

A Lancastrian Raid in the Wars of the Roses.

From an Original Manuscript contributed by ARTHUR CARRINGTON,
with an Introduction by W. J. ANDREW, F.S.A.



THE Society is much indebted to Major Poynton for his discovery of this important Indictment, which was done while making researches amongst the archives of the Duchy of Lancaster, as well as to Mr. Carrington, a member of the Society, for his kindness in obtaining from the Record Office an exact copy of the original. The expert whom he employed states that it was a most tiresome task, but that it has been very carefully done and examined, with every mark reproduced. There was no endorsement of the finding of a true Bill.

At the Editor's request, I venture to offer a few explanatory notes by way of introduction. In so doing I would, first of all, say that we are indebted to Mr. Carrington for the publication of a record which tells us more of the political history of Derbyshire in the fifteenth century than any document yet forthcoming.

It is an Indictment for treason of practically the whole of the militant Lancastrian party in and around the county. It records one of the many risings of the period of which our general history is silent. It will add many names to genealogical research. It discloses a special commission at Derby so important that it was attended in person by Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, when an uncrowned king, though nominally "Protector and Defender of the Kingdom and of the English Church until Prince Edward should arrive at years of discretion," during the temporary insanity of

Henry VI. It shews the lengths to which feudal animosity was carried against a local renegade or prominent political opponent, and, finally, it gives us some interesting particulars of the contents of a mediæval manor-house.

Although it purports to be an Indictment before a Jury, it was not a trial, for there were no prisoners, but they would be cited by proclamation to attend, and in their absence judgment would be given against them. *Ipsa facto* their lands and goods would be escheated by writ "*pro delicto tenentis*," and if and when arrested or captured their execution would follow as a matter of course, but they were probably then in arms with the Queen. The fiction of prosecuting the King's party in the name of the King was and is a custom common to all civil wars.

This was not the only occasion on which the Duke of York held such an enquiry, for we read in a letter of the 12th of October, 1460, addressed to Sir John Paston of Norwich, that immediately after the battle of Northampton "my Lord of York hath divers strange Commissions from the King, for to sit in divers towns coming homeward [from Ireland]; that is to say, in Ludlow, Shrewsbury, Hereford, Leicester, Coventry, and in other divers towns, to punish them by the faults to the King's Laws." Thus throughout the Wars of the Roses the power of the moment held opposition to itself to be treason against the King, and used it as a lever for the confiscation of its opponents' estates.

John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, who also sat on the Commission, had but recently succeeded his father, the veteran Charles, Earl of Shrewsbury, killed at the siege of Chatillon, July 20th, 1453, at which, as Sir John Talbot, he also was present.

On the 28th of July, 1454, the Duke was appointed Governor of Calais, the highest military command, and crossed the sea immediately afterwards.

Hence the events recorded by the Indictment occurred at the height of the Protector's power, but he was deposed at the following Christmas, and it is therefore very doubtful whether the judgment was ever enforced against the lands, to say nothing of the persons of the accused.

During the whole of the year 1453, the Lancastrian party, as represented by the Queen, was making every effort to raise a sufficiently powerful force to overthrow the Yorkist régime, and constant, though abortive, risings and fracas occurred throughout that portion of the country which remained loyal to it.

Derbyshire, Cheshire, and Lancashire, where John of Gaunt had ruled with almost kingly power, were districts strongly Lancastrian at heart, and this Indictment tells us that in May, 1453, many of the leading knights, with their followers, "to the number of one thousand persons," raised the standards of the House of Lancaster at Longford, and marched through Derby—which was evidently sympathetic to their cause, for it was unmolested—to Elvaston, and raided the hall, then owned by Walter Blount.

