

"Lord Edward, son of Edward IV.," were designed for the apparel of this young prince at his own contemplated coronation, and were not, as Lord Orford was at first led to imagine, used by him to grace the procession of that of his uncle, Richard III.—See *Archæologia*, vol. i. p. 361., and *Supplement to Hist. Doubts*, in Lord Orford's Works, vol. ii.

## TT.

## GLOUCESTER—AN ILL-OMENED TITLE.

(See p. 219.)

In addition to the mysterious murder of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, at Bury,\* may be instanced the yet more appalling death of Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, uncle of Richard II., who was treacherously inveigled from his castle at Pleshy by the young monarch himself, then aged but twenty years, and by his command cruelly murdered for having opposed his wishes when a minor.†

Also Thomas Le Despencer, Earl of Gloucester, closely allied to the House of York, who was beheaded at Bristol by command of Henry IV., in the first year of his usurpation.‡ To this catalogue may be added the names of Richard, Duke of Gloucester,§ the subject of this present memoir; Henry, Duke of Gloucester, the youngest son and companion in misery of the ill-fated Charles I.,|| and William, Duke of Gloucester, only son of Queen Anne, and sole survivor of seventeen children, who, after giving promise of the most extraordinary excellence,¶ expired almost suddenly in the eleventh year of his age.

## UU.

## LETTER FROM RICHARD, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, TO THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF YORK.

(See p. 220.)

"THE Duke of Gloucester, brother and uncle of kings, Protector and Defender, Great Chamberlain, Constable, and Lord High Admiral of England.

"Right trusty and well-beloved. We greet you well. Whereas, by your letters of supplication to us delivered by our servant John Brackenbury, we understand that by reason of your great charge that ye have had and sustained, as well in defence of this realm against the Scots as otherwise, your worshipful city remains greatly unpaid for, on the which ye desire us to be good mover unto the king's grace, for any ease of such charges as ye shall yearly bear and pay unto his grace's highness. We let you wot, that for such great matters and business as we now have to do, for the weal and usefulness of the realm, we as yet ne can have convenient leisure to accomplish this your business, but be assured that for your loving and kind disposition to us at all times showed, which we never can forget, we in all goodly haste shall so endeavour for your ease in this behalf, as that ye shall verily understand we be your special good and loving Lord, as our said friend shall show you, to whom it would like you him to give further credence unto, and for your diligent service which he hath done, to our singular pleasure unto us at this time, we pray you to give unto him laud and thanks, and God keep you!

"Given under our signet at our Tower of London this 8th day of June."

"To our trusty and well-beloved the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs and Commonalty of the City of York."

*Drake's Eborac.*, p. 111.

\* Hall, p. 209.

† Heylyn, p. 330.

‡ Sandford, lib. vii. p. 570.

§ Froissard, lib. iv. c. 86. 92.

¶ Rous, p. 217.

‡ Burnet's Own Times, vol. iv. p. 357, 358.

## VV.

## LETTER FROM RICHARD, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, DELIVERED TO JOHN NEWTON, MAYOR OF YORK, BY RICHARD RATCLIFFE, KNIGHT, REQUIRING THE AID OF ARMED MEN FROM THE NORTH TO PROTECT HIM FROM GREAT PERIL.

(See p. 220.)

[15th June A. 1 Ed. V. 1483.]

"THE Duke of Gloucester, brother and uncle of king's, Protector and Defender, Great Chamberlain, Constable, and Admiral of England.

"Right trusty and well-beloved, we greet you well. And as you love the weal of us, and the weal and surety of your own self, we heartily pray you to come unto us in London in all the diligence ye can possible, after the sight hereof, with as many as ye can make defensibly arrayed, there to aid and assist us against the queen, her bloody adherents and affinity, which have entended, and do daily entend to murder and utterly destroy us, and our cousin, the Duke of Buckingham, and the old royal blood of this realm, and as is now openly known, by her subtle and damnable ways forecasted the same, and also the final destruction and disherison of you, and all other the inheritors and men of honour, as well of the north parts as other countries that belong unto us, as our trusty servant this bearer shall more at large shew you; to whom we pray you to give credence; and as ever we may do for you, in time coming, fail not, but haste you to us.

"Given under our signet at London the 10th of June.

"To our trusty and well-beloved the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs and Commonalty of the City of York."

*Drake's Eboracum*, p. 111. That author asserts, that both this and the preceding letter are given, so far as it is legible, verbatim from the original MS.

## WW.

## INSTRUCTIONS SENT TO LORD MOUNTJOY, GOVERNOR OF CALAIS, TO DISPOSE HIS SOLDIERS TO DEPART FROM THEIR OATH TO KING EDWARD V. AND TO TAKE ANOTHER TO KING RICHARD III.

(See p. 242.)

[Harl. MSS. No. 433. fol. 238.]

"THAT howbeit such oath of allegiance was made soon upon the death of the said King Edward IV. to his son, not only in Calais, but also in divers places in England, by many great estates and personages being then ignorant of the very true and sure title which our sovereign lord that now is, King Richard III., hath and had at the same time to the crown of England. That oath, notwithstanding, now every good true Englishman is bound, upon knowledge had of the said very true title, to depart from the first oath, so ignorantly given to him to whom it appertained not; and therefore to make his oath anew, and owe his service and fidelity to him that good law, reason, and the concord assent of the lords and commons of the realm, have ordained to reign upon the people, which is our said sovereign lord King Richard III., brother to the said King Edward IV., late deceased, whom God pardon; whose sure and true title is evidently shewed and declared in a bill of petition which the lords spiritual and temporal and the commons of this land solemnly presented unto the king's highness at London the 26th day of June; whereupon, the king's said highness, notably assisted by well near all the lords spiritual and temporal and the commons of this realm, went the same day to his palace of Westminster, and there, in such royal honourable robes apparelled, within the great hall, took possession, and declared that the same day he would begin to reign upon his people; and from thence rode solemnly to his cathedral church of London, and was received with procession and with great congratulation and acclamation of all the people in every place and by the way that the king was in that day. The copy of which bill will be sent unto Calais, and there to be read and understood together with these presents; desiring right effectually all manner of persons within these three jurisdictions, what estate, degree, or condition that they be of, and also they of Guisnes and Hammes, to make their faith and oaths to him, as their sovereign lord, like as the lords spiritual and temporal, and many other great



number being in England, freely and of good heart have done the same for their parts; and that the same town of Calais and all castles and fortresses, being within the said marches, they will safely keep unto the behoof of the said sovereign lord, King Richard III., and them not to deliver to any person but by his commandment."

Similar instructions were forwarded to the governors of Guisnes and Hammes.— See *Harl. MSS.*, No. 433, fol. 239.

## XX.

## PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES ADOPTED BY RICHARD III. PRIOR TO HIS CORONATION.

(See p. 244.)

[Rymer, *Add. MSS.* No. 4616. Art. 16.]

