

III.—OFFICERS OF THE BISHOPRIC OF DURHAM UNDER ANTONY BEK, 1283-1311.

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The careers of the medieval bishops of Durham are at present undergoing a reassessment. As a result of this more is becoming known of the way in which the franchise of Durham, comprising the area of the modern county and the outlying districts of Norhamshire, Islandshire and Bedlingtonshire, was actually administered. Although the general framework traced by Dr. G. T. Lapsley in his *County Palatine of Durham* (1900) will probably continue to stand scrutiny, the details are now being re-written.

The episcopate of Antony Bek, bishop of Durham, has been described by Professor R. K. Richardson in his article "Anthony Bek and the Bishopric of Durham, 1283-1311" in *Archæologia Aeliana* 3rd Series for 1913 (vol. IX), and a fuller account of the administrative background may be found in C. M. Fraser's *A History of Antony Bek* (1957). In the following list of officers of the bishop's temporal administration an attempt has been made to enumerate the names and dates of all of Bishop Bek's ministers recorded in the documents of the period, together with sufficient biographical detail to indicate the type of men employed.

In general it should be borne in mind that up to the middle of the fifteenth century the steward of Durham was the most important officer of the bishop's lay administration. Firstly, in his economic capacity he represented the bishop as landlord. He attended to the details of the farming of the boroughs, the renting of land, and the leasing of mines, and by virtue of his office he held all the bishop's manorial

courts. Secondly, in his political capacity he represented the bishop as head of the civil government of his domain, with power to muster the inhabitants for defence or counsel, to impose and raise loans, and to maintain the peace. The duties of the other officers are perhaps more easy to deduce from the name of their function. In Durham the bishop's temporal chancellor performed duties similar to those of the royal chancellor, being head of the writing office, or chancery, which issued the bishop's writs, both administrative and judicial. Justices acting under the bishop's commission performed for Durham the functions of the royal justices, who were normally debarred from entry within the franchise. The bishop appointed his own coroners, and on assuming office they took an oath before his chancellor in the exchequer at Durham to serve loyally and to account there for the issues of their office.

For political reasons the franchise of Durham was thrice confiscated by Edward I during the time of Bishop Bek. To show the degree to which continuity of administration was maintained, officers serving in Durham under the royal commission during both the vacancy of 1283 and the confiscations of 1302-3 and 1305-7 have been included within the following list, but with an asterisk against their name.

ABBREVIATIONS.

A.R.—P.R.O., Assize Roll.

B.B.—*Boldon Buke* (Surtees Soc. 25, 1852).

Cart.—Cartulary.

CCR—*Calendar of Close Rolls*.

CFR—*Calendar of Fine Rolls*.

CPR—*Calendar of Patent Rolls*.

DNB—*Dictionary of National Biography*.

Durham—Muniments of the Dean and Chapter of Durham.

FD—*Fasti Dunelmenses* (Surtees Soc. 139, 1926).

Gesta—'Gesta Dunelmensia A.D. M^oCCC^o' in *Camden Miscellany XIII* (Royal Historical Soc., 1924).

K.B.—P.R.O., Coram Rege Roll.

- Mem. de Parl.—*Memoranda de Parlamento* (Rolls Series, 1893).
 P.R.O.—Public Record Office, London.
Records—*Records of Antony Bek* (Surtees Soc. 162, 1947).
 RPD—*Registrum Palatinum Dunelmense* (Rolls Series, 1873-8).
 S.S. 55—*Select Cases in the court of King's Bench I* (Selden Soc. 55, 1936).

The Registers of Archbishops Giffard, Wickwane and Romeyn are published by the Surtees Society: of Bishop Halton by the Canterbury and York Society: and of Pope Boniface VIII by the Bibliothèque des écoles françaises d'Athènes et de Rome.

STEWARD.

MASTER WILLIAM DE ST. BOTOLPH first occurs as steward of Bishop Antony Bek in 1286. He was at that time also a king's clerk, not finally leaving royal service until 1291. By 1297 he had gained in addition the office of archdeacon of Durham and appears in 1302 as the bishop's vicar-general. He is last expressly styled as steward in September 1302 but continued as archdeacon, and was a commissary of the bishop for his visitation of the monastery at Durham in March 1309. His ruthless enforcement of the bishop's rights as superior lord in Durham brought him considerable notoriety which reached its fullest expression in charges proffered against him in the king's courts in 1302 and 1305, as a result of which he was fined £200 for his offences. He was largely responsible for the strong measures used to remove Prior Hoton of Durham from office in September 1300. His ecclesiastical preferments, apart from the archdeaconry of Durham, included canonries at Chester-le-Street (1288) and St. Andrew Auckland (1298), and rectories at West Horsley, dioc. Winchester (1279), Houghton-le-Spring, dioc. Durham (1286), and North Collingham, dioc. York (1291). He died about 1309.

