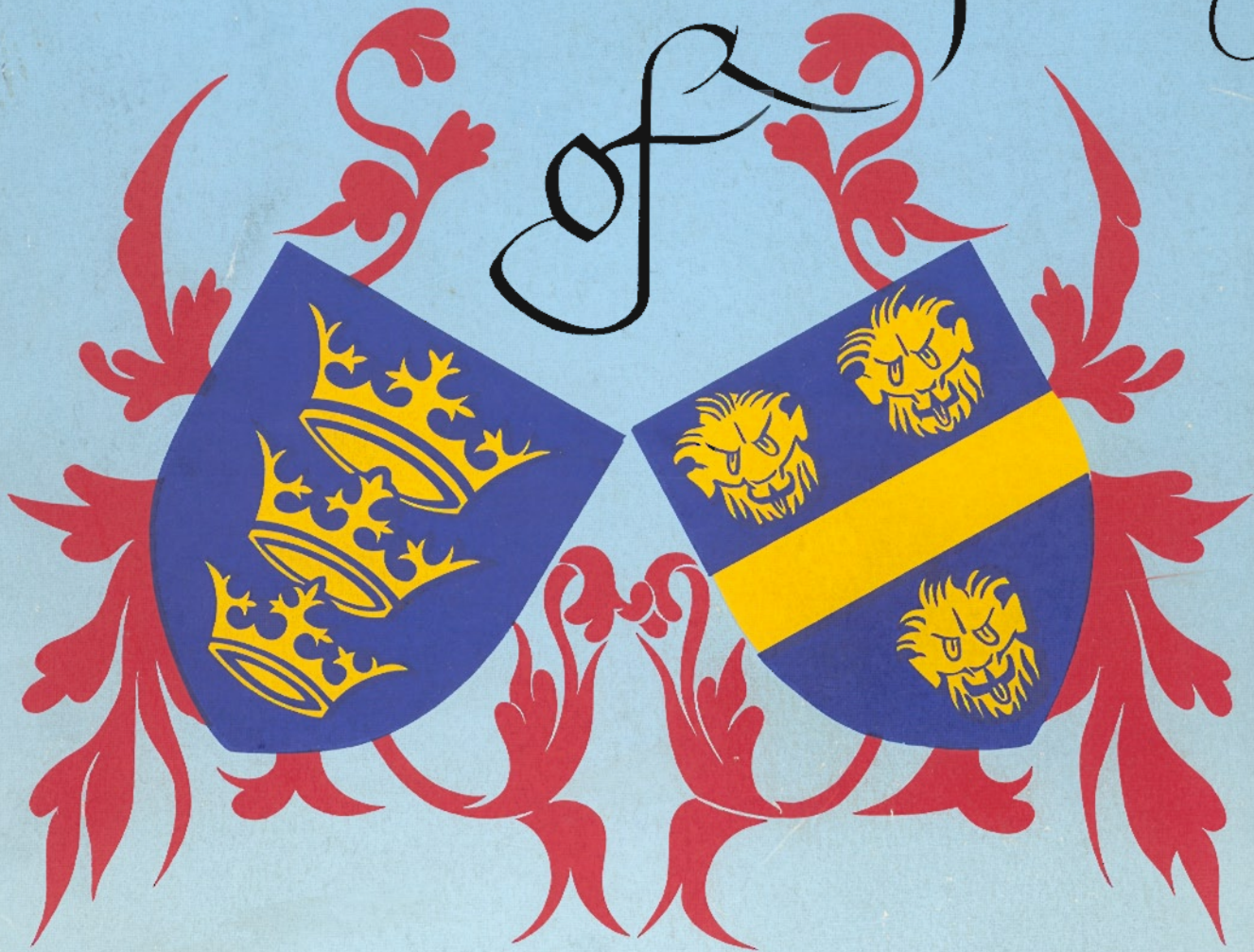


The de la Pole family

of



Kingston Upon Hull

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The  
DE LA POLE FAMILY  
of  
KINGSTON UPON HULL

by  
A. S. Harvey  
Hon. Archivist of  
Trinity House, Hull.

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THE DE LA POLE FAMILY OF KINGSTON UPON HULL.

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## FOREWORD.

As the President of the East Yorkshire Local History Society it is with the greatest pleasure that I commend this book to all those who have an interest in the study of English Local History.

The mediaeval saga of the de la Poles of Kingston upon Hull is one which, hitherto, has never been given the attention by scholars which the great theme itself deserves. In this book, Mr. A. S. Harvey, the Honorary Archivist of Trinity House, Hull, with the true scholar's care and respect for his sources, traces the rise and fall of this family whose members from humble mercantile beginnings rose to high rank in the service of the mediaeval state.

Mr. Harvey's book is the result of many years of investigation and careful research. I am confident that it will take an honoured place among those studies which have been made by English Local Historians to help us to understand something of the England of five and six hundred years ago.

HOTHAM.

The East Yorkshire Local History Society and the author would like to place on record their deep appreciation of the kindness and help afforded by F. W. A. Slater, Esq., who was responsible for the cover designs, and to Ernest Golding, Esq., for adapting it so effectively for silk screen printing and for producing the cover.

## THE DE LA POLE FAMILY OF KINGSTON UPON HULL.

### 1. Origin of Family.

The de la Pole family of Kingston upon Hull were perhaps the only family in medieval England to rise from trade to the highest offices of power in the realm. Emerging from complete obscurity at Hull, the two elder brothers de la Pole amassed within a quarter of a century an immense fortune, and acquired from the Crown two of the principal offices in the King's Exchequer. In fact, during the absence of Edward III in Flanders, the younger of the two brothers, together with the Prince Royal, was made a delegate from the Crown to exercise extraordinary powers to raise money for the King in England, and to issue pardons on the King's behalf for certain criminal offences, on the payment of fines by the accused.

In the second generation, a de la Pole rose from the occupation of a merchant-banker to become Lord Chancellor of England. His grandson, in turn, became Commander-in-Chief of the English forces in France, and Chief Minister of the Crown under Henry VI. Meanwhile, the heirs of the Hull merchant prince had become successively Earls and Dukes of Suffolk. Finally, as the nephew of Richard III, the Earl of Lincoln, son of the last de la Pole Duke was acknowledged as heir to the throne of England, an honour which ensured the complete extinction of his family under the Tudors.

It has been said that in their splendour "the de la Poles exceeded the Nevilles in dignity, in power, and in misfortunes." Camden, the antiquary, rightly insisted that 'trade was not derogatory to nobility,' yet it seems probable that the misfortunes which repeatedly overwhelmed the heirs of the de la Pole line were in fact aggravated by their mercantile origin.

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The object of this memoir is to deal mainly with the activities of the three brothers Richard, William and John de la Pole and of their families at Hull, extending in the case of William's family from the 14th to the 16th century. The associations of William's family with the port and town of Hull was most marked in the merchant days of the first two generations, covering roughly the period 1310-1380. From the first generation at Hull, the family enjoyed the lordships of Myton and of Kingston upon Hull. This connection with Hull was maintained until the death of Elizabeth, Duchess of Suffolk (sister of Edward IV and Richard III) and the attainder of her son, Edmund, Earl of Suffolk.

The elder brothers, Richard and William are first met with as merchants of High Street and burgesses of the new town of Kingston in 1316. Neither their parentage nor place of origin seem to have been revealed by the brothers, and these remain unsolved mysteries. They were possibly descended from the ancient line of the Princes of Powys (or la Pole, the modern Welshpool) in Wales through a Sir Griffin de la Pole of London, who had been from c.1260 under the protection of the English crown. Sir Griffin had been brought up in England, and his English leanings led to the invasion of Powysland by Llywelyn, Prince of Wales.

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That there was something disturbing about the parentage of the brothers is suggested in a letter of John Paston to his wife Margaret, in 1465, during his dispute with John de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk over the manor of Drayton. William Worcester, Paston's clerk, had after extensive researches, traced the pedigree of the Pole family to one "William Pool of Hull which was a wurchipfull man grow to fortune of the world. And he was first a merchant and after a knyght, and after he was mad baneret.....and what the fader of the seyd William was, as be the pedigre, I know ryght well; whereof I informyd Henry Boteler to tell my old Lady of Suffolk, because he is of her councell; and more will I not tell in this mater, but if (unless) I be desyrid or compellid."

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The matter would be of some moment to the ambitious dowager Duchess, Alice de la Pole, whose grandson was already acknowledged heir presumptive to the throne. The secrecy about William's father may however reflect nothing more than the prevalent unpopularity of the Welsh.

The earliest extant statement as to the origin of the de la Pole family has no better authority than the Chronicle of Meaux (1396) which says of Sir William, the first Mayor of Hull, "He was instructed at Ravensrodd in the knowledge of merchandise, and was afterwards second to no English merchant." The significant word in the Meaux reference is "instructed," and a more probable local tradition, cited by Leland (albeit incorrectly) was to the effect that Michael de la Pole, Lord Chancellor in 1383 was "a marchaunt of Hulle, and prentyce as sum say to one Rotenheryng of the same town." Since Michael was not born until about the time of Rotenheryng's death, the tradition must have related to his father, Sir William.

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Camden in his "Britannia" (1586) based his observations on the Chronicle, but went further in describing Sir William, the Mayor, as "a merchant of Ravensrod" who made his abode afterwards at Kingston upon Hull. From the comments on Camden made by Brooke and Vincent, it is clear that some confusion had then arisen, because two merchants both named William de la Pole were living and trading in Hull at the same time.

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Dugdale in his "Baronage" (1676) boldly asserted that "William de la Pole, an active merchant in Kingston upon Hull had two sons Richard and William. This assumption as to an earlier William must have been due to the fact that Richard's son, another William, was for many years contemporary with his uncle at Hull. In their later years both were knights, the two being distinguished in documents, where necessary, as "senior" and "junior," or as "the elder" and "the younger." William "senior" was the first Mayor of Hull and not the father of the Mayor. He was M.P. for Hull in various Parliaments from 1331 to 1337, and was in fact succeeded as member in 1339 by his nephew, William "junior."

Transactions between the two Williams tended at times to lead to confusion of identity. For instance, in 1355, Sir William, the Mayor was enfeoffed of the lands formerly held by the other Sir William who was of course the nephew of the Mayor and not his father.

Frost, on the other hand, in his pedigree of the family assumed that the brothers were the children of a Welsh knight, Sir William de la Pole of Powysland (the fourth son of Sir Griffin), who died c.1305, and whose widow he then assumed to be Elena, later the wife of John Rotenhering of Hull. But the widow of the Welsh knight, who was named Wladusa (Gladys) actually survived him without remarrying until at least 1344. After her husband's death she held his lands in Powysland and a Knight's Fee at Great Sardon in Staffordshire. Their son and heir was Griffin de la Pole, Sheriff of Merioneth in 1330, and there is no record of any more children.

The assumption that Elena was mother of the Hull brothers was based on an incorrect reading of Rotenhering's will recorded in the Hull Bench Book. The words "Elena matris sue" in the will were taken by Frost to refer to the mother of William de la Pole, the elder, named in the will as Rotenhering's executor. In fact they refer to the mother of Rotenhering's daughter Alicia mentioned earlier in the will. Rotenhering's wife Elena, is referred to by name before her marriage as "le Flekere" (a surname met with in Wyke upon Hull in 1293), when she was indicted with Rotenhering at the York Assizes of 1316 for causing the death of Rotenhering's first wife Margaret. The couple were in fact acquitted of this charge.

John Rotenhering, a tenant at Wyke upon Hull in 1293, and in 1311 the first local merchant to be made the King's Warden of Kingston upon Hull, appears to have had the brothers de la Pole under his protection and instruction. In the early years of the 14th century he was probably the wealthiest merchant and shipowner at Kingston, where he served on a number of inquisitions between 1293 and 1320. Rotenhering's house in 1293 was at the south-east corner of Monkgate on its own staithe, which later became the berth of the Barton ferry. By 1320, he



had removed to the west side of High Street on the south side of Grimsby Lane. After his death in 1328, his widow occupied the house, probably until 1347. William de la Pole, Rotenhering's executor then took over his property, disposed of his ship "La Godyere" and had the custody of his daughter. The residue of Rotenhering's estate, after provision made for his family, remained in the hands of Richard and William. At the instance of William, a licence was granted for the founding of a chantry in the newly built chancel of Holy Trinity Church, Hull, where Rotenhering was buried. By 1340, Alicia Rotenhering had died without heirs and the property passed to William de la Pole.

Robert Rotenhering, a wealthy merchant and shipowner of Ravenser in 1297 was probably a brother of his Hull namesake. He had removed to Hull by 1320 and resided in High Street near to Kirk Lane. The brothers de la Pole, after their apprenticeship days continued to have business relations with each of the Rotenherings. It may be that the tradition that William senior came from Ravenser arose from his business association with Robert Rotenhering or even from the fact that in 1338 he held the manor and town of Ravenser. There is however no documentary evidence of an earlier William de la Pole, as asserted by Dugdale, either in the Lay Subsidy Roll for Ravenser of 1297, or in the early rentals, deeds and wills of burgesses at Kingston upon Hull.

It therefore seems probable that the brothers were, on their arrival at Hull orphans of an important family, strangers to merchandizing and, in view of the important official appointments to be held by Richard as early as 1316-17, that they had already been settled at Hull for some years. Their introduction into Hull may well be one of the many steps taken by Edward I to concentrate the port of Hull at his new borough of Kingston.

It is significant that Edward had earlier made himself responsible for the education of the children of both Llywelyn and David, Princes of the Snowdon line, and of the daughter of Bruce of Scotland; in each case at Gilbertine houses in East Yorkshire or Lincolnshire. It seems reasonable to suppose that orphans of the Powys line of Princes, whose forbears had conspicuously served the English Crown for two generations would, through Edward's generosity, be similarly provided for, possibly in the Humber region.

Of the four remaining sons of Sir Griffin de la Pole of London, it is probable that the Hull brothers were the children of Sir Lewis (Llywelyn) de la Pole his second son and Sibilla his wife. Sir Lewis had been in the service of Queen Eleanor in 1290 and died in 1294. The following June, King Edward I had actually visited the town of La Pole at the time of the subsequent inquisition.

That the brothers were endowed with a good education and with great natural ability may be inferred from their rapid rise to important posts in the King's Household and in the Exchequer, and from William's services to Edward III in the negotiations for a truce with Flanders in 1333-35, and in his mission from the King to Parliament in September 1339. Among other reasons for suggesting the Powys ancestry of the Hull brothers is the fact that Roger Mortimer who had raised the Powysland forces for Edward I in 1298, had procured the appointment of Richard and William in 1327 to the office of Gauger of Wines in England and Wales. 34.

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## 2. Early Years.

Richard, styled "atte Pole of Hulle" received Letters of Safe Conduct from the King in 1316 "on going abroad to foreign parts to buy corn and other victuals and to bring the same into England." A great famine was then raging, especially in the north country where the price of wheat and salt had risen sixfold. Richard had to give security that he would not take the foodstuffs to Flanders or to the Scots. At the same time, a fellow burgess arranged to go abroad and buy corn, and carry it "to the town of Hulle for sustenance of himself and his household." 34a. 35.

