

EXTRACTS
 FROM THE
 CHAMBERLAIN'S BOOK OF ACCOUNTS,
 14 HEN. IV.

IN THE POSSESSION OF THE
Corporation of Lynn Regis.

COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. G. H. DASHWOOD,

IN A LETTER

TO DAWSON TURNER, ESQ., V. P.

MY DEAR SIR,

I had lately put into my hands by one of our members, Mr. A. H. Swatman, a book of the Chamberlain's Accounts, belonging to the Corporation of Lynn Regis; and he called my attention to an account of the expenses of a journey to London, in the time of King Henry the Fourth, which I think might prove interesting to some of the members of our Society. Should you agree with me in this view, I shall be obliged by your submitting the following notice to the Committee.

Yours, very sincerely,

G. H. DASHWOOD.

In the reign of King Henry the Fourth, it appears there had been "divers dissensions and discords" between the Burgesses and Commonalty of Lynn, concerning the election

of a mayor. In the 13th of that king, several writs were sent down, requiring the presence of certain persons, and the production of certain writings, at Westminster, for the determination of the dispute.

The writs are entered in the Chamberlain's Book; and the names of the persons riding up to London on this account are given. Each person is attended by his servant, with the exception of John Bucworth and William Walden,* who have one servant between them; also John Meryell and Thomas Midilton, with one servant between them; and William Cook and John Denver, who do not appear to have had any. The whole number of persons, including servants, was twenty-two: a goodly cavalcade.

The route was the same as that formerly travelled by the *old* coaches, before the more direct low road by Ely and Cambridge was used; namely, by Stoke Ferry, Brandon, and Barton Mills to Newmarket, whence they edged off to the right, taking the line through Babraham, Barkway, Ware, and Waltham-Cross, to London.

The time occupied in the journey forms a striking contrast to the railroad-speed of the present day. The first halt of the company was at Brandon Ferry, 24 miles from Lynn, where we may conclude they dined; and the expenses there were 7s. 3d. Continuing their journey, they reached Newmarket, 17½ miles, the same night; at which place their expenses were 11s. 9½d. The next morning they proceeded to Badburgham, (*Babraham*), a little out of the present road, and about 12 miles from Newmarket, to breakfast; expending there 4s. 4d. Thence to Barkway, about 15 miles, where they had dinner, at the cost of 7s. 2d. Taking horse after dinner, they reached Ware, 13½ miles, the second night; at which place their expenses were 10s. 6½d. Proceeding thence on the third morning, they *baited* at Waltham,

* W. Walden's servant appears to have followed afterwards; as in a later part of the account his expenses are charged.

(Waltham-Cross† probably, as the town of Waltham lies a mile and a half out of the direct road,) expending 3s.; and continuing their journey to London, they expended 6s. 2d. for cookery there the same day.

Various charges then follow, for provisions and wine, the latter especially, when they appear to have treated their counsel learned in the law; for their passage by water to Westminster; for fees paid to counsel; and subsequently for expenses on their return home.

EXTRACTS FROM THE CHAMBERLAIN'S BOOK.

Noīa psonaz equitant̄ Londoñ virtute brīm p̄dcōz, p̄ p̄cept̄ maioris ex consensu ⁊ assensu coītat̄, noīataz et electaz in Gilda Aula Lennæ p̄dcæ p̄ consensum coītat̄ ibm congr̄, ten̄ ibm die lunæ px̄ post festū scæ Fidis Virginis, Anno R̄ Henr̄ quarti xiiij, pp̄t̄ negocia villæ Lennæ p̄dcæ,—videlic̄ Barthūs Petipas cū famulo suo, Joħes Bilneye cū famulo suo, Wiffus Baret cū famulo suo, Wiffus Hallyate cū famulo suo, Johes Tilneye junior cū famulo suo, Jacob; Nichasson cū famulo suo, Joħes Bucworth, Wiffus Walden cū uno famulo, Joħes Meryell ⁊ Thoñs Midiltone cū uno famulo, Wiffus Palmer cū famulo suo, Wiffus Cook ⁊ Joħes Denver.

Maiore ⁊ coītate concordant̄ ⁊ pmittent̄ bn et fidelit̄ solūe oīnes ⁊ singlas exp̄n̄ p̄dcāz p̄sonaz p̄ dcōs maiorē ⁊ coītat̄, ut pmittit̄, Londoñ missaz fact̄ seu faciend̄ ut p; manib; congr̄, p̄dict̄ penultio penett̄ in fine Rotuli inf̄a.

† Waltham-Cross is one of the twelve crosses erected by King Edward the First to the memory of his Queen, Eleanor of Castile, at the places where the body rested, on its conveyance to Westminster. She died at Herdby, in Lincolnshire, A.D. 1290. The sites of the crosses were, Lincoln, Grantham, Stamford, Geddington, Northampton, Stony-Stratford, Woburn, Dunstable, St. Alban's, Waltham, West-Cheape, and Charing. The only three now remaining crosses are at Geddington, Northampton, and Waltham.