(A.R. 226, mm. 1d., 8-9; *CPR 1281-92*, p. 445; *Reg. Boniface VIII*, t. ii, no. 3078; *Records*, pp. 6, 74-8, 104-5, 137-52; *FD*, pp. 112-13, 161.)

STEPHEN DE MAULEY first occurs as steward in January 1307, and acted as the bishop's vicar-general between 25 March 1307 and 11 March 1309. He was also archdeacon of Cleveland from 1289 to 1317, and dean of the collegiate church of St. Andrew Auckland between 1306 and 1311. A son of Sir Peter de Mauley II, lord of Mulgrave, he was summoned as a clerk of the Council to the Lincoln parliament of 1312, at which date his brother Edmund was steward of the household of Edward II. He was presented by the bishop of Durham to the rectories of Haughton-le-Skerne in 1303 and Houghton-le-Spring in 1311, and by the prior of Durham to the rectory of Hemingbrough in 1309. Other preferments included the rectories of Bainton and Lythe, dioc. York (1281) and a canonry of York (1298).

(B.B., app., p. xxxv; *CFR 1307-19*, pp. 206, 193; *Records*, pp. 99-100, 136, 144, 153, 160, 173; *Complete Peerage* VIII, 560n.; *Reg. Halton* I, 275; *Reg. Romeyn* I, 378n.)

CHANCELLOR.

MASTER NICHOLAS DE WELLE occurs as chancellor of Durham on 1 January 1289. He was at that time archdeacon of Northumberland, which office he retained until his death in 1312. He had previously been a receiver of Archbishop Giffard of York from 1268, chancellor of York (1281), and a canon of Southwell (1279).

(Newcastle Soc. of Antiquaries, *Ravensworth Deeds*, no. 19; *Reg. Giffard*, pp. 119, 272; *Reg. Wickwane*, pp. 53, 122; *FD*, p. 137.)

PETER DE THORESBY occurs as chancellor between September 1290 and April 1302. He had previously been treasurer of Bishop Robert of Holy Island, and was later to be receiver-general of Bishop Bek from 1303 to 1307. His ecclesiastical preferments included the mastership of

Kepier Hospital between 1291 and 1311. He also acted as one of the bishop's justices between 1291 and 1305.

(*Records*, pp. 22-4, 67; *Durham, Misc. Charters* 3637, 5646; K.B. 182, m. 32; B.B. app., pp. xxxvii-xxxix; RPD I, 34-5.)

*HENRY OF GUILDFORD acted as chancellor of Durham on behalf of Edward I during the two occasions when the franchise was taken into the king's hands between 17 July 1302 and 8 July 1303, and between 6 December 1305 and 4 September 1307. Earlier he had been clerk to Sir John de Luvetot, a justice of common pleas (1287). He was a receiver of Scottish petitions in the Lenten parliament of 1305, and was appointed the same year as a justice of common pleas. He was presented to a canonry at Howden by the prior of Durham in 1303.

(*CPR 1301-7*, pp. 44, 149, 215, 408-9; *1307-13*, pp. 2, 251, 426; *Durham, Cart. III*, "f. 46"; *Mem. de Parl.*, p. cix; *State Trials of Edward I* (Camden Soc. 3rd Ser., 1906, IX), p. 57.)

ROGER OF WALTHAM occurs as chancellor between February 1309 and October 1310, having been a household clerk of Bishop Bek since 1299. He later entered royal service, and from 1312 appears as a clerk of the wardrobe to Edward II and keeper of the wardrobe between 1322 and 1323. His ecclesiastical preferments included canonries at Darlington (1303) and Chester-le-Street (1309), and rectories at Long Newton (1304) and Egglecliffe (1312), all within the diocese of Durham, and a canonry of London (1312) and the archdeaconry of Buckingham (1322).

