Court Records 1560 – 1564 English Transcription

Digital Copy of the 1568 - 1574 Court Book, callender book. This book along with others has come into the possession of the Lyme Regis Museum, having been returned from the Dorset Record Office in late 2016. The books are green cloth bound, measuring 13 by 8 inches (33 by 21 cm) and type written. Notations have been made in red ink, these are not included as they are repeated many times.

Page numbers from these books are at the top right corner of each entry. The numbers in brackets refer to the page numbers from the original document which have been added by C.W..

It should be remembered when searching for any particular name / place that spellings can vary so reference to the surname variation spelling list in a separate file may help before entering name search text.

Richard Wells May 2017.

COURT BOOK 1568 - 1574

NOTE BY THE TRANSCRIBER.

(Mr. J. R. Crompton of the Public Record Office, London.)

- The irregularities of spelling and grammar in the text are so great that no attempt has been made to call attention to every one of them by the use of the word 'sic' or in any other way. Where words are abbreviated in the text, the most usual form occurring in the book has been adopted as regards (a) spelling, (b) genders, tenses, case-endings, etc., (c) phraseology generally regardless of the requirements of strict Classical Latin or of Medieval Latin in general.
- 3. No great attempt has been made to identify names of persons or places or to attain an exact spelling of same. In every case the most likely reading has been adopted, solely on a careful inspection of the handwriting.
- 4. The original paragraphing has, as a rule, been retained, but it has been abandoned, in order to economise space, where several short continuous paragraphs relate to the same case.
- 5. No attempt has been made to indicate all the various marks on the paper made by the scribe.
- 6. No attempt has been made to indicate inconsistencies, mistakes, and various problems arising out of the subject matter of the text, except where so obvious as to catch the transcribers' eye. In such cases the most probable explanation is given in a footnote.

J. R. C.

PREFACE.

This is the first of a series of Court Books, extending (with certain Small gaps) from September 1560 (the second year of Elizabeth) to December 1835, (the sixth year of William IV.) Up to the latter year, meetings of the Borough Council were always held in camera, members of Council retained office for life (if they so desired) and the surviving members filled up all vacancies, there was thus no system of public election. the Municipal Reform Act of 1835 swept away this state of things.

These Court Books, therefore, contain no record of the proceedings of the Borough Council. What they record are:

- 1. The weekly meeting of the Hustings Court established by Edward I's Charter of 1285, and occupied principally with commercial cases.
- 2. The Court Leets held twice a year, just after Easter and just after Michaelmas, when a jury of

Freemen sat in judgment on everyone from the Mayor downwards for their shortcomings towards the community.

- 3. The meeting held once a year, i.e., on the first Monday after St. Bartholomew's Day (August 24th) for the election by the Freemen of a new Mayor.
- 4. Sometimes, but too infrequently, the election of a Member of Parliament.

The present volumes cover the period from 1560 to 1574. The original Court Book, which accompanies them is in medieval Latin, except that a few Court Leets towards the end are written in the old English script. From 1733 Latin fell out of use.

In starting on this first Court Book it was thought advisable to present a large portion of it verbatim, both in Latin and English, so that this might serve as a sample of the class of business recorded in other Court Books to be transcribed later on, 318 pages, therefore covering the years 1560-68 have been transcribed verbatim. The remaining 83 pages, covering the years 1568-74, have been treated in the form of a calendar or precis. These Calendars give in chronological order all essential facts and names, matters of no importance being omitted altogether. The latter is the system adopted at the Public Record Office in its volumes of printed records. Time, cost and space all compel its adoption at Lyme Regis.

It may be asked what is known of any Court Books prior to 1560? Fortunately this question can be answered so far as concerns the period of the last 146 years. An information in the action of Rex v. Luther dated July 29th, 1784, is in the Town Hall. This action is one of the many fought out between 1778 and 1785 when the Borough was trying to free itself from the influence of the Fane family. John Luther was related to and an adherent of the Fanes and the information in his case states that in 1784 there existed:

- (1) A very imperfect and mutilated Court Book of Edward II (1307-27).
- (2) Some separate parchment rolls of Henry VI (1422 61) Edward IV (1461-83), and Henry VII (1485 1509).
- (3) One Court of Henry VIII.
- (4) One Court of Edward VI.
- (5) A regular series beginning with 1560.

It will thus be seen that (1), (2), (3) and (4) have all vanished, and, if these probably flimsy documents were 'being bandied about between the offices of various Solicitors from 1778 to 1785 it is not surprising that they did not survive. Folios 10 and 11 in the Portfolio of Fugitive Pieces I contain a few scraps of Court Books prior to 1560, but these are brands snatched from the burning. It is, of course, conceivable that other scraps of older Court Books may yet be discovered. Subject to this, however., we begin to-day, as we should have begun 145 years ago, with the 2nd year of Queen Elizabeth, i.e., 1560.

The lettering at. the back of each volume will describe its contents. Three very full indexes are added to the last volume, i.e., of Names, of Places, of Subjects. In all these the number of the page given is that of the original Court Book and these numbers will be found on the left-hand margin of the folios. To these indexes are added a glossary in which various obsolete or unused words will be found explained. Suggestions are also offered for throwing light on certain obscurities, but very little effort has been made to deal with any nice points of medieval law which may arise out of the records.

C.W. May 1930.

319

p.296) Legal Court with view of frankpledge of Michaelmas term held there 4 October 10 Elizabeth.

The twelve for our lady the Queen:

John Mores, Silvester Heyne, John Holcombe, William Jorden, Richard Baret, Richard Carpenter John Garland, William Follet, William Elsdon, William Tanner, William Spering, John Davy, Sen.

Affeerors: Silvester Heyne William Jorden

p.300) Court Held29 November 11 Elizabeth

Thomas Washington vicar of the parish church of Lyme Regis complains against John Rockford of Saxby Co. Leicester in a plea of trespass upon the case.

pp.301-2) Court held 3 December 11 Elizabeth.

John Jurden and John Seaward chosen to appraise certain cloth, viz 'howse cloth of russet' and 'lynnen'; and they have appraised it at 4s. 8d.

pp.307 – 308) Court held 28 February 11 Elizabeth.

320

John Stevens is given a day to produce proof that his name is Stevens.

pp.310-311) Court held 28 March 11 Elizabeth.

At the bottom of p.511 appears: In the time of John Huntley. Written and recorded by me John Carpenter.

p.515) Legal Court held there on the second day of May 11 Elizabeth.

Sworn for our Lady the Queen

John Morys John Jorden John Holcombe Silvester Heyne

Richard Berrett Robert Mydwinter John Hassard Richard Carpenter John Garland

George Hooper Anthony Berrett John Davy senior John Seward John Davy Junior

Presentment of the aforesaid jurors.

- 1. Imprimis the constables hath don theire duties in suffering no vaccabondes to go within the Towne.
- 2. Item that from hencefourth no manner of person do caste any doung or other filth into the streme in combstrete uppon peyne of any defaulte: ii. s.
- 3. Item that no person do at any tyme winowe theire corne or malte in the streates upon peyne of eny defalt: iii. s. iii. d.
- 4. Item that no person brue any ale to sell other wise than according to the statutes thereof made and that the sellers of the sayde ale do sett owte alestockes as long

321

as it is selling and that also to be solde by

the measures sealed and none other uppon peyne of eny defaulte - xx. s.

- 5. Item that the Maior for the tyme being to repayre the Buttes continually uppon peyne of eny defalte xx. s.
- 6. Item that the Baker do make a partition betwixte him and Sampford before the feast of sainte James next uppon peyne of eny defaulte v. s.
- 7. Item that Mr. Hunt do make a sufficient wall between Edmund Wighte and William Best by the feast of St. John the Baptiste next comming uppon payne of x. s.
- 8. Item that Mr. Maior that nowe is, Mr. Hassard and John Wallyn do scoure the dike for (from ?) p.314) mother Wikes howse unto the shute as eny of theire growndes do lye and so to kepe it continually uppon payne of eny one in defalt v. s.
- 9. Item that Mr. Mayor do repayre the Caswey before Christover Battyns howse downewardes as also the pavement before Thomas Colmans dore by St. James day next payne of xx. s.
- 10. Item that Thomas Dare doth repayre the pentis of Thomas Baylis howse or elles to pluck It downe by Whitsondaye nexte payne of v. s.
- 11. Item we find a tre called an elme that groweth in Moxiges garden to be the Townes.
- 12. Item that Robert Mico do make a sufficient hedge between Jone Moxage and him, betwene this and Whitsondaye payne of iii. s. iiii. d.
- 13. Item that Saunder Durston doth forthwith take awaye the myxson that is before his gate and to

a little further in the myddest payne of v. s.

- 14. Item that Sibley Batten do convey the fowle matere that cometh out of her backside under the causwey betwene this and Whitsonday payne of iii. s. iiii. d.
- 15. Item we do find that John Holcombe's folks did put a barrle of office [barrel of offal ?] in the kinges streeme and are therefore in mercy as appears.
- 16. Item we do finde that John Davys thelders folk hath cast roble into the kinges streame and are therefore in mercy.
- 17. Item we do fynd that there is to much bowlinge and to little shoting.
- 18. Item that Mr. Maior do cause our ordenances to be in a redines and placed, and also to se all suche powder as hath been lent out, to be hadde in by Whitsonday next payne of xi. s.
- 19. Item that Phillippe Heywood and Henry Paulmer do repayre theire mantilles by Whitsonday next payne of iii. s. iiii. d. to eny of them.
- 20. Item that whereas Alexander Durston hath arested William Trym of felony we do fynd the said Durston axsesere to the same matter,
- p.315) according to his owne confession he hath conseled the same by the space of one yeare and more.
- 21. Item that the gloviers of this Towne from hencefourth shall ley theire skins in no place of the kinges streme but in the lower place of the pudle payne of iii. s. iiii. d. to eny of them that shall do the contrary.
- 22. Item we do find Agnes Berret is heire to John Danyell and othe a Reliffe

323

- 23. Item we do find Thomas Scorche heire to Robert Scorche and othe a Relief.
- 24 Item we do find Robert Day to be heir to Nicholas Day and othe a Relief.
- Item that no Tucker shall sigge any cloth from hencefourthe in theire howses payne of iii. s. iiii. d. for eny tyme they are founde so doing.
- Item that James Lugbase and William Cogan do red awaye the dong before theire strete dores within this XI dayes and thereto laye no more payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

(p.325) Election of the Mayor and other officials for the ensuing year held there 29 August 11 Elizabeth.