All three of the de la Pole brothers appear to have been in partnership at Hull in 1319, when they were jointly creditors of Ralph de Grene, a Pontefract merchant, for a loan of £20. There is no further association with Hull of John, the youngest brother, who two years later was in business at London where he made a loan of £40 in conjunction with a London merchant. 36. 37.

Some years later, John was to deputise in London for his elder brothers in two branches of the King's revenue; for Richard as deputy Butler at the ports of London and Rochester; for William as Collector of Customs at London. 38. 39.

Early in 1317, the two elder brothers were appointed joint deputies at Hull to the King's Butler. From 1318 Richard alone executed the office at Hull which he appears to have held till his appointment as King's Butler in 1327 when he went to reside in London, at Lombard Street. 40.

Richard was in 1318 granted a writ of aid whilst with the Butler at Northampton, and commissioned to purvey wines for the King at Hull (under the Crown's pre-emptive right to take prizes), the wine to remain in the custody of the merchants and the town bailiffs, until the merchants had obtained payment at the Exchequer. 41.

Richard's work for the Butler at Hull for some ten years was in fact confined to the Purveyance of Wine. He was not appointed to collect the import levy of butlerage until a few weeks before his removal to London. In 1319, Richard was ordered to receive 40 tons of wine at Hull, purchased there by the Warden, and to convey it to the King at York for the King's Household. About the same time, he wisely sent to Sir Roger Mortimer, his patron, "two barrels of the King's wine for the use of Sir Roger." 42.  
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Early in 1322, the brothers jointly received Letters of Protection probably for work in connection with the proposed Scottish expedition. About the same time Robert Rotenhering of Hull had similar Letters whilst buying "corn and other victuals for the King's use." 44.

It would seem that Richard's mercantile interest in the wine trade had been of long standing, and that his operations as a wine merchant must in course of time conflict with his duties to the Crown. As early as 1308, a Richard de Pole had received from Archbishop Greenfield of York £55 for 15 casks of wine. The port of importation is not stated, but since the practice of the Archbishops was to buy their wine at Hull, and Richard did in fact buy wines at Hull for the Archbishops at intervals down to 1326, there seems little doubt that the de Pole of 1308 can be identified with the de la Pole of later years. Like Hamo Box in 1291, Richard was probably prominent in the wine trade at both Hull and London, since in c.1310 a Richard de la Pole of the Dowgate Ward was admitted as a vintner at London. 45.  
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By 1320 Richard was in trouble with the Gascon and Rhenish wine merchants at Hull. The charges brought against him are set forth in an inquisition taken at Hull before Exchequer officials with a jury composed of six merchants of Gascony and six of Germany. It was said by the jurors that Richard delayed, sometimes for as long as 40 days, the regulation payment to the merchants of 20s. for every tun of wine taken as legal prise; that he delayed their expeditious sale of wines by deliberately absenting himself from the town, sometimes even for 15 days; and worse still, that he sometimes arrested up to 300 more casks of wine than the King's Butler required and "withholds them under arrest until he sees a profit for himself in making purchase of the same," when, under colour of purchasing further wine for the King, he "in very truth makes purchase for his own proper use." There is no record of the outcome of this inquiry, but as Richard continued in office at Hull, there was perhaps some amendment of the Under-Butler's procedure. 47.

The wine situation at the "Water of Hull" was further complicated by an ancient claim of the Archbishops of York to take the first prizes of wine within the port, a claim dating back about a century before the King acquired Wyke upon Hull in 1293.

The anomalous situation continued long after 1293, the King and the Archbishop both having their representatives at Kingston. Indeed, it would appear that for some years de la Pole himself acted at Hull both for the Crown and the Archbishop. In consequence, when in April 1327 Richard became Butler for the realm, he evidently found it impossible to continue to serve two masters, whose claims at Hull frequently led to serious conflict. 48.

Richard therefore wrote reverentially to Archbishop Melton at once praying for his blessing and announcing his new appointment "in the which office there is great burden and thought, by which, sire, I can in no manner take care of your things in the town and water of Hull." He went on to ask the Archbishop to release him from his office and recommended in his place the bearer of his letter, Master John de Barton, "the most knowing man in the town to make your profit." 49.

In his very first account to the Crown in 1328, however, the new Butler reported no wine customs from Hull, where he said "formerly custom was taken at the port of Kingston upon Hull which was and is one of the best ports of England, where custom is no longer taken because the Archbishop of York has recovered the prises of all wines and has commanded the King's Butler to cease taking both customs dues and prises." 50.

Richard appears to have disregarded the King's writ issued to his predecessor which acknowledged the Archbishop's claims, and was sharply warned in a letter from the King "unless you more fully execute this our mandate we shall come heavily upon you." The burgesses of the town next petitioned the Crown against the Archbishop's interference at Hull and Richard was directed in May 1330 to seize into the King's hands the prises and customs on wine which the Archbishop "has usurped after the King undertook the governance of the realm." 51.

The Archbishop however persisted in his interference, since three years later the alien merchants had ceased to bring their wines to Hull because whilst the Butler's deputy levied 2s. on each tun, the Archbishop's representative took the ancient prise of 2 tuns from each ship, so that merchants at Hull were charged with double prises. Quo Warranto proceedings were instituted, and the Archbishop's privileges were finally abolished in 1334. An order was then made that James de Kingston, King's clerk, of Hull was to be rewarded with a church" for long services and recovery of the King's prises of wine in the port of Hull," in which recovery he was doubtless supported by the Butler. 52. 53. 53a. 54.

Richard's duties as deputy at Hull seem to have been onerous, since on his promotion to London he at once raised the annual wages of his deputy at Hull from 40s. to the level of his deputy at London port, 100s., "because he was much more 55.

troubled than the other deputies by going so often to York, Pontefract, Nottingham etc. to survey and dispose of the King's stores there."

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During the ten years 1317 to 1327, the brothers collaborated in their mercantile and financial activities at Hull, where they maintained a partnership covering their trading operations, banking business, and landed properties. At the same time, they held jointly or individually important public offices of both local and national significance. In 1322 they jointly loaned £40 to Roger Beler (afterwards a Baron of the Exchequer). The partnership continued for a time after Richard's removal but was eventually dissolved by two deeds of partition, one in 1331 dividing their mercantile and landed interests, as well as their effects, goods and chattels, and the other in 1334 dividing their local manor of Myton. 57.

Richard was recorded as a tenant of Kingston in a town rental of 1320, residing in High Street, at the corner of Grimsby Lane (see App. B). William was not himself a tenant at that time, and resided with Richard, who had married as early as c.1314. In the subsequent partition of their goods and chattels, after William's marriage c.1329, the value of silver plate alone, attributed to Richard was valued at £80. 58.

As early as 1321, as joint Chamberlains, or Treasurers, of the town of Hull, the brothers were engaged in extensive civic activities. As town Chamberlains they were responsible to the Warden and burgesses for the levying of local dues such as pavage and murage (the latter in preparation for building the town walls) and for the appointment of collectors of the dues. William was himself one of the collectors of the tax on hides. 58a. The rolls recording the receipts and expenditure by the brothers from 1321 to 1324 cover a wide field, ranging from repairs to the Old Harbour, construction work at the South End and the North Gate, and digging the town moat, to fitting out a ship "The Trinity" for the King, and purchase of land for the town's brickyard. The total expenditure for three years, according to the Chamberlains' rolls was about £612, with receipts about £498, leaving a debt to the de la Pole brothers of £114. The commonalty agreed under an indenture to pay off the debt at the rate of 20 marks a year. 59. 60.

The manufacture of bricks in Hull in the first quarter of the 14th century may well have been due to the contacts of her wool merchants with Flanders. Bricks taken from the early foundations of the town walls are in fact of the contemporary Flemish type. About this time William de la Pole had already acquired his own brickyard or tilery outside the North Gate of the town. 61.

Richard was, in his early years, in contact with citizens of Lubeck on two occasions. In 1319 a ship of Lubeck with a cargo of stockfish, hides, oil, etc., was arrested at Ravenserod as security for the robbery by malefactors of Lubeck, of a Lynn ship on the Norfolk coast. To obtain release of their ship and cargo, valued at £163.10s., the Lubeck merchants found mainpernors (sureties) at Hull in John Rotenhering, Richard de la Pole and two others. The ship was then released, and the following year the Hull mainpernors were discharged on the merchants finding other mainpernors in the City of London. 62.

In 1326, another Lubeck ship "La Fairwedere" and her cargo was arrested in "The port of the Water of Hull" because the master and his mariners resisted the bailiff of Ravenserod during his official search of the ship and its mariners. An inquisition was held at Hedon in February 1326 by Richard de la Pole (then Collector of Customs at Hull and Ravenser) and others, and in July release of the ship was ordered on security being taken from the ship's master. 63.

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Richard, described in the Parliamentary writs both as "del Pole" and "atte Pole," twice represented Hull in the Commons. In the Parliament at York in 1322 his colleague was William de Barton, his fellow Collector of Customs. In September 1327 he attended the Parliament at Lincoln. Shortly after this latter session, special writs were issued to the bailiffs of Hull, Barton, Beverley, and other towns concerned with the wool trade, each to elect "one or two of the most discreet wool merchants" to attend the King at York at the end of January and advise him on trade matters in the "Commune" of merchants known as the "Wool Parliament." William, with Richard FitzDieu was elected to represent Hull at this assembly which met in the Chapter House of the Minster. 65.

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3. Hull Customs Officials.

In addition to his work as Deputy Butler, Richard acted as a Collector of Customs at the Port of Hull from 1320 to 1327. In 1323 and 1325 he also appears as Collector at Ravenser, which port probably had a separate seal, although a member port of Hull. Normally Richard's appointment was as Collector of the new custom on wool, hides, etc., but in 1325 he appears as "one of the Collectors of Customs upon wines and also upon avoirdupois." 68.

Both as Collector and as Deputy Butler he was required to render his accounts in person at the Exchequer twice annually, at Easter and at Michaelmas. When the Exchequer for short periods in his time as Collector was stationed at York he would attend there, otherwise he would journey to Westminster, probably in the company of county sheriffs who were enjoined to provide protection en route.

The Collector, normally a burgess of the port town, was required under the Exchequer Act of 1266 to record in his roll a list of cargo ships arriving and departing, with particulars of any customs dues charged. Since the operation of the Customs Act of 1275, an Exchequer official had also been appointed at each "great port" to keep a counter-roll, as a check on the Collector's account, whence the designation "Controller." The same Act provided for a Customs seal known as the "Cocket" or acquittance seal. Like the Great Seal of England, from which it was an early delegation, the Cocket Seal was in two parts or foils, one of which was normally kept by the Collector, and one by the Controller. Richard's colleague as Controller at Hull from 1322 to 1327 was Hamo Quarel. In addition to the Cocket acquittance, the Collectors could issue a certificate to cover the removal coastwise of dutiable goods. One certificate given in 1324 by Richard de la Pole and his colleague William de Barton has survived. It certifies the payment of import duty on 20 doles 3 pipes of wine at Hull, for shipment to Newcastle-on-Tyne. The importance of Hull as a port later in the 14th century is indicated by the promotion of Thomas de Swanland, Collector at London before 1343 to be Collector at Hull and Boston with the princely salary of £100 sterling yearly.

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The Cocket Seal became particularly important at Hull in the time of the de la Pole brothers. Apart from its normal use to give Customs acquittances, it was used then to seal letters obligatory or bonds given by the Crown as security for loans made by merchants for the King's use. Again, in the event of an assignment of Customs revenue for the repayment of loans made to the Crown, it was then the practice to deliver one half of the Cocket seal to the assignee as security. At Hull, William de la Pole, as assignee, held one half of the Cocket seal for many years. At other ports, the half seal was in some cases delivered to his agents, whilst at London and some other ports one part of the seal was secured under William's own seal. The appointment of his brother John as Collector at London in 1330 was perhaps partly designed to afford additional security to William (see C.C.R. 1339-41, 41).

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At times, there was a danger of complication due to a subsequent grant of Customs which had already been assigned. For example, despite a continuing assignment of the Hull Customs to the de la Pole brothers in 1328, an assignment was made to the Bardi Company in 1329 but not fully paid. A commission was therefore appointed in August 1330 to examine the accounts of the Collectors at Hull and to certify how much had been received since their last account at the Exchequer, how much had been paid to the brothers de la Pole, and how much was still in hand to be paid to the Bardi Company. The brothers were already in process of superseding the Bardi as money lenders to the Crown and William was destined later to take over the Bardi banking house in Lombard Street. They had therefore perhaps obstructed the proper payments to the Italian Bankers at Hull. (see p.71).

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William acted as Collector at Hull for a short period in 1335. On September 19 of that year he was made supervisor of the Customs for the ports from King's Lynn to Hull and two days later became supervisor by himself or his deputy in 14 specified ports and in all ports and places within the realm "where customs are collected, and of all payments thereout." He was also to supervise the offices of tronage and pesage of wools, etc., in the ports, and to certify the King as to all receipts and payments and the manner in which the Customs and associated offices had been discharged. The purpose of these appointments may have been both to safeguard the revenue and to ensure that William's assignments on the Customs were duly paid to him. The Hull Customs, granted to William in 1346 were "to be taken by his own hands." He is referred to again as Collector of the Customs on wool, etc., at Hull, at intervals from 1346 to 1353. The Cocket Seal of Hull was finally taken out of William's hands in 1353 when his successor at Hull was ordered not to permit William to meddle further in the Customs moneys there, as he had submitted to the King the whole question of his debts.

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Preventive work to counteract the smuggling of customable and prohibited goods also fell to the Collector in his capacity as Searcher. For example, in 1324, Richard was appointed jointly with William de Barton, as a searcher to see that money was not taken out of the realm, except to cover the reasonable expenses of merchants. His district as Searcher covered every place in the county of York, and by the sea coast up to the port of Newcastle-on-Tyne. In his capacity as Collector of Customs, involving contacts with both the seamen and the merchants of the port, Richard was in a strong position to act in 1322 as one of the Commissioners of Array for the town and liberty of Kingston upon Hull. The forces raised were to be arrayed in scores and hundreds, but Richard's part in the array was soon taken over by a substitute, Robert de Burton, probably owing to Richard's absence from the town on the King's affairs under a special Protection.

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Two years later, the Collector was directed to provide and to receive large supplies of equipment and munitions for an expedition about to sail to Guienne for the recovery of Gascony from the French. From the local woods at Cottingham, Beverley and Burstwick Richard was ordered to procure 3,000 hurdles; the Beverley hurdlestobeshipped from the Beverley Beck to Hull. The expense of making and shipping the hurdles to Guienne was to be met by him. From Conisborough he was to procure 3,000 boards, the bulk of which were to be sent hastily to Yarmouth and the remainder held at Hull for instructions from the Admiral of the North.

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Richard was also to receive munitions from the Sheriffs of York, Lincoln, and Nottingham, and from the Keepers of the Castles of Pontefract and Conisborough. In all, he received 24 springalds (catapults of oak or other hard wood for throwing missiles), 2,700 quarels (crossbow bolts), 9,000 irons (bits for horses), 160,000 nails and 10,000 plank nails. These munitions and equipment were to be stored by him at Hull and handed over to the Admiral as required. The importance of Hull in regard to defence of the realm is indicated by the fact that at this period more munitions were being ordered for deposit at Hull than at the Tower of London.