So influential a gathering was, of course, not directed against the home of a single squire, however obnoxious to their party he may have been. That was merely a side issue upon a march southward, probably to join the Queen. But it is selected in the Indictment as the "act overt" to prove that it was not a peaceful gathering. This leads one to suspect that after the raid the rising failed in its object and the conspirators dispersed, because perhaps they were not then joined by promised support from more important personages. All the accused are alternately described as of Longford and their own residences. This was to secure conviction, notwithstanding any misdescription of the latter, because all of them had been legally "of Longford" during their actual assembly there.

In those days conviction in treason cases followed arraignment as a matter of course, and therefore it is interesting to notice the alterations to and memoranda upon the original Indictment. The most important alterations are the erasures of such names as Warren of Poynton, Devonport of Bramhall, Downe of Utkinton (probably the hereditary forester of Macclesfield Forest), Medworth of Medworth (? De Mackworth of Mackworth), FitzHerbert, Foljambe, and of minor persons. The Indictment would be prepared some short time before the actual trial, and therefore in the case of an interim death the name would be struck out; but the time between May and June was too short for this to explain the number erased,

and so we must assume that the fortunate raiders who thus escaped arraignment had either made their peace with the Protector or had friends at court, who succeeded in obtaining a withdrawal of prosecution.

The memoranda, however, are more difficult to construe. Over Sir Nicholas Longford's name is written "*Lcartam alloc̃*"—literally, "he has a charter of allowance." I assume this to mean that either he successfully pleaded, or which is more likely, subsequently received, a grant of pardon; but a writ "*allocato comitatu*" was the order for outlawry, so he may have been outlawed. Over several names the words, translated, "not guilty" appear, and these speak for themselves, but the letter "F" is a difficult problem. It frequently occurs, and but for the fact that it sometimes follows the memorandum "not guilty," I should infer that it meant that a writ of "*fi-fa*" had been issued upon the goods of the accused. As it is, however, I incline to the view that it is the note of the clerk of assize, such as "*factus est*," that the record was completed in that particular case.

The words, translated, "puts himself," no doubt mean that the description given is that of the accused himself, either in the particular cause, or, more probably, referring to his status as "knight" or "yeoman," a fact not sufficiently proved for the purposes of the always strict Indictment, and it may be a reminder that to any such demurrer the answer would be that it was of his own calling. The dots, one, two or three, may possibly refer to the subsequent issue of writs of sequestration or other attempts to enforce the judgment, and the addition to two of these of "*po se*" (? *pro seq*) in one instance seems to confirm this; whilst the small crosses suggest that the writs had been returned. "*Non cul*" over the name, for example, of Nicholas Montgomery, means, of course, "*Non culpabilis*," which was usually so contracted for "not guilty."

Turning to the contents of the Indictment, I may remark that the duke's letter read by the sheriff was probably the letter of January 9th, 1452, addressed by him to the King, formally praying for the punishment of all traitors—meaning his opponents—and of which, we are told, he supplied copies to the principal towns, Derby no doubt amongst the number.

It would be interesting to know by what acts Walter Blount¹ had become so obnoxious to the Lancastrians that he should have been the subject of so severe a revenge. Possibly he had turned traitor to their cause, and given information to the opposite party. It is at least evident that he "had gone to serve traytours." Six years later a Sir Thomas Blount of Kent, and of the household of the Duke of Exeter, was drawn to Tyburn and beheaded for having defended the Tower for the King, but he was a Lancastrian; nevertheless, at that time others than the King-maker changed their parties so often as times seemed to serve.

The particulars of the furniture and other contents of the hall are interesting, and the reference to the "two dozen cushions charged with the arms of Sir John Byron, knight, of the goods of the said Walter," suggests the matrimonial alliance which existed between the two families. This in turn may disclose that the feud was jointly against Blount and Byron, for Sir John Byron would be of Clayton, Manchester, and amongst the raiders are two at least of his immediate neighbours, namely, Alexander Radcliff of Ordsall, Salford, and John Dukenfield of Portwood, which name is now retained on the boundary of Stockport nearest to Dukenfield. He was probably of the Dukenfield family of Dukenfield, and Portwood then may have extended well into the family estate. Why they did not burn the hall is a mystery, and I can only suggest that one of their number may have been personally interested in its preservation as a possible heir or a relative or friend of Blount's family.