John Holcomb William Spering Robert Davye William Elsdon Richard Berett Anthony Berett John Hassard William Jorden John Garland John Jorden John Moris John Seward Richard Carpenter Philip Heywode Thomas Waller John Somer Alexander Davy John Sampford

324

Ralph Stansby George Hooper William Deyne John Combe
William Whetcomb Alexander Durston Henry Craudeley Robert Mico Robert Mydwynter
Gilbert Hellier Silvester Heyne Robert Tynham William Tanner John Miller
William Follett William Mallock John Davy Senior Nicholas Davye John Davy Junior
And they the jurors say on their oath that;

be Code and alread be asset as

John Garland shall be mayor

John Hunteley coroner
William Elsdon and John Jorden receivers

William Follett and Richard Davy constables and

Nicholas Archar and William Welshe Serjeants at mace.

p.328) Court held there 26 September 11 Elizabeth.

Stephen Stone is given to present his answer against Philip Heywoode by the hands of counsel learned in the law by the next Court under pain of condemnation.

(This is interesting for the development of attorneys. J.R.C.)

pp.329-333) Legal Court held there 11 October 11 Elizabeth.

Jurors for our Lady the Queen:

John Morris Anthony Berett John Holcomb William Whetecombe

Richard Berrett Richard Carpenter John Hassarde John Sewarde

William Sparing William Deane John Jorden Nicholas Whetecombe

William Jorden William Follett

325

It is ordeyned at this Courte that where there is variance betwixte Richard Hunte and one Christen Bowdon wydowe for a certeine burgage which one Edmonde Wighte nowe dwellethe in, that the saiede Richarde Hunte or his assignee shall at the next Lawe days bringe in his sufficient writinges or profes whereby he claymethe the premisses or otherwise to be clerelie voide of the saied premieses and the saiede Cristen Bowden and her assignes to enjoye the same, and in the mene tyme the Maior to receive the rente thereof and to deliver the same unto the true honor thereof uppon dewe prof.

It is ordered at this Courte that where there is variance betwixte John Chaplen Clerk and William Childes of and for certeine Burgages in Lyme Regis aforesaiede, that aswele the saied John Chaplen as also the saied William Childes they or every of their assignes do bring in their sufficient wrytinges or proffes where by he or they claymeth the premises at the nexte Lawe daye or otherwise he that shall (p.330) make defaulte shall lose suche righte and title as he claymethe to the premises or any parte thereof and in the meane tyme the Maior to receive the rente thereof and to delyver the same unto the true owner thereof uppon due prof.

Memorandum that at this Courte there came one Agnes Atkyns wydowe sole heire unto one Burgage in Lyme aforesaiede, that is to seye, parte late in the tenure of one Raff Hockett and one other parte of the Burgage in the tenure of John Wheton and there did give and graunte the said Burgage with all that whiche was in the tenure of the saied Raff Hockett

326

unto one Alexander Westover and his heires for

ever yelding and payeing therefore yerelie unto the said Agnes Atkyns or unto her assignes ymediatelie after the date hereof during her naturall lief the some of twentie shillinges of lawfull money of Englande without frawde or guile provided and it is agreed that the said Alexander shall not at any tyme nor his heires hereafter alynate nor sell the same parte of the Burgage to any manner of person other than for terme of lief or for yeres reserving a rente and if he or his heires so doe that then the same to remayne unto the nexte of the heires of the saied Agnes and also the said Agnes did give and graunte unto one Elizabethe James another parte of the same Burgage nowe in the tenure of John Wheton with all that the saide John Wheton nowe holdethe and occupiethe unto the said Elizabethe and to her heires forever to have and to holde the same unto the saide Elizabeth and to her heirs next and ymediatelie after the deathe of the saide Agnes Atkyns. and further the said Agnes Atkyns dothe give and graunte unto one John Westover and to his heires forever all that romes whiche the saide John Westover now hath and occupiethe reserving unto the saied Agnes during her naturall lief all such romes of howse as she doth nowe holde and occupie without anye molestation or troble by him or any of his. Also reserving unto the saide Elizabethe James all such romes as she doth nowe occupie without paieing any rent during the lief of the saied Agnes.

p.331) Orders for the common welthe of the Towne.

327

Inprimis that the constables doe suffer no vaccabonds nor sturdie Beggars to haunte the Towne uppon peine of twentie shillinges.

Item that none from hencefourthe doe caste any filthe into the kinges streme in combestrete uppon peine of ii.s.

Item that none do wynnowe any corne in the strete uppon peine of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that none doe sell any ale or bere but by sealed measures and also to kepe out theire alestockes as long as they have any ale or bere to sell uppon payne of everie tyme faultie XX.s.

Item that everie man doe from hencefourthe (or cause to be doune) every wike once clense and

rydde the stones and robell which dothe lie before theire houses or sellers upon peine of xx .d.

Item that the Porters doe wykelie make clene the strete at the Cobbgate uppon peine of xii. d .

Item that Mr. Maior shall suffer no tymber nor planckes to be laied within the Cobgate hencefourthe nether in any place in the strete uppon peine of v. s.

Item that Mr. Maior do appoynte some man to se that no pigges doe troble the stretes and also to see that no horses be tied within the stretes uppon the markett dayes or other daies uppon peine of v. s.

Item that William Spering and John Abbott do scoure the dick from William Moxege yeate unto the lower ende of the greate parke by All Halland daye nexte uppon peine of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that Henry Craudeley do make upp his wall betwixte the Baker and him by Christmasse nexte uppon payne of v. s.

Item that Richarde Berett do kepe a springe in

328

his dewe course which is within his medowe to be

don within twentie daies upon paine of ii. s.

p.332) Item that Nicholas Whetcombe do scower his ditche by Shirborne more to kepe the water in his dewe course by All Hallen daye nexte uppon payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that Sybellye Batten doe scower hir diche to carye the water in his due course in her ground beyond St. Androwes by All Hallen tyde uppon peine of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that from hencefourthe none doe fetche any foxmold in any of the hiewayes within the parishe upon paine of eny time found faultie - v. s.

Item that Mr. Maior doe cause the water to be put into his due course out of the hiewaye above Colwaye Bredge and also do mend a hole in the lower ende of the same bredge by All Hallen tide uppon peine of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that Mr. Maior doe cause to be mended the lower ende of Shirborne Lane where the water runeth into the kinges streme by All Hallen tide uppon peine of ii. s.

Item that John Holcomb do scower his ditche to kepe the water in his due course above petcrafte from tyme to tyme uppon peine of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that John Holcombe, Johanne Elsdon, Charitie Newall doe scoure the diche in Houndealane to kepe the water in his course by All Hallen tyde uppon payne of everye of them Xii.d.

Item that John Merick doe make upp his wall betwixte John Samforde and the Baker by Christmasse uppon peine of x. s.

329

Item that Silvester Hayne do amende his wall betwixte George Hoper and him by All hallentide upon payne of v. s.

Item that every man doe kepe clene the water in westestrete before theire owne houses and grounde and also to washe noe filthe in it from tyme to tyme upon payne of - iii. s. iiii. d. p.333) Item we doe finde that Johane Elsdon wydowe upon her othe hathe declared before us that Ellen Walker is a wytche and that shee will approve. And also James Lugbase uppon his othe hathe declared before us that the said Ellen Walker did saie unto the saied Johane Elsdon that she could witche her no more.

Item we do finde Jane Bruer heire to Nicholas Deye for a littell burgage being in the southe side of the pounde and owethe a relief.

Item we do finde Alice Cockeram heire unto Nicholas Deye for thre certeine Gardenplottes being in the South side of Westestrete betwene the house of Silvester Hayn and the house of Thomas Pennye and oweth a relief.

Item we do find that Roberte Davy, Alexander Davye, William Tanner, alias Moxage, Philippe Heywode, Silvester Hayne and Nicholas Sprake have sett foxmolde in dyvers places of the highewaye.

Afeerers: Willelmus Elsdon . Willelmus Jorden.

(pp 329-333 are in the original English).

Stephen Stone accused by Philip Heywode of taking and counterfeiting certain letters sent to the said Philip by William Trym.

330

pp.343-346) Court Held 12 December 11 Elizabeth.

p.345) William Berry and Alice his wife complain against John Hockett in a plea of detention of a 'silver pynne'.

pp.363-367) Legal Court of Hocktyde iterm, in the view of frankpledge, held there 4 April 12 Elizabeth. sworn for our lady the Queen:

John MorysWilliam ElsdonJohn HolcombeJohn JordenRobert DavyAnthony BeretRichard BerettJohn SewardJohn HassardWilliam WhetcombeWilliam SparingIgnatius Buckford

John Davy

Essoins. William Broke, Alexander Durston, Thomas Langdon, Thomas Cogan, Thomas Fissher, Francis Davye, John Sampford, Thomas Charde, Samson Toope, Gregory Trawle,

331

William Whitrawe,

John Abbott, Gregory Frye, John Bellemye.

Nicholas Hassarde, William Cogans, Nicholas Hercules Hunt, John King, John Garland, Nicholas Webber, John Cogans, Humphrey Salter, Clement Ellewell, John Carpenter, are sworn to the assize of the Queen.

Presentment of of the constables:

William Pollett and Richard Davye constables of the Towne of Lyme aforesaide do dynde by vertue of oure office, that the thirde daye of Marche anno 1569, Tristram Tooker and John Hockett, brake the Queenes Majesties peace and made a blodshed with two staves which ar delyvered unto th andes of the mayor.

Item also we doe fynde by vertue of our office, that the XXIII th daye of Aprill anno 1570 one Edwarde Floude and one Seare did breake the Quenes Majesties peace with theire wepons, that is to saie with a sworde and a stafe which ar not yet seased on and as we ar enformed they have determined to prosecute theire lewde purpose, and more than this we have not to present.

(The Constables' presentments alone are in the original English of the Court Book)

p.364) The jurors aforesaid for our Lady the Queen come by John Morys and by their oaths say that Lord Cobham, John Boroughe, William Handcock, William Mallook, Robert Hassarde, Richard Hunte, the heirs of Nicholas Deye, Henry Snowe, Nicholas Davy, Richard Slade, John Tyrling, John Swayne, John Wyllis, the heirs of Elisabeth Skorche, John Myller, Silvester Hayne, William Phelpes, Gilbert Hellier, et Philip Heywoode, are freeholders and owe suit of Court on

332

this day and have made default, therefore each of

them In mercy as appears opposite their names. 3d. [each].

