

## Original Documents.

### BILL OF MEDICINES FURNISHED FOR THE USE OF EDWARD I. 34 AND 35 EDW. I., 1306-7.

(MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS IN THE QUEEN'S REMEMBRANCER'S OFFICE.)

COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. CHARLES H. HARTSHORNE, M.A.

THE following letter and medical notices respecting the health of Edward the First, at a period shortly previous to his decease at Burgh-upon-Sands, are appended to a Roll of the Wardrobe for the 34th Edward I. They have been printed in the "Proceedings of his Majesty's Commissioners on the Public Records of the Realm, edited by C. P. Cooper, Esq., Secretary to the Board," (vol. 1, p. 556).<sup>1</sup> That volume, containing "Notes of Business for the Board," at the meetings of the Commissioners held in the years 1832-33, printed exclusively for their use, is of very rare occurrence, and with difficulty to be consulted in any libraries accessible to the historical student. We are indebted to the Rev. Charles Hartshorne for bringing under our notice the following documents, which are scarcely more interesting as regards the period to which they relate,—the close of the eventful career of our first Edward, the *Malleus Scotorum*,—than as illustrative of the obscure subject of mediæval pharmacy, and the practice of the Hygienic art in the fourteenth century.

The infirm state of King Edward's health had commenced whilst he was passing the season of Lent at Winchester, in 1306. The disorder appears to have been in his legs (tibiis), to which, and to his feet, were applied ointments of soccotrine aloes, balsam, &c., with "rebus desiccativis." After Easter he moved towards London, being conveyed in a carriage, as we are informed by Trivet—"movit se rex versus Londonias currizando, quia ob infirmitatem, quam habuit in tibiis, non potuit equitare."<sup>2</sup> On Whitsunday Prince Edward received the distinction of knighthood, and the young prince forthwith advanced with a large force by rapid marches towards Scotland, whilst Edward I. followed slowly, his infirmity rendering it necessary that he should be carried in a horse-litter.—"Cum in lectica deportatus Eboracum transisset, cepit dysenteria laborare; propter quod quendam Nigrorum Canonicorum prioratum in Marchia Scotiæ, qui Landerecost dicitur, declinans, mansit ibidem toto tempore hiemali."<sup>3</sup>

On his northward progress from York, where he was on July 29, Edward had passed by Durham, August 1 to 7, Newcastle, August 8 and 11. He was at Corbridge on August 14, and by August 23 had reached Newborough, a

<sup>1</sup> Amongst the curious contents of this volume may here be cited the Inventory of the plate, jewels, sacred vessels, several "pixides cum tiriaca," and other valuable effects of Edward I., taken at Burgh, July 17, 1307. It includes the cup of St. Thomas of Canterbury,

the "Crux Neyghe," the "Blakerode de Scotia fabricata in auro cum cathena auri," &c., the "Crux Sancte Elene de Scotia," and a remarkable assemblage of relics.

<sup>2</sup> Nic. Triveti Annales, edit. Hist. Soc. p. 408.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 409: from Merton Coll. MS.

village in Tynedale, situated near the northern bank of the river Tyne, and about four miles N.W. of Hexham. The king appears to have been detained there some days by aggravation of his disorder.

On September 8, Richard de Montpelier, the king's "*Especer*," or apothecary, was despatched towards London, to procure remedies required by the royal physicians. The following urgent letter from the keeper of the King's wardrobe is dated on that day, at Newborough. The "*Chronicon de Lanercost*" records that Edward had fallen sick at that place, ("apud Novum Burgum juxta Hestildisham"). It appears, however, that two days previous to the date of this letter, namely, on Sept. 6, he had been sufficiently convalescent to pursue his journey about eight miles further, to "*Bradeleye in Marchia Scotie*," doubtless Bradley, now a small farm-house, adjacent to the Roman Wall, near Housesteads. On Sept. 8 and 10, we find the king at Henshaw ("*Heynessalgh*"); on Sept. 11 at Haltwhistle ("*Hautwysel*"), Sept. 13, at Melkridge; ("*Melkligg*") Sept. 15, at Redpath; Sept. 16, at Blenkinsop, and on Sept. 20, at Thirlwall. Towards the close of that month he had reached Lanercost. The "*Chronicon*" before cited, states that about Sept. 21, Margaret, his consort, arrived with her suite at Lanercost, where she was joined by Edward on Sept. 29.<sup>4</sup>

