

BENEFIT OF CLERGY

in the Chester County Pleas,
CHES 29/1-22

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BENEFIT OF CLERGY

Clergy were exempt from the jurisdiction of the county court: not merely rectors and vicars, but all persons ordained, the host of literate men in the shire. The first surviving ordination roll from the register of bishop Walter de Langton, 4 June 1300 (LJRO B/A/1/1 ff. 92-93) lists 30 new subdeacons; 47 new deacons and 87 new priests. In the same quarter there were only a handful of admissions and institutions to benefices.

Clergy were only to be judged by clergy: the bishop, the archdeacon and the monasteries each had their own system of jurisdiction and punishment. These exemptions also extended to consecrated property, so that felons could claim sanctuary from the hue and cry by entering a church.

Cadogan de Holdley appealed Richard de Broomhall for having on Saturday 29 May 1260 made a premeditated assault upon William de Worlaston, his nephew, in the fields of Worlaston and killed him with arrow and axe. Broomhall appeared, but, showing his tonsure, claimed that he was a cleric and not subject to lay justice. However, earlier in the day he had appeared in court in lay clothes and answered the justiciar as a layman, and as a man of the seneschal had been claimed by twertnic, and thereby renounced clerical privilege. Nevertheless, the archdeacon and ordinary claimed Broomhall as their clerk and replevied him to the liberty of Holy Church; should Cadogan wish to pursue the matter, then he should take it to the ecclesiastical courts.

1:198: 13 July 1260

T^rminat^r

Cadogan de Holdleg' App'llat Ric' de Brumhale quod ip'e nequit' in felunu' con^a pace' d'ni insult' p' cogitato die sabat' in vig' s'ce t'nitatis Anno xl.iii.¹ Will'm de Weliston' nepote' suum in campis de Werliston' cu' q^ada' sagitta & securi felonice' inf'fecit & h' optulit disr'onandu' per corp^s suum. D'cs Ric' defendidit u'bo ad u'bu'. & dic' quod in foro layco respondere de Jure no' deb' quia cl'icus est & coronam ostendit ad h' iustic' quod p'uilegio cl'icali gaudere no' debet eo q'd p'us eod' die vocat^s c'puit in h'itu layci & ad calu'pn' Justiciari in ead'm causa respondit vt laic^s & vt homo senescalli & ad lib'tatem suam. scil't. p' twertniht & +sic+ p'uilegio cl'ici renu'ciauit nec de cet'o eo gaudere debet in eadem c'a ad iudiciu'. Cadog' inuenit pl'g' ps'. s. Rob' Du & Houa fil' Filipp'. Tandem Archid' & ordinar' ip'm ut cl'icu' ad lib'tat' sacre s'ce ecc'e repl. ut cl'icu' suu'. Tandem ad Com' pximu' Cadogan com'puit ad appl'acoem suam ps'. Et p'ceptu' fuit quod ip'e Kadogan querimoniam reo sequebat^r coram ordin'.

¹ Saturday 29 May 1260

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The abbot of Chester sued Jordan de Winburn archdeacon of Chester in 1288 for a debt of £100. Jordan having failed to appear in court on four occasions; as Jordan had no lay fee by which he could be attached or distrained an appeal was made to the bishop, who sequestrated all Jordan's clerical possessions, but Jordan would not appear. The sheriff was therefore ordered to distrain the bishop.

4:202: 4 May 1288

p^r.

Esson' Abb'is Cestr'. op. se. u^s Jord'm de Winburn' Arch't^s Cestr' de pl'o q'd reddat ei Cent' lib^as, Et id' Jord's no' venit & vic' testif' q'd n'llm h't laicu' feodu'. n^c aliquid in laico feodo inf^r ball'm sua' in q^o possit sum' p^r +Ministru' tempalem recipe, attach', v'l dist'ng'+ I'o mandet' Ep'o Cestr' q'd fac' ip'm venire hⁱ ad p^rx'm Com' p^rd'co Abb'i inde respons'

4:272: 15 June 1288

Abbas Cestr'. op. se. u^s. Jord'm de Wymburn' Archid'm Cestr' de pl'o debiti, & ip'e no' venit & fec' defalta' ad p^rx'm Com' vn' mand' fuit Ep'o q'd h'eret ip'm hⁱ ad hunc die', qⁱ nichil inde fecit n' mandauit &c'. I'o p^rc' est +mandet'+ ei sic' pⁱus q'd h'eat eu' hⁱ ad p^rx' Com', p^rd'co Abb'i inde respons'.

4:283: 27 July 1288

M'ia

Abbas Cestr' qui tulit br'e .u^s. Mag'rm Jord'm de Wynburn' de pl'o debiti no' p^rs' br'e suu', I'o ip'e in m'ia

4:332: 21 September 1288

Abb's Cestr' op. se. u^s. Jordanu' de Wynburne Archid' Cestr' de pl'o q'd reddat ei Cent' li'. & ip'e no' venit & p^rcept' fuit vic' q'd sum' ip'm q'd esset hic ad hu'c diem qui nⁱ inde fec' s' mandauit q'd +.... est &+ no' h't laicu' feod' in ball'ia sua n^c aliquid p^r q'd distr' potest i'o mandet' Ep'o q'd fac' eum venire ad p^rx'm Cestr'

5:18: 19 October 1288

p^r.