And further the said jurors say on their oaths that Stephen Stone. Thomas Apsie, Richard Menesie, John Oldrue, John Wever, Nicholas Davy, Silvester Hayne, John Somer Junior, William Mallock. John Seward Junior, Jacob Matthewe, John Ollyer, Richard Sampford, Richard Craudley, Nicholas Sampford, Robert Skynner, Thomas Tryckye, Alexander Lacye, Robert Hill, John Husey, Simon Smyth, et John Luce are inhabitants of the said town and have made default, therefore each of them in mercy as appears opposite their names. 3d. [each]

Also the said jurors present that John Edgar and George Hooper have incurred the penalty threatened at the last Court, because they have thrown their dung into the water called the 'kinges streme' in Combestreat contrary to the ordinance of the said Court, but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and they are in mercy as appears by their names. 8d. [each]

Also they present that Thomas Dare, John Bellemy, Thomas Burgess, and Thomas James have Incurred a penalty because they have not cleaned the stones and filth lying in front of their houses as they were ordered at the last Court, but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and they are in mercy as appears by their names. 4d. [each]

Also they present that the Mayor has incurred the penalty mentioned at the last Court because horses have several times been tied in the street on market days contrary to the ordinance made at the last Court, but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears by his name. 8d.

222

p.365) Also they present that Henry Craudley has incurred the penalty mentioned at the last Court since he has not built his wall between himself and Sampson Toope as he was ordered, but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears by his name.

Also they present that Mr. Mayor has incurred the penalty mentioned at the last Court since he has not repaired the bridge called Colway Bridge now in disrepair as he was ordered, but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears by his name. 8d.

Also they present that Mr. Mayor has incurred the penalty mentioned at the last Court, since he has not repaired the lane called Sherborne Lane where the water runs into the king's stream, as he was ordered, but the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears by his name. 6d.

Also they present that John Merick has incurred the penalty mentioned at the last Court, since he has not built his wall between himself and John Sampford, as he was ordered at the last Court, but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and he is In mercy as appears by his name. 16d.

Also they present that Silvester Hayne has incurred the penalty mentioned at the last Court, since he has not built his wall between himself and George Hooper as he was ordered, but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears by his name. 6d.

Also they present that Robert Davy, Alexander Davy, William Moxege, Philip Heywoode, Silvester Hayne and Nicholas Sprake have incurred the penalty since they have set the soil called 'foxemoulde' in

334

divers places in the king's highway contrary to the ordinance made at the last Court, but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed, and they are in mercy as appears by their names. 6d. [each] (pp 364-5 are translated from the Latin original).

p.366) orders for the comon wealthe.

Imprimis that the constables doe suffer noe vaccaboundes nor sturdie beggers to hawnte the Towne upon peyne of - - xx. s.

Item that none from hencefourthe doe cast any filth into the kinges streame in Combestreat upon payne of - ii. s.

Item that none doe wyne any corne in the streate upon peyne of iii. s. iiii. d

Item that none doe sell any ale or Beere but by sealed measures, and also to kepe out their Ale stakes as long as they have any ale or beere to sell uppon payne of every tyme faultie - - xx. s.

Item that every man doe from hencefourthe or cause to be done, every wyke once, clense and rydde the stones and robbell which doth lye before their houses and sellers uppon payne of xx. d.

Item that the Porters doe wekelie make clene the Streate at the Cob gate upon peine of xii. d.

Item that Mr. Mayor do appoynt som man, to se that no pigges doe troble the streates and also to se that noe horses be tyed within the streates uppon the markett daies or other daies upon payne of v. s.

Item that Richarde Hunte doe make up his house ende betwene William Beste and him, by mydsomer next

335

coming uppon payne of - v. s.

Item that Mr. Mayor do cause the lower end of Colway bridge to be mended by mydsomer next coming uppon payne of - iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that John Edgar, Gregory Prye and Edmond Wighte doe kepe the water in his dewe course, from Colwey Bridge to Colway Myll that it may not anoye the waye from tyme to tyme uppon peyne of v. s.

Item that Mr. Mayor doe cause to be mended the lower ende of Sherborne Lane where the water runneth into the Kinges Streame and also to kepe the water in his dewe course in the same lane by mydsomer next upon payne of - - v. s.

Item that John Merick do make up his wall betwixte John Sampford and their Baker by mydsomer next upon payne of - - x. s.

Item that Silvester Hayne doe amend his wall betwixte George Hooper and him by Mydsomer next uppon payne of - - x. s.

Item that every man doe kepe clene the water in the weste strete every of them before theire owne houses or grounde, and also to washe noe fylthe in it uppon payne of - - iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that Johanne Elsdon wydowe and Alexander Durston doe kepe clene the gutter from the churche wall to Durstons garden from tyme to tyme upon payne of xx. d.

Item that Mr. Mayor do cause to be mended the Buttes at the Myll grene before Whitsondaie next upon payne of - - x. s.

Item that Mr. Maior do cause to be mended the Caswey at Perrycrosts style by mydsomer next uppon

coming uppon payne of - - v. s.

Item that Mr. Mayor do cause the lower end of Colway bridge to be mended by mydsomer next coming uppon payne of - - iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that John Edgar, Gregory Prye and Edmond Wighte doe kepe the water in his dewe course, from Colwey Bridge to Colway Myll that it may not anoye the waye from tyme to tyme uppon peyne of v. s.

Item that Mr. Mayor doe cause to be mended the lower ende of Sherborne Lane where the water runneth into the Kinges Streame and also to kepe the water in his dewe course in the same lane by mydsomer next upon payne of - - v. s.

Item that John Merick do make up his wall betwixte John Sampford and their Baker by mydsomer next upon payne of - - x. s.

Item that Silvester Hayne doe amend his wall betwixte George Hooper and him by Mydsomer next uppon payne of - - x. s.

Item that every man doe kepe clene the water in the weste strete every of them before theire owne houses or grounde, and also to washe noe fylthe in it uppon payne of - - iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that Johanne Elsdon wydowe and Alexander Durston doe kepe clene the gutter from the churche wall to Durstons garden from tyme to tyme upon payne of xx. d.

Item that Mr. Mayor do cause to be mended the Buttes at the Myll grene before Whitsondaie next upon payne of - - x.s.

Item that Mr. Maior do cause to be mended the Caswey at Perrycrosts style by mydsomer next upon

payne of - v. s.

Item that John Wheagon doe skowre his diche and kepe the water in his due course from tyme to tyme above perricroste upon payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that Henry Craudley do make his wall or palle betwexte the Baker and him by mydsomer next uppon payne of - x. s.

Item that proclamation be made that none from hencefourthe doe tye theire horses in the streates uppon payne of every tyme - iiii. d.

Johannes Hassard, Anthonius Berrett. Affeerors.

(The above pages 366-7 are given in the original English of the Court Book).

p.370) Lyme Regis: Piepowder Court held there 30 May 12 Elisabeth between John Holcombe of Lyme Regis plaintiff and Hugh Randall of Weymouth defendant.

William Spering, Alexander Durston, William Elsdon, John Comb, Anthony Beret, John Davy, John Jorden, George Hooper, John Seward, Richard Davy, Robert Mydwynter, William Whetcombe.

And they are sworn in the said plea to know and try whether the goods which were arrested in the

335

336

337

English: We the XII men whose names are above wrytten doe fynde that the goods arrested by John Holcombe the firste daie of Maye, were not the goods of Phillips Parrett at the daye of th arrest. Therefore it is granted by the Court that the said John Holcombe shall pay for costs and expenses of the Court incurred on behalf of the said defendant And so he is free from the Court.

(The above p.370 is partly translated from the Latin, partly given in the original English). pp.382-4)

Court held 10 July, 12 Elizabeth.

Elena Hart widow complains against John Sprake in a plea of scandal.

p.390) Election of the Mayor and other officials held there on Monday after the feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle, viz. 28 August 12 Elizabeth, according to the custom of the said borough observed from time immemorial, in the time of John Garland mayor there.

338

John Holcombe William Spering John Morys William Elesdon Robert Davye Anthony Barret Richard Berrett William Jordan John Hassarde John Jorden Richard Carpenter Silvester Hayne Thomas Waller Richard Davve Alexander Davye Philip Heywoode Alexander Stansbye John Somer William Deane John Sampforde William Whetcombe John Combe Henry Craudley **Alexander Durston** Robert Nicoe John Sewarde Gilbert Hellier Ignatius Buckford Robert Robert Mydwynter Tynham William Follet John Miller John Davve William Mallock George Hooper Peter Wilcockes William Tanner Nicholas Davye **Robert Deye Gregory Trale** Nicholas Whetcombe George Plea: all sworn.

And they the Jurors say that;

William Elsdon is to be mayor.

John Morris coroner,

Ignacius Buckforde and William Spering receivers,

Richard Carpenter senior and Thomas Denslie constables,

William Welshe and Nicholas Archere Serjeants at mace.

339

p.394) Legal Court with view of frankpledge held there on Monday after the feast of St. Michael the Archangel and the second day of October 12 Elizabeth. Essoins:

William Mallock William Hockett William Tanner John Abbott - carier Thomas Trickye Thomas Apsie Robert Thornton Nicholas Sprake George Bowdon Richard Betford William Drewe **Gregory Frye** John Turnor John Luce John Waller Francis Davy

Sworn to the assize of our lady the queen:

Richard Norris, Richard Clerk, William Steare, et John Somer Junior.

Names of jurors for our lady the queen:

John Morrys Anthony Berrett John Holcombe John Jorden Robert Davye John Seward Richard Berrett William Whetcombe John Hasaarde Ralph Stansbie William Spering Silvester Hayne.

Presentment of the said jurors:

The said jurors for our lady the Queen come by John Morrys and say on their oaths that Lord Cobham, William Handcock, Robert Hassard, Nicholas Hassarde, Richard Hunte, Robert Tynham, Richard Slade, John Tirling, John Swayne, John Wyllis, William Phelpes, are freeholders and owe suit of Court on this day and have made default therefore each of them in mercy as appears by his name. 3d. [each]

Rawlyn, William Goode, John Jaye, Thomas Dossell,

Richard Clerk, Robert Tynham, John Stansbie, John Cogan (mariner), Thomas Fourde, John Craudley, Nicholas Look, William Whitrawe, William Perne alias Harper, are inhabitants of the said town and have made default, therefore each of them in mercy as appears by their names. 3d.

p.395) Also the said jurors present that John Yonge, Thomas Dare, and Silvester Hayne have incurred the penalty stated at the last Court, since they have not cleaned the stones and rubble lying in front of their houses and cellars, contrary to the ordinance of the said Court; but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed, and they are in mercy as appears by their names. 8d.

Also they present that Mr. Mayor has incurred the penalty stated at the last Court since he has allowed horses to be tied up in the streets on market days contrary to the ordinance made at the said Court; but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears by his name. 8d.

Also they present that Mr. Mayor has incurred the penalty stated at the last Court, since he has not repaired or had repaired the lane called Sherborne Lane, where the water runs into the king's stream, as he was ordered at the said Court, but by grace of the court the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears next his name. 4d.

