



Chester in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries; being Notes on a number of recently discovered Documents relating to the City, dating from the year 1178

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THE documents here printed appear to be a portion of the muniments of the family of Erneys, an ancient Chester family, which eventually ended in an heiress, who carried the lands and these Charters which referred to the lands, into the family of Norris of Speke. In the 16th Century one of the Astons, of Aston near Frodsham, married a daughter of the house of Speke, and as part of her dowry these Chester lands seem to have gone. From the time they were carried from Speke to Aston Hall until the present day these Charters do not appear to have been handled, except, possibly, by Sir Peter Leycester, when compiling his "Antiquities of Cheshire." Through the kindness of Mr. Hervey Talbot of Aston Hall, who is the lineal descendant and representative of the Astons, I have had the privilege of examining and transcribing some of them, and short abstracts in English will be here found printed. The originals are now safely housed in the British Museum, where they are being arranged and catalogued.

The documents are of very great interest, and constitute a practically unique collection, so far as the City of Chester is concerned, since nearly 100 of them relate to lands and houses in Chester of a date prior to the year 1300; and many of these are between the years 1178 and 1250, a period which, at present, is nearly a blank in the history of Chester.

Another feature which renders them of great value is the fact that, in many cases, the original Seals are still attached, and in a beautiful state of preservation. Several of these relate to monastic institutions in the City, and were unknown to the compilers of the Catalogue of Seals at the British Museum; and some, apparently, have never been seen, or at all events recorded, by antiquaries before.

It would be obviously impossible within the compass of this paper to even begin to draw attention to the various points of interest in each Charter. It is scarcely an exaggeration to say that material for a complete article lies in each one of the first five. Especial mention, however, may be made of No. I. (reproduced here in facsimile) and No. V., with its wonderful list of seventy witnesses.

While this paper was in the press, my attention has been drawn to a collection of early Chester Deeds relating to St. Mary's Nunnery, which are printed in the Volume of Patent Rolls for 1399-1401, just issued from the Stationery Office. These are of the utmost value as bearing on a number of the Charters here printed, and any student working at this period should not fail to consult them, in conjunction with the documents which follow.

Dugo Com̄ Cestē. ḡstat. Dap̄t. Justic. ⁊ Omnib⁹ Baroib⁹ Jus. Vicecom. Toib⁹ Bail
suis. ⁊ univers⁹ hoib⁹ suis franc⁹ ⁊ anglis. tā p̄sentib⁹ q̄m futis s̄at. Scias me de
dusse ⁊ concessisse ⁊ hac p̄sentia carta mea ḡfirmasse pacano nepoti. Sold. ⁊ hereditib⁹ suis
in feudo ⁊ in hereditate ad tenend⁹ de me ⁊ de hereditib⁹ meis terrā que fuit Landri
q̄m pagani n̄c tenent. ⁊ que est inter terrā hary ⁊ Will fit holdes. libere. ⁊ q̄ere
reddendo annuatim. xvi. s. p̄ oī seruo. Tuolo ⁊ firmi p̄cipio qd̄ id̄ pagani sit lib
customari⁹ ex hac terrā ⁊ heredit sui p̄ ipm. ⁊ habeat plenariā ḡsuetudinariā libertate.
in feudo ⁊ hereditate. ⁊ q̄antam a thelonis. a p̄sonib⁹ capiendis ⁊ rediendis. a n̄anis
capiendis. a breuib⁹ portandis. a uiciliis noctis faciendis. ⁊ ab oib⁹ h̄modi ḡsuetudinib⁹
⁊ ḡratuob⁹ sic aliis cuius meos ubi sit ḡsuetudinariā libertate in tota ciuitate mea.
Teste Robt̄ at̄te Cest̄. ⁊ Robt̄ ḡstat. Will p̄ate. Alwido decubali. Rad. fil. Warr.
Ric. de Luueter. Tomā dispensatore. frum̄b. S. R. d̄ford. Bertram. Cam. Will. Cetero.
⁊ multis alijs.

Since I have occasion to differ from Canon Morris more than once in these pages, as to the years in which certain Mayors and Sheriffs filled their offices, I feel it only right to speak of the great debt which I, in common with all workers at Chester history, owe to Canon Morris for his invaluable book on *Plantagenet and Tudor Chester*. It is only, in the nature of things, that later discoveries should, occasionally, throw fresh light on this still very obscure period.

I. Hugh Earl of Chester¹ to his Constable, Seneschal, Justiciar and all his Barons, sheriffs and all his bailiffs and to all his men both French and English, as well present as future Greeting. Know ye that I have given granted and by this my present charter confirmed to Pagan nephew (*nepoti*) of Isold and his heirs in fee and in heredity to hold of me and of my heirs the land which belonged to Lander, which Pagan the Sheriff held and which is between the land of Harn and the land of William son of Holdebur freely and quietly rendering annually XVI peuce for all services And I will and firmly decree that the said Pagan shall be free customary tenant (*liber costumarius*) for that land and his heirs after him, and that he have full customary liberty in fee and in heredity with quittance from toll, from taking and guarding prisoners from taking distresses, from carrying writs, from doing night watch and from all other customs and vexations that he may have all customary liberties in all my city as freely as any of my citizens. Witness Robert Abbot of Chester² and John the Constable,³ William Patric,⁴ Alwred de Cumbrai,⁵ Ralph fitz

¹ Hugh Kyveliok succeeded his father in December 1153, at which time he was a minor. The Pipe Rolls show that his lands were held in farm of the Crown down to 1162. He is said, in the *Annales Cestrienses*, to have been born as late as 1147. He was imprisoned for rebellion 1173-7; and died 1181.

² Robert, Abbot, 1175-1184.

³ John de Lacy, 1172-1190.

⁴ William Patric, witness to Earl Hugh's grant to Nuns of Bolinton, (*Ormerod, Helsby, Vol. I., p. 27*; see also footnote, p. 31). Also witness to Charter 1200-2 (*Morris, p. 481*).

⁵ Witness Earl Hugh's Charter (*Ormerod., Vol. I., footnote p. 31*).

Warner,⁶ Richard de Luvetot,⁷ Thomas Dispenser⁸ (*Dispensator*), Frumbald de Ridford,⁹ Bertram Chamberlain¹⁰ (*Camerarius*), William the Clerk¹¹ and many others.

[Seal gone; traces shew it to have been 2 inches in diameter. Document $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches long \times 7 inches wide].

II. M[ary] prioress and the humble Convent of [c. 1200]. Holy Nuns of Chester to all sons of the Holy Mother Church etc. greeting. Know that we have granted etc to Gilbert Lombesfot and Leceline his wife and their heirs that messuage [*masura terrae*] in the Parish of St. Peters which is between the messuage [*masura*] of Thurstan the son of John and the messuage [*masura*] of Gunware which Linild the wife of Baldwin held, in fee etc Rendering to God and St. Mary and to us annually 4 shillings in silver—at the Nativity and the Nativity of St. John in equal portions. Witnesses, R. Prior of Birkenhead [*Bircheveth*], Andrew the chaplain of St. Peters, Ralph Saracen, Rualt, Randle Dubeldai, William son of Alan, Robert son of Arnewei, Hamo son of With, William son of Walter of the Venell [*de Venela*], Nicholas son of Robert, Thomas his brother, Robert son of Raynold, William the Clerk son of Robert, Austin [*Augustinus*] of St. Peter, John the Clerk of St. Mary, Philip Lombesfot, John Lombesfot, and others.

[Large oval seal, in green wax; + SIGILL ECELESIE MO + NIALIS CESTRIE]. See No. 1 on Plate of Seals.

⁶ Witness to Earl Hugh's Charter of Prestbury to St. Werburgh's (*Ormerod*, Helsby, Vol. I., p. 27).

⁷ One of Randle Gernons arbitrators in dispute with Earl of Leicester, 1151 (*Ormerod*, Vol. I., p. 23).

⁸ Witness to sundry City Charters (see *Morris*, p. 481-2).

⁹ Frumbald, witness to Earl Hugh's Charter (*Ormerod*, Vol. I., p. 27).

¹⁰ Bertram Chamberlain, witness to Earl Hugh's Charter (*Ormerod*, Vol. I., p. 27).

¹¹ William the Clerk, witness to Earl Hugh's Charter (*Ormerod*, Vol. I., p. 27).



No. 1, Page 16, II.



No. 2, Page 28, XXIII.



No. 3, Page 18, IV.



No. 4, Page 18, IV.

III. Sciant etc. Thomas son of Richard son of Ralph [c. 1220]. grants to John son of Norman for 14½ marks in silver four shops against [*contra*] the Church of St. Peter, namely those towards the Church of St. Werburgh. Rendering annually to grantor 4d. at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, With freedom to alienate without licence. Witnesses Philip de Orreby¹ then Justiciar of Chester, Stephan Frenelle then Sheriff of Chester,² William the Clerk, Ralph Saracen, Germain Dubeldey, Robert son of Erney [*H'nis*], Bertram Mercer, Luke son of Norman, William son of Norman, and others.

[Small round seal, in green wax; four heads of eared-corn, arranged cross-wise, with lanceolate leaves alternating; legend, + S' THOME F' RICARD].

IV. Universis etc. Hugh³ etc Abbot of Chester [c. 1225]. etc. grant to Simon son of William of Spalding [*Spaldinges*] three bovates of land in the vill of Morsetun, two bovates which Orm the Chamberlain held and one bovate which Swein held with all appurtenances etc and one messuage in Chester against [*contra*] the gate of St. Werburgh, which Richard of Grendon [*Grendun*] held. Rendering annually to the house of St. Werburgh⁴ half a mark of silver at two terms, viz. S.S. Peter and Paul and St. Martin. Witnesses, Hugh the Subprior, William of Wallasey [*de Waley*], Robert of Weston [*de West'*], Thomas of Chedle [*de Chelleia*], Roger Frend,⁴ Philip de Orreby then Justiciar, Peter the Clerk, Richard the Sheriff,⁵ Master Alar the Official, Master John of St. Mary, Master Hugh the Younger [*Juvene*], Robert of Pinchbeck [*de Pincebec*], Richard Swineherd [*Porcarius*], Gilbert son of Geoffrey, and others.

[Two vesica-shaped seals: (I) a figure of St. Werburgh in grave-cloths, legend, SIGILLVM: SANTE: [WERB]VRGE:

¹ He appears to have been Justiciar between the years 1209 and 1228 (*Ormerod*, Vol. I., p. 61).

² Canon Morris mentions this Sheriff as *inter* 1202-31.