"PREVIOUSLY to the coronation of Richard III., a proclamation was issued, forbidding any person, under penalty of death, on account of any old or new quarrel, to make any challenge or affray whereby the peace might be broken, or any sedition or disturbance of the peace within the city of London, or the parts thereunto adjoining; that all parties offending should be brought before the Mayor of London, or the steward of the king's household, as the case might be, until the king's pleasure should be taken thereupon. It was strictly enjoined, that strangers and aliens should not be molested; it was commanded that no man, under pain of imprisonment, should take any lodging in the city or suburbs, except by appointment of the king's harbingers; every one was to be in his lodging by ten o'clock at night; and the carrying of glaives, bills, long and short swords and bucklers was prohibited."

## YY.

"THESE be the dukes, earls, lords and knights that were at the coronation of our sovereign lord King Richard III. and Queen Anne, the first year of his noble reign, the 6th day of July, 1483."

(See p. 245.)

[From an ancient MS. roll, printed in the *Excerpta Historica*, p. 384.]

Duke of Buckingham	Earl of Lincoln
Duke of Norfolk	Viscount Lisle
Duke of Suffolk	Viscount Lovell
Earl of Northumberland	Lord Stanley*
Earl of Arundel	Lord Audley
Earl of Kent	Lord *****†
Earl of Surrey	Lord Ferrars, of Chartley
Earl of Wiltshire	Lord Powys
Earl of Huntingdon	Lord Fitzhugh
Earl of Nottingham	Lord Scrope, of Upsall
Earl of Warwick	Lord Scrope, of Bolton
Lord Grey of Codner	Sir Richard Lodlow
Lord Grey of Wilton	Sir William St. Low
Lord Stourton	Sir Thomas Tways
Lord Cobham	Sir Edward Dudley
Lord Morley	Sir Rafe Ashton
Lord Abergavenny	Sir Richard Charlington
Lord Zouche	Sir Thomas Grey
Lord Ferrers, of Groby	Sir Phillip Barkley

\* In a MS. copy of this list in the College of Arms, the name of Lord Stanley is omitted. The following variations may also be noticed: for Sir Gilbert Dike, Sir Gilbert Debnam (in the margin of the Harleian MSS. it is written "Broke"); for Sir Terry Robsart, Sir Peter Robsart; for Sir George Wentworth, Sir Harry Wentworth; for Sir Rafe Ashton, Sir Rofe Ashton; for Sir Roger Fynes, Sir Roger Ryves; for Sir James Arowsmyth, Sir James Strangewishe; and for Sir Robert Everard, Sir Robert Elyard.

† Daeres.

Lord Wells	Sir James Harington
Lord Lumley	Sir John Gresley
Lord Maltravers	Sir John Coniers
Lord Harbert	Sir William Stoner
Lord Beauchamp	Sir Phillip Cortney
Sir James Tyrell	Sir William Eastney
Sir William Knevett	Sir Richard Middleton
Sir Thomas A. Brough	Sir Roger Fynes
Sir William Stanley	Sir George Vere
Sir William A. Parro	Sir Henry Percey
Sir George Browne	Sir John Wood
Sir George Middleton	Sir John A. Parr
Sir John Heningham	Sir John Grey
Sir Michael Latimer	Sir James Danby
Sir Thomas Montgomery	Sir Robert Talboyse
Sir Thomas Sandes	Sir Thomas Ridid
Sir Gilbert Dike, or Driby	Sir John Harynge
Sir Terry Robsart	Sir William Stoner
Sir William Brandon	Sir Richard Henderby
Sir John Savell	Sir John Barkley
Sir George Wentworth	Sir James Arowsmyth
Sir Edward Stanley	Sir Rafe Tarbock
Sir Richard St. Maur	Sir Giles Daubney
Sir William Yonge	Sir John Constable
Sir Thomas Bowseer	Sir Robert Everard
Sir Henry Wingfield	Sir Robert Dorell
Sir Thomas Wortley	Sir John Gilford
Sir John Sentlow	Sir John Lewknor
Sir Charles Pilkington	Sir John Merbury
Sir John Ashley	Sir Thomas Powys, or Howys
Sir Thomas Barkley	Sir John Bolayn
Sir Richard Bewchamp of the Carpett	Sir Edward Bedingfield
Sir William Gorney, or Goney	Sir William Norris

These following were made Knights of the Bath at his coronation:—

Sir Edmund de la Pole, son to the Duke of Suffolk	Sir Thomas Arundell
Sir John Grey, son to the Earl of Kent	Sir Thomas Bulleyn
Sir William, brother to the Lord Zouche	Sir Edmund Bedingfield
Sir Henry Neville, son to Lord Aberganey	Sir Gervoise of Clifton
Sir Christopher Willoby	Sir William Sey
Sir William Barkley	Sir William Enderby
Sir Henry Barington	Sir Thomas Lewkner
	Sir Thomas Ormond
	Sir John Browne
	Sir William Barkley.

See also *Harl. MSS.* 2115. fol. 152, and *Buch's Richard III.* lib. 1. p. 26.

## ZZ.

## ORDINANCE MADE BY KING RICHARD III. FOR THE REGULATION OF HIS HOUSEHOLD IN THE NORTH.

(See p. 254.)

"THIS is the ordinance made by the king's good grace for such number of persons as shall be in the north as the king's household, and to begin from the 24th day of July, Anno 1<sup>mo</sup>. 1484.

"First, that the hours of God's service, diet, going to bed and rising, and also shutting of the gates be at reasonable time, and hours convenient.

"Item, that monthly the treasurer and comptroller show the expenses to one of the council or two, the which shall appoint themselves monthly, throughout the year.

"Item, that if any person offend in breaking of any of the said ordinances, or of



any other made by the council, to punish or expel the offender after the discretions out of the house according to their demerits.

"Item, my Lord of Lincoln and my Lord Morley be at one breakfast; the children together at one breakfast; such as be present of the council at one breakfast; and also that the household go to dinner at the furthest by eleven of the clock on the flesh day.

"Item, the treasurer to have the keys of the gates, from the time of the dinner and supper beginning to the end of the same.

"Item, that stuff of household be purveyed and provided for a quarter of a year before the hand.

"Item, the costs of my Lord of Lincoln, when he rideth to sessions, or any meetings appointed by the council, the treasurer to pay for meat and drink.

"Item, at all other ridings, huntings, and disports, my said lord to be at his own costs and charges.

"Item, that no liveries of bread, wine, nor ale, be had, but such as be measurable and convenient, and that no pot of livery exceed measure of a pottle, but only to my lord and the children.

"Item, that no boys be in household but such as be admitted by the council.

"Item, that every man that is at day wages be at their check, and those that be at standing wages without check.

"Item, that none servant depart without assent of the treasurer, and upon pain of losing his service.

"Item, that no breakfast be had in the house, but such as be assigned.

"Item, that convenient fare be ordained for the household servants and strangers to fare better than others."—*Harl. MSS. No. 433, fol. 265.*

## AAA.

## KING RICHARD'S VISIT TO OXFORD.

(See p. 255.)

[Anno Domini, 1483. 1 A<sup>o</sup>. Rich. III.]