88.

The Admiral directed Richard to aid in surveying victuals available for the King in the north, and it appears from his instructions that horses were in great demand for the forces. The munitions were shipped at Hull by Richard on 20th March, 1325.

89.

+ + + + +

#### 4. Hull and Myton Manors.

In 1326 Richard was given the custody of Hull "against the attacks of aliens and contrariants" as deputy for the Warden, Robert de Hastang, who "is broken by age and debility." Hastang was to pay Richard "a reasonable fee out of the profits and issues of the town," but to retain the fee-farm rent of £70 for his lifetime. In May 1330, the brothers were granted the reversion of the custody of Hull, and for the future were to act jointly with Hastang. Three months later, for the safety and security of the town, the custody of Hull was vested in the brothers jointly, because "Robert de Hastang does not always stay there." The town and port at that time seem to have been threatened by "certain rebels who lately withdrew from the country by stealth and are said to intend to return and do what mischief they can."

90.

91.

92.

With the absence of Richard in London, the duties of Warden for the last year of that office would fall on William alone. On May 6, 1331, Kingston upon Hull was granted by Charter the right to elect its own Mayor in place of the Warden. It is not surprising that William himself became the first Mayor, since the Charter was probably granted largely in recognition of his many services to the Crown at Hull.

93.

One of the first orders after Michaelmas to the newly-elected mayor was contained in letters mandatory from the King on October 15, 1331, directing him to pay Hastang, the late Warden, £70 per annum as long as he should live. On the death of Hastang early in 1336, the King reminded the Mayor and burgesses on April 15, of the grant to the de la Pole brothers of the reversion of the town for life, and ordered the immediate payment to them of arrears of the fee-farm rent of £70.

94.

95.

The grant for life was confirmed in May 1339, with remainder to William and to his heirs, but not to Richard's heirs. 96.

Following an inquisition in 1329, the brothers acquired a year later the reversion of the manor of Myton then held by Robert de Hastang for life, on an exchange with the King of a moiety of their manor of Lyndeby in Sherwood Forest. On the death of Hastang, the brothers were to pay the King £10.3s. yearly, by which sum the value of Myton exceeded the value of their Lyndeby property, but in the grant itself the King had, in return for their services to him, acquitted them for life of the payment of this difference. In a further grant of 1339 he extended this acquittance to their heirs, by the service of a rose at Midsummer. 97. 98. 99. 100.

According to an indenture made between the brothers in June 1332, Hastang had entirely released to them the manor, possibly in 1330, and they agreed to divide equally both the manor and the fee-farm rent of Hull. The division of the manor became definitive under their partition deed of August 3, 1334, made at Myton in the presence of Hugh le Taverner, mayor, two bailiffs and other burgesses. 101.

The deed provided that each of the brothers was to have 5 bovates of arable land with the meadows belonging, and one-half of the pastures and agistments of the manor. In addition, Richard was to have the meadow lands called Crooked-cote dale and Sevenstangs, together with "a windmill upon Humber water," whilst William was to have the site of the Manor House with the houses, buildings and pastures belonging. The 5 bovates of land and relative meadows assigned to William had previously been held by the brothers jointly on lease from Sir Robert Hastang. Each of the brothers was to hold his share by a moiety of the rents and services due for the manor.

One part of this indenture, deprived of its seals, is preserved at the Hull Guildhall. 102.

The manor house of Myton as agreed in the deed was to fall to William, senior, who according to the Meaux Chronicle removed it to Tupcoates, but Tupcoates was in Richard's hands in 1339 and in his son's hands in 1346. Moreover, the inquisition taken at Richard's death records that the manor house built by Robert de Hastang was then in Richard's hands together with Myton grange - the ancient Grangewyk of the monks of Meaux. 103. 104. 105.

The brothers continued to hold their moieties of the Myton manor, which bordered on the town to the west, until the death of Richard in 1345. They also held severally lands and tenements in that part of Myton to the north of the town known as Aton fee, part of which was comprised in Kingston upon Hull. To distinguish between the two parts of Myton in the inquisition of 1345, the manor is referred to as "Myton on Humber" and the lands in Aton fee as "Myton by Kingston upon Hull." 106.

On Richard's death, his property at Myton, both in the manor and in the Aton fee, passed in respect of one third to his widow as dower, and two thirds to his heir, William junior. Within a few months of his father's death William had conveyed his share of the property, apparently in trust, to the Rector of Drayton in Norfolk, and William, son of Thomas of Hedon, who were probably his attorneys during his absence abroad. The deed dated Jan'y. 1346 was witnessed at Myton by William de la Pole, senior, Thomas, Lord Wake, and other county magnates. In August the same year William junior, having received Letters of Protection, fought as a Knight in the Black Prince's division at Crecy.

107.

108.

By 1350, Richard's widow Joan de Chaworth had died and his heir had granted the whole of his moiety to his cousin Michael de la Pole and to two attorneys of his uncle, Sir William, viz., Sir John Chesterfield, parson of Foston Church and Sir William Wygyngton, parson of Colthorp Church. These grantees then enfeoffed Michael's father, Sir William, senior, who thus acquired the whole manor, later to be known as Tupcoates-with-Myton. (It seems probable therefore that Sir William removed the early Manor Court of Myton to his brother's house at Tupcoates in his later years).

The manor thereafter was held in tail to William and Katherine his wife, jointly, with remainder to their heirs. The various transactions are recited in the Letters Patent of 1366, which state that "William having gone the way of all flesh, Katherine now holds (the manor) without the King's licence." Katherine paid for her trespass in a fine of £10.

109.

The manors of Kingston upon Hull and Myton were taken into the King's hands on the arrest and outlawry of Michael de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk in 1389, but restored to his son, the second Earl in 1398.

110.

+ + + + +

### 5. Partition.

The deed of partition dividing the real and personal estate of Richard and William de la Pole dated 12th July 1331 must be one of the earliest documents of its kind in the history of English commerce. The terms of the agreement indicate the close fraternal co-operation maintained by the brothers and the great wealth already in their hands.

The brothers began by pardoning one another "all manner of injuries done, said, or thought, by one against the other from the time of their coming into the world" to the date of the deed. Next they released one another from all contracts, etc., ever existing between them "save those arising out of their brotherhood, which lasts and will last as long as God permits."

The deed then proceeded to assign assets to Richard relating mainly to the south of England. These included loans made to the Bishops of Salisbury £204, Winchester £13 and Ely £2, and to notable families, Grey, Bradeston, la Marche, etc; manors in Norfolk and Northampton; horses, silver, furniture (then in Richard's London house) and other goods and chattels. A deduction was made for debts owed by the brothers. The assets assigned to William are not specified, but were probably in the north, and apparently greater than Richard's, since William agreed to pay Richard £1,200 at London, making the total assets of Richard £3,208.3s.8d.

Disposal of their landed property in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, except Myton Manor, was provided for in the deed separately. William, who again took the greater part, agreed to pay Richard 100 marks rent per annum until suitable landed property elsewhere, at Richard's choice, became available, when William would pay 2,000 marks to his brother in London to balance the account. In addition, William agreed to give 400 marks to Richard's daughter Agnes, as a marriage portion.

110a.

The deed in French was executed at London in quadruplicate, one copy remaining with each of the brothers, one with the Chamberlains at the London Guildhall, and one with the Chamberlains at Hull, to be kept in the common chest. Each brother sealed the copy held by his brother and both brothers sealed the copies deposited at London and Hull.

111.

The London copy, described as an indenture, was deposited in a box at the Guildhall by the brothers on the day of its execution. The only known surviving copy of the deed (but deprived of its two seals) is the one preserved at the Hull Guildhall. It was during this visit to London that William gave his undertaking to pay the Queen's Household expenses.

112.

In the years following their deed of partition, the brothers continued separately their business as moneylenders, Richard at Lombard Street and William at Hull. Many loans, where security was given on lands and chattels are recorded in the Close Rolls, the security offered by Richard's clients being mainly in southern counties and by William's in the north. Besides a number of merchants and landowners, the borrowers include knights and parsons, barons and bishops, from widespread areas.

Richard's loans range from £40 to William Charles, a landowner in Norfolk and Northants, to £249.2s.1d. to Robert, Bishop of Salisbury. William's loans include one of 1,000 marks to John, Lord Mowbray of the Isle of Axeholme, £62 to Elizabeth, Lady Latimer of Danby, £120 to FitzHugh, Lord of Ravensworth, £60 to Master Thomas Daungervill, a parson, and the considerable loan of £120 to Ralph de Broke, parson of Gosbekirk in the Lincoln diocese.

113.

In 1334, William loaned £22 to Ralph de Grene of Pontefract, apparently the client of the three brothers in 1319. The same year he loaned £240 to Walter son of Richard le Taverner of Newark. Possibly this was the Walter Taverner, bailiff of Kingston upon Hull in 1335, when William was mayor. 114.

Most of the loans were cancelled on payment, but it seems probable that some of the extensive estates of the brothers were acquired from lands secured on their loans. For example, the manor of Milton which afterwards became a residence of Richard was released to him by his client William Charles, together with lands in Peterborough, Norwich and Crowland, and the manors of Sizeland and Loddon in Norfolk. The manor of Buttercrambe, demised to William by Lord Thomas Wake for five years for a sum of money in which Wake was bound to the two brothers by indenture was granted to William after the death of Wake. Again in 1337, William and Richard advanced money to William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton. Later in the year de Bohun granted Richard lands and rents in Basingstoke, whilst in January 1339 Richard was granted the whole town of Basingstoke. On the failure of William Vavasour to pay a debt of £100 in 1337, William arranged for his clerk, John de Codyngham to prosecute in the matter. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120

On the other hand, William in 1334 was receiving moneys on loan, e.g. £40 from Sir John de Hotham and Thomas his son, a clerk, and £100 from Michael de Wath, clerk. Sometimes the brothers received loans specifically for the King's use. It was alleged in 1331 by one John de Cotes that Richard had received from him £40 as a loan for the King as early as 1328, but that the petitioner had not yet received payment or any satisfaction. The King's Treasurer was directed to call Richard before the Exchequer and to search the rolls. If the petitioner's claim were proved, he was to be repaid out of the Treasury. 121. 122.

Occasionally the brothers would still make advances jointly to the Crown. In 1333 they paid divers merchants moneys for debts of the King. Not having received payment, they petitioned the King at the Parliament meeting that year at York, when the Treasurer was ordered to make payment or an assignment of the amount due. 123.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 6. King's Butler.

Richard de la Pole was promoted to the office of Chief Butler on 20 April 1327, but relieved of it in favour of Arnald Micol in 1331. He was re-appointed in 1333 and finally surrendered the office in February 1338. As King's Butler, he was one of the chief officers of the Royal Household with his own department at the Exchequer. His fee was 20 marks a year, and two robes of cloth or 2 marks in money, with rations when at court. He had a deputy in the Exchequer and two clerks. 124/5. 126. 127.

The day after his appointment as Butler, Richard was granted the office of Gauger of Wines in England, Ireland and Wales during pleasure, and in May 1329 he was appointed to the office for life jointly with his brother, the appointment extending, like the Butlership "throughout the realm of England and Wales and the land of Ireland." (He had appointed in June 1327 a deputy Gauger of Wines to supervise the ports of Ireland and Wales and the port of Chester). Both offices were obtained through the influence of Roger Mortimer. The office of King's Butler was traditionally associated with that of Coroner and Chamberlain of Wines in the City of London, both of which offices were in fact held by Richard in 1337.

The principal duty of the Butler was to purvey wines for the needs of the King's Household and the army, and to collect the butlerage due of 2s. per tun in lieu of prise on wines imported by foreign merchants. The duty of the Gauger was largely non-revenue, viz., to ensure that the purchaser at importation obtained the quantity for which he paid, and further, in the case of butlerage charges, to establish the quantity liable to the due. The charge made for this public service of the Gauger was 1d. per dole or tun of two pipes, out of which fund each deputy received one mark per annum. The two offices, though distinct, had occasionally been vested in the same official, especially in the case of the outport deputies. For example at Hull in 1287, Hamo Box had acted as deputy both for the Butler and the Gauger. In 1298, the Archbishop of York claimed the privileges of both offices at Hull together with the office of Coroner and for many years made his own appointments. (see p. 6).

Some deputies in England had been appointed by Richard in 1327, e.g. John de la Pole, his brother, in London. In 1329, deputies were appointed throughout the Kingdom, their districts corresponding in some cases, as in the earlier Customs régime, with complete counties. For instance, for the counties of Somerset, Devon and Dorset, William de Derlyngton acted as deputy in both offices. He was further appointed to deputise at the Exchequer for Richard. In 1330, John Despaigne (bailiff of Hull in 1331) was made deputy Butler for the county of York, i.e. the Customs "great port" of Hull. By the end of 1334, Richard had deputies in the Duchy of Aquitaine. The Butler's deputies were appointed in Letters Patent 'By bill of the butler' and Writs of Aid were frequently issued for them, noted 'by testimony of Richard.' In 1333, there were in all 18 deputies in England.

After the execution of Mortimer in 1330, it transpired that he had procured the removal of the previous Gauger, who had been appointed "for life," and appointed the brothers de la Pole "without the King's assent or wish." The King therefore, by the advice of Parliament that year, revoked the grant to the brothers, and reinstated William Gauger, the former grantee.

It seems possible that the brothers continued to claim the office, since in granting a writ of aid to Wm. Gauger in 1336, the King reiterated the revocation of their appointment. Richard was not discharged of his account as Gauger until 1341, and even so, his brother was called to an Exchequer inquisition the following year because Richard had complained that he had been compelled to account as if he alone had held the office. The arrears in the Gauger's account, amounting to £156.11.1½d. were finally adjusted in 1343, by a deduction of that sum from the King's outstanding debt to Richard.

At the end of Richard's first year as Butler, two clerks were appointed to audit the accounts of his deputies throughout the Kingdom "that he may better answer to us at our Exchequer respecting those things which belong to his office." At Christmas 1328, Richard received from the King a gift of 1,000 marks for his services.

In view of the Scottish campaigns from 1327 onwards, Richard, now styled "the King's beloved servant," continued to purvey much of the Butlership wines at Hull and other northern ports. Shortly after his appointment in April 1327, 300 tuns of wine were purchased as army stores. At York, in June, the King ordered the Treasurer to pay the Butler £1,000 "for wines for the expenses of his Household and of his army proceeding towards the parts of Scotland." A fortnight later, a payment of £2,000 was ordered at Topcliffe, near Thirsk. Towards two debts for wine the following year, the Collectors of twentieths in Yorkshire were to provide £100 from the East Riding, £170 from the North Riding and £30 from the West Riding, together with tenths from the York Diocese, £100.

In 1329, Richard was ordered to provide 200 doles of wine and forward it to Berwick-on-Tweed. It seems probable that William at this time co-operated closely with Richard in his wine transactions, since the King ordered £1,000 to be paid to Richard as Butler "or to William de la Pole his brother, his attorney or procurator in this business." Again two orders to supply wine for the King in 1336 were actually addressed to William as King's Butler.