Abbas Cestr'. op. se. u^s. Mag'rm Jord'm de Wynburn' de pl'o q'd reddat ei. Centum lib^as, &c'. Et ip'e no' ven', Et mand' fuit Ep'o Couentr' & Lichesf'. q'd qu'a p^rd'cus Jord's Cl'icus fuit & no' h'uit laicum feod' p^r q'd potuit dist'nge adven' &c', q'd fac'et ip'm venire hic ad hunc die' ad respondd' &c'. Qui resc'psit q'd puentus om'es ad p^rd'cm Mag'rm Jord'm r'one Archidiaconat^s sui Cestr', qual'cumq' spectantes sequestrauit & adhuc sub artisimo sequestro firmit' fac' custodiri. Et cons', q'd p^rd'cus Ep's dist'ngat' p^r om'es t'ras &c'. Et q'd vic' de exitib^s eorumd'm r'ndeat Ita q'd h'eat corpus suu' h' ad p^rx'm Com', ad fac' venire p^rd'cm Mag'rm Jord'm ad respondd' p^rfato Abb'i de pl'o p^rd'co

5:69: 19 October 1288

p^r.

Abbas Cestr' p^r attorn' suu' op. se. u^s. Jord'm de Wymburn' Archid'm Cestr' de pl'o q'd reddat ei Centu' libras, Et ip'e no' ven', & mandatu' fuit vic' q'd distr' Ep'm Cestr' p^r om'es t'ras &c', et q'd de exitib^s eord'm &c'. Ita q'd corp^s suu' H'eret hic ad hunc die' ad respondd' p^rfato Abb'i &c'. Qui quid'm Ep's remandat q'd sequest^auit om'es puent^s & exitus Archidiaconat^s p^rd'ci quousq' &c'. Et mandet' vic' sicut pⁱus q'd distr' p^rfatu' Ep'm p^r om'es terras &c'. Et q'd de exitib^s eorumd' &c'. Ita q'd corpus &c'

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Urian de Sancto Petro (Sanpierre) sued Robert de Hemington for a debt of 100 shillings. Hemington was a wealthy clergyman, rector of a moiety of Malpas (worth £26 13s 4d a year according to the 1301 taxation of pope Nicholas IV) and parson of Waverton (£6 13s 4d), who regularly let out his tithes for large amounts (see Tithes). Hemington would not appear, so the sheriff was ordered to distrain him. The sheriff said Hemington has nothing in lay fee by which he might be distrained, except for six oxen which he had seized. Urian persisted with his suit and the sheriff said that the only lay property that Hemington had was a grange full of corn at Huxley (a township of Waverton parish) which he had sent for the defence of the kingdom (the king then gathering corn for his Scottish expedition). Nevertheless, Urian persisted in a claim that Hemington had lay property in Waverton.

5:61: 30 November 1288

Vrianus de s'co Petro op. se. u^s. Rob'm de Hemigton' de pl'o debiti, Et ip'e no' ven', & h'uit die' p^r esson' suu' e'endi h' ad hunc die' ad respondd' &c'. I'o cons' est q'd distr' p^r om's t'ras &c'. Et p'c' e' vic' q'd distr' eum p^r om's t'ras &c'. Et q'd de exitib^s eorumd' &c'. Ita q'd corp^s suu' &c'

5:98: 18 January 1289

[Vrianus] de s'co Pet^o op. se. u^s. Rob'm de Hemigton' de pl'o debiti .C.s'. Et ip'e no' ven'. Et p'c' fuit vic' [ad vlt'] Com' q'd distr' eum p^r om's t'ras &c'. Et q'd de exitib^s &c'. Ita q'd corp^s &c'. Et vic' ven' & dic' nichil h't [in laico] feodo p^r quod potest dist'ngi nⁱ sex boues p^r quos ip'm dist'nxit &c'. I'o cons' est q'd teneat eos &c' Et p'c' est vic' sicut pⁱus q'd distr' eumd' Rob'm p^r om's t'ras &c'. Et q'd de exitib^s &c'. Ita q'd corpus suu' &c'

5:113: 22 February 1289

p^r.

Vrian^s de s'co Pet^o, op. se. u^s. Rob'm de Hemigton' de pl'o debiti. Et p'd'cus Rob's no' ven', Et p'c' fuit vic' q'd distr' eu' p^r om's terras &c'. Et q'd de exitib^s &c'. Ita q'd corp^s &c'. h'eret hic ad hunc die' ad respondd' &c'. Qui nichil inde fecit, I'o ip'e in m'ia. Et p'c' est ei sic' pⁱus q'd distr' p'd'cm Rob'm p^r om's terras &c'.

5:147: 19 April 1289

p^r.

Vrianus de s'co Petro. op. se. u^s. Rob'm de Hemmyngton' de pl'o debiti qui no' ven' & p'c' fuit vic' q'd distr' eum p^r om's t'r' & catall' qui nⁱ inde fec' set venit & testific' q'd nich' h'uit in laico feodo p^r q'd possit distr'. & quia testific' est q'd h't in laico feodo p^r q'd p^t distr' i'o p^r est vt pⁱus

5:188: 17 May 1289

p^r.

Vrianus de S'co Pet^o. op. se. u^s. Rob'm de Hemigton' de pl'o .C.s'. Et ip'e no' ven', & p'c' fuit vic' q'd distr' eu' p^r om's t'ras &c'. & q'd de exitib^s &c'. Ita q'd corp^s &c'. Qui mand' q'd nichil inue'it in balli'a sua de t'ris & bon' p'd'ci Rob'ti p^r que possit eu' distr', &c'. nⁱ vnam g^{ang}' plenam bladi apud Huxel' sup^r quod misit regia' defens' &c'. I'o p'c' est vic' q'd distring' p'fatum Rob'm p^r om's terras &c'. Et q'd de exitib^s &c'. Ita q'd corpus &c'.