"THE 22d of July this year the founder of Magdalen College came to Oxford, to the end provision might be made at this college for the reception of King Richard III. The 24th of the said month the king came from Windsor, and approaching Oxford was met by the chancellor, regents, and non-regents at the town's end, where, after they had expressed their love and duty to him, he was honourably and processionably received into Magdalen College by the founder, president, and scholars thereof, and lodged there that night. At the same time came with the king, the Bishops of Durham, Worcester, St. Asaph, and Thomas Langton, the Bishop elect of St. David's, the Earl of Lincoln, Lord Steward, Earl of Surrey, Lord Chamberlain, Lord Lovel, Lord Stanley, Lord Audley, Lord Beauchamp, Sir Richard Radcliffe, knight, and many other nobles—all which lodging in the college, the University gave to most of them wine and gloves. The next day being St. James's day, were at the command and desire of the king two solemn disputations performed in the common hall of the said college, viz., in Moral Philosophy by Mr. Thomas Kerver, opponent, and a certain bachelaur of the said college, respondent, which being concluded, a disputation in Divinity was made before the king by Mr. John Taylor, S. T. P., opponent, and Mr. William Grocyn, respondent, which being also finished, he rewarded the disputants very honourably, that is to say, to the doctor he gave a buck and 5*l.*; to the respondent, a buck and five marks; the master that opposed in Philosophy, a buck and five marks; and to the bachelaur, a buck and 40*s.* He gave also to the president and scholars two bucks and five marks for wine.

"The next day being St. Anne's day, he with his nobles visited several places in the University, and heard also disputations in the public schools, scattering his benevolence very liberally to all that he heard dispute or make orations to him; so that after the Muses had crowned his brows with sacred wreaths for his entertainment, he the same day went to Woodstock, the University then taking leave of him with all submission. Not long after, according to a promise made to the scholars at his reception, he confirmed the privileges of the University, granted by his predecessors, as part of an epistle from the University to him attesteth:—'Nos vero quos concessis a primogenitoribus tuis privilegiis etiam sine pretio donasti, quantum tibi debemus.'"—*Gutch's History of Oxford, edit. 1792, p. 638.*

## BBB.

RELATION OF THE MESSAGE DECLARED BY GRANFIDIUS DE SASIOLA, ORATOR OF ISABELLA, QUEEN OF CASTILLE, TO KING RICHARD III., DRAWN UP BY HIMSELF IN LATIN.

(See p. 258.)

"ON the 8th of August, 1483,\* Geoffry de Sasiola, the orator of the Queen of Spain, stated on her behalf to the king and council at Warwick, that she wished to maintain a firm peace and to enter into a strict alliance with him; that if it were his intention to go to war with Louis, King of France, for the recovery of the possessions pertaining to the crown of England, she would open her ports to his army, and supply them with arms and provisions at a reasonable price, and would, on the same terms, lend him her ships: she also promised to raise a force of knights, men-at-arms, and foot-soldiers, well armed and in sufficient number, the king paying their wages.

"Besides these instructions given in writing by this orator, he shewed to the king's grace by mouth, that the Queen of Castille was turned in her heart in times past from England, for the unkindness which she took against the king last deceased, for his refusing of her, and taking to his wife a widow of England. For which cause also was mortal war betwixt him and the Earl of Warwick, the which took ever her part at the time of his death; and therefore she moved for these causes against her nature, the which was ever to love and favour England, as he said she took the French king's part and made leagues and confederations with him. Now the king is dead, which shewed her this unkindness, and, as he said, the French king hath broken four principal articles appointed betwixt him and the King of Castille and her; wherefore she, now returning to her kind and natural disposition, desireth such things to be appointed betwixt the realms of England and Spain, as ye may understand by these instructions of her said orator. Another cause which moved her to depart from King Louis was, that she had a grant from the Queen of Navarre to have her daughter and heir for the Prince of Castille her son, if the consent of King Louis might thereon have been had; and forasmuch as he, by no manner would be thereto agreeable, she taketh a great displeasure with him, and desireth by all means to her possible to make these alliances and confederations with the king's good grace as be shewed in these instructions."†

*Harl. MSS. 433, fol. 235.*

## CCC.

THE ORDER WHICH RICHARD III. SENT FROM YORK ON THE LAST DAY OF AUGUST TO FIERS COURTEIS, KEEPER OF HIS WARDROBE.

(See p. 260.)

"BY THE KING.

"WE will and charge you to deliver to the bringers hereof for us the parcels following, that is to say, one doublet of purple satin lined with Holland cloth, and interlined with busk; one doublet of tawney satin lined in likewise; two short gowns of crimson cloth of gold, the one with 'drippis,' and the other with nets lined with green velvet; one cloak with a cape of velvet ingrained, the bow lined with black velvet; one stomacher of purple satten, and one stomacher of tawny satten; one gown of green velvet lined with tawny satten; one yard and three-quarters corse of silk nedled with gold and as much black corse of silk for our spurs; two yards and a half and three nails of white cloth of gold for a 'crynelze' for a board; five yards of black velvet for the lining of a gown of green satten; one placard made of part of the said two yards and one half and two nails of white cloth of gold lined with buckram; three pair of spurs, short, all gilt; two pair of spurs, long, white parcell gilt; two yards of black buckram for amending of the lining of divers trappers: one banner of sarsnet of our Lady; one banner of the Trinity; one banner of St. George; one banner of St.

\* Sir H. Ellis, in his *Orig. Letters*, 2d series, calls this name "Graufidius," and not Geoffry, p. 152.† Sir H. Ellis, who has also copied this instrument from the *Harl. MSS.*, adds, (after the word "instructions,") "the first part of this statement is fully corroborated by the English historians, viz., Hall, Grafton and Lelanp."—*Collect.*, t. i. p. 500.



Edward; one of St. Cuthbert; one of our own arms all sarsenet; three coats of arms beaten with fine gold, for our own person; five coat armours for heralds, lined with buckram; forty trumpet banners of sarcenet; seven hundred and forty pencells of buckram; three hundred and fifty pencells of tartar; four standards of sarcenet with boars; thirteen thousand quinsans of fustian with boars."

*Drake's Eborac., p. 117.*

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DDD.

PARCELS OF THE CLOTHING TO BE DELIVERED BY THE BISHOP OF ENACHDEN TO THE EARL OF DESMOND.

(See p. 266.)

[See Harl. MSS. 433. fol. 265.]

- "First—A long gown of cloth of gold, lined with sattin or damask.  
 "Item—A long gown of velvet, lined with sattin or damask.  
 "Item—Two doublets, one of velvet, and another of crimson sattin.  
 "Item—Three shirts, and kerchiefs for the stomachers.  
 "Item—Three pair of hosen, one of scarlet, another of violet, and the third of black.  
 "Item—Three bonnets, two hats, and two tippets of velvet. A collar of gold of 20 oz. = 30*l*."

The Bishop of Enachden was further instructed to dispose the Earl of Desmond concerning the king's high pleasure and intent for the earl to renounce the wearing and usage of the Irish array, and from thenceforth to give and apply himself to use the manner of the apparel for his person after the English fashion.