Richard's transactions in 1334-35 covered a wide field. First he was ordered to buy 500 casks of wine in Guienne, of which 400 were to be sent to Hull and 100 to London. Then he was instructed to deposit certain of the King's wines in Ireland, and later to send the old wines then at Dublin and other ports to the King's receiver of stores at Carlisle. Finally, he was ordered, somewhat peremptorily, to purchase in Hull 200 tuns of wine and send it to the receiver at Berwick "without offering any excuse and without delay."

The importance of Hull as a depôt for wines at this time is illustrated by Richard's instructions in 1335. Early in the year he was ordered to purvey 500 tuns of the recent season's wines from Aquitaine and received Letters of Protection for a year. Within a month, he was ordered to buy 300 tuns within the realm and to send 100 to London and 200 to Hull. It would probably be from this stock that William forwarded in the summer 60 tuns of white wine from Hull to Berwick. 158.  
159.

The following year, when the Butler was ordered to purchase 300 tuns of wine from six ports, 120 tuns were to be obtained at Hull. Richard's claim in 1327 that the work of his deputy at Hull was most onerous is borne out by an order in 1336. He was then instructed to buy 220 tuns at Hull to be distributed as follows - 100 tuns to the King's receiver at Carlisle, 50 tuns to the King and his Household at York, 10 tuns to Pontefraot Castle, 20 tuns to Doncaster for the King and Household on their approaching visit there, and 40 tuns to be safely kept at Hull until further orders. Another order shows that wine intended for York was transhipped into smaller boats at "Walrak," a point just inside the "Old Harbour." In Richard's last year as Butler his purchases at Hull reached a high level. Of his total expenditure on wine for the year, viz. £7,178.14.11½d., his London purchases cost £2,425.2s. whilst his Hull purchases, specified as "Gascon and coloured wines" cost £3,009.10.11d. 160.  
161.  
162.

The merchants from whom wine prizes were taken were normally paid direct from the Exchequer, but Richard, like his brother in purchasing war stores, frequently had to advance the purchase money. For instance, in 1336 he had a gift of 500 marks from the King "in consideration of his services and his loss by reason of the provision of wine, made several times with his own money." 163.

Richard not only supplied wine to the King's Household. In 1333, he was ordered to deliver to the Butler of Edward the Black Prince as much wine as was necessary for the young Prince's Household until Martinmas, the Prince himself being then only 3 years old. 164.

Richard de la Pole ceased to be King's Butler on 15th February 1338, but continued for a time to supply his successor Michael Mynyot with wine for the King's use. The King acknowledged the debt of £433.6.8d. for 100 barrels of Gascon wine supplied to the Butler by Richard, promising to pay him at Easter 1339. 165.  
166.

+ + + +

Some years ago there was discovered at Hull a very fine seal apparently of a wine merchant, c. 14th century, bearing the initials R.P. or R.I. An extraordinarily beautiful device showed the figure of Christ treading the grapes in a shallow vat, with an inscription from Isaiah XIII, V.3 (Vulgate) "I have trodden the wine-press alone, and of the Gentiles there is no man with me." The seal, which cannot now be traced was possibly that of the Archbishop's Butler, or the King's Deputy Butler at Hull. 167.



## 7. Hull Mayoralty.

By about 1330 William de la Pole had acquired at Hull a considerable estate between Lowgate (formerly Marketgate) on the east, and the town moat on the west and north. This land, part of the Aton fee in Kingston, was possibly acquired from his brother as lord of the fee, or from his brother's predecessor, Sir Gilbert de Aton. Here, opposite the new chapel of St. Mary and within its parish, he built the great manor house of Kingston upon Hull. Enlarged or rebuilt by his son, Sir Michael, c. 1383 and known in the 15th century as the Court Hall, or Suffolk Palace, the Manor House remained the official Hull residence of William's descendants as lords of Kingston upon Hull until the year 1500. (see App. B.).

168.  
169.  
170.

A few years before becoming Mayor, William had married Katherine de Norwich, sister of Sir John Norwich, Chief Baron of the Exchequer. His eldest son Michael was born before January 1330, since by that time William had acquired on lease lands and other properties at Hessle and Tranby for the term of the lives of himself, his wife Katherine and of their son Michael.

171.  
172.

If the tradition that the new mayor entertained Edward III at Hull is correct, then the occasion would probably be on January 4th, 1333, when the King was at Hull, on his way from Beverley to Burstwick. The tradition according to Gent was that Edward, who spent some weeks in Yorkshire towards the end of 1332 on his way north to join his army against the Scots, came to Hull to view the new defences of the town, much as Henry VIII and Charles I were to do in later centuries. It may well be that de la Pole's fitness for employment on embassies abroad and on preparations for the military campaigns which were to occupy him for some years were more particularly considered during his personal contact with the King which such a visit would afford.

173.  
174.  
175.  
176.

William de la Pole, according to the Meaux Chronicle the first Mayor of Hull, would begin his term of office following the grant of the Charter in May 1331 or at Michaelmas of that year when the town Bailiffs and Chamberlains were normally elected. He is recorded as mayor in July 1332, in March 1333 and as late as November 1335. Frost assumed in fact that William was Mayor continuously between those dates. If so, he must have had a deputy in the office during his long absences from the town abroad. Moreover, in the deed of partition which William executed at Myton in August 1334, Hugh le Taverner appears among the witnesses as mayor of the town, perhaps (in view of the deed) deputising for William.

177.  
178.  
179.  
180.  
181.

As Mayor of Kingston upon Hull, de la Pole had, under the Charter of 1331, the assistance of town Bailiffs, two being normally appointed. The meeting place of the burgesses at this time, for election of the borough officials was at the Moot Hall, which with the Prison was then at the south end of the Market Place, near the Market Cross and Holy Trinity Church. In addition to acting as

military governor of the town and the head of its courts of justice, the Mayor was expected to extend hospitality to visitors. For the latter purpose he had in the 14th century a salary of twenty marks, raised to £20 before the end of the century. The civic records were kept by the Clerk to the Commonalty. 182.

In July 1334, the King granted two important privileges to the Mayor and burgesses by Charter. The burgesses were (1) to have a King's seal in two pieces for the recognizances of debt, the larger piece to be in the custody of the Mayor, and (2) to be quit of quayage throughout the realm. As the grant was made "in consideration of the gratuitous services rendered to the King particularly in the late war with Scotland" it seems probable 183.

that it was actually made at the instigation of de la Pole. At this period it was customary for the Mayor, with the bailiffs, on instructions from the Crown, to elect the Collector of Customs and send him to Chancery to take his oath of office. Already 184.

in 1329, after the removal of Richard to London a new Collector Henry de Burton had been appointed "on the testimony of William de la Pole," acting probably for the absentee Warden. A letter (now mutilated) to the Chancellor in 1332 recommending the appointment of Richard Fitz Dieu in place of de Burton was probably sent by William, as Mayor. 185.

186.

William was engaged in a variety of activities associated with his office of Mayor. With two of the Hull bailiffs, he was present in July 1332 at an inquisition taken at Drypool to determine Sir John Sutton's claim to the exclusive right of passage across the River Hull at Drypool. Frost made the dubious conjecture in regard to an earlier inquisition of 1307, that the land within the Aton fee at the Hull end of Sutton's ferry was then the property of Richard de la Pole. 187.

188.

During the year 1332, the Ulnager for Yorkshire, Nicholas Shirloek seized at Hull a cloth not "of the assize." This cloth was exposed for sale at Hull by a Lincoln merchant and found by the Ulnager to be of short measure. An indenture bond was therefore entered into between the Ulnager and de la Pole, as Mayor, effecting the forfeiture of the cloth. The same year he took security, as Mayor, of three Aquitanian merchants, for the due delivery of 500 quarters of corn in their ship sailing from Hull for Bordeaux. 189.

190.

In March 1332, William represented Hull for the first time in a Parliament at Westminster, with his former colleague of the "Wool Parliament," Richard Fitz Dieu. It was at this Parliament that members of the Commons were forbidden to carry their swords. William continued to represent Hull in the Commons in four assemblies between 1334 and 1338, his colleague being James de Kingston in 1334 and 1338, and John de Barton in 1335-6. In 1334 the Bailiffs of Hull were ordered to pay William £1 for his expenses at Westminster, viz. 2s. a day for 10 days. 191.

192.

For the short period in 1335 when William is recorded as a Collector of Customs, he was responsible for collecting the export dues on wool, hides, etc., and for the 'new customs' at Hull and Ravenser, both jointly with John de Barton.

193.

Some idea of de la Pole's standing in Hull in the year 1332 may be gathered from local assessments in the Lay Subsidy Roll for tenths upon all goods and chattels of the burgesses. Of the total personal property held by 58 taxable burgesses, viz. £155, de la Pole's property was valued at £24 and was charged 48s. in tenths. The property of other burgesses ranged from £5 for Elena Rotenhering to 5s. for Nicholas Cooper. In April 1333, when Mayor of Hull, de la Pole was paid £100 by the receivers of tenths and fifteenths for Yorkshire and neighbouring counties. In December 1334, he was himself appointed to receive the tenths and fifteenths granted by the Commons in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, and the tenths granted by the clergy in the diocese of Norwich, which then comprised the two counties. The collectors of these taxes, who had previously been directed to pay the issues to the Exchequer, were now required to pay them to William de la Pole who was to retain the money in safe custody until further orders. As the King was then in Scotland, it seems probable that de la Pole would convey the issues to the Treasurer in Scotland or receive them as an assignment in repayment of a loan.

194.

195.

196.

197.

Two orders made by the King in May 1336 indicate the extent and variety of work undertaken by de la Pole in financing officials of the Crown. William had represented that he had paid money to various people and incurred expenses at the order of the Treasurer and Chancellor, and certain others of the King's ministers. As this had been done without obtaining a warrant, the Treasurer was ordered to audit William's account and to pay him or his deputy the sum involved. About the same time, William claimed that he had delivered £122 in coined money, some of which was the King's and some his own, to be taken to Tickhill by a King's serjeant, on the King's affairs. The money was said to be "in a certain little bag" under William's own seal. Somewhere near Blythe, the bearers were beset by malefactors who killed one of their number and carried off the money. William's serjeants pursued the malefactors who abandoned the money which was then impounded by the bailiffs of Blythe. On representations being made to the King, the bailiffs were ordered to deliver the money to William.

198.

199.

+ + + + +

Between 1333 and 1335, de la Pole was abroad from time to time engaged in the protracted negotiations with Flanders, involving frequent visits to London. Again, his work in connection with loans to the Crown necessitated close contact with the Exchequer (wherever it was stationed), and with the King's Wardrobe in London. Before 1333, he was in fact granted the use of the house of the Bardi in Lombard Street, London. (see App.C.)

200.

From 1335, de la Pole would also need a headquarters in London for his new appointment as Warden of the Exchanges. Under the Statute of Money made that year at York, the King was empowered to ordain tables of Exchange to be set up from time to time in seaport towns. By September 1335, tables had already been instituted at London, Dover, Great Yarmouth, Boston and Kingston upon Hull, and William was made responsible for the issues of these exchanges. As head Warden, he could appoint his deputies in the ports, but the King, as a safeguard, appointed the local controllers. It was now illegal for merchants, pilgrims and others to take currency or plate out of the realm or to exchange their money except at the appointed places, and the bailiffs of Hull and other principal cities and towns were notified of William's appointment.

201.

202.

203.

De la Pole's account of the "Profit of Exchange" at the five ports for the half-year ended March 1336 is given in the Wardrobe Accounts. The profit account shows that the principal ports actually used for Exchange purposes were Dover and Great Yarmouth. De la Pole was removed from his office at the end of his half-year, when he was advised that "it will not behove him to intermeddle further."

204.

205.

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### 8. Local Properties.

About the time of his mayoralty, de la Pole extended his properties in the neighbourhood of Hull. The agreement to divide the manor of Myton, made with his brother in 1332 was confirmed by the indenture made two years later.

As early as 1320, Richard and William had acquired jointly sundry rents in Hessle, probably within the Aton fee. At the same time, Sir Gilbert de Aton himself conveyed to the brothers "William Ascellote my nativus (i.e. bondman or serf) with all his offspring and their chattels."

206.

In 1330, William acquired on lease for himself and his family extensive lands, tenements, etc. in Hessle and Tranby, and a fishery on the Humber. The following year he held the capital messuage of John de Bilton, the wood known as Hesslewood, a quarry on the Humber side and the right to herbage as far as the wood which belonged to Ferriby Priory. This property was all released to William and his family by April 1339. Part of the Hessle estate was leased by Sir William to William Moigne of Hessle in 1359, in a deed which bears the only seal of de la Pole in the Hull records. The de la Pole quarry and other lands in Hessle were granted to the Hull Charterhouse by the Earl of Suffolk in 1408 and some of the property there is still held by the Charterhouse Trustees.

207.

208.

The great Wake lordship of Cottingham, of which the manor of Hessle was a member, came into the King's hands in 1330, following the rebellious action of Lord Thomas Wake, and was committed for a short period to the keeping of the brothers de la Pole. The manor of Buttercrambe, then part of the Wake lands, and held by William in 1330 was acquired by him in discharge of Wake's debts in 1349, but had reverted to Joan, Lady Wake, wife of Edward the Black Prince by 1364.

209.  
210.  
211.

In February 1333, Henry, Lord Beaumont, and Isabella, Lady de Vescy, his wife, had licence to demise to William de la Pole, his heirs and assigns for ten years, by a rent of 1d. at Christmas, the manor of Barton, with appurtenances, including passage, towage and certain ferry dues. By this time, there were two Humber ferries from Barton, one to Hessle and the other to Hull, and probably a further ferry to Barton attached to the manor of Hessle. It would appear that de la Pole's family continued to hold Barton for a considerable time, since the arms of de la Pole both alone, and also quartered with Wingfield were formerly in St. Mary's Church at Barton.

212.  
213.

Other properties of de la Pole in the north country are specified in a series of 'Protections' of 1334, covering his men, lands, rents, crops, goods and merchandise at Cowthorpe (Colthorpe) Little Smeaton, Bykerton and Sellebergh in Yorks, and at a group of manors and lands, near Ripon, held by him as executor for John de Graas. He had also protection in Co. Durham at the manors of Bradbury, La Isle and Preston-on-Skirm, which de la Pole had acquired from his clerks John of Chesterfield and William Twenge.

214.  
215.  
216.

An interesting case was brought by de la Pole in 1338 in the King's Court regarding a trespass on his arable lands. A writ had been issued against the Prior of T— and others on William's complaint that they "fed off his corn with certain beasts in a certain vill." It was said for the trespassers that the field called "Southfield" was fallow every third year and was then common for pasturing throughout the year. On Pole's behalf it was claimed that the year for fallowing was not necessarily every third year but was agreed upon by the tenants of land in the field, who had in fact agreed that the field should be sown that year. He claimed that the defendants had agreed to this but the defendants denied agreement, with what result we are not told.

217.  
218.

De la Pole's many properties in the town of Hull were probably acquired at this time, together with his holdings in Drypool and Newland. In the East Riding, he held lands at Foston on the Wolds, Nafferton and Beverley. His property at Foston included the advowson of the parish church which his son later granted to the Carthusian Priory at Hull. Two of William's business clerks, John Leek and John de Chesterfield were appointed in succession to the living of Foston.