5:227: 28 June 1289

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Vrianus de S'co Pet^o. op. se. u^s. Rob'm de Hemigton' Psonam de Wau^rton' de pl'o debiti, Et ip'e no' ven' & pl'res fec' defaltas p q'd p^rc' fuit vic' ad vltimu' Com' q'd distr' eum p om's t^ras & cat' &c'. Et q'd de eor' exit' &c', Ita q'd corpus suu' &c'. Qui nich' inde fec' s' mand' q'd n'llm h't laicu' feod' p q'd &c'. Et modo inuentu' est q'd h't laicu' Feod' apud Wau^rton' p quod &c' I'o p^rc' est vic' q'd distr' eum p om's terras &c'.

5:261: 9 August 1289

Dies dat^s est Vriano de S'co Petro quer' & Rob'to de He'myngton' de pl'o debiti p^rce ptiu' usq' ad px'm Com'

Ascelin son of Thomas de Upwood sued John the parson of Tattenhall in a plea of trespass. The parson would not come, and it was testified that he held no lay property by which he might be attached or distrained. It was decided that the bishop should be ordered to make him come to court.

5:173: 17 May 1289

p^r.

Ascelinus fil' Thome de Vpwode op. se. u^s. Joh'em Psonam de Tatenhal de pl'o t^ansgr'onis. Et p^rd'cus Joh's no' ven'. Et vic' testific'. q'd non h't laicu' feodum in balli'a sua p q'd pot' iusticiar' ad ven' &c'. Jud'm. cons' est q'd mandet' Ep'o Cestr' q'd fac' ip'm venire hic ad px'm Com' Cestr' p^rd'co Ascelino inde respons'.

5:209: 28 June 1289

[p^r.]

Ascelinus fil' Thome de Vpwode op. se. u^s Joh'm Psonam de Tatenhal de pl'o t^ans. Et ip'e no' ven' & [p^rc'] fuit Ep'o Cestr' q'd fac'et ip'm venire hic &c'. Et modo testific' est, q'd h't terras & ten' in laico feodo vnde possit distr' &c' I'o p^rc' est vic' q'd ponat p^rd'cm Joh'm p vad' &c', q'd sit hic &c'. ad resp' inde &c'.

5:253: 9 August 1289

Ascelin^s fil' Thom' de Vpwode. op. se. u^s. Joh'em psonam de Tatenhal de pl'o t^ans & ip'e no' venit. Et p^rcept' fuit vic' q'd distring' ip'm p om's t^ras &c' Ita q'd ip'e n^c aliq's &c'. Ita q'd corp^s suu' h'ret hic &c' qui nichil inde fe't s' mandauit q'd no' h't laicu' feod' in Balli'a sua p potest distr'. I'o p^rcept' ei q'd distring' ip'm u^t pⁱus

5:313: 20 September 1289

Ascelin^s fil' Thom' de Vpwode. op. se. u^s. Joh'em. Psonam Ecc'e de Tatenhal de pl'o t^ans. Et p^rd'cs Joh' no' venit & p^rc' fuit vic' q'd atach' eum qui nich' inde fec', s' mandauit q'd p^rd'cs Joh's Cl'ic^s est & nich' h't in balliua sua p q'd potest distringi I'o cons' est q'd mandet' Rog'o Ep'o Conuentr' & Lych' q'd fac' venire p^rd'cm Joh'm Cl'icm suu' &c'.

A more complicated case occurred in August 1289 when Robert de Pulford, parson of Coddington, sued Walter de Frodsham chaplain and Robert de Pulford, executors of the will of Hugh de Pulford for a debt of 12½ marks of silver (£8 6s 8d). Although this ostensibly concerned a lay estate, Walter would not come to court, and the sheriff testified that he had no lay property by which he might be attached or distrained. It was decided that the bishop should be ordered to make him come to court.

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5:272: 9 August 1289

Rob's de Pulford psona de Codington' op. se. u^s. Walt'm de Frodish^am Cap'llm, & Rob'm de Pulford Executores testam'ti Hug' de Pulford de pl'o q'd redd' ei duodecim Marcas & dimid' argenti +&c'+, Et p^rd'cus Walt'us no' ven', & vic' testific' q'd Cl'icus est & non h't laicum feodum in balli'a sua p q'd &c' I'o mandetur Ep'o Couentr' & Lich' q'd fac' ip'm venire hic ad px'm Com' Cestr', ad respondd' p'fato Rob'to de pl'o p^rd'co.

Hugh Fornon sued John son of Richard le Despenser chaplain in a plea of trespass against the peace. John did not come to court, and it was said that he had no lay property by which he might be attached or distrained. It was alleged that Despenser had such property in Lymm, but the sheriff said that Despenser was not found, nor had anything. It was left to Fornon to pursue the matter with the bishop, should he wish.

