

## **Westminster Abbey Muniments 1833: (cf WAM 1834)**

### **Description**

Royal writ to (John Assburnham) Sheriff of Surrey to bind over William Pottere of Estcheyham, John Gerard, William Beste, Robert Beste, Henry Heggere, John Prat, John Rolf, Walter Kent, John Standard, Nicholas White, Richard Magot and Henry Joynour of Estcheyham to answer John Carpenter and Alan Berynger why they seized their cattle and unlawfully detained them.

Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Dat. at Westminster 30 October 20 Richard II (AD 1396)

*No seal*

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. Put in bail and safe pledge William Potter of East Cheam,<sup>#</sup> John Gerard, William Beste, Robert Beste, Henry Hegger, John Prat, John Rolf, Walter Kent, John Standard, Nicholas White, Richard Magot and Henry Joynour of East Cheam, that they be before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Hilary to answer John Carpenter and Alan Berynger on the charge whereby they seized the animals of the same John Carpenter and Alan, and unjustly detained them, against bail and pledge,<sup>\*</sup> as is said, and to show why they were not before our justices at Westminster within one month from the day of Saint Michael as they were summoned. And have there the names of the pledges and this writ. Witness William Thirnyng at Westminster, 30 October, in the twentieth year of our reign.

### **NOTES:**

\* ie against the terms of bail

# William Potter is presumably an error for Walter Potter, the name that appears in all the other records.

WAM 1834 also refers to this case. Some of the defendants are also the subject of the case referred to in WAM 1831, 1832, 1837, 1838 and 1839. It is not clear whether both cases deal with the same event. Only WAM 1838 and 1839 give much detail. The original offence had taken place on the Tuesday in Whitsun week 16 Richard II – 27 May 1393 – but was still not settled in November 1397. Walter Potter, Walter Beste, Robert Beste, John Hegger, Nicholas White, Walter Kent, John Rolfe and another John whose surname is illegible were all presented at Morden's manor court on 10 May 1395 for trespass in the common pasture with their beasts. Walter Potter was similarly presented on 16 November 1396 for trespass in the common pasture called 'Sparwefeld'. Walter Potter and John Gerard had been similarly presented on 20 October 1393 for trespass with their sheep. (BL Add Charters 56038-9)

An Alan Berengar served as Westminster Abbey's bedel and rent-collector for the manor of Morden in 1408-9. (WAM 27367)

## **Westminster Abbey Muniments 1831: (cf WAM 1832, 1837)**

### **Description**

Royal writ to (John Salerne) Sheriff of Surrey to arrest John Heruy, Richard Waterseruant, potter, and Nicholas Waterseruant, potter, of Cheyham, and bring them before the Justices at Westminster in Trinity Term to answer (William of Colchester) Abbat of Westminster on the plea of assaulting (together with John Prat, John Gerard sen., John Gerard jun., Walter Potter and Henry Hegger) John Gyldene, the Abbat's servant at Mordon Co. Surrey.

Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng (Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.)

Dat. at Westminster 16 May 20 Richard II (AD 1397)

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. We direct you just as we usually direct you, that you arrest John Hervy, Richard Waterservant, potter, and Nicholas Waterservant, potter, of Cheam, if they can be found in your bailiwick and guard them safely so that you have their persons brought before our justices at Westminster on the octave of the Holy Trinity to answer the Abbot of Westminster on the charge whereby they all, with John Prat, John Gerard, senior, John Gerard, junior, Walter, potter, and Henry Hegger, with force and arms, assaulted John Gyldene servant of the Abbot himself at Morden, and beat, wounded and evilly handled the same, such that the same Abbot lost the services of his aforesaid servant for a long time, and inflicted other enormities upon him to the injury of ten marks to the Abbot himself, and against our peace. And have there this writ. Witness W. Thirnyng at Westminster, 16 May, in the twentieth year of our reign.

### **NOTES:**

In the Extent of the Manor of Morden, taken in 1312, a Henry Guldene had held a moiety of a freehold tenement in Morden at a quit-rent of 2 shillings a year plus some customary services, and also rented a curtilage in Morden at 1 penny a year. According to the marginal notes to the Extent, John Gulden then held the curtilage.

## **Westminster Abbey Muniments 1837: (cf WAM 1831, 1832)**

### **Description**

Royal writ to (John Salerne) Sheriff of Surrey to arrest John Heruy, Richard Waterseruant, potter, and Nicholas Waterseruant, potter, of Cheyham, and bring them before the Justices at Westminster in Trinity Term to answer (William of Colchester) Abbat of Westminster on the plea of assaulting (together with John Prat, John Gerard sen., John Gerard jun., Walter Potter and Henry Hegger) John Gilden, the Abbat's servant at Mordon Co. Surrey.

Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng (Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.)