Also they present that Mr. Mayor has incurred the penalty stated at the last Court, since he has not repaired or had repaired the bridge called Colway Bridge which is now in disrepair as he was

341

ordered at

the said Court; but by the grace of the Court the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears next his name.

Also they present that Mr. Mayor has incurred the penalty stated at the last Court, since he has not repaired the called Caswey on Perricroste, now in disrepair, as he was ordered at the said Court; but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed as appears next his name. 4d.

Also they present that John Wheadon has incurred the penalty stated at the last Court since he has not cleaned his pit on Perricroste, as he was ordered at the said Court; but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed and he is in mercy as appears next his name. 8d.

Also they present that Henry Craudlye has incurred the penalty stated at the last Court since he has not made or built his wall or palisade between himself and Sampson Toope as he was ordered at the said Court; but by grace of the Court the penalty is changed, and he is in mercy as appears next his name. 12d

Affeerors: Robert Davy Richard Berrett.

(pp.394-595 above are translated from the Latin).

p.396) Where at the Courte of the lawe daye holden at Lyme Regis aforesayde the thirde daie of October in the XIth yere of the Raigne of our Soveraigne Ladie Elizabeth by the grace of God Quene of England Fraunce and Irelande defendor of the faith etc. there came into the Courte before the Maior the stewarde and recorder and other officers of the

342

same Towne one William Childes and made clayme to a certeine burgage nowe in the tenure of Marye Elesdon alias Raffe widowe scituate being and being in Lyme Regis aforesaiede there in Combestreate betwexte the burgage of one John Swayne somtyme the burgage of one Thomas Skorche in the South parte and the running water in the Weste parte, the kinges hie waye in the easte parte, and the Bridge and water in the Northe parte, conteyning in lengthe fiftie and one foote and in bredethe twentle foote and by the order of the same Courte it was decreede that aswell the sayde Wylliam Childes as also one John Chaplen Clerk having the possession thereof, shoulde bringe fourthe and shews suche good evidence and profe into the sayde Courte at the nexte lawe daie as they and every of them coulde shewe for theire titles to the premises. WHEREUPPON, at this Courte being holden the second daie of October in the XIIIth yere of our sayde Soveraigne Ladie Elizabethe etc. There came one Cristofer Dodington Esquier in the behalf of the sayde John Chaplen and shewed a certeine dede of feoffemente bering date the XXIIIIIth daye of Julye in the XIIIIIth yere of the Raigne of king Henry the eight,

wherebie one William Dare, John Tudbold, Roberte Pyne and William Hambridge feofees of one Robert Chaplen gave and graunted the saide Burgage to the sayde Robert Chaplen and Margaret his wief and to theires of the bodie of the sayde Roberte, and for default of suche issue the remaynder thereof unto one William Chaplen, brother unto the saide Roberte and unto his heires, whiche Roberte dyede without issue of his body whereby the saide premisses did dissende unto the saide John Chaplen

343

as sonne and heirs of

the saide William, and thereuppon it is adjudged by the saide Corte that the sayde John Chaplen shall quietlie have and holde the sayde premisses with the profittes thereof paieing therefore unto the chief lorde or lordse of the fee all suche duties as is paieable for the same, untill suche tyme as therebe any bettor evidence shewed by the sayde William Childes or his aasignes for the recovery thereof. p.397) It is ordeyned at this Courts that where there is variance betwene William Childes and Roberte Davye of and for fowre acres of meddowe nowe in the tenure of the sayde Robert Davye in Lyme Regis aforesaide, that aswell the sayde. William Childes as also the sayde Roberte Davye they or other of theire assignes doe bring in there sufficient wryttinges or proff whereby he or they claymeth the premisses at the next laedeaye or otherwise he that shall make defaulte shall lose the possession of the premises untill therebe better cause shewed to the contrarye.

It is ordeyned that where there is variance betwene William Childes and Christian Garlande wyddowe of and for one Burgage nowe in the tenure of the sayde Crystyan Garlande scituat and being in Lyme Regis aforesayde, that aswell the sayde William Childes as also the sayde Cristian Garlande they or either of theire assignee doe bring in theire sufficient wrytinges and proffe whereby he or they claymeth the premisses at the next lawe daye or otherwise he that shall make default shall lose the possession thereof untill there be bettor cause showed to the contrary.

344

IT IS ORDEYNED at this Courte, that where there is varyaunce betwene Edith Pravindor wyddowe and Christian Bowdon of and for one Tenement wherin Edmonde Wighte nowe dwelleth in Lyme Regis aforesayde that aswell the sayde Edithe Pravindor as also the said Cristian Bowdon they or either of theire assignes shall bring in theire sufficient wryttinges or profe whereby she or they claymeth the premises at the next lawe daye or otherwise she that shall make default shall lose the possession thereof untill there be better cause shewed to the contraye.

ORDERS for the common wealth of the TOWNE.

- Inprimis that the Constabelles doe suffer noe vaccabondes nor sturdy beggers to haunte the Towne upon payne of xx. s.
- 2 Item that from hencefourth none doe caste any filthe into the kinges streame In Combestreate upon paine of ii. s.

p.398)

- 3 Item that none do wyme any corne in the striate uppon payne of iii. s. iiii. d.
- Item that none do sell any Ale or Bere but by sealed measures and also to kepe out theire alestakes as longe as they have any Ale or Beere to sell uppon payne of every tyme faultie xx. s.
- Item that every man from hencefourthe do cause to be don every wyke once, clense and ryd the stones and robbell which do lye before theire houses and cellars upon pains of xx. d.
- 6 Item that the Porters doe wekelie make cleane the streat at the Cobbe gate uppon paine of xii. d.
- 7 Item that Mr. Maior do appointe som man to se

345

that noe piges doe troble the streates and also

that no horses be tyed within the streates uppor the market dayes or other daies uppor peine of V.s.

- 8 Item that Mr. Maior do cawse the Lower end of Colway bridge to be mended betwexte this and Christmas next uppon paine of iii. s. iiil. d
- 9 Item that John Edgar Gregory Prye and Edmonde Wighte doe kepe the water in his due course betwexte Colway bridge and Colway Myll upon paine of v. s.
- 10 Item that Mr. Maior do cause to be mended the lower end of Sherborne Lane where the water do

runne into the kinges streame, and also to kepe the water in his due course in the same Lane upon paine of v. s.

- 11 Item that every manne do kepe cleane the water in West Streate every of them before theire owne houses and ground and also to cast nor washe any filth therein upon paine of iii. s. iiii. d.
- 12 Item that Mr. Maior do cause to be mended the Casweye above Perricroste stile by All Saintes next uppon paine of v. s.
- 13 Item that John Wheadon doe scower his ditche and kepe the water in his due course from tyme to tyme as need do require upon payne of iii. s. iiii. d
- Item that Henry Craudeley doe make his wall or pallisade betwext Sampson Toope and him by All Saintes next uppon payne of x. s. p.399)
- 15 Item that John Weye doe stop his house of office that standeth by Sherborne Lane and remove him from that place wherebie the waye may not be anoyed betwext this and All Saintes next coming upon peyne of iii. s. iiii. d.

346

- 16 Item that all such tymber and planckes as lieth by the water in the Weste Streate be taken away out of the streate betwext this and all Saintes next upon paine of x. s.
- 17 Item that John Abbott do scower the dicke at the lower end of the Greate Park, whereby the water may have his dewe course betwexte this and All Saintes next upon peine of xii. d .
- Item that Thomas Washington, William Whetcombe, and John Holcombe doe kepe theire gutters cleane from tyme to tyme as nede do require wherebie the streate may not be anoyed upon payne of every of them so offending ii. s.

(The above pages 396-399 are given In the original English of the Court Book)

p.403) Court held 30 October 12 Elizabeth.

Anthony Berret complains against Thomas Burton of Chard in a plea of debt on demand of 60 silver ducats called 'Royalles of plate'.

Court held 6 November 12 Elisabeth.

p.404) Memorandum that at this Court Richard Hunt delivered to the mayor here in Court a certain indenture of agreement made between John Boroughe and John Pravindor bearing date the Vigil of St. Peter 7 Henry VIII, 1515, and the said indentures remains in the custody of the mayor.

347

pp.408-410) Court Held 27 November 13 Elizabeth.

p.409) In a plea between Agnes Stone and George Higgins the former is said to have lost some domestic articles the prices of which are interesting:

one bed sheete of canvas - 12d.
one smocke for a childe- 12 d.
one kerchief - 4d
an aperne (apron) of canvas - 6d.
two table napkins - 8d.
one wyne glasse - 4d
one podinger - 10d.

p.426) Legal Court with view of frankpledge held there 7 May 13 Elizabeth, in the time of William Ellesdon mayor there.

Jurors:

John Morris, John Jorden, John Holcombe, Silvester Haine, Richard Berret, Robert Mydwinter, John Hassard. William Follett, John Garland, Ignatius Buckford,

348

William Spering John Combe Anthony Berret John Seward William Jorden John Boroughe, William Mallock, Robert Deye, John Sampford, William Tanner, Richard Slade, William Phelps, Philip Heywood, Alexander Durston, Richard Bemond, John Childe, Stephen Stone,

Richard Stone, John Bovet, Peter Rawlyn, William Goode, John Jaye, Richard Davie, Henry Palmer, William Crosse, John Turnor, Thomas Cogens, John Somer Junior, George Somer, John Cogens, John Wylles, John Seward Junior, John Spering, John Craudlie, John Sampford, Richard Sampford, Richard Craudlie, John Leye, Nicholas Sampford, Clement Carswell, John Luce, John Abbott - carrier, John Prye, Richard Betford, Ralph Hockett are essoined.

Matthew Baylie, John Sprake, Richard Meyre, are sworn to the assize of our Lady the Queen. We, Richard Carpenter and Thomas Denslo, constables, find that up to this Court all things are well.

p.427) The said jurors for our lady the Queen come and say on their oath that Lord Cobham, William Hancock, Robert Hassard, Richard Hunt, John Tirling, John Swayne, heir of Elisabeth Scorche, Gilbert Hellier, are freeholders and owe suit of Court on this day and have made default, therefore each of them in mercy as appears next their names. ...d.

And the aforesaid Jurors further say that Thomas Wynter, John Bentlie, Thomas Apsie, John Collie, Richard Menesie, John Davy junior, George

349

Bowdon, Richard Bowdon, David Bryant, William Cogens, John Hues, John Dorchester, Richard Monck, Robert Beverlcombe, Thomas Tryckye, Alexander Lacie, John Hussey, are inhabitants of the said town and have made default therefore each of them in mercy as appears next their names. ...d. each

Also they present that Richard Craudlie resisted the Serjeant at mace, and half drew his sword upon him, therefore in mercy as appears next his name. p.428 is left entirely blank.

p.429) It ys ordeyned at this Courts that where ther is variaunce and suite in the same Corte betwene Edith Bennet aliaus Praunder widowe and Christian Bowdon widowe and Rlcharde Hunte for divers parcelies of lands within the same Towne of Lyme Regis, that the saide parties and every of them shall sue their playntes and actions at the Comon Lawe for the premisses, without any mercement or other prejudice to the saide Courts.