³ Hugh Grylle, Abbot of Chester from 1208 to 1226.

⁴ Roger Frend was a monk, and eventually became Abbot 1240-1249.

⁵ Richard the Sheriff—probably Richard Pierpont, Sheriff of Cheshire.

VIRGINIS; (2) an Abbot, legend, SIGILLVM HVGONIS. ABBATIS CESTR[IE?] secretum, a classical gem, legend, + GRACIA DEI SVM ID QVOD SVM].⁶ See Nos. 5, 3, and 4 on Plate of Seals.

V. Notum sit etc. Adam son of Hamon son of [c. 1225]. Herbert the Skinner [*Pelli Parii*] of Chester [*in Cestria*] quitclaims in full Portmoot to Nicholas son of Herbert and his heirs all his lands within the walls of Chester and outside for three marks of silver given in hand. Witnesses, Philip de Orrebi then justiciar of Chester, P[eter] the Clerk, Chancellor of the Earl, Richard then sheriff, Richard of Rochester [*de Rouchist' or Roucherist*], Bertram the Chamberlain, Anketil [*Hancketin*] of Pulford, Hamo son of With, Athelard of Lundris, Martin of Rhuddlan [*Ruthelen*], William de Bello campo, Hugh son of Jan, John Person, Robert Bras, Roger Harre, William the Clerk, Hugh son of Buchard, William Oxford [*Ox'n*], Andrew Russel, Nicholas of Kent, Hugh Kibus, Alan son of Roald, Bertram his brother, John de Wicc' [?], Hugh son of the Priest [*Sac'd'*], Toui, Roger Person [*P'son*], Roger the Smith, Robert son of Herward, Richard of Bamville [*de Pamvile*], John the Goldsmith [*Aurifab'*], William Mercer [*Mercen'*], William Slop' [?], Hugh son of Ralph, Luloth, Adam the Chaplain, Jermain and William his brother, Hugh Stape, John the Clerk, Thomas the Clerk, Brice and Andrew his brother, Simon of Kend, William son of Andrew, Thurstan son of Oscot, Geoffrey son of Massel', Robert son of Thurstan Duke [*Duc*], Richard his brother, Richard son of Pain, John son of the Northman [*Northm'*] and William his brother, Gregory Galioch, Fulk, Hamelin, Roger Caiep [?], Daniel, Hugh Wolf [*Lupus*], Bertram the Clerk, Robert Clerk of Kirkeby, Richard Clerk of Heswall [*Heslewalle*], Gregory of Kent, Simon Phales, Suan the Clerk, Jan Pec, Thomas the Clerk of Hawarden⁷ [?], William the White Baker [*albo Furner*],

⁶ The legend on the Secretum is from the Vulgate, 1 Cor. xv., 10; the full text is *Gratia autem Dei sum id quod sum*.

⁷ This entry is obscure, and runs: *Thoma cler Har' or Bar'*. It may be either Thomas the Clerk of Hawarden or of Barrow; or it may even be that there should be a full stop between *cler* and the next word, in which case it should read as two separate names: Thomas the Clerk and Bar. or Har.

William Sadler of Shrewsbury [*Seler' de Slopsb'*], Andrew son of Herbert, Robert son of Simon, Richard son of Philip. And so that this quit claim may stand etc I have placed my seal and at the same time Richard the Sheriff aforesaid has impressed his.

[Seal in green wax, about the size of a four shilling piece; the central circle is occupied with a cross, composed of four ears of wheat, joined in centre with a small circular ornament; the four blank spaces are each filled with three dots; legend + SIGILLV ADE: FILII: HAMOIS: The secretum, a bird (?cock) standing on a goblet; legend + SIGILL RICARDI CLI DE PERPON¹].

VI. Universis etc.² Nicholas Sarazen son of Robert [c. 1230]. Sarazen grants to Sarlin of Winchester his land in Gose lane next to the land of Andrew son of Warin which contains in front [*in fronte*] 48 feet and in length [*in longitudine*] 60. Render 5/- annually. Witnesses, Richard the Sheriff of Chester, Ralph Sarazen the younger [*Radulfo Jun' Sarazen'*], Richard son of Ralph, Hugh his brother, Hugh Buchard, Hudard son of Matthew, Robert son of Heduin, "Maliracio Kodd" [?], John Lodi, Alexander son of Picot, Roger the Smith [*fabro*] and his son Simon, Roger the Clerk and others.

VII. Sciant etc. Agnes wife of Robert of Oxford [c. 1230]. [*de Oxonia*] in liege poustey quitclaims in full portmote of Chester to Richard son of Ernise all her lands in Chester which Robert of Oxford her husband sold to grantee viz. the land which lies between the land of Bertram Mercer and the land of Guy the Pilgrim [*Ido Pelerin*]. Witnesses, Frednell then sheriff of Chester, Richard de Kegworth [*Cagwr'*], Master Hugh, Robert Bras, Roger Herre,

¹ The lettering of this inscription is noticeable. Extended it should read *Sigillum Richardi (clerici) de Perpont*. The introduction of the word *clericus* after the christian name, instead of after the surname, is unusual.

² This charter is from the Moore Collection, now in the possession of the Liverpool Corporation.

William the Clerk, Thomas the Chamberlain, Robert son of Ernise, Robert son of Robert son of Ernwey, Andrew his brother, Bertram Mercer, Raynold Bras, Robert de Hokenhull, Roger the Smith, Walter Buchard, Hugh son of Andrew Gardin, then Judges of the Portmote of Chester, Basset the Clerk, and others.

[Round seal, in white wax (broken), bearing in the centre either an eagle with wings elevated, or a griffin passant regardant].

VIII. Sciant etc. Simon son of Elene daughter of [c. 1230]. Francis Balle grants to Hugh de Lecy citizen of Chester a messuage in Chester lying between the messuage which belonged to John son of Nicholas Orne[?] and the messuage which belonged to Austin [*Augustinus*] son of Ivo [*Yvonis*]. Rendering annually to grantor one pair of white gloves or an halfpenny at Easter, doing the services due and accustomed to Sir Henry de Audley [*Alditheleg*]. For this grant he gave to the said Hugh six marks of silver and a half and one tunic [*tunica*]. Witnesses, Stephen Frednel then Sheriff, Hamo the Seneschall [*Dispensator*] then his fellow,¹ Philip the Clerk, Sir Henry de Audley, Robert de Rithale[?], William the Clerk, Robert son of Ernis, Richard his brother, Simon de Kent, Nicholas his brother, Robert son of Thurstan, Walter Buchart, Ralph son of the Sheriff[?], Roger the Clerk and others.

[Circular seal, in green wax, a fleur-de-lys; legend SIGILL SIMONIS FIL ELINE]. See No. 6 on Plate of Seals.

IX. Sciant etc. Laurence the Younger [*Junior*] sells [c. 1230]. for three marks in silver to William Saracen his land in Chester lying between the land of the said William and the land of the Nuns and Gerrards lane² [*Gerardislon*']. Paying annually to the Abbot of Chester

¹ We have here the earliest example hitherto known of two Sheriffs.

² Gerards lane was, roughly speaking, parallel with Northgate Street, behind the Town Hall.



No. 5, Page 18, IV.



No. 6, Page 20, VIII.



No. 7, Page 34, XXXIII.



See No. 8 in List of Seals
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14 pence in silver at the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle. Witnesses, Stephan Frenell [*Fres'*] then Sheriff of Chester, William the Clerk, Hamund Herre, Master Thurstan, Geoffrey the Clerk, and others.

[Small round seal, in green wax, a star of eight points; legend + SGIL LAVRENCII IVVENIS].

X. To all sons of the Holy Mother Church to whom [c. 1240].¹ these presents may come Brother Roger, then Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Chester without the Northgate, and the Brethren there serving God send greeting in the Lord. Know all men that we by the common counsel and consent of our chapter have given and conceded and by this our present charter confirmed to William de Bacfort, son of Adam the Parson, and his heirs our land which we have by the gift of Sir Adam de Gerstan for his homage and service—to wit the messuage of Edric son of Auel and the croft appertaining thereto and one croft in which are five acres which extend unto the lord's meadow and the moiety of the fishery which is between the fishery of Robert son of Thurstan and the fishery of Thurb. To have and to hold etc., rendering annually twelve pence in silver at St. Martin. Witnesses, Adam de Gerstan, Adam de Aynull' (probably Aynull[vesdale]), Alan de Mosse, Richard de Liuerpul, Henry de Thorint[on], Richard de Bikerstat, Adam the Clerk of Bacfort, and many others.

[Contemporary endorsement] Charter of the Prior of the Hospital of Chester concerning the land of Gerstan made to W. de Bacforde.

[Attached to the deed is a fine impression of the Convent seal (see No. 11 on Plate of Seals), including the lamb and cross within a circle, held in the Saint's right hand, as shewn in Canon Morris's book ("Plantagenet Chester," p. 154). Fortunately the inscription

¹ A reference to the Coucher Book of Whalley, p. 578, shews this same charter, which is followed on p. 580 by a confirmation of a subsequent grant of the same land made by William de Backford, dated 1240. It is clear, therefore, that this charter must be earlier than 1240; probably, however, only a year or two.

is better preserved in this impression, and reads as follows : SIGILL SANCTI IOH[ANNIS] HOPIT: CES[TRIE]— between the last two words the circle containing the lamb is intruded].

XI. Sciant etc. Thomas son of Thomas Kyde quit-claims to Gilbert de Spalding all his land in Chester in the venal leading towards the Grange of the Abbot and Convent of St. Werburgh in Chester on the south side [*versus australi*] lying between the land which belonged to Richard son of Pagan and the land which belonged to John the Bailiff of Blacon [*Blakene*]. Consideration three marks. Witnesses, William the Clerk, German Dubelday, William Saracen, Thomas Chamberlain, Robert son of Ernise, Randle of Oxford [*Oxonia*], Walter of Coventry, Roger son of Fulk, William Bercio [?], Alexander Herre, Guy [*Wydo*] son of Hamo, John son of Osgot, William of St. Botolph, and many others.

[Round seal, in green wax; a fleur-de-lys; legend, + S' TOME FIL TOME KYDE].