Dat. at Westminster 10 July 21 Richard II (AD 1397)

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. We direct you just as we usually direct you, that you arrest John Hervy, Richard Waterservant, potter, and Nicholas Waterservant, potter, of East Cheam, if they can be found in your bailiwick, and guard them safely so that you have their persons brought before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Hilary to answer the Abbot of Westminster on the charge whereby they all, with John Prat, John Gerard, senior, John Gerard, junior, Walter Potter, and Henry Hegger, with force and arms assaulted John Gilden servant of the Abbot himself at Morden, and beat, wounded and evilly handled the same, such that the same Abbot lost the services of the aforesaid servant for a long time, and inflicted other enormities upon him to the grave injury of the Abbot himself, and against our peace. And have there this writ. Witness W. Thirnyng at Westminster, 10 July, in the twenty-first year of our reign.

## **Westminster Abbey Muniments 1838: (cf WAM 1839)**

### **Description**

Royal writ to (John Salerne) Sheriff of Surrey to summon a jury of twelve persons from the view of Morden to try the case between (William of Colchester) Abbat of Westminster and John Prat, John Gerard sen., John Gerard jun., Walter Potter, Henry Hegger, John Heruy, Richard Waterseruant, potter, and Nicholas Waterseruant, potter, of Cheyham, whether on Tuesday in Whitsun week 16 Richard II (27 May 1393) they assaulted John Gildene, the Abbat's servant at Morden.

Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Dat. at Westminster 10 July 21 Richard II (AD 1397)

*No seal*

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. We direct you just as we usually direct you, that you will cause to come before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Michael, twelve, both knights and other free and lawful men from the neighbourhood of Morden of whom each has 100 shillings of land, tenements or annual rent at least, by whom the truth of the matter may the better be known, and who neither the Abbot of Westminster, plaintiff, nor John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter Potter and Henry Hegger touch by any affinity,\* to examine upon their oaths, whether they all, with John Hervy, Richard Waterservant, potter, and Nicholas Waterservant, potter <sup>of East Cheam</sup>, on Tuesday in Whitsun week in the sixteenth year of our reign, with force and arms, that is with swords and bows and arrows, assaulted John Gyldene, the servant of the Abbot himself at Morden, and beat and wounded and evilly handled the same, such that the same Abbot lost the service of his aforesaid servant for a great time, namely for six weeks following thereafter, against our peace, just as the same Abbot says, or if not, just as the aforesaid John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter Potter and Henry Hegger say, because both the aforesaid John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter and Henry, and the aforesaid Abbot, between whom whereof there is the dispute, submit themselves to that jury. And have there the named jurors and this writ. Witness W. Thirnyng at Westminster, 10 July, in the twenty-first year of our reign.

### **NOTES:**

Although several of these writs refer to this case, only this writ and WAM 1839 give so much detail. The original offence had taken place on the Tuesday in Whitsun week 16 Richard II – 27 May 1393 – but was still not settled in November 1397. In the meantime Walter Potter was frequently presented at the Morden manor court for trespass in the common pasture of 'Sparwefeld' (BL 56038-9).

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## **Westminster Abbey Muniments 1839: (cf WAM 1838)**

### **Description**

Royal writ to (John Salerne) Sheriff of Surrey to summon another jury of the view of Morden to try the same case as in 1833. Witn. W(illiam) Thinyng, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Dat. at Westminster 24 October 21 Richard II (AD 1397)

*No seal*

Richard by grace of God, King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. We direct you just as we usually direct you, that you will cause to come before our justices at Westminster on the octave of St Hilary, twelve, both knights and other free and lawful men from the neighbourhood of Morden of whom each has 100 shillings of land, tenements or annual rent, at least, by whom the truth of the matter may the better be known, and who neither the Abbot of Westminster, nor John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter Potter and Henry Hegger, touch by any affinity, to examine upon their oaths, whether they all, with the aforesaid John Hervy, Richard Waterservant, potter, and Nicholas Waterservant, potter of East Cheam, on Tuesday in Whit week in the 16th year of our reign, with force and arms, that is with swords and bows and arrows, assaulted John Gyldene, the servant of the Abbot himself at Morden, and beat and wounded and evilly handled the same, such that the same Abbot lost the service of his aforesaid servant for a great time, that is for six weeks following thereafter, against our peace, just as the same Abbot says, or if not, just as the aforesaid John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter and Henry say, because both the aforesaid John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter and Henry, and the aforesaid Abbot, between whom whereof there is dispute, submit themselves to that jury. And have there the named jurors and this writ. Witness W. Thirnyng at Westminster, 24 October, in the twenty-first year of our reign.