So large a gathering from not only Derbyshire, but all the surrounding counties, precludes, I think, any assumption that this was the outcome of a private feud, and therefore I have preferred the inference that it was a political rising, which view is certainly supported by the special and royal commission in treason before which the case was adjudicated. But for that reason it is not probable that the Protector would have attended in person.

¹ Walter, great-grandson of Sir Walter Blount, was an especial favourite of Edward IV. He was appointed Lord High Treasurer in 1464, and in the following year created Lord Mountjoy, with a pension of twenty marks. By his will, 1474, he directed an addition to Elvaston church, "and a tomb to be set in the church, over his wife, Elene," who was the daughter of Sir John Byron of Clayton, Lancashire. There is now no trace of her tomb.—Cox's *Derbyshire Churches*, vol. iii., p. 6, and vol. iv., p. 199.

Nevertheless, only seventeen years later, and close to the home of the Dukenfields here mentioned, we find in the Parliamentary Rolls, p. 51, that "whilst Sir John Assheton, with his lady and family and friends, were at his manor-house"—which I assume to have been the recently and regrettably destroyed Ashton Old Hall—"she then in child-bed, a squire, with 200 persons in arms, sounding their horns and trumpets, at two in the morning, attacked his fortified house, broke down the walls, and with fire that they had brought with them in a salette, set fire to the gates. To save his wife's life and stop the outrages he was compelled to come forth and submit to them. They carried him to Pomfret Castle, and extorted from him a bond of £1,000." I wonder whether the "squire" in question was his nearest neighbour, "John Dukenfield," our raider of Elvaston!

Writing as I do in a caravan on the Cotswolds, I regret that I am shut off from general books of reference of this period, which prohibits my endeavouring to find some specific reference to these events and their sequel; but my notes, such as they are, in the main are gleaned from the *Chronicles of the White Rose*, 1845, which is a collection of contemporary fragments of history.

1 INDICTMENT.

h cartam alloç

* has charter of allowance

The jurors present that Nicholas Longeford of Longeford co. Derby, knight Edmund Longeford of the same place, esquire Richard Longeford of the same place, esquire John Longeford of the same place, esquire George Caryngton of the same place esquire, otherwise called George Carynton of Caryngton, co. Chester esquire Hamnet Caryngton of Longeford co. Derby, esquire, otherwise called Hamnet Caryngton of Carynton, co. Chester esquire, Edward Caryngton of Longeford co. Derby, esquire otherwise called Edward Carinton of Carynton, co. Chester esquire Robert Leycestur of Longeford, co Derby, esquire otherwise called Robert Leycester of Tofte co. Chester, esquire ~~John Arden~~ Alexander Radclyf of Longeford co. Derby esquire otherwise called Alexander Radclyf of Ourdesale co. Lancaster esquire ~~John Waren~~ of the same place esquire otherwise called ~~John Waren of Poynton co. Chester esquire,~~ John Dokenfeld of Longeford co. Derby esquire otherwise called John Dokenfeld of Portewod co. Chester Esquire ~~John Dampport of the same place esquire otherwise called John Dauinport of Bromeall co. Chester esquire~~ John Hondefort of Longeford co. Derby, esquire otherwise called John Hondefort of Choreley co. Chester esquire John Bromley of Longeford co. Derby knight otherwise called John

Radclyff

¹ King's Bench Indictments, Ancient, 12.