By the skill of the royal physician, Master Nicholas de Tyngewyke,<sup>5</sup> or the virtues of the remedies enumerated in the subjoined document, the king's health had become in some degree re-established. In a letter addressed to Pope Clement V. from Haltwhistle, dated Sept. 11, the king solicits a dispensation for his physician, whom he had presented to the church of Reculver, in Kent, so that he might hold that benefice together with that of "*Colleshull*" in the diocese of Sarum, which he already enjoyed. The royal letter urgently requests that this favour might be granted—"dilecto clerico nostro magistro Nicholao de Tyngewyk, medico nostro (cui, post Deum grates referimus de vita et reconvalescentia nostra de infirmitate, qua jam per aliqua tempora eramus fatigati)"; adding, also, the following high testimony of royal approbation—"præsertim cum eundem Nicholaum peritorem et aptiorem de regno nostro, pro cura et custodia status et sanitatis nostræ, nostro judicio reputemus; eique ex toto curam corporis nostri commiserimus, ob grandem fiduciam quam de ipsius peritia optinemus." (Rymer, vol. i. part ii. p. 999).

Not long after, during his residence at Lanercost (Oct. 7), Edward renewed his request to the Pope, in regard to the preferment of his "*dilectus clericus—magister Nicholaus de Tynchewyke, medicus noster*," to the church of Reculver,—"utpote pro persona honestæ vitæ, bonæ conversationis, eminentis scientiæ, habilisque ad quamlibet dignitatem ecclesiasticam, nostro judicio, optinendam." On Jan. 17 following, Clement addressed to the king his assent to the request on behalf of his skilful physician. (Ibid. pp. 1000, 1006.)

Edward I. and his queen remained at Lanercost, with the exception

<sup>4</sup> "*Rex autem, propter senectutem et debilitatem, lento gradu, factis multis parvis dietis et vectus in lecto supra dorsa equorum, appropinquavit cum regina versus Marchiam Scotiæ, et in festo Sancti Michaelis venit usque ad prioratum de Lanercost.*"—*Chronicon de La-*

*nercost*; edited for the Bannatyne Club, pp. 205, 206. Two statements occur, in which some discrepancies in the dates are to be noticed.

<sup>5</sup> His name may have been taken from Tingewick, a parish in Buckinghamshire.

of a short visit to Carlisle, until March, 1307. Towards Midsummer in that year the king's health was so far restored that he contemplated resuming the command of his forces, in a fresh campaign against the Bruce, and he determined to send away Prince Edward, in order to complete the negotiations for his espousals with the French princess, Isabella. About Midsummer day King Edward made solemn offering in the cathedral church of Carlisle of the horses and litter which he had been of late accustomed to use,<sup>6</sup> and, on July 3, mounted his charger, on his progress towards Scotland. A renewed attack of dysentery, however, a malady from which he had previously suffered, had occurred in the interval; the journey of that day extended only to two miles, the like distance being achieved on the day following.<sup>7</sup> After a day's rest, the king reached Burgh-on-the-Sands on July 6, and on the morrow, the skill of Nicholas de Tyngewyke and his precious electuary, *αντι μωρδς*—antidote to fate,—proving of no avail to arrest the malady, his death took place.

We must leave to some antiquary skilled in the mysteries of the mediæval pharmacopœia, the explanation of the various technical terms occurring in the following document, including several obviously of Greek origin. The use of medicaments prepared, as it would appear, from pearls, jacinths, and coral, is remarkable, but such substances were retained in the *Materia Medica* at a much later period. Amongst the drugs, for instance, supplied for the voyage of Sir Martin Frobisher, to discover the north-west passage, we find the items—"Margarita, corallina, coralli rubili, lapis lazuli," &c.<sup>8</sup> Amongst remedies obtained from vegetable substances may be here noticed the oils of wheat, ash, and bay, water of the roses of Damascus, and wine of pomegranates, &c. The virtues of oil of wheat are commended by various old writers, and as late as the times of Elizabeth, Langham, in his "*Garden of Health*," assures us that "the oyle pressed out of wheat, betwixt hote irons, healeth ulcers and wounds," and he gives a long account of the remedial efficacy of the ash. The stiptic and restorative virtues of the pomegranate were in high estimation, and the rind, boiled in wine, was used, as Langham observes, in cases of dysentery. The price, however, at which such foreign productions were at that time obtained, must have precluded their general use; we find, in the following account, that six pomegranates cost not less than sixty shillings, besides transport from London.

In concluding these brief observations we would thankfully express our acknowledgment of the friendly courtesy of Mr. Hunter, who, with his accustomed kindness, not only afforded every facility in examining the documents relating to the close of the career of Edward I., now at Carlton Ride, and favoured us with an accurate transcript of those here printed, but permitted us freely to consult the MS. Itinerary of the reign

<sup>6</sup> "Rex, instante festo S. Joannis Baptistæ, equos suos et lecticam, in qua deferri propter debilitatem solebat, obtulit in ecclesia cathedrali." Trivet, ut supra, p. 413.