219.  
220.

By the end of 1339 de la Pole was to hold the valuable lordship of Holderness with many of its appurtenant manors and two valuable manors in Nottinghamshire. Like his brother Richard, William de la Pole acquired land in Norfolk. In 1350, he held in trust the manor of Cringleford, by Norwich, from Adam de Berford, clerk, formerly rector of Poston, Yorks. By 1370, Cringleford and a neighbouring manor were in the hands of his widow, Katherine, and their son Sir Edmund de la Pole. Five years later the extensive estates of the heiress of Sir John Wingfield in Suffolk and Norfolk were delivered to her husband, Sir Michael de la Pole, the eldest son and heir of William and Katherine.

\* \* \* \* \*

### 9. Royal Household Expenses.

It is significant that the great financial loans made by the brothers to the Crown began in 1327, during the regency of Roger Mortimer, their patron, and Queen Isabella. As early as July 1327 William was to receive, in part payment of a loan to the Crown, moneys taken as levies at certain of the King's manors. On December 6th, 1327, the brothers advanced to the Wardrobe £1,200 "for affairs of moment." It seems probable that this loan was needed to meet the expenses of the marriage of Edward III and Philippa of Hainault at York Minster, on January 24th, 1328, as preparations for the event had already begun at the archiepiscopal palace. This loan and two further loans made at York towards the expenses of a Scottish campaign were conveniently secured by an assignment of the Customs of Hull and Boston. Moreover the brothers, now styled "King's Merchants" received a gift of 2,000 marks as recompense. The occasion of the King's marriage probably accounts also for the heavy payments to Richard for wine early in the year, viz. 2,000 marks and £1,200.

The brothers began in March 1328 to make loans in the Wardrobe for the expenses of the King's Household. The first advance of £500 was followed in May by an undertaking given before the King and Council to provide £20 a day and as much wine as should be necessary, satisfaction to be made out of the Customs. Beginning with half the proceeds of the London Customs as security, the whole of the proceeds at Hull and six other east coast ports were assigned later, and the other half of the London Customs promised as soon as the loans from the Bardi Company had been satisfied.

As a guarantee of repayment, one half of the "Cocket" seal of the London Customs was to be kept under the seal of one of the brothers, the corresponding foil of the Hull and Boston seals being already in their custody. In March 1329, the brothers jointly loaned the King £300.

From 1333 to 1335 when William was absent from time to time in Flanders, Richard alone made advances for the Household expenses. In June 1333, an order was made on him for 200 marks, in February 1334 for £300, and in December for £1,000. In July 1335 the advance required had risen to 10,000 marks. The accounts between the brothers and the King's Wardrobe were probably kept by Richard at his house near the east end of Lombard Street at this time.

230.

A new agreement was made in 1335 by William alone to find £10 a day for one year from Michaelmas. Owing to a prohibition on the export of wool, the repayment from the Hull and Boston customs was discontinued. The King later acknowledged an accumulated debt of £1,000 being moneys payable into the Wardrobe, in addition to £2,000 advanced for a new Scottish campaign, the whole to be met at the two ports from a resumption of the wool exports. In this instance, de la Pole was not required to render any account of the Custom receipts, any excess beyond the £3,000 "being given to him towards his costs herein and his losses sustained in the King's service."

231.

The loans for Household expenses were continued both before and after the Flanders campaign of 1338-40. In June 1342, William acknowledged the receipt of £66.13.4 from Robert de Dalderby of Lincoln, on account of the expense of the King's Household, an indication that the brothers raised loans for this purpose. Again in 1346, William received £195 from Richard de Burton for the King's use, and as late as February 1348, the King acknowledged the receipt of £727.8.3 from William for his Household. De la Pole was to receive payment out of the Hull Customs on wool, lambskins and leather after the following Michaelmas, until he had received satisfaction. But the repayment was to be limited to £727.8.3 precisely.

232.

233.

234.

In July 1331, William de la Pole, now styled "King's yeoman and merchant" undertook at Westminster to pay Queen Philippa, "according to her pleasure," £840 for the expenses of her Household, repayment to be made out of the Hull Customs. A year later, William paid the same sum for the Queen's expenses before Michaelmas, and was duly repaid by John de Barton and Henry de Burton, the Collectors at Hull.

235.

236.

An agreement was made by William in November 1349 to pay the Queen 250 marks annually for life in recompense for the manors of Wheteley and Gringley which she held in dower. This amount was to be taken from his special assignment made in September 1339 of 260 marks annually on the Hull Customs, and was to revert to William and his heirs on the death of the Queen."

237.

After his return from Flanders, William received on 1st September 1340 an order dated at Berkhamstead to pay by indenture the Treasurer of the Household of the King's children £2,000 namely £20 a week, and the residue for other necessaries from time to time. This demand was made after the Council had assigned to William £10,000 out of the biennial tenths. Two days later an amending order was made which required a moiety of the weekly grant to the children to be paid to Queen Philippa, until she had received the £2,000 assigned for her Household.

238.

In his later years Sir William, now designated "the uncle," made an occasional loan to Edward the Black Prince, e.g. in 1351 £100 was lent for three months and in 1359, 250 marks, the latter being repaid by John Pecche of London.

239.

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#### 10. The Scottish Campaigns.

The importance of Kingston upon Hull as a base of operations against Scotland was fully realised by Edward I. For this reason, the port of Hull was rapidly developed by him, and ships of Hull and Beverley were utilised for his later Scottish campaigns.

When the brothers de la Pole had established themselves as traders and financiers of national standing in 1316, it was obvious that they must play an important part in any future operations against Scotland. Their activities in this role were in fact to continue for nearly twenty years, from 1322 to 1340.

The sacking of Scarborough by Robert Bruce and Sir James Douglas in 1318 was probably responsible for the decision to fortify Hull. A licence to enclose the town with moats and a crenellated wall was granted by Letters Patent in 1321 and the responsibility for raising funds in the town was laid on the brothers de la Pole as Chamberlains of the town. Taxes were levied by the brothers the following year to meet the cost of digging the moat, walling the town and the erection of the North Gate.

240.

241.

Following a session of Parliament at York in 1322, at which Richard represented Hull, preparations were made for an attack on Scotland, Richard acting as Commissioner of Array for Hull. A month later he was ordered to hasten the array and arming of the townsmen, as the Scots were preparing to invade England. About the same time, the brothers were concerned with the preparation of a ship "The Trinity" of Hull to be sent out by the commonalty of the town to Scotland on the King's affairs. For this purpose they levied a special tax to fit out the ship and for its hire from Nicholas Putfra.

242.



The campaign ended ignominiously for the King, with the defeat at Byland and his hasty retreat to Bridlington and Burstwick. The brothers raised an 'aid' from the burgesses of £9.8.6d, which the King probably received at Burstwick together with a gift of a piece of wax. Gifts of wine, amounting to 27 pipes, valued at £52.5.0d were also sent to several officials with the King, including his Treasurer, in furtherance of the town's business. The devastation made by the Scots in the East Riding and their menace to Beverley should have stimulated work on the Hull fortifications, but it seems probable that the work of fortifying the town, begun in 1321 had not been carried very far, since in 1327 the licence to fortify was renewed in similar terms, with the further licence to the burgesses to crenellate their houses.

243.

244.

245.

The truce made with Scotland in 1323 broke down in 1327. By midsummer of that year, the young King Edward III had gathered a great force at York, which was joined by a large body of Flemish mercenaries brought over by Sir John de Hainault to aid him against the Scots. For this expedition, which ended abortively on the Border, William de la Pole advanced at York a loan of £4,000 towards the expenses. The Flemings, who had conducted themselves riotously at York on Trinity Sunday, received part of their wages, viz. £2,000.25s.11d from the brothers de la Pole in September, to hasten their departure. Repayment of William's loan was made forthwith, an order being sent not only to the acting Customs Collectors at Hull and Boston but also to Richard de la Pole "late Collector at Hull," who was to pay William whatever Customs money were in his hands. The joint loan was repaid by the Customs in the following April viz. £1,000 at Hull and £1,000.25s.11d at Boston.

246.

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In July 1332 Edward Balliol, son of John Balliol, King of Scotland (1292-96) left England by sea with a considerable force, landed on the coast of Fife, repulsed the Scots and was crowned King at Scone. This campaign, carried out ostensibly in spite of Edward's prohibition, was launched from the Humber ports of Hull and Barton. William de la Pole, then Mayor of Hull, must have been involved in the preparations for this campaign, since the Hull-Barton ferry, established under a grant of 1315 was owned by the commonalty of Hull and was probably based on Rotenhering's staithe at Hull, now under de la Pole's control.

249.

250.

The expedition was led by Balliol, who was accompanied by Beaumont, Earl of Buchan, and Umfraville, Earl of Angus, both of whom held manors in Lincolnshire. It was conveyed in a fleet of 88 ships, small and great, which could scarcely have been despatched from Hull without the active support of William de la Pole. Moreover, it is recorded that as early as July 1328, a loan of £66.13.4d had been advanced "for the support of Edward, King of Scotland, by the hands of William de la Pole, mercer of Hull."

251.

By the spring of 1333, Balliol had been driven out of Scotland but the supply ships appear to have remained somewhere in the north. In March, Edward at Pontefract made preparations to attack Berwick-on-Tweed, and ordered the Mayor and Bailiffs of Hull to fit out two ships for service against the Scots. The Hull officials however represented that this was impossible because "very many of our ships with the greater part of the mariners and other men of the town are in the northern ports with victuals and other things for the sustenance of the King's lieges." De la Pole, as Mayor, was however ordered to array and arm the men of Kingston upon Hull.

252.

One of the Hull ships sent to Scotland was "La Trinite," possibly the same ship that was on service ten years earlier. By 9 April 1333, William de la Pole had paid Peter Tunnok master of the ship "appointed for the King's service against Scotland, £40 for wages of himself, his men and mariners." William was evidently at this time exporting wool, since the £40 was to be allowed him out of the Customs due on the next wool exported by him from the city of Lincoln.

253.

254.

An order in similar terms was made at the same time for payment of £40 to Tunnok for his ship "La Gerland" prepared as a ship of war for the expedition to Scotland. A few days earlier Richard FitzDieu had been ordered to arrest within the port of Hull a ship having on board a cargo of goods for the Scots "at enmity with the King." In the case of another arrested ship, "La Katerine," loaded with wool at Berwick by Hull merchants, at an inquisition taken by de la Pole and others in the presence of FitzDieu, it was shown that the merchants concerned had not had communications with the Scots and the ship was released.

255.

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It seems probable that the shipping requisitioned at Hull during the years 1333-38 was required mainly for service in the north, since Edward's aid to Balliol continued until the outbreak of war with France. In the summer of 1334 corn was being collected at Hull for a further Scottish campaign. At Hedon 20 quarters were ordered in May, and after the harvest 40 quarters in Holderness, the latter to be carted to Hull.

258.

In September 1334, first de la Pole, and later Robert Stut of Hull were appointed to choose in all seven ships from north-east coast ports, including two from Hull, and one from Ravenser, and men to man the ships. In the following March, de la Pole and John de Hildesley, Chancellor of the Exchequer were required to select (presumably in addition to the seven already requisitioned) three of the largest and strongest ships at Hull, Ravenser and other north-east ports. They were also to select "as many mariners and others of the best and strongest men they can find as may suffice for manning the same ships for our service." The masters of the ships were to receive their instructions from William de la Pole acting on the King's behalf. The duty of arresting the three ships in Hull and Ravenser was in July 1335 transferred to de la Pole and James de Kingeston, another Hull burgess, the ships being styled "ships of war."

259.

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261.

De la Pole was evidently sending stores to Berwick in July 1335 when the King acknowledged a debt of £330 to "his beloved merchant" for 60 tuns of white wine and 600 quarters of salt bought from him by the King's Treasurer for the King's use in Scotland. Some of the wine and salt appears to have been lost in storms at sea on the way to Berwick, since de la Pole was made an allowance for the loss when presenting his account at Michaelmas.

The following year, de la Pole was ordered to receive at Hull ten cart-loads of lead, purchased by the Sheriff of Derbyshire for the King's use and to forward it to Berwick. The King was then actually on an expedition in Scotland (accompanied by the banner of St. John of Beverley), and in August 1336 at Perth, he acknowledged the receipt from de la Pole of a loan of £3,027. The following month the King made a grant in satisfaction of £3,078 which de la Pole had paid into the Treasury "for very urgent business connected with the war in Scotland." The former loan was to be repaid within a month, the latter to be reimbursed from the temporary subsidy of 20s on every sack of wool exported at Hull and Boston, the custody of one part of the Cocket seal at each of the ports to remain with de la Pole until the debt was fully satisfied.

In return for his financial assistance in the Scottish campaigns the King ordered gifts to be made to de la Pole from time to time. In November 1335 at Newcastle-on-Tyne he received 500 marks for services "in happily expediting certain affairs that specially concern us, yet not without great and expensive labours." In the following April the gift was another 500 marks, and a month later 250 marks in connection with "arduous affairs."

In the year ending July 1337, de la Pole was again engaged in conveying stores to Berwick. His account for wine, salt and other victuals included 372 tuns of Gascon wine bought at Hull from divers merchants. The charge for wine included coopering many of the casks and cartage from the cellars to seven ships for conveyance to Berwick, the total account amounting to £1,640.13.4d. This account could not be presented by William for the Exchequer audit in person, as he was then engaged on "certain affairs" for the King. Robert de Denton was therefore admitted to act as his attorney. About the same time de la Pole shipped 60 casks of flour to Berwick in two Hull ships "le Mariol" and "le Lightfot." The flour was delivered to the Keeper of the King's Wardrobe as stores for the King's forces at the siege of Berwick. As part of the flour rotted in warehouse after delivery, de la Pole's attorney, William de Wederhale, sold the damaged goods at great loss to the Crown.

At the end of the 1337 campaign, Richard de la Pole loaned the King in London £6,000 which was to be repaid without delay. Otherwise, like his brother in the previous year, he was to have "a competent assignment in places where he may be able speedily to satisfy himself." He also had previously received a

gift of 250 marks "for the expensive labours which he had sustained in expediting certain arduous affairs of the King's." As King's Butler he was of course responsible for supplying wine to the King and his forces in Scotland and it would appear that William was deputising for him at Hull in 1336. 272.  
273.

The provision of stores for the King and their conveyance to Scotland continued to occupy de la Pole in 1336 and 1337. By February 1336, de la Pole had purveyed for the King's use 100 quarters of wheat from men in the Harthill Wapentake whilst John de Barton and Richard FitzDieu had taken a quantity of corn in other parts of the East Riding. De la Pole was ordered to have the corn ground so that the flour might be ready to send to the King. He was also to pay for all the corn and the cost of grinding, and was to have allowance made to him by the Exchequer in his account for the sums paid and for his expenses. The same month the Exchequer allowed de la Pole in his account £400 for 100 tuns of wine carried to Berwick and supplied to the King's Treasurer, together with the cost of freight and reasonable expenses. 274.  
275.