Bromley of Bromley co. Chester knight John Maynwaryng of Longford co. Derby knight otherwise called John Maynwaryng of Pever, co. Chester, knight Randolph Maynewaryng of Longeford co. Derby esquire otherwise called Randolph Maynewaryng of Pever co. Chester esquire ~~John Downe of the same place esquire otherwise called John Donne of~~ Utekynton co. Chester, esquire Robert Fouleshurst of Longeford, co. Derby esquire otherwise called Robert Fouleshurst of Fouleshurst co. Chester, esquire Adam Wythenale of the same place otherwise called Adam Wythenale of Namtewich co. Chester, esquire Roger Lee of Longeford co. Derby *(John Glene of the same place, knave) esquire otherwise called Roger Lee of Bothes co. Chester esquire Reginald Legh late of Longeford, co. Derby, gent otherwise called Reginald Lee of Bothes co. Chester, gent Hugh Egerton of Langeford co. Derby, gent otherwise called Hugh Egerton of Madewy, co. Stafford, gent William Vernon of Netherhaddon, co. Derby, knight, Edmund Vernon of the same place, esquire Roger Vernon of the same place esquire, Robert Vernon of the same place, esquire John Cokayn of Assheburne, in the same county esquire, Edmund Cokayn of the same place, esquire,* Nicholas Montgomery the younger of Sudebury in the said county esquire William Bonyngton of Berewardecote in the said county esquire John Beryngton of the same place, gent ~~Henry Medeworth of Medeworth of the same county esquire~~ Ralph Maynwaryng of Longeford, esquire otherwise called Ralph Maynwaryng of Moberley in co. Chester esquire Christopher

Fouleshurst

* These words have been inserted in the middle of the words in which they occur.

Vernon

* Here the name of one person is entirely erased. There follows: Ralph Fitz Herberd of the same place esquire, scored through in ink.

Montgomery

Beryngton

- Bagshawe ..^f Bagshew of Tyddeswall co. Derby, yoman James Bondesdale of the same place yoman William Bette of Netherhaddon in the said county yoman Nicholas Bradeswawr son of Henry Bradshawe of Tiddeswall in the said county yoman Thomas Aleyn of Weston yoman John Chapman of Litle Hokelowe yoman Nicholas Bowedon of Bowedon yoman John Dykson of Whithalge yoman William Dykson yoman Hugh Sybson of Chapell yoman John Orme yoman Randolph Flecher of Combes yoman Robert Dyksone of Chapell, clerk William Hoggekynson of Wardlowe yoman William Gly of Monyasshe yoman John Godehyne yoman Thomas Tagge, yoman Roger Tagge of Tadyngton yoman Walter Merchyngton of le Chapell yoman John Bolyvant of Monyasshe Thomas Maryot of Staunton Hall Richard Cademan of Colley John Thomelynson of Mydelton next Yolgreve Roger Holyngworth of the same place John Smethley of the same place Nicholas Menyfold of Assheburn Robert Foxe of Monyasshe Thomas Worthe of Cheveley Martin Hall of Castelton ~~~~~ Oliuer Fournes of Hieghgge yomen, all of the said county Thomas Turnour of Burton co. Stafford John Barbour of the same place John Vypound of Hieghgge William Rolleston of Stewall, William Carter all of the said county yeomen John Colle of Nether Shayle in co. Leicester milner Robert Horne John Bolden of the same place William Cartwright Richard Frogett Robert Le of the said county yomen William Happer of Harlaston, co. Stafford John Mason John Hayewod of of co. Leicester Nicholas Bykar of Hynteon of the said county of Stafford yomen, Nicholas Mountgomery
- Hoggekynson
- Tagge
- Smethley
- ... rter