(*Records*, pp. 90, 136, 160, 173; B.M., *Cart. Harl.* 54, G, 19; *FD*, p. 135.)

RECEIVER-GENERAL.

*JOHN OF BIRTLEY occurs as sheriff and royal receiver of

the revenues of the franchise of Durham during the confiscation of 1302 to 1303. He was apparently a local knight, and may be identified with the bailiff (or chief officer) of the city of Durham in 1311.

(P.R.O., L.T.R. Memoranda Roll 75, m. 80; Durham, Cart. II, f. 242.)

PETER DE THORESBY occurs between 1303 and 1307 as the bishop's receiver. (See above.)

ROBERT DE LITILBERY occurs as receiver in February 1309. He had earlier acted as an attorney of Bishop Bek in the suit at the court of the archbishop of York brought by Prior Hoton of Durham touching the visitation of the cathedral by Bishop Bek in May 1300.

(*Records*, p. 136; Durham, Locellus 7, no. 81.)

CONSTABLE OF DURHAM CASTLE.

JOHN OF MAIDSTONE occurs as constable in 1291, when he seized and imprisoned within Durham Castle certain clerks of the archbishop of York who were attempting to summon Bishop Bek to appear before Archbishop John le Romeyn. He also held lands in Thorpe Thewles, co. Durham, the inheritance of which was disputed between his son and his sisters in 1302.

(*Reg. Romeyn* II, 100-2; *Records*, p. xv.)

? ROBERT OF HYLTON occurs in the capacity of constable of Durham, if without the actual title, between November 1296 and October 1298. As one of the "barons of the bishopric" and lord not only of Hylton in co. Durham but also of Shilbottle, Guyzance and Rennington in Northumberland and of Swine and Winestead in the East Riding of Yorkshire, he had taken command of the situation in Durham during the incursions of the Scots into northern England under William Wallace, when the local gentry had

huddled within the city walls "for the safety of the town and themselves". An incident of this date illustrating the situation was his arrest of Thomas Chancellor of Cambois, with his servants, at Preston by Jarrow in November 1297 for known adherence to William Douglas and the Scots, for which he had been locally proscribed. Chancellor, apparently, had first fled to sanctuary at Tynemouth from whence Hylton was able to inveigle him to his arrest on Durham soil and imprisonment in Durham Castle for a month until he found securities for his good behaviour. Hylton received a personal summons to the king's parliament in 1296 and 1297, and was summoned by Edward I for military service in Scotland from 1297 to 1303. He died about 1310.

(A.R. 226, mm. 2, 4d., 10; *Complete Peerage* VII, 19-22.)

PHILIP DARCY occurs as constable in 1300 and 1301, when he directed siege operations against the monks in their monastery and cathedral at Durham and imprisoned messengers from Edward I carrying letters of protection on behalf of these monks. Darcy, however, was no mere soldier of fortune, but lord of Nocton and Cawkwell in Lincolnshire, his paternal grandmother having been a Bertram of Mitford. Thereafter confining his activities nearer home, he was arrested in 1305 for armed robbery in Lincolnshire and committed to the Tower of London the following year. He fought in the ranks of Thomas, earl of Lancaster, at the battle of Boroughbridge in 1322, where he was taken prisoner with his son, but was later released and had obtained from the king restoration of his lands by August 1322. All this did not prevent him receiving from 29 December 1299 until shortly before his death in 1333 a regular personal summons to attend the royal parliament. He received the summons for military service from 15 May 1297 to 5 April 1327.

(RPD IV, 19-33; K.B. 189, m. 56; *Complete Peerage* IV, 50-2.)

CONSTABLE OF NORHAM CASTLE.

WALTER OF ROTHBURY appears as constable continuously from December 1284 to January 1301. He was one of Bishop Bek's knights, and participated in the conferences in 1291 at Norham and Upsettlington wherein Edward I first heard the rival claims of John de Balliol and Robert de Brus to the vacant throne of Scotland. He held land by grant of the bishop in Croxdale.

(Durham, Cart. II, f. 11v.; *Records*, pp. 33-4, 56-7; RPD IV, 45, 23.)

THOMAS OF RICHMOND occurs in August 1310. He, too, seems to have been one of the bishop's knights, and acted for him as keeper of the lands of the monastery at Durham during the quarrel of 1300.

(J. Bain, *Calendar of Documents relating to Scotland*, vol. iii, 207; RPD IV, 16, 47.)