Comp̄ Wiffi Waldeñ ⁊ Johis Bucworth, cam̄ar^o villæ Lennæ
de Anno R^{ex} Henr^o quarti xiiij.

s Recept ^o ex consensu maioris ⁊ solucoib ³	} xxx ^{li} . xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .
p negociis villæ de Lenna	
s Bartho. Petypas ex pte maioris ptis xviiij psonaz, ⁊c.	
Item. Recept ^o de Johe Maseye Cam̄ar ^o p negociis p̄dcis	iiij ^{li} . xij ^s . xj ^d .

Sm^a to^l. Re^{te}. xxxiiij^{li}. vj^s. iiij^d.

(Translation.)

Names of the persons riding to London, (in consequence of the aforesaid writs), by precept of the Mayor, with consent and assent of the Corporation, nominated and elected in the Guildhall of Lynn aforesaid, by the consent of the common court there assembled, held on the Monday next after the feast of St. Faith the Virgin, in the year of the reign of King Henry the Fourth, the fourteenth, touching the affairs of the town of Lynn aforesaid: namely, Bartholomew Petipas with his servant, John Bilneye with his servant, William Baret with his servant, William Hallyate with his servant, John Tilneye, junior, with his servant, James Nichassone with his servant, John Bucworth and William Walden with one servant, John Meryell and Thomas Midilton with one servant, William Palmer with his servant, William Cook and John Denver.

The Mayor and Corporation agreeing and promising well and faithfully to pay all and singular of the aforesaid persons (by the said Mayor and Corporation, as is spoken of before, sent to London) the outlay incurred or to be incurred, as is made manifest in the acts of the aforesaid assembly (inscribed) in last schedule but one, at the end of the Roll below.

The account of William Walden and John Bucworth, Chamberlains of the town of Lynn, in the year of the reign of Henry the Fourth, the fourteenth.

	£. s. d.
Sum received by consent of the Mayor and Corporation, and for the payments touching the affairs of the town of Lynn . . .	} 30 13 4
Sum, from Bartholomew Petipas, on the part of eighteen persons on the Mayor's side, &c.	
Also received of John Maseye, Chamberlain, for the aforesaid matters	3 12 11
Sum total of Receipts, £34. 6s. 3d.	

Inde comp̄ solut̄ in exp̄n̄ Londoñ p̄ manus Joh̄is Bucworth
 ⁊ Wiffi Walden Cam̄lar' villæ Lennæ p̄dcæ p̄ causa coītat̄ hoc
 anno xiiij^o ut patet p̄ceſſ̄ seq̄.

Item comp̄ in exp̄n̄ v̄sus Londoñ xxij ho- mīnū et equoz̄ suoꝝ solut̄ apud Brandon fery quoz̄ noīa patent sup ^a ⁊c.	vij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ apud nov̄ mercatum eadem nocte	xj ^s . ix ^d . ob.
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ apud Badburgh ^{am} ad Jentactm̄	iiij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ eod̄m die apud Berk- waye in p ^{andio}	vij ^s . ij ^d .
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ ead̄m nocte apud Ware	x ^s . vj ^d . ob.
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ baytyng apud Waltham	iiij ^s .
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ apud Londoñ die ven ^o is in coquina	vj ^s . ij ^d .
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ die Sab̄ti p̄x̄) seq̄ in coquina	v ^s . x ^d .
Item solut̄ navigand̄ p̄ aquā ad Westm̄ ij dieb;	xii ^d .
Item solut̄ p̄ vino emp̄t̄ hoīb; n̄ris ⁊ legis pitoꝝ de consilio n̄ro	iiij ^s . ij ^d .
Item in exp̄n̄ apud Londoñ die d̄m̄ca p̄x̄) seq̄ in coquina	vij ^s . v ^d .
Item solut̄ eod̄m die p̄ pociff̄, gallinis cū salcian̄, candeff̄, aqua, pipiro, croco, ⁊ pulie gyngēbz emp̄t̄	viiij ^s . xi ^d . ob.
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ die lunæ p̄x̄) seq̄ in coquina ⁊ batillaḡ ad Westm̄	iiij ^s . viij ^d .
Item solut̄ p̄ j pixide emp̄t̄ p̄ evident̄ custode	iiij ^d .
Item in exp̄n̄ solut̄ cū batillaḡ ad lambhithe ⁊ Westm̄) ac vino emp̄t̄	ij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item solut̄ p̄ scriptur̄) copiaꝝ diḡsaꝝ evident̄	iiij ^s . iv ^d .