Smyth of Cubley the younger co. Derby esquire John Smyth^x
 of West Thomas Smyth^x Nicholas Smyth^f
 Sayne Thomas Sayne of Sudbury Thomas Hobeson of
 Dubrigge Robert Forman of Cubley Alexander
 Dampport of Nether Haddon Symon de le Stable
 Richard Downes Robert Bradshawe all these being
 yeomen, Ambrose Devyk of the same place
 Gentilman John Bolle of the same place William Wayne^{po se}
 of Alport in the said county yomen Thomas Masse of
 Offerton, gentilman John Caudrey of Assburne, cutler
 Thomas Dampport of the same place, merser Thomas
 Derby Barker, barker? Richard Smyth William Derby, glover
 William Ilome yoman N..... Henry Phyllypp
 bucher ~~Thomas Troche~~ yoman Thomas Persey bucher
 Robert Wodehous bocher Richard Bleuitt sowter
 Thomas Tryssley webster William Clerk sowter
 Adelyn William Adelyn smyth John Adelyn smyth Ralph
 Clark-Merchyngton Merchyngton draper Robert Ge-gose yoman John
 [name illegible] Smyth sowter John Kent glover Elias Boner Pyper
~~Thomas Tonge barker~~ John Mortymer, webster
 Nicholas Bradley bocher Robert Charleton yeoman
 Nicholas Monyfold yeoman William Londesdale,
 Wodehouse yeoman Richard Bate yeoman Richard Wodehouse
 junior bocher William Wotton bocher Richard
 h cart^d allo^c Lence yeoman Richard Parker yeoman Richard
 Bretener fryser Thomas Barton yeoman Nicholas
 Henster caryer John Smyth of Malefield yeoman
 John Cotton of Clyfton servant Richard Derby of
 Assheburn sowter Thomas Fryser yeoman John
 Cotton yeoman Thomas Smyth sowter Alan
 Barbour Barbour yeoman Adam Barre of Merston yoman
 Richard Corbrig yeoman Robert Forman yeoman

[One or two names illegible. Crossed through.]

[names illegible.] William Lynealls yeoman all of the same place Richard
 Turner of Assheburne yeoman Thomas Jonson of
 Snape Cubley yeoman Robert Snape yeoman John Corbet
 Lynials yeoman Henry Lynials yeoman Henry Bromflete
 Bromflete yeoman Henry Broun yeoman Richard Wylson of
 Broun Eveleysted yeoman^a William Webster of
 Wyaston yeoman John Clerke yeoman William Batell
 yeoman Thurstan de Assheton yeoman John Lyngarter
 yeoman all of the same place Patrick de Sudebury in the
 same county yeoman William Wryght of Campten Okes
 in the same county yeoman John Cantrell of Cubley
 yeoman John Hill de Rossyngton in the same county
~~yeoman John Hyde of the same place yeoman William
 Hyde yeoman John Petur of Norbury in the same
 county yeoman William Broun of Malefeld, yeoman
 Robert Mylner yeoman John Sutton of Snelleston in
 the same county yeoman Christopher Assheton of
 the same place yeoman William Aston of the same
 place yeoman Richard de Hayston in the said county~~
 yeoman John Michell yeoman John Taylor yeoman
 both of the same place John Broun of Nether Haddon
 in the same county Chaplain Richard Freman of
 Assheburne in the same county yeoman Mathew
 Tote wryght, John Tote knave Hugh Parker laborer
 William Parker laborer John Gaunt sherman John
 Mosley Elton Elton yeoman John Mosley yeoman Thomas Derby
 glouer John de Coventry yeoman John Hond of
 Bulclough Tyssynton yeoman Thomas Bulclough of Perewich
 yeoman Hancock Tomlynson yeoman all of the same
 Smalley place John Smalley of Assheburne taylour Robert
 ~~Vernon yeoman~~ Hugh Fenes sowter William Smyth
 yeoman Thomas Pede labourer John Gyles weyuer

