

Original Documents.

ROLL OF THE COMMUNARIUS OF THE CONVENT OF NORWICH FOR THE YEAR 1327; SUPPLEMENTED BY THAT OF THE PITANCIARIUS FOR THE SAME YEAR.

Communicated by the Rev. D. J. STEWART.

The following document is presented as an example, complete in itself, of the series from which much information has been obtained, and some extracts given in the "Notes on Norwich Cathedral" (pp. 16—47, and 155—187), especially the latter portion. The office of the "Communarius," defined by Ducange as "canonicus seu alius qui *communias* vel *communias* aliis canonicis distribuerat," would seem to have little concern with work upon the fabric of the monastery, neither would that of the "Pitanciarius," whose account follows that of the "Communarius" for the same year, and whose duty, the distribution of the "pitances," or daily allowances for meals, is expressed in the name. From the year 1324 to 1505 the two offices were held at Norwich by the same person, as in the following roll. The "Communarius" by name does not seem to have been a regular officer of a monastery, as he is not mentioned in Fosbrooke or Willis, or in the list of officers of Norwich Cathedral given in Dugdale, but where he did not exist under that title there can be little doubt that his duties were carried out by the "Refectorarius," or some one under his orders.¹

The occasion of charges for work upon the fabrick of an important monastery occurring in the account of an officer specially charged with dietary distributions to the monks, was owing to the difference in charge between those distributions and the revenue appropriated to the office. This appropriation was carried out with the greatest strictness, and was jealously guarded. Certain manors and other sources of revenue were set apart to the charge of an officer, and kept distinct and free from any charges upon another portion of the staff of the community, and in this way the surplus of any branch of that staff was used up by the temporary transfer to it of charges upon another branch, and each officer was easily called to account.

In the following account it appears that the "Communarius" acknowledges a balance in hand of £4 11s. 5½d., a sum which is carried on to his account as Pitancer. It will be seen that almost the whole of the expenditure by the same person as Pitancer, as recorded in the following roll, is upon the work of the cloister; so that the payments more proper to his office were made by himself under the title of "Communarius."

The contents of the following document are referred to at p. 169 of the "Notes on Norwich Cathedral." Two entries upon the roll (p. 473) may perhaps attract special notice—the purchase of stone for the work from the Sacrist—an officer whose rolls of account have been turned to

¹ The "Communarius" had an office in Norwich, charges for the repairs of which are entered on some of the Rolls of account.

good account in the "Notes." The entries referred to are examples of the care with which the accounts were kept; the Sacrist charging himself with the amount paid him by the Pitancer.

Compotus fratris Johannis de Wurchestede Communarii Norwyci a festo Sancti Michaelis usque ad idem festum anno Willelmi Prioris de Claxton primo.

RECEPTUS.

Idem respondet de ecclesia de Catton	xvi. li. vij. s. i. d.
Summa	xvi. li. vij. s. i. d.

PENSIONES.

Item pacatum Johanni de Broghton	xl. s.
Item Roberto de Chemphal	xx. s.
Item celerario pro vicario de Catton	vij. s.
Item sacriste pro redditu	ij. s.
Item infirmario pro redditu	iiij. d.
Summa	lxix. s. iiij. d.

CONTRIBUTIONES.

Item pacatum procuratori domini Prioris	vij. s. iiij. d.
Item servitoribus et lavatoriis per annum	xii. s. vi. d.
Item portantibus litteras ad cellas et servientibus in curia	xxxii. d.
Item in expensis Rogeri de Eston versus Oxoniam	ix. s.
Item in expensis Johannis de Langele	vi. s. ix. d.
Item in contributione de quarta de Martham	vi. s. xi. d.
Item in nunciis domini Prioris	iiij. o.
Summa	xlv. s. v. d. o.

Item in expensis apud Catton super parochianos et cyves Norwyci	xlviij. s. iiij. d.
Item in expensis apud Catton super pauperes	xi. s. x. d.
Item in vino domino Priori et confratribus in minucionibus	vi. s. iiij. d.
Item in curialitate fratrum et pauperibus scolaribus	viiij. s. vj. d.
Item in pauperibus apud Catton et alibi per vias	iiij. s. iiij. d.
Item in cultellis et cyrotecis emptis pro advenientibus	iiij. s. vj. d.
Item in expensis Thomæ de Brisle apud Londinum	vi. d.
Item in alba tunica et sotularibus ad opus Communarii	v. s. vi. d.
Item in expensis in minucionibus	xxxiiij. d.
Item in solutione tegulorum pro Nicholao de Hyndolfton	xiiij. d.
Item in expensis Thomæ le page versus Regem	xxx. d.
Item in j. grangia et ij. acris terre et iiij. roddis conductis ad terminum vj. annorum de hoc anno	xxvi. s. iiij. d.
Item in oblacionibus iiij. dierum rogacionis	iiij. d.
Item clerico computantis pro labore suo	xviij. d.
Summa	vi. li. xiiij. d.

Summa omnium expensarum Communarii	xj. li. xv. s. vij. d.
Summa tocius receptus	xvj. li. vij. s. j. d. o.
Et sicut excedit receptus expensas	iiij. li. xj. s. vj. d. o.

Computus fratris Johannis de Wurchestede de pitanciaria anno Willelmi Prioris primo.

Idem respondet de excessa Computus Communarii precedentis	iiij. li. xj. s. vj. d. o.
Item pro anniversario Willelmi de Raule	xxvj. s. viij. d.
Item pro anniversario Willelmi de Kyrkeby	xxvj. s. viij. d.
Item pro Thoma le Blunvel et quarto Priore	xxvj. s. viij. d.
Item domino Priore Lennæ pro die sanctæ Margaritæ	xij. s. iiij. d.
Item de redditu in Norwyco	ij. s. vi. d.
Item de redditu in Taverham	ij. s. ij. d.
Item de redditu in Veston	vij. s.
Item de redditu in Ilketisal	ij. s. iiij. d.
Item de redditu in Swerdiston	xxj. d.
Item de redditu Prioris sancti Leonardi	ij. s. vij. d. o.
Summa	xx. li. xiiij. s. ij. d.