11:171: 21 April 1299

*p^r
vic' testatur q'd Joh's fil' Ric'i le Despens^r Cap'lls nich' h't in balli'a sua p quod possit atach' Et testatu' est in Cur' q'd satis h'et in Lymme p quod distringi possit ideo p^r e' vic' sicut alias q'd atach' ip'm Joh'em q'd sit ad pxim' Com' ad respondendum Hugoni Fornon de pl'ito. trans'.*

11:219: 26 May 1299

*p^r.
[blank] essoniator Hugonis Fornon, op. se u^s Joh'em fil' Ric'i le Despens^r cap'llm de pl'o t^{ns}, Et ip'e no' venit H't p quod p't distringi, Ideo, capiat^r si inuent^s fu'it &c'*

11:243: 7 July 1299

*p^r.
Hugo Fornon. op. se. u^s. Joh'em fil' Ric'i le Despens^r cap'llm, de pl'to t^{ns}. cont^a pacem. Et ip'e no' venit. Et vic' testabat^r q'd no' fuit inuent^s n^c aliq'd &c'. Et nu'c, hoc id'm testat^r. Ideo p^r. est ei, q'd cap' eum, si inuent' &c'. Ita q'd sit &c'. ad [resp'] &c'.*

11:389: 22 September 1299

Rog^rus de Leicestr' esson' Hug' Fornon, op. se. u^s. Joh'em fil' Ric'i le Despens^r, cap'llm, de pl'o t^{ns} cont^a pace'. Et p^rd'cs Joh's no' venit. Et testatu' est, q'd id'm Joh' no' h't laic' feod' vbi p't distr' &c'. p quod p^r. fuit pti alias, q'd sequeret^r br'e ad Ep'm. Ideo p^r. est eid'm pti sic' pⁱus, q'd sequat^r br'e ad Ep'm si velit &c'.

William de Chalouns sued master Robert de Belvoir for a debt of £6 10s. The sheriff said that Belvoir had no lay property which a temporal minister could receive, attach or distrain. The sheriff was instructed to ask the bishop to make Belvoir come to court to answer, but the sheriff did nothing.

17:372: 31 May 1306

p^r.

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Will'us de Chalons p attornatu' suu'. op. se. u^s. Mag'rm Rob'm de Beluero de pl'ito debiti. Et ip'e no' venit Et p^r. fuit vic' q'd attach' eum q'd fuisset hic &c' Et vic' mand' q'd p^rd'cus Rob'us cl'icus est & no' h'et laycu' feodu' p quod &c' I'o. p^r est Ep'o loci q'd ponat eu' p vad' &c'. q'd sit &c'. ad r'. &c' de pl'ito p^rd'co.

17:456: 12 July 1306

p^r.

Will'us de Chalons p attorn' suu'. op. se. u^s. Mag'rm Rob'm de Beluero de pl'ito q'd reddat ei sex libras dece' solidos quos ei debet & iniuste detinet. Et ip'e no' venit. Et vic' alias mand' q'd cl'icus est n^c h'et laicu' feodum ppt^r quod p^r. fuit Ep'o Cestr' q'd venire fac'et p^rd'cm cl'icum suu' &c' hic &c' qui nich' inde fecit n^c br'e suu' ret'navit, sicut p^r fuit. I'o. p^r est vic' q'd ponat p vad' &c' p^rd'cm Ep'm, Ita q'd h'eret cl'icum suu' hic &c' ad r'. &c'.

17:574: 6 September 1306

Will'us de Chalons p attorn' suu'. op. se. u^s. Mag'rm Rob'm Rob'm² de Bel[uero] de pl'ito q'd reddat ei sex libras & decem solidos quos ei debet & iniuste detinet. Et ip'e no' venit Et p^r. fuit vic' alias q'd sumon' eum q'd fuisset hic &c'. Et vic' mand' q'd cl'ic^s est & no' h'et laicu' feodu' p quod &c' Ita ad tunc p^r fuit Ep'o Cestr' q'd venire fac'et p^rd'cm cl'icum suu' hic &c'. Et ip'e nich' inde fecit n^c br'e suu' returnavit sicut ei p^rceptum fuit. I'o. p^r. est vic' sicut alias q'd ponat p vad' &c'. p^rd'cm Ep'm ita q'd h'eat cl'icum suu' hic &c' ad resp' p^rd'co Will'o de pl'ito p^rd'co.

17:590: 27 September 1306

Will'us de Chalouns qui tulit br'e. u^s. Mag'rm Rob'm de Beluero de pl'ito detenc' sex librar & decem solid' petit licenciam quer' melius br'e & h'et.

On 29 June 1307 Richard Starky, keeper of the avowries of the earl of Lincoln in Cheshire sued Hugh de Dutton, Roger de Cheadle, Robert de Massey of Sale, Roger Dumville and William de Venables for £8 which he had paid for Richard le Cellarersman fugitive, whom they, together with Roger de Venables and John de Wetenhall, had mainperned. Richard le Cellarersman had been one of the men involved in the ravishment of Matilda de Stockport (see Ravishment).

Hugh, Roger de Cheadle, Robert, and William acknowledged that they had mainperned the fugitive, but Roger Dumville denied that he ever had, so it was decided that he should wage law twelve-handed. Roger de Venables and John de Wetenhall did not appear, but Venables afterwards acknowledged that he had taken part in the mainpern, and was amerced.

The sheriff said that Roger de Venables was a clerk and had no lay fee. The sheriff was instructed to ask the bishop to make Venables come to court to answer, but the sheriff did nothing.