<sup>7</sup> These particulars are given from Mr. Hog's note on Trivet, p. 413, where Edward's departure from Carlisle is said to have occurred "*quinto nonas Julii*" (incorrectly printed in Walsingham *Junii*) July 3. The letters to the Pope

and Cardinals, given in Rymer, dated at Carlisle, July 5, are not "*Teste Rege*," and were probably sent in the king's name after his departure. Mr. Stevenson's "*Itinerary*" gives July 1, Caldecotes; July 3, Kirkandrews; July 4 and 5, Carlisle; July 6, Carlisle, Burgh, Holmcoltram. Some of these dates are, perhaps, to be explained in like manner.

<sup>8</sup> Proceedings of the Commissioners of Records, p. 75.

of that sovereign, prepared by the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, and preserved in that Record Office. That valuable compilation, although it may not be infallibly correct, must always prove of great advantage in the prosecution of any historical inquiry connected with the period.—A. W.

MINUTE EXPENSE FACTE PER RADULPHUM DE STOKES, CLERICUM MAGNE  
GARDEROBE ILLUSTRIS REGIS ANGLIE, ANNO REGNI REGIS EDWARDI  
FILII REGIS HENRICI xxxiiij.

Johan de Drokenesford, Gardein de la Garderobe le Roy, a Sire Rauf de Stok' clerk' de la grant Garderobe le Roy, saluz : Pur ce qe Richard de Montpeillers, Especer le Roy, est assigne daler vers les parties de Londres pur diverses purveances faire pur la maladie le Roy, sicome il est plus pleinement enjoint par les Fisiciens le Roy ; vous mank' et pri qe de totes maneres de purveances qil avera purveu pur la maladie le Roy, voillez aconter ovesqe lui ou assigner autre en vostre leu de ceo faire, et entrer ses parcelles en aconte de Garderobe. Et jeo vous en ferai avoir due alloance sur vostre aconte. Et ceste chose en facez a plus en haste qe vous purrez, sicome vous volez le sancte du corps le Roy. A dieu. Escrit a Neuburghe en Tyndale le jour de la Nativite nostre dame, lan du regne le Roy Edward Trente quart (Sept. 8, 1306). (In dorso) Montpeillers.

Ricardo de Montepess' pro factura cc. iiij.<sup>xx</sup> ij. lb. electuariorum factorum de zucra gard', per manus domini J. de Langeford liberantis, prec. lb. xij. d.—xiiij. li. ij. s. vj. den. Eidem pro cvj. lb. di. albi pulveris, prec. lb. ij. s.—x. li. xij. s. Eidem pro diversis suripis, medicinis, unguentis, elect' et emplastris emptis London' per dictum Ricardum pro infirmitate domini Regis, per preceptum ejusdem, exist' apud Lanrecost et Karliolum, ut patet per particulas plenius contentas in cedula quam idem Ricardus liberavit inde in Gard', anno presente.—cxxix. li. xvj. s. iiij. d. In cariagio predictarum rerum de London' usque Karliolum eundo et redeundo, una cum expensis dicti Ricardi quereutis predicta eundo et redeundo cum v. equis.—c. s.

Summa clx. li. xj s. x. den'.—prob'.

[The following particulars are appended to the foregoing entry in the account.]

Anno xxxiiij. et Anno xxxv. apud Landrecost'.

Propter infirmitatem domini Regis, per ordinacionem Magistri Nicholai de Tyngewyk, pro i. unguento cum aloecicotrino<sup>9</sup> et cadmeauri per sex vices facto pro tibiis Regis.—xi. li.

Item, pro alio unguento de rebus desiccativis cum balsamo, uncias sex.—xx. marc.

Item, pro cironis<sup>1</sup> fundatis de gummis pro calceis Regis.—cx. s.

Item, pro balneis de floribus aromaticis et stuffis herbarum.—cx. s.

Item, pro oleo de tritico.—xxx. s.

Item, pro oleo fraxini.—xviiij. s.

Item, pro emplastris cironeis diatrascos<sup>2</sup> hoc (sic) sirocrocium, lb. xx. pro stauro.—iiiij. li.

Item, de Aquilon.—xxiiij. lb.—xlviij. s.

Item, pro oleo de terebentino distillato.—xl. s.

<sup>9</sup> Soccotrina — "Alloen cycoterne ;" expenses of John, King of France, Comptes de L'Argenterie des Rois de France, p. 212.