Orders for the comon welth of the Towne.

Inprimis that the Constables doe suffer noe vacoabondes nor sturdie beggars to hawnt the towne uppon pains of - - - xx. s.

Item that none from hencefourthe doe cast any filth into the Kings Streams in Combstreete upon peine of ii. s.

Item that none do wymme any corne in the streate upon paine of iii. s. iiii. d. Item that none do sell any Ale or Beere but by

350

sealed measures and also to kepe out their alestakes

as long as they have any ale or bere tosell upon paine of every tyme founde faulty - xx. s.

Item that every man from hence fourthe do cause to be donne every weeke once, clense and rydde the stones with other filthe, which doe lie before their houses or sellers uppon paine to forfeyt every tyme faultie - xx. d.

Item that the Porters doe wekelie make clene ye streate before the Cobbegate paine of xii. d. p.430) Item that Mr. Maior do appoynte some man to so that no pigges do troble the streates, and also that no horses be tied in the streates upon the market days or other daies uppon paine of v. s. Item that John Edgar, Gregory Prye and Edmond Wighte doe kepe the water in his due course betwexte Colway bridge and Colway Mill uppon peine of v. s.

Item that Mr. Maior do cause the lougher end of Sherborne Lane to be mendid, where the water doth rune into the Kinges Streame, and also the water to be kepte in his due corse in the saide lane by the feaste of Penticost next upon paine of vi. s. viii. d.

Item that every man doth kepe clene the water in the Weste streate before theire dores and ground and that none doth washe or misuse the water with no kind of fylthe upon paine for every tyme iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that all such tymber as lieth in the Weste

paine of - x. s.

Item that Mr. Maior do cause the wall in ye Weste streate to be repaired by St. James daie nexte upon paine of - x. s.

Item in like Manner to repaire the Mantall of Burges shoppe by St. James daie paine of - x. s. Item that James Hackwell do repaire the Mantele of his kytchen by Mydsomer nexte upon payne of x. s.

Item that Mr. Maior do cause the water that runneth from St. Andrewes Crosse to be put in his due corse by Mydsomer nexte upon paine of .. iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that the widdowe Batten do cause hir hedge in St. Andrewes Lane to be pared by Mydsomer nexte upon paine of - xx. d.

p.431) Item we doe fynde that ther is to muche unlawful games used by the Comons and others. Item we do fynde that

pp.429-431 are in the English of the Court Book.

p.438) Piepowder Court held there 11 July 15 Elizabeth between George Hooper plaintiff and William Balleret, foreigner defendant, in a plea of trespass, upon the case.

352

Oath taken in default of the defendant (plaintiff) William Sparing, John Combe, Anthony Barrett, William Follete, John Jorden, William Whetcombe, Silvester Haine, Nicholas Whetcombe, John Seward, Peter Wilcockes, Ignatius Buckford, John Belmy.

On this day William Welshe is admitted attorney of William Belleret in the plea levied against him by George Hooper.

On this day George Hooper did not appear by himself or by his attorney to prosecute his suit against William Belleret foreigner, wherefore the aforesaid oath was taken owing to the default of the said George, and he is dismissed the Court, wherefore it is decided that he shall pay for costs and expenses of the Court 12s. 9d.

William Belleret foreigner complains against George Hooper in a plea of trespass upon the case. Pledge to prosecute John Hassard.

pp.442-443) Court held 13 August 13 Elizabeth.

p.442) John Pottell alias Roper complains against William Ilsdon, William Handcock, and James Carpenter for that on the 27th of July 13 Elizabeth they did with the strong hand steal a horse of John Pottell's in a place called 'Milhill close'.

p.444) Election of the mayor and other officials of the said borough held there on Monday after the feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle, viz. 27 August 13 Elisabeth, according to the custom observed from time immemorial in the time of William Ellesdon

353

mayor there.

John Holcombe, William Spering, John Morris, John Garland, Robert Davye, Anthony Berrett, Riohard Berrett, William Jorden, John Hassarde, John Jurden
Jurors:

Richard Carpenter, Philip Heywood, Thomas Waller, John Somer, Alexander Davy, John Sampford, Ralph Stansbie, John Miller, William Whetcombe, William Mallock, Henry Craudly, Peter Wilcockes, Robert Midwinter, Nicholas Davie, John Seward, Gregory Trall, Ignatius Buckford, Robert Tynham, John Davie senior, Gilbert Hellier, George Hooper, Robert Micoe, Nicholas Whetcombe, John Bellemy, Silvester Haine, Thomas Denslo. Sworn.

And they say on their oath that:

William Spering is to be mayor.

John Morris coroner.

Anthony Berrett and John Combe constables.

John Hassard and John Seward receivers.

William Welshe and John Farland Serjeants at mace.

354

John Morys, Johannes Jorden, John Holcombe, Robert Midwinter, Richard Berrett, William Follett John Hassarde, John Combe, John Garland, Ignatius Buckford, Anthony Berrett, John Seward, John Davy senior, George Hooper.

Essoined:

William Mallock, William Tanner, Nicholas Davie, Riohard Slade, Alice, wife of John Cokeram, Jane wife of John Bruer, who are heirs of Nicholas Deye, John Bentlie, Richard Stone, Richard Pers, John Edgar senior, William Bonner, Thomas Chard, John Somer junior, John Cogens, servant of James Hackwell, John Craudlye, Richard Sampford, John Wallen, John Luce, John Abbott - carier, John Bellemy, Richard Betforde, John Hockett.

We Rychard Carpenter and Thomas Densloe constables do present that John Hassarde did breake the pease in striking the foresayde Thomas Densloe the Xth of Aprill laste or there aboutes being then constable, with his fyste.

Item that Nicholas Smythe did also breaks ye peace in striking of Rychard Sampford with a staf the VIIIth of June or there aboutes.

p.451) The said jurors for our lady the Queen come and say on their oath that Lord Cobham, John Boroughs, William Handcoke, Robert Hassarde, Riohard Hunt, John Tyrling, William Chaplen, heirs of Elisabeth Scorche, William Phellpes, are freeholders and have made default; therefore they are each of them in mercy as appears next their names. 3d. each

355

And further the said jurors say that Simon Tanner, William Good, John Jaye, George Modge, Charity Newall, William Crosse, Richard Willes, John Cogens, mariner, John Cogens, Thomas Cogens, William Cogens, Christopher Holman, William Drewe, Henry Tanner, are inhabitants of the said town and have made default, therefore they and each of them In mercy as appears next their names, 3d. each.

(Of the above the constables' presentments alone are in the original English. The rest is translated from the Latin).

Orders for the comon welthe of the Toune of Lyme Regis.

Inprimis that the constables do suffer noe vaccabondes nor sturdie beggers unpunished, payne of xx. s.

Item that none from hencefourthe doe caste any fylthe into the kinges streams in Combestreate, payne of - iii. s, iiii. d.

Item that none do wym anie corne In the streates payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that none do sell anie ale or beere but by sealed measures and also to kepe out their Alestakes as longs as there ys anie ale or bere to sell upon paine of - xx. s.

Item yt every man do cause to be don every weke once to red the stones and fylthe before their dores and sellers upon payne every tyme so found - xx. d.

Item yt the porters doe weekelie make cleane the streates at the Cobgate payne of - xii. d. p. 452) Item yt Mr. Maior do appoynte som man to see yt no piges doe anoye the streates and also yt no

356

horses be tied in the streetes peine of - v. s.

Item yt John Edgar, Gregorie Frye and Edmond Wighte doe kepe the water in his due course betwene Colwaye Bridge and Colway Myll payne of - vi. s. viii. d.

Item yt Mr. Maior do cause Shirborne Lane to be repayred and also to cary awaye the filth whereby the water may have his due course payne of - vi. s. viii. d.

Item that every man do cause the water to be kepte cleane before their dores in Weste Streate, and yt none doe washe nor mysuse the sayd water with any kynd of fylthe upon payne every one found to the contrary ii. s. iiii. d.

Item yt from hencefourthe no man shall laye any tymber in the streate without the Maiors lycens payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that Mr. Maior shall cause the mantele of Burges shop to be repayred betweene this and St. Andrewes daye nexte paine of x. s.

Item yt Mr. Maior from hensfourthe shall cause the water from St. Andrews crosse to Colway bridge to be kepte in his due course paine of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item that the wydowe Batten do cause hir hedge in St. Andrewes Lane to be pared by all Saintes nexte peine of xx. s.

Item yt Mr. Maior shall repaire the waies from Colway bridge to thre leged crosse by Christmas next payne of iii.s. iiii.d.

Item yt Mr. Lerstock do cause his hedge to be pared from Colweye Bridge to 111 leged crosse by all Saintes nexte payne of ii. s.

357

p.453) Item yt Wm. Jorden shall newe make his wall over his parlor dore towardes the streate by Christmas nexte payne of- x. s.

Item that Mr. Maior do mende the Towne gutter yt breketh uppe betwene the towne sellers by all Saintes nexte peine of- v. s.

Item yt Mr. Maior do cause the water spring at his yete in the high waye towards Uplyme to be conveyed downe towardes Colwaye Bridge and to conveye yt under the streame yt runeth to ye Towne between this and Christmas next paine of- v. s.

Item yt Mr. Washington, John Davie, William Tanner, and all others yt hathe grounde lienge to the church yarde, shall ryde awaye the fylthe yt lyethe nowe before their grounde by all Saintes nexte and from hensforth to caste no more, payne of- v. s.

Item yt Anthony Berrett do repaire his wall over his strete dore by Christmas nexte, payne of - iii. s. iiii. d,

Item yt Mr. Maior do cause Goslens bridge to be well made and rayled by all Saintes nexte payne of x. s.

Item we fynde that ther is to muche unlawfull games used and no bowes exercised.

Willelmus Ellesdon, Johannes Bellemy, affuratores.

(The above orders are In the original English).

358

Sewn on to p.457 is an original appraisement of arrested goods, signed by Robert Midwinter and Ignacius Buckford and dated 2 November 1571.

Sewn on to p.469 is an original arbitration of a plea on an account signed by John Hassard and Anthony Berrett.

p.475) Legal Court with view of frankpledge held there 28 April 14 Elizabeth in the time of William Spering mayor there.