XII. Sciant etc. Henry Sacristan¹ [*Secrista*] of Chester, chaplain grants to Alice sister of Robert Kel a certain burgage in the vill of Chester without the walls, viz that which lies in breadth between the land of John Hurkel and the land of Cecilia Consuterti [?] and in length from the foss of Chester wall [*a fossato muri Cestrie*]² to the road which leads from the East Gate towards the Church of St. John to hold to herself and her heirs begotten between her and William the Tailor [*Cissor*] grantors son, with remainder in case of default to said Alice and her right heirs. Rendering to grantor annually one pair of white gloves at the Feast of Nativity of St. John Baptist and to the House of St. Mary's Nuns in Chester three shillings in silver at two

¹ Henry Secrista', perhaps the Sacristan of St. John's [see Matilda de la Hay's Charter, c. 1256].

² Foss of Chester Wall. Canon Morris says this refers to the foss dug during the Barons' War.

terms viz. 18d. at Christmas and 18d. at Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, William the Clerk, Germain Dubilday, Randle of Oxford, Robert son of Erneys [*Hernicii*], Walter son of Bochard, Henry Henit' [?] of Middlewich, Nigel the Palmer [*Palmifero*], Richard le Mynur, Robert le Porter, Hugh son of Walter, Robert Thowe, Roger son of Fulk, and others.

[Seal gone].

XIII. Sciant etc. Gilbert Pigot son of William Pigot [*c.* 1240]. grants to John son of John son of Norman all that land that lies between Bereward Lone and the land of Geoffrey Mazelin in the City of Chester for 10/-. Rendering annually 12d. at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, Stephen Freynel then Sheriff of Chester, William the Clerk, German Dubelday, Walter Pincel, Robert son of Ernis, Bassett the Clerk, Roger son of Fulk the Clerk, and others.

[¹Small round seal, in green wax; full diam. $1\frac{7}{16}$ in.; a beast (either a talbot, lion, or wolf) passant sinister, a crescent in chief; legend, + SIGILL
. . . GOT].

XIV. Sciant etc. Adam Mustel² demises to Ronulph [*c.* 1250]. of Esseburne [?] clerk half a messuage in Chester etc. which other half R[onduph] himself holds of Sir William de Cortenay and Joan his wife, viz. which lies between the messuage of Henry Byberinenlis and that of Laurence Young [*Juvenis*]. Rendering 5/- in silver at two terms (St Michael and Easter) for all duties and customs etc except rent of fair booths etc. Witnesses Sir Henry Mustel, Peter of Stapley [*de Stapelleya*], Walter Lineth³ of Chester, Richard the Clerk, John Urkel then Sheriff of Chester, John le Noble, Robert de Wyco.

¹ This seal is designed with much freedom, and the beast has a long tail, gracefully curved.

² Under Egerton Family ("Cheshire Visitation," 1580, *Rylands*, p. 92), Adam Mustel occurs temp. H. 3, as holding lands in Nantwich.

³ Though it is not so stated, this Walter Lineth or Lynnett was no doubt Mayor of Chester, with Richard the Clerk and John Urkel as Sheriffs.

[Small round seal, in green wax; ten roundels (4, 3, 2, and 1); legend, + S . . . M. DE: MVS . . .].
See No. 10 on Plate of Seals.

XV. Omnibus etc. Robert son of Matthew with the
[1251]. consent of his wife and his heirs demises to
Cicely Godeweith a certain piece of land in
Chester lying between the land of Walter Pointel and the
land of Hugh of Hoole [*de Hole*] in "Estgate strete" for a term
beginning at Michaelmas A.G. 1251¹ for two marks of silver,
and ending at Easter next following. Witnesses Robert the
Wise Mercer [*le p' de m'cer*],² Stephen Saracen, then Sheriffs
of Chester, Randle of Oxford [*de Oxonia*], then Chamberlain,
Randle Dumbleday, John son of Hurkil, John of Newcastle,
Richard Pain, Alexander Herre, and others.

[Seal gone].

XVI. Sciant etc. John son of Thurstan son of Lece
[c. 1255]. grants to Yseude formerly wife of Peter Colefox
widow all his part in that land which Thurstan
son of Lece left to Alice his daughter and which after the
death of the said Alice was divided by final concord between
grantor and Geoffrey son of Robert son of Thurstan, viz that
part which lies between the land which belonged to Ralph
Harper [*Citharedus*] and the land which belonged to Lece wife

¹ This is the first dated charter in the series, and the date may be fixed with confidence as being a few days before Michaelmas 1251. We are thus able to definitely supply the names of two Sheriffs earlier than any hitherto existing.

² The name is a curious one. Elsewhere it occurs *in extenso*, and is Robert le Prude Mercer. This has been translated by some as the Proud Mercer, an impossible rendering, *Prude*, at this time, having the signification of *wise*, *discreet*, or *great*, but not *proud*. He is probably identical with the Robert le Mercer and Robert Mercenarius who occurs frequently for the next thirty or forty years. Mercenarius has also been mistranslated by former writers, being rendered "the Mercenary." *Du Cange*, however, shows that *mercenarius* is only another form of *Mercurius* and *Mercator*. In the *Annales Cestriensis* (Rec. Soc., Vol. XIV., p. 86), is a curious reference to this Sheriff, where he is called *quisdam maledictus nomine Roberti Merceri tunc vicecomes civitatis*, because he urged the pulling down of certain houses belonging to St. Werburgh, in Bog Lane, as a step in the defence of the city.



See No. 9 in List of Seals
(at end of Paper)



No. 10, Page 24, XIV.



No. 11, Page 21, X.

of Robert son of Simon. Paying 3d. annually to the Chief Lords and 4/4 to the Nuns of Chester. Consideration 2 marks and 4od. Witnesses, Richard the Clerk then Mayor, Robert Mercer and Stephen Saracen, Sheriffs, Robert Harald, William Freinelle, Richard Colefox, Thomas de Linch [?], William Painter [*Pictor*], Alexandre Harre.

[Circular seal, in brown wax; an eagle, statant regardant, with one wing extended; legend, S: IOH: FIL: TVRSTANI].

XVII. Sciant etc. Matilda formerly wife of John son of Thurstan son of Lece in pure widowhood quitclaims to Lady Yseude wife of William Pinson [*Pi'cu'*] all lands which John her husband and Geoffrey Corin sold to the said Yseude in "Norgatestrete" in Chester, and which land lies between the land which belonged to John Grund and the land which belonged to John Arnway [*Erniwei*]. Witnesses, Richard the Clerk¹ then Mayor of Chester, Richard de Orebi and Robert Mercer [*M'cer'*] then sheriffs, Philip the Clerk, Robert Harald, Hugh Cardi, Alexander Harre, and others.

[Seal gone].

XVIII. Universis etc. Lady [*Domina*] Matilda de la Hay prioress of the Holy Nuns of Chester and the Convent etc. grant to William son of Henry the Chaplain formerly sacristan of the Church of St. John in Chester for his homage and service a certain plot of land in St. John Street Chester with all buildings etc. lying between the land of John Ulkel and the land of Warin son of Halden which Wiht Palmer gave to us with Eva his daughter. Rendering annually three shillings in silver at the 2 terms, viz. the Nativity and the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, William the Clerk² Mayor of Chester, William Sarazen, Ger-

¹ We have again here a Mayor and two Sheriffs who do not appear in Canon Morris' list. If this list can be relied on, the date of the above charter must be before 1256, from which date the list is complete.

² According to Canon Morris William Clerk was Mayor about 1251.

main Doubleday [*Dubbeld'*], Andrew son of Hurel, Robert his brother, Robert Bussel, Dimoc son of Brice, Raynold son of Raynold the Smith, and others.

[Large vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; virgin and child; legend, CONVEN LIVM CESTRIE].³

XIX. ⁴Omnibus etc. Hugh de Len grants to Dore daughter of Robert son of Erneys [*Hernisii*] for her homage etc all that land in Eastgate Street [*in vico orientali*] in Chester which grantor bought of Simon son of Helen lying between the land which belonged to Austin [*Augustinus*] son of Ivo [*Yvonis*] and the land which belonged to John Blund. Rendering annually to Sir Hugh de Audley [*Alditheleg*] and his heirs 12d. in silver and to grantor's heirs a pair of white gloves or one halfpenny. Witnesses, Sir William the Clerk then Mayor of Chester, Adam Vintner [*Vinit'*] then Sheriff, German Dobeldai, Randle of Oxford [*de Oxon'*], Roger son of Fulk, Robert son of Erneaway, Bertram of Shrewsbury [*de Salopisbury*], Robert son of Thurstan, Walter Buchard, Walter of Coventry, Richard and Gilbert Saracen, Simon of Kent, Nicholas his brother, John Blund, Richard son of Erneys [*Hernise*], Pagan of Bucklow [*de Boclow'*], Bertram the Clerk, Alexander Harre [*H're*], and others.

[Seal small round, in green wax; an animal passant; legend, SIGIL: HVGONIS DE LEN].

XX. ⁵Sciant etc. Wymarc formerly wife of John Tailor [*Cissor*] in pure widowhood etc. grants to Hugh Tailor [*Cissor*] half her house, that half nearer the land of Ralph Harding which lies behind the selda⁶ of John Grund, in length from the said selda to the house where he lives 27 feet clear [*pedes palpatos*] and if the said

³ A poor example of the second seal of the Convent.

⁴ Compare Charter No. XXIX., dated 1274.

⁵ Compare Charter No. XXVII.

⁶ For the meaning of *selda*, see this Journal, Vol. VIII. N.S., p. 51.

Wymarc at the fair of St. Michael throw down the wall, within the wall six and a half feet in length. Consideration 6½ marks. Rendering annually to grantor ½d. at the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, 7 Richard the Clerk then Mayor of Chester, Stephen Saracen, John Hulkel then Sheriffs, Bertram of Shrewsbury [*de slop'bur*], Robert the Mercer, John Faund [?].

[Vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; an eight-pointed star; legend, + S' WIMARC FIL: ROBERTI].

[Endorsed Carte de t're Wymarci le Taylur; contemporary endorsement].

XXI. Sciant etc. Margery Faukes quitclaims to [c. 1260]. Richard of Rhuddlan [*de Ruthelan*] citizen of Chester all her right to that land which Luce her daughter gave to the said Richard, viz the land which lies next the land of Beatrice daughter of Pagan in Eastgate Street [*in magno vico orientali*] in Chester. Witnesses, 8 Richard the Clerk and Gilbert Marescall then Sheriffs, Walter de Coventre, Randle of Oxford [*de Oxon'*], Robert the Mercer, Robert of Hoole, Simon of Kent, Hugh Cardi, Alexander Harre, and others.

[Vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; a floral design; legend, ERIE SPELL . . .].

