the soul of Sir William Button, sometime bishop of Bath and Wells, at the altar in the chapel of St. Mary behind the high altar in Wells cathedral, which chantry is vacant by the death of Sir John Knokston and in the bishop's collation by full right. Date as above.

980. Dispensation to Dan William Burnell, monk and prior of Athelneye, that henceforth he may eat flesh on the days on which he performs divine offices, as well as on other days when the eating of flesh is permitted by the Church, notwithstanding the institutes of his order and the ancient observance of his monastery, whereby he is bound to abstain from flesh when performing divine offices ; as the bishop, in the visitation of the said monastery which he lately held in person, learned that the number of monks was so small that the prior had to perform divine offices in most weeks of the year, so that owing to his age and infirmities he could not without grave injury to his health maintain the abstinence laid down by the said institutes. 7 April, the same place and year.

981. Request to the king for the arrest of Robert Fraunceys, ' taylour,' of Wells, who has remained under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more for contumacy. Woky, 13 April, 1456.

f. 205. 982. Institution of Sir Thomas Derby, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Ilton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Hawkyn, on the presentation of Master William Say, canon of Wells and prebendary of Ilton. Letter of induction

to the dean of Wells, or his official. 16 April, the same place and year. 1456.

983. Collation to Sir John Garnesey, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the ninth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. 21 April, the same place and year.

984. Institution of Sir William Weryng, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of St. Decuman's, vacant by the death of Sir John Nete, on the presentation of Master John Bradston, canon of Wells and prebendary of St. Decuman's. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official. 23 April, the same place and year.

985. Request to the king for the arrest of Thomas Trokyll, of Taunton, who has remained under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more on account of manifold contumacies and manifest offences judicially contracted in a matter concerning the correction of his soul. Date as above.

986. Licence for Sir William Brytte, chaplain, rector of the church of Bacwell, to absent himself from his church for a year while studying in Oxford university, and meanwhile to let his church at farm and receive the fruits, etc. thereof; provided that divine service and the cure of souls be not neglected, and that he appoint a proctor to answer on his behalf to the bishop and his ministers. He is to make compensation for his absence by a distribution of alms among his poor parishioners at the discretion of the bishop. 4 May, the same place and year.

987. Collation to Sir John Segerlegh, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. Wells palace, 10 May, 1456.

988. Institution of Sir William Boys, chaplain, as rector of the church of Orchard, vacant by the death of Sir Adam Croppe, on the presentation of Christine, relict of Walter Portman, daughter and heiress of William Orchard. Woky, 7 June, 1456.

989. Institution of Sir Edward Gotfray, chaplain, as rector of the church of Myddel Chynnok, on the presentation of James,

1456. earl of Wiltshire and Ormonde. The church is vacant owing to the deprivation of Sir John Stone, as appears by the process of the said deprivation on the files. 27 June, the same place and year.

990. Institution of Sir Philip Stephyn, chaplain, as rector of the church of Sampford Brytte, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Cokford, on the presentation of Sir Philip Courtenay, knight. 28 June, the same place and year.

991. Institution of Sir William Fulbroke, chaplain, in the person of John Dygon, clerk, his proctor, as rector of the church of Pyttenay, vacant by the resignation of Master John Risheton, on the presentation of John Gounter, esquire. 30 June, the same place and year.

992. Institution of Sir William Saylake, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Aysshehille, vacant by the death of Sir Stephen Colbear, on the presentation of Master John Sperok, canon of Wells and prebendary of Aysshille. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official. 3 July, the same place and year.

993. Institution of Master Thomas Purviour, canon of Wells, in the person of Thomas Dedynsale, clerk, his proctor, as rector of the church of Bekynton, on the presentation of Sir Thomas Seymour (*de Sancto Mauro*), knight. Date as above.

f. 206. 994. Ratification by the bishop of an indenture between Master John Bernard, canon of Wells and prebendary of Wurmynstre, and Richard Rede, late of Burnet, Agnes his wife, and John son of the said Agnes, demising the said prebend to them at farm on the same terms as the above demise to John Browse, Agnes his wife, and John their son (no. 656 above). Date as above.

995. Request to the king to order the release of Robert Fraunceis, 'tayllour,' late of Wells, who has been imprisoned by the king's writ in pursuance of the bishop's late request (no. 981 above); as he has returned to the bosom of Holy Church and

craved the benefit of absolution, which the bishop has caused to be vouchsafed to him after he had first given security to obey the law and abide by the commands of the Church. 5 July, the same place and year. 1456.

996. Institution of Sir Thomas Speke, chaplain, as rector of the church of Rode, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Whitfeld, on the presentation of William la Zouche, esquire. Banwell, 18 August, 1456.

997. Grant by William, lord la Zouche and Seymour, knight, [1451.] to William la Zouche, his son, and the latter's assigns, of the next vacancy of the parish church of Rode. Harryngworth manor, 6 March, 29 Hen. VI.

998. Request to the king for the arrest of Richard Dawson of Wells, William Balsham and John Hunt, the elder, of Ilchestre, who have remained under sentence of excommunication for contumacy for forty days and more. Woky, 20 August, 1456.

999. Collation to Sir Richard Tranenter, chaplain, of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Stowey by Chiew, in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as perpetual vicar. Letter of induction to the official of the peculiar jurisdiction of Chyew. 26 August, the same place and year.

1000. Collation to Master John Pederton, canon of Wells, of the canonical houses last possessed by Master John Stevenes, also canon, to hold for as long as he remains a canon and is in residence. 4 September, the same place and year.

1001. Institution of Sir Thomas Dygon, chaplain, in the person of John Dygon, his proctor, as rector of the church of Lemyngton, vacant by the death of Master Richard Heth, on the presentation of William, lord Boneville of Chuton. Banwell, 13 September, 1456.

1002. Institution of Sir Stephen Alva, chaplain, as rector of the church of Corscombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Boger *alias* Coke, on the presentation of Richard Denshill, esquire. And because the bishop could not be assured by a

1456. search of the register as to the right of the person presenting, the said Stephen entered into a bond in 100*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of having admitted him to the church without inquisition. He also stated that the said Richard Denshill was presenting in right of his wife, the relict of William Palton, knight ; but this did not appear in the letter of presentation. 17 September, the same place and year.

f. 207. 1003. Institution of Sir John Jowy, chaplain, as rector of the church of Netilcomb, vacant by the death of Sir Morgan ap Philippe, on the presentation of Thomas Whalesbourgh, esquire. The incoming rector swore that he would pay a yearly pension of 4 marks out of the fruits of his church to Sir John Crofte, a former rector, in accordance with an ordinance made by the bishop (no. 473 above). Present, Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, Nicholas Collys, clerk, and John Touker, notary-public. 28 September, the same place and year.

1004. Notification by the bishop that, whereas Walter Bekynsfeld, abbot of Keynesham, long since desiring to be relieved of the burden of his office, has resigned the same wholly and absolutely into the bishop's hands, and Thomas Tyler, the present abbot, has been provided by the bishop to take his place, the bishop has now, with the assent of the present abbot and convent and in consideration of the age and former estate and honour of the said Walter, ordained and decreed that, for the decent sustenance of himself and his servants, he shall, during the remainder of his life, receive such daily and weekly allowances of food and drink as two ordinary canons are wont to receive, as well as a yearly pension of 10*l.* to be paid by the present abbot and his successors, and shall have the dwelling in the court of the monastery near the great door of the conventual church, and also the chamber in the cloister, which he at present occupies. In the event of this ordinance being violated or disregarded by the present abbot or any of his successors, the said Walter may demand its observance ; and if the abbot complained of do not within twenty days cause it to be observed he shall *ipso facto* fall under sentence of the greater excommunication and be suspended from all administration of the spiritualities and temporalities of the

monastery, and the fruits thereof shall be sequestrated, until full observance of the said ordinance be secured. 26 September, the same place and year. 1456.

1005. Institution of Sir John Grene, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Puryton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Dynt, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesburye, patrons of the vicarage as proprietaries of the priory of Goldclyffe in the march of Wales. And because the said Sir John, at the time of his admission, seemed to the bishop to be too simple in knowledge to have the cure of souls, he made oath before Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, that he would for a whole year apply himself diligently, under the instruction of some well-informed person, to increasing his knowledge and obtaining at least a grammatical understanding of letters and the Scriptures, and present himself for examination by the bishop within a month after the completion of the said year. He undertook that if found by such examination not to have made sufficient progress to undertake the cure of souls and an ecclesiastical benefice, he would resign his vicarage when required to do so. 29 September, the same place and year.

1006. Licence for Edward Seynt John, esquire, to have masses and other divine offices celebrated in the presence of himself and his household in the oratory, or chapel, within his dwelling at Selworthy, without prejudice to the rights of others. 9 October, the same place and year.

1007. Institution of Sir William Gardyner, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Compton Dando, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Swaynangr', on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. Woky, 16 October, 1456.

1008. Institution of Sir Robert Philbert, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Halse, vacant by the death of Sir John Smyth, on the presentation of Robert Botyl, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. 21 October, the same place and year. f. 208.

1009. Institution of Sir Thomas Tregauran, chaplain, in the

1456. person of Richard Betty, his proctor, as rector of the church of Norton under Hampden, vacant by the resignation of Master John Stretton, doctor of laws, on the presentation of Alice, duchess of Suffolk. Wells palace, 31 October, 1456.

1010. Institution of Sir Robert Jamys, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of St. Decuman's, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Weryng, on the presentation of Master John Bradston, canon of Wells and prebendary of St. Decuman's. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official. 5 November, the same place and year.

1011. Request to the king for the arrest of Richard Pylle, late of the parish of Congresbury, who for forty days and more has remained obdurate under sentence of excommunication for manifold contumacies. Date as above.

1012. Institution of Sir William Pasle, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry in the church of Lymyngton, on the presentation of William, lord Boneville, knight. Date as above.

1013. Indenture, being a grant by Henry Abyndon, succentor of Wells, to William Chiew of Welles, 'tayllour,' Edith his wife, and Joan their daughter, of a tenement with curtilage in Welles, situated on the north side of Cuthbertstrete between tenements of Thomas Dudman and Thomas Shete on the east and west respectively, and extending back from the said street as far as a ditch called 'Luteborn' on the north, to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering 4s. yearly to the said Henry and his successors. Provisoes for re-entry and distraint if the rent be in arrear for a fortnight, and for re-entry and re-possession if the rent be in arrear for a month and sufficient distraint cannot be found. The lessees shall new-build the said tenement and thereafter keep it in repair at their own costs; and they shall not demise their estate therein without the licence of the grantor or his successors. Warranty clause. Witnesses, John Godewyn, master of the city of Wells, John Sadeler [and] Richard Vicarye, constables there, John Sholer, John Chiew, the elder, and many others. Welles, 1 June, 34 Hen. VI.

Ratification of the above by the bishop. Wells palace, 13 November, 1456.

1014. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Thomas Denys, clerk, born at Taunton. Wells palace, 18 November, 1456.

1015. Collation to John Grey, vicar choral in Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, to hold in accordance with the statutes and ordinances of Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop. 17 November, the same place and year.

1016. Institution of Sir John Touker, chaplain, in the person of John Dygon, clerk, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Cryche, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Maister, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Montagu (*Montis Acuti*). 30 November, the same place and year.

1017. On 1 December Sir John Burgeis, chaplain, rector of the church of Hornblowton, offered himself for examination in Wells palace before Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, according to the injunction laid on him on 12 March, 1455 (no. 974 above), and was found to have a competent knowledge of the rules of grammar and understanding of the Scriptures. Thereupon he was absolved from further examination. f. 209.

1018. Collation to William Fyce, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the seventeenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close, to hold as above (no. 1015). Wells palace, 10 December, 1456.

1019. On the same day and at the same place the bishop, on the strength of a king's writ addressed to him, received the oath of Nicholas Seyntloo, esquire, elected sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, as follows <sup>1</sup> :—

'Ye shal serve the kyng wele and truly in the office of the

<sup>1</sup> The form of the oath to be administered to the sheriff of Herefordshire, in 1447, in pursuance of a writ from Westminster, is given in the *Register of Thomas Spofford* (Canterbury and York Society), pp. 290, 291. It does not include the supplementary clause printed here. A French version of the oath is given in the *registrum primum* at Norwich.



1456. 'sheryf of Somerset and Dorset and do the kynges profyt in al  
'thing that belongeth to you to do by wey of your office as  
'ferforth as ye can or may.

'Ye shal truly kepe the kynges rightes and al that belongeth  
'to the coron.

'Ye shal not assent to decrese, to lassing, or to concelement  
'of the kynges rightes or of his franchises; and wherever ye  
'shal have knowlache that the kynges rightes or the rightes of  
'the coron ben conceled or withdrawen, be it in landes, rentes,  
'franchises, or suytes or other thinges, ye shal do your true  
'power to make hem to be restored to the kyng ayen; and yf  
'ye may not do it ye shal certifie the kyng or sum of his consel  
'therof suche as ye holde for certeyn wol seye it un to the kyng.

'Ye shal not respite the kynges dettes for eny yefte or  
'favour wher ye may reyse theym without greet grevans of the  
'dettours.

'Ye shal truly and rightfully trete the people of your sheryf-  
'wyke and do right as wele to pour as to riche in al that belongeth  
'to your office.

'Ye shal do no wrong to eny man for eny yefte or goodbeheste  
'or promisse of good nor favour nor hate.

'Ye shal destourble no mannes right.

'Ye shal truly acquite at the Eschequer al tho of whom ye  
'shal eny thing receyve of the kynges dettes.

'Ye shal no thing take whereby the king may lese or wherby  
'that right may be distourbled, letted, or the kynges dettes  
'delayed.

'Ye shal truly retorne and truly serve all the kynges rightes <sup>1</sup>  
'as ferforth as it shalbe in your kunnyng.

'Ye shal noon have to be your undersheryf or eny of your  
'sheryf clerkes of the last yere passed.

'Ye shal take no bayllyf in to your service but such as ye  
'wil answer for.

'Ye shal make eche of your bayllyffes make suche othe as  
'ye make yowself in that that belongeth to ther occupacion.

'Ye shal receyve no wrytte by yow or eny of yours unsealed,  
'or eny sealed under the seal of eny justice save the justice in

<sup>1</sup> *I.e.* writs.

'eyr or justice assigned in the same shire where ye be sheryf 1456.  
'yn or of justice of Neugate.

'Ye shal make your bayllyffes of the most true and sufficient  
'men in the contree.

'Also ye shal do al your peyne and diligence to distruye  
'and make to cesse al maner heresies and errours comunely  
'called Lollardryes withyn your bayllyfwike from tyme to tyme  
'to al your power, and assiste and to be helpyng to al the  
'ordinaries and commissaries.

'Ye shalbe dwellyng in your propre person withyn your  
'bayllyfwyke for the tyme ye shalbe in the same office.

'Ye shal not lete your sheryfwike or eny bayllyfwyk therof  
'to ferme to eny man.

'Ye shal truly sette and retourne resonable and due yssues  
'of theym that ben withyn your bayllyfwyke after ther estate  
'and ther haviour, and make your panels yowself.

'And over this, in eschiewyng of the manslaughtres, robories  
'and other manyfold grevous offenses that ben doon dayly,  
'namely by suche as name theym self 'soudeours'<sup>1</sup> and ben other  
'vagarauntis, the whiche continuallyn increase in nombre and  
'multiplie so that the kynges true suggetis may not suerely ride  
'nor go to do suche thing as they have to do, to their intollerable  
'hurt and hyndring, ye shall truly and effectuely with al diligence  
'possible to you execute the statutes the whiche ye shal have  
'knowlache of.

'Theese thinges al ye shal truly kepe as God help you and his  
'Seyntes.'

1020. On 18 December in the same year, the bishop in his palace of Wells received a certificate from Richard, bishop of Salisbury, from which it appeared that, acting on the authority of a commission from the bishop, he had approved and authorised an exchange of benefices between Master John Bycome, rector of Nony, and Sir William Cornyssh, perpetual vicar of Stanford, in the diocese of Salisbury, and had instituted the said William as rector of the church of Nony, on the presentation of Geoffrey Rokel, esquire, of Wethermonford in the diocese of London.

<sup>1</sup> *I.e.* soldiers.

1456. Thereupon the bishop received the oath of canonical obedience from the said William, and a letter for his induction was written to the archdeacon of Wells or his official.

1021. Institution of Sir William Hirdson, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Sampford Arundell, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Vyntener, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Canonligh, in the diocese of Exeter. Wells palace, 21 December, 1456.

1022. Institution of Sir John Valens, chaplain, as rector of the church of Lydyard St. Lawrence, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Drayton, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. Thereupon the bishop, in consideration of the great age and bodily weakness of the resigning rector, assigned to him, with the assent of the incoming rector, a yearly pension of 10 marks for life out of the fruits of the said church; and the incoming rector there and then made oath to pay the same. Signed 'J. Touker.' 23 December, the same place and year.

f. 210. 1023. Institution of Sir William Cogayn, chaplain, in the person of John (*blank*), his proctor, as rector of the church of Combeflory, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Valens, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. Date as above.

1457. 1024. Institution of Master Robert Feriby, S.T.P., as rector of the church of Farneburgh, vacant by the death of Sir John Turner, on the presentation of James, earl of Wiltshire. Wells palace, 11 January, 1456[-7].

1025. Letters dimissory to all orders for Alexander Syderyng, clerk, of the diocese of Bath and Wells. Date as above.

1026. Institution of Master Thomas Bloxham, M.A. and M.B., as rector of the parish church of Standerwyke, vacant by the death of William Hert, clerk, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cirencester; and dispensation for him to retain the said church as a free benefice, inasmuch as nowadays it is a reputed, but not an actual, cure, and the church anciently

built there has long been totally destroyed. The bishop's 1457-  
manor in his palace of Wells, 29 January, 1456[-7].

1027. Institution of Sir John Garnesey, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Kyngesburye, vacant by the death of Sir William Love, on the presentation of Master Thomas Chaundeler, chancellor of Wells. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, canon of Wells, the bishop's commissary in this behalf. Signed 'J. Touker.' Wells palace, 1 February, 1456[-7].

1028. Institution of Master Richard Eweyn, M.A., in the person of Master Nicholas Sutton, M.A., his proctor, as rector of the church of Purlok, vacant by the death of Sir Robert God, on the presentation of John Broughton, esquire, of Todington in the diocese of Lincoln. The said proctor entered into a bond in 40*l.* to be paid to the bishop at Easter next in the event of any trouble arising on account of his having admitted the said Master Richard without making inquisition as to the right of patronage of the church. The bond remains on the file of the said time of year. Banwell, 9 February, 1456[-7].

1029. Institution of Sir Robert Dynt, chaplain, as rector of the church of Litton, on the presentation of Sir Richard Hayman, canon of Wells and prebendary of Litton. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official. 13 February, the same place and year.

1030. Institution of Sir John Michell, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Fyffhede, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Gurnay, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Mochelneye. 25 February, the same [place and] year.

1031. Institution of Sir William Hyllyng, chaplain, as rector of the church of Sutton Mountagu, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Grenehill, on the presentation of William Mountagu the elder, esquire. 28 February, the same place and year.

1032. Grant of forty days' indulgence to all persons contributing towards the repair or upkeep of the chapel of St. Mary in a little town (*villula*) commonly called Our Lady [of] Ken in

1457. the parish of Yatton, or offering prayers therein for the weal and tranquillity of the king and realm of England ; and ratification of indulgences granted by other bishops to the same chapel. Signed ' John Touker.' 5 March, the same place and year.

f. 211. 1033. Institution of Sir William Goulde, chaplain, as rector of the church of Halton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Feringgon, on the presentation of William, lord of Botreaux, knight. The said Sir William entered into a bond to pay 20*l.* to the bishop at Whitsun next in the event of his not preserving the bishop from any trouble which may arise by reason of his admission to the benefice without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. The bond remains on the file of the said time of year. Woky, 10 March, 1456[-7].

1034. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Hugh Wilkyns, rector of Sutton Byngham, acolyte, John Penyfader, of Wells, acolyte, and John Hichecok, acolyte, all born within the diocese. 12 March, the same place and year.

1035. Institution of Sir Alexander Cressingham, chaplain, in the person of Sir John Peryn, chaplain, his proctor, as rector of the church of Yerlyngton, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Chauntry, on the presentation of Richard, earl of Salisbury. 13 March, the same place and year.

1036. Commission and strict injunction by the bishop (acting as judge and conservator of the rights and privileges of the priors, brethren and lay brethren of the Carthusian order, by virtue of a mandate from the Holy See to him and the archbishop of Canterbury and the bishop of Lincoln, or any one or more of them), to all the clergy of his diocese,—on a petition from the prior and convent of Henton alleging that certain persons unknown are occupying and detaining divers of their possessions and goods, both temporal and spiritual, against their will, and are daily inflicting damage and loss on them in respect of the same, and praying the bishop to provide a remedy, inasmuch as it is very difficult for them to have recourse to the Apostolic See whenever they have complaints to make,—lawfully to admonish

the said offenders that within fifteen days from the time of such admonition they restore any such possessions and goods unduly occupied and detained by them, and give satisfaction for the damage they have inflicted, under penalty of incurring the greater excommunication ; and, after the lapse of the said fifteen days, publicly to denounce the said offenders as excommunicated on Sundays, solemn days and feast days during mass, with bells rung, candles lighted, extinguished and thrown to the ground in rebuke of the offenders, the cross raised, and such other solemnities as are proper to be observed, whenever required by the prior and convent so to do, not ceasing from such denunciation until the offenders have returned to the bosom of Holy Church and merited the benefit of absolution, or until further order from the bishop. 17 March, the same place and year. 1457.

1037. Collation to Sir Benedict Mathy, chaplain, of the church of Chelleworth, vacant by the resignation of Hugh Pavy, clerk, and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him as rector. Date as above.

1038. Institution of Sir William Smyth, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry founded at the altar of St. Calixtus in Wells cathedral for the souls of Sir Henry Husee, sometime dean of Wells, and others, vacant by the death of Sir Philip Lewis, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Wells. Letter of induction to the dean or the sub-dean of Wells, or, in their absence, the president of the chapter, and the chapter. Woky, 22 May [*recte* March], 1456[-7].

1039. Institution of Sir John Carvar, chaplain, as rector of the church of Henton Blewet, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Sprotlee, on the presentation of William Seward, esquire. And thereupon the incoming rector, in the presence of Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, and John Touker, notary-public, the bishop's registrar, promised that he would abide by the bishop's award as to the assignment of a yearly pension out of the fruits of the said church to the resigning rector, who is broken by age and other infirmities. 23 May [*recte* March], the same place and year. f. 212.

1457. 1040. On 2 April, at Woky, the bishop received a certificate from Richard, bishop of Salisbury, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir Richard White, perpetual vicar of Northcory, and Sir Thomas Combe *alias* Baker, rector of Berwyk St. Leonard, in the diocese of Salisbury, whereby it appeared that the said bishop of Salisbury, acting by authority of a commission from the bishop, had authorised the said exchange and instituted Sir Thomas as perpetual vicar of Northcory, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Wells. Thereupon Sir Thomas took the oath of canonical obedience in the bishop's presence, and a letter for his induction was written to the official of the peculiar jurisdiction of Northcory. Woky, 2 April, 1457.

1041. Licence for Dan John Lacok, monk, of the priory of the cathedral church of Bath, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. 8 April, the same place and year.

1042. Institution of Sir Richard Yong, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Ynglescomb, vacant by the death of Sir Henry Wyse, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. 9 April, the same place and year.

1043. Institution of Sir Robert Medewcrofte, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as rector of the church of Telesford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Maydenman, on the presentation of Sir Robert Hungerford, knight, lord of Heytesburie and Hamatethe. Wells palace, 14 April, 1457.

1044. On 29 April, 1457, in the chapel by the cloister of Wells cathedral, Walter Comber, layman, formerly a dweller in the hospital of St. Katharine in the parish of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol, as he asserted,—who was lately taken in the parish of Porteshede on strong suspicion of heresy, brought before the bishop in the manor of Banwell, repeatedly questioned by the bishop touching certain heretical articles hereinafter specified, judicially convicted of heresy by his own confession and by the deposition of trustworthy persons and other lawful proofs, and committed

to prison by the bishop's order,—appeared before Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokes, bachelor in decrees, the bishop's commissary-general, canons of Wells and commissaries specially appointed by the bishop in this behalf, and abjured the said articles and all heresy and error contrary to the Catholic Faith and the determination of Holy Church, as follows :—

' In the name of God, Amen. To for yow, Maister Hugh Sugar and Maister John Stokys, chanons of the cathedral cherche of Welles, by the right reverend fader in God Thomas by the grace of God bisship of Bathe and of Welles commissaries sufficiently and specially deputed in this partie, I, Waltier Comber, layman, of the diocyse and jurisdiction of the forseid reverend fader, detecte, denounced and noysed to his reverend faderhode suspecte of heresy and errours, beyng in dome and jugement before this tyme before the seid reverend fader and now before yow by his auctorite in this partie committed unto yow, feling, understanding, knowyng and wel perceyvyng that afore this hour I, the forseid Waltier Comber, have hold, openly seid and declared and expressed dyvers articules and oppinions ageynst the feith of holy cherche and contrary to the determinacion of the same, and inespacial that William Smyth, whiche was brent nye to the town of Bristow by the auctorite of Holy Cherche for his erroneus oppinions contrarious to the feith and determinacions of Holy Cherche, dyed a true Cristian man to my conceite, and that he so do to deth dyed a martir afore God, also that no prest beyng in dedly synne hath pouwer to consecrate Our Lordis body in fourme of brede, also that it is lawful to me and to every lay man that can seye the wordes of the consecration of the holy sacrament of the autier to seye theym and so to make that holy sacrament goostely as wel as a preste,

' Wherfor I, Waltier Comber, befor yow commissaries in this partie sufficiently and specially as it is premitted deputed, and by the forseid reverend fader and his clerkes truly and sufficiently enformed, knowlache and knowe wel that the articles above reherced ben erroneus and a yenst the true belyve, feith and determinacion of Holy Cherche, willyng with a pure hert and free wil to forsake the seid errours and heresies and al other

1457.

f. 213.



1457. 'and to turne to the unyte and determinacion of Holy Cherche  
'and to beleve from hensforward after the teching of Holy Cherche  
'and determinacion of the same ; and the errours and heresies  
'before seid and al maner of other errours and heresies, al articles,  
'oppinions or doctrine that is a yenst the true feith or deter-  
minacion of Holy Cherche I forsake, renunce and abjure, and I  
'swer uppon this Boke that after this hour I shal never hold,  
'openly declare, or teche heresy, nor errours, ne no maner doctrine  
'a geynst the feith or determinacion of Holy Cherche, ne I shal  
'receyve, favour, nor conceil, ne defende, socour, nor supporte,  
'by my self or eny other mean persone, prively or openly, [them]  
'that holdeth, techeth, or maynteneth eny suche fals doctrine,  
'nother to feliship with theym wetingly ne comfort theym, nether  
'to receyve theym in to myn hous, ne yeve theym mete ne  
'drinke, cloth ne mony, nother eny other wise to socour theym.

'Furthermore, I swere that yf I may knowe eny persones,  
'men or wymen, suspecte of errours and heresies, or fautours,  
'conselers, confortatours, defensours, receptatours, or that make  
'eny privat conventicles contrarye to the commune doctrine of  
'Holy Cherche, I shal denunce theym unto the forseid reverend  
'fader, to his successours and to ther officers, or to ther ordinaries,  
'as sone as I goodly may. So helpe me God at the holy dome.  
'And in witnesse and record hereof I subscribe me ✠.'

And he made a cross with his own hand. Present at the said  
abjuration, Master John Pederton and Master John Pope, masters  
of theology, and William Fulford, bachelor in both laws, canons  
of Wells, Dan William Clyffe, monk, archdeacon, or keeper, of  
the jurisdiction of Glastonbury, Thomas Been, Richard Touker,  
Thomas Mark, Thomas Haukyn, and John Touker, scribe of the  
acts, and many others.

1045. Request to the king for the arrest of Walter Moys *alias*  
Glover, of the parish of St. Cuthbert, Wells, who has remained  
obdurate under sentence of excommunication for forty days and  
more. Woky, 4 May, 1457.

1046. Licence for William Beof, Edith his wife, and Edith  
his wife's mother, to have a chaplain celebrating masses and other  
divine offices in the chapel, or oratory, or other honourable place

within the manor of Meryet, during the bishop's pleasure ; without prejudice to the rights of others. 6 May, the same place and year. 1457.

1047. Collation to Master William Brown, M.A., of the church of Cryket Malerb, vacant and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as rector. 12 May, the same place and year.

1048. Letters dimissory to the order of priesthood for John Busshe, of Pensford, deacon. 18 May, the same place and year.

1049. Request to the king for the arrest of John Gore, of Taunton, who has remained obdurate under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more. 21 May, the same place and year.

1050. Institution of Sir Robert Hayme, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Ile Abbatis, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Sperhauke, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Mochelneye. 23 May, the same place and year.

1051. Request to Master Henry Webber, vicar-general in spirituals of George, bishop elect and confirmed of Exeter, who is absent from his diocese,—inasmuch as Thomas Combe *alias* Smyth, a married man who has a lawful wife in Wells, and Agnes Cole, an unmarried woman, lately of the same place, have been placed under sentence of the greater excommunication by the bishop's authority as ordinary for manifold contumacies in not appearing before Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general, to answer a charge of adultery, and still remain obdurate under such sentence and have removed to the city of Exeter,—to order that the said Thomas and Agnes be denounced as excommunicated in the churches of the said city, and in such other churches in the diocese of Exeter as he shall think suitable, on Sundays, festivals and solemn days at mass. 26 May, the same place and year.

1052. Institution of Sir David Mongan, chaplain, as rector of the church of Staulegh, vacant by the death of Sir John Langlegh,

1457. on the presentation of William Poulet, knight. Banwel, 7 June, 1457.

f. 214. 1053. Institution of Sir Richard West, chaplain, as rector of the church of Uphille, vacant by the death of Sir Peter Boway,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of Joan, viscountess of Lisle. 8 June, the same place and year.

1054. Collation to Master John Pope, master of theology, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of St. Decuman's vacant by the resignation of Master John Bradston ; and institution accordingly.

Letter of induction as above (no. 873). And thereupon, in consideration of the age and bodily weakness of the resigning prebendary, the bishop assigned to him, with the assent of the incoming prebendary, a yearly pension of 16*l.* out of the fruits and proceeds of the said prebend, to be paid by the incoming prebendary and his successors by equal portions at Christmas and Midsummer, starting at Midsummer, 1458. Present, Master Thomas Merssh and John Touker, the bishop's registrar. 14 June, the same place and year.

1055. Collation to Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Hengestrugge vacant by the resignation of Master John Pope ; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above. Date as above.

1056. Collation to Master Richard Swan, M.A., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmore IV. vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Merssh ; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above. Date as above.

1057. Institution of Sir John Coke, chaplain, in the person of Thomas Horn, clerk, his proctor, as rector of the church of Culmyngton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Peryn, on the

<sup>1</sup> Peter Bowey bequeathed various sums to the fabrics of the cathedral church of Wells and the parish churches of Uphill and Cheddar, and to his parochial chaplain at Uphill. *Registrum Cancellarii* (Oxford Historical Society), vol. i. p. 374.

presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury. Banwel, 1457.  
15 June, 1457.

1058. Institution of Sir John Dale, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Poulet, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Clerk, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's by Bristol. And thereupon, in consideration of the age and bodily weakness of the resigning vicar, the bishop assigned to him, with the assent of the incoming vicar, a yearly pension of 100s. payable quarterly by the incoming vicar and his successors, starting at Christmas next. 23 June, the same place and year.

1059. Collation to Sir John Smocke, chaplain, of the church of Beere, vacant by the deprivation of Sir Thomas Benet, and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as rector in the person of John Lewis, his proctor.<sup>1</sup> 25 June, the same place and year.

1060. Institution of Sir John Boteler, chaplain, as rector of the church of Wrytlyngton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Nicholas Beele, on the presentation of Master William Walesby, canon of Salisbury and prebendary of Fordyngton and Wrytlyngton. 27 June, the same place and year. *f. 215.*

1061. Request to the king for the arrest of Sir William Russel, rector of Cameley, who has remained obdurate under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more. 3 July, the same place and year.

1062. Exemplification and confirmation by the bishop, dated at Banwel, 6 July, 1457, of letters of Joscelin, bishop of Bath and Wells, dated at Wells, 12 Kal. Aug. in the fourteenth year of his pontificate, and witnessed by William the precentor, William [1219.] the archdeacon, Alard the chancellor, Godfrey the treasurer, Lambert the subdean, and Robert the succentor, of Wells, and Gilbert of Taunton, all canons of Wells, and many others, setting

<sup>1</sup> John Smocke, rector of (West) Bagborough, had obtained a dispensation for plurality of benefices. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 89.

[1219.] out the ordinance and foundation of the hospital of St. John, Bruggewater,<sup>1</sup> as follows :—

Whereas William Bruer lately founded the said hospital and established clerks as brethren to serve God there, and granted them certain lands, possessions and rents for the sustenance of themselves and Christ's poor, and promised to give and procure for them more, the bishop, at the request of the said William and other friends, and with the assent of the chapters of Bath and Wells, appropriates to the said hospital and brethren the churches of Bruggewater, Northovere and Ilebruer, together with the chapel in the castle of Brugg'; and has thought fit, with the unanimous consent of the said William and the brethren, to lay down the following rules to be observed in the said house for ever, to wit :—

(1) The hospital is to be a free, pure and perpetual *Domus Dei* for Christ's poor only, and is in no wise to be beholden to others, as rich persons.

(2) The house and brethren are to have such liberties and customs as any house or brethren of a hospital or similar religious order have, and are to be absolutely quit of all episcopal charges, procurations, expenses and other charges, and also of extraordinary charges.

(3) The brethren are to have full power to elect a master, or warden, from their own body, and the master is to admit others with the assent of the brethren.