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EEE.

VAGUE AND UNCERTAIN REPORTS, RELATING TO THE DEATH OF EDWARD V. AND HIS BROTHER, IN THE LIFETIME OF SIR THOMAS MORE.

(See p. 274.)

[Supplement to *Hist. Doubts* in Lord Orford's Works, vol. ii. p. 215.]

"FROM that very scarce book called 'The Pastime of the People,' and better known by the title of 'Rastell's Chronicle,' I transcribed verbatim the following paragraphs:—

"But of the manner of the death of this young king, and of his brother there were divers opinions. But the most common opinion was, that they were smouldered between two feather-beds, and that in the doing, the younger brother escaped from under the feather beds, and crept under the bedstead, and there lay naked awhile till that they had smouldered the young king, so that he was surely dead. And after that, one of them took his brother from under the bedstead, and held his face down to the ground with his one hand, and with the other hand cut his throat whole asunder with a dagger. It is a marvel that any man could have so hard a heart to do so cruel a deed save only that necessity compelled them, for they were so charged by the Duke the Protector, that if they shewed not to him the bodies of both those children dead on the morrow after they were so commanded, that then they themselves should be put to death. Wherefore they that were commanded to do it were compelled to fulfil the protector's will. And after that, the bodies of these two children, as the opinion ran, were both closed in a great heavy chest, and by the means of one that was secret with the protector, they were put in a ship going to Flanders; and when the ship was in the black deeps, this man threw both those dead bodies so closed in the chest over the hatches into the sea, and yet none of the mariners, nor none in the ship, save only the said man wist what thing it was that was there so inclosed; which saying divers men conjectured to be true, because that the bones of the said children could never be found buried, neither in the Tower, nor in no other place.

"Another opinion there is, that they which had the charge to put them to death, caused one to cry so suddenly *treason, treason*; wherewith the children being afraid, desired to know what was best for them to do. And then they bad them hide themselves in a great chest, that no man should find them, and if any body came into the

chamber, they would say they were not there. And according as they counselled them, they crept both into the chest, which anon after they locked. And then anon they buried that chest in a great pit under a stair, which chest was after cast into the black deeps as is before said."

We find from Ames's *Typographical Antiquities* (p. 147) that this book was printed in 1529, the 21st year of Henry VIII., and from page 141, that Rastall, the compiler and printer, married Sir Thomas More's sister. Rastall was not only his relation but printer—his very next publication being a dialogue written by More, and printed in the same year with the *Chronicle*.

Nor did Sir Thomas More pick up the materials for his own history after the appearance of Rastall's *Chronicle*, which was published but six years before Sir Thomas's death, when the persons from whom he gained his intelligence must have been dead likewise. But Sir Thomas's own words betray, not only doubts in his own breast, but thorough proof of the uncertainty of all the incidents relative to the murder. He tells us that he does not relate the murder in every way he had heard it, but according to the most probable account he could collect from the most credible witnesses.

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FFF.

GRANTS TO ROBERT BRACKENBURY, 1 AND 2 RICH. III. 1473-4.

(See p. 277.)

[Harl. MSS. 433.]

- Fol. 23<sup>b</sup>.—Robert Brackenbury Esq., appointed Constable of the Tower, and Master of the Mint.  
 Fol. 56<sup>b</sup>.—Re-appointed Constable of the Tower, with a yearly fee of 100*l*; keeper of the king's lions in the Tower, with a fee of 12*d*. per day, and 6*d*. per day for the keep of each lion and leopard.  
 Fol. 57.—Appointed the king's receiver of various lordships.  
 Fol. 74<sup>b</sup>.—Receiver-general of all lands being in the king's hands by attainder of forfeiture in various counties.  
 Fol. 75<sup>b</sup>.—Had confirmation of various offices granted to him by Sir Thomas Montgomery.  
 Fol. 87.—Had an assignment made to him by writ of privy seal of 100*l*.  
 Fol. 91<sup>b</sup>.—Appointed Constable of Tunbridge Castle with a fee of 10*l*. yearly, besides lands, &c.

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GGG.

LETTER FROM KING RICHARD III. TO THE MAYOR OF YORK.

(See p. 307.)

[*Drake's Eboracum*, p. 118.]

"BY THE KING.

"TRUSTY and well-beloved: We greet you well, and let ye wit that the Duke of Buckingham traitorously has turned upon us, contrary to the duty of his allegiance, and entendeth the utter destruction of us, you, and all other our true subjects that have taken our part; whose traitorous intent we with God's grace intend briefly to resist and subdue. We desire and pray you in our hearty wise that ye will send unto us as many men defensibly arrayed on horseback as ye may goodly make to our town of Leicester, the 21st day of this present month, without fail, as ye will tender our honour and your own weal, and we will see you so paid for your reward and charges as ye shall hold ye well content. Giving further credence to our trusty pur-suivant this bearer. Given under our signet at our city of Lincoln, the 11th day of October.

"To our trusty and right well-beloved the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs and Commonalty of the City of York."



The entry of the above letter in the city records is preceded by the annexed memorial:—

"Mem.—13 Oct. 1 Ric. III. 1483. John Otyr, yeoman of the crown, brought the following letter to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs and Commonalty."

## HHH.

SUMMARY OF THE PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY KING RICHARD III. AT LEICESTER.

(See page 308.)

23 Oct. A. 1 Ric. III. 1483. A proclamation was issued tested by the king at Leicester, setting forth that he, remembering the profession of mercy and justice made by him at his coronation, had issued a general pardon, trusting thereby to have caused all his subjects to have adhered to him according to their duty and allegiance; and had, in his own person, visited various parts of his realm for the indifferent administration of justice. Yet this notwithstanding, Thomas, late Marquis of Dorset, "holding the unshamefull and mischevous woman called Shore's wife, in adultery," Sir William Norreys, Sir William Knevet, Sir Thomas Bourchier of Barnes, Sir George Brown, knights, and others with them traitorously associated, had gathered his people by the comfort of his great rebel and traitor, the late Duke of Buckingham and the Bishops of Ely and Salisbury, intending not only the destruction of his royal person, but also the maintenance of vice and sin: promises a free pardon to such as will withdraw from their company; offers a reward of 1000*l.* in money or 100*l.* in land for the taking of the duke, 1000 marks in money or 100 in land for either of the bishops, and 500 marks in money or 40*l.* in land for each of the said knights; and forbids any one to aid or assist them with goods, victuals, or otherwise, under the penalty attached to treason.

*Rymér's Fœdera*, vol. xii. p. 204.

## III.

SINGULAR PRESERVATION OF THE HEIR OF THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AFTER THE CAPTURE AND EXECUTION OF HIS FATHER.

(See page 310.)