19:124 [29 June 1307]

Lex

Mⁱa alibi

² sic

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Hugo de Dutton', Rog'us de Chedele, Rob'tus de Masci de Sale, Rog'us Domuyle, & Will's de Venables attach' fu'u't ad respondend' Ric'o Starky custodi aduocar' lib'tatis Com' Linc' in Com' p'd'co de octo libr' quas soluit p Ric'o le Celeresmon fugiti'o que' p'd'ci Hugo & alii simul cu' Rog'o de Venables & Joh'ne de Wetenhale man'. Et de quib^s octo libr' p'fatu' Ric'm acq'etare debent sicut r'onabilit' mo'str^are pot'it vt dicit &c'

Et p'd'ci Hugo, Rog'us de Chedle, Rob'tus de Masci Rog'us & Will's ven'. Et id'm Hugo Rog'us de Chedele, Rob'tus & Will's. no' possu't dedicer' quin man' p'd'cm Ric'm in forma p'd'ca, Id'o p'd'cus Ric'us recuget, u'sus eos p'd'cos denar' p porc'one &c', Et p'd'cus Rog'us de Dumuyle b'n defend' q'd n'cq^a man'. p'd'cm Ric'm &c' Et hoc parat^s est defendere cont^a ip'm & secta' sua' sicut Cur' co'sider' I'o cons' q'd vadiat ei lege' .se. xij. manu Et ven' cu' lege sua hic ad pxi'a pl'ita scc^ai &c' pleg' de lege, Will's Gerard, & Ric'us de Foulshurst. &c'

Id'm Ric'us. op. se. u^s. p'd'cos Rog'm de Venables & Joh'em de Wetenhale de pl'ito p'd'co Et ip'i no' ven' Et p^r. fuit vic' q'd attach' eos Et vic' nich' inde fecit, set Mand' q'd p'd'cus Rog'us cl'icus est, & no' h'et laicu' feodu' &c' I'o mandatu' est Ep'o Cestr' q'd venir' fac' eum hic ad p'd'ca pl'ita &c'. Et de p'd'co Joh'ne de Wytenhale vic' nich' fecit I'o sicut p'us p^r. est vic' q'd venir' fac' eum hic ad pl'ita illa. &c'

Postea ven' p'd'cus Rogerus, & concessit q'd est vn^s Man' I'o oneret^r p porc'one sua. Et qa p'us dedixit Man' p'd'ca I'o ip'e in m'ia.

19:163 [8 August 1307]

m'ia .ij.s'.

D Rog^o + Will'mo + de Venables eo q'd dedixit Man' sua' + p Hick^s ho'ie celerarij + & postea eam concessit in m'ia &c'

16 May 1307 Thomas Clive servant of Henry le Weaver, Richard Budworth and one Ikedoun were accused of stealing from the abbot. Thomas denied the whole affair; a jury was to decide at the next sitting. Richard Starky claimed Thomas for the Constable's avowry. 'Ikedoun' claimed that he was a cleric, whereupon master Robert de Frodsham, the archdeacon's official, claimed him for his jurisdiction.

At the next court, 17 June, it was claimed that the theft had taken place in Staffordshire, and so out of the jurisdiction of this court; Thomas was returned to Robert.

19:50 [16 May 1307]

lib'tas

Thom' de Clyue seruiens Henr' le Weuere & Ricardus Bodisworth' capti p dep'dac'one abb'tis eiusd'm abb'tis furtiue asportatis ven' Et ques' qualit' se velit +inde+ acq'etare, p'd'cus Thom' defend' totu' &c' Et dicit q'd in nullo est inde culp' Et de bono & malo pon' se sup p'riam I'o capiat' inde Jur^a set ponit' in respectu' vsq' ad px'm Com' &c' qa null' ven' I'o vic' h'eat corpa &c' Et sup hoc ven' Ric'us Starky custos aduocar' Com' Linc' Const' Cestr' & petit lib'tatem d'ni sui de p'd'co Thom' &c' Et h'et sub pena qua decet &c' vsq' ad px'm Com' &c'

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Et p^rd'cus Ikedown³ dicit q'd cl'icus est & q'd no' debet hic inde responder' Et sup hoc ven' Mag'r Rob'tus de Frodish^am Offic' Arch' Cestr' Et pet' ip'm tanq^a cl'icum set vt sciat' qual' ei lib'ari debeat inquirat' inde rei veritas p p'riam ad px'm Com' &c' Ad que' Com' videl't die Mart^s pxi'a post festu' Nati'tatis s'ci Joh'is Bapt'e,⁴ ven' p'd'ci Thom' de Clyue & Ric'us Et quia p'd'ca depredac'o f'ca fuit in Com' Staff I'o p'd'cus Thom' delib'at' p'd'co Custodi aduocar' Com' Lync' sub pena qua p'us &c' qui de eo lib'tate d'ni sui pet' &c' h'ndi corp^s eius hic ad voluntate' d'ni Com' Ita tam' q'd p'muniat' p vnu' mensem ante Com', &c' Et p'd'cus Ric'us est manucap^s veniendi in forma p'd'ca put patet int' manucap' &c'

John son of Walter de Frodsham, on behalf of the Crown, sued Robert de Chishull parson of Barthomley for a debt of £6 19s 8d. Chishull did not appear, and the sheriff said that he had no lay fee by which he might be summoned. Notice was sent to the bishop to compel Chishull to appear, but nothing further appears on the record.

20:321: 23 January 1308

Archid'

Joh'es fil' Walt'i de Frodesham qui sequit' p d'no Rege op se u^rs Rob'm de Chishull psonam eccl'ie de Bertumleye. de pl'ito q'd reddat eidem d'no Regi. sex libras. decem & nouem solidos quos ei debet & iniuste detinet &c' Et ip'e no' venit Et p'ceptum fuit vic'. q'd sum' eu' q'd esset hic &c'. Et vic' nich' inde fecit, set mandauit q'd p'd'cus Rob'us Cl'icus est & no' h'et Laicu' feodu'. vbi potest Sum'. I'o mandatu' est Ep'o. Cestr'. q'd venire faciat p'd'cm Rob'm cl'icu' suu' ad px'm Com'. ad respond' &c'.