Two months later de la Pole was ordered to send without delay to the King's Receiver of victuals at Berwick 200 tuns of wine and 50 tuns of salt. In the autumn de la Pole had an allowance for 7 tuns and a pipe of wine (i.e. 15 pipes in all) and for 174 quarters of salt lost in transit by storms at sea through no fault of de la Pole or the mariners. For these transactions he was to have payment from the Exchequer or an assignment to cover the costs, freight and expenses. 276.  
277.  
278.

In March 1338 the King at Newcastle-on-Tyne acknowledged a debt to de la Pole of £4,000 due for expenses and payments connected with his secret affairs and for large loans made by de la Pole. Two months later, shortly before proceeding with the King's forces to Flanders, William de la Pole was ordered to pay out of the Customs at Hull or Boston £1,000 for the King's garrisons at Edinburgh and Stirling Castles. 279.  
280.

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### 11. Aquitaine and Gascony.

The years 1334-37 saw de la Pole engaged in trading operations with Aquitaine and Gascony, followed by the transport of stores for the King's forces there. In October 1334, William de la Pole, "King's Merchant" had protection for himself, his men, his mariners and his goods, when he was sent beyond the seas (probably to Gascony) in his ship "La Blome" of Hull for wines, salt and other merchandise. 281.

In August 1336 de la Pole had protection and safe conduct until midsummer 1337 for two ships of his and their masters and mariners. The ships "La Blome" and "La Sainte Marie"

- the latter a Humber cogg - were sent by him to Gascony, Flanders and other foreign parts "on business wherewith he has been specially charged by the King." An account between de la Pole and the King's Household for the year ended July 1337 already mentioned, includes the cost of 372 tuns of Gascon wine and 300 quarters of salt, probably brought to Hull in his ships for various merchants. A few months later three ships left Ravenser for Gascony, de la Pole being a mainpignor (or surety) for one of the shipmasters. The ships each took 50 lasts of herrings with other goods, including ale and wheat to trade in Gascony and were expected to return with wines. They were under bond to proceed to Gascony in a convoyed fleet and to return under the same protection.

282.  
283.  
268.  
284.  
285.

In January 1337, another Hull ship "La Marie" took 400 quarters of wheat, beans and other victuals to Gascony "with the King's fleet." It seems probable that de la Pole at this time was paying for goods on the King's behalf whether bought at Hull or abroad, since in April the King promised to pay him speedily £235 lost by him in the payment of money loaned beyond the seas.

286.  
287.

By March 1338, the King was preparing a force for immediate embarkation to Aquitaine. To this end, he had in January empowered de la Pole to arrest as many ships at Hull and other local ports as would be needful for the carriage of corn, wool and other things which he had been commanded to purchase for the King's use. The cargoes were to be taken to Aquitaine "for the furtherance of the King's business there, and the sustentation of his faithful people there." De la Pole was further ordered to supply the arrested ships with competent armed men and to purchase wine and other merchandise in Aquitaine to bring into England.

288.

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## 12. Shipbuilding.

In the winter of 1336-7 the King ordered a number of naval vessels to be built. In December, a mandate was sent to the bailiffs and commonalty of Beverley regarding the building of a barge or galley on the R. Hull, as a protection against the fleets of the Scots and the French.

289.

A month later William de la Pole was ordered to build another barge at Hull for the King's use. To this end, the Prior of Blythe in Nottinghamshire was directed to deliver to William 40 oaks, probably for shipment at Bawtry. In an instruction to William de Kelm, the King's carpenter at Blythe to hasten delivery, it was stated that "the King has caused the galley to be begun in the confidence of receiving that timber."

290.  
291.

William was further instructed to take "by himself or his deputies timber and boards wherever he can find them" for building the barge, the materials to be paid for by the King at an appraisement to be fixed by local men. At the same time William's brother Richard, then a citizen of London was ordered to build a barge "with all speed" at Winchelsea. He was empowered to select in the neighbourhood carpenters, smiths and other workmen for the work, to be paid for at the King's charge. 292.

In March, William, with Robert Rotenhering and others was required to impress mariners and others in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire to man the Hull barge in readiness to join with other ships in the defence of the realm. The ship was referred to in 1339 as the "King's Galley of Hull," whose master Thomas Ughtred was then Keeper of the town of Perth. Ughtred belonged to a well-known Yorkshire family and had accompanied Edward Balliol in his expedition from Hull in 1332. 293. 293a. 294.

A few years later the burgesses of Hull petitioned the Crown for some relief from the burden of building or supplying ships for the King's navy. The medieval barge was a medium sized single-decked ship with a single mast and sail, supplemented by oars. A barge, or galley, built at Hull in 1298 at a cost of £27.14.1d had 28 seamen in addition to its "rector" and navigation master, and carried 120 oars. The barge was rather larger than the Humber cogg - a broadly built craft with a roundish prow and stern, resembling in build the Humber keel now almost extinct. A small type of barge called a balynger was later built on the R. Hull and at a still later period the great carracks traded from the port. 294a. 295. 296.

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### 13. Flemish negotiations.

During the years of his mayoralty at Hull, William de la Pole was employed by the King at intervals between 1333 and 1335 in negotiations with the Flemings.

Some acquaintance with Flanders and its people is suggested by William's appointment to pay off Sir John de Hainault and his Flemish mercenaries in 1327, his service as a member of the Wool Parliament in 1328 and perhaps by his agreement in 1331 to pay Queen Philippa's Household expenses. He had also possibly been one of the emissaries to Flanders in 1331 to induce the Flemish weavers to settle in England, a project in which both the King and Queen took a personal interest. 297.

In June 1333 de la Pole with two Exchequer officials, was sent on a commission to discuss with the Count of Flanders the aid given by Flemish subjects to the Scots, by land and sea. There had been attacks made by Flemish sailors on the English coast and on English shipping off Flanders, when goods were taken and the crews killed. The envoys sailed from Dover, the expenses being left in the hands of de la Pole. 298.

As there were counter-claims that English sailors had taken Flemish ships and goods, the negotiations were protracted. Meetings between de la Pole and John de Hildesley a Baron of the Exchequer, acting for the King, and envoys for the Count of Flanders were held both at Bruges and at York. By January 1334, the envoys had agreed to submit the differences for settlement by umpires, and a draft agreement was drawn up in March. Trading relations were then resumed but a settlement was not reached. Later in the year, possibly in anticipation of further visits to Flanders, de la Pole received from the King at York a special Protection covering his men, his lands and all his goods and merchandise at Hull, Myton, and Drypool, and at a number of distant manors.

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300.  
301.  
302.

In March 1335, de la Pole and John de Hildesley again met delegates from Bruges, Ghent and Ypres and agreed with them that the questions still in dispute should be settled by proctors appointed by King Edward and the Count. De la Pole was appointed one of the five proctors who met the Flemings at Bruges and agreed to a truce which was to continue till Christmas 1336. The points left in dispute were not actually settled until the summer of 1336.

303.  
304.

The day after Christmas 1336, John de Montgomery and Master John Wawayn were at last sent overseas with £1,000 to be paid to certain persons. The money was advanced by de la Pole, who was required to direct the envoys and to be satisfied as to the expenses of the mission, the wages for their men and other necessary things. The envoys finally received £1,000 and 80 marks. Probably this solution put an end to the long-drawn dispute and no one would be better qualified to give final directions to the envoys than de la Pole himself. Following these negotiations, it is reasonable to suppose that de la Pole had some hand in negotiating the commercial treaty with Flanders in June 1338 which preceded the landing of Edward III at Antwerp a month later.

305.  
306.  
306a.

In the years 1338-9, when de la Pole was engaged in supervising the distribution of wool at Antwerp and in negotiating loans for the King abroad, he was frequently meeting the Flemish merchants to discuss problems of trade and finance. For instance, in March 1339, when stationed at Bruges to superintend the distribution of wool, he was repeatedly interviewed on economic matters by James van Artevelde and other officials of Ghent. This was at the time when Edward was discussing matters relating to trade with the Flemish delegates at Antwerp. De la Pole was in Antwerp on May 15-16, when the King conferred on him a number of grants for his services. On returning to Bruges, William received in quick succession no fewer than seven royal messengers bearing letters from the King at Antwerp, some under the King's Sign Manual, and others under the Privy Seal.

307.  
308.

These communications probably related to further offences by mariners, then the subject of enquiry at Bruges. It appears that early in May some English mariners attacked and ill-treated Spanish merchants at the Zwin, inflicting great losses on both Spaniards and Flemings. Angry protests were made at Ghent, and Edward ordered de la Pole, together with the Admiral of the Northern Fleet and others to make enquiries, settle the amounts to be reimbursed and issue bonds accordingly. In all, it was agreed to pay the Spaniards and Flemings nearly £7,000 the following year at Bruges, doubtless at the hands of de la Pole.

309.

310.

On the other hand, offences against English shipping continued, carried out now by the French. Two months before the trouble at the Zwin, the French had raided Southampton. De la Pole sent two messengers towards Normandy to make enquiries as to some French galleys which had arrived there following the raids on Southampton. He paid these agents 45s for expenses.

311.

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#### 14. The Wool Monopoly.

In July 1337, by an extension of the royal prerogative of purveyance, 30,000 sacks of wool were ordered to be bought, for export to Flanders by the Crown. Parliamentary sanction had followed after two assemblies of merchants held at Stamford and Westminster in which William de la Pole had played a leading part. The King thus secured a monopoly of the trade, other wool exports being prohibited for the time being.

312.

A contract to supply the wool at fixed prices was made by indenture between the King and 96 merchants headed by William de la Pole of Hull and Reginald de Conduit of London, their elected representatives. The general control of these operations was vested in de la Pole and Conduit who supervised buyers for the principal wool production areas and appointed deputies to secure the Cocket seals. Early in August it was ordered that all the Customs be paid to the two supervisors, for the repayment of loans made by the merchants; but shortly afterwards de la Pole was instructed to pay all the moneys to the Exchequer.

313.

314.

De la Pole with five other merchants was himself appointed to buy 6,000 sacks in Yorkshire (except the Craven district), giving letters obligatory for the sums due. The merchant buyers were to expedite delivery and to report cases of resistance or concealment. Every protection was to be accorded by sheriffs and others to de la Pole and Conduit and their deputies in the provinces, among whom was William's brother John de la Pole.

315.

316.

Within a few weeks the agreement was broken by frequent concealment and illegal exportation. A commission to investigate alleged exports from Norfolk and Suffolk was headed by de la Pole and two of his business associates, William de Thweng of Poston and William But of Norwich. Many entries in the Patent Rolls illustrate the difficulties encountered by the county purveyors of wool. For instance, when the Sheriff of York attempted to hold an inquisition at Beverley on the concealment of wool in the East Riding he was rebuffed and assaulted.

317.

318.



Arrangements were made for the wool to be collected at the wool ports and shipped in vessels provided by the King, proceeding under convoy to Flanders. In August 1337, the Lincolnshire receivers were ordered to deliver their wool to de la Pole, for export in ships arrested by him at Hull and Boston. The arrangements for export shipping generally had probably been vested in de la Pole and Conduit, since about this time "by the advice and ordinance of de la Pole a cargo of lead, wheat and ale was sent from Boston to "Seland" with the King's ship." The following summer, the export wool ships from Hull and other east coast ports were required to assemble at Great Yarmouth for convoy to Antwerp.

319.

320.

321.

321a.

Of the 30,000 sacks of wool promised to the King in July, only 10,000 had been collected by November. These were conveyed by ships assembled in the Thames and delivered in Dordrecht to John de la Pole, acting as William's deputy. It seems improbable that William de la Pole was for long personally concerned with the receipt of the King's wool at Dordrecht. From July 1337 to July 1338 he was mainly occupied in England with the purveyance and transport of the wool. From July 1338 to September 1339 he was to be engaged with the King in Flanders raising loans for the King, negotiating with the Flemish merchants and presiding over the Staple at Antwerp.

322.

In March 1338 de la Pole and Conduit were summoned with 105 other representative merchants to a council on "certain urgent business" touching the King. The subject for discussion was probably the falling off in the wool shipments, since the merchants then refused to undertake any further contracts. At the time of this meeting de la Pole loaned the King £4,000, in addition to "great sums lent for the expenses of the Household." In inquisitions taken the same year at Lincoln, as to irregular dealings in wool, it was shown that de la Pole and his representative Robert de Dalderby had bought over 300 sacks of wool, "but whether without licence does not appear."

323.

324.

325.

The financial arrangements made by the King with the merchants from time to time must have produced complications for de la Pole, both in his general control of the wool exports, and in his supervision of the King's finances at Antwerp and the Customs assignments in England. For instance, in May 1338 the King promised repayment of loans made by the merchants, by allowing them 20s out of the 40s payable on each sack of wool at export. Schedules of these remissions were drawn up for each of the wool ports, and in the long list of Hull merchants William de la Pole was himself allowed the remission of £2,039.12.7d, representing over 2,000 sacks exported on his own account.

326.

Towards the end of 1338, a further concession was made to the merchants, who on paying the English export dues to de la Pole at Antwerp were allowed to pay 2 marks per sack in Antwerp instead of the normal £2 per sack in England, the residue being pardoned. Boston merchants on a shipment of 500 sacks thus saved £333.6.8d. The following April, and again in October, a group of German merchants were allowed to export from Hull and Boston specified quantities of wool on which they had paid the dues at Antwerp, and John le Goldbeter of York and others exported 1,000 sacks from Hull, quit of Customs dues in return for a loan to the King.

327.

328.

The Customs assignments payable in England to de la Pole were further complicated in May 1339, when certain Newcastle merchants were granted the Customs dues on their own wool exports there, in satisfaction of a loan of £4,000, the dues on other wool exports at Newcastle being payable to de la Pole in part satisfaction of his loans. In addition, he had been acquitted of dues on 200 sacks of his own wool at Newcastle and 540 sacks at Hull and Boston.

329.

330.

331.

By this time, on advice of the Council, the wool, &c., in addition to the victuals and other stores were again being dealt with at Antwerp. Masters of ships, sailors, merchants and keepers of the various goods were ordered "to give credence to William de la Pole, King's merchant, in what he shall declare from the King" touching such goods, whether delivered by the Italian merchants or any others. In 1339 shipping was in great demand for the King's fleet and licences to export wool were only issued subject to the King's right to requisition ships for the campaign against France.

332.

333.

It would appear therefore that during the first year of the Flanders campaign, de la Pole exercised from time to time a general supervision over the Customs receipts in England, the purveyance of wool and war stores in the counties, and the arrangements both for their shipment and for their receipt and storage abroad. At the same time he was extensively employed by the King in Flanders, both on diplomatic missions and in raising loans from the foreign moneylenders.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 15. The Flanders Campaign.

Early in 1338 the King was making preparations to attack France and planned to send ships and armed forces both to Aquitaine and Flanders. De la Pole had attended a Council meeting in London on the defence of the realm in March, where he had received instructions to arrest ships for the transport of goods and stores to Aquitaine. Probably some of these ships would be diverted to proceed with the great fleet which sailed

334.

from Orwell and Great Yarmouth for Flanders on July 16th. There is however evidence which shows that the orders to provide shipping in Yorkshire for Flanders were at first largely unheeded. For instance, at Ravenser and Whitby nothing was done, whilst at Hull eight ships were arrested but "departed without leave." 335.