<sup>1</sup> The import of the term is doubtful. *Cironi* or *Cironei* is possibly derived from *κνρος*, *κνριον*, wax, and may denote

cerates, applied to the royal heels, or possibly to the king's shoes—*calceis*.

<sup>2</sup> Possibly purified wax, *τρακτὸς*, *cera alba*. Ducange, Gloss. Gr. The signification of these words is exceedingly obscure; the scribe may have intended to write "hoc est."

Item, pro uno electuario confortativo cum ambra et musco, et margaritar' et jacinthar' et auro et argento puro lb. viii.—viii. marc.

Item, pro sucurosset' <sup>3</sup> acuat' cum margaritar' et curall' uncias iiii.—v. marc.

Item, pro unguentis calidis lb. xvi.—xxxii. s.

Item, pro oleo laurino lb. viii.—xx. s.

Item, pro aqua rosata de Damasc' lb. xl.—lii. li.

Item, pro vino malorum granatorum xx. lb.—lx. s.

Item, pro uno emplastro pro collo Regis cum ladano <sup>4</sup> et ambra orientali.—lx. s.

Item, pro malis granatis vi.—lx. s.

Item, pro vi. uncis dimid. de balsamo ad corpus domini Regis unguendum.—xiii. li.

Item, pro pulvere aromatico de aloen, thure et mirra, ad ponendum in corpore Regis.—liii. li.

Item, pro musco iiii. uncias ad ponendum in naribus Regis.—lx. s.

Item, pro ambra orientali ad ponendum in cib' Regis et in claret', unc' xviii. pretium uncie j. marc.—xviii. marc.

Item, per præceptum domini Regis pro domino Roberto de la Warde qui fuit paraliticus. <sup>5</sup>

Item, pro xxxviii. glistar'.—lx. s.

Item, pro oleo benedicto xii. unc'.—xlvi. s.

Item, pro pinguedine castor' unc' xvi.—xlvi. s.

Item, pro unguent' acuat' cum pulveribus castorii, et cum pinguedine castor', et cum pulvere eufurbeo. <sup>6</sup>—lxix. s.

Istud unguentum fuit iterum factum pro domino Rege, cum balsamo et aloen cicotirino.—lx. s.

Item, pro j. electuario precioso quod vocatur Dyacameron <sup>7</sup> xii. lb., pretium libre i. marc.—xii. marc.

Item, pro cariagio istarum medicinarum de London' usque Karliolum, eundo et redeundo, c. s.

Summa vi. <sup>xx</sup> xiiij. li. xvj. s. iiij. d.

<sup>3</sup> Amongst spices and drugs supplied for the use of John, King of France, during his captivity in England, occurs —“Pour j. quarteron de lectuaire sucre de roses, 18d.”—Comptes, p. 213.

<sup>4</sup> Ladanum, λήδανον of the Greeks, a gum resin formerly used as a stimulant and in fumigations. Ambra orientalis is probably the εμπαρ of the Greeks, supposed to be the excrement of fishes, the ambergris of modern times, found on the sea or on the coasts in Eastern parts. See Ducange, Gloss. Græc. “Ambra est Sperma ceti.” Rulandi, Lexicon Alchemiæ.

<sup>5</sup> Robert de la Warde was steward of the king's household, and had summons to Parliament amongst the Barons from 28 until 34 Edw. I. (1306). He had been in the wars of Scotland, 31 Edw. I. He occurs amongst the witnesses, Pat. 34 Edw. I. dated at Newborough, 31 August (Rymer): and he was with the king at Lanercost Priory, his name being found

amongst the barons present there when James Stuart, “Seneschal d'Escoce,” swore fealty to Edward I. on the host, the holy Gospels, the “Croiz Neytz et sur la Blake Rode d'Escoce, et sur plusieurs autres reliques.”—Rymer, vol. i. part ii. pp. 998, 1001. Of the Cross of Gneyth, or Neyt, doubtless the “crux dicta Neoti,” brought from the Holy Land to Wales by a priest named Neot, and presented to Edward I. by a secretary of Prince David, see Mr. Topham's observations on the Wardrobe Account 28 Edw. I., p. xxxi., and the Glossary, p. 365.

<sup>6</sup> Εὐφώρβιον, Euphorbium, spurge, of which the medicinal virtues are cited by Pliny, lib. xxv. c. 7; xxvi. c. 8. It is said to have been discovered on Mount Atlas by Juba, and the indurated juice formed a gum like frankincense. See Pliny's description of its preparation and uses.

<sup>7</sup> “Antimoris—ἀντι μωρός.” Note in Proceedings of the Record Commissioners.