(4) The master, with the consent of the brethren, may freely dispose of all things, offices and bailiwicks, internal and external, pertaining to the house.

(5) The brethren are to wear a clerical habit and garments such as brethren of a hospital or a similar religious order ought to wear, but with a cross of black or blackish colour impressed on their cloaks and outer garments.

(6) They are to keep before their eyes the approved rule, observances and constitutions, and act in accordance with them.

(7) They are to cause the parish church of Brugg', which they

<sup>1</sup> Printed by Hearne in his edition of *Walter of Hemingford*, 1731, vol. ii. pp. 597-603.

hold appropriated, to be served by one of themselves and by a [1219.] suitable secular chaplain.

(8) The brother or the secular chaplain who is on duty (*in statu*) in the chapel of the castle of Bruggewater is to celebrate one mass daily, and when the lord of the castle is there and demands ministration he shall minister in the canonical hours.

(9) The master and brethren are to have in full without dispute all proceeds and oblations, wherever in the castle they may be made ; and the lord of the castle is to provide and maintain the books, vestments, vessels, lights, and all other things necessary and suitable for the said chapel or place.

(10) A suitable brother shall, under the master, have special charge and care of the poor, infirm and needy persons in the infirmary, ministering to them according to the estate and means of the house and his own ability.

(11) Two or three women, not noble but suitable and of good conversation and report, who are willing and able to serve the infirm poor, are to be admitted by the master and brethren ; and they are to stay by themselves in a cell or chamber in the infirmary near the needy and poor, and sleep there, and be maintained as the master and brethren shall think fit. They are to be watchful and ready, night and day, to help the infirm and to minister to them in all things, and they are not to turn aside to other acts or services, except the prayers which are due. Provided that not more than two or three women, whether sisters or others, be admitted to the house or maintained there in any case.

(12) No lepers, lunatics, or persons having the falling sickness or other contagious disease, and no pregnant women, or sucking infants, and no intolerable persons, even though they be poor and infirm, are to be admitted to the house ; and if any such be admitted by mistake, they are to be expelled as soon as possible. And when the other poor and infirm persons have recovered they are to be let out (*licentientur*) without delay.

(13) Inasmuch as it is unworthy and contrary to reason that goods contributed by the faithful of Christ for the sustenance of Christ's poor should be turned to other uses, the bishop forbids that any things, possessions or rents granted for this most pious

[1219.] work, or acquired by the ability, industry or forethought of the master and brethren, be turned to any other uses than those of Christ's poor.

(14) The possessions of the house are not unduly to be sold, alienated, or perpetually mortgaged (*obligentur*).

(15) No corrodies, liveries, lodgings, pensions or chantries in the house are to be sold, or granted for money or favour.

(16) No perpetual charges, whether internal or external, which charge or bind the brethren or house, are to be allowed or granted unless possessions and perpetual rents sufficient to bear the said charges have been granted, assigned and specially bound for the same, and the urgent and manifest advantage of the house demands it, and then only with the assent of the diocesan and the patron of the house for the time being. Anything done in contravention of the above is to be considered utterly void, and annulled altogether by the diocesan and patron without any delay.

(17) No rich men or powerful, not even the diocesans or ordinaries of the place, or the patrons of the house, or their ministers or bailiffs, are to lodge or stay in the hospital at the charge of the house or brethren; nor are they to burden the house by frequent visits or by lodging their horses or other persons there; nor are they unlawfully to extort or carry off any goods from the brethren or house, or inflict, or procure to be inflicted, any damage or hardship on them, or strive to injure them under any pretext, on pain of anathema and the divine vengeance. The diocesans and patrons are to be the special conservators and protectors of these ordinances, and helpers of the house and brethren, maintaining all and singular the premises, promptly restoring to its due estate anything done in contravention thereof as soon as it is brought to their notice, and punishing and repressing by all means any persons who are contentious, contemptuous, or rebellious in regard to these ordinances.

Bishop Joscelyn, together with William Bruere, founder of the hospital, ratifies and approves the above with the consent of the chapter of Wells; and at the special request of the master and brethren and other friends his seal and the seal of the said William are alternately appended to this indented or divided writing.

1063. Institution of Sir John Webbe, chaplain, in the person of Robert Stowel, esquire, his proctor, as rector of the church of Oke, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Bertolet *alias* Laurence, on the presentation of Dame Eleanor Hulle. The inn of the bishop's residence, Salesburye, 16 July, 1457. 1457.  
f. 216.

1064. Licence for Master John Harlow, bachelor of theology,<sup>1</sup> to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. 17 July, the same place and year.

1065. Commission to Master John Bernard, treasurer, and Master William Fulford, canons of Wells, to be the bishop's vicars-general in spirituals during his absence from the diocese. Dogmersfeld, 24 July, 1457.

1066. Institution of Master Thomas Dultyng, M.A., in the person of Richard Hertlegh, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Kelveston, vacant by the death of Master John Lucas, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury. 31 July, the same place and year.

1067. Institution of Sir Michael Pignon, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Ilebruer, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Hayme, on the presentation of the master and brethren of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater. 10 August, the same place and year.

1068. Licence for Master John Frysby, bachelor of theology, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during good behaviour and the bishop's pleasure. 22 August, the same place and year.

1069. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest for John Harwel, of Wedmore, sub-deacon. 9 September, the same place and year.

1070. Institution of Sir John Grene, chaplain, in the person of Sir John Hyll, vicar choral of Wells cathedral, his proctor, as

<sup>1</sup> John Harlow was instituted to the church of Marksbury in March, 1457[-8].



1457. rector of the church of Whethull, vacant by the death of Sir John Benham, on the presentation of Thomas Kyryel, knight.<sup>1</sup> 9 September, the same place and year.

1071. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Thomas Crosse, of Est Chynnok, acolyte. 23 September, the same place and year.

1072. Institution of Sir Thomas Hardyng, chaplain, as rector of the church of Chilton, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Carpenter, on the presentation of the master and brethren of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater. Evercriche, 29 September, 1457.

f. 217. 1073. Institution of Sir Sampson Combe, chaplain, as rector of the church of Pille, vacant by the death of Sir John Wenlok, on the presentation of William Bourghier, lord Fitzwaryn. 30 September, the same place and year.

1074. Institution of Sir William Cary, chaplain, as rector of the church of Tymmesburgh, vacant by the death of Sir William Vylerys, on the presentation of John Cheyne, esquire, lord of Tymmesburgh.<sup>2</sup> Undertaking by the said Sir John [in the same terms as the above undertaking by the vicar of Puryton, no. 1005], to study for a year and a half and submit himself for examination by the bishop within a fortnight after Easter, 1459. 2 October, the same place and year.

1075. Institution of Sir John Hawley, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of Robert Chepe founded in the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, Bristol, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Shawle, on the presentation of Sir John Crewode, chaplain, master of the fraternity of the chapel of the Assumption on the bridge of Avon, Bristol, and the whole of the said fraternity. 3 October, the same place and year.

1076. Institution of Sir Robert Coke, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary in the church of Bruggewater,

<sup>1</sup> See no. 229 above.

<sup>2</sup> See *Feet of Fines, Somerset*, 20 Hen. VI.

vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Hardyng, on the presentation of John Hille and William Howel, stewards of the gild-merchant of Bruggewater. Wells palace, 5 October, 1457.

1077. Institution of Sir Thomas Pole, chaplain, as rector of the chapel with cure of Berewyke, vacant by the death of Sir Nicholas Baker, on the presentation of John Audeley, esquire, patron in right of Anne his wife, relict of John Roger, esquire. 8 October, the same place and year.

1078. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Alwey, of Milverton, acolyte. 14 October, the same place and year.

1079. Collation to Master William Peryn, M.A., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe VII. vacant by the death of Sir Robert Smyth; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). Date as above.

1080. Collation to William Northeryn, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the eighth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close, to possess and inhabit the same according to the form laid down by Ralph of Shrewsbury (*de Salopia*), sometime bishop. Date as above.

1081. Institution of Sir John Benet, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Shapwyke, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Coote, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury or his official. 15 October, the same place and year.

1082. Commission to Master John Stokes, canon of Wells, to be president of the consistory of Wells [with powers as above, no. 27]. 17 October, the same place and year. *f. 218.*

1083. Approval by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir John Erle, perpetual vicar of Mertok, and Sir William Bridde, rector of Bakwel; and institution of Sir John as rector of Bakwel, on the presentation of Walter Rodenay, knight, and of Sir William as perpetual vicar of Mertok, on the presentation of

1457. Master John Bernard, canon and treasurer of Wells. 22 October, the same place and year.

1084. Collation to Sir John Estmund, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the tenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close [to hold as above, no. 1080]. 26 October, the same place and year.

1085. Institution of Sir John Webbe, chaplain, as rector of the church of Donyate, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Peryn, chaplain, on the presentation of Richard, earl of Salisbury. Master Thomas Merssh and the said Sir John bound themselves in 40*l.* to be paid to the bishop at Christmas next in the event of his being troubled in any way for admitting Sir John to the church without seeing any resignation thereof. The bond remains on the files of the same time of year. 3 November, the same place and year.

1086. Institution of Master Thomas Yon, bachelor in decrees, as rector of the church of Lameyate, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Palmer, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Godstowe. 4 November, the same place and year.

1087. Institution of Sir John More, chaplain, as rector of the church of Elme, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Scayte, on the presentation of Humphrey Stafford, esquire, lord of Elme. 5 November, the same place and year.

1088. Institution of Sir John Warke as rector of the church of Staple, vacant by the death of Master Thomas Warr', on the presentation of Henry, earl of Northumberland, lord of the honour of Cokermouth and of Porynges, patron in right of Eleanor his wife.<sup>1</sup> 10 November, the same place and year.

- f.* 219. 1089. Collation to Richard Blackwel, vicar choral in Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close [to hold as above, no. 1080]. 15 November, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> Eleanor, granddaughter and heiress of Robert, lord Poynings.

1090. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Ganet, clerk, 1457.  
born at Est Coker. 20 November, the same place and year.

1091. Institution of Sir Philip Puttisham, chaplain, as rector of the church of Nuton Seyntlo, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Parys, chaplain, on the presentation of William, lord Botreaux, knight. 23 November, the same place and year.

1092. Institution of Sir John Smocke, chaplain, as rector of the church of Spaxton, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Philip-pis, on the presentation of Edward Broke, knight, lord of Cobham, and Richard Bruyn, esquire, of Kent, patrons for this turn by reason of a grant to them of the next presentation to the church by Thomas Kyriel, knight, who is seised of the advowson in right of Cecily his wife. The grant (quoted) is dated 9 September, 36 Hen. VI.<sup>1</sup> 28 November, the same place and year.

1093. Dispensation for the prior of Bath to eat flesh at this season of Advent as at other times of the year ; as he has represented to the bishop that he is so weakened by bodily infirmities that he cannot abstain from meat without grave danger to his health. 29 November, the same place and year.

1094. Licence, for two years, for Geoffrey Hide, proctor, or envoy, of the hospital of the Holy Trinity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to make collections in the diocese. Dated at Dogmersfeld, 23 July, 1457. The licence issued in Wells palace, 6 December, 1457.

1095. Institution of Sir Robert Goldsmyth, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Powlet, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Dale, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's by Bristol. The said Sir Robert made oath to pay a yearly pension of 100s. to Sir John Clerke, late vicar, for life or until other provision should be made for him. Wells palace, 14 December, 1457.

1096. Institution of Sir Robert Smyth, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, his proctor, as rector of the church of

<sup>1</sup> John Smocke had recently resigned Beer Crocombe. No. 1105.

1457. Cosyngton, vacant by the death of Sir Henry Yerde, on the presentation of Alexander Hody, esquire, and Sir John Capron, chaplain. 18 December, the same place and year.

1097. Licence for Cecily, relict of William Arthur, esquire, of the parish of Bedmyster, to have a suitable chaplain to celebrate divine service in the presence of herself and her household in the chapel, or oratory, within her dwelling-place at Bedmyster, during the bishop's pleasure ; provided no prejudice to the rights of others be involved. Date as above.

- f. 220. 1098. Collation to John Roly, vicar choral of Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 19 December, the same place and year.

1099. Collation to Master John Pakenham, bachelor in both laws, in the person of Master Richard Colnet, bachelor in laws, his proctor, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe XIII. vacant by the resignation of Master Richard Petteworth ; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). And thereupon the bishop, with the consent of the parties, assigned to the outgoing canon and prebendary a yearly pension of 100s. for life out of the fruits and proceeds of the canonry and prebend. Date as above.

1100. Institution of Hugh Grobham, brother of the house, or hospital, of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater, licenced by the Apostolic See to hold any ecclesiastical benefice, as perpetual vicar of the church of Hals, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Filbert, on the presentation of Brother Robert Botyll, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. 22 December, the same place and year.

1441. 1101. Dispensation by Pope Eugenius IV. in favour of the above-mentioned Hugh. Florence, 7 Kal. Sept. (26 August), 1441.<sup>1</sup>

1458. 1102. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Mede, of the parish of Redclyff, Bristol, B.A., acolyte. Wells palace, 3 January, 1457[-8].

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. ix. p. 203.

1103. Release and quitclaim by the bishop to John Androwes, son of Thomas Androwes, late of Radford, in the lordship of Pokelchirche, co. Gloucester, his heirs and executors, of all personal actions, suits, plaints and demands which the bishop had, has, or might have, against them for any reason. 4 January, 36 Hen. VI. [1457-8].<sup>1</sup> 1458.

1104. Manumission of Thomas Mayow, son of Nicholas Mayow, a bondman belonging to the bishop's manor of Chedder. 8 June, 35 Hen. VI. [1457.] 1457.

1105. Institution of Sir William Langdon, chaplain, in the person of John Swetyng, his proctor, as rector of the church of Bere, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Smocke, on the presentation of William Harewel, esquire. Wells palace, 11 January, 1457[-8]. 1458.  
f. 221.

1106. Institution of Sir John Seward, chaplain, as rector of the church of Estludford, vacant by the death of Sir John Norlode, on the presentation of Geoffrey Rokell, esquire, patron for this turn in right of Eleanor his wife, lately deceased, daughter of John Mounforte, esquire. 13 January, the same place and year.

1107. Manumission of Henry Hurst, bondman belonging to the bishop's manor of Dogmersfeld. 17 January, 36 Hen. VI. [1457-8.]

1108. Commission to Thomas, prior of Bath, Master John Stokes, canon of Wells, and John Lacok, precentor of Bath, or any two of them,—on a report that Brother Peter Buryman, master, or prior, of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bath, which hospital is of the bishop's foundation and patronage, is so broken with old age and blindness that he cannot with advantage attend to the care and rule of his hospital any more,—to receive and admit the said master's resignation, appoint another fit and able person professed therein to be master, or prior, in his place, receiving and admitting the canonical profession of such

<sup>1</sup> The marginal description of this entry is *Manumissio Johannis Androwes*.

1458. person if he be not already professed, institute and induct him, or give orders for his induction, and do whatever else is necessary or proper in the matter. Wells palace, 22 January, 1457[-8].

1109. Institution of Sir John Faireman, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Murylynche, vacant by the death of Sir John Salisbury, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. 30 January, the same place and year.

1110. On 31 January in the same year, in Wells palace, the bishop received a certificate from Richard, bishop of Salisbury, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir Roger Fabel, rector of the church of Norton St. Philip, which is in the bishop's collation, and Sir John Parke, rector of the church of Broughton, in the diocese of Salisbury, from which it appeared that the said bishop of Salisbury, on the authority of a commission from the bishop, had approved the said exchange, collated the church of Norton St. Philip to the said Sir John, and instituted him as rector, saving the rights and customs of the bishop and the dignities of his cathedral churches of Bath and Wells. Subsequently the bishop received from Sir John the oath of canonical obedience, and a letter for his induction was written to the archdeacon of Wells or his official.

f. 222. 1111. Approval by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir Richard Symon, rector of the church of Laverton, and Sir William Elkyngham *alias* Waynflete, perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine, Frome. Collation to the said Sir William of the church of Laverton, in the bishop's collation by full right, and institution of him as rector; and institution of Sir Richard as perpetual chaplain of the said chantry, on the presentation of James, earl of Wiltshire and Ormonde. Wells palace, 10 February, 1457[-8].

1112. Institution of Sir John Croke, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Criche, vacant by the death of Sir John Touker, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Montagu (*Montis Acuti*). 17 February, the same place and year.

1113. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Wilmot, 1458.  
acolyte, born in the diocese. 18 February, the same place and  
year.

1114. Licence, until 5 July next, for John Perys and Joan his  
wife to exhibit and put into effect throughout the diocese letters  
patent under the great seal authorising them to collect alms in  
the counties of Somerset, Dorset and Wilts for the ransom of the  
said John, and of John Stevenes who is still in prison in the town  
of Depe in France ; and order to all rectors, vicars, chaplains and  
curates of the diocese favourably to receive the said John and  
Joan in their churches, chapels and other places, and allow them  
to collect alms accordingly.<sup>1</sup> 23 February, the same place and  
year.

1115. Licence for Philip Mede and Isabel his wife, of the  
parish of Redclyff, Bristol, to have masses and other divine offices  
celebrated in the chapel, or oratory, within their dwelling in  
Bristol, and in any other suitable places in the diocese ; provided  
no prejudice to the rights of others be involved. 25 February,  
the same place and year.

1116. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest  
for William Kyngman, of South Pederton, sub-deacon. Date as  
above.

1117. Institution of Sir Robert Gent, chaplain, as rector of  
the church of Thornfaucon, vacant by the resignation of Sir  
John Croke, on the presentation of Isabel Chedder. Woky,  
1 March, 1457[-8].

1118. Institution of Sir Edward Philippe, chaplain, as rector  
of the church of Telsford, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert  
Meducroft, on the presentation of Robert, lord Hungerford,  
knight. Date as above.

1119. Collation to Sir John Garnesey, chaplain, of the provost-  
ship of Wells and the prebend of Combe XII. annexed thereto,  
vacant by the death of Sir John Trevenant ; and institution

<sup>1</sup> There is no corresponding entry on the Patent Roll.



1458. accordingly. Letter of induction, after the taking of the oath of canonical obedience and the oath touching impositions for the fabric and repair of Wells cathedral, to Sir John Wansford and Master John Morton, residentiary canons of Wells, commissaries specially appointed in this matter. 9 March, the same place and year.

f. 223. 1120. Collation to Master Thomas Chaundeler, chancellor of Wells, S.T.P., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe X. vacant by the death of Master Thomas Gascoigne ; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). 15 March, the same place and year.

1121. Collation to Henry Abyndon, succentor of Wells, in the person of Master John Pope, his proctor, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Holecombe ; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 273). Date as above.

1122. Institution of Sir William John, chaplain, as rector of the church of Holford, vacant by the death of Alan Olyver, on the presentation of the provost and college of Eton by Windsor. 20 March, the same place and year.

1123. Institution of Sir John Wilte, chaplain, in the person of John Horsy, his proctor, as rector of the church of Est Cantokyshed, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Tauton, on the presentation of James Lutrell, esquire. 22 March, the same place and year.

1124. Institution of Sir Richard Stafford, chaplain, in the person of Philip Sodbury, his proctor, as rector of the church of Brocley, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Barry, on the presentation of Thomas Pyke, esquire, patron in right of Alice his wife. 24 March, the same place and year.

1125. Institution of Master John Harlow, bachelor in theology, in the person of William Eston, his proctor, as rector of the church of Merkysbury, vacant by the death of Sir John Trevenant, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Date as above.

1126. Institution of Sir Richard Newcomb, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Norton Canonorum, vacant by the resignation of Sir Gervase Cammell, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Merton, in the diocese of Winchester. And thereupon, at the petition of the resigning vicar, the bishop assigned to him, with the assent of the new vicar, a yearly pension of 33s. 4d. for life out of the emoluments of the vicarage. Woky, 25 March, 1458. 1458.

1127. Institution of Sir William Everley, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. John the Baptist at the altar of St. Andrew in the church of Frome in Selwode, on the presentation of James, earl of Wiltshire and Ormonde. 28 March, the same place and year.

1128. Commission to James, bishop of Bangor,—on information that Christine Portman, relict of Walter Portman, lately deceased, proposes to take a vow of perpetual continence to the end that, spurning the miseries of this life, she may the better by her prayers and virtuous works please and serve her Creator,—to examine her touching the premises, and, if he find that she is constant in her intentions and has sufficient goods for her suitable and honourable maintenance during her life, and that there is no canonical impediment, to admit and receive her said vow, put on her the veil, the ring and the mantle of chastity, and do whatever else is necessary and proper in the matter. Wells palace, 8 April, 1458. f. 224.

1129. Peremptory citation of Thomas Tyler, abbot, and the canons of Keynesham, to appear before the bishop or his commissary in their chapter-house on Saturday next, to wit 15 April; as the bishop, having heard that there are many dissensions between the abbot and the canons, and among the canons themselves, and that some of these have dared to make conspiracies, assemblies and confederacies against the abbot, and moreover have neglected and even contravened the injunctions formerly laid on them by the bishop in his ordinary visitation, publicly boasting that they are not bound to observe them, has decided to hold a visitation of the abbey in person, or by his commissary, and

1458. to make inquisition touching the premises and other matters concerning the state of the abbey. 9 April, the same place and year.

1130. Licence, during pleasure, for Master John Harlow, bachelor in theology, rector of the church of Merkysbury,—in consideration of the honour of his degree and in view of the fact that the fruits, etc. of his said church, after meeting the charges of the service of the cure thereof and the other charges incumbent thereon, do not exceed 10 marks yearly in value, and that he has no other promotion,—to receive in addition a yearly pension, or salary, for celebrating and praying for living or deceased persons. 10 April, the same place and year.

1131. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokes, canon of Wells, the bishop's commissary-general, to carry out the visitation of the abbey of Keynesham (last entry but one) in place of the bishop, who cannot come to the abbey in person on account of old age and bodily weakness. 12 April, the same place and year.

- f. 225a. 1132. Collation to Master Thomas Cace, bachelor in laws, in the person of Nicholas Colles, his proctor, of the church of St. John the Baptist, Ilchester, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as rector. 13 April, the same place and year.

1133. Licence, during pleasure, for William Lewes, Friar Minor of Brugwater, presented to the bishop by the guardian there, to hear confessions within the diocese according to the form of the chapter *Dudum, De sepulturis, in Clementinis*.<sup>1</sup> Woky, 16 April, 1458.

1134. Transmission to the bishop by Thomas, bishop of London, of letters of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in the manor of Lamehith, 9 March, 1457[-8], ordering the bishops and suffragans of the province of Canterbury, or their vicars-general in spirituals, to make enquiry as to the names and surnames of all persons in their dioceses who are in possession of

<sup>1</sup> *Clementinarum*, lib. iii. tit. 7, cap. 2 (ed. Friedberg, vol. ii. col. 1161).

certain books composed by Reynold, bishop of Chichester,<sup>1</sup> in English, and other books containing translations of the Holy Scriptures made by him and others from Latin into English, in contravention of ecclesiastical prohibitions and the decrees of the Fathers,—some of which books have been examined by the archbishop and condemned and burnt as heretical,—and to admonish such persons that they surrender the said books within fifteen days, under penalty of the greater excommunication, and to certify the archbishop or his commissaries before 21 May next of their action in the matter, transmitting the books at the same time ; and also ordering the said bishops, suffragans and vicars-general to arrange that on Sundays and festivals in all cathedral, conventual, collegiate and parish churches both clergy and laity be admonished to make solemn processions every Wednesday and Friday in or around their churches, with chanting of the Litany, for the peace, unity and tranquillity of the king and realm of England, and for the whole church of England ; and granting forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons present at such processions and praying devoutly there. The bishop's palace at London, 10 March, 1457[-8]. 1458.

1135. Notification to the archbishop that the above order was received on 28 April, 1458, at Woky, and that the necessary instructions have been given to the archdeacons of Wells, Bath and Taunton and their officials. Banwel, 14 May, 1458. *f. 225b.*

1136. Licence, during pleasure, for Dan Thomas Daperfeld, bachelor of theology, monk of Glastonbury, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, provided his abbot assents. 27 May, the same place and year.

1137. Assignment to Master John Bradston, on his resignation of the prebend of St. Decuman's, of a yearly pension of 16*l.* for life from the fruits of the prebend. Master John Pope, S.T.P., the present prebendary and his successors are, immediately after their institution and investiture, to swear on the Gospels to pay the said pension ; and, in the event of the present award being neglected or infringed, the bishop and his successors and the

<sup>1</sup> Pecock, *Dict. Nat. Biography*, vol. xliv.

1458. president of the consistory of Wells shall be at liberty to sequester the fruits of the prebend until observance be secured. Woky, 20 April, 1458.

1138. Collation to Sir Thomas Philip [ap] Adam,<sup>1</sup> chaplain, of the church of Brocton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Mone and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as rector. Banwel, 16 June, 1458.

f. 226 1139. Institution of Sir John Raynold, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Powlet, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Goldsmyth, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol. And thereupon the new vicar made oath to pay the yearly pension of 100s. assigned by the bishop to Sir John Clerk, late vicar, for life. 20 June, the same place and year.

1140. Exhortation and injunction to all ecclesiastics of the diocese,—inasmuch as the port which was at one time in the parish of Wagget<sup>2</sup> is well nigh demolished and utterly destroyed by storms, owing to lack of due maintenance of the walls and other buildings thereof, and the inhabitants of the said parish and the adjacent parts are striving to the best of their ability to build up and repair the same with great labour and at great expense, but their means are not sufficient to complete so costly a work without the charitable alms of the faithful,—to receive with favour the proctor, or envoy, of the said parishioners when he comes to their churches seeking alms, to expound to their congregations the indulgences and privileges granted to the said parishioners and the benefactors of the port, allow the proctor himself to expound the same freely and without hindrance,—preachings of friars and other collections notwithstanding, except that the collection for the fabric of Wells cathedral is to be given precedence,—and deliver to the proctor, or envoy, whatever shall be contributed for the repair of the port. Grant, also, during pleasure, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall so contribute. 28 June, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. no. 1467.

<sup>2</sup> Watchet was an ancient borough in the parish of St. Decuman's.

1141. Assignment for life to Master John Pope, S.T.P., 1458. canon of Wells and prebendary of St. Decuman's,—in view of his distinguished degree, estate and honour, and in consideration of the yearly pension of 16*l.* charged on his said prebend during the life of Master John Bradston (no. 1137 above),—of a yearly pension of 100*s.* out of the fruits, etc. of the prebend, or prebendal church, of Hengstrugge, which he resigned when collated to the prebend of St. Decuman's, to be paid by Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, the present prebendary of Hengstrugge, and his successors, during the currency of the aforesaid pension of 16*l.* 11 July, the same place and year.

1142. Collation to Master Thomas Been, bachelor in decrees, *f. 227.* perpetual vicar of Wells cathedral, of the ninth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. 14 July, the same place and year.

1143. Institution of Master John Lax, doctor of laws, in the person of Master Thomas Been, bachelor in decrees, his proctor, as rector of the church of Dichesyate, vacant by the death of Sir John Cammel,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury; saving to the said abbot and convent a yearly pension of 40*s.* anciently due from the said church, as they say. 15 July, the same place and year.

1144. Notification to the abbot, prior and convent of Keyne-sham that the bishop, in accordance with the constitutions and decrees of the Holy Fathers, is transferring to their monastery Brother John Blake, canon of Worspryng priory, of the order of St. Augustine and observance of St. Victor, who has many times been convicted before the bishop and found guilty of disobedience, rebellion and contempt against his prior and other superiors; and order to them to receive him, cause him to have the last place after the professed canons, both in choir and in chapter, and see that he keeps to the cloister in silence and observance of their rule, so that he be subject in all things to regular discipline and the injunctions formerly laid on the monastery by the bishop,

<sup>1</sup> The will of John Cammel, proved in July, 1458, contains bequests for services to be held at Ditchet and Butleigh, and others of a local character. *Som. Med. Wills*, p. 175.

1458. and be duly punished according to the requirements of the said injunctions whenever he deserves punishment. The abbot, the prior and the sub-prior are to see that this order is carried out, under the penalties of contempt and disobedience. 18 July, the same place and year.

1145. On the same day, similar letters issued to the prior and convent of Worspryng touching the transfer of Brother John Ledburie, canon of Keynesham, to their priory; and so the prior received him, to stay there for a time under regular discipline, and expiate his offences. Present John Austel, esquire, Master Thomas Purveour, Master John Pope and Master Robert Peuesy, canons of Wells, and others, and John Touker, notary-public.

1146. Commission to James, bishop of Bangor, to reconcile and bless the churchyard of the church of Berkley, lately polluted by the shedding of blood. 1 August, 1458.

1147. Institution of Sir Walter Seller, chaplain, as rector of the church of Trebourgh, vacant by the death of Sir John Roke,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of John Sydenham, the younger. Woky, 3 August, 1458.

1148. Collation to Sir John Olyver, chaplain, of the church of Fodyngton, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as rector. 4 August, the same place and year.

1149. Institution of Sir Walter Haytur *alias* Lions, chaplain, as rector of the church of Langriche, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Donyngton, on the presentation of Richard Hampton, esquire, patron for this turn by reason of the minority of John Criklade, son and heir of Thomas Criklade, who is in his wardship, together with the manor, lands, etc. of the said John, and the advowson of the said church. Date as above.

f. 228. 1150. Commission to the dean of Dunster, the perpetual vicar of the church of Stokegummer and Thomas Smyth, the bishop's apparitor-general,—inasmuch as John Stokkes, late of

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

the parish of Netelcomb, who was indicted before certain of the king's justices of having on Monday after St. Matthew, 1454, broken and entered the house of Roger Shottok at Stokegummer and carried off six dozen of white and russet woollen cloth, price 5 marks, and who was committed to prison therefor and afterwards handed over to the bishop as a clerk to be judged in the ecclesiastical court, has prayed the bishop to receive his purgation,—to cite the said Richard in particular, and all persons interested or opposed to the said purgation in general, in the parish church of Stokegummer and the cathedral church of Wells, during mass or divine service on some feast day, and in the market-place of Wells on some market day before the feast of St. Faith next, to appear before the bishop or his commissary on Monday after the said feast, in the chapel of the Virgin Mary by the cloister of Wells cathedral, and propound their objections to the said purgation in form of law. Banwel, 22 August, 1458.

1151. Institution of Master Thomas Estyngton, M.A., as rector of the church of Purlok, vacant by the resignation of Master Richard Ewen, on the presentation of Sir William Boneville, lord of Chuton, knight. 4 September, the same place and year.

1152. Collation to Sir John Huchyn, vicar in the choir of Wells, of the sixteenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. 5 September, the same place and year.

1153. Institution of Sir Roger Papill, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Margaret, Wyke Perham by Lamport, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Kyngeswere, on the presentation of John Bayly, gentleman, of Wyke Perham. 7 September, the same place and year.

1154. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Ralph Person, acolyte, of the diocese of Bath and Wells. 11 September, the same place and year.

1155. The like for John Underwey, clerk, of the same diocese. Date as above.

1156. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokes, both canons of



1458. Wells, to proceed in the matter of the purgation of John Stokkes (no. 1150 above), and bring it to a final conclusion. If he shall lawfully purge himself, they are to declare his innocence and deliver him from imprisonment. 4 October, the same place and year.

f. 229. 1157. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, to be the official of his consistory of Wells. [The terms are similar to those set out above in the case of Master John Stortwayt, no. 3.] 17 September, the same place and year.

1158. Commission, during pleasure, to John Touker, clerk, notary-public, to write, register and faithfully enact all acts and processes in the consistory of Wells, and to do whatever else belongs to the office of registrar of the said consistory and scribe of the acts, and to be keeper of the bishop's registers, acts, muniments and instruments pertaining to the use of the said consistory, receiving the usual emoluments and profits. Before doing anything in his said office, he is to make oath in person in the said consistory before the official thereof to perform his duties faithfully. Date as above.

1159. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general, to go in person to the monasteries and priories of Keynesham, Athelney, Mochelney and Taunton, to enquire as to the truth of reports which have reached the bishop that the injunctions formerly laid on the said monasteries in his ordinary visitation have not been observed, to punish any persons whom they shall find guilty in this behalf, and correct, reform and punish any crimes and excesses of the abbots, priors and brethren of the said houses which have not yet been corrected and punished. 24 September, the same place and year.

1160. Institution of Master John Cutturne, M.A., as perpetual vicar of the church of Evercriche, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Smyth, on the presentation of the prior and brethren of the house, or hospital, of St. John the Baptist, Wells. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. And thereupon

the said Master John made oath that he would abide by the bishop's award touching a yearly pension to be assigned to the resigning vicar. 25 September, the same place and year. 1458.

1161. Appointment of Sir John Garnesey, clerk, provost and canon of Wells, to be the bishop's receiver-general. *f. 230.* [The terms are similar to those set out above in the case of Sir John Trevenant and Sir John Haydour, no. 351.] 1 October, the same place and year.

1162. Appointment, during pleasure, of William Edmond to be bailiff of the city, or borough, of Wells. Date as above.

1163. Letters dimissory to all orders for Richard Orchard, clerk, of the diocese of Bath and Wells. 2 October, the same place and year.

1164. Grant, during pleasure, to Walter Vincent, the bishop's servant, for past and future good service, of the keepership of the park of Claverton, to be exercised in person or by deputy, with such wages, fees and profits as former keepers have received. 7 October, the same place and year.

1165. Collation, during pleasure, to Dan John Lacok, monk of Bath cathedral, of the office of sacristan therein. Date as above.

1166. The like to Dan John Dunster, monk of Bath cathedral, of the office of precentor therein. Date as above.

1167. Collation to Master Richard Swan, M.A., of the church of Yvelton, vacant by the death of Sir John Partriche<sup>1</sup> and in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as rector. 20 October, the same place and year.

1168. Institution of Sir John Pedwel, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Burnham, vacant by the resignation of Master Richard Swan, M.A., on the presentation of Master John Spekyngton, subdean and president of the chapter, the dean

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

1458. being absent, and the chapter of Wells. 23 October, the same place and year.