all of the same place William Weyuer of Compenden
 in the same county weyuer Henry Rous vicar of
 the church of Dubbrigge in the same county chaplain
 Thomas Hobson yeoman John Mylner yeoman Henry
 Roosun yeoman John Shepard yeoman William Adam
 yeoman James Dekyn servant all of the same place
 Thomas Stele of Sudebury yeoman John Skynner of
 Merston Montgomery yeoman ^{* rebellis &} disturbers of the
 king's peace on Monday next before the feast of
 the Ascension of our Lord, in the thirty-second year
 of the reign of King Henry the Sixth after the
 Conquest, met and assembled together and formed
 divers companies in divers unlawful conventicles from
 the counties of Stafford, Leicester, Lancaster, Chester,
 and Derby, to the number of one thousand persons at
 the vill of Longford in the county of Derby, with
 force and arms, armed and arrayed in warlike
 manner, to wit, with defensive doublets (*diploidibus
 defensivis*), iron caps (*capis*), 'langedebocfez', bows
 and arrows, lances, with one pennon all of a red
 colour and with one guidon (*Giton*) of sanguine (*blodio*)
 and white colour, at that time spread and displayed
 in the field there, and with other arms as are
 required in a land at war, contrary to the form of
 the statutes published on that subject, and to the
 crown and dignity of our said Lord the King, and
 to the law of England and to the good peace of this
 Kingdom, falsely and vilely confederated and conspired
 to destroy Walter Blount, esquire, his friends, servants
 and tenants, and that they, the aforesaid disturbers of
 the peace of the Lord the King, for the fulfilment of
 this evil purpose, would ride with all the company

...eller Roossum
 Shepard

Dekyn

Stele Skynner
 *[insurrectores].

* rebellis &
 [sic]

aforesaid, arrayed in manner aforesaid, on the morrow of the said Monday, to the vill of Derby, and then and there would lay waste and pull down (*devastarent et delapidarent*) a dwelling-house belonging to William Orme, servant of the said Walter Blount, and would spoil his goods. And also that they would enter with the force and arms aforesaid into a dwelling-place (*habitationem*) of the said Walter in the house of the Order of Friars Preachers at Derby, and then and there spoil the goods of the said Walter, and put to death the men and servants of the said Walter found there and in the said vill of Derby. And that from that place the aforesaid disturbers of the peace of the Lord the King would ride to the vill of Aielwaston, arrayed in form aforesaid, in manner and form aforesaid, to the manor of the said Walter at Aielwaston aforesaid, and would beat and put to death the men and servants of the same Walter found there, and would spoil his goods found there. And all the aforesaid malefactors pledged themselves, one to another, to carry out the said unlawful purpose and conspiracy in form aforesaid, and also to stand together as one man, as well in the matters aforesaid and the expenses thereof as in all insurrections and all other chances that might fortune, against the said Walter Blount, his kinsmen, friends, servants and tenants, each swearing with an oath by the faith of his body to keep that conspiracy firmly for his own part, against the crown and dignity of the Lord the King aforesaid.

Moreover, the aforesaid jurors say that all the afore-

said disturbers of the peace of the Lord the King, arrayed in manner and form aforesaid, rose up (*insurrexerunt*) together at the said vill of Longeford on the Tuesday next before the said Feast of the Ascension of our Lord, in the said thirty-second year, and took their way in divers routs and conventicles in riotous wise, arrayed in form aforesaid, with tabors and trumpets blowing, to the said vill of Derby in the said county; and they entered the said vill of Derby on the same day, and [repaired] to the dwelling-place of the said Walter Blount in the house of the Order of Friars Preachers there, and then and there made an assault upon Edmund White, a brother of that house, and beat, wounded and ill-treated the same Edmund, and rode in a body to the 'marketplace' of the same vill, in the which place Sir John Gresley, Knight, sheriff of the counties of Nottingham and Derby, caused a public proclamation to be made, in the hearing of the aforesaid disturbers of the peace of the Lord the King, of a commission of the Lord the King for keeping the peace, and also a letter of assistance (*litteram assistenc̃*) of the most excellent Prince Richard, Duke of York, Protector and Defender of the Kingdom of England and of the English Church, directed to the said sheriff; and he bade them, in the name of the aforesaid Lord the King and of the Protector and Defender aforesaid, to obey the proclamation aforesaid and to keep the peace against all the people of the Lord the King, under the appointed penalties. The which proclamation all the aforesaid disturbers of the peace then and there

