

## Ecclesia Collegiata beatae Mariae apud Stafford, in agro Staffordiensi.

### NUM. I.

*Carta Regis Henrici Sexti, quâ Patronatum Decanatus ejusdem Humfrido Duci Buckinghamiæ concessit.*

[Pat. 24 Hen. VI. part. 1, m. 9.]

REX omnibus ad quos, &c. salutem. Sciatis, quod de gratiâ nostrâ speciali, et absque aliquo feodo nobis solvendo, dedimus et concessimus charissimo consanguineo nostro Humfrido duci Buckinghamiæ patronatum, advocacionem, et collationem decanatus liberæ capellæ nostræ de Stafford Coventr. et Lich. dioc., habendum et tenendum præfatum patronatum, advocacionem, et collationem decanatus prædicti, præfato duci et hæredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis: et si contingat ipsum ducem sine hærede de corpore suo legitime procreato obire; tunc patronatus, advocatio, et collatio decanatus prædicti rectis hæredibus ipsius ducis remaneant imperpetuum, &c. T. rege apud Westm. xvi<sup>o</sup>. Martii.

### NUM. II.

*Licentia regia dicto Duci concessa super Donatione certarum Terrarum præfatae Ecclesiæ.*

[Ibid.]

REX omnibus ad quos, &c. salutem. Sciatis, quod de gratiâ nostrâ speciali concessimus et licentiam dedimus, pro

nobis et hæredibus nostris, quantum in nobis est, charissimo consanguineo nostro Humfrido duci Buckinghamiæ, quod ipse ac hæredes, feoffati, et assignati sui, absque aliquo feodo seu fine ad opus nostrum vel hæredum nostrorum, solvendo centum marcas terrarum, tenementorum, et reddituum, cum pertinentiis, quæ de nobis in capite, vel de aliis qualitercunque tenentur, dare possit et possint dilectis nobis in Christo decano et capitulo liberæ capellæ prædicti ducis de Stafford Coventr. et Lichf. dioc. cujus quidem capellæ decanatus, patronatum, donationem, et collationem idem dux nuper habuit ex dono et concessione nostris; habendum et tenendum prædictas centum marcas terrarum, tenementorum, et reddituum cum pertinentiis præfato decano et successoribus suis, pro sustentatione certorum ministrorum in capellâ prædictâ, divina in eadem, pro salubri statu nostro, et charissimæ consortis nostræ Margaretæ reginæ Angliæ, ac prædicti ducis et Annæ uxoris suæ, dum vixerimus; et pro animabus nostris cum ab hac luce migraverimus; necnon pro animabus omnium illorum pro quibus idem dux orari voluerit et disposuerit, et pro animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum celebratorum: necnon ad quædam alia pietatis opera ibidem facienda et perimplenda juxta ordinationem ipsius ducis, hæredum, feoffatorum, vel assignatorum suorum in hac parte faciendam imperpetuum, &c. T. rege apud Westm. xvii<sup>o</sup>. die Martii.

## College of Westbury, in Gloucestershire.

TANNER'S is the best account which we can give of this College. He says, "a Monastery here is mentioned in the Acts of the Synod of Clovesho, A. D. 824,<sup>a</sup> which, with several lands hereabouts, was given by Ethelric son of Ethelmund, after the death of his mother, to Worcester. But Oswald, bishop of that See, A. D. 983, replaced the monks, who being partly removed to Ramsey,<sup>b</sup> and partly driven away by the wars, this Religious House was, A. D. 1093, re-edified to the honour of the blessed Virgin, the old possessions were recovered, new were added, and the monks restored by Wulstan,<sup>c</sup> Bishop of Worcester, who made it a Cell to the Priory of Worcester. But his successor, Bishop Sampson, *temp. Hen. I.*, revoked the said grants, and removed the monks. From which time nothing occurs of any Religious House in this place till about A. D. 1288, when

Godfrey Giffard, Bishop of Worcester, endeavoured to make several churches in these parts of the patronage of the See of Worcester prebendal to this of Westbury, which, after great opposition from the Prior and Convent of Worcester, he effected;<sup>d</sup> and here became a COLLEGE for a Dean and Canons (in the gift of the Bishop of Worcester), dedicated to the Holy Trinity,<sup>e</sup> which was afterwards augmented by the benefactions of John Carpenter, Bishop of Worcester,<sup>f</sup> who sometimes styled himself Bishop of Westbury, Richard Duke of York,<sup>g</sup> King Edward IVth, Sir William Cannings, Knt.,<sup>h</sup> who was afterwards Dean here, and others, so as to be valued, 26 Hen. VIII., at 232*l.* 14*s.* 0*d.* per annum, Dugd. Speed; and was granted, 35 Hen. VIII., to Sir Ralph Sadler."<sup>i</sup>

## Ecclesia Collegiata de Westbury, in Com. Gloucestrîæ.

*Carta Regis Edwardi Quarti, de Manerio de Alminstre.*

[Pat. 4 Edw. IV. part. unica, m. 20.]

REX omnibus ad quos, &c. salutem. Sciatis quod de gratiâ nostrâ speciali, et ob sinceram devotionem et affectionem quas ad collegium sive ecclesiam collegiatam de Westbury in com. Glouc. gerimus et habemus, ut decanus et canonici, et alii ministri ejusdem collegii, et successores sui, pro salubri statu nostro, ac Cecilie matris nostræ, dum vixerimus; et pro animabus nostris cum ab hac luce migraverimus, ac pro animabus charissimi patris nostri Ricardi ducis Eborum, et Edmundi comitis Rotelandiæ, fratris nostri, specialius deprecentur et exorent, dedimus, concessimus, et hac

cartâ nostrâ confirmavimus Henrico Sampson clerico, nunc decano collegii prædicti, et ejusdem loci capitulo, manerium de Aylmynstre, alias dictum Elmystre, cum pertinentiis in comitatu prædicto: habendum et tenendum prædictum manerium cum pertinentiis præfatis decano et successoribus suis, de nobis et hæredibus nostris, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam imperpetuum, unacum curiis letis, visu franciplegii, privilegiis, et omnibus libertatibus, proficiis, et commoditatibus eidem manerio spectantibus sive pertinentibus; statuto de terris et tenementis ad manum mortuam non ponendis, &c. non obstante. In cujus, &c. T. rege apud Westm. xxi<sup>o</sup>. die Martii.

<sup>a</sup> Spelm. Concil. vol. i. p. 335. Wilkinsii Concil. vol. i. p. 175.

<sup>b</sup> Hist. Rams. inter xv. Scriptores, edit. Gale, pp. 394, 399.

<sup>c</sup> Angl. Sacr. ii. Lelandi Collect. tom. ii. p. 261.

<sup>d</sup> The Deanry and five Prebends are taxed in the Lincoln Valuation made 20 Edw. I. And 25 Edw. I. the Dean and Canons had protections, as Prynne, iii. 718.

<sup>e</sup> Dodsw. MSS. vol. exx. fol. 17. Rymer, tom. xv. p. 12. Prynne, iii. 713.

<sup>f</sup> Vide Godwin, De Præsulibus, in Vita Johannis Carpenter. Leland, Itin. vol. viii. p. 105. Additions to Camd. edit. Gibson.

<sup>g</sup> Sir Rob. Atkyns saith he founded this College; yet mentions it as in being 48 Edw. III.

<sup>h</sup> Who is said to have rebuilt this College. Dugd. Warw. edit. 1730, p. 634.

<sup>i</sup> Tann. Notit. Monast. Gloucestersh. xxxii.