SHERIFF OF DURHAM.

GUICHARD DE CHARON occurs as sheriff in September 1290. He had been steward of Durham under Bishop Robert of Holy Island between 1278 and 1283, and previous to that had been sheriff of Northumberland between 1268 and 1272. He acted regularly as a justice of the bishop between 1279 and 1306, and also served periodically in both Yorkshire and Northumberland as a royal justice of *oyer et terminer* and of gaol-delivery. During the vacancy after Bishop Robert's death he acted with Malcolm de Harlegh, a royal escheator, as the king's keeper of the temporalities of the bishopric. He was lord of Horton near Blyth and also held lands near Gateshead.

(*Arch. Ael.* 4th Series XX (1942), p. 24; *Records*, pp. 23-4, 34, 85.)

RALPH OF WARSOP occurs first in an undated charter of Bishop Bek which cannot be later than 1292, and his name

recurs in this office until July 1299. He had been clerk to Guichard de Charon as sheriff of Northumberland, and it is significant that he succeeded him as sheriff in Durham. He subsequently adhered to the party of the Durham monks in their dispute with the bishop, which effectively terminated his official career. The Ralph of Warsop who appears as bailiff of the city of Durham in 1319 was only a namesake.

(*Arch. Ael.* 4th Series XX, p. 24; *CPR 1281-92*, p. 504; *RPD IV*, 51.)

JOHN DE CREPPINGES occurs as the bishop's sheriff of Durham just before the confiscation of the franchise in July 1302. Within two years he was appointed the king's sheriff of Northumberland, in which office, however, he was replaced in April 1305, when the sheriff of Northumberland was ordered to escort the king's justices into the franchise of Durham. He had earlier been one of the bishop's commissioners in 1303 for establishing the bounds of common pasture south of Bishop Auckland.

(A.R. 226, m. 1; *Arch. Ael.* 4th Series XX, p. 39.)

*JOHN OF BIRTLEY accounts as royal sheriff of Durham between 17 July 1302 and 8 July 1303.

(P.R.O., L.T.R. Memoranda Roll 75, mm. 20, 80d., see also above.)

JOHN SHIRLOCK occurs as the bishop's sheriff in 1304. He had previously acted as steward of the estates of the convent of Durham for Henry of Lusby between 1300 and 1302, and was later to act similarly for Prior Tanfield. He held various lands in Wolviston and Castle Eden.

(Durham, 1a.9e. Specialia 2; *RPD IV*, 30; *Arch. Ael.* 4th Series XXXIII (1955), p. 71.)

*THOMAS OF MURTON occurs as royal sheriff between 1 May 1306 and 21 April 1307, during the second confiscation of the bishopric.

(*CCR 1302-7*, p. 381; P.R.O. Var. Accounts 368/7, f. 31v.)

RICHARD OF STANLEY occurs as the bishop's sheriff between January 1308 and August 1310. He had previously acted as the bishop's attorney in both London and Durham, and was one of his justices of assize in Sadberge in 1305. He would seem to have held some land at Hardwick.

(K.B. 197, m. 34d.; K.B. 198, m. 43; *Records*, p. 169; RPD IV, 3.)

CORONERS.

PETER OF BOLTON occurs as coroner of the Darlington Ward between August 1291 and August 1300. As such he was agent of the bishop's sheriff in 1296 and 1297 for rounding up carts and haulage animals within the franchise and selecting the best to carry provisions to the bishop's forces campaigning with Edward I in Scotland. Bearing his wand of office, he also supervised proceedings during the siege of the monastery and cathedral of Durham in August 1300. He acted as an attorney for Bishop Bek and certain of his officers in several cases of *novel disseisin* held in Durham before William de Bereford in April 1305. He was granted by Bishop Bek in 1301 sixty acres of land near North Auckland at an annual rent of 30s., and he also held lands near Riley Mill and Flass.

(A.R. 226, mm. 5d., 8, 9d.; RPD III, 8: IV, 7, 10, 67; *Records*, pp. 80-1.)

WILLIAM OF MIDDLEHAM and WILLIAM OF EDMONDSLEY occur together under the sheriff on 8 October 1292 as taking seisin of lands in Ferryhill on the death of the tenant in accordance with the exercise by Bishop Bek of his right of prerogative wardship.

(RPD IV, 36.)