1169. Institution of Sir John Iryssh, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Modford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Shopper, on the presentation of the subdean and chapter of Wells, as above. 25 October, the same place and year.

f. 231. 1170. Commission to Sir John Garnesey, the bishop's receiver-general, and Master Richard Swan, both canons of Wells, and Thomas Smyth, the bishop's serjeant, to audit the accounts of the bishop's bailiffs, farmers, reeves and other officers and ministers. 1 November, the same place and year.

1171. Institution of Sir William Bonsquier, perpetual vicar of the church of Wynsham, as rector, or perpetual chaplain, of the chantry, or free chapel, of the Virgin Mary in the churchyard of the parish church of Crukern, to which he has been presented by Sir Thomas Courtenay, earl of Devon and lord of Okhampton; on an exchange of benefices, approved by the bishop, with Sir Frank Cotis. Institution of the said Sir Frank as perpetual vicar of Wynsham, on the presentation of Sir John Garnesey, provost of Wells, and letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 8 November, the same place and year.

1172. Commission to Sir John Philippes, perpetual vicar of the church of Weston by Bath, to be coadjutor to Brother Peter Buryman, master of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bath, who is incapacitated by old age and blindness from administering the hospital or managing his own affairs. 11 November, the same place and year.

1173. Institution of Sir Thomas Wellefare, chaplain, as rector of the church of Cryket Maleherbe, vacant by the death of Master William Browne, on the presentation of John Dynham, esquire. Date as above.

1174. Institution of Sir William Saylake, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish, or prebendal, church of Ilton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Derby, on the presentation of

Master William Say, S.T.P., canon of Wells and prebendary of Ilton. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells, or his official. Wells palace, 4 December, 1458.

1175. Licence for John Godwyn, of Wells, gentleman, and Joan, his wife, to have masses and other divine offices celebrated in the chapel, or oratory, within their dwelling-place in the city of Wells, during the bishop's pleasure; provided no prejudice to the rights of others be involved. 10 December, the same place and year.

1176. Institution of Sir John Frankham, chaplain, in the person of John Walter, his proctor, as rector of the church of Stokelynche Mawdeleyn, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard, the last rector, on the presentation of John Coker, esquire, lord of Stokelynche Mawdeleyne. 13 December, the same place and year. *f. 232.*

1177. Collation to Sir William Cornyssh, rector of the church of Nony, of the church of Newenton by Lamehith, of the immediate jurisdiction of Christchurch, Canterbury, and in the collation of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, by full right, and institution of him as rector, saving to the said archbishop his induction and oath of canonical obedience; and institution of Master Richard Layty, bachelor in laws, rector of Newenton aforesaid, in the person of Master John Tregodek, notary-public, his proctor, as rector of the church of Nony, on the presentation of Thomas Mountfort, knight.

The above exchange of benefices was approved and carried out by the bishop by authority of a commission from the archbishop and by his own authority as ordinary.

Date as above.

1178. Grant by the bishop of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall celebrate masses, or hear them celebrated, at the altar newly erected in the church of St. Cuthbert, Wells, at the expense of John Adam, citizen of Wells, Alice, his wife, and others, in honour of St. Herasmus, bishop and martyr, or who shall say the Lord's Prayer with the

1458. Angelic Salutation, or other prayers, at the said altar for the peace and tranquillity of the universal church and the good estate of the king and realm of England, or who shall contribute to the improvement or adornment of the said altar, or the maintenance of the lights thereof. Woky, 20 December, 1458.

1179. Institution of Sir Walter Colle, chaplain, in the person of William Porter, his proctor, as rector of the church of All Saints, Poyntyngdon, vacant by the resignation of Master Ralph Carnarthur, on the presentation of John Colshull, knight. Afterwards, William Porter and John Panter, proctors of Sir Walter, entered into a bond in 40*l.* to preserve the bishop from any trouble arising on account of this admission. The said bond is pending on the file for 1458 in the bishop's registry at Wells. Date as above.

1459. 1180. Institution of Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, as rector of the church of Shepton Malet, on the presentation of Sir Edward, the king's eldest son, prince of Wales, duke of Cornwall and earl of Chester. Banwel, 3 January, 1458[-9].

f. 233. 1181. Institution of Master John Wygrym, canon of Wells, in the person of William Ketyl, his proctor, as rector of the church of Temple Combe, vacant by the resignation of Master William de la Barre, on the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury. 3 February, the same place and year.

1182. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general, both canons of Wells,—inasmuch as Brother John Pester, prior of the house, or priory, of Witham of the Carthusian order, and the convent of that place, have represented to the bishop that, whereas formerly lay persons, out of devotion to the priory, used to take on themselves the habit and profession of the said order and as lay brethren cultivate the lands of the priory within the bounds marked out by Pope Celestine, now of late the devotion of the people waxes cold and there are no lay brethren there to do the said works, so that the prior and convent have for some time been compelled to have secular persons of

both sexes dwelling and making their homes on the said lands, 1459.  
for whom a churchyard and a baptismal font are most necessary ;  
and whereas for the above and other reasons the prior and convent have prayed the bishop to set apart, bless and dedicate as a churchyard and place of burial a certain part of the land or glebe annexed to the chapel of ' La Frary ' which has been built, dedicated and consecrated within the said bounds in honour of the Virgin Mary, and to grant licence for them (the prior and convent) to erect and make a font for the baptism of children and catechumens born within the said bounds, and to appoint a chaplain to celebrate masses and other divine offices in the said chapel and administer the sacraments and sacramentals to those dwelling within the said bounds,—to make enquiry as to the truth of these representations. 5 January, the same place and year.

1183. Grant by the bishop of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall contribute to the maintenance of the chantry, or fraternity, of St. John the Baptist in the church of St. Cuthbert, Wells, and to the support (*exhibitionem*) of a chaplain thereof to celebrate masses at the altar of St. John the Baptist on the south side of the said church for the good estate of the brethren and sisters of the chantry, or fraternity, who are living and for the souls of those who are deceased. Licence, also, for the said chaplain, at the request of any of the brethren or sisters of the fraternity who are prevented by old age or infirmity from coming to the parish church to hear divine offices, to celebrate masses with a portable altar in the presence of any such brother or sister, in any suitable place in Wells, or, if he be lawfully prevented, to procure another chaplain to celebrate for him, provided that the rights of others be not prejudiced. 6 January, the same place and year.

1184. Request to the king for the arrest of Walter Moys, of Wells, who has remained obdurate under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more. Wells palace, 10 January, 1458[-9].

1185. The like request for the arrest of William Prall, Thomas

1459. Roke, William Pope the younger, and John Gor', of Taunton, William Grove, of Fydyngton, Sir Richard Wely, chaplain, of Brugwater, and John Trent, of Hethfeld. Date as above.

f. 234. 1186. Licence for Master Stephen Alva, bachelor in decrees, rector of the church of Corscomb, to study for two years in any university, receiving meanwhile the fruits of his benefice; provided he leave a proctor to answer for him. Banwel, 18 January, 1458[-9].

1187. Licence for John Fitz James, esquire, and Alice, his wife, to have divine service celebrated in the chapel, or oratory, within their dwelling at Redligh, or in any other suitable place within the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. 24 January, the same place and year.

1188. Request to the king for the arrest of John Iryssh, of Bidesham, who has remained under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more. 26 January, the same place and year.

1189. Institution of Sir John Menyman, chaplain, as rector of the church of Aysshbritell, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Pedewel, on the presentation of John Sydenham, esquire. 6 February, the same place and year.

1190. Institution of Sir Simon Brail, chaplain, in the person of Master Robert Takyll, M.A., his proctor, as rector of the church of Norton under Hamden, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Tregeuren,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of Alice, duchess of Suffolk. Woky, 15 February, 1458[-9].

1191. Licence for John Crosse, prior, and Thomas Daperfeld, William Frampton, bachelors of theology, and John Sant, brethren of Glastonbury abbey, to preach in churches and elsewhere in the diocese during the bishop's pleasure, provided they obtain their abbot's consent to do so. 17 February, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> The will of Thomas 'Tregenven' was proved in November, 1458. *Som. Med. Wills*, p. 180.

1192. Letters dimissory for John Coty *alias* Hobbes, of Wyncalton, sub-deacon, to the orders of deacon and priest, and for Simon Charde, of Taunton, and Thomas Nahelion, of Modeford, acolytes, to all holy orders. 18 February, the same place and year. 1459.

1193. Institution of Sir Richard Wiche, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Worle, vacant by the death of Sir John Hoper, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Worspyng. 19 February, the same place and year.

1194. Institution of Sir John Clerk, chaplain, as rector of the church of Baggeworth, vacant by the death of Master Richard Bristow, on the presentation of Richard Hampton, esquire. 27 February, the same place and year.

1195. Letters dimissory to all orders for William Fluet, of Pensford, who has the first clerical tonsure. 10 March, the same place and year.

1196. Licence for William Foxe, of Stoke under Hamden, to have divine service celebrated in his dwelling in the parish of Stoke aforesaid so long as his present bodily infirmity lasts. 11 March, the same place and year.

1197. Letters dimissory to all orders for William Serne, of Shepton Malet. 16 March, the same place and year.

1198. Institution of Sir John Braas, chaplain, as rector of the church of Hawkrych, vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Chalton, on the presentation of John Wroth, esquire. The said Sir John entered into a bond in 20*l.*,—which remains on the file in the bishop's registry of Wells,—to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his admission to the said church without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. Wells palace, 23 March, 1458[-9].

1199. Commission to William, bishop of Sidon, prior of Motfont, in the diocese of Winchester, to dedicate, consecrate and bless a portion of land set apart as a churchyard and place of



1459. burial by Master John Stokes, canon of Wells, the bishop's commissary-general, within the bounds marked out by Pope Celestine for the Carthusian priory of Witham.<sup>1</sup> Woky, 2 April, 1459.

1200. Collation to Master Henry Webber, bachelor in both laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmour II. vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Kyrkby; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 873), the oaths being taken on his behalf by William Elyot, chaplain, his proctor. 3 April, the same place and year.

1201. Approval by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir Thomas Shorttrygge, perpetual vicar of the church of Somerton, and Sir William Carus, rector of the church of Brympton. Institution of Sir Thomas as rector of Brympton on the presentation of John Sydenham, esquire; and institution of Sir William as perpetual vicar of Somerton, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Mochelney. 14 April, the same place and year.

1202. On 17 April in the same year, the bishop, while celebrating mass in the chapel in Woky manor, received the vow of chastity made by Elizabeth Biccomb, widow, relict of Hugh Biccomb, gentleman, of Craucomb, in the form written on a certain parchment which she held in her hand and read, to wit:—

'I, Elizabet, widowe, vowe God perpetuel chastite of my body  
'fro hens forward in presence of yow, ful worshipful fader in  
'God lord Thomas by the grace of God bisship of Bathe and  
'Welles, and promitte stably to lyve in this avowe; and to do  
'and perfourme the same I here with myn owne hand subscribe  
'me ✠.'

As she could not write, she made the sign of the cross on the parchment with her own hands. And thereupon the bishop, after the completion of the solemnities requisite in such cases, caused her to be clothed with a widow's habit and the other signs suitable for a widow making such a vow. Present, Master

<sup>1</sup> See no. 1182 above.

John Pope, S.T.P., Master Robert Peuesy and Master Richard Swan, canons of Wells, William Kyng, chaplain, Richard Touker, notary-public, John Wisdom, John Compayne and Thomas Horn, literates, and John Touker, notary-public, the bishop's registrar.<sup>1</sup> 1459.

1203. Letters' testimonial by the bishop touching the above vow. Date as above.

1204. Institution of Master Robert Fabel, master in grammar, *f. 236.* as rector of the church of Bekyngton, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Purveour, on the presentation of Thomas Sayntmor, knight. Woky, 18 April, 1459.

1205. Institution of Sir David Knyffton, chaplain, in the person of Master John Pope, S.T.P., his proctor, as rector of the church of Ubley, vacant by the resignation of Sir Roger Heugh, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham. Banwel, 21 April, 1459.

1206. Institution of Sir John Crofte, chaplain, as rector of the church of Estluccomb, vacant by the death of Master Thomas Twhiford, on the presentation of William Seint John. 22 April, the same place and year.

1207. Collation to Master Thomas Bromhale of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Congresbury, vacant by the resignation of Master John Bernard and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him accordingly in the person of Thomas Horn, B.A., his proctor. 24 April, the same place and year.

1208. Assignment by the bishop to Master John Bernard, treasurer of Wells, late vicar of the church of Congresburie, in order that in his old age and bodily weakness he may not be defrauded of the necessities of life which are suitable to his person, to the shame and disgrace of the cathedral church, of a yearly pension of 16*l.* out of the fruits of his late vicarage, to be paid by Master Thomas Bromhale, the new vicar, and his successors. The new vicar has assented to this award, and has sworn on the gospels to observe it. Each of his successors, immediately after

<sup>1</sup> See *Some Somerset Manors*, p. 291.

1459. institution, is to make a like oath; and, in the event of the award being disregarded or violated at any time, and the vicar for the time being neglecting for twelve days to obey the request of the said Master John to observe it, he shall *ipso facto* incur sentence of the greater excommunication, and moreover the bishop and his successors, and the official or president of the bishop's consistory of Wells, shall be at liberty to sequester the fruits of the vicarage until observance of the award has been secured. 26 April, the same place and year.

f. 237.

1209. On 26 April, the same place and year, the bishop received a certificate from George, bishop of Exeter, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir Adam Rowe, rector of the church of Tolond, and Sir Thomas Bruton, rector of the church of Bradford, in the diocese of Exeter, from which it appeared that the said bishop of Exeter, on the authority of a commission from the bishop, had approved the said exchange and instituted Sir Thomas as rector of the church of Tolond, on the presentation of Brother Robert Botyll, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. The usual letter of induction was issued in favour of Sir Thomas after the bishop had received his oath of canonical obedience.

1210. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general, both canons of Wells,—inasmuch as the bishop, at his own expense and with the assent of the dean and chapter, lately caused a portion of the churchyard of Wells cathedral adjoining the wall of the house, or dwelling, of the choristers of the cathedral to be walled in and enclosed for the enlargement of the said house and the improvement (*decorem*) of the churchyard, and intends to have the same profaned and appointed for the use of the choristers,—to proceed to carry out the said profanation and appointment, after summoning the dean and chapter in particular and all other persons having any interest in the matter in general. Banwel, 6 May, 1459.

1211. Notification by the bishop that, in pursuance of representations made to him by John Pester, prior of the priory of

Witham of the Carthusian order, and the convent of that place (no. 1182 above), he has caused a certain portion of land which adjoins the chapel of La Frary and is enclosed with a newly made quickset hedge, and another portion of land which adjoins the west door and wall of the said chapel and is walled in and roofed, to be blessed and dedicated by William, bishop of Sidon, as a churchyard and place of burial, and has granted licence for the prior and convent to erect and make a baptismal font in the said chapel and appoint a chaplain to celebrate masses, etc. there. 20 May, the same place and year. 1459.

1212. Approval by Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, *f. 238.* by authority from him, of an exchange of benefices between Sir William Brydde, perpetual vicar of Mertok, and Master John Ludeford, bachelor in decrees, rector of Stratton on the Fosse. Institution of Sir William as rector of the church of Stratton aforesaid, on the presentation of Edward, prince of Wales; and institution of Master John as perpetual vicar of the church of Mertok, on the presentation of Master John Bernard, treasurer of Wells. Wells, 7 May, 1459.

1213. Commission to Thomas Smyth, the bishop's apparitor-general, Richard Tyke, literate, and John Palle,—on representations by Master Richard Wetton, doctor of laws, that although it is ordained and provided by law and the constitutions of the province of Canterbury and the legatine constitutions that no one holding two incompatible benefices shall be admitted to a third benefice with cure unless the ordinary, after enquiries as to character and other requisite matters, shall first ascertain whether he has other benefices with cure, and, if so, whether he has a dispensation,—which dispensation, if he says he has one, must be exhibited to the ordinary before admission,—and that any collation, admission, institution, or induction of a person notoriously excommunicate is uncanonical and shall be null and void, and that every person admitted to a parish church or benefice with cure shall be bound within a year after his admission to obtain promotion to the priesthood, nevertheless Master John Lax has for several years been in possession at one and the same time of the church of Strete with the chapel of Walton and the church of

1459. Becles, in the diocese of Norwich, benefices with cure and incompatible, and being in possession of these altogether incompatible benefices has procured his admission, institution and induction to the church of Dychesyate, a benefice with cure, without any enquiries being made as specified above, or any legatine dispensation being exhibited, or any assurance being given concerning the same, and has long been in possession of the above three incompatible benefices with cure, and moreover was excommunicate by the authority of the Apostolic See at the time of his admission to the church of Dychesyate, and also failed to procure his promotion to the priesthood or holy orders within a year or years of his being in possession of the said benefices with cure, and is not yet in holy orders,—to cite the said Master John personally, if he can be reached, or his proctor if he has left one in the parish of Dychesyate, or else to make public citation at the dwelling house of the rectory and in the church there on some festival during mass, to appear before the bishop or his commissary in Wells cathedral on Monday after Trinity Sunday next to show cause why the said Master Richard, who has been presented to the said church, vacant for the above causes, by the abbot and convent of Glastonbury, should not be admitted, instituted and inducted to the said church.<sup>1</sup> Banwel, 12 May, 1459.

*Note in margin :* Here should come the institution to the church of Dichesyate, dated 21 May, which is entered below (no. 1236).

1214. Presentation by the bishop of Master Robert Canynges *alias* Peuesy, M.A., to the vicarage of the church of Whitchurche in Mershwode Vale, in the diocese of Salisbury, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Kyng *alias* Holben, and in the bishop's collation by full right. Letter to Richard, bishop of Salisbury, for the institution of Master Robert. 4 June, the same place and year.

1215. Institution of Master William Tybard, bachelor of theology, as rector of the church of Cracumb, vacant by the death of Master Richard Furneys, on the presentation of the prioress

<sup>1</sup> See nos. 1143, 1366, 1408, and *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. pp. 49, 55, 71; vol. xi. pp. 98, 554.

and convent of Stodley, in the diocese of Lincoln. 7 June, the same place and year. 1459.

1216. Institution of Master John Ludford, bachelor in both laws, as rector of the church of Berkley, vacant by the death of Sir John Harewyll,<sup>1</sup> on the presentation of John Neuburgh, esquire, of the diocese of Salisbury, patron of the church in right of Alice his wife. The said Master John promised to produce before the Assumption next a new presentation for preservation in the bishop's registry, sealed by John Neuburgh and containing a clause stating that the church was in his presentation in right of Alice his wife. 11 June, the same place and year. f. 239.

1217. Institution of John Dyer, B.A., in the person of Master Thomas Mark, his proctor, as rector of the church of Highamme, vacant by the death of Master John Kyrkeby, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. 12 June, the same place and year.

1218. Institution of Master Thomas Overay, bachelor in laws, in the person of Sir William Russel, his proctor, as rector of the church of Staulegh, vacant by the death of Sir David Moungan, on the presentation of William Powlet, knight. Before admission, the said Master Thomas produced apostolic letters authorising him to hold two incompatible benefices.<sup>2</sup> Present, Sir Walter Osborn, canon of Wells, John Swetyng, literate, and John Touker. 15 June, the same place and year.

1219. Collation to Sir Walter Osborn, canon of Wells, of the church of Holecumb, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as rector in the person of Anselm Old, his proctor.<sup>3</sup> 20 June, the same place and year.

1220. Indenture, reciting that, whereas the bishop formerly granted and confirmed by charter to Thomas Boleyn, clerk, and

<sup>1</sup> There is no record of his institution.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Overay was at this time rector of Cheddon. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 517.

<sup>3</sup> Walter Osborn, vicar of Frome, had a dispensation for a plurality of benefices. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 522.

1459. John Trevenant, clerk, now deceased, a vacant piece of ground in Wells containing 243 feet in length and 36 feet in breadth, the east end abutting on the wall of the garden of the choristers of the cathedral and the west end on the tenement in which David Taylour now dwells, and lying between the churchyard of the cathedral on the north and the market-place on the south, to the intent that the said Thomas and John should enfeof Master Nicholas Carent, dean, and the chapter of Wells thereof, and whereas the said piece of ground is now enclosed with stone walls and built upon with divers costly buildings or messuages erected at no small expense to the bishop, and whereas the said Thomas and John granted the said land, walls and buildings to the said dean and chapter and their successors, to hold of the chief lords, and the dean and chapter are now seised thereof in demesne as of fee ; the bishop has granted licence for the said dean and chapter to have two gutters or subterranean passages made at the bishop's cost under the pavement of the street called the ' Marketplace ' and the house and garden of Thomas Horewode and the garden of Master John Morton, leading from the said messuages to the stream running from the spring called ' Seynt Andrewis wellle ' at the back of the house of the said Thomas Horewode, and to break and dig up the said pavement and the soil of the said house and gardens, and clean, empty, repair and renew the said gutters or passages, whenever necessary, within a breadth of 8 feet and a depth of 12 feet ; provided that, whenever such breaking up and digging is undertaken, they cover up the work at their own cost as soon as possible and compensate the bishop or his tenants for any damage. 23 June, the same place and year.

1221. Appointment of Master Richard Swan, M.A., canon of Wells, to be the bishop's receiver-general. [The terms are similar to those set out above in the case of Sir John Trevenant and Sir John Haydour, no. 351.] 24 June, the same place and year.

f. 240. 1222. Collation to Master Richard Swan, M.A., of the provostship of Wells and the prebend of Combe XII. annexed thereto, vacant by the death of Sir John Garnesey, chaplain ; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). 21 June, the same place and year.

On 15 July, in the chapel in Banwel manor, the bishop protested that he did not intend by the said letter of induction to take away, or prejudice in any way, the right and liberty of his successors. Present, Master John Pope, S.T.P., Master Robert Peuesy, bachelor in both laws, John Austil, esquire, and others. 1459.

1223. Collation to Master Robert Peuesy, bachelor in both laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmor IV. vacant by the resignation of Master Richard Swan; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). 23 June, the same place and year.

1224. Commission to Sir John Philippes, perpetual vicar of the church of Weston by Bath, to be guardian and administrator of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bath, during the vacancy caused by the death of Brother Peter Buryman, late master thereof. The bishop commends him for his success in administering the goods of the hospital as coadjutor of the said master. 26 June, the same place and year.

1225. Collation to Sir Richard Worthyngton, chaplain, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wyvelescomb vacant by the death of Master John Kyrkeby; and institution accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 873). Present, the prior of Bruton, John Sydenham the elder, esquire, John Newton, esquire, John Austil, esquire, Sir Richard Hayman, rector of St. Faith's, London, Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, Master William Childe, M.A., and many others. Date as above.

1226. Notification<sup>1</sup> by John Henton, prior, and the convent of Bruton, that, in consideration of a grant by John Henton, 'mercier,' and Agnes his wife, the prior's parents, of a great bell for the conventual church and 400*l.* for the fabric of the said church and the cloister of the priory, the prior and convent have unanimously and gratefully received the said John and Agnes and the offspring of both of them into the fraternity of the said church and priory, and have granted that they shall forever hereafter be participators in all masses and divine offices cele- 1458. f. 241.

<sup>1</sup> Part printed in *Som. & Dorset Notes & Queries*, vol. iii. pp. 88-90.



1458. brated in the priory, and in all prayers, fastings, alms and other works of piety performed there.

Moreover, the prior, out of compassion for the paucity of food and sustenance of the convent, has, with the consent of the convent, granted to the convent for himself and his successors a yearly rent or pension of 100s. out of the manor of Stonyeston and the proceeds thereof for the undermentioned uses and no others; and he and the convent bind themselves to pay 10*l.* to the bishop for his alms whenever the said rent or pension is in arrear for fifteen days. The prior has also ordained, with the consent of the convent, that on every day of the year, except Easter day, the convent shall cause a mass to be celebrated by one of the brethren at the altar of St. Aldelm in the nave of the said church for the good estate of himself, his parents and the benefactors of the priory during their lifetime, and for their souls when they are dead, and also cause the exequies of the dead to be said with nine lessons. During Easter, the celebrant shall be allowed to say the exequies with three lessons. The brethren who are priests shall take turn week by week in celebrating and saying the said masses and exequies, and shall receive 2*d.* a day for so doing out of the aforesaid sum of 100s. The celebrant shall say aloud every day before the beginning of the mass the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation for the souls of the said prior, establisher of this chantry, and his parents, and of all the faithful departed. Moreover, the prior has ordained, with the consent of the convent, that, after the death of himself and his parents, the exequies of the dead with mass shall be solemnly celebrated every year at the said altar on the day after the date of his death if possible, and in any case within five days thereafter, for his soul and the souls of his said parents, and that 20s. shall be distributed among the prior, canons and brethren present thereat, and 6s. 8*d.* among poor persons at the discretion of the prior and the sub-prior, out of the said 100s., and that the sacristan of the conventual church shall receive 12*d.* for candles, and the clerks 20*d.* for ringing the bells, by the hands of the sub-prior or the third prior. The remainder of the said sum of 100s. is to be reserved for ornaments of the said altar, especially sacerdotal ones, and the maintenance of the lights when masses

are celebrated thereat as above, and for five candles to be provided 1458.  
at the said altar throughout the year, and double the number  
at every greater feast, to be renewed every year towards the feast  
of the Assumption, and for five candles to be lit in the chapel  
of St. Laurence the Martyr in the said church as often as mass  
is celebrated there, to be renewed every year about the feast of  
St. Laurence. These letters indented and tripartite,—one part  
of which is to remain in the bishop's archives, the second part  
in the archives of Wells cathedral, and the third part in the  
priory archives,—were sealed with the common seal of the priory,  
26 April, 1458.

1227. Confirmation of the above by the bishop. Banwel, 1459.  
1 July, 1459.

1228. On 9 July, at Banwel, Master Thomas Boleyn, warden  
of the college of Meydynstone in Kent, exhibited to the bishop a  
dispensation of Pope Pius I, dated at Siena, 14 Kal. Apr. (19  
March), 1458[–9],<sup>1</sup> enabling him to hold three incompatible f. 243.  
benefices, provided they be not three major dignities in cathedral  
churches, or principal dignities in collegiate churches, or three  
parish churches, or their perpetual vicarages. Present, John  
Austil and Roger Vagharn, esquires, and John Touker, notary.

1229. Institution of Sir William Percyvale, chaplain, as per-  
petual vicar of the church of Kyngesbury, vacant by the death  
of Sir John Garnesey, on the presentation of Master Thomas  
Chaundeler, chancellor of Wells. Letter of induction to Master  
John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general. Banwel, 13 July,  
1459.

1230. Letters dimissory to the order of priesthood for William  
Gough *alias* Philippis, of Bekynton. Woky, 18 July, 1459.

1231. Collation to John Compayn, B.A., of the free chapel  
of Blakeford,<sup>2</sup> vacant by the death of Sir John Garnesey and  
in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 531.

<sup>2</sup> Blackford in Wedmore.

1459. warden. Letter of induction to the perpetual vicar of the church of Wedmore and Thomas Horn, B.A. Present, John Austil, esquire, Master John Pope, S.T.P., Master William Child, M.A., and many others. 21 July, the same place and year.

1232. Institution by Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, acting by his authority, of Sir Philip Torr, chaplain, in the person of John Carter, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Ayshhil, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Saylake, on the presentation of Master John Sperhawke, canon of Wells and prebendary of Ayshil. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. The chapel of the Virgin Mary by the cloister of Wells cathedral, 24 July, 1459.

1233. Institution of Sir Gregory Rothynburgh, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Hampton, vacant by the canonical deprivation of Sir William Groce, on the presentation of the prior and convent, or chapter, of Bath. Woky, 27 July, 1459.

1234. On 28 July, during mass celebrated by the bishop in the chapel in Woky manor, the bishop received the vow of chastity made by Joan ap Thomas, widow, relict of John ap Thomas, esquire, of Langattok near Bergevenye in Wales, in the form of words contained in a parchment which she held in her hands and read, as follows :—

'I, Johane, widowe, vowe to God perpetuel chastite of my  
' body fro hens forward in presence of yow, ful worshipful fader  
' in God, lord Thomas by the grace of God bisship of Bathe and  
' Wellys, and promytte stably to lyve in this avowe. And to do  
' and perfourme the same I here with myn owne hande subscribe  
' me ✠.'

And as she could not write, she made the sign of the cross.  
f. 244. Thereupon the bishop, after the completion of the requisite solemnities, caused her to be clothed with a widow's habit and the other marks of a widow under vow of chastity. Present, John Austil, esquire, Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, Nicholas Collys, notary-public, Thomas Horn, B.A., John Touker, notary-public, the bishop's registrar, and many others.

1235. Collation to Master Richard Lichefeld, doctor of laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Cory vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Peuesy; and institution, etc. accordingly. [Letter of induction as above, no. 873.] Woky, 6 August, 1459. 1459.

1236. Institution by Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, acting by his authority, of Master Richard Wetton, doctor of laws, as rector of the church of Dychesyate, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury, saving a yearly pension of 40s. to be paid therefrom to the said abbot and convent according to ancient custom. Present, Master William Fulford and Master John Midelton, bachelors in both laws, and William Vowel, Nicholas Collys and John Touker, notaries-public. Wells cathedral, 21 May, 1459.

1237. Collation by the chancellor (as above) to Sir Richard Wiche, chaplain, of the church of Axbrigge, vacant by the resignation of Master John Morton and in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him as rector. Afterwards the chancellor, with the assent of the new rector, assigned a yearly pension of 10*l.* out of the fruits of the church to the resigning rector. The chapel in Woky manor, 13 August, 1459.

1238. Assignment (as above) to the said Master John Moreton, S.T.P., residentiary canon of Wells and late rector of Axbrugge, of the said pension of 10*l.* in consideration of his degree, estate and honour, and the charge of his residence in the cathedral. [The terms of the assignment are similar to those set out above, no. 1208.] Wells palace, 18 August, 1459.

1239. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, and John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general, to take action touching the non-observance of the injunctions laid on the monasteries of Keynesham, Mochelney and Athelney, and the priories of Bruton and Taunton, as above (no. 1159). 19 August, the same place and year. f. 245

1240. Collation to Sir Richard Huchyns, vicar choral of Wells cathedral, of the second chamber on the east side of the vicars'

1459. close ; with an injunction to repair, remake, roof and maintain the same in all its parts, together with all the buildings, both old and new, pertaining and adjacent thereto. If he cease to dwell there for a whole year, or neglect to repair it, he shall be forever deprived thereof. Evercryche, 27 August, 1459.

1241. On 1 September, in the palace of Wells, Master John Cutturne, perpetual vicar of Evercryche, swore on the Gospels in the presence of Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, to pay a yearly pension of 6 marks out of the fruits, etc. of his vicarage to Sir John Smyth, late perpetual vicar thereof, for life, and to observe in all respects the ordinance and decree made thereon. Present, Thomas Horn and John Touker.

1242. Institution of Sir John Crosse, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Worle, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Wiche, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Worspryng. Wells palace, 4 September, 1459.

1243. Institution of Sir William Grendham, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Lockyng, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Crosse, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Worspryng. Woky, 12 September, 1459.

1244. Collation to Richard Higons, vicar choral of Wells cathedral, of the sixth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. 18 September, the same place and year.

1245. Grant for life to the bishop's servant, Walter Vincent, for past and future good service, of the office of keeper of the bishop's park of Claverton, to be exercised in person or by deputy, receiving such wages and profits as former keepers have received. He must not grant away the said office without special licence. 20 September, the same place and year.

1246. Grant in like terms to the bishop's servant, Richard Erle, of the office of keeper of the bishop's park of Pokylchurche. Date as above.

1247. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Dyer, B.A., rector of Highham. 22 September, the same place and year.

1248. Licence for the said John Dyer to study for the next seven years, receiving meanwhile the fruits of his church of Highham, and not being bound, after he has taken the order of deacon, to take higher orders, according to the chapter *Cum ex eo* ; provided always that his church be well served and the cure of souls be not neglected, and that he leave a proctor in his place to answer to the bishop and his ministers. Date as above. 1459. f. 246.

1249. Collation of the following chambers in the vicars' close of Wells, to wit to William Jory the seventh on the east side, to Richard Harreys the sixth on the west side, to John atte Welle the second on the west side, and to John Stevyns the twentieth on the east side. 26 September, the same place and year.

1250. Collation to Robert Wiseman, as above, of the third chamber on the west side. Wells palace, 5 October, 1459.

1251. Institution of Sir Thomas Cosyn, chaplain, as rector of the church of Brokleigh, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Stafford, on the presentation of Nicholas Hervy, gentleman. Inasmuch as Sir Thomas at the time of his examination appeared to Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor and examiner, to be too simple in his knowledge of letters to have the cure of souls, he took an oath on the Gospels to study with diligence until the Exaltation of the Holy Cross next,<sup>1</sup> to present himself for re-examination by the said chancellor, or, in his absence, by the official of the episcopal consistory of Wells, or some other commissary appointed by the bishop, on some day during the consistory following the said feast, and to resign his church if then found still unfit. Present, John Austyl, esquire, Master John Pope, S.T.P., John Touker, notary, and others. 9 October, the same place and year.

1252. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest for Brother John Chester, regular canon of Taunton priory. 11 October, the same place and year.

1253. Commission, during pleasure, to John, bishop of Tenos (*Tinen'*), to act as the bishop's suffragan, the bishop being pre-

<sup>1</sup> 14 September, 1460.

1459. vented by old age and bodily weakness from exercising all the duties of his office. [The terms are similar to those set out in the commission to James, bishop of Achonry, no. 16 above.] 17 October, the same place and year.

1254. Grant, until 4 April next, of forty days' indulgence to all confessed and contrite persons who shall contribute to the assistance and relief of Sir John Sthaurachii, knight, late a noble of Constantinople, who was present, as the bishop has heard, at the destruction of Constantinople, when his father and one of his brothers were killed, and his mother, brother, two sisters, kinsmen and relations were taken into captivity and reduced to slavery by the Turks. He has lost all his possessions and been driven from his native country, and now craves the charity of the faithful for his own sustenance and the ransom of his mother and sisters. 18 October, the same place and year.