Item in expñ solut ^o die Sabti seqū in pane coquina oystres ⁊ caseo empt ^o	vj ^s . ij ^d .
Item in expñ xxij hoīm ix dieb; in pane vis ^o ⁊ ligno focat	xxxiiij ^s . ij ^d . ob.
Item in expñ apud London ix dieb; xxij equoz ⁊ lectis cū candett	iiij ^{li} . v ^d .
Item comp ^o in Elemosina dat ^o paupib; p viā ⁊ London	vij ^d .
Item solut ^o Johi Den ^v p coī causa equitand ^o ad London	vj ^s . viij ^d .
Item in expñ xiiij hoīm die dnīca in coquina	viiij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item in expñ eodm die ad cōnā ⁊ in vino	ij ^s . viij ^d .
Item in pipiro poudr ^o croco ⁊ pulve gyngēbr	ij ^s . j ^d . ob.
Item in expñ die mcur ^o seqū apud Westm ⁿ ad jentacm cū consilio nro in pane, vino, ⁊ coquina ac Batilla ^g ad Lambhithe ⁊ Westm ⁿ	viiij ^s . v ^d . ob.
Item in expñ vini dulcis ⁊ Batilla ^g ad Westm ⁿ	ij ^s . j ^d .
Item in expñ solut ^o p ij casis ⁊ whetbred * p oystres	xiiij ^d .
Item solut ^o in expñ unius equi stant ^o apud Ware xvij dieb;	iiij ^s .
&c., &c.	

* Wheat-bread. In the *Forme of Cury*, compiled in the previous reign, is given the following mode of dressing oysters:—"Take oysters, parboile hem in her own broth. Make a lyor (*a mixture*) of crustes of brede, and drawe it up with the broth and vinegar. Mynce oynons, and do thereto with herbes, and cast the oysters thereinne. Boile it; and do thereto powder fort and salt, and messe it forth."

Another mode, given in a cotemporary Roll, is this:—"For to make oystryn in bruet.—They shall be schallyd, and ysod in clene water; grynd peper, and safron, bred, and ale, and temper it wyth broth; do the oystryn ther'ynne, and boyle it, and salt it, and serve it forth."

(Translation.)

Account of payments for expenses to London, by the hand of John Bueworth and William Walden, Chamberlains of Lynn aforesaid, for the cause of the Corporation this year, the fourteenth, as appears by the following particulars:—

	£	s.	d.
Item account of expenses up to London, of twenty-two men and their horses, paid at Brandon Ferry, whose names appear above, &c.	0	7	4
Item expenses paid at Newmarket the same night	0	11	9½
Item expenses paid at Badburgham, for breakfast	0	4	4
Item expenses paid the same day at Berkwaye, at dinner	0	7	2
Item expenses paid the same night at Ware	0	10	6½
Item expenses paid, baiting at Waltham	0	3	0
Item expenses paid at London, on the Friday, for food †	0	6	2
Item expenses paid the Saturday next ensuing, for food	0	5	10
Item paid in going by water to Westminster, two days	0	1	0
Item paid for wine bought for our men and for those of the learned in the law of our counsel	0	3	2
Item in expenses at London on the Sunday next following, for food cooked	0	7	5
Item paid the same day, for little cups, hens (<i>poulets</i>), sauces, ‡ candles, water, pepper, saffron, and powdered ginger bought	0	8	11½
Item in expenses paid the Monday next following, for boat-hire to Westminster and food there	0	4	8
Item paid for a chest bought for the safe keeping of the evidences	0	0	4
Item in expenses paid for boat-hire to Lambeth-hythe and Westminster, and for wine bought	0	2	4
Item paid for the writing of copies of different evidences	0	3	4
Item in expenses paid on the Saturday following, for bread, cooked food, oysters, and cheese bought	0	6	2
Item for expenses of twenty-two men, nine days, in bread, beer, and firewood	1	13	2½
Item for expenses in London nine days, twenty-two horses, and beds, and candles	4	0	5
Item account of money expended in charity, given to poor men by the way, and in London	0	0	7
Item paid John Denver for riding to London for the common cause	0	6	8

† Coquina, Cibaria Coacta.

‡ Salciamentum, pro Salsamentum, *Condimentum*.

	£.	s.	d.
Item in expenses for thirteen men, the Sunday, for food	0	8	4
Item in expenses the same day at supper, and in wine	0	2	8
Item in ground pepper, saffron, and powdered ginger	0	2	1½
Item in expenses on the Wednesday following at Westminster, at breakfast with our counsel, in bread, wine, and cooked food	0	8	5½
Item in expenses for sweet wine, and boat-hire to Westminster	0	2	1
Item in expenses paid for two cheeses, and wheat-bread (or white-bread) for oysters	0	1	1
Item for the expense of one horse standing at Ware seventeen days	0	3	0

Dona ⁊ solucōes facta legis pitis terræ retent^o de consilio
maioris coitat p^o diuſas vices ut p^o in pcell sub^o scriptis.