WILLIAM DOD occurs as coroner and officer of the bishop between 1296 and 1302. He acted with Peter of Bolton in

1296 in levying cartage-service, and seems to have been concerned particularly with business arising near Witton-le-Wear. (A.R. 226, mm. 2, 9d.)

PETER OF MORPETH was charged under the title of coroner in several suits of trespass brought before William of Ormsby in September 1302. As, however, the plaintiffs all eventually defaulted the exact nature of his "offences" and their date of commission as a bishop's officer cannot be determined. (A.R. 226, m. 12.)

JAMES LE SERVAND occurs as sub-coroner in the Stockton Ward previous to 1302. (A.R. 226, m. 2.)

*WILLIAM OF HARDWICK occurs as the royal coroner of the Stockton Ward between 1305 and 1307, during the confiscation of the franchise. (B.B., app., pp. xxxiv-xxxv.)

ROGER OF ESH occurs as the coroner of the Easington Ward between 1294 and 1300. He is frequently found acting in concert with Peter of Bolton, coroner of the Darlington Ward, as on the occasions of the levying of cartage-service in 1297 and the siege of Durham in 1300. In 1298 he, too, was employed in a case of seisin of lands involving prerogative wardship at Hawthorn. He died in 1313 in possession of the manor of East Herrington, granted him by William of Herrington, together with 50 acres of reclaimed land between Cornsay and Esh granted him by Bishop Bek in 1291.

(A.R. 226, m. 8; RPD IV, 7, 36, 49, 67; *Records*, pp. 23, 81; R. Surtees, *History of Durham*, vol. I, pt. ii, pp. 188-9.)

JOHN BRETON occurs as coroner of the bishop in February 1308, when he came to take the temporalities of the monastery of Durham into the hands of Bishop Bek after the death of Prior Hoton.

(Graystones, p. 86.)

GILBERT occurs as coroner of Norham between October 1291 and October 1296.
(RPD IV, 33, 35, 63.)

ROBERT occurs as coroner of Norham between January 1301 and April 1302.
(Ibid., pp. 48, 53.)

CHIEF FORESTER.

WILLIAM OF GREENWELL occurs as chief forester of the bishop in September 1293 and September 1294.
(A.R. 226, mm. 4, 10d.)

WALTER OF BARMPTON occurs as chief forester between February 1295 and November 1297. He would appear to have been a right-hand man of the steward, Master William de St. Botolph, and shared the local unpopularity of the latter. He is notable for claiming for Bishop Bek in 1302 the exercise in Durham of the hated Forest Law as a corollary to the bishop's other regalian rights within his domain. While still an under-forester in March 1288 he had been involved in a curious incident where it was alleged that he had inveigled a local land-owner, Bernard of Thrislington, to his house and had refused to let him out again until he had consented to plight his troth to Agnes de Merlay, a sister of Walter's wife. Bernard had later tried to evade his promise, whereupon Agnes sued him in the church courts. Eventually, however, Bernard was able in September 1302 to recover damages of £20 against the forester. About 1294 Barmpton was granted by the bishop a toft and 127 acres of reclaimed land in Weardale between Escomb and Stanhope at an annual rent of 62s. 3d.

(A.R. 226, mm. 2d., 3d., 6d., 7d., 9d.; *Records*, p. 43.)

GILBERT OF SCARISBRICK occurs with the title of chief forester of the bishop in September 1307, although he was probably appointed before July 1305 when he was granted

120 acres of reclaimed land between Birtley and Eighton Banks at an annual rent of 10s. for his good service. It was possibly in this capacity that in July 1307 he led a band of the bishop's retainers to Middleton in Teesdale to harry the lands of the earl of Warwick for failure to acknowledge the bishop of Durham as superior lord.

(B.B., app., p. xxxiii; *Records*, pp. 112, 209-11.)

JUSTICES OF THE BISHOPRIC.

*GUICHARD DE CHARON and MALCOLM DE HARLEGH acted as royal justices and keepers of the bishopric during the vacancy after the death of Bishop Robert of Holy Island from June to September 1283. Harlegh subsequently rose to the position of king's escheator south of the Trent from 1290 to 1298.

(Durham, 3a.13e. Specialia 13; *CPR 1281-92*, pp. 291, 380; *1292-1301*, p. 342.)