20:354: 5 March 1308

Joh'es filius Walt'i de Frodesham q' sequit' p d'no Rege op se u^s Rob'm de Chishulle Personam ecclesie de Bertumleye de pl'ito q'd reddat d'no Regi sex Libras decem & nouem solid' quos ei debet & iniuste detin' Et preceptu' fuit vic' q'd Sum' eu' Et vic' n' inde fecit Ideo sicut p'us preceptu' est vic' q'd Sum' eu' q'd esset hic ad hu'c Com' Et vic' modo mand' q'd cleric^s est & q'd non h'et laicu' feodu' in Balli'a sua vbi potest sum' Ideo Mand' est Ep'o q'd ve'ire fac' Clericu' suu' q'd sit hic ad px'm Com' ad respond' d'no Regi de pl'ito p'd'co

20:473: 23 April 1308

p^r e'

Joh'es fil' Walt'i de Frodesham qui sequit' p d'no Reg'. op. se. u^rsus Rob'm de Chishull psona' eccl'ie de Bertumleye cl'icu'. de pl'ito q'd reddat eidem d'no Reg' sex libr^as. decem & nouem solid' & octo denar'. quos eidem d'ni Regi debet & iniuste detinet &c'. Et ip'e no' venit. Et mandatu' fuit Ep'o Cestr' q'd venire fac' et hic ad hunc Com' p'd'cm Rob'm cl'icum suu' ad respond' &c' I'o consideratu' est q'd p'd'cs Ep'us attach' ad h'end' p'd'cm Rob'm cl'icum suu'. ad px'm Com'. &c'.

Hugh de Lichfield chaplain, Ralph de Moulton and Richard de Cawardin sued William Pentyn, parson of Handley church, for debt in three separate but

³ sic

⁴ Tuesday 27 June 1307

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matching cases. Pentyn did not appear, and the sheriff said that Pentyn had no lay fee. Notice was to be sent to the bishop to have Pentyn in court. Lichfield abandoned his case, but Moulton and Cawardin continued, and Pentyn appeared.

Moulton and Cawardin both said that on Monday 28 June 1305 at Saughton, Pentney had promised to pay them 1 mark (13s 4d) and 2 marks (£1 5s 8d) respectively on the following Christmas day, but had failed to do so. Pentney successfully repelled both suits by saying that the actions had been started in the court of eyre.

21:894: 2 September 1309

It^r p^r

Hugo de Lichefeld cap' lls p attorn' suu' op. se. u^rs Will'm Pentyn psona' eccl'ie de Hanlegh' de pl'ito debiti Et ip'e no' ven'. Et p^rceptu' fuit vic' sicut alias q'd distr' eu' p om'es terr' &c' & q'd de exit' &c' Ita q'd h'eret corp^s ei^s hic ad hu'c Com' &c' Et vic' modo Mand' q'd p^rd'cus Will's cl'icus est & no' habet laic' feod' p quod &c' I'o Mand' est Ep'o Cestr' q'd venire fac' cl'icu' suu' ad px'm Com' &c'

21:895: 2 September 1309

It^r p^r.

Rad'us de Mulneton' op. se. u^rs Will'm Pentyn psona' ecl'ie de Hanlegh' de pl'ito deb'i Et ip'e no' venit [&] sicut alias p^rcept' fuit vic' q'd distr' eu' p om'es terr' &c' & q'd de exit' &c' Ita q'd h'eret corp^s ei^s ad hu'c Com' &c' Et vic' nichil inde fecit, s' Mandavit q'd p^rd'cs Will's cl'ic^s est & no' h'et laycu' feodu' p quod &c' I'o Mandatu' est Ep'o Cestr' q'd venire fac' cl'icu' suu' ad px'm Com' ad respondend' &c'

21:896: 2 September 1309

Itin^r p^r.

Ric'us de Cawerthin op. se. u^rs Will'm Pentyn psona' eccl'ie de Hanlegh' de pl'ito debiti Et ip'e no' venit Et sicut alias p^rceptu' fuit vic' q'd distr' eu' p om'es terr' &c' & q'd de exit' &c' Ita q'd h'eret corp^s ei^s hic ad hu'c Com' &c' Et vic' nichil inde fecit. s' Mand' q'd p^rd'cs Will's cl'ic^s est & no' Habet Laycu' feodu' in balli'a sua p quod &c' I'o Mand' est Ep'o Cestr' q'd venire fac' cl'icu' suu' ad px'm Com' ad respondend' &c'

22:45: 7 October 1309

Hugo de Lichefeld Cap' lls p attorn' suu' op se u^rsus Will'm Pentyn psona' eccl'ie de Hanlegh' de pl'ito +deb'i+ q'd redd' ei. Et ip'e no' venit Et sicut alias p^rceptum fuit vic' q'd distr' eu' p om'es t^rras &c' Et q'd de exit' &c' Et q'd h'eret corp^s eius hic ad hunc Com' &c' Et vic' modo mand' q'd p^rd'cs Will's cl'icus est & no' h'et laicu' feodu' p quod &c' Ideo mandatu' est Ep'o q'd venire fac' cl'icu' suu' ad px'm Com' &c'

22:46: 7 October 1309

Rad'us de Mulneton' op se u^rs Will'm Pentyn psona' eccl'ie de Hanlegh' de pl'ito deb'i Et ip'e no' venit Et sicut alias p^rceptu' fuit vic' q'd distr' eu' p om'es t^rras &c' Et q'd de exit' &c' Et q'd h'eret corp^s eius hic ad hunc Com' &c' Et vic' modo mand' q'd p^rd'cs Will's cl'icus est & no' h'et laicu' feodu' p quod &c' I'o mandatu' est Ep'o q'd ve'ire fac' cl'icu' suu' &c'