XXII. Sciant etc. Robert son of Robert son of Simon [c. 1260]. grants to Walter Brian certain land in "Norgate strete" lying between the land of John Blund and the land of Robert Tailor [*Talliatoris*] opposite the city gate of St. Werburgh. Rendering annually to grantor one half-penny at the Nativity of St. John Baptist and for this grant Walter gives 7 marks. Witnesses, Richard the Clerk⁹ then

⁷ According to Canon Morris these were Mayor and Sheriffs in 1256-7.

⁸ According to Canon Morris these two Sheriffs were for the year 1260-1, in which year Walter of Coventry is said to have been Mayor. If this latter point is correct, it is curious to find him here following the Sheriffs as witness without describing himself as Mayor.

⁹ The Mayor and Sheriffs here mentioned do not agree with any in Canon Morris' list; possibly the year should be 1260, or even earlier.

Mayor, Robert the Mercer and Stephen Saracen then Sheriffs, Randle of Oxford [*de Oxon'*], Robert Harald, Hugh Tailur, Hugh Kide, Richard de Knaresbure, Hugh Cardi, Alexander Harre, and others.

[Seal gone].

XXIII. Omnibus etc. Lady [*Domina*] Alice de la Haye [*c.* 1265]. Prioress of the Nuns at Chester and the Convent there grant to Margery Erneys formerly wife of Richard of Rhuddlan [*de Rothelan'*] a certain piece of land in the City of Chester which the said Richard gave to grantors in pure and perpetual alms in St. Werburgh's lane in Chester lying between the land of Henry nephew of the s^d Richard and the land of Bartholomew the Goldsmith. Rendering annually four shillings in silver at two terms, Nativity of our Lord and Nativity of St. John Baptist and besides this the said Margery Erneys and her heirs or assigns to find one lamp in the dormitory for the Nuns serving God and St. Mary there. Witnesses, Richard the Clerk then Mayor of Chester, William of Hawarden [*de Haurdāin*] and Roger Throsle then Sheriffs,¹ Robert the Prude Mercer,² Matthew of Daresbury, Robert Harald, John Ulkil, John Noble, Adam Godewecc, John Grund, Alexander Harre.

[Large vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; the virgin (crowned) with child, and sceptre in her right hand; legend, + SIGILLUM CONVEN MONIALIUM CESTRIE].³ See No. 2 on Plate of Seals.

XXIV. Omnibus etc. Alan son of Hanr' [*? Andrew*] [*c.* 1267]. Whytemay of Chester grants to Ythell the Tailor [*Cissor*] of Chester a certain piece of land in Fleshmongeres lone, which the said Hanr' grantor's father gave

¹ Again we have a Mayor and Sheriffs not in the list. Apparently Richard Rhuddlan was alive about 1260, *vide* Charter No. XXI.

² See Note 2, Charter XV.

³ This is a very fine example of the second seal of the Nunnery, also, apparently, hitherto unknown. There is no reference to it in the British Museum Catalogue; nor in the Rev. W. H. Massey's Paper on "Seals," in the Chester Archaeological Journal, Vol. II., p. 149.

to grantor lying between the land of Richard of Frodsham and the land which the said Ythell bought from H'nr' grantor's brother. Rendering annually $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and to the house of St. James of Birkehened two shillings and 3d of silver at 2 terms. Consideration for grant 9 marks. Witnesses, Richard the Clerk then Mayor,¹ Oliver of Stocton, then Sheriff, Stephan Saracen, Robert Harald, John Grund, Matthew de Daresburi, Adam Godeweyt, Hugh Cardi, John the Noble, Randle the Clerk, Thomas Lolot, John the Chaplain, and others.

[Circular seal, in green wax ; an eagle to sinister, one wing elevated ; legend, [S'] ALANI . QVITENAI].

XXV. Sciant etc. Yseuda wife of William Pinsun [c. 1267]. grants to Roger son of Roger de Bagenhold² all her land in "Nordgatestrete" in Chester which she bought from Geoffrey son of Robert son of Thurstan son of Lece and from John son of Thurstan son of Lece which lies between the land of John Arneway and John Grund. Rendering annually one halfpenny and to the chief lords 3d. and three-quarters "de londgaubil" and to the Nuns of Chester $\frac{4}{4}$ in silver. Witnesses, Sir Robert de Stokeport,³ Sir William Patric,⁴ Sir William de Wistaneston, Kts., Richard the Clerk, then Mayor, William de Siston', Oliver de Stoctone, Sheriffs,⁵ Stephan Saracen, Robert the Mercer, Robert of Hoole, Robert Harald, Hugh Cardi, John Grund, Thomas Lollote, then Judges of the Portmoot of Chester, Reynold Herneys, Thomas the Clerk of Wybunbury [*Wibbre'bury*].

[Vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; a fleur de lys; legend, [S'] YSVEVDE FIL' GALF IINCELIN [?]].⁶

¹ Again we have a Mayor and Sheriff who do not agree with Canon Morris' list, unless his Oliver Cotton is a mistake for Oliver Stocton; in which case the document should be dated 1266-7.

² Query for Bagnall.

³ Living as late as 1270. Earwaker's "East Cheshire," Vol. I., p. 343.

⁴ Of the family of the Barons of Malpas. Living in 1278 (*Ormerod*, Vol. II., p. 593).

⁵ Not in Canon Morris' list; probably about 1267.

⁶ This last word may be for Lancelyn.

XXVI. Omnibus etc. Robert son of Richard Erneys, [c. 1268]. acknowledges that he is bound in 3/- to the Church of St. Peter and the Parishioners of the same church to pay at two terms, viz., 18d. at Michaelmas and 18d. at Annunciation, to find two wax candles¹ [*thorchias cere*] for the said church serving the altar of St. Peter at the lifting up of the body of the Lord for the soul of Richard of Rhuddlan [*de Rothelan*] and for the souls of his ancestors and all the faithful at the provision of honest men of the said Parish, such as the said Richard of Rhuddlan used to find for a certain land in "Estgatestrete" lying between the land of Beatrice daughter of Pagan and the land of John Grund. Rendering annually to the chief lord of the said land for "londgabul" 5d. and to Luce daughter of Philip Skinner [*Pellipar*] and her heirs ½d. in silver. Witnesses, William of Hawardin Clerk and Oliver of Trafford [*de Trofford*] then Sheriffs,² Robert Mercer, Robert Harald, John Grund, Richard of Stirchelegh [?], Randle of Astbury [*Assebury*] Clerk, H. Cardi, Robt. Brasce, Thomas Loloth, Walter the Chaplain, and others.

[Seal gone].

XXVII. ³Sciant etc. John formerly son of Hugh the Tailor [*Cissor*] of Chester grants to Robert Erneys son of Richard Erneys and his heirs etc. his selda [*celda*] which his father left him which was formerly half of the house of Wymarc formerly the wife of John the Tailor [*le Taylur*], which half house is nearer the land which formerly belonged to Ralph Harding which lies behind the selda of John Grund, and contains in length from the said selda to the house, twenty-seven feet clear [*pedes palpato*] where the said Wymarc used to live, and if the wall be pulled down at the Fair of St. Michael within the wall then six feet and a half [in addition]. Rendering annually to the heirs of Wymarc ½d.

¹ "We do not realise at once how much of added and imposing ceremonial is involved in the addition, in the 12th and 13th Centuries, of the single act of the elevation of the Host and Chalice, with its accompanying lights and torches, censings, bell-ringsings, and genuflexions" (*Edmund Bishop*, "Genius of the Roman Rite," p. 10).

² Sheriffs from 1267 to 1269.

³ Compare Charter No. XX.

and to grantor 6 peppercorns. Consideration five marks in silver. Witnesses,⁴ John Arnewey then Mayor, Matthew of Daresbury, William Cosin then Sheriffs, Richard Clerk, Stephan Saracen, Robert Harald, Adam Godewet, John Grund, John Norman, John Cardi, Stephan Tailor [*Cissor*].

[Small circular seal, in green wax; a flower with six petals; legend, [S. IO]HNI[S] FI: HVG: CISSORIS].

XXVIII. Sciant etc. Roger of Mold [*de Montalt*] Seneschal of Chester grants to Simon of Pulford one half of all the lands etc. which William of the Ash [*de Fraxinus*], formerly held in the vale of Mold lying between the lands of William of Fewnes and Richard le Breth etc. and he further grants the said Simon nine acres of land etc. lying next to "Adamhisheth" in the said valley [*valle*]. To hold etc. with husbot and heybote etc. in Mold woods etc. Rendering annually 14/- to grantor at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist and the Feast St. Martin saving to grantor right of pannage and multure at grantor's mill in the vale of Mold and suits at grantor's courts twice annually viz. the great Courts at St. Michael and Easter. Suits only to be in English and not in Welsh. Witnesses, Sir Raynold de Grey then Justiciar of Chester and Richard de Masey Kt., Richard Streche, Wm. le Lewede, Robt. of Huyton, Ralph Corbyn, Richard le Breth, and others.

[Small oval seal, in green wax; a fine classical gem; legend, + S' ROGERI DE MOHAVT].

XXIX. ⁵Omnibus etc. Robert de Lene son and heir of Hugh de Lene grants to Dore formerly wife of Hugh de Lene all that land which Hugh grantor's father gave to the said Dore for the term of his life, to hold of grantor, rendering annually a pair of white gloves or a halfpenny and to Sir James de Haudeleg⁶ xij^d Witnesses, John Ernway then Mayor,⁷ Lawrence Vintner [*Vinetarius*],

⁴ Mayor and Sheriffs, according to Canon Morris, from 1270 to 1273.

⁵ Compare Charter No. XIX., under date 1256.

⁶ Sir James Audley, Justiciar, 1265-7.

⁷ Mayor and Sheriffs do not occur in Canon Morris' list; but John Arneway was Mayor and Alexander Hurel one of the Sheriffs in 1274-5.

Alexander Hurel, then Sheriffs, Richard the Clerk, Oliver of Stocton, Randle the Clerk, John Grund, Philip the Clerk, Robert Bras, Andrew Throslebur', Henry of Bucklow [*de Boce-lau*], John Mayler, Adam of Shrewsbury [*de Slobusbur'*], Raynold Erneys.

[Vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; a bird statant; S' ROBERTI DE LENE [?]].

XXX. Omnibus etc. Alice daughter of Robert de Burg [c. 1275]. quitclaims to Walter Brian and his heirs all the lands which Robert her father formerly held for a term of 20 years of Robert son of Robert son of Simon, which land lies between the land that was John Blund's and the land that belonged to Robert Tailor [*Talliator*] in "Norgatestrete" in Chester. Witnesses, Richard the Clerk,¹ Mathew of Daresbury and Randle Doble dai then Sheriffs of Chester, Robert of Hoole, Robert son of Thurstan, Adam Godewaic, Robert Harald, Hugh Cardi, Alexander H're, and others.