GUICHARD DE CHARON, PETER DE THORESBY and JOHN DE LITHEGRAINES were appointed by Bishop Bek as justices of assize on 20 July 1291. Lithegraines had already acted as sheriff of Northumberland (1274-8) and sheriff of Yorkshire (1280-5), and later became the king's escheator north of the Trent (1295-9).

(*Records*, pp. 23-4; *Arch. Ael.* 4th Series XX, p. 36.)

RICHARD DE WALDEGRAVE and JOHN IPPEGRAVE occur as the bishop's justices of *oyer et terminer* in July 1291. Waldegrave had been under-constable of the Tower of London under Antony Bek in 1283.

(A.R. 226, m. 11d.; *CPR 1281-92*, p. 54.)

GUICHARD DE CHARON and PETER DE THORESBY acted as the bishop's justices itinerant in the "counties" of Durham and Sadberge from January to February 1295.

(RPD. III, 69; K.B. 182, m. 32.)

PETER DE THORESBY, GUICHARD DE CHARON, ROGER OF MAIDSTONE and MASTER RICHARD OF COXHOE occur as the bishop's justices in July 1296. In December 1293 Coxhoe was granted by the bishop "for good service" 60 acres of reclaimed land near Tursdale.

(A.R. 226, m. 10d.; *Records*, p. 42.)

GUICHARD DE CHARON and PETER DE THORESBY occur as the bishop's justices in April 1298.

(Durham, 3a.9e. *Specialia* 31.)

RALPH DE HENGHAM, JOHN DE LITHEGRAINES and GUICHARD DE CHARON occur as the bishop's justices of assize in September 1300. Hengham had been appointed a royal justice of common pleas in 1273 and chief justice of King's Bench in 1274, but was dismissed in 1289/90. He was subsequently summoned as a justice to parliament in March 1300 and appointed chief justice of common pleas in 1301, to be demoted to puisne justice under Edward II. He died in 1311.

(*Gesta*, p. 14; DNB IX, 410-11.)

WILLIAM OF BROMPTON and GUICHARD DE CHARON occur as the bishop's justices in October 1300. Brompton had been appointed keeper of the rolls and writs of King's Bench in November 1276 and as a justice of common pleas in 1278, but was dismissed with Hengham and others in 1289/90. Since 1285 he had been a counsellor of Bishop Bek, and was popularly reputed to be his "chief justice". In 1302 he was appointed as a royal justice itinerant for Cornwall, and died in 1303.

(A.R. 226, m. 10d.; S.S. 55, pp. cxxxiv, cxxxvi; Graystones, p. 74; *CPR 1301-7*, p. 57.)

WILLIAM OF BROMPTON, HUGH OF LOWTHER and JOHN DE CREPPINGES occur as the bishop's justices of assize in November 1300. Lowther had been a king's attorney (1291-3) and royal justice of *oyer et terminer* and of gaol-

delivery. He represented Westmorland in the parliaments of March 1305, October 1307 and September 1313.

(*Gesta*, p. 14; S.S. 55, p. cix; Mem. de Parl., p. cii; *CPR 1301-7*, pp. 193, 273, 539; *Parliamentary Writs* II, iii, 1118.)

WILLIAM OF BROMPTON, GUICHARD DE CHARON and PETER DE THORESBY occur as the bishop's justices in March 1301. (*Parl. Writs* I, 108-9.)

HUGH OF LOWTHER acted as the bishop's justice of gaol-delivery in March 1301.

(A.R. 226, m. 1d.)

PETER DE THORESBY and GUICHARD DE CHARON were acting as the bishop's justices of assize at Durham in July 1302.

(*Ibid.*, m. 1.)

*WILLIAM OF ORMSBY was appointed royal justice of assize for Durham on 17 July 1302. He had been a royal justice itinerant for Lancashire, Westmorland, Cumberland, Northumberland and Yorkshire in 1292/3, and was appointed a justice of King's Bench in 1296 and as chief justice of Scotland from 1296 to 1297.

(*CPR 1301-7*, p. 43; S.S. 55, pp. lxi-lxii.)

*WILLIAM OF ORMSBY and HENRY OF GUILDFORD acted as royal justices of *oyer et terminer* in September 1302.

(P.R.O., Q.R. Memoranda Roll 77, m. 32.)