Jurors for our Lady the queen: John Morys, Nicholas Whetcombe, John Holcombe, Richard Carpenter, John Hassard, William Whetecombe, John Garland, Alexander Davye, William Ellesdon, John Davye senior, Nicholas Whetcombe, John Bellamy, Peter Wilcokes.

Richard Davye, Richard Sampford are sworn to the assize of our lady the Queen.

359

Anthony Berrett and John Combe constable present that all things are well up to this Court. p.476)

Orders for the comon welthe of the Towne.

Fyrste that the constables do suffer noe vaccabondes nor sturdie beggers unpunished upon payne of ... xx. s.

Item that none from hencefourthe do caste any fylthe in the Kinges Streame in Combestreate upon payne of - iii. s. iiii. d.

Item yt none do wym anie Corne in the streate apon payne of - iii. s. iiii. d.

Item yt none do sell ale or bere but by sealed measures and also to kepe out their alestakes as long as ther is ale or bere to sell payne of - xx. s.

Item that every man do cause to be donne every weke once, to ryde the stones and filthe before

their dores and sellers upon payne of every one so founde - xx. d.

Item that the porters do wekelie make clene the streates before the Cobyate upon peine of - xii. d.

Item yt Mr. Maior doe appoynt some man to se yt no piges do anoye the streates, and also yt no horses be tyed in the streates paine of - v. s.

Item that none of the Ale Brusters do from hensfourthe brue, but with fewell and not with harde wod or fagott wod apon payne for every tyme so doing- v. s.

Item yt Mr. Maior do cause Shirborne Lane to be paved and repayred and also to carie awaye the fylthe wherby the water may have his dewe course by the feaste of St. John Baptiste nexte paine of vi. s. viii. d.

Item that every man do cause the water to be

360

kepte clene before their dores in the Weste streate

and that none do washe nor mysuse the sayd water with any kind of fylthe payne of iii. s. iiii. d. p.477) Item yt from hencefourthe no man shall lay anie tymber in the streate without lycence of the Maior upon payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item yt James Hackwell do remove his tymber before his walle on this side the Feaste of Penticost next upon payne of vi. s. viii. d.

Item that the wydowe batten do cause hir hedge In St. Andrewes Lane to be pared before Pentycoste nexte payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item yt Mr. Maior do cause the hie waye to be mended betwene 111 leged crosse and Colway Bridge and from three leged crosse to Alex Davye's dore before mydsomer nexte paine of x. s.

Item that Mr. Lestock do pare his hedge from three legged crosse to Colwaye bridge before the Feaste of Pentycoste nexte payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item yt Mr. Maior doe cause the waterspring before his yete going to Uplyme to be conveyed towards Colway Bridge under the streame yt cometh to the Towne before midsomer next upon paine of vi. s. viii. d.

Item yt Mr. Washington and Colman do ryde the fylthe out of the Churche yard which they have layde before the South dore before Pentycoste nexte payne of ii. s.

Item yt Anthonie Berrett do amend his wall over his streate dore before mydsomer nexte upon peine of xx. d.

Item yt Maior do cause Goslinges bridge to be newe made and rayled before Penticoste next upon peine of x. d.

361

Item yt Mrs. Raffe do newe make the weare at Goslinges Brydge sufficient for horses to passe over by Penticoste nexte payne of v. s.

p.478) Item that the said Mrs. Raffe do cause hir diche to be skowerd in Houndes Lane before Penticoste next paine of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item yt old Browne do carie away his dong above his garden hedge before Penticosts next peine of ii. s.

Item that Wm. Broke and Richard Pers do cary away the robell which they have layd in the highe waye before the Almes house before Penticoste nexte peine of xx. d.

Item that Mrs. Raffe do laye one flatt stone before hir gate to yt is there alredye before Penticoste next paine of xx. d.

Item yt Mr. Maior do cause the waye to be mended before the Church yards Barres and also to cause the Churche wardens to amend the Churchyerd wall before mydsomer nexte payne of iii. s. iiii. d.

Item yt Mr. Morys and Mr. Holcombe do sett their hedge and bondes in the backsyde of their houses in their dewe corse by All Sts next payne of vi. s. viii. d.

Item yt every man in the Wests streate do make the water canell deper before their houses or grounde so that the water may not ronne over to enoye the streates before mydsomer next peine of $\, v. \, s. \,$

Item that none do washe enie clothes in the Wests Streate upon paine of xx. d.

Item that Mr. Maior do cause the Butes to be

iii. s. iiiii. d.

Item we doe finde that theris to muche unlawfull games used and no bowes exercised.

(pp.476-478 are In the original English) (p.479 is blank.)

pp.480-481) Court held 5 May 14 Elizabeth.

Sewn on to p.481 is an original appraisement of certain goods belonging to James Jeffard and under arrest; 9 hogsheads and 1 empty cask at 6.s. 8.d. per hogshead: total, £3. 1s. 4d. Signed by John Seward and John Somer.

p.486) Court held 30 June 14 Elizabeth.

Certain woollen cloth called 'frise' (frieze) is under arrest.

p.493)Election of the mayor and other officials of the said borough held there on Monday after the feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle viz: 25 August 14 Elizabeth, according to the custom of the said borough observed from time immemorial, in the time of William Speringe mayor there.

363

William Speringe Maior, John Garland, John Morys, William Ellesdon, John Holcombe, John Jordan, Robert Davie, Robert Midwinter, Richard Berrett, John Hassarde . : sworn

Freemen:

John Sewarde, Ralph Stansbie, Richard Carpenter sen., George Hooper, John Davy senior. Robert Mico, William Whetcombe, Thomas Denslo, William Follett, John Bellemy, Robert Davye, Peter Wilcokes, Nicholas Whetcombe, John Combe, Henry Craudlie, John Somer, Thomas Waller, sworn.

Burgesses dwelling in the town.

William Mallock, Gregory Trail, Alexander Davye, Robert Tynham, Robert Deye, John Sampford, Nicholas Devy, Philip Heywood, John Myller.

And they being sworn say on their oath that:

John Hassard is to be mayor for the following year.

John Morys coroner.

Robert Mydwinter and Richard Davy receivers.

John Bellemy and Philip Heywood constables.

John Farland and William Welshe Serjeants at mace.

p.495) Court held 8 September

(at bottom of p.496) All which follows was written and recorded by me John Carpenter, when I held and recorded the Courts as Town Clerk there.

p.496) Legal Court with view of frankpledge held there on Monday after the feast of St. Michael the Archangel

364

viz: 6 October, 14 Elizabeth, in the time of John Hassard mayor there, before John Wadham knight recorder of the said town, William Poole knight counsellor of the said town, and others.

John Morys, John Davy senior, Richard Beret, William Follet, Robert Davy, Ignatius Buckford, William Ellesdon, John Seward, William Jurden, Richard Carpenter, John Jurden, Richard Davye, Robert Mydwinter, Thomas Denslowe, John Oldrue, Gregory Trail, Richard Bowdon, Nicholas Hunt, are sworn to the assize of our Lady the Queen.

John Boroughe, Gilbert Hellier, William Broke, Robert clerk, Thomas Haine, Augustin Sprake, Thomas Cogens, James Cate, William Drewe, Thomas Fourde, John Cogan junior, John Sparing, John Olyver, Robert Dorchester, John Abot, John Frye, Thomas Borcom, Peter Browne, Richard Ellet, John Gosse, John Whitmore, William Mylner, Robert Tutchen, are essoined at this Court.

Anthony Berret and John Combe constables present that John Craudlye has insulted William Reede therefore he is in mercy. 9d.

p.497) The Jurors for our Lady the Queen present that Lord Cobham, William Handcock, Robert Hassard, Richard Hunte, Robert Deye, Richard Slade, John Tirlinge, William Chaplen, heirs of William Phelps, Alice wife of John Cokaram, Jane wife of John Brewer, are freeholders and owe suit of Court and have made default, therefore they and each of them in mercy as appears

365

next their names. 3d.

Also they present that Richard Davidge, John Garland, Alexander Forward, Roger Gosse, Richard Sampford senior, John Smithe are inhabitants of the said town, and have made default, therefore they and each of them in mercy, as appears next their names, 3d.

Also they present that the ale-sellers have not sold ale by sealed measures, and have not displayed the ale stakes as long as they had ale to sell, as they were ordered, therefore they and each of them in mercy as appears next their names, the fine to be divided between them. 10.s.

Also they present that Mr. Mayor has allowed pigs to disturb the public places and that horses have been tied up in them contrary to the ordinance and precept of the last Court. Therefore he is In mercy as appears next his name. 18.d.

Also they present that Alice Davye heats her ale with hard wood, and makes her fire in the wood contrary to the ordinance of the last Court, therefore she is in mercy as appears next her name. 20.d.

Also they present that James Hackwell has not removed the timber in front of his wall as he was ordered, therefore he is in mercy as appears next his name. 12.d.

Also they present that Thomas Washington and Thomas Colman have not carried away the filth from the cemetery as they were ordered, therefore they are in mercy as appears next their names. 6.d. p.498) Also they present that Sibyl Battyn widow has not trimmed her hedge in St. Andrew's lane as she was ordered at the last Court therefore she is in mercy as appears next her name. 6.d.

366

Also they present that Joan Ellesdon has not repaired the weare at the bridge called "goslinges bridge" as she was ordered, therefore she is in mercy as appears next her name. 20.d.

Also they present that the same Joan Ellesdon, widow, has not placed a stone before her gate as she was ordered at the last Court, therefore she is in mercy etc. 4.d.

Also that Robert Norwood, John Jurden, John Farland, Richard Carpenter and Thomas Burges are in mercy as appears next their names, since their wives have done their washing in the water in the "Weste streate" contrary to the ordinance etc. 14.d.

Also that John Craudlie has insulted and drawn blood upon William Reede, therefore he is in mercy as appears next his name. 9.d.

Also they present that Nicholas Sampford owes as relief for one parcel of land and one orchard at Goslinges bridge which he has purchased of Silvester Hayne.

Also they present that James Hackwell, mariner, has purchased a tenement in Weste streate of John Holcombe, and owes as relief.

Also they present that Richard Perse has purchased of Laurence Ellesdon a burgage tenement lying in the "Weste Cleves" next Silvester Hayne's land, and owes as relief

Richard Berret, John Jurden, Affeerors.

(p.499) is blank.

p.500-501) Court held 13 October.

An inhibition of the Archbishop of Canterbury was produced in Court.

367

Nicholas Sampford was dismissed the Court because he misnamed John Deye, servant of Joan Elsdon widow, by calling him John Agarneseye.

pp.505-506) Court held 24 November 15 Elizabeth.

A writ of habeas corpus was produced by John Whetcombe.

pp.512-513) Court held 9 February 15 Elizabeth.