[From a copy of an old roll of paper\* found out in the treasury at Thornbury Castle among the evidences there—*mensis Julii, anno 1575.*]

"M<sup>d</sup> the second† year of King Richard the Third, Duke Henry of Buckingham came from Brecknock to Webble, and with him brought my lady his wife, my Lord Stafford and my Lord Henry, and there tarryed one week, and sent for the gentlemen of the country unto him; and when he had spoken with them departed thence. My lord his father made him a frieze coat, and at his departing he delivered his son and heir to Sir Richard Delabeare, knight, for to keep until he sent for him by a token, &c., viz., *et tu es Petrus O super hanc petram.*

"Item—John Amyasse, that went with my lord away, delivered my Lord Stafford in the little Park of Webbeleye to Richard Delabeare, knight, and then came after Sir William Knevet and Mistress Cliffe, and so they came to Kynnardsley all together. And when they came to Kynnardsley there were xx<sup>d</sup> of my Lord's servants in the place.

"Item—At that time Dame Elizabeth Delabeare being servant to Sir Richard Delabeare, knight, took my Lord Stafford on her lap, and bare him amongst and through them all into a chamber of the place of Kynnardsley, and then went again and fetched Sir William Knevet and the gentlemen, and brought them into the chamber to my Lord Stafford.

"Item—A proclamation come to Hereford for the said duke his son and Sir Wil-

\* It has been considered advisable in this as in many of the preceding extracts, to modernize the spelling, although the words themselves remain unchanged.

† This is an error, for the conspiracy occurred in the first, and not the second year of King Richard III.

liam Knevet, that whosoever would take them, he should have for the said duke four thousand pounds, for the Lord Stafford a thousand marks, for my Lord Henry five hundred pounds, and for Sir William Knevet five hundred marks, the which proclamation Sir William Knevet read himself, and prayed that it should not miss, but be proclaimed. And then was there great search made where this said company was become. And so all the gentlemen of Herefordshire were sent for by privy seal to King Richard to Salisbury, and by that time Duke Henry of Buckingham was brought by Sir James Tyler the third day, where he was pitifully murdered by the said king, for raising power to bring in King Henry the Seventh. And after the said duke was taken, the Vaughans made great search after my Lord of Stafford, and for the said Sir William Knevet, which Lord Stafford and Sir William Knevet were in the keeping of Dame Elizabeth Delabeare and William ap Symon. In the mean time, she shaved the said Lord Stafford's head, and put upon him a maiden's raiment, and so conveyed him out of Kynnardsley to New-church. And then came Christopher Wells bourne from Sir James Tyler to Kynnardsley, and said his father commanded to have the said Lord Stafford delivered. And then answered the said Dame Elizabeth Delabeare and William ap Symon, that there was none such Lord there 'and that shall ye well know, for ye shall see the house searched.' And then went he to Webbely to my Lady, and there met with Sir John Hurlestone's brother, and fetched my Lady of Buckingham, and brought her to the king to London. And the said Dame Elizabeth and William ap Symon fetched the said lord again to Kynnardsley, and the said Sir William Knevet, and brought them into the Place of Kynarsly, and there kept them until David Glin Morgan came thither from King Richard, and said Mr. Delabeare was arrested, and said, there he should abide until he delivered Lord Stafford; and then said Dame Elizabeth and William ap Symon, 'that ye shall well know there is none such here, and ye shall come and see the place, and it please you,' and so in great malice he departed thence.

"Item—The night before that David Glin Morgan came to Kynnardsley, the said Dame Elizabeth and William ap Symon conveyed my Lord Stafford and Sir William Knevet to a place called Adeley in the parish of Kynnardsley, and there rested they four days and then the said Lord Stafford and Sir William Knevet were fetched again to Kynnardsley by the said Dame Elizabeth and William ap Symon, for because they could not convey meat and drink to them aright. And they kept them there one senight, and then there came a great cry out of Wales, and then the said Dame Elizabeth took my Lord Stafford in her lap, and went through a brook with him into the park of Kynnardsley, and there sat with him four hours, until William ap Symon came to her, and told her how the matter was that no man came nigh the place. And in the mean time Sir William Knevet went out with one William Pantwall into the fields, and left Mistress Olyffe in the place all this while. After that the Dame Elizabeth and William ap Symon took the said Lord Stafford, and went to Hereford in the midst of the day, and he riding behind William ap Glin aside upon a pillow like a gentlewoman, rode in a gentlewoman's apparel. And I wis he was the fairest gentlewoman, and the best that ever she had in her days, or ever shall have, whom she prayeth God daily to preserve from his enemies, and to send him good fortune and grace. And then the said Dame Elizabeth and William ap Symon left my Lord Stafford in a widdow's house, a friend of hers at Hereford, and Mistress Oliffe with him, and at that time Sir William Knevet departed from my Lord Stafford."

*Blakeway's Hist. of Shrewsbury*, vol. i. p. 241.

## KKK.

UNWORTHY CONDUCT OF SIR THOMAS ST. LEGER, AS SHOWN IN THE ACT OF ATTAINDER, PASSED AFTER HIS EXECUTION.

(See p. 314.)

"In the Parliament assembled at Westminster, 23d Jan. A. 1 Ric. III. 1484, a bill was preferred, reciting that on the 3d Nov. A. 1 Edw. IV. 1461, Henry, late Duke of Exeter, was attainted of high treason, whereby his duchy of Exeter, with his other possessions, were forfeited; that subsequently Sir Thomas St. Leger, by seditious means, married Anne, Duchess of Exeter, late wife of the said duke, he being then living, and of her begot a daughter, called Anne; that the said Thomas induced the



said late king that his said daughter should inherit the duchy of Exeter, and caused him to suffer an act of Parliament to be enacted on the 3d June, in the seventh year of his reign, 1467, whereby the said daughter had between the said Thomas and the said late duchess, for default of issue of Anne, daughter of the said late duke and duchess, which lived but short time after, might enherit the said duchy and other hereditaments; that after the passing of the said act, the said Anne, daughter of the said duke and duchess, died without issue, and the said late duchess deceased with issue of her body by the said duke; after whose decease, by the labour of the said Thomas by another act of Parliament, 20th Jan. A<sup>o</sup> 21 Edw. IV., it was enacted, that Richard Gray, Knight, should have and enjoy certain manors: the said acts are hereby repealed, and the grants made by them are resumed."

*Rot. Parl.*, vol. vi. p. 242.

LLL.

SUBSTANCE OF TWO WRITS ISSUED AT WINCHESTER BY RICHARD III. 1483.

(See p. 315.)

[Harl. MSS. 433. fol. 123.]

"ART. 1563.—Warrant to Mr. John Gunthorpe, keeper of the privy seal, to discharge Richard Bele from his place in the office of the said prive seale, to which he had been admitted, contrary to the old rule and due order, by mean of giving of great gifts, and other sinister and ungodly ways, in great discouraging of the under clerks, which have long continued therein, to have th' experience of the same, to see a stranger, never brought up in the said office, to put them by of their promotion, &c.

"Yeven at Winchester, the 22d day of November, *anno primo*.

"ART. 1564.—Grant to Robert Belman, of the place of one of the clerks of the prive seale, for the good and diligent service done by the said Robert in the said office, and specially in this the king's great journey, and for his experience and long continuance in the same: declaring that no more clerks shall be admitted in the said office until the time the said office shall be reduced to the number ordered and established in the days of King Edward III.