22:47: 7 October 1309

Ric'us de Cawarthin. op. se u^rs Will'm Pentyn psona' eccl'ie de Hanlegh' de pl'ito deb'i Et ip'e no' ven' Et sicut alias p^rcept' fuit vic' q'd distr' eu' p om'es t^rras &c'. Et q'd

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de exit' &c' Et q'd h'eret corp^s eius ad hunc Com' &c' Et vic' nich' inde fecit. set mand' q'd p'd'cs Will's cl'icus est & no' h'et laicu' feod' p quod potest distringi. I'o mandat' est Ep'o q'd ve'ire fac' cl'icum suu' &c'

22:140: 25 November 1309

[H]ugo de Lichefeud cap'llus qa non est ps' u^s Will'm Pentyn psonam ecc'ie de Hanlegh' de pl'o deb'i I'o ip'e & [p]leg' sui de ps' in m'ia scil't Will's de Mulneton' & Rad's frat' eius

22:180: 25 November 1309

die' p'

Rad's de Mulneton'. p attorn' suu'. op se. u^s. Will'm Pentyn psona' eccl'ie de Hanlegh'. +de pl'ito deb'+ Et ip'e no' venit Et sicut alias mandatu' fuit Ep'o. q'd venire fac'et +ad hu'c Com'+ p'd'cm Will'm cl'icum suu'. &c'. Et Ep's nich' inde fecit nec br'e misit &c'. I'o sicut prius mandat' est Ep'o q'd venire fac' ad px'm Com'. p'd'cm Will'm cl'icum suu' &c'.

22:181: 25 November 1309

die' p'

Ric'us de Cawarthin op. se. u^s. Will'm Pentin psona' eccl'ie de Hanlegh' de pl'ito deb'i Et ip'e no' venit. Et mandatu' fuit Ep'o. q'd ve'ire fac'et ad hu'c Com'. p'd'cm Will'm cl'icum suu'. &c'. Et Ep's nich' inde fecit. nec br'e misit. I'o sicut alias mandat' est Ep'o q'd venire fac'. ad px'm Com'. p'd'cm Will'm cl'icum suu'. &c'.

22:400: 17 February 1310

Will'us Pentyn psona Eccl'ie de Hanley sum' fuit ad respond' Ric' de Caurthyn de pl'o debiti, & vnde id'm Ric' quer' q'd p'd'cus Will'us die Lun' px' post f'm Nat' s'ci Joh'is Bapt'e anno .r'.E. p'ris Reg^s nu'c .xxxiiij^o.⁵ ap^d Salghto' cognouit se teneri eid'm Ric'o p s'uic'o suo sibi impenso in duab^s Marcis argenti solu' eid'm Ric'o ad f'm Natal' d'ni px' sequ⁶. Ad quem diem id'm Will'us licet sepius requisit^s p'd'cas duas Marcas ei no' soluit immo illos ei detinuit & adhuc detinet. vnde dic' q'd def'iorat^s e' & dampnu' h'et ad valenc' viginti solidor & inde pduc' sectam & etiam pat^s e' verificare s'cdm cons' Itin'is &c'. eo q'd querela incoata fuit in Itin'e.

Et Will'us ven' & def' vim & iniur' q'n &c' & petit vt^m id'm Ric^s in narrando intendit psequi. v's^s eu' s'cdm cons' Itin'is vel s'cdm legem & cons' Com' &c', Et Ric^s dic' q'd s'cdm legem & cons' Itin'is, eo q'd querela incoata fuit in Itin'e & s'cdm cons' Itin'is debet t'minari, Et Will'us dic' q'd s'cdm cons' Itin'is hui^sm'oi querelam in Com' hic psequi no' potest eo q'd pl'ita Com' & Itin'is diu'sos h'ent exitus, & diu'simodo debent t'minari, eo q'd in Com' hic vnusquisq' impl'itat^s potest esson' & aliis dil'oib^s s'cdm cons' Com' vti & gaudere, que esson' & dil'ones in Itin'e Justic' no' allocent' vnde petit Jud'm &c' — Postea ad Com' die Mart^s post festu' Anunciac' b'e Marie pxi'o sequ's⁷ ven' ptes & p Judic' & sectator' Com' consid' fuit q'd vbi aliquod pl'itu' incohatu' fu'it cor' Justic' in Itin'e suo & ibid'm no' pot'it t'minari, ita q'd pl'itu' illud ad sect' ptis in Com' hic fu'it adiornat', loquela illa s'cdm +legem & Consuetudi'em Com' deduci & t'mi'ari debeat I'o d'cm est p'd'co Ric'o q'd sequat' u'sus p'd'cm Will'm s'cdm lege' & consuet' Com' si sibi vid'it expedir', alioq'n non audiet' Et p'd'cus Ric's dicit q'd postq'm loq'la sua inchoat' fuit in Itin'e & illa s'cdm leg' & consuet' Itin'is no' potest prosequi petit lic' recendi a querela sua, Et ei concessu' es't de gr'a speciali

