

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

The diocese of Coventry and Lichfield comprised the counties of Cheshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire, the northern parts of Warwickshire and Shropshire, the southern part of Lancashire, and a handful of Welsh parishes. The bishops were commonly referred to in French as bishop of Chester, and in Latin as bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. Nevertheless, the practical seat of administration was Lichfield.

In 1299 the bishop was granted complete liberty of jurisdiction over their men and tenants, which clearly affected the jurisdiction of the county court.

11:180: 21 April 1299

Carta Ep'i Cestr'

*Rex Archiep'is Ep'is Abbatib^s Priorib^s, Comitib^s, Baronib^s, Justic'iis vicecom'
Prepo'itis Ministris & om'ib^s balliuis & fidelib^s suis sal'tm Sciatis q'd cum ven'abil' pat'
Walt'us de Langeton' Couentr' & Lich' Ep'us Thesaurarius n'r ne dum ante set post
susceptum Curie pastoral' officium n'ris iugit' insistens obsequiis ad n'ram & regni n'ri
vtilitatem laudabil'r se habu'it in eisd'm: Nos p'sonam suam om'i honore dignam sensentes
ac ppt' hoc eccl'ias suas regimini suo co'missas in p'sona ip'i^s honorare volentes. concessim^s
p nob' & h'edib^s n'ris eid'm Ep'o q'd ip'e & successores sui d'cor locor Ep'i h'eant im'eant
imppetuum in om'ib^s t'ris suis Episcopat^s p'd'ci retornu' o'im breuium n'ror placita vetiti
natiui & catalla felonu' & fugitiuor necno' fines & am'ciamenta omniu' hominu' & tenenciu'
suor p p'fatum Ep'm & successores suos ac balliuos & ministros suos ad op^s eord'm Ep'or
leuanda sine occasio'e u'l impedimento n'ri aut h'edum n'ror Justiciarior vicecom', balliuor
seu ministror n'ror quorcumq' Quare volum^s & firmit' p'cipim^s. p nob' & h'edib^s n'ris q'd
p'd'cus Ep'us & successores sui imp'p'm h'eant retornu' o'im breuiu' n'ror, placita vetiti
natiui, catalla felonu' & fugitiuor, nec no' fines & am'ciamenta omniu' ho'im & tenenciu'.
suor p p'fatum Ep'm & successores suos p'd'cos ac balli'os & ministros suos +ad+ opus
eordem Ep'or leuanda, sine occasio'e u'l impedimento n'ri aut h'edu' n'ror, Justiciar',
vicecom' balli'or, seu ministror n'ror quorcumq' sicut p'd'cm est Hiis testib^s ven'abilib^s
p'rib^s D. Dunelmen', R London, & J. Wynton' Ep'is, Joh'e de Warennia Com' Sur', Henr' de
Lacy Comit' Lync' Thom' Comit' Langcastr' Binerio de Valenc', Com' Warr' Rob'to fil'
Walt'i Hugo'e le Despens', Walt'o de Bello campo sen' hospicii n'ri, Pet'o de Chanent, &
aliis Dat' p manu' n'ram ap'd Westm' decimo octauo die April' anno regni n'ri vicesimo
septimo.*

In Chester Chamberlain's accounts of 1303 to 1304, certain amercements are reserved for the bishop. Doubtless some or all of these related to the bishop's principal estates at Burton and Tarvin.

Richard de Pulford for a false claim	6d
Robert son of Simon de Burton	6d
Issues of Ellen daughter of Adam de Burton, forfeited	4s

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Richard Velyn [because he did not come]	6d
William son of Peter de Brichull	12d
Philip son of Houa de Caldecote, because he did not prosecute	2s
Richard son of Thomas de Kelshale, because he did not come	12d
Thomas de Tutenleghe	12d
Master Simon de Schulegh	10s
Roger le Bruyn of Stapelford	12d