- f. 247. 1255. Collation to Philip Sporier, perpetual vicar choral of Wells cathedral, of the eighteenth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. 19 October, the same place and year.

1256: The like to Sir John Swyndon, chaplain, of the fifth chamber on the west side. 20 October, the same place and year.

1257. The like to John Stevyns of the eleventh chamber on the west side. 24 October, the same place and year.

1258. Licence for Sir John Benet, perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Virgin Mary in the church of Cru kern, who is eighty years old and has for thirty-three years and more laudably served the said chantry and exercised the choir of the said church in the daily divine offices celebrated there with note,—on trustworthy information that he cannot henceforth be present at all the offices accustomed to be celebrated daily there without grave risk of shortening his life,—to abstain from the said divine offices as often as he shall think it advisable for the maintenance of his health. But none the less he is faithfully to observe the foundation ordinance of his chantry. 28 October, the same place and year.

1259. Collation to Sir Thadeus Omuryssy, chaplain, of the church of Whetehill, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as rector. Afterwards he took his oath that he would present himself for examination before Michaelmas next in order to show what progress in knowledge, and especially in English idiom, he shall have made meanwhile. 3 November, the same place and year. 1459.

1260. Writ of summons, with clause *premunientes*, to the parliament to be held at Coventre on 20 November next. Leomynster, 9 October, 38 Hen. VI.<sup>1</sup> By K.

1261. Appointment by the bishop of Richard, bishop of Salisbury, John, abbot of Glastonbury, Robert, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, Ralph Boteler, lord of Sudelegh, knight, and Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, as his proctors at the said parliament, he himself being prevented from attending. Wells palace, 6 November, 1459.

1262. Institution of Sir Thomas Wandre, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Chedder, vacant by the resignation of Master John Pederton, on the presentation of Master John Spekyngton, subdean of Wells and, in the dean's absence, president of the chapter, and the chapter of Wells. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Afterwards, with the assent of the new vicar, the bishop assigned a yearly pension of 16*l.* out of the fruits of the vicarage to the resigning vicar, which pension the new vicar swore on the Gospels to pay faithfully. Date as above.

1263. Institution of Master Thomas Been, bachelor in decrees, *f. 248.* as perpetual vicar of the church of Banwel, vacant by the death of Master William Peryn, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton. Letter of induction to Master John Stokes, commissary-general. 9 November, the same place and year.

1264. Indenture, being a grant by Henry Abyndon, succentor in Wells cathedral, to John Pedewel, clerk, and John Skypper, 1458.

<sup>1</sup> *Report on the Dignity of a Peer*, app. i. part ii. p. 940.



1458. son of John Skypper, for life and in survivorship, of a close of pasture called 'Ferthyng acre' and  $\frac{1}{2}$ a. meadow in 'Horyngdon mede,' a grange called 'Southbarn' with a garden adjoining, 2a. meadow in 'Paulesham mede,' 1a. meadow in 'Carswel-medede' and 2 half acres there; to hold at a yearly rent of 10s. 1d. payable to the grantor and his successors; with provisoes for distrain in the event of the rent being wholly or partly in arrear for fifteen days, and for re-entry if the rent be in arrear for a year and no distrain can be found on the premises. The lessees are to keep the premises in repair. Warranty clause. Witnesses, William Voel, master of the city of Wells, Thomas Horewode, Henry Sayncler and others. Wells, 5 August, 36 Hen. VI.

1265. The like grant by the same to Henry Clerke, Isabel his wife, and John son of the said Isabel, of a close called 'Swenyngtham' lying on the west side of Wells, between the close of Edward Hogges on the east and the close of John Godwyne on the west, and 1a. land at Bolytr' in the field called 'Walcomesfelde' in the parish of Wells, to hold for life successively, rendering 4s. 6d. yearly to the grantor and his successors or assigns. The lessees are to keep the close, as in hedges and ditches, in proper repair and well scoured. Proviso for re-entry if the rent be in arrear for a month and no sufficient distrain can be found on the premises. Warranty clause. Witnesses, John atte Water, master of the town of Wells, William Vowel, John Godwyne and others. 10 November, 37 Hen. VI.

1266. The like grant by the same to Agnes Bultyng, wife of William Bultyng the elder, of Walcombe in the parish of Wells, William son of the said William and Agnes, and Alice wife of the said William Bultyng the younger, of all his close called 'Nepes-triste,' with 36a. arable and pasture belonging and adjacent thereto, lying in divers fields by Walcombe aforesaid, to hold for life and in survivorship, rendering 30s. yearly to the grantor and his successors, executors or assigns. Conditions as above (last entry). Witnesses, William Vovell, master of the town of Wells, John Sadeler and John Grype, constables there, and many others. St. Bartholomew's day, 36 Hen. VI.

1267. Confirmation by the bishop of the above three grants. 1459.  
Wells palace, 15 November, 1459. f. 249.

1268. Letters of indulgence for Geoffrey Hyde, proctor, or envoy, of the hospital of the Holy Trinity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to collect alms in the diocese for two years. 28 November, the same place and year.

1269. Dispensation for Master John Heth, rector of Tyntynhill,<sup>1</sup> to celebrate masses and other divine offices notwithstanding that part of the forefinger of his right hand has been cut off ; as the bishop is assured that the said mutilation happened through no fault of his. 5 December, the same place and year.

1270. Dispensation for Joan, an anchorite enclosed within the parish church of Crukern,—on representations by her that she has for many years observed the injunction to abstain from eating flesh which she took on herself by the authority of John Stafford, the bishop's predecessor, but that owing to age and occasional infirmity she cannot any longer continually observe the same,—to eat flesh on every day of the year on which such eating is allowed by the Church. 12 December, the same place and year.

1271. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Robert Rogers, of Sevenhampton, acolyte. 5 December, the same place and year.

1272. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Parker, of Glastonbury. 23 December, the same place and year.

1273. On 5 January, 1459[–60], in the palace of Wells, the bishop received from the bailiff of Blakedon the following letter of Henry, duke of Exeter, directed to the said bailiff, his household servant (*famulo*):— 1460.

' To our trusty servant the bayliff of Blakdon. We wil and ' charge yow that ye charge al our tenantes of our lordship and ' manor of Blakedon to sewe un to the law day of the right

<sup>1</sup> John Heth is commemorated by a brass in this church, which he served until 1464[–5]. *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xxxii. p. 70.

1460. 'reverend fadre in God the bisship of Bathe of his maner of  
'Banwel like as they were woned of old tyme, un to suche tyme  
'ye have other in commaundement from us. Yeven under our  
'signet at Coventre, the x. day of Decembre. Excest' H.'

1274. Institution of Sir Thomas Derby, chaplain, as rector of the church of Holford, vacant by the resignation of Sir William John, on the presentation of William Westbury, provost of the king's college of St. Mary, Eton by Windsor, and the said college. Oath of canonical obedience taken by Master Thomas Overay, his proctor. Wells palace, 8 January, 1459[-60].

1275. Institution of Master Thomas Overay, bachelor in laws, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Milverton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Savage, on the presentation of Master Robert Stillyngton, archdeacon of Taunton. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Subsequently the bishop, with the consent of the parties, assigned to the resigning vicar a yearly pension of 7 marks for life out of the fruits of the vicarage, and the incoming vicar made oath to pay the same. Date as above.

1276. On 18 January, 1459[-60], in the chapel of the Virgin Mary by the cloister of Wells cathedral, Thomas Cole *alias* Baker, and Agnes his wife, of Philippis Norton, appeared before Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor and commissary in this behalf, and confessed themselves guilty of certain articles of heresy, submitting themselves humbly to the bishop's correction. Thereupon, the chancellor committed them to prison pending his decision in the matter.

f. 250.

On 23 January, they again appeared before the chancellor, and Master John Pederton, S.T.P., Master William Fulford and Master John Stokis, bachelors in both laws, all three residentiary canons of Wells, who were supporting him, and the chancellor enjoined on them their penance, to wit that before all else they should solemnly abjure in writing the aforesaid articles and all heresies and errors in general; that on the same day they should walk humbly as penitents before the procession of the cathedral church round the market-place and the High Street of

Wells, with bare feet, and the said Thomas with bare head, 1460.  
carrying burning candles in their hands and bundles of wood  
on their shoulders; and that in like manner they should pass  
before the procession round the church or the churchyard of the  
parish church of Norton aforesaid on the following Sunday.

Thereupon, the chancellor with his supporters repaired to the  
cathedral church; and the said Thomas and Agnes made their  
abjurations as they were read to them before him as he sat in  
the middle of the nave, supported by Master Nicholas Carent,  
dean of Wells, the aforesaid canons, and other residentiary canons,  
in the following form:—

‘ In the name of God, Amen. Before yow, Maister Hugh  
‘ Sugar, doctor of lawe and chanon of the cathedral cherche of  
‘ Welles, by the right reverend fader in God Thomas by the  
‘ grace of God bisshop of Bathe and of Welles commissarie suffi-  
‘ ciently and specially deputed in this party, I, Thomas Cole  
‘ *alias* Baker, lay man of the towne of Philippis Norton, of the  
‘ diocese and jurisdiction of the forseyd reverend fader in God,  
‘ detect, denounced and noysed to his reverend faderhode and to  
‘ yow, Maister Hugh Sugar, his seyd commissarie, suspect of  
‘ heresie, errours and other articles evilsownyng, beyng in dome  
‘ and juggement before yow, Maister Hugh Sugar, commissarie  
‘ aforseyd, felyng, understandyng, knowyng and wel perceyvyng  
‘ that afore this hour I, the forseyd Thomas Cole otherwise called  
‘ Baker, have openly seyde, affermed, declared and expressed  
‘ dyvers articles and opinions erronious and ayenst the feyth of  
‘ Al Holy Cherche and contrary to the determinacion of the same,  
‘ and in especial evylsownyng to the erys of wel disposed Cristen  
‘ men, first, that yf a man be in dedly synne hit is better to hym  
‘ to seye not his Pater Noster than to seye it, also, that yf a synful  
‘ man curse man or woman yet God blesseth hym, also, that God  
‘ yave power to Petir, beyng a good man and an holy man, to  
‘ bynde and to lose, and to his successours beyng as good as he  
‘ was, and els not, also, that a man or woman might better praye  
‘ in the feeld than in the cherche of God in the presence of his  
‘ neighbor whiche is wrothe with hym and not in charite, the  
‘ whiche neighbor he might more meove ther by his presence,  
‘ also, that Petir was a dawber of walles.

1460.

' Wherfor I, Thomas Cole otherwise called Baker, before yow,  
' commissarie aforseyd in this partie sufficiently and specially as  
' it is premitted deputed, truly and feythfully enformed, knowliche  
' and knowe wel that the articles abovereherced beth erroneous  
' and ayenst the trywe beleve, feyth and determinacion of Holy  
' Cherche, and right evilsownyng to the eres of wel disposed  
' Cristen people, willyng with a pure hert and a free wille to for-  
' sake the seyde errors and articles and al other erroours, heresies  
' and erroneous opinions beyng ayenst the trywe feyth and  
' determinacion of Al Holy Cherche, and to turne to the unite and  
' the determinacion of the seyde Cherche, and to beleve fro hens-  
' forwarde after the techyng of Al Holy Cherche and determinacion  
' of the same.

' Ferthermore, the seyde errors, erroneous opinions and  
' evilsownyng articles as it is abovesayd, and al maner other  
' erroours, heresies, articles, opinions and doctrine that is ayenst  
' the trywe feyth and determinacion of Al Holy Cherche, I forsake,  
' renunce and abjure, and I swere uppon this Boke that after this  
' hour I shal never openly nor prively holde, declare, nor teche  
' heresie, nor erroours, ne no maner doctrine ayenst the feyth or  
' determinacion of Holy Cherche, ne I shal receyve, favour, nor  
' conceile, ne defende, socour nor support, by meself or eny other  
' meane persone, pryvely or openly, theym that haldeth, techeth  
' or maynteneth eny suche maner fals doctrine, nor to felaship  
' with them wytyngly ne conforte them, neyther to receyve  
' them in to myn house, ne yeve them mete ne drynke, cloth  
' ne money, nor eny other wyse to socour them.

' Ferthermore, I swer that yf I may knowe eny persones,  
' men or wymmen, suspect of erroours and heresies, or fautours,  
' conselers, confortatours, defensours, receptatours, or that make  
' eny pryvat conventicles contrarie to the commune doctrine of  
' Holy Cherche, I shal denunce theym un to the forseyd reverend  
' fader, to his successours, and to theyr officers, or to theyr  
' ordinaries, as sone as I goodly may. So helpe me God and the  
' holy dome. And in witnesse and recorde hereof I subscribe  
' me ✠.

The abjuration of Agnes, wife of the said Thomas Cole, was  
as follows :—

' In the name of God, Amen,' [etc. as above as far as] ' First, 1460.  
 ' that I, the seyd Agnes, have affermed and openly seyde that if  
 ' eny man or woman be not in charite it is better to hym to seye  
 ' not the Pater than to seye it. Also, that I have affermed and  
 ' openly seyde ayenst pilgremages, as to the Trinite of Bathe and  
 ' other places, and have seyde that it is but wast to offre to the  
 ' seyd Trinite, and that I wotner wherfor pilgremages serve, and  
 ' I have reprovred theym that have gone a pilgremage, and in  
 ' especial, in tyme of Translacion of Seynt Osmonde,<sup>1</sup> I affermed  
 ' and seyde that I wolde that the weyes to Salesbury ward, on the  
 ' whiche the people went on pilgremage, were ful of bremmell  
 ' and thornes as eny wode is to lette theym to goe thidre. Also,  
 ' I have affermed and seyde ayenst the worshipping of ymages,  
 ' and in dyvers wise uttered langage evylsownyng to the erys of  
 ' wel disposed Cristen people. Wherefor I, Agnes Cole *alias*  
 ' Baker, before yow, commissarie aforseyd,' etc. as above.

1277. Institution of Sir Thomas Croxby, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry called ' Welles Chauntery ' in the church of St. Thomas the Martyr, Bristol, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Chambre, on the presentation of Thomas Rogers, mayor of Bristol, patron for this turn by reason of his mayoralty. Wells palace, 23 January, 1459[-60].

1278. Institution of Sir David ap Hoell ap Jevan Vachan, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry founded at the altar of St. Calixtus in Wells cathedral for the souls of Sir Henry Husee, sometime dean, and others, which was lately held by Sir William Fowler, chaplain, on the presentation of Master Nicholas Carent, dean, and the chapter of Wells. Letter of induction to the dean or the subdean of Wells. 27 January, the same place and year.

1279. Institution of Sir John Shirwill, chaplain, as provost of the free chapel of St. Nicholas, Stoke Underhampden, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Bisshoppe, on the presentation of Edward, prince of Wales. Letter of induction to Master Hugh

<sup>1</sup> At Salisbury, 12 July, 1457.

1460. Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor. 5 February, the same place and year.

f. 251. 1280. Institution of Sir John Smyth, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain, or warden, of the chantry of St. Margaret, Wyke Perham, by Lamport, vacant by the resignation of Sir Roger Papill, on the presentation of John Bayly, gentleman. Date as above.

1281. Letters indented and tripartite, being a notification by Richard Huchyn and Richard Hayne, vicars choral of Wells cathedral and principals of the fellowship of vicars thereof, and the whole assembly of the said fellowship, that,—inasmuch as the bishop, taking notice of the risks (*discrimina*) of the way hitherto used by them from their close to the cathedral, especially on nights of snow, hail and rain, and the perils and accidents which might often befall them in the said way at such times, has, at his own expense, caused a fair, strong and safe way to be made leading directly from the common hall of the vicars' close to the steps of the chapter-house, and in return for this immense benefit has asked for nothing but their prayers,—they, the said vicars, have unanimously granted and promised that for ever hereafter every vicar choral, as often as he passes along the said way from the vicars' hall to the cathedral to say or hear divine services, or from the cathedral to the hall after such services, shall say the *Pater Noster* and the *Ave Maria* for the good estate of the bishop during his lifetime, and for the soul of Ralph, his predecessor, and, after the bishop's death, for the souls of himself and his said predecessor and their parents and all the faithful departed, and that every night, after the death of the bishop, when the matins of the day have been said and celebrated in the cathedral, the vicars choral who are present thereat shall approach the tomb of Bishop Ralph and the chapel of Bishop Thomas, which are near each other by the high altar, as they have hitherto been accustomed to approach the tomb of Bishop Ralph, and standing in two as far as possible equal groups by the said tomb and chapel, and turning towards the high altar, they shall say the psalm *De profundis*, with the collects *Deus qui inter apostolicos sacerdotes*, *Inclina* and *Fidelium*, for the souls of the said Bishops

Ralph and Thomas, and then he who has said the collects shall say publicly *Anime Radulphi et Thome episcoporum ac omnium fidelium defunctorum in pace requiescant. Amen.* One part of these letters tripartite is to remain with the bishop and his successors, another with the dean and chapter of Wells, and the third with the vicars and their successors. 5 February, 1459[-60]. 1460.

1282. Institution of Sir Ralph Free, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Clyve, vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Mathew, M.A., on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Clyve. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. The new vicar made oath to study diligently to acquire a better knowledge of the Scriptures, and to present himself for examination by the bishop's chancellor before Michaelmas next, and to resign his vicarage if then found unfit. Present, Master Thomas Merssh, canon of Wells, and Robert Catur, vicar choral. He also made oath to abide by the bishop's decree touching the assignment of a yearly pension for life to the resigning vicar. Wells palace, 5 February, 1459[-60].

On 14 March, 1459[-60], at Woky, the bishop assigned a pension of 7 marks to the resigning vicar.

1283. On 6 February, in the palace of Wells, the bishop received a certificate from Richard, bishop of Salisbury, touching an exchange of benefices between Sir John Corbet, perpetual vicar of Milborne Port, and Sir Thomas Rope, perpetual vicar of Iwerne in the diocese of Salisbury, by which it appeared that the said bishop Richard, acting on the authority of a commission to him from the bishop, had approved the said exchange and instituted Sir Thomas as perpetual vicar of the church of Milborne Port, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cirencester, saving the rights, etc. of the bishop. After the bishop had received from Sir Thomas the oath of canonical obedience, a letter of induction was written for him in the usual form.

1284. Collation to Sir John Squyer, chaplain, of the church of Laverton, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Elkyngton



1460. *alias* Waynflet, and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him as rector. Banwel, 23 February, 1459[-60].

f. 252. 1285. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Leonard Tilly, esquire, of the parish of Canyngton, and Joan, his wife, to have divine service celebrated in their presence in their chapel at Withel in the said parish, without prejudice to the parish church. Date as above.

1286. Collation to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, on his resignation of the church of Breen, of the archdeaconry of Bath, vacant by the death of Master William Sprever, doctor of laws ; and institution, etc. accordingly. Letter of induction and installation to Master John Spekyngton, subdean, and John Stokys, both canons of Wells. The little chapel, or oratory, in Banwel manor, 26 February, 1459[-60].

1287. Institution of Sir John Wigguemor, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Corston, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. And because at the time of his examination he appeared to be too simple in his knowledge of letters to have the cure of souls, he swore on the Gospels to study with some learned man until the Annunciation, 1461, and to present himself for examination on the said feast or within a fortnight thereafter, and to resign his vicarage if then found unfit. Witnesses, Master Thomas Merssh and John Touker. Date as above.

1288. Licence for Master John Colles, M.A. and scholar of theology, to preach the word of God in Latin and in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese in churches and other places set apart for divine worship. Banwel, 9 March, 1459[-60].

1289. Authorisation by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir Thomas Shortrigge, rector of Brympton, and Sir Robert Wodeford, rector of Sevynton St. Michael. Institution of Sir Thomas as rector of the church of Sevynton aforesaid, on the presentation of Alexander de la Lynde, esquire, and of Sir Robert as rector of the church of Brympton, on the presentation of John Sydenham, esquire. Woky, 14 March, 1459[-60].

1290. Institution of Sir Simon Sodbury, chaplain, as rector of the church of Hethfelde, vacant by the canonical deprivation of Sir John Lyng, on the presentation of Brother Robert Botyll, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England ; saving a yearly pension of 18s. anciently due from the said church. Woky, 27 March, 1460. 1460.

1291. Institution of Dan Robert Ady *alias* Newent, monk of the monastery of St. Mary, Grace Dieu, in the diocese of Llandaff, licenced by the apostolic see to hold any ecclesiastical benefice with or without cure,<sup>1</sup> as perpetual vicar of the church of St. Michael, Puryton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Grene, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury, proprietaries of the priory of Goldclyff in the march of Wales. (The papal dispensation, dated at Siena, 23 March, 1458[-9], is set out in full.) 4 April, the same place and year.

1292. Commission to the archdeacon of Bath or his official,— *f.* 253. in pursuance of letters received from Thomas, bishop of London, transmitting an order by Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, for the summoning of a convocation of the clergy of the province to be held in the church of St. Paul, London, on 6 May next,—to warn all abbots, priors and other prelates of churches in his archdeaconry, exempt and not exempt, to appear in person at the said convocation, and to cite all rectors and vicars of the archdeaconry to appear before the bishop or his commissary in Wells cathedral on Tuesday the 22nd day of the present month, at 9 a.m., and join in the election of two proctors for the whole of the clergy of the diocese. The archdeacon himself is to appear in person at the convocation. 1 April, the same place and year.

1293. Letters dimissory to all orders for William Rokke, of Codeworth, clerk. Wells palace, 20 April, 1460.

1294. Institution of Master Henry Eryum, M.A., as rector of the church of Camelerton, vacant by the resignation of Master John Austyl, on the presentation of John Austyl, esquire. 21 April, the same place and year.

1295. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to his servant,

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 528.

1460. John Touker, and Joan, the latter's wife,<sup>1</sup> of a close of meadow in Welles called 'le West gardyn,' with the grange built there and the ditches thereof, lying towards the bishop's park of Welles (20s.), a parcel of land called 'le Gardynplace' (4*d.*), a parcel of land or meadow lying on the south side of a stream or brook of the bishop as far as 'lez Jumylles' in Welles (3s. 4*d.*), and 19*a.* land lying in 'le Bourghfeld' (12s. 8*d.*), of which 5*a.* extend towards 'le Portweye,' 6*a.* lie on the south side of the path leading to Woky by the close of the master of St. John's, Welles, and 8*a.* lie at the west end of the above 6*a.* (all which were held of the bishop by Christine wife of the late Ralph Averay), with licence to enclose the same with hedges and ditches and hold them in several, and the reversion of a garden lying on the south side of the aforesaid stream between the garden of Henry Rocke on the east and the aforesaid parcel of land called 'Gardynple' (*sic*) on the west, now held for life by Thomas Horewode (4*d.*),—to hold all the premises for life and in survivorship, with remainder after the death of the survivor of them to Juliana their daughter for life, rendering 36s. 8*d.* yearly for the whole, divided as specified above. The lessees shall keep in repair a stone wall between the close called 'le Westgardyn' and the bishop's barton from the aforesaid grange as far as a house built on the said wall called 'le Kenell.' Proviso for distrain if the rent be in arrear for a month, and for re-entry if it be in arrear for a quarter and no sufficient distress be obtainable.
- f. 254. Warranty clause. Witnesses, James Lutrell, John Austell and John Fitz James, esquires, and many others. 22 April, the same place and year.

1296. Institution of Sir Philip Burton, priest, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor of both laws, his proctor, as rector of the church of Berkley, vacant by the resignation of Master John Ludeford, on the presentation of John Neuburgh, esquire, of Estlulleworth, patron in right of Alice his wife.<sup>2</sup> 24 April, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> John Touker, the bishop's registrar, had married Joan, relict of Richard Norys. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. x. p. 241; vol. xi. p. 543.

<sup>2</sup> Alice daughter of William Carent, and relict of John Westbury.

1297. Certificate by the bishop to Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, acknowledging the receipt of letters of the archbishop dated in his manor of Mortelake, 28 February, 1359[-60],—transmitted by letters of Thomas, bishop of London, dated in his palace at London, 13 March, 1359[-60],—ordering the summoning of a convocation of the clergy of the province to be held in the church of St. Paul, London, on Tuesday after the Invention of the Holy Cross next in pursuance of the king's letters dated at Westminster, 12 February, 38 Hen. VI. ; and stating that he has cited and warned the clergy of his diocese to appear at the said convocation as follows, to wit the dean of Wells, the prior of Bath, and the archdeacons, abbots and priors in person, the chapters of his cathedral churches by one proctor each, and the clergy of the diocese by two proctors. 1 March (mistake for May), the same place and year. 1460.

1298. Appointment by the bishop of Richard, bishop of Salisbury, Master William Say, dean of St. Paul's London, Thomas Boleyn, precentor of Wells, and Hugh Sugar, treasurer of the same, to be his proctors at the above-mentioned convocation to be held on 6 May next, he himself being prevented from attending by old age and other causes. 1 May, the same place and year. *f. 255.*

1299. Collation to Thomas Austyl, clerk, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wormyster vacant by the death of Master John Bernard ; and institution, etc. accordingly. Letter of induction as above (no. 873), after the usual oaths had been taken by Master Thomas Merssh, appointed by the bishop curator of the said Thomas Austyl. 30 April, the same place and year.

1300. On 1 May, 1460, in the chapel within the palace of Wells, the bishop admitted the resignation by Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, of the archdeaconry of Bath. Present, John Austyl, esquire, and John Touker, the bishop's registrar.

1301. And forthwith the bishop collated to the said Master Hugh the dignity of the treasurerhip of Wells, vacant by the death of Master John Bernard, and instituted him accordingly.

1460. Letter of induction to Master John Spekyngton, subdean, and John Moreton, residentiary canons of Wells, commissaries specially appointed in this behalf.

1302. Collation to the same Master Hugh of a canonry in Wells cathedral and the prebend of Combe VII. ; and institution, etc. accordingly. [Letter of induction, etc. as above, no. 873.] Date as last above.

1303. Presentation by the bishop of Master John Spekyngton, subdean of Wells, to the church of Criston Malford, in the diocese of Salisbury, vacant by the death of Master Thomas Swan and in the bishop's collation by full right. The presentee had letters to Richard, bishop of Salisbury, in the usual form. 4 May, the same place and year.

1304. Collation to Sir William Kyng, B.A., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmor III. vacant by the resignation of Master Hugh Sugar ; and institution, etc. accordingly. [Letter of induction, etc. as above, no. 873.] Date as last above.

f. 256. 1305. Institution of Sir William Lyndesey *alias* Cawdebeke, chaplain, as rector of the church of Brene, on the presentation of Eleanor, duchess of Somerset, and Margaret, countess of Shrewsbury. The said Sir William swore on the Gospels that he would so far as possible preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his having been admitted to the church without previous inquisition, and that, in the event of trouble, he would resign it ; and he entered into a bond with the bishop in 20*l.*, which bond is on the file of this time of year. Present at his admission to the church and his taking of the oath, Master Robert Peusey, canon of Wells, William Hastyng, M.A., Henry Chester and Richard Haddon, citizens of Bristol, John Swetyng, literate, John Towker, notary-public, the bishop's registrar, and others. Wells palace, in the orchard (*viridario*), 5 May, 1460.

1306. Collation to Master Richard Lychefeld, doctor of laws, of the archdeaconry of Bath, vacant by the resignation of Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws ; and institution, etc. accordingly. After the oath of canonical obedience had been taken on his

behalf by Sir Henry Hayne, chaplain, his proctor, a letter for his induction, etc. was written to Sir John Wansford and Sir Walter Osborne, residentiary canons of Wells, commissaries specially appointed in this behalf. Wells palace, 6 May, 1460.

1307. Presentation by the bishop of Master William Hastyng, M.A., to the perpetual vicarage of the church of Whitchurche, in the diocese of Salisbury, vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Peusy. Letters of presentation issued in the usual form to Richard, bishop of Salisbury. Date as above.

1308. Institution of Sir John Kyngeswer, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Leng, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Louecocke, chaplain, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Athelnay. Present, Nicholas Colles, notary-public, and Thomas Smyth, literate. 8 May, the same place and year.

Afterwards, on 8 October at Woky, the bishop, with the assent of both parties, assigned to Sir Robert a yearly pension of 40s. for life to be paid by Sir John and his successors; and Sir John swore on the Gospels faithfully to pay the same. The bishop decreed that a similar oath should be taken by each successive vicar on admission during Sir Robert's life.

1309. Institution of Sir John Lugge, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Meryet, vacant by the death of Sir Roger Papyll, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Mochelnay. Wells palace, 2 June, 1460.

1310. Collation to Sir John Ryche, chaplain, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Taunton vacant by the death of Master John Pederton; and institution, etc. accordingly. [Letter of induction, etc. as above, no. 873.] 6 June, the same place and year.

1311. On 7 June, 1460, in the bishop's chapel within the palace of Wells, John, bishop of Tenos, acting on the authority of the bishop, received a vow of chastity made by Robert Nayler in the form of words contained in a parchment, as follows:—

'I, Robert Nayler, not wedded, behote and avowe to God,

1460. 'Our Lady, and al Seyntes, in the presence of yow, reverend  
'fader in God Sir John by the grace of God bisshop of Tinens,  
'purpose of everlastyng chastite after the rule of the holy heremite  
'Paule. In the name of the Fader, the Sone and the Holy Gost.  
'In witnesse wherof I here subscribe me ✠.'

And as he could not write, he made the sign of the cross with his own hands. Thereupon, the said bishop, after the completion of the requisite solemnities, caused him to be clothed with the habit of a hermit and the other marks of a hermit under vow.

1312. Collation to Master Nicholas Kene, bachelor in both laws, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, canon of Wells, his proctor, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe XIII. vacant by the resignation of Master John Pakenham; and institution, etc. accordingly. [Letter of induction, etc. as above, no. 873.] 9 June, 1460.

1313. Institution of Sir Roger Burgh, chaplain, as rector of the church of Staulegh, on the presentation of William Paulet, knight. Wells palace, 21 June, 1460.

1314. Institution of Sir John Thornton, chaplain, as rector of the church of Aungersligh, vacant by the resignation of Sir Ralph Holwale, on the presentation of John Newton, esquire.  
f. 257. And thereupon the bishop, in consideration of the bodily weakness of Sir Ralph and to prevent his being compelled to beg for the necessities of life, assigned to him a yearly pension of 20s. to be paid by Sir John and his successors; and Sir John, immediately after his admission to the church, swore on the Gospels faithfully to pay the same. 26 June, the same place and year.

1315. Collation to Robert Nicols, vicar in Wells cathedral, of the fourth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. 27 June, the same place and year.

1316. Commitment to Brother John Vobe, priest, professed in the order of St. John the Baptist, of the keeping of the house, or hospital, of St. John the Baptist, Bath, and the rule and administration of all the spiritual and temporal goods thereof,

during the vacancy caused by the death of Brother Peter Buryman, the last master, and until a decision be reached between the bishop and the prior of Bath as to the right of patronage thereof ; and revocation of any previous grant to other persons of the said keeping, rule and administration. 28 June, the same place and year. 1460.

1317. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Richard Bertram, of Ilchester, acolyte. 29 June, the same place and year.

1318. Institution of Sir John Lord, chaplain, as rector of the church of Babyngton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Squyer, on the presentation of William, lord Botreaux. And because the new rector appeared at the time of his admission to be too simple in knowledge to have the cure of souls, he made oath that he would study for two whole years in some grammar school, and at the end of that term present himself for re-examination and resign his church if then found still unfit. Present, John Austyl, esquire, Nicholas Collys, notary-public, and others. 1 July, the same place and year.

1319. Institution of Sir John Fitz James, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of South Pederton, vacant by the death of Master John Wodeman *alias* Pederton, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton. 3 July, the same place and year.

1320. Institution of Sir William Typper, priest, as rector of the church of Charlecomb, vacant by the canonical deprivation of Sir John Collecte, on the presentation of John Barre, knight.<sup>1</sup> The oath of canonical obedience was taken by him in the person of John Russell, his proctor. 15 July, the same place and year.

1321. Collation to Sir Robert Blycard, chaplain, of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Swell, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution accordingly. Date as above.

1322. Institution of Sir Nicholas Dissum, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of St. Mary Magdalen, Taunton, vacant

<sup>1</sup> See no. 391 above.



1460. by the death of Sir John Jede, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. 18 July, the same place and year.

1323. Institution of Sir John Montgomery, priest, as rector of the church of Beer, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Langedon, on the presentation of William Harewell, esquire, of the diocese of Worcester. The said Sir John and John Trevenant, of Wells, 'yeman,' bound themselves in 20*l.*, by a bond remaining on the file of this time of year, to preserve the bishop from any trouble arising by reason of his admission. 23 July, the same place and year.

- f.258. 1324. Institution of Sir Henry Modeford, chaplain, as rector of the church of Strete, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. 28 July, the same place and year.

1325. Grant by the bishop,—in pursuance of a faculty granted to him by a bull of Pope Pius II. dated at St. Peter's, Rome, 9 Kal. Jan. (24 December), 1458,<sup>1</sup>—to John Beel, clerk, of the office of a notary-public. Present, Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, treasurer of Wells, Master John Pope, S.T.P., Master Richard Swan, M.A., and Master Robert Peuesy, bachelor in both laws, canons of Wells, Thomas Dauberichcourt, esquire, Thomas Smyth, John Wisdom and John Compayne, literates, of the dioceses of Bath and Wells, Salisbury, Winchester and Norwich, and many others. In the chapel within the palace of Wells, 7 August, 1460.

Attestation of the above by Nicholas Collys, clerk of the diocese of Lincoln, notary-public.

1326. Collation to Robert Fraunceys, vicar choral of Wells cathedral, of the seventh chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. Wells palace, 5 August, 1460.

1327. Collation to Master Thomas Chaundeler, chancellor of Wells, of the canonical houses lately inhabited by Master John Bernard, deceased. 8 August, the same place and year.