"Yeven the 22d day of November, *anno primo*."

MMM.

RECAPITULATION OF KING RICHARD'S TITLE TO THE THRONE, WITH THE ACT THAT WAS PASSED FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CROWN UPON HIM AND HIS HEIRS.

(See p. 320.)

[*Rot. Parl.* vol. vi. p. 240.]

"To the High and Myghty Prince Richard, Duc of Gloucester.

"PLEASE it youre Noble Grace to understande the consideraçon, election, and petition underwritten of us the lords spiritual and temporal and commons of this reame of England, and thereunto agreeably to geve your assent, to the common and public wele of this lande, to the comforte and gladnesse of all the people of the same.

"Furst, we conside how that heretofore in tyme passed this lande many years stode in great prosperite, honoure, and tranquillite, which was caused, forsomuch as the kings then reignyng used and followed the advice and counsaill of certaine lord spuelx and temporelx, and othre personnes of approved sadnesse, prudence, policie, and experience, dreading God, and havng tendre zeles and affection to indifferent ministration of justice, and to the comon and politique wele of the land; then our Lord God was dred, luffed [loved], and honoured; then within the land was peace and tranquillite, and among neighbors concorde and charite; then the malice of outward enemyes was myghtily repressed and resisted, and the land honorably defended with many grete and glorious victories; then the entrecourse of merchandizes was largely used and exercised; by which things above remembred, the land was greatly enriched, soo that

as wele the merchants and artificers as other poor people, laboring for their lyving in diverse occupations, had competent gayne to the sustentation of thaym and their households, livyng without miserable and intolerable povertie. But afterward, whan that such as had the rule and governaunce of this land, deliting in adulation and flattery and lede by sensuality and concupiscence, followed the counsaill of persons insolent, vicious, and of inordinate avarice, despising the counsaill of good, vertuous and prudent personnes such as above be remembred, the prosperite of this lande dailie decreased, soo that felicite was turned into miserie, and prosperite into adversite, and the ordre of polecye, and of the law of God and man, confounded; whereby it is likely this reame to falle into extreme miserie and desolation,—which God defende,—without due provision of convenable remedie bee had in this behalfe in all godly hast.

"Over this, amonges other things, more specially we consider howe that the tyme of the raigne of Kyng Edward IV., late deceased, after the ungracious pretended marriage, as all England hath cause so say, made betwixt the said King Edward and Elizabeth sometyme wife to Sir John Grey, Knight, late nameing herself and many years heretofore Queene of England, the ordre of all politeque rule was perverted, the laws of God and of Gode's church, and also the lawes of nature and of England, and also the laudable customes and liberties of the same, wherein every Englishman is inheritor, broken, subverted, and contempned, against all reason and justice, so that this land was ruled by self-will and pleasure, feare and drede, all manner of equitie and lawes layd apart and despised, whereof ensued many inconvenients and mischiefs, as murdres, estortions, and oppressions, namely, of poor and impotent people, soo that no man was sure of his lif, land, ne lyvelode, ne of his wif, daughter, ne servaunt, every good maiden and woman standing in drede to be ravished and defouled. And besides this, what discords, inward batailles, effusion of Christian men's blode, and namely, by the destruction of the noble blode of this londe, was had and comitted within the same, it is evident and notarie through all this reame unto the grete sorrowe and heavynesse of all true Englishmen. And here also we conside howe that the said pretended marriage, bitwixt the above named King Edward and Elizabeth Grey, was made of grete presumption, without the knowyng or assent of the lords of this lond, and alsoe by sorcerie and wichecrafte, committed by the said Elizabeth and her moder, Jaquett, Duchess of Bedford, as the common opinion of the people and the publique voice and fame is through all this land; and hereafter, if and as the case shall require, shall bee proved suffyciently in tyme and place convenient. And here also we conside how that the said pretended marriage was made privatly and secretly, with edition of banns, in a private chamber, a profane place, and not openly in the face of church, afre the lawe of Godd's church, but contrarie thereunto, and the laudable custome of the Churche of England. And howe also, that at the tyme of contract of the same pretended marriage, and bfore and long tyme after, the said King Edw was and stode marryed and trouth plyght to oone Dame Elianor Butteler, daughter of the old Earl of Shrewesbury, with whom the saide King Edward had made a precontracte of matrimonie, longe tyme bfore he made the said pretended mariage with the said Elizabeth Grey in manner and fourme aforesaide. Which premises being true, as in veray trouth they been true, it appeareth and followeth evidently, that the said King Edward duryng his lyfe and the said Elizabeth lived together sinfully and dampnably in adultery, against the lawe of God and his church; and therefore noe marvaile that the souverain lord and head of this londe, being of such ungodly disposicion, and provokyng the ire and indignation of oure Lorde God, such haynous mischiefs and inconvenients as is above remembred, were used and committed in the reame amongst the subjects. Also it appeareth evidently and followeth that all th' issue and children of the said king beene bastards, and unable to inherite or to clayme any thing by inheritance, by the lawe and custome of England.

"Moreover we consider howe that afteward, by the thre estates of this reame assembled in a Parliament holden at Westminster the 17th yere of the regne of the said King Edward the iijth, he then being in possession of coroune and roiall estate, by an acte made in the same Parliament, George, Duc of Clarence, brother to the said King Edward now deceased, was convicted and attainted of high treason; as in the same acte is conteigned more at large. Because and by reason whereof all the issue of the said George was and is disabled and barred of all right and clayme that in any wise they might have or challenge by inheritance to the crowne and roiall dignitie of this reame, by the auncien lawe and custome of this same reame.

"Over this we consider howe that ye be the undoubted sonne and heire of Richard



late Duke of Yorke verray enheritour to the said crowne and dignitie roiall and as in ryght Kyng of Englonde by way of enheritaunce and that at this time the premisses duely considered there is noon other person lyving but ye only, that by right may clayme the said coroune and dignitie roiall, by way of enheritaunce, and how that ye be born within this lande, by reason whereof, as we deme in our myndes, ye be more naturally enclined to the prosperite and comen wele of the same; and all the three estates of the land have, and may have more certain knowledge of your birth and filiation above said. Wee considre also, the greate wytte, prudence, justice, princely courage, and the memorable and laudable acts in diverse battalls which we by experience knowe ye heretofore have done for the salvacion and defence of this same reame, and also the greate noblesse and excellence of your byrth and blode as of hym that is descended of the thre most royal houses in Christendom, that is to say, England, Fraunce, and Hispaine.