Item solut ^o Riçō Norton * sergeant	xx ^s .
Item solut ^o Johi Burton sergeant	xx ^s .
Item solut ^o Wiſſmo Skrene ſergeant	xx ^s .
Item solut ^o Wiſſm Lodyngton †	xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Martino	xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Wiſſmo Cheyne ‡	xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Johi Babyngton §	xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Johi Conyngeston	xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Wiſſmo Gascoigne juniore	xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Aua de Manston	xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .

* Richard Norton was constituted Chief Justice of the court of King's Bench Ao. 1 H. 5.

† Sergeant at Law 1 H. 5. Justice of the King's Bench 3 H. 5. He died Ao. 1419, and was buried at Grimsby, in Lincolnshire; where is a handsome brass, bearing his effigies under a canopy, to his memory.

‡ Justice of the King's Bench 3 H. 5. Chief Justice of the Pleas 2 H. 6.

§ Attorney General 1 H. 5. Chief Justice of the Exchequer 7 H. 5. Justice of King's Bench 1 H. 6.

|| The son, *probably*, of the famous Sir William Gascoyne, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, who committed to prison Prince Henry, afterwards King Henry V. The Chief Justice died Ao. 1412, leaving, by his first wife, one son, William Gascoyne, of Gawthorp, Esq.

Item solut ^o Wiffmo Champeneys . . .	xiijs. iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Robto Paston . . .	xiijs. iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Johi Franke ¶ . . .	xiijs. iiij ^d .
Item solut ^o Galfr ^o Walsh ^{am} . . .	vjs. viij ^d .
Item solut ^o Johi Aldirford . . .	vjs. viij ^d .
Item solut ^o Johi Crosse de Lenne . . .	vjs. viij ^d .

&c., some of the same names occurring to a second payment. The amount of these lawyers' fees being xv^{li}. and the whole is thus summed up:—

Sm^a. to^l. xxxv^{li}. xij^s. v^d. Et sic debent^{ur}.
Wiffmo Walden ⁊ Johi Buckworth Camer^l xxvjs. ij^d.

This is the account of the expenditure of the moneys received in advance; viz., xxxiiij^{li}. vjs. iiij^d.

But their suit appears by a continuation of the accounts to have cost them more than double the above sum. Among the subsequent entries are the following items:—

Item p equitat ^e Wiffi Hallyate ⁊ famuli sui a Londoñ usq; Norwicū et a Norwico usq; Len ⁿ et ad civitatē Londoñ itato . . .	xiiij ^s . ij ^d . ob.
Item in vino dulci consilii nri apud Westm ⁿ ⁊ in co ^o ibm . . .	viijs. x ^d .
Item p gducōne uni ^o equi famulo Wiffi Hallyate p xiiij dieb; ⁊ p stipend dci famuli p vij Septiis ⁊ iiij dieb; . . .	vjs. viij ^d .
Item dat ^o Ricō Secretar ^l dñi Cancellar ^l . . .	vjs. viij ^d .
Item dat ^o clico Rotuloꝝ in Cancellar ^l . . .	xl ^s .
Item solut ^o p sigilla ^l exemplificacōis . . .	xxiijs.
Item solut ^o p scriptur ^o ejusdm exemplifica cōis ⁊ recordo ejusdm . . .	lxxiijs. iiij ^d .

¶ Master of the Rolls 2 H. 6. Chancellor, Keeper of the Great Seal,
11 H. 6.

(Translation.)

Gifts and payments made to those of the land learned in the law, retained as counsel for the Mayor and Corporation at divers times, as appears in the underwritten particulars.

	£.	s.	d.
Item paid to Richard Norton, sergeant	1	0	0
[The names of the other legal men employed are not given here in the translation, as it would only be a repetition of the original.]			
Item for the riding of William Hallyate and his servant from London to Norwich, and from Norwich to Lynn, and again to the city of London	0	14	2½
Item in sweet wine for our counsel at Westminster, and in common wine there	0	8	10
Item for the hire of one horse, by the servant of William Hallyate, for thirteen days, and for the pay of the said servant for seven weeks and four days	0	6	8
Item given to Richard, Secretary of the Lord Chancellor	0	6	8
Item given to the Clerk of the Rolls in Parliament	2	0	0
Item paid for the sealing of the Exemplification	1	3	0
Item paid for the writing of the same Exemplification, and for the record of the same	3	13	4

We have here a burgess and his servant performing a journey from London to Norwich, thence to Lynn, and thence back again to London, at the expense of only 14s. 2½d. By a comparison of the general charges with those of the legal, it seems that even in those days law was rather an expensive pastime.

G. H. D.