The like to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, canon and

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 519.

treasurer of Wells, of the canonical houses lately inhabited by Master John Pederton, residentiary canon, deceased. Date as above. 1460.

The like to Master Richard Swan, M.A., canon and provost of Wells, of the canonical houses last possessed by Master Thomas Chaundeler, S.T.P., canon and chancellor of Wells. Date as above.

1328. On 7 September, at Woky, the bishop received a certificate from Master John Drover, bachelor in decrees, vicar-general in spirituals of John, bishop of Llandaff, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir William Percevale, perpetual vicar of Kyngesbury, and Master Thomas Hopkyns, M.A., rector of Wenffo, in the diocese of Llandaff, by which it appeared that by virtue of a commission from the bishop he had approved the said exchange and instituted the said Master Thomas Hopkyns as perpetual vicar of the church of Kyngesbury, on the presentation of Master Thomas Chaundeler, chancellor of Wells. Afterwards, on receipt by the bishop of the new vicar's oath of canonical obedience, a letter of induction was written to Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor and commissary in this behalf. f. 259.

1329. Institution of Dan Thomas Mertok, late monk of the priory of Montagu, in the person of Robert Drewe, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Astyngton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Fitz James, on the presentation of Thomas Seyntbarbe and John Seyntbarbe, esquires; in pursuance of a papal dispensation to him, dated at Siena, Id. Apr. (13 April), 1460, to hold any benefice wont to be held by secular clerks.<sup>1</sup> Woky, 14 September, 1460.

1330. Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, and Master John Stokes, the bishop's commissary-general,—inasmuch as Thomas Petewyn, the younger, formerly of South Peret, co. Dorset, and Ralph Gegy and Thomas Calley, formerly of Bruggewater, who have been indicted before certain of the king's justices, taken and imprisoned by the lay power, and afterwards delivered to the bishop as clerks to be

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 567.

1460. judged in accordance with canonical sanctions, have prayed the bishop to receive their purgations of the crimes laid to their charge,—to proceed in the matter of the said purgations in the chapel of the Virgin Mary by the cloister of Wells cathedral on Wednesday next, and give a hearing to all opposers and accusers, or, in the absence of any such, to receive the said purgations, restore the clerks to their former good report, and order their release from imprisonment. Date as above.

1331. Letters dimissory to all orders for Thomas Haliet, of the parish of Dychesyate, B.A. 20 September, the same place and year.

1332. The like for John Walshe, of Taunton, literate. 8 October, the same place and year.

1333. Institution of Sir Thomas Wath, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chapel [or chantry, *in margin*] called Newton Placy, on the presentation of John Wrothe, esquire. Thereupon the said chaplain entered into a bond in 20*l.* to preserve the bishop from any trouble arising on account of his having been admitted without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. 25 October, the same place and year.

1334. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Master Thomas Hope, doctor of laws, rector of Brympton Raff, acolyte. 29 October, the same place and year.

1335. Licence for the inhabitants of the little town (*villula*), or hamlet, of Chiwton, in the parish of Keynesham to provide at their own expense a suitable chaplain to celebrate and say masses and other divine offices in the chapel dedicated to the Holy Cross within the said hamlet, provided no prejudice to the rights of others, especially their parish church and the parishioners thereof, result therefrom ; on their petition showing that their dwellings are more than a mile distant from their parish church, and that the way thereto is often rendered not only troublesome but dangerous by a strong stream and floods. Wells palace, 7 November, 1460.

1336. Grant, for six months only, of forty days' indulgence to all persons contributing to the relief of William Wittecomb, of Draycote in the parish of Cheddre, who recently lost his dwelling-place and most of his goods by an accidental fire. Date as above. 1460.  
f. 260.

1337. Institution of Master William Say, S.T.P., in the person of Master Simon Beryton, M.A., his proctor, as rector of the prebendal church of Bedministre with Radeclu *alias* Radecliff, vacant by the death of Master William Toly, on the presentation of Richard, bishop of Salisbury. 9 November, the same place and year.

1338. Notification to the bishop by Richard, bishop of Salisbury, that he has collated to the said Master William Say a canonry of Salisbury and the prebend of Bedeministre with Radeclu *alias* Radecliff, vacant by the death of Master William Toly, and has instituted and invested him accordingly; and that he presents the said Master William to the bishop for institution as rector of the said prebendal church. The bishop of Salisbury's manor in Fletestrete, London, 31 October, 1460.

1339. Collation to Master Thomas Hope, doctor of laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe V. vacant by the death of Master William Toly; and institution etc. accordingly. [Letter of induction as above, no. 873.] Wells palace, 10 November, 1460.

1340. Institution of Sir John Ryche, chaplain, as rector of the church of Hemyngton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Nicholas Walter, on the presentation of Sir Thomas Courtenay, earl of Devon. 13 November, the same place and year.

1341. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Michell, of Taunton, subdeacon, and John Wilmot, of Tyntenhill. 25 November, the same place and year.

1342. Institution of Sir William Smogger, chaplain, as rector of the church of Estlangbroke, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Holton, on the presentation of Master Nicholas Carent,

1460. dean, and the chapter of Wells. Letter of induction to Master John Stokys, the bishop's commissary-general. 29 November, the same place and year.

1343. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Master Henry Eryum, M.A., to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese. Date as above.

1344. Dispensation, in accordance with the chapter *Cum ex eo*, for Sir Philip Stevyns, rector of Sampford Britte, to stay in some university in England for two years, provided that his church be served and the cure of souls be not neglected, and that he leave a proctor to answer in his stead, etc. 2 December, the same place and year.

1345. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for John Kynneman *alias* Tirell, of Est Pennard, acolyte. Date as above.

1346. Institution of Master William Prest, bachelor in laws, as rector of the church of Trebourgh, vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Seller, on the presentation of John Sydenham, the younger. 20 December, the same place and year.

1461. 1347. Probate of the will of Dame Eleanor Hulle,<sup>1</sup> written on paper with her own hand and produced to the bishop on 2 January, 1460[-1], by Richard Walshawe, gentleman, of Canyngton, as follows:—

'In the name of Jesus. I, Alianor Hulle, beyng by the 'mercy of God in my good mynde, write this present testament 'with myn owne hande, the whiche I desire and wil that it be 'kept and perfourmed without a later wil be maad of me.

f. 261. 'First and moost specially I betake my soule to the swete 'mercy of Our Lord Jesus Crist, besechyng hym, as he made 'hit by his infinite goodnes and bought hit with the most dere 'price of his precious blode, that he graunt hit a place among the 'nombre of his chosen people in the blisse of hevyn. Also I

<sup>1</sup> Eleanor Hulle, lady of Enmore, daughter of Sir John Malet, relict of John Hulle, and mother of Sir Edward Hulle, K.G., deceased. *Some Somerset Manors*, pp. 130, 272-5.

'bequethe my wrecched body to be beried within the quere of  
'the monchyns of Canyngton. Also I bequethe to the same 1461.  
'monchens j. peyr of chaundelers of silver, a crosse of silver  
'and a censer of sylver, and the appayrell of the auter  
'of white damaske, and a chesiple suche as they wol desire  
'of iij.

'Also I wol that my fader Husewyfe have al my good that I  
'have at Canyngton that is not specially bequethed in this testa-  
'ment to his owne use and to departe thereof to my servantes  
'at his owne wille.

'And I desire that as sone as it may goodly be done that I  
'may have a m<sup>l</sup>. masses songyn after the departyng of my  
'wrecched soule (*sic*).

'And also I wil that the poure folkis that have any wekely  
'comfort of me that they have hit whiles they lyve payed by the  
'handes of myn executours. Also I wil that the commune  
'beddyng that longeth to myn houshold be departed among  
'Goddis poure creaturis, that is to seye, yeman beddes bothe  
'matras, blankettes and shetes. Also I bequethe my mantel,  
'my cloke, al my gounes and furies to poure religious that have  
'nede, and that the almes of my lytel pursis be continued as  
'long as is lefte eny good, that is to seye, vij*d*. in worship of  
'Seynt Kateryn and vij*d*. to poure folkes.

'Also I bequethe to my fader Housewyf<sup>1</sup> my greet portous  
'and my litel portous and my sauter. Also I bequethe my fader  
'Husewyf my greet cuppe Edward. Also I bequethe my fader  
'Husewyf my blue byble of Latyn. And also I bequethe to Sir  
'John Forstesku the best gylt cuppe that I have, and to Richard  
'Walshawe a potte of sylver.

'And for to fulfille my wille I make myn executours Sir John  
'Fortesku, Sir Roger Husewyf and Richard Walshawe. Wreten  
'the xiiij. day of Octobre the yere of the Kyng Harry the vij<sup>te</sup>  
'xxxvij.

Thereupon the bishop granted administration, by Sir Walter  
Haysshelford, perpetual vicar of Canyngton, his commissary, to  
Sir Roger Huswyf, one of the executors. 27 January, 1460[-1].

<sup>1</sup> For many particulars about Roger Huswyfe, see *Registrum Can-  
cellarii Oxon.*, vol. i. p. 24.

1461. 1348. Commission to Master John Saundres, rector of Enmere, and Sir Walter Hashford, perpetual vicar of Canyngton, to receive the oath of Sir Roger Huswyf, chaplain, one of the executors of Dame Eleanor Hulle, touching the faithful administration of her goods, and to commit to him the said administration if he be willing to receive it. Wells palace, 2 January, 1460[-1].

1349. Institution of Brother John Vobe, priest, as master of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bath, on the presentation of Thomas Lacok, prior, and the chapter of Bath, dated in the chapter-house, Bath, 8 January, 1460[-1]. Letter of induction to Dan John Lacok, sacristan of Bath cathedral. Present, Master John Pope and Master Henry Eryum, canons of Wells. Wells palace, 9 January, 1460[-1].

1350. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Master Richard Croke, M.A., to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese. 10 January, the same place and year.

1351. Dispensation for Master John Laucok, bachelor in laws, to be promoted to all holy orders, notwithstanding the shortness of the thumb of his right hand; the bishop being well assured that the said defect happened by divine visitation and not through his own fault. 14 January, the same place and year.<sup>1</sup>

1352. Institution of Sir William Warde, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Mersh, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the church of Charleton Camvile, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Kyllingworth. Date as above.

1353. Grant by the bishop,—in pursuance of a faculty granted to him by a bull of Pope Pius II. dated at Petriolo, 7 Kal. Jul. (25 June), 1460<sup>2</sup>—of the office of a notary-public to Master William Lomys *alias* Henton, clerk, bachelor in laws. Present, Master Robert Peuesy and Sir John Ryche, canons of Wells. The chapel within the palace of Wells, 15 January, 1460[-1].

<sup>1</sup> See no. 1373 below.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 360.

1354. Institution of Sir William Morton, chaplain, as rector of the church of Stowell, on the presentation of Robert Cappis and Elizabeth, his wife. Wells palace, 16 January, 1460[-1]. 1461.  
f. 262.

1355. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Humphrey Stafford, esquire, and Isabel, his wife, to have divine service celebrated in their presence in the chapel, oratory, or other suitable chamber in the castle of Taunton, and in any other places in the diocese set apart for divine worship. 18 January, the same place and year.

1356. Institution of Master John Ede, M.A., as rector of the church of Exton, vacant by the resignation of Master Nicholas Sutton, M.A., on the presentation of Maurice Berkley, of Beverston, esquire. And thereupon the new rector submitted himself and his church to the bishop's ordinance in regard to a pension to be assigned to the resigning rector; and the bishop, by Master Hugh Sugar, his chancellor, with the consent of both parties, assigned a yearly pension of 53s. 4d., which the new rector swore on the Gospels to pay faithfully. 22 January, the same place and year.

1357. Letters dimissory to all orders for Robert Fraunces, of Glastonbury. 23 January, the same place and year.

1358. Collation to John Lowell, vicar choral in Wells cathedral, of the seventh house (chamber, *in margin*) on the west side of the vicars' close. 29 January, the same place and year.

1359. Authorisation by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir Michael Pygnon, perpetual vicar of Ilebruere, and Sir John Feyrman, perpetual vicar of Murelynche. Institutions of Sir Michael as perpetual vicar of the church of Murelynche on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury, and of Sir John as perpetual vicar of the church of Ilebruere on the presentation of Brother John Holford, master of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater, and the brethren thereof. The letter of induction for the vicar of Murelynche was written to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. 30 January, the same place and year.



1461. 1360. Institution of Sir Robert Strete, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in laws, his proctor, as rector of the church of Chaffcombe, vacant by the resignation of Sir Ralph Hillary, on the presentation of John Bolour, esquire. 7 February, the same place and year.

1361. Letters dimissory to all orders for Master Richard Lychefeld, doctor of laws, born in Wells. 15 February, the same place and year.

1362. Institution of William Arnold, acolyte, as rector of the church of Hornblowton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Burgeys, on the presentation of John Aysshe. 20 February, the same place and year.

*f. 263.* 1363. Institution of Sir William Jolyfe, chaplain, as rector of the church of Compton Pauncfote, vacant by the death of Sir John Barbour, on the presentation of Walter Pauncfote, gentleman. And because Sir William, at the time of his admission, seemed too simple in his knowledge of letters to have the cure of souls, he took an oath to study diligently and present himself for re-examination by the bishop's chancellor before Michaelmas, 1462, and to resign his church if then found still unfit. 28 February, the same place and year.

1364. Dispensation for John Layceter, of the parish of Longasshton, acolyte,—on his petition shewing that, being born in the diocese, he has caused himself to be promoted to all minor orders without the bishop's licence or letters dimissory, believing the statement of a certain upright, honourable and trustworthy man that such licence and letters had been granted, so that he is now suspended from the exercise of his said orders,—to minister in the said minor orders and do whatever pertains thereto, notwithstanding the above irregularity. 2 March, the same place and year.

1365. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for the said John Layceter. Date as above.

1366. Institution of Sir Henry Modeford, chaplain, as rector of the church of Strete, on the presentation of the abbot and con-

vent of Glastonbury ; in pursuance of the king's writ witnessed 1461.  
by N. Ayssheton and dated at Wells, Monday after St. David  
the Bishop, 39 Hen. VI.,<sup>1</sup> notifying that John, abbot of Glaston-  
bury, on the same Monday recovered his presentation to the said  
church against John Lax, clerk, before Nicholas Aysshton, jus-  
tice of the Bench, at Welles, on a writ of *nisi prius*. 9 March,  
the same place and year.

1367. Institution of Sir Thomas Kymer, chaplain, in the  
person of Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, his  
proctor, as rector of the church of Berewyk, vacant by the resigna-  
tion of Sir Thomas Pole, on the presentation of John Audeley,  
lord of Audeley, and Anne, his wife. Wells palace, 31 March,  
1461.

1368. Institution of Sir Simon White, chaplain, as rector of  
the church of Hywissh Champflour, vacant by the resignation of  
Sir Thomas Pay, on the presentation of Sir Hugh Courtenay,  
knight. And thereupon the bishop, with the consent of both  
parties, assigned to the resigning rector a yearly pension of 5  
marks for life, and the new rector made oath faithfully to pay  
the same. 20 April, the same place and year.<sup>2</sup>

1369. Institution of Sir Richard Stonerd, chaplain, as rector  
of the church of Stokelynche Marie *alias* Ostrizer, vacant by  
the resignation of Sir Thomas Gunwyne, on the presentation of  
William Powlet, knight, and Florence Denbawde. 22 April, the  
same place and year.

1370. Assignment by the bishop to Sir Nicholas Walter, late  
rector of Hemyngton, with the assent of Sir John Ryche, his  
immediate successor, of a yearly pension of 26s. 8d. for life out of  
the fruits, etc. of the said church. The said Sir John swore on  
the Gospels faithfully to pay the same. Present, Master William  
Henton, notary-public. 24 April, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> 2 March, 1461.

<sup>2</sup> In the margin there is a memorandum that letters dimissory to all  
orders for Richard Ferre *alias* Ferroure should be entered here.

1461.  
f. 264.

1371. Institution of Sir Nicholas Brown, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of St. Decuman's, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Jamys, on the presentation of Master John Pope, canon of Wells and prebendary of St. Decuman's. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Sir Nicholas appeared to the bishop to be too simple in his knowledge of letters to have the cure of souls, and he was only admitted as an act of grace after he had sworn to study diligently until Tuesday in the consistory next after Easter, 1462, and to present himself then for re-examination by the bishop, or the bishop's chancellor or other commissary, and to resign his benefice if found still unfit. Present, Master John Pope, S.T.P., and Sir Thomas Horn, B.A. 5 May, the same place and year.

1372. Institution of Sir John Cotel, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. John the Baptist anciently founded in the church of St. John the Baptist, Frome, vacant by the death of Sir William Everley, on the presentation of Robert Leversage, esquire. 19 May, the same place and year.

1373. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest for Master John Laucok, bachelor in laws, of Glastonbury, sub-deacon. 30 May, the same place and year.

1374. Institution of Master Thomas Hille, M.A., as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Huyssh, vacant by the death of Sir William Pounce, on the presentation of Master Andrew Holes, archdeacon of Wells and prebendary of the said church annexed to his archdeaconry; saving to the said archdeacon and his successors a yearly pension of 16s. 19½*d.* (*sic*). Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 3 June, the same place and year.

1375. Letters dimissory to all orders for Robert Robyns, vicar choral of Salisbury cathedral, born in the parish of Hunspill. 19 May, the same place and year.

1376. Institution of Master Robert Preston, M.A., as rector of the church of Whatlegh, vacant by the resignation of Sir James

Bekyngham, on the presentation of Edward Cervyngton, esquire. 1461.  
5 June, the same place and year.

1377. Institution of Sir William Frenssh, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Midsomernorton, vacant by the canonical deprivation of Sir Richard Newcomb, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Merton, in the diocese of Winchester. The said Sir William swore to abide by the wish of the bishop in regard to the payment of a yearly pension already assigned. 8 June, the same place and year.

1378. Notification to Master William Sylk, rector of the church of Kyngesdon, and all the parishioners thereof, that the bishop,—in response to their petition shewing that the feast of the dedication of their church, which has hitherto been celebrated on 4 September in every year, cannot be observed with due solemnity and devotion on that day because the parishioners are continuously occupied at that time in gathering their crops, and for other reasons, and praying the bishop to change the feast of dedication from that day to the Sunday next after the feast of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist,—has thought fit to change the said feast accordingly ; and, in order to excite the minds of the faithful to greater devotion at the feast so changed, hereby grants forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall be present at divine service in the said church on the first celebration of the said feast, and during the following five years, and devoutly say the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation. 8 June, the same place and year.

1379. Institution of Sir John Vincent, chaplain, in the person of John Lewys, notary-public, his proctor, as rector of the church of Eroneshill, on the presentation of Henry Stafford, knight, patron in right of Margaret his wife, daughter and heiress of John, late duke of Somerset. Date as above.

1380. Commission to Master Nicholas Carent, dean, Master Hugh Sugar, treasurer, and Master John Stokys, canons of Wells, *f. 265.*—inasmuch as the bishop is prevented by various matters from residing in his diocese at present,—to act as his vicars-general in

1461. spiritual during his absence in remote parts, with power to hold ordinations, dedicate and reconcile polluted churches, chapels and churchyards, absolve excommunicated, suspended and interdicted persons, except violators of the rights of the bishop's cathedral churches and breakers of his parks, correct, punish and reform crimes and excesses of the bishop's subjects, deprive and remove persons holding benefices in contravention of the canonical institutes, receive and return king's writs, demand and receive clerks convicted before any secular judges, and admit their purgations by suitable compurgators, and do whatever else belongs to their said office. But the bishop reserves to himself collations and presentations of benefices belonging to him by full right or by lapse of time according to the statutes of the Lateran council, and admissions and inductions of all persons presented to benefices. 17 June, the same place and year.

1381. Institution of John Evenhale, clerk, in the person of Edward Evenhale, his proctor, as rector of the church of Pille, vacant by the resignation of Sir Sampson Combe, on the presentation of Sir William Bourghchier, lord Fitzwaryn. The bishop's inn at London, 15 July, 1461.

1382. Institution of Sir Robert Philipppis, chaplain, in the person of Walter Rayny, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Chilton,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Hardyng, on the presentation of John Holford, master of the house, or hospital, of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater, and the convent thereof. Wells palace, 10 August, 1461.

1383. Institution of Sir William Kyppyng, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Corston, vacant by the death of Sir John Wiggemore, on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath. 12 August, the same place and year.

1384. Collation to Master John Balsham, bachelor in both laws, of the church of St. Mary the Greater, Ilchester, in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him as rector. Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> Chilton Trinity.

1385. Institution of Sir John Couper, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Pilton, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Parker, on the presentation of Master Thomas Boleyn, precentor of Wells. Letter of induction to the official of the peculiar jurisdiction of Pilton and Sir John Hille, vicar choral of Wells cathedral. 13 August, the same place and year. 1461.

1386. Institution of Master William Stevyns, bachelor in laws, as rector of the church of Poyntyngton, vacant by the canonical deprivation of Sir Walter Colles, on the presentation of John Colshull, knight. Simon Roo and the said Master William, clerks in the county of Somerset, entered into a bond in 40*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his having admitted Master William without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. Banwell, 23 August, 1461.

1387. Institution of Sir William Frenssh, chaplain, as rector of the church of Sutton Montagu, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Hillyng, on the presentation of William Montagu, esquire. 22 August, the same place and year.

1388. Institution of Master William Sampson, bachelor in decrees, in the person of Master Thomas Morton, his proctor, as rector of the church of Writlyngton, on the presentation of Master John Morton, doctor of laws, canon of Salisbury and prebendary of Fordyngton with Writlyngton. 26 August, the same place and year. *f. 266.*

1389. Institution of Sir Thomas Savage, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Overay, his proctor, as rector of the church of Combeflory, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Cogayn, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton. And thereupon the bishop, with the assent of both parties, assigned to the resigning rector a yearly pension of 40*s.* for life out of the fruits, etc. of the said church; and Master Thomas Overay, bachelor in laws, promised on behalf of the new rector faithfully to pay the same. 1 September, the same place and year.

1390. The king's writ to the bishop, ordering him to appoint some trustworthy clergy of his diocese to collect in his said

1461. diocese the entire tenth of all ecclesiastical benefices and possessions with certain exceptions, to be paid in two moieties, at the Annunciation, 1462, and Martinmas following, which the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury granted to the king in their last convocation in the church of St. Paul, London, which was begun on 6 May, 1460, and continued from day to day until 15 July, 1461; and to certify the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the names of the persons appointed on the morrow of Michaelmas next at latest. Westminster, 28 July, 1 Edward IV.<sup>1</sup>

f. 267. 1391. R.E. By the Kyng.

' Reverend fader in God. Ye have wel in mynde we doute  
' not how late agoo by you and other prelates and clergie in the  
' convocation of the province of Canterbury holden at Poulis  
' ther was graunte unto us for certeyn consideracons expressed  
' in the seyd graunte<sup>2</sup> as by the tenure thereof conteigned in a  
' writte whiche we send yow herewith to assigne and depute  
' collectours of the same disme in your diocise alle at large is  
' deducte and specified. And for as moche as afore this tyme  
' suche and so meny excepcions have be certified from you in  
' like caas of graunte that, where it was trowed the graunte of a  
' disme sholde have extended to a greet somme and be a greet  
' relief to the necessitees it was graunte for, it came not as  
' whoo saith to half a disme, so as it was noon or litle ease to the  
' charges that sholde have be born therewith, we forsomoche wol,  
' desire and also pray yow hertly that, considered the premisses  
' and the greet burthens and charges that resten uppon us and  
' dayly most for the commune weel and defense of our lande,  
' ye doo your effectuel devoir and diligence at this tyme that  
' the disme in your diocise may be unto us as greet as of olde tyme  
' it was woned to be, and that ye certifie noon excepcions save  
' onlyliche suche as of verraye necessity and pitee most and oweth  
' to be certified, and that ye fayle not hereyn as our special  
' trust is on yow and as ye desire to do us singuler pleasure and

<sup>1</sup> Fine Roll, 1 Edw. IV. m. 23.

<sup>2</sup> Some words indicating the nature of the grant appear to be omitted here.

'comfort. Yeven under our prive seel at Westm' the ixthe 1461.  
'day of August.'

*Marginal note.*—Received by the bishop in the manor of Banwel, 24 August, 1461, by the hands of Paul Aysshewell, messenger (*cursor*) of the Exchequer.

1392. Commission to the prior and convent of Bruton to collect the above-mentioned tenth from all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions which are taxed and accustomed to pay tenths, except from the goods, etc. of the poor nuns of Barowe and the taxed benefices specified in the annexed schedule, which are exempt from payment on account of poverty; and also to collect the said tenth from the untaxed benefices mentioned in the said schedule in accordance with the estimate of their annual value noted therein. Banwell, 12 September, 1461.

Schedules :—

f. 268.

(1) The list of untaxed benefices which are to pay on this occasion is the same as that given on pp. 112-13 of *Stafford's Register*, with the following omissions:—

Deanery of Axbrugg. The vicarage of Eastbrent.

Deanery of Bath. The vicarages of St. Mary 'de Stallis' and St. Michael without the North Gate.

Deanery of Merston. The vicarage of Henstrugg.

Deanery of Ilchestre. The church of Pytteney and the vicarage of Kyngesbury.

(2) The list of taxed benefices which are not to pay on this occasion on account of poverty is the same as that given on pp. 114-15 of *Stafford's Register*, with the following exceptions :—  
Deanery of Axbrugge. The churches of Stokegifford and Uphull are omitted, and the vicarage of Were<sup>1</sup> is inserted.

Deanery of Cary. The vicarage of Pilton and the churches of Lameyate, Brotton and East Ludeford are omitted.

Deanery of Radclif. The church of Tymesbarwe is omitted.

Deanery of Taunton. The churches of Somford Arondell and Combeflory are omitted.

Jurisdiction of the dean. The vicarages of Westbury and Pulton are added.

<sup>1</sup> Given as 'Mere' in *Stafford's Register*.



1461. 1393. Notification to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the above commission to the prior and convent of Bruton. Date as above.

1394. Presentation of Sir John Staunton, chaplain, to Richard, bishop of Salisbury, for admission to the perpetual chaplaincy in the church of Whitchurche in his diocese, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Bonsquyer and in the bishop's presentation by full right. 10 September, the same place and year.

1395. Institution of Sir William Godde, chaplain, as rector of the church of Bagburgh, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Smocke, chaplain, on the presentation of Robert Taunfyld, of Grannysle, co. Northampton, esquire. And thereupon the bishop, with the consent of both parties, assigned to the resigning rector, on account of his weakness and old age, a yearly pension of roos. for life, and the new rector swore on the Gospels faithfully to pay the same. 14 September, the same place and year.

f. 269. 1396. On 15 September, in the bishop's chapel in Banwel manor, Sir Robert Philipppis, rector of Chilton, submitted himself and his church to the bishop's ordinance in regard to the assignment of a yearly pension for life to Sir Thomas Hardyng, the late rector; and the bishop assigned a pension of 4*l.*, which Sir Robert swore on the Gospels faithfully to pay.

1397. Institution of Sir John Scarsy, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of Newton Placy *alias* Newton Forest, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Wathe, on the presentation of the king, patron for this turn by reason of the earldom of March. And thereupon the said Sir John entered into a bond in 20*l.* to preserve the bishop from trouble on account of his having admitted him without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. Banwel, 17 September, 1461.

1398. Certificate by the bishop of the award made by him as arbitrator in a dispute between the bishop of Tenos, rector of the church of Lydeyard St. Laurence, and John Saymour, esquire, concerning 32*a.* arable called 'Colecrofte,' 'Rammyslandes' and 'Le Cherchefurlong,' 2½*a.* meadow called 'Rammys-

medew,' and 8*a.* wood, in the lordship of the said John and the parish aforesaid, and the tithes of another 12*a.* wood in the same lordship and parish, which the rector claims as pertaining to his church, as follows :—John Saymour shall pay the rector 6*s.* 8*d.* for tithes. As for the remaining premises, the rector and his successors shall have the arable called ' Rammyslandes ' and ' Colecrofte ' and 1½*a.* wood in that part of the said John's wood which is nearest to the rectory, and the said John shall procure for them a secure estate therein, the rector paying the expenses of the king's court and the officers and ministers thereof in connexion with that business ; and the rector and his successors shall allow the said John and the heirs of the bodies of himself and his wife quietly to possess the other arable, meadow and wood for ever. The award was made in Wells palace, 9 August, 1461, in the presence of the above parties, Walter Osborn and William Kyng, canons of Wells, and William Vowell and John Touker, notaries-public. The certificate is dated at Banwel, 21 September, 1461.

1399. Institution of Master Thomas Olyf, M.A., as perpetual vicar of the church of Est Pennard, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Fareman, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Banwel, 7 October, 1461.

1400. Institution of Sir Nicholas Ame, chaplain, in the person of Ralph Durston, literate, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of Simon Ralegh in the church of Netelcomb, vacant by the death of Sir John Crofte, on the presentation of Thomas Whalesburgh, esquire. Woky, 12 October, 1461.

1401. Commitment to Master John Stokys, residentiary canon of Wells and the bishop's commissary-general, John Berlegh, canon regular of Taunton priory, and Sir Thomas Spryng, perpetual vicar of the church of Brympton Regis, of the administration of all the goods, etc. of the priory of Berlegh ; as the bishop has suspended Thomas Thornbury, who asserts that he is prior of Berlegh, with his consent, from all administration of the said goods, etc. on account of the notorious dilapi-

1461. dation which has arisen through his negligence and carelessness. 16 October, the same place and year.

1402. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest for John Cornyssh, of Wells, subdeacon. 17 October, the same place and year.

f. 270. 1403. Appointment of Walter, bishop of Norwich, William, bishop of Ely, and George, bishop of Exeter, as the bishop's proctors for the parliament to be held at Westminster on 4 November, 1 Edw. IV., 19 October, 1461.

1404. Institution of Sir Richard Heycroft, chaplain, as rector of the church of Luccombe, vacant by the death of Sir John Croft, on the presentation of William Seynt John, gentleman. Woky, 21 October, 1461.

1405. On 28 November, in Wells palace, the bishop received a certificate from John, abbot of Shirborn, in the diocese of Salisbury, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir John Wille, rector of the chapel with cure of Thornford, in that diocese, which is of the patronage and jurisdiction of the said abbot, and Master Thomas Hopkyns, M.A., perpetual vicar of the church of Kyngesbury, from which it appeared that by virtue of a commission from the bishop the abbot had authorised the said exchange and instituted Sir John as perpetual vicar of Kyngesbury, on the presentation of Master Thomas Chaundeler, chancellor of Wells, reserving for the bishop his induction and oath of canonical obedience. The said oath having been taken in the presence of the bishop, a letter of induction was written to Master Hugh Sugar, treasurer of Wells, the bishop's commissary in this behalf.

1406. Licence for Geoffrey Hyde, proctor, or envoy, of the hospital of the Holy Trinity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to collect alms in the diocese for two years. Date as above.

1407. Collation to Sir Thomas Standerwyke, priest, late brother professed of the house, or monastery, of St. Mary, St. Katharine and All Saints, commonly called [the house] of the

Bonshommes of God (*bonorum virorum Dei*), Edyngdon, of the order of St. Augustine, who has a papal dispensation to hold any ecclesiastical benefice, of the church of Seburgh, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as rector. Wells palace, 15 December, 1461.

The above-mentioned dispensation.<sup>1</sup> St. Peter's, Rome, 7 Kal. Dec. (25 Nov.), 1458.

1408. Institution of Master Richard Wetton, doctor of laws, in the person of John Towker, notary-public, his proctor, as rector of the church of Dychesyate, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury, by virtue of the undermentioned king's writ. Wells palace, 19 December, 1461.

Writ ordering the bishop to admit a suitable parson to the said church, on the presentation of the abbot, who has recovered his presentation thereto before the king's justices at Westminster against John Lax, clerk. Tested by R. Danby. Westminster, 28 November, 1 Edw. IV. Ro. 426. Wydeslade.

1409. Institution of Sir John Kynneman, chaplain, in the person of William Kene, literate, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Holy Ghost at Cherleton Makerell, vacant by the death of Sir John Spenser, on the presentation of William Britte, of Cherlton aforesaid, gentleman. Wells palace, 2 January, 1461[-2].

1410. Institution of Sir John Person, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Combe St. Nicholas, on the presentation of Master Richard Swan, provost of Wells. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 5 January, the same place and year. f. 271.

1411. Institution of Sir Thomas Avere, priest, B.A., as perpetual vicar of the church of Langesutton, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Syngeleton, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Athelnay. Letter of induction as above. 13 January, the same place and year.

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 513.

1462. 1412. Licence for Sir Reynold Stourton, knight, of the diocese of Salisbury, and Dame Margaret, widow, late the wife of Alexander Hody, knight, parishioner of Bruggewater, to have their marriage solemnized by any suitable chaplain in the chapel, or oratory, of St. John the Baptist in the manor, or dwelling-house, of Bowre, in the said parish, which is nearly two miles distant from the parish church, as the bishop is informed, and has long been the residence of the said Margaret. The licence of the vicar must first be obtained and the banns of marriage published. 15 January, the same place and year.

1413. Institution of Sir William Milys, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Cloford, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Frenssh, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham. 1 February, the same place and year.

1414. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Dame Eleanor Beauchamp, of the parish of Whitlakington, to have divine service celebrated in the chapel, or oratory, within her dwelling-place, and in any other places in the diocese set apart for divine worship. 3 February, the same place and year.

1415. Appointment of Masters Robert Kent, John Lord, John Naseby and Richard Layty, as the bishop's proctors in all causes in the court of Canterbury. 27 February, the same place and year.