[sic]

despised and disobeyed, saying that no lord, ~~the King's person only excepted,~~ and no sheriff or servant of the Lord the King, should be their governor, or prevent them from carrying out the deed they purposed. And so all those aforesaid disturbers of the peace of the Lord the King, paying no heed to the command of the Lord the King conveyed to them by the sheriff, or to the law of England, on the said Tuesday in the year aforesaid, after the proclamation aforesaid had been made, as rebels and violators of the peace of the Lord the King, rode to the vill of Aylewaston in the county aforesaid, and there broke down the closes and houses of the aforesaid Walter, and broke to pieces and destroyed all the doors, fittings ^{bolts} ^(*ceras*) [(Cenas)], windows, standards, tables and forms, in the said manor of the same Walter then and there being, and also with their swords and knives cut and tore to pieces three pieces of "Tappestre Werke," charged with the arms of the said Walter, hanging in the hall of the manor aforesaid, of the goods and chattels of the aforesaid Walter, saying in the English tongue: "For that seyde Walter Blount was gone to serve Traytours: therefore his armus shall thus be quartered"; And moreover they broke into the chambers of the said Walter in the said manor, and broke all the chests then and there being in them, and wrenched the locks of the same, and tore up and destroyed divers evidences and court rolls and accounts of the same Walter there; and spoiled two dozen cushions charged with the arms of the said Walter and with the arms of Sir John Byron, Knight, of the

goods of the said Walter, and cut them through and slit them with their knives and swords, and cut them into little pieces. And they also pierced, spoiled and destroyed all the sheets, covers, blankets, 'fustyans,' 'naprye,' and other goods of the said Walter then being there, with their swords and daggers, and brought them to naught contrary to the peace. And they then and there spoiled, contrary to the peace of the King aforesaid, a pipe and a half of red wine and a barrel of 'Rumpney,'¹ and divers vessels full of ale, of the goods of the said Walter, and battered the said barrels to pieces with their clubs; and took and carried away two lances and two crossbows there, contrary to the peace of the Lord the King aforesaid. And in the making and doing of all and singular the abovesaid insurrections, rebellions, unlawful conventicles, meetings, assemblies, gatherings, conspiracies, confederacies, routs, riots, and false plottings, in form aforesaid, John Cursun of Keston the elder, in the county of Derby, esquire, ~~Nicholas Fitzharbert of Norbury in the same county, esquire, and Thomas Folgeam of Walton in the same [blank], esquire,~~ on the said Tuesday next before the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord, in the thirty-second year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth after the Conquest, at Longford and Derby aforesaid, in the county aforesaid, were [altered to was] aiding, counselling, comforting, supporting and abetting, to the abovesaid disturbers of the peace of the Lord the King, and all the premises were done by their [or his] precept and command contrary to

Cursun

¹ Or Romney, "Wine of Romania," somewhat like Malmsey.—*Prof. A. W. Skeat.*

the peace of the Lord the King aforesaid, on the day, in the year and at the place aforesaid.

[Endorsed :—]

By William Ireland and his associates, in addition to John Rolston, esquire, and Henry Rolston, gent.

Taken at Derby in the county of Derby on Monday next after the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul in the thirty-second year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth, before Richard, Duke of York, John, Earl of Shrewsbury, Richard Byngham and Ralph Pole, Justices of the Lord the King, appointed to enquire in the county of Derby, and in divers other counties, cities and vills, concerning all treasons, insurrections, felonies, trespasses, and divers other articles specified in the letters patent of the Lord the King to them directed, done or perpetrated by all persons soever, and to hear and determine the same treasons, insurrections, felonies, trespasses and other articles aforesaid, as well at the suit of the Lord the King as of all other persons soever wishing to prosecute before the aforementioned justices on behalf of the King or of themselves.