*WILLIAM DE BEREฟอร์ด, WILLIAM OF ORMSBY, HENRY SPIGURNEL and HARVEY OF STANTON were appointed royal justices itinerant for Durham on 16 March 1303. Bereford had been one of the justices to whom the dispute between the prior of Tynemouth and the burgesses of Newcastle upon Tyne was referred by parliament in 1291. He was appointed a royal justice of common pleas in 1291, a justice of trail-

baston in 1306, and succeeded Ralph de Hengham as chief justice of common pleas in 1308. Spigurnel acted as a royal justice of common pleas between 1296 and 1327. Stanton had been a royal justice itinerant with William of Brompton in Cornwall in 1302. He was a receiver of parliamentary petitions from Ireland and Guernsey in September 1305. The following year he was appointed a justice of common pleas. He later became a baron of the Exchequer (1313), chancellor of the Exchequer (1316), chief justice of King's Bench (1323-4), again chancellor of the Exchequer (1324-6) and chief justice of common pleas (1326). He died in 1327.

(*CPR 1301-7*, p. 127; *DNB II*, 324-5: XVIII, 809-10, 1002-3.)

GUICHARD DE CHARON and PETER DE THORESBY acted as the bishop's justices in January 1304.

(Durham, Cart. I, f. 201.)

LAMBERT OF THRECKINGHAM, HUGH OF LOWTHER, PETER DE THORESBY and RICHARD OF STANLEY were appointed as the bishop's justices of assize for the county of Sadberge on 2 January 1305. Between 1300 and 1316 Threckingham acted as a royal justice of common pleas, and from 1317 to 1320 as a justice of King's Bench.

(K.B. 198, m. 43; S.S. 55, pp. cxxxiv, cxxxviii-cxl.)

*WILLIAM DE BEREฟอร์ด and ROGER DE HEIGHAM were appointed royal justices of assize for Durham on 26 March 1305. Heigham had been a royal justice of *oyer et terminer* from 1297 to 1301 and appointed a baron of the Exchequer in 1300. He was re-appointed as baron in 1307.

(*CPR 1301-7*, p. 323: *1292-1301*, pp. 316, 503, 622: *1307-13*, pp. 7, 100.)

GUICHARD DE CHARON, PETER DE THORESBY and LAMBERT OF THRECKINGHAM acted as justices of assize for the bishop at Durham in April 1305.

(K.B. 182, m. 32.)

LAMBERT OF THRECKINGHAM, PETER DE THORESBY and RICHARD OF STANLEY acted as the bishop's justices of assize for Sadberge between 4 May and 27 September 1305.

(K.B. 198, m. 43.)

*HENRY OF GUILDFORD, THOMAS OF SHEFFIELD and HENRY LE SCROPE were appointed as royal justices of *oyer et terminer* for Durham on 26 May 1306. Scrope was later appointed as a royal justice of common pleas in 1308 and as chief justice of King's Bench in 1317 but was superseded in 1323, when appointed justice of the king's forests north of the Trent. Between 1329 and 1330 he deputized for his brother Geoffrey as chief justice of common pleas, and in December 1330 was appointed a baron of the Exchequer. He died in 1336.

(CPR 1301-7, p. 474; DNB XVII, 1075.)

*WILLIAM DE BEREฟอร์ด, HENRY OF GUILDFORD and GEOFFREY OF HARTLEPOOL were appointed as royal justices of *oyer et terminer* for Durham on 16 June 1306. Later GUICHARD DE CHARON was substituted for Bereford, while Hartlepool was released from these duties on 21 March 1307. Hartlepool was a notable advocate in the royal courts and one of the king's justices itinerant.

(CPR 1301-7, p. 476; CCR 1302-7, p. 491; K.B. 189, m. 56; Mem. de Parl., p. cii.)

*HENRY OF GUILDFORD, JOHN DE LISLE, ADAM OF MIDDLETON and THOMAS OF SHEFFIELD were appointed as royal justices of assize for Durham in March 1307. Lisle had been a royal justice of *oyer et terminer* in 1293 and in 1301 and a baron of the Exchequer from 1297. Middleton was another advocate in the royal courts and occurs in 1305 as one of the king's justices of assize and of trailbaston for Northumberland, Cumberland, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

(CCR 1302-7, p. 492; CPR 1292-1301, pp. 48, 234, 438; 1301-7, pp. 80, 309; 1307-13, p. 526; Mem. de Parl., p. cii.)