

# Friars de Pœnitentia, or de Sacco.

## FRIARS DE SACCO, in CAMBRIDGE.

IN Trumpington Street, says Tanner, on ground since annexed to Peter-House, stood the Church and House of Friars de Pœnitentia Jesu Christi, or de Sacco, who were here A. D. 1258,<sup>a</sup> and owed their settlement to the benefactions of Richard Hekingham and others, but are said to be of the foundation of King Henry III.<sup>b</sup> They continued till the suppression of this Order at the Council of Lyons, A. D. 1307. Tanner refers to one public Instrument relating to this House, "Pat. 52 Hen. III. m. 12. confirm. donationem Joannis Roose pro area elarganda." The annexation of the House inhabited by the Friars de Sacco to Peter-House, as appears by the following deed, took place in the 2d Edw. II., A. D. 1308.

### *Carta Domini Regis ad amortizandum Hospitium Fratrum de Pœnitentia.*

[MS. Cole, Brit. Mus. vol. xlii. p. 21. ex Reg. veteri Coll. S. Petri Cantabrigiæ.]

EDWARDUS Dei gratia rex Angliæ, dominus Hiberniæ et dux Aquitanniæ, omnibus ad quos præsentis literæ pervenerint, salutem. Licet de communi consilio regni nostri statutum sit quod non liceat viris religiosis seu aliis ingredi feodum alicujus, ita quod ad manum mortuam deveniat, sine licentia nostra et capitalis domini de quo res illa immediate tenetur; volentes tamen dilectis nobis custodi et scholaribus Domus Sancti Petri Cantebriegg gratiam facere specialem, concessimus et licentiam dedimus, pro nobis et hæredibus nostris, quantum in nobis est, Johanni de Herwardstok et Roberto de Lerling, quod ipsi unum messuagium cum pertinentiis in Cantebriegg quod fratres de Pœnitentia Jesu Christi Cantebriegg inhabitare solebant, et quod de nobis tenetur in capite in burgagio, per servitium unius denarii per annum, et Richero de Aylesham, et Johanni de Felmyngton, quod ipsi unum messuagium cum pertin. in eadem villa dare possint et assignare præfatis custodi et scholaribus, habenda et tenenda sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum, et eisdem custodi et scholaribus quod ipsi messuagia prædicta cum pertinentiis à præfatis Johanne, Roberto, Richero, et Johanne recipere possint et tenere sibi et successoribus suis sicut prædictum est; tenore præsentium, similiter licentiam dedimus specialem, nolentes quod prædicti Johannes, Robertus, Richerus, et Johannes vel hæredes sui aut prædicti custos et scholares seu successores sui ratione statuti prædicti per nos vel hæredes nostros inde occasionentur in aliquo seu graventur. Salvis tamen nobis et hæredibus nostris ac aliis capitalibus dominis feodorum illorum serviciis inde debitis et consuetis. In cujus rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste meipso apud Westm. quinto decimo die Maii, anno regni nostri secundo.

## LEICESTER.

TANNER says, "The Friars of that short-lived Mendicant Order De Pœnitentia Jesu Christi had a House somewhere in the suburbs of this Town, 12 Edw. I. *Vide* Plac. Assis. in com. Leycestr. 12 Edw. I. rot. 3. de injuste disseis. lib. ten. in suburb. Leycestr. rot. 4. dorso, contra RICARDUM Priorem Fratrum De Pœnit. Jesu Christi de Leycestr. pro mess. in Bruntingsthorp."<sup>c</sup>

## LINCOLN.

A HOUSE of Friars de Sacco appears to have existed

in one of the suburbs of the City of Lincoln. In the 5th Edw. III. leave was granted to the Vicars of the Cathedral Church of Lincoln to take the Church of Reffam in mortmain, upon condition that they kept three Chaplains constantly to officiate in the Chapel, which sometime belonged to those Friars, for the soul of King Edward the First.<sup>d</sup> In the 32 Edw. III. also, Joan, who had been the wife of Sir Nicholas Cantilupe, had leave to found a College or large Chantry of five Priests, in honour of St. Peter, upon the ground where formerly the House of the Friars de Sacco stood.<sup>e</sup>

## FRIARS OF THE SAC, in LONDON.

THE following is Stevens's Account of this House, in his Continuation of Dugdale, vol. ii. p. 272.

"On the south side of Lothbury, extending to the Old Jewry, in old time was a synagogue of the Jews, which was defaced by the citizens of London, after they had slain 700 Jews, and spoiled them of their goods, in the year 1262, 47 Henry III., and not long after, anno 1291, King Edward the 1st banished the remnant of them out of England.

"This synagogue being so suppressed, certain friars called Friars of the Sac, or of the Penance of Jesus Christ, got possession thereof. These friars, says Stow in his Survey, p. 287, had their House in London near Aldersgate, without the gate, and had licence from King Henry the III, in the 54th year of his reign, to remove from thence to any other place, and in the 56th he gave unto them this Jews' synagogue. After which, Eleanor the Queen, wife to King Edward the 1st, took them into her protection, and warranted to the prior and brethren of the Penance of Jesus Christ of London, the said land and building in Cole-Church-street, or the Old Jewry, of the parish of St. Olave, in the Jewry, and St. Margaret in Lothbury, by her granted, with consent of Stephen Fulborn, under warden of the Bridge-House, and other brethren of that House, for 60 marks of silver, which they had received of the said prior and brethren of Repentance, towards the building of the said bridge.

"This Order of Friars gathered many good scholars, and multiplied in number exceedingly, till after the council of Lyons, when all mendicant orders were suppressed, excepting only the Dominicans, Franciscans, Augustinians, and Carmelites.

"Anno 1305, Robert Fitz-Walter requested King Edward the First, that the said Friars of the Sac, commonly called De Pœnitentia Jesu, in London, might assign to the said Robert one chapel, of old time called the synagogue of the Jews, near adjoining to the place of the said Robert; which request was granted. Robert Fitz-Walter's house was then in the place where now stands the Grocers-Hall, and the synagogue of the Jews was in the place where now is a wine tavern, called the Windmill, in Lothbury. Stow's Chronicle, p. 209; in the margin he quotes the parliament record. The same in Stow's Survey of London, p. 287.

"What Leland in his Collectanea, vol. i. par. 2. p. 443, says of these friars, is very inconsiderable, viz. That they bought the principal messuage of John le Rus, opposite to the chapel of St. Edmund; but in regard that the said messuage was part of the fee of the canons of Bernwell, the prior Joland obstructed the seisin.

"Then John le Rus, with those friars, came to Joland, and obtained the favour that he would admit them. Thus Leland.

"This is all we find concerning them in London, only Stow adds, That their house was sometime the Jews' syna-

<sup>a</sup> Collect. T. Baker ex libro Barnwellensis.

<sup>b</sup> "De fundatione nostra." Cart. 52 Hen. III.

<sup>c</sup> Tann. Notit. Monast. Leicest. xvi. 10.

<sup>d</sup> Pat. 5 Edw. III. p. 3, m.

<sup>e</sup> Pat. 32 Edw. III. p. 2, m. See Tann. Notit. Monast. Lincolnsh. xlix. 16.