A writ of error was produced in favour of Robert More against William Woodcock. It was not allowed by the Court because (i) it came too late. (ii) its direction was insufficient and unjust.

p.514) Court held 16 February.

George Elsdon accused Christopher Molyneux of trespassing in his close called the Barnes Close. p.523) Legal court with view of frankpledge held there on the Monday of Hocktide, viz: 20 April 15 Elisabeth in the time of John Hassarde mayor there.

John Morys, Robert Mydwinter, Robert Davie, John Davy senior

368

Richard Berret William Follet,

John Garland, Ignatius Buckford, William Ellesdon, John Seward, William Spering, Richard Carpenter, Anthony Berret, Thomas Denslowe, John Jurden, John Morys coroner, sworn, presents that all things are well since the last Court.

Philip Haywood and John Bellemy constables being sworn present that Richard Menesie has insulted one Philip Brock servant of William Drewe with a measuring rod and has drawn blood, contrary to the peace of our Lady the Queen, therefore he is in mercy as appears next his name. 9.d.

Also that Henry Craudlie has Insulted Peter Shire servant of Thomas Wynter and drawn blood, contrary to the peace of our Lady the Queen, therefore he is in mercy as appears etc. 9. d.

Also that George Ellesdon has insulted Joan Walker and drawn blood, contrary to the peace of our Lady the Queen, therefore he is in mercy as appears next his name, viz. 9. d. p.524) Also the said constables present that all of the following have played the illegal game called 'Bowlles', therefore they and each of them in mercy as appears next their names, viz: Robert Davy - vi. d. John Weye - ii. s. Richard Berret - xii. d. Robert Norwood - ii. s. William Spering - xii. d. Thomas Abot - ii. s. John Garland - xii. d. Nicholas Smith - xii. d. John Jurden - xii. d. Richard Carpenter, junior - vi. d. Robert Midwinter - xii. d. William Bonner vi. d. Silvester Haine - vi. d. Richard Sampford, junior - x. d.

369

Richard Davidge - xii. d. Richard Ellet - ii. s.

Thomas Hayne - vi. d. Edward Silvester - vi. d. John Bellemy - xii. d. Robert Tynham - ii. s. Ignatius Buckford - vi. d. Robert Collier - xviii. d. Henry Palmer - ii. s. Thomas Burges - vi. d. John Craudly - ii. s. Gregory Ottenson - ii. s.

The jurors for our Lady the Queen present on their oath that William, Lord Cobham, John Wadham, knight; William Handcock, William Mallock, Robert Hassarde, Richard Hunt, Henry Snowe, Richard Slade, John Tyrling, John Swayne, John Willes, heir of Elisabeth Scorche, et Cristina Bowdon are freeholders owing suit of Court and have made default, therefore they and each of them in mercy as appears next their names. 4. d.

Also they present that Roger Davy, Walter Greene, Hugo Venner, Nicholas Ellesdon, Robert Stansbye, John Garland Junior, Robert Gollup, William Hollard, Robert Hill, Robert Thornton et John Bagwell, miller, are inhabitants of the said town owing suit of Court on this day and have made default; therefore they and each of them in mercy as appears next their names. 4. d. p.525) And the said jurors present that Robert Mycoe, Richard Sampford senior, Nicholas Sampford, William Brooke, Robert Collier and Robert Williams have not sold their ale and drink with sealed measures and have not displayed their 'alestakes' the whole time they have had ale or drink to sell. Therefore they are in mercy as appears next their names, viz: Robert Mico, 3.s. 4.d, Richard Sampforde senior 4s., Nicholas Sampforde 2. s., William Broke 2. s., Robert Collier 16.d. and Robert Williams 6.d.

370

Also they present that John Young and John Craudly have not cleaned, or removed the filth in front of their houses and cellars every week as they were ordered at the last Court, therefore they and each of them in mercy as appears next their names. 6. d.

Also they present that Thomas Washington nor his deputy, have carried away the filth from the cemetery, as he was ordered, therefore he is in mercy as appears next his name. 12.d.

Also they present that George Plea has not cleaned his ditch by the 'Casweye' as he was ordered, therefore he Is in mercy as appears next his name. 12.d.

Also they present that the porters have not cleared out the pit or cleaned the roadway as they were ordered, therefore they are in mercy as appears next their names. 6.d.

Also they present that William Moxaige alias Tanner has not repaired his wall between himself and Philip Haywood as he was ordered, therefore he is in mercy as appears next his name. 12.d.

p.526) Also they present that John Holcombe has died since the last Court, upon which a relief is owing.

Also they present that William Deane has died and a relief is owing.

Also they present that Nicholas Davye has died since the last Court. And the said Nicholas Davye in his lifetime by virtue of a feoffment date 5 April 12 Elisabeth, produced here in full Court, for and in consideration of a marriage settlement between him and one Joan Drayton, gave, granted, and enfeoffed John Drayton, Peter Drayton, John Sampford and Robert Davy their heirs and assigns, of his whole tenement or burgage lying in Lyme Regis Co. Dorset in the street

371

called Drye streate there, now held by

Ignatius Buckford, and one tenement or burgage in Lyme Regis aforesaid now held by Sibyl Batten widow, to have and to hold the two said tenements or burgages with appurtenances to the said feoffees and their heirs, for the use of the said Nicholas Davye and Joan Drayton and the heirs of the said Nicholas for ever. And since the said Nicholas Davye has died since the last Court, the said Joan Drayton alias Joan Davye late wife of the said Nicholas Davye is present here in Court and claims her interest in the two aforesaid tenements or burgages with appurtenances, by virtue of the said feoffment, while she lives; and so she is admitted tenant thereof while she lives.

Also the jurors present that Henry Palmer has bought and purchased of William Ellesdon a burgage or orchard in Combe Streete in front of Gregory Trail's house, and owes 6.d. as relief. p.527) Also the jurors present that John Davye son of Robert Davye has bought and purchased of Alexander Davy a burgage lying next Sherborne Lane and owes 8.d. as relief.

Also they present that Robert Collier ought to pay the mayor for a strayed mare, which before this Court bad been committed to his custody by the mayor.

John Jurden, Robert Mydwinter, Affeerors.

pp.532-535) Court held 18th May

p.534) Another writ of error produced In favour of Robert More against William Woodcock (see above).

372

This time the writ was allowed by the Court.

pp.557-558) Court held 1 June.

Thomas Hayne convicted of detaining 3 dozen wool cards, price 42.s., belonging to Richard Ellyett. pp.539-541) Court held 22 June.

Three pieces of wool called 'white kersies', belonging to Thomas Denslowe, valued at 16.s. the piece.

12 sacks of oats belonging to William Perse are said to contain 6 muids a sack by measures of Exeter, and to be valued at 8,d. a muid. (a muid is roughly a bushel: I don't know what Exeter measures are - J.R.C)

p.545-546) Court held 20 July.

(The last Court enrolled in the book is the ordinary Court held on July 20, 15 Elizabeth (1574). This Court ends on p.546 with the words 'finis huius libri'.

On the back of p. 546 are entered royal letters of protection for 'George Higgens and Hugh James of Bristowe'.)

FINIS.

402

GLOSSARY AND NOTES,

(The numbers given are the pages of the original Court Book, repeated on the left-hand margin of the folios.)

Affeeror (48, etc.) settles amercements or fines, and mulcts those who have committed faults, even if no express penalty is prescribed. Cf. affeerment p.5.

Alestake or - stock (313, etc.) A stake or post set up before an alehouse to bear a garland or bush or as a sign itself.

Alias (13, etc.) The use of aliases, as here, is frequent and not easy to explain. Where an alias occurs, the two names are often used indifferently (e.g., Gay alias Wallern followed by Wallern alias Gay on p.13). Such an alias cannot in a small community like that of Lyme, have been used for the purpose of concealment. Now Lyme in the 16th Century was probably not guiltless of illegitimate children, and it is suggested that the parties in question may have been natural children and as such known, sometimes by the father's, at other times by the mother's, name. There is only one exception to this, viz.: on p.526 where Joan Davye (a widow) is also known, more Scotico, by her maiden name of Joan Drayton.

All Halland (331) - All Hallows - All Saints = November 1st.

Amercement (429) or mercement = the infliction of a penalty left to the mercy of the authority in question.

Angeletes (247) - Old angeletes were a French gold coin of Louis XI with the image of St. Michael and the dragon under his feet; also a piece coined at Paris by the English under Henry VI.

Ankers (281) = anchors.

Ansties (173) = Agnestacia = Anastacia = Anstice.

Apern (409) = Apron.

Approve (333) = prove.

Assize of the Queen (66, etc.) was held for the statutory regulation or settling of the price of bread and ale, with reference to the current price of grain.

403

Attorneys. (p.8 etc.) No doubt in earlier days than these, the attorney was a friend who, for friendship's sake and owing to the difficulties of travel in those times, would represent the party in Court, But it is clear that in the 16th Century, professionals had taken or were taking the place of friends as attorneys. Notice, for instance, in the index of names the constant recurrence of Richard Carpenter, Alexander Durston, William Ellesdon and many others as acting in this capacity. Abuses must have arisen, because in 1594 the Borough Council Issued an order whereby all hitherto practising as attorneys were deprived of that right. At the same time three official attorneys were nominated to whom a fourth was added in 1587.

Aunes (58) = ells, an obsolete French cloth measure, varying in length In different localities. Axsesere (314) = accessory.

Backside (314) = back premises, back yard, outbuildings.

Barnes Close (514) - The locality is unknown.

Barred Close, the (31) - The locality of this is unknown.

Broad Gate (2) - The locality of this is unknown.

Buff Hide (180) = buffalo hide, a very stout kind of leather made of ox-hide dressed with oil of a dull, whitish yellow surface.

Burgage (48, etc.) = a tenure in cities or towns held of the King or other lord for a certain yearly rent.

Burgesses Resident (493) seem to be here associated with Freemen in the election of the Mayor. Buttes (102, etc.) These were on Mill Green. The shooting was with bow and arrow (453).

404

Cattescleeves (4, etc.) The position of these cannot be determined with certainty. They are mentioned as late as the early Eighteenth Century. They may have been part of the cliffs to the East of the Church, no longer existent.

Certiorari (152. etc.) This writ was one from a superior to an inferior Court directing a certified record of its proceedings in any case to be sent up for review.

Clearly void, to be (329), i.e., that he abandons all claim to Clerk (329) i.e., in holy orders.

Colway Mill (103). This is the mill still existing on the left bank of the river between Colway or Horn Bridge and the bottom of Woodmead Road.

Colway More (236) would appear to be land round Colway Manor that was not under cultivation.

Council (118). This (in 1563) is the first definite mention of any Borough Council. Some small Committee was probably associated with the Mayor in the government of the town long before this, but it was not till the Charter of Elizabeth in 1591 that the Borough Council obtained any official recognition.