1416. Commission to Masters John Kyngescote, doctor of decrees and archdeacon of Gloucester, John Stokys, residentiary canon of Wells, Robert Hurst, bachelor in both laws, and John Middelton, Reynold Myle and Leysontius *alias* Leysont ap Gryffith, bachelors in decrees,—on information from Sir John Walle, chaplain, lawfully presented to the church of Aller by the true patron thereof, and others, that Master Thomas Mannyng, chaplain, has long held at one and the same time, in contravention of the sacred canons and without any dispensation,<sup>1</sup> the dignity of treasurer in Salisbury cathedral, the archdeaconry of Totnes, a dignity in Exeter cathedral, the church of Cotyngnam, in the diocese of York, and a perpetual chantry in the church of Hatfeld,

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. pp. 148, 166.

in the diocese of Lincoln, benefices with cure and incompatible, and also the deanery of the collegiate church of Wyndesore, which by the statutes of the church is a benefice compatible with only one other benefice with cure; as well as the said church of Aller, a benefice with cure and incompatible,—to enquire into the premises, to compel the said Master Thomas to produce a dispensation for holding the above incompatible benefices, to decree and declare him deprived of the church of Aller if he fail to do so, and thereupon to institute the said Sir John Walle as rector thereof. 12 March, the same place and year. 1462.

1417. Licence for Dan John Thurlegh, bachelor in theology, monk of Malmesbury, to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. Wells palace, 26 March, 1462. *f. 272.*

1418. Licence for Master William Stevyns, bachelor in laws, rector of Poyntyngdon, acolyte, to study in any university in England for three years, to demise his church at farm to suitable persons for that term, and to receive the profits thereof as though he were personally resident; provided that he make arrangements for divine service meanwhile, and also leave a proctor to answer in his stead to the bishop and his ministers. Meanwhile, he is not to be bound to proceed beyond subdeacon's orders. 29 March, the same place and year.

1419. Grant, for six months, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall give or bequeath alms or charitable assistance to enable the parishioners of Hacche Beauchamp to replace two chalices lately stolen from their church; and appointment of the rector of the church and William Clement to receive the said alms and dispose of them for the above purpose. 31 March, the same place and year.

1420. Institution of Sir John Cale, chaplain, in the person of Nicholas Collys, notary-public, his proctor, as rector of the church of Holeford, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Derby, on the presentation of William Westbury, provost of the king's college of St. Mary, Eton by Windsor, and the said college. Date as above.

1462. 1421. Institution of Sir Edward Massy, chaplain, in the person of Sir Thomas Hille, priest, his proctor, as rector of the church of Yarlynton, vacant by the death of Sir Alexander Cressyngham, on the presentation of Alice, countess of Salisbury. 3 April, the same place and year.
1422. Institution of Master William Gyfford, M.A., bachelor of theology, as perpetual vicar of the church of Yatton, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Hawkyns, on the presentation of Master Thomas Purveour, canon of Wells and prebendary of Yatton. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 7 April, the same place and year.
1423. Institution of Master John Hille, bachelor in both laws, in the person of John Tracy, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Spaxton, vacant by the death of Sir John Smokke, on the presentation of Cecily, relict of Sir Thomas Kyrrell, knight. 9 April, the same place and year.
1424. Letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest for John Newton, of the parish of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol, B.A., subdeacon. 14 April, the same place and year.
1425. Institution of William Bukket, clerk, in the person of Master Thomas Marke, bachelor in laws, his proctor, as rector of the church of Middleton Podymore, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Cadbury, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. 24 April, the same place and year.
1426. Letters dimissory to all orders for William Boket, rector of Middleton Podymore, clerk, and Master Thomas Sadeler, of Wyvelescombe, M.A. Date as above.
1427. Collation to Sir John Roberd, B.A., of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Netherstowey, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as perpetual vicar. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 28 April, the same place and year.
- f. 273. 1428. Institution of Sir John Feld, chaplain, as rector of the church, or chapel with cure, of Stoke by Chiwe,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the

<sup>1</sup> Chewstoke.

death of Sir Martin Hervey, on the presentation of Nicholas Sayntlo, esquire. Letter of induction to Master John Stokes, commissary-general. 27 April, the same place and year. 1462.

1429. Institution of Master Robert Hurst, chaplain, bachelor in both laws, in the person of Sir Richard Hayne, vicar choral of Wells, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Hiwyssh, vacant by the resignation of Master Thomas Hille, on the presentation of Master Andrew Holes, archdeacon of Wells and prebendary of Hiwyssh. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 29 April, the same place and year.

1430. Institution of Sir John Welyngton, chaplain, as rector of the church of Breen, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Lyndesey *alias* Caudebeke, on the presentation of Eleanor, duchess of Somerset, and Margaret, countess of Shrewsbury.<sup>1</sup> 7 May, the same place and year.

1431. Institution of Sir Robert Syllly, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Estharpetre, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Feld, on the presentation of Master Hugh Pavy, canon of Wells and prebendary of Estharpetre. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Woky, 10 May, 1462.

1432. Appointment by the bishop of Master Thomas Hope, doctor of laws, canon of Wells, acting in the court of Rome as his proctor, to visit the holy Roman church and the shrines of St. Peter and St. Paul therein every three years according to the institutes of the sacred canons. Present, Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, treasurer of Wells, Master John Pope, master of theology, canon of Wells, and John Touker, notary-public. 17 May, the same place and year.

1433. Letters dimissory to all orders for Thomas Salter, of Milverton. 18 May, the same place and year.

1434. The like for John Axbrugge, subdeacon, and Thomas

<sup>1</sup> These ladies were daughters of Richard, earl of Warwick, and co-heiresses of their mother, Elizabeth, lady Berkeley.



1462. Payne, acolyte, monks of Athelnay abbey. 1 June, the same place and year.

1435. The like for John Pitlegh, deacon, and John Ayssh, acolyte, canons regular of Taunton priory. Date as above.

1436. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for John Jerard, of the parish of Samford Orkeys, esquire, and Joan, his wife, to have masses and other divine offices celebrated in their presence in the chapel, or oratory, within their dwelling-place in the said parish, and in all places in the diocese set apart for divine worship ; provided no prejudice to any parish church result therefrom. Date as above.

1437. Collation to Sir John Bersey, chaplain, of the church of Langrigge, vacant by the canonical deprivation of Sir William Lyons and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as rector. And because at the time of his collation he appeared to be too simple in knowledge to have the cure of souls, he swore on the Gospels before Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, treasurer of Wells, the bishop's chancellor, that he would study for a year, present himself for examination before Midsummer, 1463, and resign his church if then found unsuitable. Date as above.

1438. Letters dimissory to the order of priest for John Mode, of Stoke by Taunton, deacon. Banwel, 4 June, 1462.

1439. Institution of Sir William Rowle, chaplain, in the person of Thomas Smyth, literate, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Compton Dundene, vacant by the death of Sir John Hendy, on the presentation of Master Stephen Morpathe, canon of Wells and prebendary of Compton aforesaid. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 5 June, the same place and year.

f. 274. And because the said Sir William, at the time of his admission, was found by examination to be unfit to have the cure of souls, the bishop postponed his admission for a time.

Afterwards, at Woky, Master John Hobbes, perpetual vicar of Butley, came to the bishop and bound himself by a firm

promise diligently to teach Sir William a better knowledge of letters, and to present him for examination within two years. And Sir William bound himself to study diligently under Master John. Present, Master Thomas Marke, notary-public, of Glastonbury, and others. 1462.

1440. Institution of Master Thomas Bayly, bachelor in decrees, as rector of the church of Dunkerton, vacant by the death of Sir John Vyell, on the presentation of Edward Langford, of the county of Berks, esquire, patron for this turn by reason of his wardship of Walter Bamfylde, son and heir of William Bamfylde, esquire. Banwel, 5 June, 1462.

1441. Request to the king for the arrest of Roger Hurne *alias* Atte Hurne, of Stoke by Chiwe,<sup>1</sup> who has remained obdurate under sentence of excommunication for forty days and more. 19 June, the same place and year.

1442. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Dan Robert Hille, abbot of Athelnay, to have masses and other divine offices celebrated in his presence in any chapels or oratories in the diocese which are set apart for divine worship; provided no prejudice to parish churches result therefrom. Date as above.

1443. Authorisation by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir Michael Pygnon, perpetual vicar of Murelynche, and Sir Henry Caunte, perpetual vicar of Codecomb. Institution of Sir Michael as perpetual vicar of Codecomb, on the presentation of Brother Robert Cammell, sub-prior of Bruton, and the convent of that place, Brother John Henton, the prior, being absent on a pilgrimage to Santiago; and institution of Sir Henry as perpetual vicar of Murelynche, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction in the latter case to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. 1 July, the same place and year.

1444. Transmission to the bishop by Thomas, bishop of London, of letters of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Otteford, 16 June, 1462, ordering the summoning

<sup>1</sup> Chewstoke.

1462. of a convocation of the clergy of the province to be held in the church of St. Paul, London, on 21 July next, in accordance with the king's writ dated 4 June, 2 Edward IV. Hadham manor, 28 June, 1462.

[In the margin is a memorandum that this order was received by the bishop at Banwel on 2 July from the hands of John Waleys, servant of Walter Rodenay, knight.]

- f. 275. 1445. Order to the archdeacon of Bath or his official to summon the prior of Bath and the abbots and priors in the archdeaconry of Bath having convents under them to appear at the said convocation in person, and the chapter of Bath by one proctor ; and to cite all the rectors and vicars of the archdeaconry to appear in Wells cathedral on Tuesday after the feast of Relics next <sup>1</sup> at 9 a.m., in order to elect, in conjunction with the other rectors and vicars of the diocese, two proctors to attend the said convocation in their behalf. The archdeacon himself is to attend in person. Banwel, 3 July, 1462.

1446. Institution of Sir William Groce, chaplain, as rector of the church of Telesford, vacant by the death of Sir Edward Philipp, on the presentation of Margaret, lady of Hungerford, patron for this turn by reason of her dower. The said Sir William entered into a bond in 20*l.* to preserve the bishop from any trouble on account of his having admitted him without previous inquisition as to the right of patronage. 8 July, the same place and year.

1447. Appointment by the bishop of John, bishop of Rochester, Walter, bishop of Norwich, Master Robert Stillyngton, doctor of laws, keeper of the king's privy seal, William Say, master of theology, dean of St. Paul's, London, and Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor and treasurer of Wells, to be his proctors in the convocation to be held on 21 July. 12 July, the same place and year.

1448. Institution of Sir Thomas Ree, chaplain, as rector of the church of Hacche Beauchamp, vacant by the resignation of

<sup>1</sup> Relic Sunday was the third after Midsummer.

Sir Thomas Conderowe, on the presentation of John Seymour, 1462. knight. 13 July, the same place and year.

1449. Institution of Sir William Kyngyshurst, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. John the Baptist anciently founded in the church of Frome, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Cotell, on the presentation of Robert Leversegge, esquire. 14 July, the same place and year.

1450. Presentation of Master Robert Hacche, bachelor in decrees, to William, bishop of Winchester, for admission to the church of Dogmersfeld, vacant by the resignation of Sir Roger Frende and in the bishop's presentation by full right. 21 July, the same place and year.

1451. Institution of Sir Thomas Wath, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Netherstowey, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Robert, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury, patrons by reason of their appropriation of the priory of Goldclyff, in the march of Wales. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Afterwards Sir Thomas swore on the Gospels to resign his said vicarage at the bishop's request if the said Sir John should complain of craft, fraud, or threats in connexion with his resignation, or if he should not withdraw therefrom of his own accord. Present, Sir John Riche, canon of Wells, John Compayn, B.A., and John Touker, notary-public. 31 July, the same place and year. *f. 276.*

1452. Institution of Sir Richard Bigge, chaplain, as rector of the church of Radestoke, on the presentation of Cecily, relict of Sir Thomas Kyryell, knight. 25 August, the same place and year.

1453. Licence for Sir Philip Puttesham, B.A., rector of Newton Seyntloe, to study for three years in the university of Oxford and receive the fruits of his church meanwhile, as though he were personally resident; provided that divine worship and the cure of souls be not neglected, and that he leave a proctor to answer in his stead to the bishop and his ministers. 3 September, the same place and year.

1462. 1454. Institution of William Chokke, literate, in the person of Master Thomas Merssh, bachelor in both laws, whom the bishop appointed his curator on account of his minority, as warden of the free chapel of Clareham *alias* Claverham, in the parish of Yatton, vacant by the death of Sir Walter Baylly, on the presentation of John Charles, knight, and Maud, his wife,<sup>1</sup> patrons for this turn. Letter of induction to the vicars of the prebendal and parish churches of Yatton and Congresbury. 8 September, the same place and year.

1455. Manumission of Thomas Yepe, son of Thomas Yepe the elder, bondman of the bishop's manor of Cheddour, with all his chattels and offspring (*sequela*). 14 September, the same place and year.

1456. Institution of Sir Henry Modeford, chaplain, in the person of John Modeford, his proctor, as rector of the church of Melles, vacant by the death of Master Lewis Rede, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. 24 September, the same place and year.

1457. Institution of Sir Robert White, chaplain, as rector of the church of Pille, vacant by the resignation of John Evenall, clerk, on the presentation of William Bourghier, lord Fitz-Wareyn. 25 September, the same [place and] year.

1458. Institution of Master John Payle, M.A., as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Virgin Mary in the church of Brugwater, on the presentation of Adam Hamelyn and Richard Clopton, stewards of the merchant-gild of Brugwater, patrons for this turn by reason of their office. 26 September, the same place and year.

1459. Commission to Master Robert Hurst, bachelor in both laws, to be the bishop's commissary-general and official of his peculiar jurisdiction during pleasure. [The terms of appointment are the same as those set out in no. 4 above.] Wells palace, 11 October, 1462.

<sup>1</sup> This lady appears to have been either the relict or the daughter of William Vyel. *Somerset Fines*, 16 Hen. VI.

1460. Letters dimissory to all holy orders for Robert Godde, of Taunton, acolyte. Woky, 14 October, 1462. 1462.  
f. 277.

1461. Collation to Sir Walter Osbourne, chaplain, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe VIII. vacant by the death of Master Lewis Rede; and institution accordingly. 4 November, the same place and year.

1462. Institution of Sir Thomas Michell, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry founded at the altar of St. Calixtus in Wells cathedral for the souls of Sir Henry Husee, sometime dean of Wells, and others, which was lately held by Sir David ap Howell ap Jevan Vachan, on the presentation of Master Nicholas Carent, dean, and the chapter of Wells. 5 November, the same place and year.

1463. Collation to Sir John Pemberton, chaplain, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Shalford *alias* Shaldeford vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Osbourne; and institution accordingly. 6 November, the same place and year.

1464. Order to the archdeacon of Wells or his official to admonish all prelates, rectors, vicars and chaplains with cure in his archdeaconry to make public and solemn processions in or around their churches on every Wednesday and Friday during the coming weeks, with chanting of a litany for the peace and tranquillity of the church and realm of England, and for the prosperity and success of King Edward and his men, now setting out against their enemies and the enemies of the realm; and grant of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall be present at the said processions and devoutly pray to God for the above objects. 10 November, the same place and year.

1465. Institution of Sir Thomas Lerbeke, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wynsham, vacant by the resignation of Sir Frank Cotys, on the presentation of Master Richard Swan, provost of Wells. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. Wells palace, 30 November, 1462.

1462. 1466. Exhortation by the bishop to all the clergy of his diocese—in conformity with the undermentioned letters of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury,—to receive and treat with kindness the proctors, or envoys, of the hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, London, when they come collecting alms, to expound their business in the vulgar tongue, and to contribute to the said collection and induce others to do so; and grant of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall give or bequeath charitable assistance to the said hospital. Wells palace, 6 December, 1462.

Letters of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in the manor of Lamehith, 21 May, 1462, wherein,—after referring to (1) a provincial constitution of Henry Chichele, late archbishop, providing that, in view of the prevalence of forged letters of indulgence in the province, no proctors, or envoys, of any house or hospital accustomed to receive the alms of the faithful by collection should thenceforth be admitted to collect such alms in the province, except only those of the hospitals of St. John of Jerusalem, St. Anthony, St. Thomas the Martyr in Rome, and St. Thomas of Acon in London, and that even they should only be allowed to expound their business in the words set out in a schedule to be drawn up in the vulgar tongue for incorporation in the letters of indulgence granted to them, and (2) a ratification of the said constitution by John Stafford, archbishop of Canterbury, in the convocation celebrated in the chapter-house of the church of St. Paul, London, on Tuesday, 1 July, 1449, and continued until 28 July, with the additional provisions that no collectors, except those of the four places aforesaid, should in anywise be admitted by subjects of the province, under a penalty of 6s. 8d. to be applied to the alms of the local archdeacon, and that the schedule referred to above should be expounded by the curates of the various churches,—he exhorts all persons to receive with kindness the proctors of the said house of Acon, and to promote their business both by word and example, provided always that in expounding their said business nothing be said to the people but what is contained in the schedule annexed hereto, and grants forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall give or bequeath charitable assistance to the said hospital.

f. 278.

Schedule :—

1462.

' In this cedula wreten in Englysshe ben conteyned the indulgenses other else the pardons the whiche ben graunted to hem that with there almesse visite or releve the hous of the cherche of Seynt Thomas of Acon in the citee of London, where the seid blessed Martir was born of his moder in this worlde.

' Boniface sum tyme pope of Rome the ixth of that name to al theym veray repentant and shryven whiche in festes of the Nativite and Circumcision of Oure Lord Jesu Crist, Twelfday, Paschday, Ascencon day, Corpus Christi day, Witsonday, the Nativite, Annunciacon, Purificacon and Assumpcon of Our Lady, also the Nativite of Seynt John Baptist, the Apostoles Petir and Paule, the dedicacon of the said cherche of Seynt Thomas and other festes of the same seynt, and also the fest of Al Halwen, furthermore in the octaves of the Nativite of Crist, the Twelfday, Paschday, Ascencon day, Corporis (*sic*) Christi day, the Nativite and the Assumpcon of Our Lady, also of Seynt John the Baptist and the Apostles Petir and Paule, and vj. days next after Witsonday, devoutly visiten yerely the place of Seynt Thomas, or with there almesse releve it to the perfourmyng of the cherche werke, in eche oon of the seid festival dayes he hath graunted pardon as towchyng penaunce enjoyned of vij. yere and vij. Lentes, also in eche oon of the octaves afore said c. dayes of pardon.

' Also my lord of Canturburye graunteth to al his subjectis repentant and shryven that releve the same place to susteyne more devoutly Goddys service there xl. dayes of pardon in relessyng of penaunce enjoyned unto them.'

1467. Institution of Sir Geoffrey Metier, chaplain, as rector of the church of Bratton, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Philippes, on the presentation of William de la Zouche, esquire. Wells palace, 9 December, 1462.

1468. Institution of Sir Thomas Horn, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Carehampton, vacant by the death of Sir John Honycote, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. Letter of induction to the archdeacon of Taunton or his official. 20 December, the same place and year.



1462. And note that this induction was erroneously made by the archdeacon of Taunton, when it ought to have been made by the dean of Wells, as appears by inspection of the ancient registers.
1463. 1469. Collation to Sir John Ryche, chaplain, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Eston in Gordano vacant by the death of Master John Spekyngton; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 1 January, 1462[-3].
- f. 279. 1470. Collation to Sir John Wansford of the subdeanery of Wells and the parsonage of Woky annexed thereto, vacant by the death of Master John Spekyngton; and institution accordingly. Date as above.
1471. Collation to the same of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Taunton; and institution accordingly. 2 January, the same place and year.
1472. Collation to Master Thomas Bromehale of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Wightlakynnton; and institution accordingly. Date as above.
1473. Collation to Robert Purviour, clerk, B.A., of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Combe XV.; and institution accordingly. 3 January, the same place and year.
1474. Collation to Sir Richard Childe, chaplain, of the perpetual chantry of Alre, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution accordingly. Date as above.
1462. 1475. The king's writ,<sup>1</sup> ordering the bishop to appoint some trustworthy clergy of his diocese to collect therein (1) the moiety of a tenth of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions, with certain exceptions, payable at Martinmas, 1463, which was granted to the king by the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury in their last convocation in the church of St. Paul, London, begun on Wednesday, 21 July, 1462, and continued until 2 August following, and (2) the similar moiety, payable at Martinmas, 1464, which was granted in the prorogued session of
- <sup>1</sup> Fine Roll, 2 Edw. IV. m. 5.

the said convocation held between 8 November, 1462, and 25 November following; and also,—in the case of those persons of the diocese who absented themselves from the above-mentioned prorogued session, and were thus relieved of great labour and expense, to wit the bishop himself, Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, the prior of Bath, Master Andrew Holes, archdeacon of Wells, Master Richard Lichefeld, archdeacon of Bath, Master Robert Stillyngton, archdeacon of Taunton, the abbots of Glastonbury, Mochelneye, Athelney, Cleve and Keynesham, and the priors of Bruton and Taunton,—to collect their share of the latter moiety on or before the Purification next, instead of on the date specified above. The treasurer and barons of the Exchequer are to be certified of the names of the persons appointed on the morrow of St. Hilary next at latest. Westminster, 1 December, 2 Edw. IV. 1462.  
f. 280.

1476. Commission to the prior and convent of Montagu 1463.  
(*Montis Acuti*) to collect the above-mentioned second moiety of a tenth of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions which are taxed and accustomed to pay tenths, except the goods, etc. of the poor nuns of Barwe and the benefices specified in the annexed schedule, which are exempt from payment on account of poverty; and also to collect the same from the untaxed benefices mentioned in the said schedule in accordance with the estimate of their annual value noted therein. Wells palace, 11 January, 1462[–3]. f. 281.

The like commission to the master and convent of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater, to collect the first moiety of the said tenth. 12 March,<sup>1</sup> the same place and year.

1477. Notification to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the above commissions to the master and brethren and the prior and convent. 11 January, the same place and year.

1478. Schedules annexed to the above commissions and notification:—

(1) The list of untaxed benefices which are to pay on this

<sup>1</sup> In view of the following entry, this date appears to be incorrect.

1463. occasion is the same as that given on *pp.* 112-13 of *Stafford's Register*, with the following omissions:—

Deanery of Cary. The church of Blakford and the vicarage of Cary.

Deanery of Axbrugg. The vicarage of Eastbrent.

Deanery of Bath. The vicarages of St. Mary 'de Stallis' and St. Michael without the North Gate.

Deanery of Raddeclyff. The vicarage of Yatton.

Deanery of Merston. The vicarage of Hengstrugg.

Deanery of Taunton. The church of Orchard.

Deanery of Dunster. The vicarage of Stokegommer.

Deanery of Ilchestre. The church of Pytteney and the vicarage of Kyngesbury.

(2) The list of taxed benefices which are not to pay on this occasion on account of poverty is the same as that given on *pp.* 114-15 of *Stafford's Register*, with the following exceptions:—

Deanery of Axbrugge. The churches of Stokegifford and Uphull are omitted, and the vicarage of Were is added.

Deanery of Frome. The vicarage of Norton Canonorum is added.

Deanery of Cary. The vicarage of Pilton and the churches of Lameyate and Brotton are omitted; and the church of Alludeford is added.

Deanery of Taunton. The churches of Somford Arondell and Combeflory are omitted.

Jurisdiction of the dean. The vicarages of Westbury and Pulton are added.

Jurisdiction of Glastonbury, or deanery of Poulet. The vicarage of Shapewyk is added.

1479. Institution of William Boket, clerk, as rector of the church of Strete, vacant by the resignation of Sir Henry Modford, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. Wells palace, 14 January, 1462[-3].

1480. Collation to Sir John Pemberton, canon of Wells, of the canonical houses wherein the late Master Lewis Rede dwelt. 20 January, the same place and year.

1481. Dispensation for William Boket, clerk, rector of Strete, to remain in some university (*studium generale*) for six years, and meanwhile to receive the fruits of his church, in accordance with the chapter *Cum ex eo*. 24 January, the same place and year. 1463.  
f. 282.

1482. Commission to the dean of Frome, the curate of the church of Kynmersdon in the same deanery, Thomas Smyth, the bishop's apparitor-general, John Palle and Richard Shetford,—inasmuch as John Stokes, late of Castalcary, who was lately indicted before certain of the king's justices of having on Palm Sunday, 33 Hen. VI., broken and entered the house of William Deverell, at Metford in the parish of Kynmersdon, and stolen a girdle bound with silver, price 20s., six silver spoons, price 10s., and sixteen curtains (*velamina*), price 26s. 8d., and was thereupon imprisoned by the lay power and afterwards delivered to the bishop for judgment as a clerk, has prayed the bishop to receive his purgation,—peremptorily to cite all persons wishing to oppose such purgation, in the market-place of Wells on Saturday next and in the church of Kynmersdon during mass or other divine service on the Sunday following, to appear before the bishop or his commissary on Wednesday after St. Agatha next, in the chapel of the Virgin Mary by the cloister of Wells cathedral, and show cause for their objections. 2 February, the same place and year.

1483. Commission to Sir John Erl, chaplain, rector of Bacwell, to receive the professions of Sibyl Prest and Isabel Bacwell, sisters of the priory of Barow, and see them publicly and expressly professed in the said priory. 3 February, the same place and year.

1484. Institution of Sir Thomas Hervy, chaplain, as rector of the church of Babynton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Lord, on the presentation of Margaret, lady Hungerford and Botreaux. 8 February, the same place and year.

1485. Institution of Sir Thomas Costard, chaplain, as rector of the church of Clutton, vacant by the death of Sir John Salmon, on the presentation of Humphrey, lord Stafford of Southwyke, knight. And because at the time of his admission he appeared

1463. to Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, who examined him, to be too simple in knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures to have the cure of souls, he swore on the Gospels to study with some learned man until the Exaltation of the Holy Cross next, to present himself for examination on the Monday after that feast, and to resign his church if then found unfit. 21 February, the same place and year.

1486. Institution of Master John Wygrym, chaplain, in the person of Master Simon Roo, bachelor in theology, his proctor, as rector of the church of Bathecomb,<sup>1</sup> vacant by the resignation of Sir Henry Modeford, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. 19 February, the same place and year.

1487. Institution of Sir Thomas Standerwyke, chaplain, as rector of the church of Chynnocke Belly,<sup>2</sup> vacant by the resignation of Sir Edward Godfray, on the presentation of Humphrey Stafford, lord of Sowthwike, knight. 5 March, the same place and year.

f. 283. 1488. Institution of Sir John Prynce, priest, as rector of the church of Staunton Prior, vacant by the death of Sir Roger Elmeley, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. Woky, 17 March, 1462[-3].

1489. Institution of Sir Thomas Hyckyns, chaplain, of the diocese of Worcester, as rector of the church of All Saints, Kyngeston Saymour, vacant by the death of Sir Roger Elmelyn, on the presentation of Maurice Berkeleye, lord of Wyolegh. On account of his lack of knowledge he made oath as above (no. 1485). Present, Master Thomas Merssh and Henry Eryum, canons of Wells, and John Touker, notary-public. Wells palace, 24 March, 1462[-3].

Afterwards,<sup>3</sup> on 21 December, 1464, Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, proved his ability by examination and exempted him from further appearance.

<sup>1</sup> Batcombe.

<sup>2</sup> Middle Chinnock.

<sup>3</sup> An addition in the same hand as the previous entry, but in paler ink.

1490. Institution of Sir John Horewode, chaplain, as rector of the church of St. Michael, Burnette, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Wyng, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury. Wells palace, 5 April, 1463.

1491. On 7 April, the same place and year, the bishop received a certificate from John, bishop of Lincoln, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir Simon Belton, canon of Wells and prebendary of Combe IV., and Master John Perche, M.A., canon of Lincoln and prebendary of Carleton with Thoreleby, from which it appeared that the said bishop of Lincoln, acting on the authority of letters from the bishop, had approved the said exchange, received the resignation of Sir Simon, collated his canonry and prebend to Master John, and instituted him accordingly.

Thereupon the oath of canonical obedience was taken by Sir John Ryche, Master John's proctor, and a letter for his induction was written to the dean, or the subdean, and the chapter of Wells.

1492. Licence for Master John Shipton, S.T.P., to preach the word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese, during the bishop's pleasure. Date as above.

1493. Collation to Sir Robert Pyry, chaplain, of the church of Wayford, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time ; and institution of him as rector. 21 April, 1463.

1494. Appointment by the bishop of John, bishop of Worcester, Walter, bishop of Norwich, Ralph, lord of Sudeley, knight, John, abbot of Glastonbury, and Master Robert Stillington, archdeacon of Taunton and keeper of the king's privy seal, as his proctors at the parliament to be held at Westminster on 29 April. Wells palace, 23 April, 1463.

1495. Institution of Sir Thomas Gogh, chaplain, as rector of the church of St. Mary the Virgin, Charlcomb, vacant by the death of Sir William Typper, on the presentation of John Barr, knight. On account of his lack of knowledge, he made oath, as above (no. 1485), to study until Easter next and present himself for examination on Monday after the first Sunday after Easter

1463. (*Dominica in Albis*). Present, N. Coll and Roger Wythe, literates. 25 April, the same place and year.

1496. Collation to John Hunt, vicar choral in Wells cathedral, of the sixth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 26 April, the same place and year.

1497. The like to Sir William Bevyn of the fourteenth chamber on the west side. 15 May, the same place and year.

1498. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Barne, of Taunton, who has the first tonsure. 23 May, the same place and year.

1499. Collation to Master Robert Hurst, bachelor in both laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe XIV. vacant by the death of Master Gilbert Kemer;<sup>1</sup> and institution accordingly. 25 May, the same place and year.

1500. Letters dimissory to all orders for Henry Fysshier, of Taunton, who has the first clerical tonsure. Date as above.

1501. Institution of Sir John Hucker, chaplain, as rector of the church of Cryket Thomas, vacant by the death of Sir John Brokhampton, on the presentation of Margaret, lady Hungerford and of Botreaux. On account of his lack of knowledge of letters, he made oath, as above (no. 1485), to study until Easter next and present himself for examination on Tuesday after the first Sunday after Easter. Present, Master Richard Swan, provost, and John Riche, canons of Wells, and many others. 29 May, the same place and year.

1502. Dispensation for Thomas Bonde, of the parish of Welyngton, subdeacon,—who was born in the diocese but has nevertheless been promoted to all minor orders and the order of subdeacon without the bishop's authority or letters dimissory, whereby he is by law suspended from the exercise of his said orders,—to minister in all his orders, which the bishop hereby

<sup>1</sup> Gilbert Kymer, dean of Salisbury, died 16 May, 1463. *Dict. of Nat. Biography*, vol. xxxi. p. 354.

ratifies, and perform whatever pertains to them. 3 June, the 1463. same place and year.

1503. Letters dimissory to the order of priest for Thomas Bonde, of Welyngton, deacon. 4 May (*sic*), the same place and year.

1504. Collation to Master Thomas Purviour, master of theology, of the church of St. John the Baptist, Ilchestre, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as rector in the person of Master Richard Swan, his proctor. 16 June, the same place and year. *f. 285.*

1505. Institution of Sir Robert Draper, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Modford, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Irissh, on the presentation of Master Nicholas Carent, dean, and the chapter of Wells. On account of his lack of knowledge of letters, he made oath, as above (no. 1485), to study until Easter next and present himself for examination on Wednesday after the first Sunday after Easter. This oath was made in the parlour of the residence of Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor. Present, the said chancellor and J. Touker. 18 June, the same place and year.

1506. On 24 June, the same place and year, the bishop received a certificate from John, bishop of Chichester, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir Robert Tommes *alias* Thornbury, rector of Claverton, and Sir William Hore, rector of Middleton in the diocese of Chichester, from which it appeared that the bishop of Chichester, acting on the authority of a commission from the bishop, had approved the said exchange, received the resignation of Sir Robert, collated Sir William to the church of Claverton, which is in the bishop's collation by full right, and instituted him as rector thereof.

After the oath of canonical obedience had been taken by Master Thomas Merssh, proctor of the said Sir William, the customary letter of induction was written.

1507. Collation to Sir John Person, chaplain, of the church of Estham, in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time;



1463. and institution of him as rector in the person of Sir Thomas Horn, chaplain, his proctor. 25 June, the same place and year.

1508. Institution of Master Thomas Hope, in the person of Master Simon Roo, M.A., substitute of Master John Cranborn, his proctor, as rector of the church of Temple Combe, on the presentation of the abbes and convent of Shaftesbury. Date as above.

1509. Request to the king for the arrest of Sir Thomas Shorterugh and Sir John Slugge, priests,<sup>1</sup> who are excommunicated on account of their manifold contumacies and offences in a matter concerning the correction of their souls, and have remained obdurate for forty days and more. 30 June, the same place and year.

1510. Transmission to the bishop by Thomas, bishop of London, of letters of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Lamehith, 28 May, 1463, ordering the summoning of a convocation of the clergy of the province to be held in the church of St. Paul, London, on 6 July next, in accordance with the king's writ dated at Westminster, 27 May, 3 Edw. IV. 2 June, 1463.

- f. 286. 1511. Certificate by the bishop to Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, that he has cited and warned the following clergy of his diocese to appear at the said convocation, to wit the dean of Wells, the prior of Bath, and the archdeacons, abbots and priors in person, the chapters of his cathedral churches by one proctor each, and the clergy of the diocese by two proctors. The names of those cited are in the annexed schedule. Wells palace, 30 June, 1463.

Schedule :—

Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells.

The chapter of Wells.

Dan Thomas Lacok, prior of Bath.

The chapter of Bath.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Shortrigge appears to have been rector of Seavington St. Michael, and John Slugge or Sloge, rector of Buckland St. Mary.

1463.

Master Andrew Holes, archdeacon of Wells.  
Master Richard Lichefeld, archdeacon of Bath.  
Master Robert Stillyngton, archdeacon of Taunton.  
Dan John Selwode, abbot of Glastonbury.  
Dan John Cherde, abbot of Mochelneye.  
Dan Robert Hille, abbot of Athelneye.  
Dan David Joyner, abbot of Cleeve.  
Brother Thomas Tyler, abbot of Keynesham.  
Brother John Henton, prior of Bruton.  
Brother Richard Glene, prior of Taunton.  
Dan Robert, prior of Mountagu.