"Wherefore these premisses by us diligently considered, we desyring affectuously the peas, tranquillitie and wele publique of this lande, and the reducion of the same to the auncien honourable estate and prosperite, and havyn in your greate prudence, justice, pricely courage and excellent virtue, singular confidence, have chosen in all that in us is and by this our wrytyng choise you, high and myghty Prynce into our Kyng and souveraine lorde &c., to whom we knowe for certayn it appartaneth of enheritaunce so to be choosen. And hereupon we humbly desire, pray, and require your said noble grace, that accordinge to this election of us the three estates of this lande, as by your true enheritaunce ye will accept and take upon you the said crowne and royall dignitie with all things thereunto annexed and apperteynyng as to you of right belongyng as well by enheritaunce as by lawfull election, and in caas ye do so we promitte to serye and to assiste your highnesse, as true and faithfull subjietz and liegemen and to lyve and dye with you in this matter and every other just quarrel. For certainly we bee determined rather to aventure and comitte us to the perill of our lyfs and jopardye of deth, than to lyve in suche thraldome and bondge as we have lyved long tyme heretofore, oppressed and injured by new extorcions and imposicions, agenst the lawes of God and man, and the liberte, old police and lawes of this reame wherein every Englishman is inherited. Oure Lorde God Kyng of all Kyngs by whose infynyte goodnesse and eternall providence all thyngs been pryncypally gouverned in this worlde lighten your soule, and graunt you grace to do, as well in this matter as in all other, all that may be accordyng to his will and pleasure, and to the comen and publique wele of this land, so that after great cloudes, troubles, stormes, and tempests, the son of justice and of grace may shyne uppon us, to the comforte and gladnesse of all true Englishmen.

"Albeit that the right, title, and estate, whiche oure souverain lord the Kyng Richard III. hath to and in the crown and roiall dignite of this reame of England, with all thyngs thereunto annexed and apperteynyng, been juste and lawfull, as grounded upon the lawes of God and of nature, and also upon the auncien lawes and laudable customes of this said reame, and so taken and reputed by all such personnes as ben lerned in the abovesaide laws and customes. Yet, neverthelesse, forasmuche as it is considred that the moste parte of the people of this lande is not suffisiantly lerned in the abovesaid lawes and customes whereby the trueth and right in this behalf of liklyhode may be hyd, and not clerely knowen to all the people and thereupon put in doubt and question: And over this howe that the courte of Parliament is of suche autorite, and the people of this lande of suche nature and disposicion, as experience teacheth that manifestation and declaration of any trueth or right made by the thre estats of this reame assembled in Parliament, and by auctorite of the same maketh before all other thyng, moost faith and certaintie; and quietyng men's myndes, remoweth the occasion of all doubts and seditious language:

"Therefore at the request, and by the assent of the three estates of this reame, that is to say, the lords spuelx and temporalx and comens of this lande, assembled in this present Parliament by auctorite of the same, bee it pronounced, decreed and declared, that oure saide souverain lorde the kinge was and is veray and undoubted kyng of this reame of Englonde; with all thyngs thereunto within this same reame, and without it annexed unite and apperteynyng, as well by right of consanguinite and enheritaunce as by lawfull election, consecration and coronacion. And over this, that at the request and by the assent and autorite abovesaide bee it ordeigned, enacted and established that the said crowne and roiall dignite of this reame, and the inheritaunce of the same, and other thyngs thereunto within the same reame or without it annexed, unite, and now apperteignyng, rest and abyde in the personne of oure saide souverain lord the kyng duryng his lyfe, and after his decesse in his heires of his body

begotten. And in especiall, at the request and by the assent and auctorite abovesaid, bee it ordeigned, enacted, established, pronounced, decreed and declared that the high and excellent Prince Edward, sone of oure saide souverain lorde the kyng, be hiire apparent of our saide souverain lorde the kyng, to succede to him in the abovesayde crowne and roiall dignitie, with all thyngs as is aforesaid thereunto unite annexed and apperteignyng, to have them after the decesse of our saide souverain lorde the kyng to hym and to his heires of his body lawfully begotten."

To this bill the Commons gave their assent, and it consequently passed.

NNN.

SUBSTANCE OF THE BILL OF ATTAINDER PASSED ON THE 1ST PARLIAMENT OF RICHARD III. JAN., 1484.

(See p. 320.)

[Rot. Parl. vol. vi. p. 244.]

Act 23 Jan. 1, Ric. 3. 1484, reciting that, "Whereas in late days herebefore great troubles, commotions, assemblies of people, conspiracions, insurrections and heinous treasons have been committed and made within this realm by divers persons, unnatural subjects, rebels and traitors unto our sovereign lord, King Richard III., and great multitude of people by them abused to consent and be partners of the same offences and heinous treasons, whereby both the king's highness and his peace, and also the politic rule and common weal of this his realm have been greatly inquieted and troubled; they intending thereby, as much as in them was, the universal subversion and destruction of the same, and also of the king's most royal person, the which troubles, commotions and other offences above named, by God's grace, and the great and laborious vigilance of our said sovereign lord, with the assistance of his true and faithful subjects, been now repressed. Wherein howbeit that his said highness, for great considerations touching the weal of this his realm, having therewith respect to the abuse and deceit of the said multitude as before is rehearsed, moved with benignity and pity, and laying apart the great rigour of the law, hath granted to divers persons culpable in the said offences his grace and pardon yet: nevertheless, such it is according to reason and all policy that such notary and heinous offences and treasons, in no wise utterly passe unpunished, which if it should so happen, the example thereof might and should be a great occasion, cause, and boldness unto other hereafter to attempt and commit like offences and 'exorbitations,' whereby great inconveniences might and were like to ensue, tho' God forbid. And also to the intent that benignity and pity be not so exalted that justice be set apart, nor that justice so proceed that benignity and pity have no place, but that a due moderation and temperment be observed in every behalf as appeareth to eschew the manyfold and irreparable jeopardies and the inconveniences that else might and be like to ensue:

"Considering furthermore that those persons whose names be underwritten were great and singular movers, stirrers and doers of the said offences and heinous treasons; that is to say, *Henry, late Duke of Buckingham, now late days standing and being in as great favour, tender trust and affection with the king, our sovereign lord, as ever subject was with his prince and liege lord, as was notarily and openly known by all this realm*, not being content therewith, nor with the good and politique governance of his said sovereign lord, but replete with rancour and insatiable covetise; and also John, Bishop of Ely, William Knyvet, late of Bodenham Castle, in the Shire of Norfolk, John Rush, late of London, merchant, and Thomas Nandike, late of Cambridge, 'Negrancier,' being with the said Duke of Brecknock, in Wales, the 18th Oct. A<sup>o</sup> 1483, falsely conspired the death and destruction of the king and to depose him, and to execute their said purpose assembled at Brecknock as aforesaid with great number of people harnesssed and arrayed in manner of war to give battle to the king and his true lords and subjects; and after various traitorous proclamations there made, proceeded thence to Weobley. And also the said duke on the 24th September, by his several writings and messages by him sent, procured and moved Henry, calling himself Earl of Richmond, and Jasper, late Earl of Pembroke being there in Brittany, great enemies of our said sovereign lord, to make a great navy and bring with them an army from Brittany; by reason whereof the said Henry and Jasper and their adherents came from Brittany with a navy and army of strangers and landed. And



over this, George Broun, late of Beckworth co., Surrey, (and others who are named,) at the the traitorous procurement and stirring of the said duke, the said 18th of October in the year aforesaid at Maidstone as rebels and traitors intended, &c., the king's death, and on that day and on the 20th of the same month at Rochester, and on the 22d at Gravesend, and on the 25th at Guildford, assembled, harnessed and arrayed in manner of war, and made sundry proclamations against the king to execute their said traitorous purpose: and also at the traitorous motion of the said duke, William Noreys, late of Yackenden co., Berks, knight, Sir William Berkeley of Beverston, Sir Roger Tocote, of Bromham, Richard Beauchamp Lord St Amand, William Stonor, knight (and others who are named,) on the said 18th October, at Newbury co., Berks, and John Cheyney (and others who are named), at Salisbury, compassed and imagined the king's death. The parties enumerated were therefore declared to be convicted and attainted of high treason, and their estates to be forfeited."