[Vesica-shaped seal, in green wax: a fleur-de-lys; legend, S' ALICIE DE].

XXXI. Omnibus etc. Warin of Croxton² [*de Croxton*] [c. 1275]. grants to Richard of Toft 10d and 8d in rents from his land in "Northgatestrete" lying between the land of John son of Pagan and the land which belonged to Arthur the Harper [*Cunetharius*] in Chester. Rendering to Patric de Heslewelle and his heirs 12d. at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, Richard the Clerk,³ then Mayor of Chester, Randle Doble dai and Mathew of Daresbury, Sheriffs, Stephan Saracen, Robert Harald, Hugh Cardi, John Erniway, Guy [*Wido*] son of Hamon, John Hulkell, Adam Godeweit, John Grund, Alexander Herre, and others.

[Round seal, in white wax; a fleur-de-lys; legend, S' W ROXTVN].

¹ Again a Mayor and Sheriffs who do not fit into Canon Morris' list.

² For a full pedigree of this family see *Ormerod*, Vol. III., p. 210.

³ See Mayor and Sheriffs of previous Charter.



See Nos. 12 and 13 in List of Seals (at end of Paper)



No. 14, Page 42, L.



No. 15, Page 33, XXXIII.

XXXII. Sciant etc. William Bunce of Chester grants [1275-6]. to Bertram son of Peter of Marinham ten selions of land lying in the fields of Claverton viz. two half selions in Ulnesdale and one selion lying on le Stonihulle and one selion lying upon le Lowe and one selion beyond le Lowe lying in Brerifurlong which lies next the way that leads towards le Gretediche, one selion lying in the Croft of Claverton and two selions lying in le Cruftinge between the lands of Sir Hugh of Pulford, two half selions lying in le Withines and two half selions lying in Le Leefeld next Okleston field, half a selion lying in Longefurlong, half a selion next Swartingesfeld. Paying annually to St. Mary and the Nuns one penny of Silver and to grantor and his heirs one rose. Witnesses, Sir Guncelin de Badelesmere¹ then Justiciar of Chester, John Arneway then Mayor, Philip the Clerk and Randle of Daresbury Sheriffs,² Hugh of Meols [*Moles*], Robert of Tarvin, Robert Eyse, William Sebrem, Thomas Hose, Geoffrey the Clerk.

[Round seal, in green wax; an eagle displayed; S' WILL. . . . L . WI . .].

XXXIII. Omnibus etc. William Cutler [*Cultellarius*] of [c. 1276]. Chester and Matilda his wife grants to Roger of Tottenham citizen of Chester all their land in "Northgatestrete" lying between the land which the said Roger held of Walter Brien and the land which Alan of Trafford [*de Trocford*] formerly held with all that plot of land lying behind the land which the said Alan of Trafford formerly held. Rendering 1d. in silver and to the Lord 2½d. at Ascension. Witnesses, Sir Guncelin de Badelesmere then Justiciar of Chester, John Arnway then Mayor, and Hugh of Meols [*de Meles*] then Sheriff, Richard the Clerk, Alexander Hurel, Robert Candelan, Randle of Daresbury, Robert Haraud, Henry the Clerk.

[Two seals: One round seal, in green wax; an estoile of eight points; legend, S' WILLI: CVLTELARI: (see No. 15

¹ Justiciar of Chester, 1274 to 1281.

² According to Canon Morris' list this Mayor and these Sheriffs held office in the year 1275-6.

on Plate of Seals); (2) a vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; a fleur-de-lys; legend, + S' MATILDIS VX WILLI CVLTELARH]. See No. 7 on Plate of Seals.

XXXIV. Omnibus etc. Matilda wife of William Cutler [c. 1276]. [*Cultellarius*] of Chester quitclaims to Roger of Tottenham citizen of Chester all her dower in land in "Norgatestrete" lying between the land which the said Roger held of Walter Brien and the land which was Alan of Trafford's [*de Trocford*] with the plot of land at the back of the said land. Witnesses, John Arneway then Mayor, Hugh of Meols then Sheriff, Richard Clerk, Alexander Hurel, Robert Candelan, Randle de Daresbury, Henry Clerk, and others.

[Seal gone].

[Endorsed Quitclaim from Matilda wife of William Cuce'llor etc.]

XXXV. Hec est etc. An agreement between William Martin of Chester and Emma his wife on the one part and William Pinsun citizen of Chester on the other part. Parties of the first part grant to s^d William a certain piece of land in "Norgatestrete" lying between the land which was Richard Saracen's and the land of the said William Martin and Emma his wife, 18 feet in width, for a term of eight years beginning at the Feast of St. Gregory [March 12] in the year 1276 for 40/- in silver. Rendering annually to grantors one halfpenny at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, John Arneway then Mayor, Richard Apothecary and Robert Mercer¹ Sheriffs, Richard Clerk, Alexander Hurel, Robert Harald, Henry Clerk.

[Vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; . . . legend, S' WILLMS . . . BELGI [?]].

¹ This does not agree with Canon Morris' list, who, for this year, puts Adam Gothewyte instead of Robert Mercer as one of the Sheriffs. Possibly Adam Gothewyte died in his year of office.

XXXVI. Omnibus etc. Alice de la Haye Prioress of the Nuns of Chester and the Convent confirm the grant which Orme of Bruera [?] [*Orem de Bruerio*] and Hawysia his wife made to Alice their daughter and her heirs of a certain piece of land lying between the land which belonged to John Ulkil and the land which belonged to Alan Tanner [*Tannator*] in the lane of the greater Church of St. John [*in viculo maioris ecclesiae Sti. J.*] of Chester. Rendering annually three shillings in silver, in two equal portions. Witnesses, Randle of Daresbury then Mayor, Hugh of Meols, Robert of Tarvin then Sheriffs, Richard the Clerk, John Arnewey, John Ulkil, Richard Pain, Hugh Candelan, Geoffrey the Clerk, and others.

[Large vesica-shaped seal, in green wax (much damaged); Virgin and Child; SIG NIAL].

XXXVII. Sciant etc. Robert le Bolour of Chester grants to Robert son of Richard Erneys twenty pence annual rent which the grantor receives from William Pinson and his heirs at the Feast of the Purification as rent from a certain garden in Holy Trinity Lane [*venel*] lying between the land which formerly belonged to Randle Dobildey and the land which formerly belonged to Richard Harald. Witnesses, Alexander Hurel¹ then Mayor, Robert of Tarvin and Hugh of Meols then Sheriffs, Richard Harald, Robert Harald, Alexander the Turner, Robert of Hokenhul, William le Sysors, Hamon the Clerk, and others.

[Seal gone].

XXXVIII. Hec est etc. Agreement between Gilbert son of William son of Kenewrevck of Newton and Robert son of Richard Erneys by which the said Gilbert demises to the said Robert and his heirs and assigns twelve lands in the fields of Newton of which three lands are called the Stiwey londis lying between the land of Robert son of Cicely and the land which formerly belonged to Thomas

¹ These names do not agree with any on the list.

son of Hugh. Two lands which are called the Schouelebrad londis lying between the land which formerly belonged to Thomas son of Hugh and the land which belonged to Elias the Hunter [*Venator*].¹ Two lands which are called the Putlondis lying between land which formerly belonged to Hugh le Coudrey and the land of Hugh son of Walter. And one selion called Longge land lying on the road which is called the Bradewey and reaching from the headland of Hugh son of Hugh of Newton in length to the headland of the said Gilbert and another land called Brocstan lond lying between the land of Thomas son of Ralph and the land of Philip son of William, and two lands which are called the Cley londis and extend in length from the land which formerly belonged to Richard son of Andrew of Upton to the land of the Abbot of Chester, and one land called the Cley londis lying between the land which formerly belonged to Richard son of Andrew and the land of the said Gilbert. To hold to the said Robert for a term of forty years beginning at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, 1280. Rendering annually one penny of silver at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. For this grant the said Robert gave 13 marks in silver. Witnesses, Sir Gunzelin de Badelesmere, then Justiciar of Chester, Patric de Heselewelle, Roger de Dumville, Knights, John Torald, Eliot le Hunte, John of Cloudesdale, Deyne of the Cellar [*de la Celer*], Roger of Coghull [*de Cochul*], Robert son of Cicely, Raynold [*Reginaldus*] of Leen, Hamon the Clerk, and others.

[Small round seal, in green wax, broken in half; a star of four points; legend, S' GILBERTI DE . . .].

XXXIX. Sciant etc. John le Sutherne of Chester grants [1280-1]. to Raynold of Chester son of Hugh of Ley all his land lying between the land which belonged to Elias of [*Helyas de*] Mundre which the same Elias took [*cepit*] from the House of Aberconway and the land which belonged to John le Hoper in "Flesmongere Lone" in Chester, viz.: all that land which grantor had [*habere meruit*] from Beatrice formerly the wife of Andrew Throsleberd of Chester

¹ See *Ormerod*, Vol. II., p. 385 (pedigree).

to hold from the grantor. Rendering annually to the Abbey of St. Werburgh six shillings in silver at two terms, viz.: the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and Christmas, and to grantor one rose at the Nativity of St. John for all services. This grant is confirmed in full Portmoot at Chester. Witnesses, Robert Mercer then Mayor of Chester, Hugh of Meols and Robert Erneys then Sheriffs, Alexander Hurel, Randle of Daresbury, Richard Harald, Robert Harald, Robert of Tarvin, Geoffrey the Clerk, and many others.

XI₄. Sciant etc. Clemence and Alice daughters and heirs of John Woodrow [*Woderoue*] quitclaim to Richard dil Panyers and Felicia his wife all their right etc. in one message lying between the land of William Beimond on the one part and the land of Alice Balle [?] on the other part in Watergatestret in Chester which said message fell to the said Richard and Felice by the death of Walter de Burg formerly brother of said Felice. Witnesses, Robert Mercer then Mayor of Chester, Robert Erneys and Alexander son of Alexander Hurell then Sheriffs, Randle of Daresbury, Hugh of Birchall [*Brichulle*], Robert of Tarvin, William of Doncaster, Nicholas Payn, Jordan de Bradford.¹

[One vesica-shaped seal, in greenish wax; an eight-pointed star; legend, . . . ; other tab missing].