1512. Appointment by the bishop of John, bishop of Rochester, Walter, bishop of Norwich, John, abbot of Glastonbury, Master Robert Stillyngton, keeper of the king's privy seal and archdeacon of Taunton, and Master William Say, dean of St. Paul's, London, as his proctors at the above convocation. Date as above.

1513. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to John Swetyng, Gonelda, his wife, and John, their son, of 3a. meadow of 'Overlande' in the bishop's manor of Cheddre, lying between a parcel of land called 'Todhille' on the east and a meadow called 'Portmanmede' on the west, formerly held by John Parsy, to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering 3s. yearly to the bishop and his successors; with proviso for distraint if the rent be two weeks in arrear. Warranty clause. Date as above.

1514. Injunctions laid by the bishop on the master and convent of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Brugwater, to be administered and delivered to them by Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor:—

(1) All the brethren are to attend in the choir at times of divine service, day or night, and not to absent themselves without special licence of the master on account of infirmity or for some other reasonable cause, under penalty of having 1d. deducted from their yearly pension on every occasion. f. 287.

(2) All the brethren, unless excused by the master, are immediately after compline to repair to their dormitory and remain

1463. there in silence until matins, under penalty of abstinence on bread and water on the following Friday.

(3) The brethren are to have a laundress in common to wash their linen, and not to take special laundresses as in past times, under penalty of keeping to the cloister, the refectory and the dormitory for a fortnight.

(4) No brother is to invite or receive a woman, especially a suspected one, into his chamber or any other private and suspicious place of the hospital, or to eat or drink with one, without special licence of the master, under penalty of imprisonment for eight days on the first occasion, the penalty to be doubled for each succeeding offence.

(5) The brethren are not in future to be allowed to be idle, but each of them is to be put by the master to some good and virtuous work, according to his capacity and disposition, at such times as he is not engaged in divine offices.

(6) The brethren are at all times and places to show due reverence to the master and their seniors, and not to use insulting, opprobrious, scandalous, or dishonourable language against the master or any of their fellows, under penalty of observing silence and keeping to the cloister for a fortnight.

(7) The brethren are not henceforth to swear by the limbs of Christ, or play publicly at ball (*pilam*) with lay persons, under penalty of fasting on bread and water on the following Friday.

(8) No brother is to go outside the bounds of the hospital, even into the street called 'Estover,' or the town of Brugwater, or the garden called 'the uttergardeyn,' without licence of the master, under penalty of keeping to the cloister for a month.

(9) The master is to cause the two doors giving entry to the chapel of St. Mary the Virgin of the said hospital from the street adjoining the said chapel, commonly called 'utterdorys,' to be kept shut every day from immediately after high mass until the hour of vespers, and from immediately after vespers until the hour of the first mass celebrated in the chapel, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(10) The master is to cause the path adjoining the churchyard of the hospital, whereby free exit is given nowadays from the said churchyard to the outer court and east gate of the hos-

pital, to be closed and walled up before the Assumption next, 1463. under the same penalty.

(11) The master is to cause the stone wall adjoining the hall and parlour of the hospital and enclosing the fishpond on its south side to be made straighter and higher, and the door now existing therein to be closed and walled up, before the Nativity of the Virgin Mary next, as was lately enjoined on him by Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, under penalty of suspension from the administration of the spiritualities and temporalities of the hospital.

(12) No brother is to reveal the counsels or secrets of chapter without just, reasonable and lawful cause approved by the bishop, under penalty of observing silence and keeping to the cloister, the dormitory and the refectory, for a month.

(13) The master is to make before Michaelmas next a cob (*luteum*) wall of a suitable height enclosing the east side of the fishpond and extending from the aforesaid stone wall as far as the wall of the churchyard of the hospital, under penalty of 10s. to be distributed among the poor inhabitants of Brugwater.

(14) The master is to cause a dungeon, or prison, to be made before Michaelmas next in the place lately appointed by the aforesaid Master Hugh, with suitable stocks and fetters, for the correction of the brethren, under the same penalty.

(15) The master is not in future to receive Alice Gye in the hospital, or hold converse with her in the hospital or any other private or suspicious place, in accordance with the oath already taken by him in this behalf, under penalty of being deprived of his office.

(16) The master is not in future to alienate the goods of the hospital to the said Alice, or her husband, by pretext of gift, or sale, or by any pretext whatever, under penalty of suspension from the administration of the temporalities of the hospital.

(17) The master is to produce to the bishop before Midsummer, 1464, an inventory of the state of the hospital and the jewels and other silver things thereof, with a description of the latter and a statement of their weight, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(18) The master is once a year at least to render an account

1463. of the receipts and expenses of the hospital before his convent or certain brethren appointed by the convent to represent them, under penalty of 20s. to be levied from him and applied to the fabric of Wells cathedral.

(19) The master is to deal with difficult and important matters in the chapter-house, and to act in accordance with the advice of his convent when it seems expedient so to do, under the penalty of disobedience and contempt.

(20) The master is before Michaelmas next to cause the common seal and the more important evidences of the convent to be deposited in a chest with three locks and three keys, whereof one is to be in the custody of the master and the others in the custody of two brethren to be appointed by the convent, under the same penalty.

(21) The master is to cause these injunctions to be read aloud once a month at least to all the brethren assembled in chapter, and to have them observed so far as he can, under the same penalty. Wells palace, 1 July, 1463.

1515. Institution of Sir Richard Edmond, chaplain, as rector of the church of Lytton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Dynt, on the presentation of Sir Richard Hayman, canon of Wells and prebendary of Lytton. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 2 July, the same place and year.

1516. Grant by the bishop, for one year, of forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall contribute by gifts or bequests or otherwise towards the relief of the hospital of the House of God and of St. John the Baptist, Sandwich. Date as above.

f. 288. 1517. Institution of Sir William Pasley, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Estcoker, vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Geffray, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Exeter. 5 July, the same place and year.

1518. Institution of Sir Walter Sute, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine by Frome, on the presentation of Robert Leversegge, esquire. Letter of induction

to the archdeacon of Wells or his official. 6 August, the same 1463. place and year.

On the same day the bishop ordered the said archdeacon and official to induct Sir Walter to the said chantry, in accordance with his collation thereof to him at another time by six months' lapse of time.

1519. Licence for John Faukeys, clerk, to hold a grammar school in Bristol during the bishop's pleasure, and teach all who come to him for instruction, receiving the fees, etc. usually pertaining to such instructors. 16 August, the same place and year.

1520. Transmission to the bishop by Thomas, bishop of London, of letters of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Lamehith, 24 July, 1463, ordering the appointment in the various dioceses of his province of collectors of the subsidy which was granted by the clergy of the province in their last convocation in the church of St. Paul, London, begun on 6 July, 1463, and continued until 23 July, to the archbishop and George, bishop of Exeter, chancellor of England, to be levied and paid at the Nativity of the Virgin Mary next, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the said grant as set out in the following indenture :—

Indenture made on 20 July, 1463, between the archbishop and the bishop of Exeter, of the one part, and Master John Stokes, prolocutor of the clergy of the province, and the said clergy, of the other part, witnessing that the clergy have granted to the archbishop and bishop the following subsidy, to wit (1) from all chaplains, regular and secular, exempt and non-exempt, receiving yearly stipends of from 5*l.* to 10 marks, or food and clothing and stipends of 4 marks, the sum of 6*s.* 8*d.* ; from those receiving from 10 marks to 10*l.* the sum of 13*s.* 4*d.* ; from those receiving 10*l.* the sum of 20*s.*, and so on ; with exemptions in favour of vicars choral receiving not more than 10 marks, poor chaplains studying in the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, chaplains indicted or imprisoned for any felony, trespass, or other misdeed during the year previous to the date of this grant, or during the period before the date for payment of the subsidy, and aged and infirm chaplains ; (2) from all regular and secular

1463. persons, exempt and not exempt, receiving pensions for benefices resigned by them or not yet secured by them, the same amounts in proportion to their pensions; and (3) from all regular and secular persons, exempt and not exempt, holding chantries, free chapels and hospitals, the same amounts in proportion to the yearly value of their chantries, etc. with exemption in favour of hospitals burdened by poverty. [Other general conditions are given.] Provided that the said convocation, as soon as the said grant has been made and accepted, shall be dissolved with all speed; otherwise the grant shall be null and void.  
27 July, 1463.

f. 289.

1521. Letters dimissory to all orders for William Martyn, B.A., who has the first clerical tonsure. Woky, 1 September, 1463.

1522. Certificate by the bishop to Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, and George, bishop of Exeter, chancellor of England, that on the day after the receipt of the above letter from the bishop of London (last entry but one), to wit on 24 August, he appointed the archdeacons of his diocese to be collectors of the said subsidy in their respective archdeaconries, and the abbot of Glastonbury in the jurisdiction of Glastonbury, ordering them to certify him before 1 September of the names of the chaplains and others who ought to pay the same. The replies of the archdeacons of Wells and Taunton and the abbot of Glastonbury, giving the names, etc. of those who have paid and those who have not yet paid, are contained in the annexed schedules. The reply of the archdeacon of Bath has not yet been received. Banwell, 3 September, 1463.  
Schedules :—

#### Archdeaconry of Wells.

(1) Names of chaplains from whom the subsidy has been levied :—

#### Deanery of Frome.

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Sir Walter Silven, chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine, Frome . . . . . | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Thomas Riyal, chaplain celebrating in the church of Frome . . . . .      | 6s. 8d. |

|  |         |       |
|--|---------|-------|
| Sir William Lamport, of Foxcote . . . .            | 6s. 8d. | 1463. |
| Sir John Hamme, chantry chaplain of Nony . . . .   | 6s. 8d. |       |
| Sir Oda ( <i>sic</i> ) Dallam, of Hemyngton. . . . | 6s. 8d. |       |

## Deanery of Cary.

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Sir John Peryn, chantry chaplain in the church of<br>Corscombe . . . . . | 13s. 4d. |
| Sir John Faven, chaplain there . . . . .                                 | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Thomas Fers, chaplain of Shepton Malet . . . .                       | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Ricard, chaplain there . . . . .                                | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Richard Bygge, chaplain there . . . . .                              | 6s. 8d.  |
| Master John Shepton, chaplain of Bruton. . . . .                         | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Serne, chaplain there . . . . .                                 | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Cockes, chaplain there . . . . .                                | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Torington, chaplain there . . . . .                             | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir William Eston, chaplain of Dicheyate. . . . .                        | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Rose, chaplain of Kylmyngton . . . . .                          | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Stephenez, chaplain of Cokelyngton . . . .                      | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Richeman, chaplain of Bradlegh by Estpennard                    | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Seward, chaplain of Lovyngton . . . . .                         | 6s. 8d.  |

## Deanery of Mersshon.

f. 290.

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Sir John Stowre, of Westcammell . . . . .          | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir William Tanner, chaplain of Estcammell . . . . | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Thomas Trott, chaplain of Horsyngton . . . .   | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Roger Stephenes, of Trent . . . . .            | 6s. 8d. |
| Master John Symon, chaplain of Chilton . . . . .   | 6s. 8d. |
| Master John Repe, of Yevell . . . . .              | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir William Taylour, chaplain there . . . . .      | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Wynnyngham, chaplain there . . . . .      | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Besman, chaplain there . . . . .          | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Parkar, chaplain there . . . . .          | 6s. 8d. |

## Deanery of Ylchestre.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Master Robert Mathow, chaplain of Yvelton . . . . | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Bouez, of Ylchestre . . . . .            | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Thomas Mayster, of Odcomb . . . . .           | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Alyn, chaplain of Norton . . . . .       | 6s. 8d. |



|       |   |         |
|-------|---|---------|
| 1463. | Sir Robert Martyn, chaplain of Mertoock . . . . | 6s. 8d. |
|       | Sir Thomas Selke, chaplain there . . . .        | 6s. 8d. |
|       | Sir John Lane, chaplain there . . . .           | 6s. 8d. |
|       | Brother Thomas Comb, chaplain of Hiham . . . .  | 6s. 8d. |
|       | Sir John Smyth, chaplain of Lamport . . . .     | 6s. 8d. |
|       | Sir William Taylour, chaplain there . . . .     | 6s. 8d. |
|       | Sir John Ball, chaplain of Huwyssh . . . .      | 6s. 8d. |
|       | Sir John Passele, chaplain of Pyttenegh . . . . | 6s. 8d. |
|       | Sir John Ferby, chaplain of Longsutton . . . .  | 6s. 8d. |

## Deanery of Axbrugge.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Sir Nicholas Harper, chaplain of Axbrugge . . . .     | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Dennis Omer, chaplain there . . . .               | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Broke, chaplain of Bledon . . . .            | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir David Math, chaplain of Wike St. Laurence . . . . | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Bremlow, chaplain of Bladon . . . .          | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Richard Gurnay, chaplain of Puckeston . . . .     | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Harwell, chaplain of Congaresbury . . . .    | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Whitson, chaplain of Loxston . . . .         | 6s. 8d. |

## Deanery of Poulet and jurisdiction of the dean.

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Sir William Nichol, chaplain of Wullavynton . . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir William Brehannok, chaplain there . . . .        | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Walter Corf, chaplain there <sup>1</sup> . . . . | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Spenser, chaplain of Merk . . . .           | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Wolmer, chaplain there . . . .              | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Witman, chaplain of Wedmour . . . .         | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Richard Tyke, chaplain of Woky . . . .           | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir William Clerk, chaplain of Wedmour . . . .       | 6s. 8d.  |
| Master John Merssh, of Chedre . . . .                | 13s. 4d. |

## Jurisdiction of the city of Wells.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Sir Thomas Gonewyn, parochial chaplain of St. Cuthbert's, Wells . . . . | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Thomas Cook, chaplain there . . . .                                 | 6s. 8d. |

<sup>1</sup> These three chaplains at Woolavington were not those of the three chantries of which Alexander Hody had the patronage.

|  |         |       |
|--|---------|-------|
| Sir John Mathew, chaplain there . . . .  | 6s. 8d. | 1463. |
| Sir Thomas Clyve, chaplain there . . . . | 6s. 8d. |       |
| Sir John Walbefe, chaplain there . . . . | 6s. 8d. |       |
| Sir Henry Hayn, chaplain there . . . .   | 6s. 8d. |       |
| Sir John Walshe, chaplain there . . . .  | 6s. 8d. |       |

(2) Names of chaplains from whom the subsidy has not yet been levied on account of the shortness of time, but from whom it is to be levied :—

Deanery of Frome.

Sir Robert Deynys, parochial chaplain of Chewton.

Deanery of Cary.

Sir John Ede, chaplain of Batcomb.  
 Sir John Drewe, chaplain of Dicheyate.  
 Sir John Hichecok, chaplain of Wync[anton].  
 Sir Thaddeus, chaplain of Estludford.  
 Sir John Secell, chaplain of Westludford.

Deanery of Mersshton.

Sir Arthur Overlond, chaplain of Estcoker.  
 Sir Walter Bath, chaplain of Yevell.

Deanery of Ylchestre.

Sir John Nowell, chaplain of Lamport.

Deanery of Axbrugg.

Sir John Mere, chaplain of Cheddre.  
 Sir John Dymmete, chaplain of Wedmour.

Deanery of Powlet.

Sir John Chipley, chaplain of Honspill.

City of Wells.

Sir Robert Ward and Sir John Tilar.

1463.

## Archdeaconry of Taunton.

(1) Names of chaplains from whom the subsidy has been levied :—

## Deanery of Taunton.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Sir William Cogan, for his chantry at Taunton and his pension in the church of Comflory . . . | 13s. 4d. |
| Sir Walter Sterte, parochial chaplain there . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Nicholas Dressher, chaplain there . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir William Bayly, chaplain there . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Ralph Bury, chaplain there . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir William Sholdon, chaplain there . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Mory, chaplain of St. James, Taunton . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir W. Payn, chaplain of St. Mary there . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir W. Dorun, chaplain there . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Richard Berham, chaplain of Norton . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Grafton, chaplain of Hilferons . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Roger Borow, chaplain of Mylverton . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Thomas Chamberlayn, chaplain of Nynhede . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Robert Kene, chaplain of Welyngton . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Laurence Pyle, chaplain of Aichpriours . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Cooke, chaplain of Aichbrytell . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir W. Chilton, parochial chaplain of Lydiard Laurence . . .                                  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Edmund, anniversary chaplain there . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir John Ball, parochial chaplain of Codelston . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Robert Gent, chaplain of Stoke Gregory . . .  | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir William Dollyng, chantry chaplain of Northcory . . .                                      | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Clement Richard, chaplain of Richston . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |
| Sir Nicholas Amyn, parochial chaplain of Wilton . . .   | 6s. 8d.  |

## Deanery of Brugwater.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Sir John Whelar, parochial chaplain there . . .                             | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Thomas Burges, chaplain of the fraternity of the Holy Cross there . . . | 6s. 8d. |
| Master John Payl, chaplain of the chantry of St. Mary there . . .           | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Cary, chaplain of Northpederton . . .                              | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Stone, parochial chaplain there . . .                              | 6s. 8d. |

|   |          |       |
|---|----------|-------|
| Sir John Clayett, parochial chaplain at Dunchyate .             | 6s. 8d.  | 1463. |
| Sir John Robert, parochial chaplain of Crowcomb .               | 6s. 8d.  |       |
| Sir John Harrys, parochial chaplain of Chedeshan ( <i>sic</i> ) | 13s. 4d. |       |
| Sir — Wynkelton, parochial chaplain of Stokuesy ( <i>sic</i> )  | 6s. 8d.  |       |
| Sir Robert Pollard, chaplain of Fytington .                     | 6s. 8d.  |       |
| Sir David Harneys, of Idestoke . . . .                          | 6s. 8d.  |       |
| Sir Philip Pake, chaplain of Spaxton . . . .                    | 6s. 8d.  |       |

## Deanery of Crukern.

|   |         |  |
|---|---------|--|
| Sir Edward Godefray, parochial chaplain there . | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir W. Lytelgod, chaplain of St. Mary there .   | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir John Ryppe, chaplain of Ilmystre . . . .    | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir Francis Cotes, chaplain there . . . .       | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir T. Welfare, chaplain of Kyngstone . . . .   | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir Robert Kempe, chaplain of Southpederton .   | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir John Lychfeld, chaplain of Staple . . . .   | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir T. Fych, chaplain of Bradway . . . .        | 6s. 8d. |  |

## Deanery of Dunster.

|  |         |  |
|--|---------|--|
| Sir T. Pownyng, chaplain of Lukcomb . . . .      | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir T. Hornby, chaplain at Purlock . . . .       | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir John Chaundeler, of Mynhede . . . .          | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir W. Pymente, chaplain of Dunster . . . .      | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir W. Kay, chaplain of Carampton . . . .        | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir T. Calcot, chaplain of Samford . . . .       | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir Simon Symon, of Brompton Rauff . . . .       | 6s. 8d. |  |
| Sir Nicholas Amyn, chaplain of Netelcomb . . . . | 6s. 8d. |  |

(2) Names of those from whom the subsidy has not yet been levied :—

## Deanery of Taunton.

Master John Jacob, parochial chaplain of Boklande.  
 Sir Thomas Somer, parochial chaplain of Thornfaucon.

## Deanery of Brugwater.

Sir William Paynter, parochial chaplain of Lylstok.

1463.  
f. 291.

## Jurisdiction of Glastonbury.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Sir John Janyyn, parochial chaplain of St. Benignus,<br>Glastonbury . . . . . | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Walter Wylde, anniversary chaplain at Glastonbury                         | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Thomas Orchard, chaplain of the chapel of Boltes-<br>borough . . . . .    | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir John Clyfton, chaplain of Budcley . . . . .                               | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir Henry Cotum, parochial chaplain of Strete . . . . .                       | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir William Baker, chaplain of the chapel of Walton                           | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir William Dalby, chaplain of the chapel of Mildelsowey<br>(sic) . . . . .   | 6s. 8d. |
| Sir William Davy, chaplain of the chapel of Otheray                           | 6s. 8d. |

1523. Commission to John, bishop of Tenos, to reconcile the churchyard of the chapel with cure of the Holy Cross, Merk, which has been polluted by the violent shedding of human blood. Banwell, 26 September, 1463.

1524. Licence for Master Roger Fabell, master in grammar, rector of Bekynton,—on his petition shewing that the dwelling-house of his rectory and the other houses and buildings of his church are so ruinous, owing to the neglect of his predecessors, that they will be utterly destroyed unless costly repairs be undertaken soon, and that he cannot repair them and at the same time reside there and exercise proper hospitality, and praying the bishop to grant him a dispensation to absent himself for some years from his church, to make his residence in the college of Westbury by Bristol, and to keep a grammar school there, so that he may the sooner be able to provide a remedy for the ruin of the dwelling-house and buildings aforesaid,—to be absent from his church and reside in the said college for four years, and to demise his church at farm for that term and receive the fruits and proceeds thereof; provided that in the meantime the said house and buildings be suitably repaired by him out of the fruits of his church, that divine worship and the cure of souls be not neglected, and that he appoint a proctor to answer for him to the bishop and his ministers. The bishop grants this licence at the request of John, bishop of Worcester, who has chosen Master

Roger for the instruction of the boys in the said college in grammar. 28 September, the same place and year. 1463.

1525. On 2 October, at Banwell, the bishop received a certificate from John, bishop of Worcester, in the matter of an exchange of benefices between Sir John Prince, rector of St. Laurence, Staunton Prior, and Sir Nicholas Rychon, rector of Upton Fytzwareyne, in the diocese of Worcester, from which it appeared that the said bishop of Worcester, acting on the authority of a commission from the bishop, had approved the said exchange, received the resignation of Sir John, and instituted Sir Nicholas as rector of the church of Staunton aforesaid on the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath.

After the oath of canonical obedience had been taken on behalf of Sir Nicholas by Sir John Howley, chaplain, his proctor, a letter for his induction was written to the archdeacon of Bath or his official.

1526. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to Margery, daughter of John Boorne, Hugh Forster, Maud, his wife, and John, his son, of a tenement containing half a virgate of land *de antiquo astro*<sup>1</sup> within the bishop's manor of Compton Episcopi, now held at will by the said Margery, to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering 18s. yearly to the bishop and his successors and doing suit to their court of Compton twice a year for all services and demands, saving royal service and the enclosing of the bishop's park of Westbury; with proviso for re-entry in the event of the aforesaid tenants alienating their estate in the premises without the bishop's licence. Warranty clause. Banwell, 9 October, 3 Edw. IV.

1527. Augmentation of the vicarage of Evercriche:—

Whereas Joscelin, bishop of Bath and Wells, by letters given at Evercriche by the hand of Master Walter of Maydeneston on

<sup>1</sup> For examples of the use of this word, see Cowell's *Interpreter* under 'astrum'; *New English Dictionary* under 'astre'; *Cal. Wells MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 328, 455, 520, 521; Patent Roll, 2 James I., where a grant of the deanery of Wells mentions overlands and 'olde astree groundes'; *Somerset & Dorset Notes & Queries*, vol. v. pp. 164, 166, 167.

1463. the day of SS. Marcius, Marcellus and Apuleius (year not given), instituted Roger of Bath, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of Evercriche, on the presentation of Peter, prior, and the brethren of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Wells, parsons of Evercriche, and ordained that he should have for the whole of his life the aforesaid vicarage, which ought to consist of all oblations and obventions of the whole altarage, both of the mother church and of the chapels, the residue of Peter's Pence of the whole parish, the tithes of mills, all legacies, both first and second (*omnibus legalis tam primo quam secundo*), and all small tithes of the whole parish, except the tithes of the said prior and brethren and all tithes of wool, lambs and cheese, and that, because the above would be insufficient, the prior and brethren should give to the vicar for the time being 6*l.* yearly, and that the vicar should also
- f 292. have the dwelling (*domicilium*) on the south side of the church which the chaplains used to inhabit, and serve the church in person with a suitable clerk, and have a chaplain as companion, and cause mass to be celebrated in the chapel of Chesterblade every Sunday and Friday throughout the year, and, with that exception,<sup>1</sup> one day a week and at the feasts of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun on the three first days; and whereas subsequent bishops, perceiving that the said portion was insufficient, and that the pension of 6*l.* was not paid, ordained that the vicar for the time being should receive, in augmentation of the said portion and in lieu of the pension, the tithes of Chesterblade, Southwode and Begbury, but the said portions, owing to the prevailing mortality and scarcity of tenants, have now so decreased that they are insufficient to maintain the vicar and support the charges incumbent on the vicarage; the bishop has therefore decreed and ordained that in future the vicar shall receive, as an augmentation of the aforesaid portions, the tithes of cheese of the whole parish, the tithes of wool and lambs of the little towns, or hamlets, of Chesterblade, Stonystretton, Southwode and Begbury, wherever within the said parish the sheep producing such tithes are pastured or lie down, or the lambs themselves are born or nourished,—except only the tithes

<sup>1</sup> The sense is not clear at this point. Some words have probably been omitted.

of wool and lambs of the bishop's flock, which are to belong to the said prior and brethren,—and also the tithes of sheaves and hay of lands and places in the parish situated on the east side of 'Brodestrete,' and also all the tithes of the little towns, or hamlets, of Chesterblade, Stonystretton, Southwode and Begbury, —except the tithes of hay of the three first-mentioned and all the tithes of the place called 'Smaldon' on the east side of Brodestrete, which are to belong to the prior and brethren,—provided always that, if in future by the hand of God, or by human prudence, the portions assigned to the vicarage by the bishop's predecessors increase in value so as to be worth 20 marks in ordinary years, then this present augmentation shall be altogether void. Banwell, 10 October, 1463. 1463.

1528. Whereas John Stafford, late bishop, granted by indenture to Peter Cole, now deceased, and Joan, his wife, for life and in survivorship, a tenement and a virgate of land in the manor of Congarisbury, at a yearly rent of 18s., and the said Joan, although the bishop has had it in mind to grant the reversion of the premises to Thomas Browne, his servant, and Isabel daughter of Richard Durbarr, has refused to attorn in anywise to the said Thomas and Isabel; the bishop, wishing the said Thomas and Isabel to have an estate in the premises without prejudice to Joan, although the latter has refused to attorn, by this present indenture grants the premises to them, to hold for life and in survivorship, rendering 18s. yearly after the death of Joan, doing suit of court twice a year, and performing all the other works, customs and services which Peter Cole performed; with proviso for distrain in the event of the rent being a month in arrear, and with a warranty clause to take effect after Joan's death: saving to the said Joan her estate in the premises after Thomas and Isabel have had livery and seisin, and saving to the bishop and his successors the aforesaid rent, suit of court and services during the life of the said Joan. 10 December, 2 Edward IV. 1462.

1529. Notarial process concerning the union of the churches of Berkley and Feyreoke, as follows:— 1460.

(1) Commission to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, the bishop's chancellor, to make enquiry and take the necessary



1460. action in regard to a petition from William Carent, esquire, patron of Feyreoke, and John Newburgh, esquire, patron of Berkley, in right of Alice, his wife, praying for the union of the two churches on account of their poverty, their nearness to each other, and the small number of their parishioners. Woky, f. 293. 15 October, 1460.

(2) Proposition put forward by Sir Philip Bourton, rector of Berkley, supporting the said union and suggesting that he and his successors, rectors of Berkley, shall be rectors of the united parishes.

(3) Support of the union by some of the parishioners of both churches.

(4) Consent by the patrons, suggesting that the church of Feyreoke lose the name and rights of a parish church, that for the future all chaplains presented and admitted to Berkley church be in charge of the united churches, that John Neuburgh have the presentation to Berkley church on any vacancy falling in during the life of Alice, his wife, and that after her death the right of patronage remain to William Carent, his heirs and assigns. Dated at Tomer and Estulworth, 24 July, 1460.

f. 294. (5) Sentence by the commissary decreeing the said union; the present rector of Berkley and his successors to be in charge of the united churches.

(6) Subscription of the above by Master John Touker, notary-public, scribe of the acts. Frome parish church, 18 October, 1460.

1462. 1530. Papal dispensation<sup>1</sup> for John, bishop of Tenos, to hold for life *in commendam* any benefice, with or without cure, in addition to his church of Tenos and the parish church of Lydeard St. Laurence. St. Peter's, Rome, 3 Kal. March (27 Feb.), 1461[-2].

1463. 1531. Institution of Sir Henry Hooggis, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Kewestoke, vacant by the death of Sir Abraham Hoper,<sup>2</sup> on the presentation of the prior and convent of Worspryng. Woky, 31 October, 1463.

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 624.

<sup>2</sup> The nuncupative will of Abraham Hoper, made on the 24th of June, 1459, was proved on the 20th of November, 1463. *Somerset Med. Wills*, p. 193.

1532. Letters dimissory to all orders for Richard Sant, clerk, of Mynhede, who has the first clerical tonsure. Wells palace, 3 November, 1463.

1533. Institution of Sir William Gille, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Chipstaple, vacant by the death of Sir John Browce, on the presentation of King Edward, patron for this turn by reason of the temporalities of the abbey of Mochelneye being in his hands.<sup>1</sup> 17 November, the same place and year.

1534. Institution of Sir John Ryche, chaplain, canon of Wells, as rector of the church of Ennemere, vacant by the resignation of Master John Saundres, on the presentation of Hugh Malet, esquire. 20 November, the same place and year.

1535. Institution of Sir Owen Smyth, chaplain, of the diocese of St. Davids, as perpetual vicar of the church of Charleton Adam, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Moreley, on the presentation of John Henton, prior, and the convent of Bruton. 22 November, the same place and year.

1536. Papal dispensation <sup>2</sup> for Owen Smyth, canon professed of the monastery of St. John the Evangelist, Carmardyn, to hold for life any benefice with cure, or chantry, or annual service, wont to be given to secular priests in England. Tivoli, 7 Id. Jul. (9 July), 1463.

1537. Collation to Brother John Torrington, canon regular of the priory of St. Frideswyde, Oxford, who has a papal licence to hold any ecclesiastical benefice, of the chantry of the Virgin Mary in the church of Frome, vacant by the resignation of Sir Simon Symmys and in the bishop's collation by six months' lapse of time; and institution of him as perpetual chaplain. He swore on the Gospels before Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor, to produce to the bishop or his commissary on the eve of St. Andrew, to wit 29 November, 1464, in the chapel of St. Mary by the cloister of Wells cathedral, his papal bull of dispensation, or a copy thereof, or else to resign his said chantry. Wells palace, 29 November, 1463. f. 296.

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1461-7, p. 283 (24 Sept.).

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. xi. p. 642.

1463. 1538. Licence, during the bishop's pleasure, for Thomas Hore and Joan, his wife, of the parish of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol, in consideration of their great age and bodily weakness, to have a chaplain to celebrate masses and other divine offices in their presence in the chapel, or oratory, or other suitable place within their dwelling-place in the said parish, provided no prejudice to their parish church be occasioned thereby. 1 December, the same place and year.

1539. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to Reynold Baker and Isabel, his wife, of a toft and a fardel of land called 'Rammespytte' lately held by John Sprotte, another toft and fardel called 'Rammespytte' and 2 closes containing 7*a.* of land lately held by William Frankeleyn, 2 closes containing 8*a.* of land newly enclosed from the demesne tillage (*cultura*), whereof one is in the west field and the other in the east, a close containing 1*a.* of land called 'Truntynghille' newly enclosed from the demesne tillage and lying in the west field, and a small close called 'Lytel Merewell' containing 3 roods of land, all within the bishop's manor of Westbury and formerly held by the said Reynold at the bishop's will, to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering to the bishop and his successors 22*s.* 7*d.* yearly (to wit for the said 2 tofts and fardels 6*s.* 2*d.* for larder rent, churchscot (*churchet*) and Peter's Pence, and 2*s.* 1*d.* for the works of the same, and for the said 6 closes 14*s.* 4*d.*), and doing suit to the bishop's court there twice a year, and paying heriots after their death. Provisoos for distraint in the event of the rent being a month in arrear, and for re-entry in the event of the tenants alienating their estate without the bishop's licence. Warranty clause. Witnesses, Walter Rodeney, knight, John Fitz James, Thomas Dauberichcourt and many others. 1 December, 3 Edw. IV.

1540. Institution of Sir Thomas Bone, canon of the priory of Burcle in Sprawlysmede, of the order of St. Augustine, as prior of the said priory, vacant by the death of Sir John Romney, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the spirituality of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. Wells palace, 6 December, 1463.

1541. Certificate by the bishop to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer,—in reply to a writ dated at Westminster, 12 May, 3 Edw. IV. tested by R. Illyngworth, ordering him to certify them whether the abbes (sic) and nuns of Polslo hold and have long held the church of Merston appropriated, and if so, since when, whether a vicarage has been endowed therein since the time of the appropriation and exists at present, and how much the abbes and convent and the vicar have paid, or ought to have paid, to any clerical tenth on account of their respective portions in the church,—that it appears from an inspection of the bishop's registers and other evidences that the prioress and nuns have long held the church appropriated, to wit since 9 Richard I., that a vicarage has been ordained therein and endowed at the rate of 12 marks since the time of Henry III., that it is still endowed at that rate, that the prioress and nuns have been wont to pay 32s. 8½*d.* for their portion in the church on every grant of an entire tenth, and that the vicar has hitherto been wont to pay nothing. Wells palace, 8 January, 1463[-4]. 1464.

1542. Collation to Master Thomas Chaundeler, master of theology, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Whitcherche vacant by the death of Master John Morton ; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 30 December, 1463. 1463.

1543. Collation to Sir William Kyng, B.A., of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Combe X. ; and institution accordingly. 31 December, the same place and year. f. 297.

1544. Collation to Sir John Pedewell, chaplain, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Weddemore III. ; and institution accordingly. Wells palace, 1 January, 1463[-4]. 1464.

1545. Collation to Master Richard Swan, the bishop's receiver, canon of Wells, of the canonical houses lately inhabited by Master John Morton, deceased. 9 January, the same place and year.

1546. The king's writ <sup>1</sup> to the bishop, ordering him to appoint some trustworthy clergy of his diocese to collect in the said diocese the entire tenth of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and posses-

<sup>1</sup> Fine Roll, 3 Edw. IV. m. 5.