During his absence abroad in 1338-39, de la Pole had his agents at Hull and other ports appointed to supervise his exports of wool and of stores for the King's use. In November 1338 and in July 1339 John de Chesterfield and Robert de Denton were appointed his attorneys for the management of all his business in England, including his assignments of customs and subsidies. Early in 1339, his brother John was appointed his attorney in the port of London, and six deputies were appointed in other great ports. 336.  
337.

In the three months July-September, 1339, his agents at Hull were collecting foodstuffs at waterside places on the Trent and along the Humber, for shipment in small craft to Hull, and thence by six sea-going craft to Flanders. Wheat and barley were collected at Nottingham, Retford, Gainsborough, Newark and Torksey, and also at Barton, Hedon and Beverley. In all, 729 quarters of wheat and 769 quarters of barley were measured, stored, transported to Hull under guard, and later shipped to Sluis in Flanders. The account of his Hull agents with the Exchequer for these stores, including purchase price and all charges amounted to £455.2.1d. 338.

William de la Pole appears himself to have been mobilised for the French campaign in May 1338 under the writ for raising the knights and squires and other levies of the East Riding. The King left for Flanders in July, reaching Antwerp on the 22nd. Owing to the delay in wool shipments from England, and to the lack of food, equipment and money, Edward at once found himself in financial difficulties. He lost no time in transferring the wool staple to Antwerp, and on August 4th de la Pole was appointed Mayor of the Staple there. When Parliament met at Northampton on 27th July, after the King's departure for Flanders, the Chief Baron of the Exchequer and William de la Pole were summoned, the latter probably to give information regarding "the debts to great merchants," but it seems probable that de la Pole had already departed with Edward to Antwerp from Orwell. 339.  
340.  
341.  
342.  
362.

On the same day that de la Pole was put in charge of the Staple the King wrote to his young son Edward, now Regent in England - "We would have been dishonoured for ever and our realm imperilled had it not been for the chance loan of money by a friend upon the promise that he should receive some wool." It has been suggested that the friend was Van Artevelde of Ghent but there seems little doubt that this friend in need was actually William de la Pole. About this time, de la Pole was in fact authorised to take abroad for his own use 2,500 sacks of the 343.

King's wool, the Collectors of Customs at London, Hull and other ports being instructed to further the despatch of the wool. 344.  
The King's grant to his "friend" was however but a foretaste of the favours to be heaped on de la Pole the following year.  
That de la Pole, now "staying with the King beyond the seas" had become indispensable to Edward is shown by the comprehensive Protections granted him in October extending until the following Easter. 345.

The financial aid to the King rendered by de la Pole in connection with the French War falls mainly under two headings:-

- (1) moneys loaned to the King "as a subsidy for his wars," secured on the Customs at Hull and Boston in 1338. 346.
- (2) moneys paid by de la Pole for "certain of the King's lands, tenements, knights fees and advowsons of churches." 347.

In each case the moneys were paid to William de Northwell, Keeper of the Wardrobe and entered in the Wardrobe Accounts for 1338-39.

Between 20th September, 1338, and 12th May, 1339, eight loans amounting in all to £32,873.15.9d. were made at Antwerp; on 4th September, 1339, £13,492.4.1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. at Brussels, and on 23rd September £24 at Aspre, making a total of £46,389.19.10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. All this money was paid over in silver Florentine florins, the value of each being taken at 4s.6d. 348.

Payments for lands began on 12th July, 1338, just before the King left for Flanders. The first payment was made by de la Pole in sterling at Walton, near Orwell, (where the King was already staying with the young Duke of Cornwall) the amount received at the Wardrobe being £5,557.4.8d. Four further payments were made at Antwerp between October, 1338, and January, 1339, amounting to £16,750.3.6d., making in all £22,307.8.2d. The Antwerp payments were again made in Florentine florins at 4s.6d. each and acknowledged as "for certain of the King's lands &c.," which were in the main within the King's seigniority of Holderness. 349.

In November 1338 alone, of five loans to the Crown raised in Antwerp of English merchants totalling £22,000, de la Pole himself advanced £18,500. One of de la Pole's loans made on 14th November, for £11,000, was allocated "for the expenses of the Household, and the furtherance of important business of the King." Another loan made on the same day for £7,500 was to meet the King's obligations to Reginald, Count of Guelders and Zutphen, one of his allies, repayment to be made by the following June. Earlier in the year de la Pole had paid another of the King's allies, Lord Hugh de Geneve, Banneret, 1,000 marks out of the Hull Customs, as a first fee for his assistance. 350.  
351.  
352.  
353.

De la Pole was engaged in February 1339 with other commissioners on raising a loan on the security of the King's Crown. An agreement was made with the Archbishop of Treves who secured loans amounting to 111,000 golden florins of Florence, from Rufus, a Jew of Strasburg, for which the commissioners pledged with the Archbishop "the hereditary and most beautiful crown of the Lord the King and the realm of England." (The immense credit enjoyed by de la Pole abroad is probably illustrated by the fact that four years later, when he was under arrest, the "Great Crown" was pledged for less than a third of the Jew's loan).

354.

355.

By April, the King's indebtedness to the Jew amounted to 340,000 florins which at 4s.6d. each would amount to approximately £76,500, his sureties being Archbishop Stratford and other members of the Council, and necessarily William de la Pole. The King thereupon borrowed £76,180 from de la Pole and shortly after, the Jew surrendered his bond. On 30th June the King acknowledged himself bound to de la Pole for this great loan, which had been paid into the Wardrobe "for the King's benefit," with the promise that the loan was to be paid off "fully and entirely" at Michaelmas.

356.

357.

Meanwhile de la Pole had advanced in May 32,000 florins to meet demands on the King for a number of loans. By way of payment the King promised that he should have 1,000 sacks of wool to be delivered to his attorneys in England at a reasonable price so that he could make his profit in Flanders, Archbishop Stratford and others being guarantors for the King. In July 1339, the King borrowed 54,000 gold florins from the townsmen of Malines and £38,816 from Matthew Cavason and other merchants of Ast. In each case, the loans were covered by a bond in which de la Pole was a surety jointly with Archbishop Stratford and other members of the Council, and in the latter case with the Companies of the Bardi and the Peruzzi.

358.

359.

The pressing need to raise money to meet the bonds given by the King, and by de la Pole and others on the King's behalf was one of the main reasons for de la Pole's return to England in September 1339.

The Wardrobe Accounts for the years 1338-40 throw an interesting light on de la Pole's staff whilst abroad. He was paid for the period 16th August, 1338, to 16th November, 1339, inclusive, viz. 458 days. He had with him one knight paid at 4s. per day and 34 men-at-arms paid at 2s. per day. He himself is styled "Lord William de la Pole, Banneret," and although he was not advanced to that rank until three days before his departure from Flanders, he received the pay of a banneret, viz. 8s. per day for the whole of his period abroad. On the other hand, as he left for England on September 30th, 47 days before his men, a deduction of wages in his own case was made for that period. His men-at-arms probably served both as a bodyguard and as messengers in his frequent negotiations whilst abroad. There is no mention of any necessary clerical staff.

360.

361.

His horses, numbering 111 were shipped to England from Sluis in January and February, 1340. They had served both for himself and his staff of 35, and also for a further knight attached to him in Flanders, possibly for liaison purposes. De la Pole's wages account amounted to £1,813.4.0d. and the freight for his horses, at 6s.8d. each, to £37.

362.

\* \* \* \* \*

16. The King's Grants to de la Pole.

Probably no Englishman has ever had such a remarkable series of grants made to him by the Crown in Charters and Letters Patent as William de la Pole received at the hands of Edward III in May and September, 1339. On May 15th-16th William received at Antwerp for his good services no fewer than nine grants. 363. These grants open with an acknowledgement of "the great and seasonable supply which our beloved merchant William de la Pole has often made to us, and also the praiseworthy attendance bestowed by him upon us, especially after our late passage over the sea."

364.

At de la Pole's own request three concessions were made to his family:-

- (1) His wife had licence to marry in the event of his death whomsoever she wished.
- (2) His heir, if under age at his father's death was to be under the guardianship of his nearest kinsman and similarly free to marry.
- (3) His three daughters were each to have from the Crown the first suitable marriages of acceptable heirs male, each with lands of a value not exceeding £50, or failing suitable heirs, a dowry of 1,000 marks each.

365.

De la Pole's wife, Katherine, who survived him did not in fact re-marry. His eldest son, Michael, married the heiress of Sir John Wingfield of Suffolk and eventually became Earl of Suffolk. His daughters married into notable families: Blanche to Richard, 1st Lord Scrope of Bolton Castle; Margaret to Sir Robert Neville of Hornby Castle, and Katherine to Constantine de Clifton of Buckenham Castle, Norfolk. (With regard to the marriage of Blanche, it was said by one of the deponents in the Scrope-Grosvenor controversy that Sir Robert Hilton of Swine referred scornfully to Sir Richard Scrope when the latter entered into a treaty with Sir William de la Pole and married his daughter).

366.

367.

Next, three grants were made to the de la Pole brothers:-

- (1) The remission of the fee-farm of £10.3.0d. payable annually in respect of the manor of Myton, granted to William and Richard in 1330 was extended to their heirs for the yearly service of a rose (see p. 13).

368.

(2) William and John, who were jointly supervising the delivery in Flanders of 30,000 sacks of wool granted to Edward by the English wool merchants, were granted an acquittance of all the agreements and accounts involved, and in the case of William of any other accounts for wool. This immunity was granted "considering the high place which our beloved merchants William de la Pole and John his brother have very often held in our estimation, and the labours and expenses which they have liberally undertaken for us..... and not wishing that they should in any wise be troubled, annoyed or aggrieved by us, or our heirs or our officers."

(3) A grant, made to William alone, opens with a very personal note, "considering in what manner our beloved merchant is worn out in our service and fatigued with labours and various troubles, and therefore wishing to have regard to his welfare and repose." It then proceeds to exempt William from any assizes, juries or recognizances and from the office of mayor, eschaetor, coroner or bailiff against his will, and to be quit of all prises."

Finally, when the present war should be ended "in which we have perceived the service of the said William to have been exceedingly advantageous to us" he was not to be sent anywhere at home or overseas "for the prosecution of our business or that of our heirs" and was not to be "burdened with any office or labours to be undertaken for us, but henceforth he may thoroughly enjoy the comforts of his home as shall be agreeable to himself without molestation or any manner of annoyance being offered to him in any way by us or our officers."

369.

Three further grants to William and his family were made "in consideration of timely aid to the King, especially after his last crossing of the sea," to Flanders:-

(1) To William, grant of a group of manors in Holderness for ten years (see p. 44).

370.

(2) To William's son and heir, Michael, by the service of a pair of gilt spurs yearly, the reversion of the annual fee-farm rent of Kingston upon Hull, viz. £70, which William and Richard held for life. (see p. 12).

371.

(3) To Thomas and Edmund, younger sons of William, grant of the manor of Keyingham in Holderness. (This grant was surrendered by the sons in 1354 for a pardon by the King of their father's debts to the Crown)

372.

Six important grants to William alone, making fifteen in all, were made on September 26th-27th, 1339, at Marcoing, near Cambrai "on the marches of France," when the King's situation had become financially desperate.

373.

William was then --

- (1) Given the King's houses in Lombard Street, London, (formerly held by the Italian Society of the Bardi, Florentine merchant bankers, whose loans to the King were later repudiated).
- (2) Made supervisor of all receipts at the Exchequer and their application to the discharge of the bonds entered into on the King's behalf abroad by de la Pole and others.
- (3) Made a Baron of the Exchequer ranking next to the Chief Baron. 374.
- (4) Created a Knight Banneret, with a grant of 500 marks a year out of the King's lands and rents to support his new honour and estate both for himself and his heirs. (See Appendix A).
- (5) Granted on the same day that the annual payment of 500 marks be made as to 240 marks out of the Manor of Burstwiok and as to 260 marks out of the Customs at Hull. (The grant was reduced in 1354 to 400 marks annually, all payable out of the Hull Customs. C.P.R. 1354-58, 1527). 375.
- (6) Excused the payment of fees for sealing with the Great Seal the various Letters Patent granted to him and his family in Flanders and France. 376.

In addition to these grants, William was at the same time promised that "if the King recover his hereditary right to the realm of France" he should have 1,000 marks of land in a suitable place there. This promise was confirmed by Charter in 1340, and in 1355 (on William's petition "to make sure what he the King had promised to provide for him in the realm of France") the grant was extended by Letters Patent to his heirs. 377. 378.

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#### 17. Seignior of Holderness.

William de la Pole began, on 8th June, 1338, to acquire lands of the King in Holderness which, as Tout says, amounted to the dismemberment of the famous Chamber Manor of Burstwick, then worth about £800 a year. He was first granted a charter of gift and sale of a number of manors "for a sum of £6,000 which he has contributed towards the expenses of the King's crossing." The manors specified were Wheatley and Gringley in co. Notts, and the following manors in Holderness, - Cleton, Little Humber, Burton Pidsea, Owthorne, Withernsea, Skeffling, Kilnsea, Easington and Preston, being members of the King's manor of Burstwick, to hold with Knights' fees, advowsons of churches, &c., &c., to him and his heirs for ever, by the service of rendering one sore sparrow-hawk. 379. 380.



It had already been agreed in an indenture between the King and de la Pole that of the £6,000 to be paid, £5,000 would be for lands of an annual value of £500 granted in fee, and £1,000 as a first instalment for lands to be leased to him for a term of 10 years. The Treasurer and others were then appointed to value the manors, and it was agreed that if the certified annual value should exceed £500 then de la Pole would pay within 15 days, £1,000 for each £100 in excess, but if the value were deficient the King would grant further lands. 381.

As it was not clear from the charter of 8th June whether certain member townships or hamlets pertaining to the manors specified in the grant were in fact included, de la Pole petitioned for a grant of these places by name, and agreed to pay a further sum for them if required. In a further charter of 10th November, 1338, it was therefore made clear that Northorpe, Hoton and Synthorpe were included under Kilnsea; Dimlington under Easington; and Ridgemont or "Rougemound" under Burton Pidsea. It was also agreed that the manor of Cleton, in north Holderness, included the manor of Skipsea with the bailey and hamlet of Newhithe, and that the grant included wreck of the sea, tolls, passages, &c. 382. On the same day, the King commanded all knights, freemen, and other tenants in these member places to answer to de la Pole for their homage and services.

In accordance with the indenture, de la Pole had a grant in Letters Patent of 15th May, 1339, of a further group of manors on lease for a period of 10 years. The manors comprised Bond Burstwick, Ravenser, Hedon, Barrow (in Lincs.), Paul Fleet, Sproatley, Lelley Dyke and Elstarwyk, and the Wapentake of Holderness with other lands and appurtenances, all members of the King's manor of Burstwick. On the basis of the valuation, de la Pole 383. was to pay £250 for each £100 of annual value, and he was to maintain the houses of the said manors and towns in roofs, fences, &c. No special payment was made for the leased lands 384. other than the £1,000 referred to above, but further advances were made to the Wardrobe at intervals from 12th July to 26th January, 1339, amounting in all to £22,307.8.2d, in each case for certain of the King's lands, Knights' fees, &c., but without mention of further specific grants of lands (see p. 39). The same day that William was granted the seaport towns of Hedon and Ravenser with Bond Burstwick, &c., he obtained for his sons Edmund and Thomas the grant of Keyingham in Holderness by the service of a pair of gilt spurs annually. 385.