XLI. Sciant etc. William son and heir of Roger the Barber [*le Barbur*] grants to Robert Erneys citizen of Chester all his land lying in length and in width between the land which belonged to Richard Saracen and the land of John Arneway in Northgate Street in the City of Chester. Rendering annually to the King 7½d. at the Feast of Pentecost for "Landgabul," to the Nuns of Chester 4/4 at two terms, viz. the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist 2/2 and at Christmas 2/2, and to grantor one halfpenny at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the

¹ At one time Constable of Flint Castle. See Mr. Henry Taylor's Paper on "Some Early Chester and Flint Deeds," this Society's Journal, Vol. II. (New Series), p. 163.

Baptist. Witnesses, Robert the Mercer then Mayor, Alexander Hurel junior then Sheriff, Randle of Daresbury, Robert of Tarvin, Hugh of Birchall, Robert Candelan, David Miller, Roger of Tudyndham, Richard Candelan, Roger the Clerk, and others.

[Small round seal, in green wax ; six-pointed floriated star ; legend, + S' WILL: FIL: ROGR' LE BARBOU'].

XLII. Sciant etc. Mariot daughter of John Blond [c. 1282]. grants to Robert son of Richard Erneys all her land in St. Werburgh's lane [*venello*] in Chester lying between the land which belonged formerly to Richard of Rhuddlan [*de Rothelan*] and the cemetery of St. Werburgh. Rendering annually one halfpenny in silver at the Feast of St. Martin in winter. Witnesses, Sir Gunzelin de Badelesmer then Justiciar of Chester,¹ Alexander Hurel then Mayor of Chester, Robert of Hoole then Sheriff, Randle of Daresbury, John Grund, Alexander the Turner, Hugh of Meols, Stephan the Tailor, Richard Harald, Thomas the Tailor [*le Taylour*], Hamo the Clerk, and others.

[Small vesica-shaped seal, in green wax ; a fleur-de-lys ; legend, S' MARIE FILE IOHIS B'OL[?]D +].

XLIII. Sciant etc. John Hunter [*Venator*] citizen of [1282-3]. Chester and Alice his wife daughter of John Norman, grant to Robert son of Richard Erneys of Chester all their lands in "Nordgatestrete" in the City of Chester lying between the land which belonged to the Abbot of Chester and the land of the said Robert Erneys. Rendering annually to grantor $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and to the Treasury of the Earl of Chester 6d. Consideration 4 marks. Witnesses, Alexander Hurel then Mayor, Robert of Hoole [*Hole*] Sheriff, Robert the Mercer, Richard Harald, Robert Harald, Alexander the Turner [*le Tornour*], Stephan Tailor [*Cissor*], Thomas his brother,

¹ According to Ormerod's "Domesday Roll," p. 24, this Justiciar was succeeded in 9 Edward I. (1280-1), by Raynald de Grey, and a reference to the Patent Roll confirms this; Canon Morris, however, puts Alexander Hurel as Mayor and Robert of Hoole as Sheriff in 1282-3.

Mathew Goldsmith [*Aurifaber*], William of Doncaster, Roger of Tudinham, Richard de Tudinham, Hamo the Clerk, and others.

[Two seals: the dexter one, a small round seal, in green wax; an animal or bird [? a ferret] passant sinister regardant; legend, + S' IOHANIS LE HVNTE; the other, a small vesica-shaped seal in green wax; a conventional ornament [? a star]; legend, + S' ALICIE DE LEAVLA].

XLIV. Sciant etc. John Ulkel citizen of Chester [1282-3]. grants to Richard of Kegworthe a certain curtilage in the lane of the grange of the Abbot and Convent of St. Werburgh lying between the land which belonged to Richard of Todenham and that of Adam Page. Rendering annually 40d. in silver at two terms. Witnesses, Alexander Hurel then Mayor of Chester, Robert of Hoole then Sheriff, Randle of Daresbury, Robert Mercer, Richard of Todenham, Roger of the same, Geoffrey the Clerk, and others.

[Seal gone].

XLV. Sciant etc.¹ Robert of Tarvin citizen of Chester and Felicia his wife with united goodwill [*pari voluntate*] grant to Nicholas of Brackeleye tanner [*tannatori*] a piece of land without the walls of Chester in St. Johns Lane in the said City opposite the gate of Wolfeld lying between the land which belonged to Patrick of Burton and the land of the grantors. Rendering annually seven shillings of silver at the usual 4 terms equally. Witnesses, Alexander Hurel then Mayor of Chester, Robert of Hoole then Sheriff, Robert Mercer, Robert Harald, John Grund, Robert son of William the Waterman [*Aquar'*], Geoffrey the Clerk, and others.

[Two seals, in green wax: dexter side, a quatrefoil ornament, with the legend, S' ROBERTI DE TERWYN +; on the sinister, a vesica-shaped seal, with a fleur-de-lys and legend, S' FELIC' VX' ROB' DE T'WYN +].

¹ See also Charter No. XLVII., under date 1286-7.

XLVI. Hec est etc. Agreement between Richard of [1286]. Knaresburgh and Agnes his wife daughter of John Byran and Margery sister of said Agnes of the first part, and Richard de Prez citizen of Chester on the other part. Parties of the first part grant to Richard Prez all their land in St. Bridget's Lane in the City of Chester lying between the land which belonged to Robert Nobil and the land which belonged to Agnes Arnewey, which land extends in length from the said lane to Copineslone¹ for the term of 12 years beginning at Easter *anno domini* 1286 for 40/- of silver. Rendering annually to the Chief Lord at Ascension 5½d. as Londgabul for all services etc. Witnesses, Hugh of Meols² then Mayor, Robert Erneys and Hugh of Birchall Sheriffs, Alexander Hurel, Randle of Daresbury, Richard Harald, Robert his brother, Robert of Tarvin, Geoffrey the Clerk, and others.

[Three small vesica-shaped seals, in white wax; that on the dexter side illegible; middle one, a fleur-de-lys; on sinister side, an estoile; legend, S' MARGE BYRAM].

XLVII. Sciant etc.³ Robert of Tarvin citizen of Chester [1286-7]. grants to Nicholas of Brackeleye tanner, all his land lying between the land which the said Nicholas took to farm from grantor and his wife Felicia, and the land of the grantor in St. John's Lane [*in viculo majoris ecclesie Sancti Johannis*] without the Walls opposite the gate of Wolfeld, which land contains in width 33 feet and in length 100 feet and extends in length to the land which belonged to Sir Thomas de Donniton Canon of the said Church of St. John. Rendering annually 6/4 in silver at four terms. Witnesses, Hugh of Meols then Mayor of Chester, Robert Erneys and Hugh of Birchall then Sheriffs, Alexander Hurel, Randle of Daresbury, Robert Mercer, William of Doncaster,

¹ An early occurrence of this name.

² This Charter confirms the names of Mayor and Sheriffs in Canon Morris' list.

³ See also Charter No. XLV., under date 1282-3.

Richard of Todenham, Roger of the same, Geoffrey the Clerk, and others.

[Seal, a head with beard and flowing hair (?); legend, S' ROB: F: GALF: DE: TERVEN: +].

XLVIII. Sciant etc. Thomas Hose and Elen his wife [1286-7]. of Chester by their joint wish grant to William Mulet of Chester fisherman, three selions of land of which two selions lie in the field [*campo*] of Claverton viz. one selion on Farenhul between the land of the Nuns of Chester and the selion of William Bunce, and another selion in Ulnesdale between the selion of Mabil Hascard and the land of the Nuns, and the third selion lies next le Fordesway on the southern part in the said field of Claverton. Rendering annually a grain of pepper at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Consideration 38/- in silver. Witnesses, Hugh of Meols then Mayor of Chester, Robert Erneys and Hugh of Birchall then Sheriffs, Philip the Clerk, Richard "Machinator," Robert of the Mill, William Bunce, Robert Eyse, Warin del Hul, John Hose, Geoffrey the Clerk, and others.

[Two seals, in white wax, one round and the other vesica-shaped; the latter a quatrefoil star.

XLIX. Sciant etc.¹ Stephan called [*dictus*] Sarazen [1287-8]. citizen of Chester grants to Richard of Tarvin a certain plot of land lying between the land on which grantor lives [*inter terram in quam mansi*] and the land which William Swan held of grantor in Goselone in the City of Chester which plot contains in breadth towards the frontage [*in latitudine versus frontem*] 38 feet and towards the back [*versus finem*] in width between a plot of land of the said Stephan's called The Herbyard [*Le Erbereyert*] and the land which belonged to William called Swan 47 feet and containing in length from the front to the land which belonged to Alice Dyonis [?] 55 feet. Rendering annually 3/8 in silver at four terms. Witnesses, Robert of Tarvin then Mayor, Robert

¹ Compare with Charter No. VI.

Erneys and Nicholas Payn then Sheriffs, Hugh de Brichulle, Roger Donfoul, Adam Miller [*Molind'*], Alan of Tarvin, and others.

[Seal gone].

L. Sciant etc.¹ Alina de Toft in liege pousty and
[c. 1288]. pure widowhood grants to John son of Hugh Peck
formerly citizen of Chester all her land with a
certain stone cellar lying between the land of Richard son
of grantor and the land of grantee in "Northgatestrete."
Rendering annually to the Abbot and Convent of St. Wer-
burgh four shillings in silver at the Feast of Peter and Paul.
Witnesses, Hugh of Meols² then Mayor, Robert Erneys and
Hugh Payn Sheriffs, Alexander Hurel, Randle of Daresbury,
Robert of Tarvin, Philip the Clerk, Richard of Tudynham,
Roger of the same, Richard Harald, Thomas son of Roger the
Tailor [*Cissor*], Robert the Chamberlain, Roger Clerk, and
others.

[Vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; an eagle with one
wing extended; legend, S' DNE ALINE DE THO . . .].
See No. 14 on Plate of Seals.

L.I. Omnibus etc.³ Richard son and heir of Richard
[c. 1288]. de Toft formerly of Chester quitclaims to John
son of Hugh Peck formerly citizen of Chester all
his right etc. in a certain stone cellar [*celario lapideo*] between
the land of grantor and the land of the said John, which Alina
mother of grantor gave to the said John. Witnesses, Hugh of
Meols then Mayor of Chester, Robert Erneys and Hugh Payn
Sheriffs, Richard of Tudynham, Roger of the same, Robert
Chamberlain, Roger the Clerk, and others.

[Small round seal, in green wax; an animal [? lion]
passant in a sinister direction in front of a tree or
flower; legend, + S' RIC' FILI' RIC: DE: TOFT].

¹ See next Charter.

² These do not agree with Canon Morris' list.

³ See preceding Charter.