Counsellor (496) The meaning of this word here in connection with Sir William Poole Is doubtful. Sir William was of Newlands, Charmouth. He was not a "councillor" i.e., a Member of the Borough Council, but he may have been a counsel learned in the law and, as such, called in to advise the Court Leet on some point.

Country (20, etc.) To place a case, or to place oneself upon the country, is to demand a trial by Jury. The expression arises from the fact that the jury was taken from the locality or neighbourhood in question.

Demurer (106, etc.) is a pleading which admits pro tem. the opponent's facts but denies that he is legally entitled to relief. An action was thus stopped till the point was decided by the Court.

405

Deodands (235, etc.) These personal chattels which had caused Injury to others were treated as deodands and forfeited not to God but to the Crown. In the former case they were sold and the proceeds applied to pious uses. i.e., distributed in alms.

Dick (331) = dyke.

Double ducat (247) = a gold coin of varying value once in use in most European countries.

Dowlas (58) = a coarse kind of linen derived from the town of Daoulas in Brittany to the S.E. of Brest. Compare "lockram" from Locrenen in the same vicinity, and "Trigar" below.

Dry Street – locality unknown.

Esquire (396) = one of the higher order of gentry, immediately below a Knight.

Essoin (13, etc.) = allegation of an excuse for non-appearance in Court.

Estreat (233) = a true extract, copy or note of some original writing or record, especially of fines or amercements.

Evidence (laws of) (p.11) John Ford proves his case by swearing to the truth of it and getting another person to do the same. This was a medieval method of deciding cases, but is a very late date to find it. Compare p.215 where Robert Skynner proves his case on similar grounds.

Fardels (60, etc.) = bundles.

Feoffee (396) = one to whom a freehold estate in land is conveyed by a feoffment.

Feoffment (396) = the action of investing a person with a fief or fee.

406

Foreigner (56, etc.) - may be used simply to designate one of another guild or parish, a non-freeman, or one of another nationality. Compare 265 and 438.

Foxmould (332). This is the well-known local foxy-coloured sand. A protest against its use for the repair of roads is intelligible.

Frame (to work with) (240) - This may be a loom. Frames were used for embroidery and weaving. compare "lace-frame", "stocking-frame"

Franckes (233). This is synonymous with the French coin. There was; (1) a gold coin of the 14th century worth about 10s.6d. in 1900. (2) a silver coin first struck in 1575, equivalent to 9d. or 10d. in the 13th Century.

Frankpledge (2, etc.) was a system whereby every member of a tithing (village) is answerable for the good conduct of, or damage done by, any one of the other members.

Frise (486) = frieze, the coarse cloth.

Fuel order (476, 497). The point of this order seems to be that the brewers were wastefully using

fresh wood Instead of using wood charcoal (see 'Smythes Cole' below)

Fulling mill (220) – There was one fulling mill just above Colway Bridge.

Gentleman (35, etc.) - was a definite rank in society at this time; lower than an esquire but higher than a yeoman.

Great Park (31) the whereabouts of this locality is unknown.

Habeas Corpus (505). This writ did not start with the well-known Act of 1679. The writ itself was of much more ancient date but (previous to 1679) could only be obtained with difficulty from Judges and executed with more difficulty by Sheriffs.

407

High Street (82) – The street first called West Street and (as now) Broad Street seems sometimes to have been known as High Street even in the late 17th Century.

Hocktide (363) - was the second Monday and Tuesday after Easter Day.

Homage (82, etc.) = a body of persons owning allegiance; a body of tenants attending a manorial court.

Horn Bridge (67) - It will be noticed that throughout this Court Book Colway Bridge is always so spoken of. "Horn Bridge" is never once mentioned.

Hound's lane (332) According to the document at Folio 11 of Portfolio IV this would seem to have been somewhere to the East of the Church between old Colway Lane and, the sea, into which it has fallen. Husband (150) = husbandman.

Ibberies (47, etc.) See Ylheryes.

Kersey (175, etc.) = a coarse narrow cloth woven from long wool. Evidence connecting this word with Kersey in Suffolk has not been found." O.E.D.

Kirtle (229) = a woman's gown, skirt or outer petticoat; also a man's tunic or coat.

Kings streame (82) – was the portion of the river with a diminished volume of water which flows around the bend between the weir at Gosling Bridge and the Town Mills

Leet (Court). - The derivation of this word is obscure. It was a special Court of Record empowered by Charter annually, or semi-annually. At Lyme it was held twice a year, i.e., within one month of Easter and one month of Michaelmas.

408

Mader bagges (287) are no doubt bags of the madder root used for dyeing purposes.

Mantel (30, etc.) was the piece of timber or stone supporting the masonry above a fireplace. The constant references to these and chimneys is proof of the continuous dread of fire in old Lyme.

Mercement (429) see amercement.

Merke (55, etc.) or mark was a money of account. A mark's weight of pure silver was a very variable denomination of weight in Western Europe. Its value may be taken as s 160 d. or 13s.4d.

Mill Hill (103) or - hull (221) is a corruption of Mulle hulle and is not a hill at all. It is explained by Roberts as "the low ground at the mill" (p.44). The Mill in question was one on the right bank of the river in the bend between the present steam laundry and Gosling Bridge. See folio 64 in Portfolio I of Fugitive Pieces.

Moreles / Morles(58) - Morlaix, the town in Brittany with which Lyme traded continuously.

Muid (542) = a former French measure, both dry and liquid, varying greatly in different localities. as a dry measure, it would have been about 4 bushels, as a wet measure anything from 60 to 160 gallons.

Myddest (314) = The midmost portion.

Myxson (314) = mixen, midden, dung-heap.

New land pfysche (21) = Newfoundland fish, salted cod.

Nourthene Clothes (265) = probably clothes of Northern manufacture.

Nowales Steyer (2) or Nowel's Stair were steps for a dipping place leading down to the river opposite the West end of Monmouth street. These steps were there within recent years.

409

Palle (367) = paling or palisade.

Pentis (314) = penthouse, a lean-to or sloping roof.

Petycroft (83, etc.) Peticrafte (332) = stile. This place is quite unknown.

Piepowder Court (370 and 438). There are two instances of the holding of this Court, the right of which was granted to Lyme by Queen Mary Tudor in 1553. It was the Court of the "dusty foot" (pied poudre). As its name implies, it was a Court of summary Jurisdiction to settle on the spot disputes at fairs and markets among itinerant dealers and others temporarily present. It will be noted that the case in one instance was of a Lyme man against a Weymouth man, in the other of a Lyme man against a real "foreigner," i.e., a Frenchman. in both cases the Lyme men lost.

Podinger (409) or poddinger may be for porringer, a vessel out of which food is eaten; or it may be a pudding basin.

Poole - Sir William (278) - see Counsellor.

Poor. Guardians of the (67). The first of Elizabeth's Poor Laws was not passed until the following year (1653). [should be 1553]

Porters (237, etc.) These were probably the men who held a contract from the Corporation for the conveyance of goods from the Cobb to Cobb Gate or vice-versa.

Pound = The site of the pound in Pound Street is uncertain, when the new through road of 1757 was made, the old pound was taken down and moved to the north of the site of Keble Cottage. see portfolios iii of fugitive pieces folio 8.

Pudle (315) - Have we here the origin of Buddle?

Pynfeld (223) = pinfold, pound.

Quindene (159) - 15th day after.

Quintals (199) - 100-lbs. weight.

410

Red away (315, etc.) = get rid of, clear away.

Relief (315, etc.) - was a feudal payment in acknowledgment of tenures from a vassal to his lord or what a freehold tenant pays on the death of an ancestor or on taking possession.

Romes (330) = rooms.

Russet (301) - coarse, homespun, woollen cloth of reddish brown, grey or neutral colour.

Royalles of Plate (403) - is the Spanish 'real de plata,' a silver coin, $1/8^{th}$ of a piastre or Spanish dollar.

Saint Andrew's Place (31). This may either be the place where St. Andrew's Chapel stood before 1610, somewhere at the back of St. Andrew's House, or it may be St. Andrew's Cross where the cross-roads meet coming down from the Victoria Hotel. see portfolio ii of Fugitive pieces, folio 52 for St. Andrews chapel.

Seneschal (86) - This is used here for any official dignitary of uncertain identity.

Sherborne Land (32). - This may be a mistake for Sherborne Lane or refer to land in the vicinity of Sherborne Lane.

Sigge (315) = soak.

Sir (73, 93) - as a title for persons may be the "dominus" of the B.A. degree at the University. Smythe's, Cole (73, 147, 206) - may be wood charcoal or mineral coal, coal from Newcastle. Fuel used in the iron works of the South of England at this time was wood charcoal and had led to a great scarcity of timber. At the same time mineral coal, "sea-coal" (i.e., sea-borne coal) was not unknown. See 'Fuel Order' above.

Stanstile (83, etc.) - The whereabouts is unknown.

Strechelie, Master (264) - Who he was is unknown.

Sunday Labour (237, 258) - Normally there would have been no Sunday labour. As it is the tuckers (fullers) who are condemned , perhaps theirs was a continuous process which could not be easily interrupted.

Three-Legged Cross (2, 3, etc.) - This is the point where the road from Haye House, the lane from the Victoria Hotel, and the road from Little Park all meet.

Tower (47) - This was probably the bell-tower of the old Leper Hospital in Broad Street on or near the site of the Great House.

Trawell's Mead (84) - Where this was is unknown.

Trespass upon the case (8, etc.) - is a civil offence, being wrong or damage done by one private man to another. Trespass 'vi et armis', involving violence and assault, is a criminal offence.

Trigar (57) = a linen fabric of Trequier, Brittany. Compare 'Dowlas' above.

Tucker (237) = a fuller or finisher of cloth.

Tucking Mill (186) = see fulling mill.

Wadham, Sir John (76, 496) of Catherston, Charmouth, evidently acted as Recorder of Lyme for many years before his death in 1584, when he was succeeded by his son George, nominated as "First Recorder," in Elizabeth's Charter of 1591.

West Cleeves (498) - Whereabouts unknown.

West Street (83. etc.) = Broad Street.

Wool-cards (537) - an Instrument for carding wool, a comb. Card is also an Instrument for raising the nap on cloth.

Wyme (366, etc.) = to winnow, sift.

412

Wyndham, Sir John (86) was of the well-known Norfolk family, but he held property at Pillesdon and elsewhere in Dorset.

Ylheryes (3) also Ibbaries (66) and Elleries in more/recent years is a plot of land, opposite to Coram Town surrounded by the corner formed of the Junction of Cobb Road with Sidmouth Hill. Even so late as 1879 the spring on this ground was giving trouble.

End of 1568 - 74 Callendar / Court Book