Item receptus per manum Supprioris pro vino hospitalis sancti Egidii

Item per eundem de dono Willelmi de Vitton	iiij. li.
Item per eundem de dono Johannis de Pennisthorp	ij. s.
Item per eundem de dono Roberti de Swanton	xx. s.
Per eundem de precentore pro vino Sancti Eustacii	vj. s. viij. d.
Item per eundem de Thoma de Hyndolfston cappellano	vj. s. viij. d.
Item per eundem de J. de Taverham	iiij. s.
Item per eundem pro j. doleo vini de Priore de — ?	lxvj. s. viij. d.
Summa	xij. li. ij. s.

Item receptus ad opus claustrum per fratrem Johannem de Wurchestede primo per eundem de quodam gardino cum quibusdam redditibus

Item per eundem de rectore de Marischo	xij. s. iiij. d.
Item per eundem de rectore de Marischo	xij. s. iiij. d.
Item per eundem de petra vendita Huberto capellano	lxv. s. vj. d.
Item per eundem de rogo domini Episcopi	x. li. xv. s. vj. d.
Item per eundem de dono executorum domini Episcopi v. li.	xij. s. iiij. d.
Summa	xxij. li. viij. s. xj. d.
Summa tocius receptus	xlviij. li. vj. s. j. d.

(In dorso.)

Item in superexpensis anni precedentis	xx. li. xiiij. s. ij. d. q ^a
Item in roba magistri Willelmi de Ramisseye	xvi. s. viij. d.
Item in cyrotectis emptis pro cementariis	xvi. d.
Item in oblationibus eorum et curialitate	iiij. s. viij. d.
Item in stipendio carpentariorum pro opere claustrum	vij. s. viij. d.
Item in stipendio plumbatorum pro opere claustrum	iiij. s. v. d.
Summa	xxij. li. vij. s. vij. d. q ^a

Item mense primo in stipendio cementariorum	
Item mense secundo	xxxv. s. ij. d.
Item mense tercio	xxvj. s. iiij. d.
Item mense quarto	xxvj. s. iiij. d.
Item mense quinto	xxviij. s. viij. d.
Item mense sexto	xxvj. s. x. d.

Item mense septimo	xvj. s. x. d.
Item mense octavo	xvj. s. x. d.
Item mense nono	xxvij. s. viij. d.
Item mense decimo	xxiij. s. viij. d.
Item mense undecimo	xix. s. iiij. d.
Item mense duodecimo	xviiij. s. iiij. d.
Item mense tertio decimo	xxxvij. s. x. d.
Summa	xv. li. xiiij. iiij. d.
Item in xxxviij. gobbetis ¹ emptis de sacrista	xxxj. s. viij. d.
Item in ^{xx.} vi. gobbetis et xj. cum kariagio	v. li. xij. s. xj. d.
Item in c. c. et iij. quarternis de coyn emptis	xxxviij. s. ij. d.
Item in tegulis emptis pro claustro	xxij. s.
Item in j. centum de coyn empto	xiiij. s. iiij. d.
Item Symoni Hue pro garnamento suo et aliorum	xvij. s.
Item in lyngno empto de Priore Sancti Leonardi	lx. s.
Item in ^{xx.} vj. pedibus de crestis pro claustro	xxxv. s.
Item in petra empta de sacrista	xxj. s.
Item in calce empta pro opere claustri	xx. s.
Summa	xviiij. li. xij. s. j. d.
Item in xlviij. cramponis pro claustro	iiij. s. vj. d.
Item in batering, stelyng instrumentorum per annum	iiij. s. viij. d. o.
Item in clavis emptis pro claustro	iiij. s. viij. d.
Item in pice et caseo pro cemento	v. d.
Item in treyes fatis et tinis et hopis	xxj. d.
Item in cavillis emptis pro claustro	xxi. s.
Item in candelis et gres pro marmore	viiij. d.
Item in percameno et aliis minutis	ix. d.
Summa	xxxvj. s. iiij. d. o.
Item expensæ super domus pavementum et super opus infirmarii et terram de Catton	
Item in arundine empta cum stipendio operariorum	v. li. v. s. vj. d.
Item in petra de kain ² empta pro portis et hostiis juxta scolethal	xiiij. s.
Item in hostiis et portis et henghes et hokis et clavibus et aliis	xxii. s. iiij. d.
Item in j. muro cum fenestris de petra de kain de camera Com- munarii usque ad murum aule	xxxviij. s. iiij. d.
Item in scafale pro marmore pollicendo	xij. s. vj. d.
Item in stipendio cementariorum pro domus pavimento	liij. s. iiij. d.
Item in stipendio cementariorum ponentium lapides	lxxv. s.
Item in stipendiis carpentariorum et operariorum pro plangis et pro fellyng	liij. s. ix. d.
Item in kariatione sabuli et caliou ³ et calcis et elemosinario	lvj. s. viij. d.
Summa	xxj. li. viij. s. iiij. d.
Summa omnium expensarum	lxxix. li. xviiij. s. o. q ^a .
Summa totius recepti	xlviij. li. vj. s. j. d.
Et sic excedunt expensæ recepta	xxxij. li. xij. s. o. q ^a .

¹ Gobet,—a lump, or piece or portion of anything.—*Prompt. Parv.* p. 200.

² Caen stone.

³ Flint or pebble stone. See "Glossary of Architecture," s. v. calyon.