L,II. Sciant etc. Agreement made between Thomas of Dunham and Felicia his wife of the one part [1290]. and Mabel Harald daughter of Nicholas Harald of Chester of the other part by which the parties of the first part grant to the said Mabel a certain place of a certain shop [*quamdam placiam cujusdem scoppe*] next to the land which belonged to Alan of Trafford [*de Trouford*] in "Northgate-strete" for the term of 16 years beginning at Easter *Anno Domini* 1290. Rendering annually to grantors one halfpenny at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, Robert of Tarvin then Mayor, Robert Erneys and Nicholas Pain then Sheriffs, Roger Dunful, Roger of Tudenham, David Miller [*Molendinus*], Geoffrey Clerk.

[Two vesica-shaped seals, in green wax; the dexter one, an eight-point estoile; legend, S' THOMS DE DONA . . .; the sinister, a head of corn in the ear; legend, 2' FELI2A HARALC].

L,III. Sciant etc. William son of Gilbert of Newton [c. 1290]. grants to Robert Erneys of Chester 15 selions of land in the fields [*campis*] of Newton juxta Chester viz. 3 seliones called le Cleylondes, 3 selions called le Styweylondis, 2 selions called le Shovelebradeslondes, and 1 called le Longheuetlond, and half a selion called le Cleyhalfond, and 1 selion called le Brocstanlond, and 1 called le Justingheuetlond, and 1 called le Cleyheuetlond, and a half land [*landam*] lying between, next to the same Cleylond, and 2 selions called le Putlondes. Rendering annually to grantor $\frac{1}{2}$ d. at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, Sir Patric de Heselewalle, Richard de Masci, Knights, Ralph of Puddington, John of Rudon, William of Leighton [*Lethton*], Richard de Coudrey, Robert son of Cecily, Hugh of Birchall of Chester, Richard of Bucklow [*de Bochelau*], Hamo the Clerk, and others.

[Small slightly oval seal, in green wax; a four-pointed star; legend, + S' WILL: FIL: GILBERTI].

LIV. Sciant etc. William son of Gilbert of Newton [c. 1290]. grants to Robert Erneys of Chester 3 selions in the fields [*campis*] of Newton juxta Chester, viz. those that lie between the lands which belonged to Robert son of Cecily, and the land of Thomas son of Hugh. Rendering annually to grantor a peppercorn at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, Sir Patric de Heselewelle, Sir Richard de Masci Knights, Alexander de Baumville, James de Pulle, Ralph of Puddington, Richarde de Condrey, Robert son of Cecily, John of Rudon, Hamo the Clerk, and others.

[Seal slightly oval-shaped, in green wax; a four-pointed star; legend, + : S' WILLI: FIE: GILBERTI:].

LV. Sciant etc. William son and heir of Gilbert [c. 1290]. of Newton grants to Robert Erneys citizen of Chester 21 selions and a half in the fields [*campis*] of Newton-juxta-Chester viz. 3 selions called le Cleylondes, 3 selions called le Styweylondes, 2 selions called le Schouelebradlondes, 1 selion called le Longheuetlond, $\frac{1}{2}$ selion called le Cleyhalfond, 1 selion called le Brocstanlond, 1 selion called le Joustyngheuedlond, 1 selion called le Cleyheuetlond, $\frac{1}{2}$ land lying next the said Cleyheuetlond, 2 selions called le Putlondes, 2 selions called le Bradelakelondis, 3 half selions in Fregrene [or Fregreue],¹ 1 selion called le Styweylond, 1 selion called Edmundislond, 1 selion called le Schoterdicheheuetlond, and all that land [*terram*] called le Bruches lying between the land of Richard son of Andrew of Newton and the land of Thomas son of Hugh of the same. To have and to hold the said 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ selions and the said land called le Bruches. Rendering annually 1d. Witnesses, Sir Patric de Heselewelle, Sir Richard de Masci, Knights, Ralph of Puddington, John of Ruton, William of Leighton, Sir William de Newton Chaplain, Robert his brother, Richard le Coudrey, Elyas le Honte, Hugh of Birchall, David Miller, Roger of Tudenham, Roger the Clerk, and others.

[Seal same as preceding Deed].

¹ Query Fregreue; see Charter No. LVII.

LVI. This is the agreement made between Mabel
 [1290-1]. White [*Mabilla dictus le White*] formerly wife of
 John le White of Chester and Margery formerly
 wife of Raynold le Yrenmonger of the same, to wit, that the
 said Mabel in liege poustey and pure widowhood quitclaims
 to Margery all that annual rent due from said Margery for
 land which the said Raynold and Margery his wife held in
 "Northgatestrete" viz. for the term of 10 years beginning at
 Easter 1285. For this Margery pays Mabel 5 marks. Witnesses,
 Robert Mercer then Mayor, Hugh of Meols and Robert Erneys
 then Sheriffs, Alexander Hurel, William of Doncaster, Richard
 of Todenham, Roger of the same, and Geoffrey the Clerk.

[Seal gone].

LVII. ¹Agreement between Richard de Coudray and
 [1291]. Robert Erneys by which Richard demises six
 selions of land in the fields [*campis*] of Newton
 juxta Chester to Robert, one of which is called le Merstallond
 which lies between the land which belonged to William son of
 Philip and the land of Hugh son of Hugh, another is called
 le Sondwallond lying between the land which belonged to
 Elias Hunter [*Venator*] and the land of Richard son of Andrew,
 and five butts [*buttas*] in the field [*campo*] called le Puttis
 which extend in length from le Puttislondis of the said
 Robert to le Greneweugh, and one selion in Frogreue lying
 between the land of William son of Gilbert and the land
 of Elias Hunter [*Venator*] and one selion which lies in
 le Wetforlongd between the land of Raynold Ruffi and the
 land which belonged to certain Wiot and two butts called
 le Wallebuttis lying between the land which belonged to
 Elias Hunter [*Venator*] and the land of Hugh son of Hugh.
 For the term of thirty years next following the Feast of
 St. Michael Archangel 1291. Rendering annually one half-
 penny of silver of the Feast of the Nativity of St. John
 Baptist. Consideration 40/-. Witnesses, Sir Patric de Hesele-

¹ This Deed is interesting as throwing light on the meaning of the terms selion and butt. It seems clear from it that the equation is 4 butts equals 1 selion; though actually it works out 4 selions and 7 butts equals 6 selions; evidently a butt has dropped out somewhere.

walle, Richard de Masci, Knights, Roger of Coghull [*de Cochul*], Ralph of Puddington, John of Rudon, Robert of Newton, William of Newton, Hamo the Clerk, with others.

[Small round seal, in green wax; four-armed star; legend, + S' RIC': FIL: HVGH [?]].

L_{VIII}. Sciant etc. Roger of Tudyndham citizen of [c. 1292]. Chester grants to Aneline his daughter all his land in Northgate Street lying in length between the land which belonged to Hugh Bryd and the land of Richard de Toft and which extends in length from the land of John de Beauchamp to the highway of Northgate Street, together with a certain plot of land adjoining the said land which lies behind the cellar [*celarium*] which belonged to John Pecke which the said John bought from Richard son of Richard de Toft, which said plot of land contains in length from the first-mentioned piece of land to the land of John Pecke 31 feet, and in width between the cellar aforesaid and the land which belonged to John de Beauchamp 25 feet. Rendering annually to the Abbot and Convent of St. Werburgh 2/- of silver at two terms, viz. the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul 12d. and the Feast of St. Martin 12d., and to Henry the Cutler [*le Cutiler*] one halfpenny at the Feast of St. Martin. This grant is confirmed in full Portmoot. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall then Mayor of Chester, Robert Erneys and Nicholas Payn then Sheriffs, Alexander Hurel, Randle of Daresbury, Robert of Tarvin, William of Doncaster, David Miller, Roger the Clerk, and others.

[Seal gone].

[Endorsed, "Concerning the house opposite [*versus*] the Abbeygate"].

L_{IX}. Omnibus etc. Richard called [*dictus*] Coudray demises to Joan relict of Robert Erneys a certain meadow in the fields [*in campis*] of Newton juxta Chester lying between the land [*landam*] which is called le Sondwallelond and the sike [*sichetum*] which is called Flokerisbrook for a term of thirty years next ensuing after the

Feast of St. Michael 1292. Rendering annually to grantor one rose. Consideration three shillings in silver. Witnesses, Robert the Mercer¹ then Mayor of Chester, Alexander Hurel and Robert brother of Idhel then Sheriffs, John of Rudon, John of Capenhurst, Ralph of Puddington [*Podinton*], Hugh of Barnston [*Berniston*], Alexander de Bamville, Hamo the Clerk, and others.

[Small round seal, in green wax; quatrefoil ornament; legend illegible].

LX. Agreement between Awisia formerly wife of Gilbert of Newton and William son of the said [1292]. Gilbert of Newton by which the said Awisia demises to the said William twenty seliones of land in Newton fields [*campis*] which were grantors dower from said Gilbert grantees father for a term of ten years next following the Feast of St. Michael the Greater 1292. Rendering annually a rose at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Consideration eight marks. Witnesses, Sir Raynold de Gray then Justiciar of Chester, Richard le Masci, Patric de Heselwelle, Knights, William of Newton, Robert of Newton, William of Capenhurst, Elias Hunter [*Venatore*], and many others.

[Small round seal, in green wax; a star of eight points; legend, s' AVIS VX GILB . . +].

LXI. ²Sciant etc. Margery daughter of Richard de [c. 1292]. Collam grants to Richard son of Roger of Wateley the third part of all her lands which lie between the land of Hugh of Birchall and Mary his wife and the land of Peter of Saughall [*de Salwchalle*] in the venel called Alexendreslone harre³ in Chester. Rendering annually one rose at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist. Witnesses, Robert Mercer [*Mercenario*] then Mayor, Alexander Hurel junr. and Robert brother of Yethelle Sheriffs, Randle of Daresbury,

¹ Again these agree with no names on Canon Morris' list; in fact, they show that the names he supplies must be in error, as this Charter is dated.

² Compare this Charter with one printed by Mr. Henry Taylor in this Journal, Vol. II. (New Series), p. 160.

³ See *ibid.*, p. 154.

Hugh of Birchall, William of Doncaster, Stephen [?] Boen, John of Shropshire [*de Salopia*].

[Vesica-shaped seal, in white wax; four leaves, arranged crosswise, with alternate twigs intervening between the leaves; legend, S' MARGERIE RICHD LLAM [?]].