**Westminster Abbey Muniments 1832:** (cf WAM 1831, 1837)

**Description**

Royal writ to (John Salerne) Sheriff of Surrey to arrest John Heruy, Richard Waterseruant, potter, and Nicholas Waterseruant, potter, of Cheyham, and bring them before the Justices at Westminster in Trinity Term to answer (William of Colchester) Abbat of Westminster on the plea of assaulting (together with John Prat, John Gerard sen., John Gerard jun., Walter Potter and Henry Hegger) John Gyldene, the Abbat's servant at Mordon Co. Surrey. Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng (Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.)

Dat. at Westminster 6 November 21 Richard II (AD 1397)

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. We direct you just as we usually direct you, that you arrest John Hervy, Richard Waterservant, potter, and Nicholas Waterservant, potter, of Cheam, if they can be found in your bailiwick and guard them safely so that you have their persons brought before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Hilary to answer the Abbot of Westminster on the charge whereby they all, with John Prat, John Gerard, senior, John Gerard junior, Walter Potter, and Henry Hegger, with force and arms, assaulted John Gyldene servant of the Abbot himself at Morden, and beat, wounded and evilly handled the same, such that the same Abbot lost the services of his aforesaid servant for a long time, and inflicted other enormities upon him to the grave injury of the Abbot himself, and against our peace. And have there this writ. Witness W. Thirnyng at Westminster, 6 November, in the twenty-first year of our reign.

## **Westminster Abbey Muniments 1834:**

### **Description**

Royal writ to (John Assburnham) Sheriff of Surrey to bind over William Pottere of Estcheyham, John Gerard, William Beste, Robert Beste, Henry Heggere, John Prat, John Rolf, Walter Kent, John Standard, Nicholas White, Richard Magot and Henry Joynour of Estcheyham to answer (William de Colchester) Abbat of Westminster why they seized his cattle and unjustly detained them

Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Dat. at Westminster 6 November 21 Richard II (AD 1397)

*No seal*

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. We direct you just as we usually direct you, that you put in bail and safe pledge, Walter Potter of East Cheam, John Gerard, William Beste, Robert Beste, Henry Hegger, John Prat, John Rolf, Walter Kent, John Standard, Nicholas White, Richard Magot and Henry Joynour of East Cheam, that they be before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Hilary to answer the Abbot of Westminster on the charge whereby they seized the animals of the same Abbot, and unjustly detained them, against bail and pledge. And have there the names of the pledges and this writ. Witness W. Thirnyng at Westminster, 6 November in the twenty-first year of our reign.

### **NOTES:**

This is the same case as WAM 1833.

## **Westminster Abbey Muniments 1881:**

### **Description**

Royal writ to (John Salerne) Sheriff of Surrey to call on Robert Fekenham to appear before the Justices at Westminster on the octave of St Hilary to show why he broke into the close of the Abbat of Westminster (William of Colchester) at Sutton (Co. Surrey) and maltreated Bartholomew Heigne, the Abbat's servant.

Dat. at Westminster 20 November 21 Richard II (AD 1397)

*No seal*

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. If the Abbot of Westminster shall have given you security for prosecuting his claim, then charge by bail and safe pledge Robert Fekenham that he be before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Hilary to show why, with force and arms, he broke the close of the Abbot himself at Sutton and assaulted Bartholomew Heigne his servant at the same place, and beat, wounded and evilly handled the same, such that the same Abbot lost the services of his aforesaid servant for a long time, and inflicted other enormities upon him to the grave injury of the Abbot himself, and against our peace. And have there the named pledges and this writ. I myself being witness at Westminster, 20 November, in the twenty-first year of our reign.

## **Westminster Abbey Muniments 1835:**

### **Description**

Royal writ to (John Wodecok) Sheriff of Middlesex to bind over Baldwin Popsent, William Priour, Aland Berengar, William Mulseye, Henry Milleward and William Pynnore of Morden, to answer to (William de Colchester) Abbat of Westminster for not paying him £22 which they owe him and unjustly detain.

Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Dat. at Westminster 30 November 21 Richard II (AD 1397)

*No seal*

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Middlesex, greetings. Charge through bail and safe pledge, Baldwin Popsent, William Prior, Alan Berenger, William Mulseye, Henry Milleward and William Pynnore of Morden that they be before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Hilary to answer the Abbot of Westminster on the charge whereby they should render to him twenty two pounds, that they owe to him and unjustly withhold, as is said, and to show why they were not before our justices at Westminster within sixteen days after the day of Saint Martin, just as they were summoned. And have there the names of the pledges and this writ. Witness W. Thirnyng at Westminster, 30 November, in the twenty-first year of our reign.

### **NOTES:**

An Alan Berengar served as Westminster Abbey's bedel and rent-collector for the manor of Morden in 1408-9. (WAM 27367)

A William Mulseye was farmer of the rectory and the demesnes of Morden and served as the Abbey's rent-collector from 1409-12. (WAM 27370)

A John Pynnor is noted in the court rolls of Merton for 1487 and 1488 as having been a former owner of a copyhold property in Merton.

St Martin's day is 11th November.