## OOO.

TENOUR OF THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO RICHARD III. ADMINISTERED BY COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

(See p. 321.)

[Harl. MSS., No. 433. fol. 141.]

"I SHALL true and faithfull leigeman be, to our sovereign lord, King Richard the Third, by the grace of God King of England and of France, and lord of Ireland, and to him, his heirs and successors, kings of England, my truth and faith shall bear during my life, nor no treason nor other thing hide that should be hurtful to his royal person, but that I shall open and disclose it to his highness or to some of his noble council in all haste possible that I can, and his part utterly take against all earthly creatures, nor no livery, badge, nor cognizance shall take from henceforth of any person, nor none of his rebels and traitors succour, harborer, nor favour contrary to the duty of allegiance, but put me in my utmost devoir to take them. So help me God," &c.

Given at Sandwich, 16th January, A<sup>o</sup> 1 Ric. III., 1484.

## PPP.

PLEDGE GIVEN BY KING RICHARD III. FOR THE SAFETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF EDWARD IV.

(See p. 326.)

[Harl. MSS. No. 433. fol. 308.]

MEMORANDUM that I, Richard, by the grace of God King of England and of France, and lord of Ireland, in the presence of you my lords spiritual and temporal, of you mayor and aldermen of my city of London, promise and swear *verbo regio* and upon these Holy Evangiles of God by me personally touched, that if the daughters of Dame Elizabeth Gray, late calling herself Queen of England, that is to wit, Elizabeth, Cecil, Anne, Katherine and Bridget, will come unto me out of the sanctuary of Westminster, and be guided, ruled and demeaned after me, I shall see that they be in surety of their lives, and also not suffer any manner of hurt, by any manner person or persons to them or any of them in their bodies and persons to be done by way of ravishment or defouling contrary to their wills, nor them nor any of them imprison within the Tower of London or other prison, but that I shall put them in honest places of good name and fame, and their honestly and courteously shall see to be found and treated, and to have all things requisite and necessary for their exhibition and finding as my kinswomen. And if I shall, do marry such of them as now be marriageable to gentlemen born and every of them give in marriage lands and tenements to the yearly value of two hundred marks for term of their lives, and likewise to the other daughters when they come to lawful age of marriage if they live; and such gentlemen as shall happ to marry with them I shall straitly charge from time to time lovingly to love and intreat them as their wives and my kinswomen as they will avoid and eschew my displeasure. And over this that I shall yearly from hence-

forth content and pay, or cause to be contented and paid for the exhibition and finding of the said Dame Elizabeth Gray during her life, at three terms of the year, to John Neffeld, one of the esquires for my body, for his finding to attend upon her, the sum of seven hundred marks of lawful money. And moreover I promise to them that if any surmise or evil report be made to me of them by any person or persons, that then I shall not give thereunto faith nor credence, nor therefore put them to any manner of punishment, before that they or any of them so accused may be at their lawful defense and answer. In witness whereof, &c., the 1st day of March in the 1st year of my reign (1484).

## QQQ.

BRIEF SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF ARMS FROM ITS FOUNDATION BY RICHARD III. TO THE PRESENT TIME.

(See p. 329.)

COLD HARBOUR, the "right fair and stately house" munificently awarded to the College of Heraldry by King Richard III., was anciently styled Coldeherbergh. Stow calls it Cole-herbet, Maitland and Pennant Cold Harbour. It is thus described in the letters patent that perpetuate the grant:—"One messuage with the appurtenance in London, in the parish of All Saints called Pulteney's Inn, or Cold Harbour." This house, which had long been the residence of the princes of the blood, the nobility, and the highest gentry, was built in the reign of Edward III. by Sir John Poultney, who had been Lord Mayor of London four times, whence it was called Poultney's Inn, and which name it long retained after it passed into other hands. Its last owner, John Holland, Duke of Exeter, (who was the first husband of Anne, eldest sister of Edward IV. and Richard III.,) lost it by attainure of Parliament, so that at Richard's accession it was in the crown, and was by him bestowed, as above narrated, on the officers of the College of Arms in the 1st year of his reign. On the death of this monarch at Bosworth Field, all his acts were rendered null; he was attainted, pronounced an usurper, and all his grants were cancelled. That to the Heraldry was declared void, and the officers at Arms were ordered to remove. It was in vain that they pleaded having performed the duties enjoined them, or that Garter king-at-arms claimed it in his private capacity; the mansion was taken possession of by Henry VII., and the Heraldry were compelled to quit their college. They retired to a conventual building near Charing Cross, intitled "our Lady of Ronceval," which had been a cell to the priory of Roncevaux in Navarre, and stood upon part of the site of the present Northumberland House; but having no claim to the property, they were there only upon sufferance of the crown, and in the reign of Edward VI., the place was bestowed upon Sir Thomas Cawarden. During the previous reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII. the Heraldry frequently and earnestly petitioned the throne for a grant of some house or place wherein to hold their assemblies, but without success. King Edward VI., however, in a charter in his third year, and by authority of Parliament, endeavoured to make them some amends by exemplifying to them their ancient privileges, but it was not until the reign of Queen Mary that the Heraldry were re-established in a permanent abode. This sovereign, by charter bearing date the 18th July, in the second year of her reign, re-incorporated "the Kings, Heraldry and Pursuivants at Arms;" and their original habitation at Cold Harbour having been taken down, and a number of small tenements erected upon its site, the queen bestowed upon them "a messuage with its appurtenances called Derby House, within the city of London, and in the street leading from the south door of the cathedral church of St. Paul's to a place thence called Paul's Wharf, thentofore parcel of possessions of Ed., Earl of Derby, and to be by the said corporation held in free burghage of the city of London."

In this edifice—and restored to their pristine importance—the Officers of Arms continued to dwell undisturbed during the sovereignty of Elizabeth, James I. and Charles I.; but the reign of Charles II. found them once more bereft of a house,—the great fire of London, in the year 1666, having entirely consumed their college. The Heraldry, however, had the great good fortune to save all their muniments and books, except one or two; and the re-building of their college, now in ruins, was, by act of Parliament for re-building the city, directed to be begun within three years. On the site, then, of the former edifice was erected the regular quadrangular building as it