LXII. Notum sit etc. Alice daughter and heir of Mabel le Wyte of Chester grants to Robert son of Richard Erneys all her right to 10/- of rent issuing from her land in "Nordgatestrete" in the City of Chester lying between the land which belonged to a certain Roger of Tudinham and the land which belonged to Richard of Tudinham. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall then Mayor of Chester, Nicholas Payn then Sheriff, Richard Harald, Robert Harald, John the Turner, Stephan the Tailor [*le Taylour*], Roger of Tudinham, Nicholas Goldsmith [*Aurifabro*], Hamo the Clerk, and others.

LXIII. ¹Omnibus etc. Alice daughter of John White [*Albi*] citizen of Chester quitclaims to Robert son of Richard Erneys all her right etc. in her land in Chester lying in width between the Cemetery of St. Werburgh and land of Simon le Verroure and in length from St. Werburgh's Lane and the land of Raynold de Leen which said Robert had by gift from Mariote sister of grantor. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall then Mayor, Nicholas Payn then Sheriff, Richard Harald, Robert Harald, Stephan Tailor [*Cissore*], Robert le Chamberlayn, Aluered of Stanlawe, Nicholas Goldsmith [*Aurifabro*], Walter Goldsmith, John Meyler, Geoffrey Pigas, Hamo the Clerk, etc.

[Small vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; quatrefoil; legend, + S' ALICIE LE WYTE].

LXIV. Omnibus etc. Ralph son and heir of John son of John Norman quitclaims to Richard son of Robert Erneys all his land lying between the land which belonged to the Abbot and Convent of St. Werburgh

¹ See Mr. Henry Taylor's Paper, Vol. II., p. 159.

of Chester and the land of Randle of Daresbury in "Nort-gatestrete" in Chester, and his lands lying between the land of the said Randle in the same street and the land of the Prior and Hospital of St. John without the Northgate and all lands which Robert Erneys father of grantee had of grantor or his ancestors in Chester. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall then Mayor, Nicholas Payn and Roger Dunfoul Sheriffs, William of Doncaster, Richard Harald, Robert Harald, Stephan Tailor [*Cissore*], Roger of Tudinham, Nicholas Goldsmith [*Aurifabro*], Robert le Chamberlain, John Meyller, Hamo the Clerk, and others.

[Small round seal, in green wax; a fleur-de-lys; legend, + S' RADVLPHI NORMON].

LXV. Omnibus etc.¹ Geoffrey de Dutton Lord of [c. 1292]. Cheadle [*Dominus de Chelle*] quitclaims to Richard son of Robert Erneys and his heirs and assigns all his right in the land and tenements which Robert father of the said Richard had by gift from William son of Gilbert of Newton in the Vill of Newton juxta Chester. Witnesses, Sir Raynold de Grey then Justiciar, Patric de Heselewalle, Richard de Mascie, Knights, Ralph of Puddington, William Torald, Hugh of Barnston, John of Rudon, William of Christleton, Hamon the Clerk, and others.

[Small vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; a heater-shaped shield; charges illegible; legend, S' GALFRIDI DE DUTTON].

LXVI. Omnibus etc. Geoffrey de Dutton Lord of [c. 1292]. Cheadle [*Dominus de Chelle*] quitclaims to Richard son of Robert Erneys and his heirs and assigns all his right in the land and tenements which Robert father of the said Richard had by gift from William son of Gilbert of Newton in the Vill of Newton juxta Chester. Witnesses, Raynold de Grey then Justiciar of Chester, Richard de Masci, Patric de Heselewalle, Knights, William of Trafford [*de*

¹ The date of this is almost certainly about 1292, in which year Robert Erneys probably died. This is confirmed by Sir Raynold de Grey's presence.

Trocford], John of Rudon, Hugh of Barnston, Simon of Provence [?], Hamon the Clerk.

[Small vesica-shaped seal, in green wax; on a heater-shaped shield; quarterly, a bend; legend, S' GALFRIDI DE DUTTON].

LXVII. Sciant etc. John son and heir of John Urkel [1292]. of Chester grants to Richard son of Roger of Weteley 9/- of rent issuing from land lying between the bottom end [*ultimum finem*] of the venel called Personeslone and the land which Richard Godweyth received in free marriage with Felicia his wife. Four usual terms of payment. Rendering annually to the Prior and Hospital of St. John of Chester 2/- and one rose to grantor. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall Mayor, Nicholas Payn and Roger Dunful Sheriffs, William de Doncaster, Jordan of Bradford, Alexander Hurel junior, and others.

[Seal gone].

LXVIII. Sciant etc.¹ Agnes Bunse and Alice Bunse her sister in liege poustey and their pure widowhood [c. 1292]. grant to Alice who was formerly the wife of Robert Bras of Chester all their land which lies between the land which belonged to William of Middille and the land which belonged to Richard le Nobille in le Personis-lone, namely that land which descended to grantors by succession from Richard Bunse their uncle. Rendering annually to Philip dil Childrehous and his heirs or assigns threepence in silver at the Feast of St. John the Baptist, and to grantors and their assigns one penny in silver at the same Feast. Witnesses, Sir Raynald de Grey then Justiciar of Chester, Hugh of Birchall then Mayor,² Hugh Payn and Randle of Stanlow then Sheriffs, Alexander Hurell, Randle of Daresbury, Robert of Tarvin, William of Doncaster.

[Two vesica-shaped seals, in white wax; a star; legend, on the dexter one, S' AGNES BUNSE; on the sinister one, S' ALICIAE BUNCE].

¹ See following Charter.

² These do not agree with any names in Canon Morris' list.

LXIX. Sciant etc.¹ Alice formerly wife of Robert Bras of Chester in liege poustey and pure widowhood [1292-3]. grants to Randle Peck of Chester all her land lying between the land which was William of Midle's and the land which was Richard le Noble's in le Personelone in Chester viz. the land which she had by gift from Agnes Bunce and Alice Bunce her sister. Rent payable to Philip de Childerhous and his heirs 3d. in silver and to Agnes and Alice Bunce 1d. and to grantor 3/-. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall then Mayor, Nicholas Payn and Roger Dunfowyl then Sheriffs, Robert Mercer, Robert of Tarvin, Roger of Tudenham, David the Miller, John Maneware, Richard the Clerk, and others.

[Vesica-shaped seal; a flowing scrolled ornament; legend, s': ALICIE: FILIE: JOH: FIL: HVLHEL²].

LXX. Sciant etc. Roger Dunfoul of Chester grants to [1294-5]. Henry of Soudon [or Sondon] carpenter a piece of land lying between the land of Hugh of Birchall citizen of Chester and the land of Raynold of Leene citizen of the same in Fleshmongers Lane in the City of Chester and reaching from the highway of Fleshmongers Lane to the Wall of the City of Chester. Rendering annually 6/- at the four usual terms. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall then Mayor, Alexander Hurel and Robert Ythel then Sheriffs, William Godebrother, Raynold Leen, William of Doncaster, Richard the Clerk, and others.

[Seal gone].

LXXI. Sciant etc. Henry de Soudon [or Sondon] [1294-5]. carpenter [*carpentarius*] grants to Raynold [*Reginaldus*] de Lene citizen of Chester a certain piece of land lying between the land of Hugh of Birchall citizen of Chester and the land of the said Raynold in Fleshmongers Lone, and extending from the highway of Fleshmongers Lone to the Wall of the City of Chester. Rendering annually

¹ See preceding Charter.

² There is also the counterpart, with a small round seal, in green wax; a fleur-de-lys; and the legend, s' RONULFI PECK.

to Roger Dunfoul 6/- in silver at the usual four terms. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall then Mayor, Alexander Hurel and Robert Ythel then Sheriffs, Randle of Daresbury, Robert of Tarvin, William of Doncaster, David Miller [*Molend'*], Roger the Clerk, and others.

[Seal gone].

LXXII. Universis etc. Hugh of Hoole son of Roger
 [1294-5]. of Hoole grants to Henry of Appilby citizen of
 Chester, all his land lying between the land which
 belonged to Gilbert of Newton and the land of Richard of
 Blacon [*Blakene*] without the Northgate. Rendering annually
 3/- in silver. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall Mayor, Alexander
 Hurel and Robert Ychel Sheriffs, Robert de Tarvin, David
 called Miller [*Dictus Molendinarius*], Robert of Maclisfeld,
 Richard Miller [*Molendinar'*].

[Seal gone].

LXXIII. Sciant etc. Richard son and heir of Richard
 [c. 1296]. de Toft formerly citizen of Chester grants to
 Agnes Peck of Chester all his land in Chester
 lying between the land of Roger of Tudynham citizen of
 Chester and the land which belonged to Master John Peck
 son of the aforesaid Agnes in Northgate Street. Rendering
 annually to the Capital Lords 7½d. for "londgabul" between
 the Feast of Ascension and Pentecost, and to grantor and his
 heirs one halfpenny at Pentecost, and to grantor for the terms
 of his life 6/8 at Christmas and the Nativity of St. John
 Baptist in equal portions. Witnesses, Hugh of Birchall then
 Mayor, Alexander Hurel, Randle of Daresbury, Richard of
 Tarvin, William of Doncaster, Richard Harald, David the
 Miller [*Molend'*], Roger of Tudynham, and Roger the Clerk.

[Circular seal, in green wax; an animal, possibly a
 dog, passant, at the foot of a tree; legend, s' RIC FIL
 RIC DE TOFT].

List of Seals

- No. 1. Seal of St. Mary's Nunnery (*c.* 1200).
,, 2. Seal of St. Mary's Nunnery (*c.* 1260).
,, 3. Seal of Abbot Hugh (1208—1226).
,, 4. Secretum of same.
,, 5. Seal of St. Werburgh's Abbey (*c.* 1225).
,, 6. Seal of Simon son of Ellen (*c.* 1230).
,, 7. Seal of Matilda wife of William the Cutler
(*c.* 1276).
,, 8. Seal of Robert son of Alan of Tarvin (*c.* 1310).*
,, 9. Seal of the Hospital of St. Giles', Boughton
(1311-2).*
,, 10. Seal of Adam Mustel (*c.* 1250).
,, 11. Seal of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist,
without the Northgate (*c.* 1240).
,, 12. Seal of William of Paris, bootmaker, of
Chester (1309).*
,, 13. Seal of Alan son of William Young (*c.* 1310).*
,, 14. Seal of Lady Alina of Toft (*c.* 1288).
,, 15. Seal of William the Cutler (*c.* 1276).

* The Documents to which these Seals are appended will, it is hoped, be printed in the next volume of the Society's Journal.