1464. sions with certain exceptions, payable in moieties at the Annunciation next and the Annunciation following, which was granted to the king by the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury in their last convocation in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, begun on 6 July, 1463, and continued until 23 July. Westminster, 24 August, 3 Edw. IV.

f. 298. 1547. Commission to the abbots and convents of Athelney and Keynesham to collect both moieties of the above-mentioned tenth from all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions in the diocese which are taxed and accustomed to pay tenths, except from the goods, etc. of the poor nuns of Canyngton and Barowe and the taxed benefices specified in the annexed schedule, which by the terms of the grant are to be exempt from payment on this occasion on account of their poverty; and also to collect the same from the benefices, etc. not taxed or accustomed to pay tenths which are specified in the same schedule, in accordance with the estimate of their yearly value noted therein. Wells palace, 9 January, 1463[-4].

1548. Notification to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the appointment of the above collectors. Date as above.

1549. Schedules annexed to the above commission and notification:—

(1) The list of untaxed benefices which are to pay on this occasion is the same as that given in no. 1478 above.

f. 299. (2) The list of taxed benefices which are exempt on this occasion is the same as that given in no. 1478 above, with the following additions:—

Deanery of Frome. The church of Stratton.

Deanery of Cary. The church of Brokton.<sup>1</sup>

Deanery of Dunster. The vicarage of St. Decuman's.

(3) Benefices not taxed or accustomed to pay tenths whose yearly value used to exceed 12 marks but is now below that sum. They are exempt from payment on this occasion. Their curates are resident in person.

<sup>1</sup> Bratton.

Deanery of Cary. The church of Blakeford and the vicarage of Cary. 1464.

Deanery of Redclyff. The vicarage of Yatton.

1550. Licence for Geoffrey Hide, proctor, or envoy, of the hospital of the Holy Trnity and St. Thomas the Martyr, Rome, to collect alms in the diocese for two years. 10 January, 1463[-4].

1551. Institution of Sir Thomas Wath, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Hals, vacant by the resignation of Sir Hugh Grobham, on the presentation of Brother Robert Botell, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Wells palace, 13 January, 1463[-4].

1552. Institution of Master Thomas Chauntery, M.A., as rector of the church of Yarlyngton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Edward Mascy, on the presentation of Richard, earl of Warwick and lord of Salisbury. 31 January, the same place and year.

1553. Collation to Sir Walter Osborn, canon of Wells, of the canonical houses lately inhabited by Master Richard Swan. 1 February, the same place and year.

1554. Admission of Richard Niter, Friar Minor of the convent of Bristol, to hear confessions and enjoin penances in the diocese, on the presentation and recommendation of Thomas, provincial of the said order in England. 2 February, the same place and year.

1555. On 20 February in the same year, John, bishop of Tenos, acting by authority of the bishop, received in the chapel of the palace, during the celebration of mass, a vow of chastity made by Eleanor Ide, widow, relict of Thomas Ide, of Bruton, in the words contained in a parchment schedule which she held in her hands and read, as follows :—

‘ I, Alienore, wydowe, vowe to God perpetuel chastite of my  
‘ body fro hens forwarde in presence of yow, reverend fader in  
‘ God John by the grace of God bisship Tinense, and promitte  
‘ stably to lyve in this avowe. And to do and performe the  
‘ same I here with myn owne hande subscribe me ✠.’

1464. And because she could not write, she made the sign of the Cross with her own hands. Thereupon the bishop caused her to be clothed with a widow's habit and the other marks of a widow under vow. Present, John Fitz James, esquire, Master Thomas Merssh, canon of Wells, Sir John Combe, Thomas Smyth, and William Henton, notary-public, with many others.

f. 300.

1556. Collation to Master Henry Eryum, M.A., of the perpetual vicarage of the church of Cherde, vacant by the death of Sir John Govice and in the bishop's collation by full right; and institution of him accordingly. Letter of induction to Master Robert Hurst, the bishop's commissary-general and official of the peculiar jurisdictions of Chiew, Cherde and Welyngton. Wells palace, 24 February, 1463[-4].

1557. Authorisation by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir Richard Lambert, perpetual vicar of Westbury, and Sir John Lugge, perpetual vicar of Meryet; institution of Sir Richard as perpetual vicar of Meryet on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Mochelneye; and collation to Sir John of the perpetual vicarage of Westbury, in the bishop's collation by full right. Letter of induction for Sir John to the dean of Wells or his official. Thereupon Sir John swore to pay the pension formerly assigned to Sir William Smyth out of the fruits of the vicarage of Westbury, and Sir Richard swore before the chancellor to pay 20s. yearly towards the said pension and discharge Sir John of that amount. Date as above.

1558. Institution of Sir Thomas Math, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Modford, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Draper, on the presentation of the dean and chapter of Wells. 27 February, the same place and year.

1559. Institution of Master John Laucok, bachelor in both laws, in the person of John Luttesham, his proctor, as rector of the church of Camelerton, vacant by the resignation of Master Henry Eryum, on the presentation of William Laucok, of Glastonbury. 29 February, the same place and year.

1560. Grants of the advowson of the said church to W. Laucok, as follows:—

(1) Grant to him of the said advowson for the next turn only 1464.  
by Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, William Carent, esquire,  
Richard Swan and Thomas Merssh, clerks, who lately had the  
same by feoffment of John Austell, esquire. 14 February,  
3 Edw. IV.

(2) Grant to him of the said advowson for the next turn only  
by Nicholas Saintlo, esquire, patron in right of Agnes, his wife.  
14 February, 3 Edw. IV.

1561. Manumission of Thomas Buryman *alias* Gardiner, a  
bondman belonging to the bishop's manor of Crannemere, and  
all his offspring (*sequela*). Wells palace, 3 March, 1463[-4].

1562. Institution of Sir Robert Swynfeld, chaplain, as per-  
petual vicar of the church of Ilton, vacant by the resignation of  
Sir William Selake, on the presentation of Master William Say,  
S.T.P., canon of Wells and prebendary of Ilton. Letter of *f. 301.*  
induction to the dean of Wells or his official. On account of his  
lack of knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures, he made  
oath in the presence of the chancellor, in the chamber of the  
registry in Wells palace, as above (no. 1485), to study for a year  
and present himself for examination on Tuesday after the first  
Sunday after Easter, 1465. Present, Master William Henton,  
William Edmond and John Touker, notary-public. 7 March, the  
same place and year.

1563. Collation to Thomas Elys, vicar choral in Wells cathe-  
dral, of the seventeenth chamber on the east side of the vicars'  
close. 12 March, the same place and year.

1564. Institution of Sir Richard Strong, chaplain, as perpetual  
vicar of the church of Forde, vacant by the death of Sir John  
Fraunssich, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath.  
13 March, the same place and year.

1565. Institution of Master William Sloughtur, bachelor in  
decrees, as perpetual vicar of the church of Staunton Drewe,  
vacant by the death of Sir John Norton, on the presentation of  
Master Richard Lychefeld, archdeacon of Bath and rector of the



1464. said church, which is annexed to the archdeaconry. 20 March, the same place and year.

1566. Institution of Sir John Hyghyns, chaplain, as rector of the church of Fressshford, to which the church of Wodewyke is now annexed, on the presentation of Nicholas Halle, esquire. Date as above.

1448. 1567. Notification by the bishop that, <sup>in</sup> pursuance of (1) a petition from Sir John Frankleyne, rector of the church of Fressshford, shewing that his church and the neighbouring church of Wodewyke, both of which are of the patronage of Thomas Halle, of Bradeford, in the diocese of Salisbury, esquire, are too poor to support two rectors or curates, and could well be served by one, and (2) a canonical inquisition verifying the same,—he has decreed that the said church of Wodewyke shall be united and annexed to the church of Fressford, and that the cure of the united churches shall henceforth be exercised by the said Sir John Franklayne and his successors, rectors of Fressshford. Dogmersfeld, 18 July, 1448.

1464. 1568. Grant by the bishop of forty days' indulgence to all f. 302. contrite and confessed persons who shall repair to the tomb of William Carent, esquire, erected and built in the prebendal church of Hengstrygge,<sup>1</sup> and say a *Pater Noster* and an *Ave Maria* for the good estate of the said William, and of Master Nicholas Carent and John Carent, the elder, his brothers, and of John Carent, the younger, his son, during their lives, and for their souls when they are dead and the soul of Margaret late the wife of the said William, deceased. Wells palace, 20 March, 1463[-4].

1569. Grant <sup>2</sup> by Hugh Camperton, esquire in the county of Devon, to Thomas Frampton, the younger, of Shepton Malett, William Cacheman, of Bruton, 'husbondmen,' and Henry Artour in the county of Dorset, of the next presentation to the church of Westdawlysh *alias* Dawlysh Wylyam, co. Somerset. Exeter, 28 April, 3 Edw. IV.

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, vol. lxxviii. pp. 50, 51; vol. lxx. pp. 56, 74, 75.

<sup>2</sup> This entry is written in the margin in a different hand.

1570. Institution of Sir John Hamme, chaplain, as rector of the church of Nony, vacant by the resignation of Master Richard Layte, on the presentation of William Knoell, esquire. Wells palace, 25 March, 1464.<sup>1</sup> 1464.

1571. Institution of Sir John Trenche, chaplain, as rector of the church of Telesford, on the presentation of Richard, duke of Gloucester. Date as above.

1572. Institution of Sir John Faireman, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Murelynche, vacant by the resignation of Sir Henry Cawnte, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Letter of induction to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury. 27 March, the same place and year.

1573. Institution of Sir John Coppe, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine, Nony, on the presentation of John Poulet, esquire. 3 April, the same place and year.

1574. Collation to John Tele, vicar choral in Wells cathedral, of the twentieth chamber on the east side of the vicars' close. 16 April, the same place and year.

1575. Letters dimissory to all orders for Robert Offreres, clerk, born at Taunton. Date as above.

1576. Collation to Master John Baker, S.T.P., of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Wedmore IV. vacant by the death of Master Robert Peuesy; and institution accordingly. 19 April, the same place and year.

1577. Collation to Sir Robert Nicols, vicar choral in Wells cathedral, of the thirteenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 9 May, the same place and year.

1578. The like to Sir John Merryman of the eighteenth chamber on the west side. Date as above.

<sup>1</sup> In the margin is written: *Vide alia acta in admissione hujus presentati facta in dorso presentacionis scripta.*

1464. 1579. Letters dimissory to all orders for Robert Waleys, B.A., of the parish of Holy Cross of the Temple, Bristol. 11 May, the same place and year.

1580. Institution of Sir John Chamberlayn, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wemedon, vacant by the death of Sir John More, on the presentation of the master and convent of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater. 14 May, the same place and year.

f. 303. 1581. Letters dimissory to all orders for Stephen Sant, clerk, of Lukcomb. 17 May, the same place and year.

1582. Commission to Master Robert Hurst, canon of Wells, the bishop's commissary-general, and Master Thomas Overay, both bachelors in both laws,—inasmuch as the bishop has heard by common report and from the prior, or master, of the hospital of St. John, Bruggewater, that within the bounds and limits of the parish church of Wemdon, of which the said prior, or master, and his convent are proprietaries, a certain spring commonly called 'St. John's Spring' is issuing, to which for the last few days, but not previously, there has been a great concourse of people thirsting to drink the water thereof and in fact drinking it and making their offerings there in honour of the Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist, and that now there is a concourse there every day, and many persons who have suffered for many years and are quite distrustful of the cures of the physicians are daily relieved of their sufferings and restored to health when they drink the water of the spring and make their offerings there,—to enquire as to the truth of the said report and send the bishop particulars of the cures alleged to have been effected. 27 May, the same place and year.<sup>1</sup>

1583. Institution of Sir John Othehill, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine the Virgin, Nony, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Coppe, on the presentation of John Poulet, esquire. 8 June, the same place and year.

1584. Licence for Master Robert Mathew, M.A., to preach the

<sup>1</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, vol. iii. p. 596.

word of God in Latin or in the vulgar tongue throughout the diocese during the bishop's pleasure. Date as above. 1464.

1585. Institution of Sir Thomas Riell, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Nicholas in the church of Frome Selewode, vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Shute, on the presentation of William Twynyho, esquire. Letter of induction to the perpetual vicar of the church of Frome or the parochial chaplain thereof. 18 June, the same place and year.

1586. Transmission to the bishop by Thomas, bishop of London, of letters of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Otteford, 28 May, 1464, ordering the bishops of the province, and the vicars-general of any that are absent, and the officials and guardians of spiritualities of any dioceses that are vacant,—in accordance with the underwritten letters of privy seal,—to summon the clergy of the dioceses to appear before them according to the form of appearance usually observed in provincial councils and convocations of the province of Canterbury, and to exhort and admonish them, as they would obtain the king's favour and avoid the perils that threaten, to grant to the king, for payment in the city or suburbs of London as soon as possible, and before St. Peter's Chains next in any case, a notable subsidy,—which in the archbishop's opinion should not be less than 4*d.* in the pound,—of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions, taxed and not taxed, which are wont to pay tenths, and to appoint collectors thereof. Hadham manor, 5 June, 1464.

The letters of privy seal referred to above:—

' By the kyng.

' Moost reverend fadre in God right trusty and right entierly  
' belovyd cosyn, we grete yow hertily wel. And where our holy  
' fadre the Pope, determynd to put his persone in to the blessid  
' viage by his holynesse purposed a yenst the tyrannye and  
' cruelte of the Turke disposid to thextreme destruccon of Christen  
' feith and religion and of al Cristes chirche, hath desired thassist-  
' ence thereyne of diverse greet and notable Christen princes, and,  
' byside that, for the same entent putte greet imposicons and  
' charges uppon the chirch in al other reamys of Christendome,

1464. ' wylling and desiryng the charge of a disme to be borne of the  
' chirche of our reame of Englonde toward the socour of the said  
' viage by his bulles commen, as we hire, in to our said royaume,  
' we, havynge the same chirche and al the clergie therof in tendre  
' love and affeccion, dredyng the perille and inconvenyencye  
' that might folowe by the example of suche imposicion hereafter,  
' wherof the like hath not been ofte tymes putte in ure in the daies  
' of our noble progenitours, right loth to suffre suche noveltrie  
' take effect in our daies, be advised and condescended to send  
' with al diligence unto the said holynesse not oonly for the excuse  
' and amocion of the execution of the said imposicion but also to  
' entrete and move the same holynesse to spare and forbere to  
' charge the said chirche and clergie with the said imposicion or  
' any like ther to, where unto we mow not honorably, resonably  
' or thankfully move his said holynesse in this tyme of so greet  
' a purpos by hym determyned for the defence and salvacon of  
' the said feith, namely, sith the charge of his desire to be borne  
' by the said chirche is not so grevous and weghti as the charges  
' and imposicions by hym leid upon the chirche of al other reames,  
' without that we take upon us a notable charge of yift of good  
' to hym toward the said viage in eschewinge gretter charges that  
' elles peraventure and by verrey liklyhode wold be leide upon the  
' said chirch and clergie othirwise in right perillous exsample,  
' whiche we ne wold in any wise.

' We therefor desire, exhorte and pray yow that it like you to  
' write severelles letters to every your suffraganeis of your pro-  
' vince, desiring, exhorting and requiring hem for the said con-  
' sideracons to calle and assemble the clergie of his diocise,  
' exempte and non exempte, to a convenient place withyn the  
' same, and there to exhort, move and require hem to graunt  
' unto us a subsidy of suche a notable somme of money to be  
' leveed in al hast as mowe honnorably, resonably and thankfully  
' please and content our said holy fadre and serve in tyme to  
' releve of the said viage for the said defence, whiche shal be to  
' greet pleasure of God, greet honour and laude to our said  
' royaume, and greet ease, rest and quiete of the clergie thereof  
' to be assured from the charge of the said imposicions.

' And forsomuche as we understande that the collectours for

' the clergie of every of the said deoecise assigned for to gadre  
 ' subsidie or othir thing by the same clergie graunted to us or to 1464.  
 ' othir to our use here to fore dradde and eschewid to be accomp-  
 ' table therof at our Eschequier, we, willing suche dradd to be  
 ' amoved in this case, have assigned and deputed our trusty and f. 304.  
 ' welbeloved Maistres William Say, dean of our cathedrall chirch  
 ' of Powles, Thomas Chicheley, archidiaken of Canterbury, and  
 ' John Flemmyng, oon of our chapellains, Sir John Scotte,  
 ' knyght, John Denham, squier, and Thomas Colte, our coun-  
 ' sailers, v. iiij. iij. or ij. of thaim, to be receyvours of the subsidie  
 ' to be graunted unto us in this behalfe, to whom the collectours  
 ' of the same subsidie to be deputed by the said clergie shall  
 ' oonly be chargeable and not to acompte in our said Eschequier.  
 ' Yeven undre our prive seall at our towne of Notingham the  
 ' xvij. day of May.'

1587. Commission by the bishop to the abbot and convent of Cleeve to collect the subsidy of 6*d.* in the pound of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions accustomed to pay tenths, whether taxed or not taxed, which was granted to the king in pursuance of the above letters of privy seal by the clergy of the diocese assembled in the chapter-house of Wells cathedral on 26 June. Wells palace, 28 June, 1464.

1588. Authorisation by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir William Hore, rector of Claverton, and Sir Philip Burton, rector of Berkley; institution of Sir William as rector of Berkley on the presentation of John Neuborough, the elder, esquire, and collation to Sir Philip of the church of Claverton, in the bishop's collation by full right, and institution of him as rector. 2 July, the same place and year.

1589. Collation to Ralph Gardener, vicar in the choir of Wells cathedral, of the twelfth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close. 5 July, the same place and year.

1590. The like to Thomas Bible of the seventeenth chamber on the west side. Date as above.

1591. Institution of Sir Henry Ferreres, priest, in the person f. 305.

1464. of Thomas Smyth, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Charleton Mussegrosse, vacant by the death of Master John Morton, on the presentation of Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, Richard, bishop of Salisbury, Thomas Eborall, clerk, John Dyve, William Comberford and Richard Borton, chaplain, co-feoffees of Dame Elizabeth Ferreres in the manor of Charleton Mussegroce and the advowson of the church, patrons for this turn.<sup>1</sup> 16 July, the same place and year.

1592. Collation to Sir Thomas Horn, chaplain, of the church of Norton St. Philip, vacant by the death of Sir John Parke and in the bishop's collation by full right ; and institution of him as rector. 17 July, the same place and year.

1593. Institution of Sir John Chaundeler, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Carampton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Horn, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. Letter of induction to the dean of Wells or his official. 30 July, the same place and year.

1594. Certificate to the king of the above grant of a subsidy of 6*d.* in the pound, and of the appointment of the abbot and convent of Cleeve to collect the same (no. 1587). 31 July, the same place and year.

1595. Collation to John Chedworth, clerk, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Ilton vacant by the resignation of Master William Say ; and institution accordingly. 2 August, the same place and year.

f. 306. 1596. Assignment by the bishop to Master Richard Layte, bachelor in laws, late rector of the church of Nony, in consideration of his long service and distinguished degree, and with the assent of Sir John Hamme, the present rector, of a yearly pension of 4 marks to be paid to him for life by the present rector and his successors out of the tithes, fruits, rents and proceeds of the church. The present rector has sworn on the Gospels to observe this award, and each of his successors is to do the same immediately after being instituted. As often as the award shall be

<sup>1</sup> Feet of Fines, Divers Counties, 33 Hen. VI.

infringed or unfulfilled in any respect, it shall be lawful for the bishop and his successors, and the official or president of the episcopal consistory of Wells, to sequestrate the tithes, fruits, offerings and proceeds of the church until observance has been secured. 3 August, the same place and year. 1464.

1597. Collation to Master Richard Wetton, doctor of laws, of a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Dynre ; and institution accordingly. 4 August, the same place and year.

1598. Institution of Sir Thomas Cary, priest, as rector of the church of Obley, vacant by the resignation of Sir David Knyton, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham. 22 August, the same place and year.

1599. On 28 August, at Woky, the bishop received a letter from Richard, bishop of Salisbury, dated in Salisbury palace, 24 August, 1464, notifying his collation to Master Thomas Chippenham, doctor of decrees, of a canonry in Salisbury cathedral and the prebend of Writlygtune *alias* Writlyngton and Fordington therein, and his institution of him accordingly, and requesting the bishop to admit and induct the said Master Thomas into the *corpus* of the said prebend of Writlyngton, which is situated in the bishop's diocese. And thereupon a letter of induction was issued to the dean of Frome and all rectors and vicars of the said deanery.

1600. Commission to the archdeacon of Bath or his official to admit and induct Master John Chedeworth, clerk, in the person of Robert Sheper, literate, his proctor, into the *corpus* of the prebend of Bedmynstre and Radclyff in Salisbury cathedral, and the prebendal church, which are situated in the archdeaconry of Bath ; as Richard, bishop of Salisbury, has collated to him a canonry in Salisbury cathedral and the said prebend, and instituted him accordingly, and has asked the bishop to admit and induct him. Woky, 31 August, 1464.

1601. Institution of Sir Henry Gallewey, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Ilebruer, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Fayreman, on the presentation of the master and



1464. convent of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Brigwater. 3 September, the same place and year.

1602. Authorisation by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir Robert Hyllond, rector of Westcoker, and Sir John Menyman, rector of Aysshébrytell; institution of Sir Robert, in the person of John Brown, literate, his proctor, as rector of Aysshbrytel on the presentation of William Rustley; and institution of Sir John as rector of Westcoker, on the presentation of Henry Courtenay, lord of the manor of Westcoker. Wells palace, 5 September, 1464.

1603. Institution of Sir John Trenche, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Virgin Mary in the castle of Farlegh, on the presentation of Richard, duke of Gloucester. Date as above.

1604. Institution of Master Thomas Caas, bachelor in laws, as rector of the church of Trente, vacant by the death of Sir John Pleymarke, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Stodeley, William Bowcher, lord Fitzwareyn, knight, and William Clayte, esquire. Woky, 14 September, 1464.

1605. Authorisation by the bishop of an exchange of benefices between Sir Thomas Abendon, rector of Fydyngton, and Sir William Gellest, rector of Roughberow; institution of Sir Thomas as rector of Rouburgh on the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol; and institution of Sir William as rector of Fydyngton on the presentation of Cecily Kiriell, late the wife of Thomas Kiriell, knight, lady of Fydyngton. 16 September, the same place and year.

1606. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Bikcomb, clerk, born in Tymbrescomb. 18 September, the same place and year.

1607. Institution of Sir William Thursteyn, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of Simon Ralegh in the church of Netelcomb, vacant by the resignation of Sir Nicholas Ame, on the presentation of Thomas Whalesburgh, esquire. 22 September, the same place and year.

1608. Institution of Sir William Byrte, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry at the altar of St. Leonard in the chapel of St. Leonard within the castle of Farlegh, on the presentation of Richard, duke of Gloucester. 24 September, the same place and year. 1464.

1609. Institution of Sir William Barrey, priest, as perpetual vicar of the church of Hampton, vacant by the deprivation of Sir Gregory Rodyngborough, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. 26 September, the same place and year. f. 308.

1610. Institution of Sir Simon Brailles, chaplain, as rector of the church of Cheddesey, vacant by the death of Master Robert Wode, on the presentation of Alice, duchess of Suffolk. 3 October, the same place and year.

1611. Collation to Master Hugh Sugar, doctor of laws, of the canonry of Wells and prebend of Litton vacant by the death of Sir Richard Hayman; and institution accordingly. Date as above.

1612. Collation to Master John Flemmyng, chaplain of King Edward, of a canonry in Wells cathedral and the prebend of Combe VII.; and institution accordingly. Date as above.

1613. Notification to the perpetual vicar of the church of Shapwyke and all the parishioners thereof,—on their petition showing that their church was anciently dedicated on the day of St. Edith the Virgin, and the feast of dedication used to be celebrated yearly on that day, but that it will not be possible in future to observe the said feast with becoming reverence on that day because it generally (*sepius*) falls during autumnal weather when the labours and occupations of autumn are pressing, and praying the bishop to change the feast of dedication to the next Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross,<sup>1</sup>—the bishop, with the assent of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury, proprietaries of the church, hereby changes the said feast accordingly,

<sup>1</sup> The feast of St. Edith was kept on the 16th of September, and that of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the 14th.

1464. and grants forty days' indulgence to all contrite and confessed persons who shall be present at divine service in the said church, and say the Lord's Prayer with the Angelic Salutation, on the first occasion on which the feast is celebrated on the new date. Wells palace, 5 October, 1464.

1614. Letters dimissory to all orders for Master John Wowell, bachelor in laws, born at Wells. 17 October, the same place and year.

1615. Institution of John Yong, Friar Minor, who has a papal dispensation to hold any ecclesiastical benefice, as rector of the church of Staule, vacant by the resignation of Sir Roger Borowe, on the presentation of William Poulet, knight. Date as above.

1616. Institution of Sir Edmund Hill, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Batheston, vacant by the resignation of Sir Lewis Apprise, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. 19 October, the same place and year.

- f. 309. 1617. Institution of Henry Abendon as master of the hospital of St. Katharine, Bedemynstre, vacant by the death of James, bishop of Bangor, the last master, on the presentation of Eleanor, duchess of Somerset, Margaret, countess of Shrewsbury, Richard, earl of Warwick and Salisbury, claiming in right of Anne, his wife, and Elizabeth, lady of Latymer.<sup>1</sup> 24 October, the same place and year.

1618. Letters dimissory to all orders for John Syilly, clerk, of Estharpstre, who has the first clerical tonsure. 26 October, the same place and year.

1619. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to Master Richard Swan, provost of Wells and lawful possessor of the canonical houses near the outer gate of Wells palace which were inhabited during his lifetime by Master John Moreton, residentiary canon of Wells, and all future possessors of the said houses, of the conduit and watercourse issuing from the ditches called

<sup>1</sup> The four ladies named were the daughters (by different wives) and eventual coheiresses of Richard, earl of Warwick.

1464.  
'Le Mote' of the said palace and running by the southern end of the bishop's prison called 'Le Cowhowse' beyond and over a small stream of water there to the ground or soil of the said canonical houses under the same houses, as the said water is at present carried and runs, and as it used to be carried and to run while the said Master John occupied the said houses, which conduit and watercourse the bishop caused to be made with gutters as far as the said small stream in the direction of his mills, in order to draw off the overflow of water which often happens in the said ditches; with licence for the said Master Richard and all future canons in possession of the said houses to enter on the bishop's land as far as the head of the said watercourse, survey and examine the watercourse and the ways thereof, break and dig in the bishop's land adjacent thereto from the ditches called 'Le Mote' as far as the way leading to the gardens of the tenants of the dean and chapter of Wells outside the new wall of the outer court of the palace, improve and repair the gutters laid there and lay new ones in the same places, and make good the broken earth with all speed: provided that the watercourse so running and led to the soil of the said canonical houses be from thence led as directly as possible by the said Master Richard and his successors to the stream, or watercourse, at the end of his garden which runs to the bishop's mills, and that the bishop and his successors be at liberty to employ all the water of the said ditches for flushing, cleansing and scouring the same when necessary. In return for the above grant, the said Master Richard and his successors will maintain and keep in repair the stone wall lying between the said canonical houses and the aforesaid way leading to the gardens of the tenants of the dean and chapter,—which wall lately enclosed the outer court of the palace and belonged to the bishop and used to be repaired by him and his predecessors,—from the market-place of Wells as far as the end of the garden, or ground, of the said canonical houses, *i.e.* the length of the wall which is adjacent to the said ground, and will discharge the bishop and his successors and the dean and chapter and their tenants thereof. Warranty clause. Witnesses, Master Hugh Sugar, the bishop's chancellor and treasurer of Wells, Master John Pope, canon of Wells, and Robert Stowel, Thomas Rodenay and

1464. Roger Saymour, esquires, and many others. Wells palace, 29 October, 4 Edw. IV.

1620. Institution of Master Thomas Forster, in the person of Henry Symmys, literate, his proctor, as rector of the church of Norton under Hamden, vacant by the resignation of Sir Simon Brayllys, on the presentation of Alice, duchess of Suffolk. Wells palace, 31 October, 1364.

1621. Grant for life to John Fitz James, the elder, of the office of chief steward of all the bishop's hundreds, lordships, lands and tenements in the county of Somerset and elsewhere, with a yearly rent or pension of 20 marks out of the bishop's manor of Kyngesburye, co. Somerset. Wells palace, 1 November, 4 Edw. IV.

- f. 310 1622. Grant for life to William Edmond of the office of bailiff of the bishop's liberties in the county of Somerset and elsewhere, including whatever pertains to the office of clerk of the market in the said liberties, with a yearly pension of 10*l.* out of the issues and proceeds of the said office. He is to render account yearly to the bishop and his successors, and to discharge them in the Exchequer, as against the king and his heirs, of all things that pertain to the said office. 3 November, the same place and year.

1623. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to Thomas Bromhale, vicar of Congresbury and Wyke St. Laurence, steward of the bishop's household, of a cottage and 8*a.* of land called 'Pitmannes,' 1*a.* of land called 'Long Acre,' 4*a.* of land called 'Cotyns,' and a pill of meadow called 'Walshpille,' all in the said parish, and also the fishery of a weir called 'Niweyere' in the parish of Yatton, to hold to him and his successors for eighty years, rendering 24*s.* 3*d.* yearly; with proviso for distraint in the event of the rent being fifteen days in arrear, and for re-entry and re-possession if sufficient distress cannot be found in a quarter of a year. Witnesses, John Fitz James, the bishop's steward, Robert Stowell, Thomas Smyth and many others. 4 November, the same place and year.

1624. Institution of Master John Wylton, bachelor in both laws, as rector of the church of Astyngton, vacant by the resignation of Dan Thomas Mertok, on the presentation of Master Nicholas Carent, dean of Wells, and John Sydenham and Walter Sydenham, esquires. Wells palace, 5 November, 1464.

1625. Institution of Sir John Wheler, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Virgin Mary in the church of Brugwater, vacant by the death of Sir John Payle, on the presentation of James Fitz James and William at Well, stewards of the merchant gild of Brugwater. 17 November, the same place and year.

1626. Institution of Sir Thomas Goldsmyth, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the church of Wollavynton, vacant by the death of Sir John Cristyan, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury. 12 December, the same place and year.

1627. Notification by the bishop that the fixed portion of the fruits and proceeds of the prebendal church of St. Decuman's erstwhile assigned to the vicar thereof, which was suitable at the time of the assignment and was for long afterwards acceptable to the vicars, is now, owing to the prevailing mortality, the dearth of parishioners, and the other misfortunes of this present age, inadequate for the maintenance of the present vicar, for which reason he has, with the assent of Master John Pope, S.T.P., prebendary of St. Decuman's, decreed and ordained that the present and all future vicars shall receive, as an augmentation of the aforesaid portion, the tithes of cheese and apples of the whole parish, and shall have the close of arable land on the west side of the vicar's dwelling-house containing 9*a.* of the yearly value of 10*s.*, and the other close on the north side of the prebendary's dwelling by the stream running from south to north there, containing 2*a.* arable, together with all oblations, tithes and proceeds which have pertained to the vicarage from of old. 20 December, the same place and year.

1628. Institution of Sir Robert Strete, chaplain, in the person of Master Thomas Mark, his proctor, as rector of the church of

1464. Corscombe, vacant by the death of Master Stephen Alva, on the presentation of Richard Denshill, esquire. Date as above.

f. 311. 1629. Collation to Sir John Pedewell, canon of Wells, of the canonical houses lately possessed by Master Robert Stillyngton and now vacant by his surrender. 24 December, the same place and year.

1630. Institution of Sir John Nicholl, chaplain, in the person of John Lucas, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry in the chapel of the Virgin Mary in the churchyard of Crukern, on the presentation of George, bishop of Exeter, John Markham, knight, chief justice of the King's Bench, Robert Danby, knight, chief justice of the Bench, Thomas Wytham, chancellor of the Exchequer, Thomas Cook, citizen and alderman of London, Robert Ingilton, John Peyntour and Thomas Graneson, patrons for this turn. 31 December, the same place and year.

1465. 1631. Institution of Sir Thomas Preston, chaplain, as rector of the church of Seborogh, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Standerwik, chaplain, on the presentation of Thomas Golde. Wells palace, 10 January, 1464[-5].

1632. Indenture, being a grant by the bishop to William Shete, of Hampton by Claverton, Felice, his wife, Richard Canon, and Alice late the wife of Richard Shete, of Hampton aforesaid, of all that tenement called 'Milleplace' in Hampton aforesaid which the said William formerly held of the bishop according to the custom of the manor *de antiquo astro*, and a watermill with a rood of meadow adjacent, and also 34½*a.* of the bishop's demesne lands, with 9½*a.* 1*r.* in the bishop's meadows called 'Brodemedede' and 'Redemedede' of 'Overlond,' to hold the same for life and in survivorship, rendering 78*s.* 3*d.* yearly, to wit for the tenement 6*s.*, for churchscot (*churs'*) thereof 14*d.*, for the works thereof 4*d.*, for the mill 20*s.*, for the arable 34*s.* 6*d.*, and for the meadow 16*s.* 4*d.*, saving to the bishop and his successors suits to his courts and hundreds, and heriots on the deaths of the said William and Richard; with proviso for distraint in the event of the rent being fifteen days in arrear. Warranty clause. Witnesses,

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Master Richard Swan and Master Thomas Merssh, canons of Wells, Robert Stowell and Thomas Dauberichcourt, esquires, John Swetyng and others. Wells palace, 10 January, 4 Edw. IV. 1465.

1633. Letters dimissory to all orders for Richard Brayn, of Salford, who has the first clerical tonsure. 12 January, the same place and year.

1634. Manumission of Thomas Cade, bondman of the bishop's manor of Welles, and all his offspring. Wells palace, 14 January, 1464[-5].

1635. The like of John Cade, the younger, bondman of the same manor. Date as above.

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