⁵ Monday 28 June 1305

⁶ Saturday 25 December 1305

⁷ Tuesday 31 March 1310

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22:401: 17 February 1310

Will'us Pentyn psona Eccl'ie de Hanley sum' fuit ad respond' Rad'o de Mulneton' de pl'ito debiti, & vnde id'm Rad'us quer' q'd p'd'cus Will'us die Lun' px' post f'm Nat' s'ci Joh'is Bapt'e anno .r'.E. p'ris Reg's nu'c .xxxiiij^o.⁸ ap^d Salghton' cognouit se teneri eid'm Ric'o p s'uic'o suo sibi impenso in tresdecim solid' & q^{tuor} denar' argenti solu' eid'm Rad'o ad f'm Natal' d'ni px' sequ⁹, Ad quem diem id'm Will'us licet sepius requisit' p'd'cos tresdecim solidos & q^{tuor} denar' ei no' soluit, immo illos ei detinuit & adhuc detinet. vnde dic' q'd det'iorat' est & dampnu' h'et ad valenciam viginti solidor' & inde pduc' sectam, & etiam pat' est verificare s'cdm cons' Itin'is &c'. eo q'd querela inchoata fuit in Itin'e Et Will'us. ven' & def' vim & iniur' q'n &c' & petit vt^m id'm Rad'us in narrando intendit psequi v's^s eu' s'cdm cons' Itin'is vel s'cdm legem & cons' Com' &c'. Et Rad'us dicit q'd s'cdm Legem & cons' Itin'is, eo q'd querela inchoata fuit in Itin'e, & s'cdm cons' Itin'is debet t'minari, Et Will'us dic' q'd s'cdm cons' Itin'is hui'sm'oi querelam in Com' hic psequi no' potest, eo q'd pl'ita Com' & Itin'is diu'sos h'ent exitus, & diu'simodo h'ent t'minari, eo q'd in Com' hic vnusquisq' impl'itat' potest esson', & aliis dil'oib' s'cdm cons' Com' vti & gaudere, que esson' & dil'ones in Itin'e Justic' no' allocent' vnde petit iud'm &c'. — Postea ad Com' die mart' pxi'a post festu' Anunciac' b'e Mar'¹⁰ ven' ptes & p Judic' & sectator' Com' Consid' fuit q'd vbi aliquod pl'itum inchoatu' fu'it cor' Justic' in Itin'e suo & ibid'm no' pot'it t'minari, ita q'd pl'itum illud ad sect' ptis in Com' hic fu'it adiornatu', loquela illa s'cdm leg' & Consuetud' Com' deduci & t'minari debeat I'o d'cm est p'd'co Rad'o q'd sequat' u'sus p'd'cm Will'm s'cdm legem & consuet' Com' si sibi viderit expedire, alioq'n no' audiet', Et p'd'cus Rad's dicit q'd postq'm loquela sua inchoata fuit in Itin'e & illa' s'cdm leg' & consuet' +Itin'is+ non potest prosequi petit lic' recedend' a loquela sua, Et ei concessu' est de gr'a

John son of Philip de Orreby was taken to prison by Richard de Sutton and David de Bulkeley serjeants of the peace for the death of Robert the son of Hugh de Fowlshurst, and they put him into clerical attire and gave him a tonsure, presumably so that he might plead clergy.

Richard and David were brought to court charged in £1000 for contempt in attempting to pervert the course of justice in this way. Richard appeared and explained that his was a hereditary office which he could not avoid, and that it was exercised by deputies. David appeared and denied the charge: he was then claimed by Simon del Hurst for the Constable's avowry.

22:806 [30 June 1310]

† +Ric's de Sutton' s'uiens pac' &+ David de Bulkilegh' s'uiens pac' sub +eod'+ Ric'o de Sutton' attach' fuer' ad respond' d'no Reg' de eo q'd cu' no' liceat alicui s'uienti seu Ministro d'ni Reg's h'itum seu indumentu' alicui' capti p feloniam Mutare nec hui'smodi felone' de aliis indument' induer', coronam radere, n^c aliud de eo fac'e, nisi eo modo quo capt' fu'it ad p'sonam d'ni Reg's duc'e, ijd'm Ric's & David +p se & subseruientes suos+ quend'm Joh'em filiu' Ph'i de Orreby capt' p morte Rob'ti fil' Hug' de Fouleshurst in

⁸ Monday 28 June 1305

⁹ Saturday 25 December 1305

¹⁰ Tuesday 31 March 1310

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quad'm Roba stragulat' ip'm inde exueru't & h'itu cl'icali induer', & tonsura' cl'ical' ei feceru't in lesionem corone & dignitatis & conte'ptum d'ni Reg^s Mille libr' &c'

Et p^rd'ci Ric's & Daud ven' & defend' om'em conte'ptum &c' Et p^rd'cus Ric's dicit q'd licet sit s^ruiens pacis de feodo, g^atu' in ppria psona ad hui^smod' officiu' excercend' vacare no' po^rit, id'm Ric's que'd' Daud de Bulkylegh' subs^ruiante' suu' ad p^rd'cm officiu' loco suo exc^rcend' in Com' p^rsentauit sicut ip'e & an'cessores sui te'pib^s ret^oactis fac^re consueu^rnt, Et dicit q'd si hui^smodi .t^ans. p subs^ruiante' suu' ppetrata fu^rit nec ne; ignorat, Et si ppet^ata fu^rit, om'io illa deaduocat, &c' – Et q'd ip'e nulla' h's t^ans'. fecit ponit se sup p^riam &c'.

Et quesit^s Daud qual'r se velit inde acquietare, defend' om'em conte'ptu' &c'. Et sup hoc ven' Symon del Hurst, Custos aduocar' d'ni Henr' de Lascy Com' Lincoln' Constabular' Cestr' Et dicit q'd p^rd'cs Daud est h'o p^rd'ci Constabular' d'ni sui in lib'tate sua existe's, & ip'm ad lib'tate' +p^rd'ci+ Constabular' d'ni sui petit sibi lib'ar', Et eis lib'at^s ad h'end' ad px'm Com' sub pena qua decet &c'