The grant of Bond Burstwick was confirmed by a charter of 20th April, 1340, which stated that it was made "in consideration of the large sums of money paid by the said William to the King for the aforesaid manors and lands, and of the services rendered by him abroad and at home, and of large sums of money, borrowed by him from others for the King's service and sent by him to the King." 386.

The grant of Keyingham to William's sons was confirmed on the same day. The new grant was made with the assent of Parliament then in session at Westminster. Apart from the manors &c., specified in the earlier grant the charter settled on William and his heirs "the manor of Burstwick with all the appurtenances of that manor and of the manor of Skipsea, with fairs, markets, wreck," &c., &c., by the service of the fee of one knight. 387.

In accordance with the grants, a commission of Exchequer officials was appointed in September 1338 to survey and certify the value of the lands. New commissions in similar terms were appointed in June 1339 and again in July 1340, when Thomas, Lord Wake was included in the commission. The latter commission was extended in scope to include the castle of Skipsea, the marr (mere) of Skipsea and Whitaker, the mill and bailey of the castle there, the borough and rent of Newhithe, Hornsea Burton, Beeford, (Nun) Keeling, the lake of Iamwath, (Burton) Pidsea marr, Withernsea marr, the passage of Paull Fleet and the office of Coroner. The survey was to include the inspection of accounts, &c. At the same time it was made clear that "it was not our intention that the said William should acquire any of the said manors, rents, &c., by pretext of any of our charters.....unless extended and sold at its true value." 388.  
389.  
390.

In June 1340 Robert de Denton, the general attorney of de la Pole was granted the office of Coroner for the liberty of Holderness, probably at the instance of de la Pole. One of the last acts of William before his arrest later in the year was to appoint Master William Ryell, Clerk, to the rule and custody of the grammar schools of Hedon in Holderness for five years. The appointment was made by William as Lord of the Manor of Burstwick and confirmed by Letters Patent issued in the King's absence by the young Duke of Cornwall. Two years later the King revoked the appointment because the Letters had emanated from Chancery without his knowledge. 391.  
392.  
393.

During the time that William held the lordship of Holderness, he made representations to the King, but without success, not to licence the appropriation of Easington Church to Meaux Abbey. One of his Holderness manors, Owthorne (held by knights service in 1342 by William de Meaux) is said to have had "a new hall and chamber and a certain other chamber called Wardrobe." 394.  
395.

In October 1341, William's lands in Holderness which had been taken into the King's hands "by reason of a sum of money which the King recovered at the Exchequer" against William were committed to the Eschaetor, William Lenglis, and Denton superseded in the coronership. 396.

In March 1346, the King having still in his hands the manors of Burstwick, &c., and Wheatley and Gringley, granted de la Pole (once again "the beloved and faithful") in recompense, all the money from the ancient customs at Hull "in aid of his maintenance" until either the manors should be restored to him or satisfaction

made for the money he paid for them. The grants of the Holderness manors and lands, &c., including the manor of Keyingham, with the Lincolnshire manor of Barrow and the two Nottinghamshire manors were surrendered to the King at Westminster in October 1354, when de la Pole was granted 400 marks yearly out of the Hull Customs and was released from all actions which the King might have in respect of his debts and accounts. His sons at the same time agreed to the surrender of Keyingham in return for the King's pardon of the debts of their father. 397.

These surrenders appear to have been the preliminaries to new agreements between the King and de la Pole. On 4th March 1355, an indenture was made between them which recognised the right of Katherine de la Pole to a dower out of the lands previously held of the King in Holderness (other than Keyingham) and in Notts., and out of his standing 260 marks annual rent from the Hull Customs. The right of Edmund and Thomas to the Keyingham manor until Edmund should reach the age of 24 was also recognised. As an offset to these recognitions, de la Pole had given the King two undertakings three days earlier. In one he agreed that if his wife, Katherine, should survive him and recover her dower, then 1,000 marks annually were to be paid out of William's lands in Yorkshire or elsewhere in England for the duration of her life. In the other he agreed to pay similarly £200 annually for his sons' rights in Keyingham. 398.

De la Pole with his wife and two sons appeared in person at Westminster on 7th March, 1355. There, in the Star Chamber at Westminster Palace, he surrendered the relative charters and writings to the Chancellor (John Thoresby, Archbishop of York) and the Council, and released all his claims. His sons Edmund and Thomas signified their assent to the agreements at the same time. Katherine, however, came before the Chancellor and David de Wollore (later Rector of Hornsea) "in the Chancellor's barge near the King's bridge at Westminster" and swore on the gospels that she would never seek or recover her dower of the manor of Burstwick and other lands which her husband had released to the King, but that immediately after his death she would release her said dower to the King. 399.

The Keyingham manor was finally released by Edmund in 1358, and the right to a dower from the remaining lands and from the customs dues was surrendered by Katherine in a deed executed at Hull on the death of William in 1366. Meanwhile, the Wapentake of Holderness had been granted by the King to his daughter Isabel in 1356. In the extent of lands, &c., of the Wapentake dated 1359, as given by Poulson, the assessment of Isabella, Lady of Burstwick is given as £83.6.8d and that of Sir William de la Pole (arising out of lands not held of the King) as £3.10.0d. 400.

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## 18. Knighthood.

A royal proclamation of 1335 based on the statute of 1307 required all persons who had held land of £40 a year in fee for three years and were not knighted to take arms before the next Ascension Day. Possibly owing to an absence on the Flanders negotiations, William de la Pole did not take up the order of knighthood by the date fixed, but was granted a pardon by the King in November 1336, and was further authorised not to take arms against his will during the next three years. 405. 406.

Although the formality of knighthood was waived, de la Pole seems to have been under the obligation to do military service and to provide men-at-arms and horses when he crossed to Flanders in 1338. As the patent shows, the King "adorned him with the girdle of Knighthood" at Marcoign a year later, just before William's departure for England. The tradition that William was knighted by the King at Hull in 1331-2 is clearly untenable and he was not in fact described as "miles" in the Array of 1338, nor in any earlier document. 407.

Probably William would adopt his well-known coat of arms, Azure, a fess between three leopards' faces or, when he received the belt of Knighthood and was authorised to "hold the state and honour of a Banneret." On the other hand, the gold leopard's head, the emblem of the delegated privilege of assay, may well have been assumed by William as a badge in 1335 to mark his position as Master of the Exchanges. No document bearing his seal before the grant of his banneretcy in 1339 has survived, and in fact none before the general release to the King in 1354, which bears a seal with his shield of arms. His widow in 1366 displayed on her seal her husband's shield, held in front of the figure of St. Katherine, crowned, and on either side of the shield a Katherine wheel. This seal bears the inscription "Sigillum Katerine de la Pole," but in 1377 a similar seal was inscribed "O Katerina piu, sis mihi Dux et Via." The leopard's face appears as a badge of the de la Poles in a number of churches built or adorned by the Earl of Suffolk in East Anglia. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413.

Richard de la Pole was a knight by 1340. The Meaux Chronicle, under that date, refers to William and Richard as "milites et mercatores." Richard's arms, as borne by his son William appear on a deed preserved at Hull sealed by the latter in 1350. The shield is described heraldically as Azure, two bars wavy argent, which for his descendants became Azure, two bars nebulée or. 413. 414.

Following de la Pryme, Gent says that William, the mayor, laid aside his paternal coat of arms to bear the bars wavy as a sign of his maritime employment. The tradition clearly relates to Richard whose son William is described in the deed of 1350 as "son and heir of Sir Richard de la Pole, Knight." There is no evidence of any paternal arms of the two brothers, but the arms of the Powys line of Welsh princes were Or, a lion rampant gules. 415.

19. Envoy to Parliament.

In September 1339, the King announced in Letters Patent that he had sent speedily to England a Commission of three, John Stratford, Archbishop of Canterbury, Richard de Bury, Bishop of Durham, and his beloved and faithful William de la Pole, to lay before Parliament the state of his affairs and the dangers that would befall him and his forces if the bonds and heavy penalties under which he had contracted great loans were not honoured. 416.

De la Pole sailed from Flanders on 30th September and on arrival in London he and the Archbishop were significantly given presents by the City costing the commonalty £26.5.10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. By 1346, William had become a freeman of London, since among contributors of £4 each, specified that year as "freemen of the City who do not reside therein" the name of Sir William de la Pole is recorded. 417.

In the Parliament which met at Westminster on 13th October, de la Pole sat in the Peers as a Judge of the Court of Exchequer. The King explained in his letter to Parliament that the three delegates were commissioned to act on his behalf, with his eldest son, Edward, Duke of Cornwall, and other magnates, by granting remissions and pardons and other acts of grace. It would appear that the object of these concessions was to raise money by fees payable to the Crown for the remissions, &c., which the King would himself ratify. Pardons could be granted by reasonable fine on felons, escaped prisoners, debtors to the King under £10, and by other means. 418. 419. 420.

Archbishop Stratford informed Parliament that the King had contracted obligations to the amount of £300,000. Supported by de la Pole, he urged strongly the duty of Parliament to meet the King's needs. On representations which had been made to the King by de la Pole, Parliament was also informed that the quantity of wool agreed upon had not been delivered in Flanders. Protests were made by both Peers and Commons against the King's taxation demands, but Parliament agreed that the King should be aided and tenths were duly granted. In December 1339, urgent orders were sent to the collectors to pay these issues to de la Pole. 421. 422. 423.

A month later, de la Pole was back again in Antwerp, when he was once more appointed with Conduit to receive wool to be brought there from England, expressly to repay the loans of Flemish and Italian merchants. On January 26th, in view of the King's need for "a large sum of money to be raised with all speed," de la Pole offered to lend the King out of his own money, and to get him credit from others as far as he could, but on condition that he received undoubted security for such moneys. Once again the King granted him the customs at 14 English ports to cover repayment of all the new loans. The grant was however restricted by the proviso that those English merchants who had now handed over their wool to the King at Dordrecht were to receive in payment 424.

an allowance from the customs on their own future exports. As usual, de la Pole was to hold the Cocket seals, but with the further restriction that at Hull and Boston the dowager Queen Isabella would hold the seals until her grant of £1,500 had been satisfied. 425. 426.

De la Pole again returned to England and attended the meeting of Parliament in February 1340. He was then appointed with other Commissioners to proceed to York and explain to the magnates, men-at-arms and others there, what the Parliament had ordained respecting the invasion of Scotland under the command of Edward Balliol. The men-at-arms, hobelers and archers were to be arrayed in Yorkshire by de la Pole himself, who with Lord Thomas Wake was commissioned to proceed with the forces to Newcastle-on-Tyne. De la Pole from his own estates provided 20 men-at-arms and 60 archers, but it seems improbable that he remained with the forces, since he was present with other Judges at Westminster, in April, as an examiner of petitions from Flanders. With Sir John Pulteney, a former Mayor of London, and others, he was deputed to speak to the merchants on the King's military operations in Flanders. 427. 428. 429. 430.

Meanwhile, de la Pole had discussed with the merchants the King's financial needs in Flanders and had himself loaned the King £10,000. In return he was licensed to ship 300 sacks of wool, free of customs at Hull, London, and other east coast ports to Bruges. His brother John had again taken William's place at Dordrecht, where he received in March 1340, from Hugh Cokheved of Barton on Humber, wool purveyed in north Lincolnshire to the value of £2340.8.1d. The great Customs assignments made to de la Pole in January came to an abrupt end in May 1340, when the King granted the Customs to a group of German merchants, and de la Pole was ordered to hand over the seals at the remaining 12 ports. 431. 432. 433. 434.

The King was again in London in the autumn of 1340 and with the assent of the Council he once more came to terms with de la Pole. In a lengthy indenture made between the King and de la Pole on August 10th, provision was made for resumption of the Customs payments to de la Pole, together with the tenths and grants of wool. Each sealed one-half of the indenture, and the King promised (for what it was worth), "to observe the premises in good faith." De la Pole at once advanced the King 3,000 marks and in return was authorised to take a further 300 sacks of wool overseas to sell for his own benefit. 435. 436.

Earlier in the year a group of magnates including William de la Pole had agreed to provide for the King a further 20,000 sacks of wool. The English merchants however obviously preferred to market their own wool abroad, and smuggling became rampant. By August, the export of uncustomed wool had become so serious that de la Pole and others were commissioned to make inquisition regarding such shipments at Hull, Boston and other 437.

ports on the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire coasts. They were to take over ships and boats which had carried 'uncocketed' wools and deal with the offenders. At the same time, local commissions were set up at Hull, Barton on Humber and Ravenser (where Robert Rotenheryng served) and these were required to search ships in port or at sea, and seize any 'uncocketed' goods and the ships involved.

438

During 1340, de la Pole again supplied victuals for the King's forces. In that year he 'bought and purveyed 2,000 quarters of wheat and barley and delivered them to the King's clerk overseas,' but the account remained unpaid until 1345.

439

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20. The Wool Trials.

In the summer of 1339 the King had ordered the Exchequer officers to account with de la Pole and Conduit for the wool received by them in Flanders. On de la Pole's return to England in September, his place with Conduit at Dordrecht was again taken by his brother John.

440

Parliament in March 1340 petitioned the King to order examination of the accounts of de la Pole and his colleagues, of wool and also of other goods granted to the King by the Parliaments of 1338 onwards. A month later, de la Pole was summoned before the Council and told that "the King and the great peers of the land and others for the commons wished to be informed as to what had become of the goods which he had received to the King's use." De la Pole replying that he would be prepared to make answer when and where he should, doubtless had the Exchequer in mind. In June, William de Northwell was appointed to take de la Pole's place as a Baron of the Exchequer, because the latter was "at present engaged in the array of the account which he is bound to render at the Exchequer for the time when he was receiver of certain wool, money, goods and things for the King" both at home and abroad.

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The King in July 1340 appointed a special commission which included Archbishop Stratford and Bishop Bury (de la Pole's fellow envoys to Parliament the previous year) with Lord Wake and others, who were to inform themselves of all receipts, payments and other relative matters. As the receivers, besides de la Pole and Conduit, included John Charnels, William de Northwell, the Treasurer, together with the merchants of the Bardi and the Peruzzi and others, the inquiry promised to be prolonged. Moreover it was to be made notwithstanding any acquittances or pardons made to the said William or the others by the King, an obvious allusion to the acquittance granted to William in May 1339.

444

The Commissioners were instructed by the King to view de la Pole's accounts but not to proceed further because he had learnt that de la Pole had not fully charged himself in the matter, and the inquiry was to be left open until the King's return to England. An indication of popular feeling against de la Pole is suggested by the King's admonition that the audit was to be taken without wilfully doing injury to him. 445.

Meanwhile, arrangements were made for a Council to be held at Michaelmas "for the punishment of false ministers." The complexity of the wool and other accounts is obvious from the summons to the Council meeting of all the sheriffs of England, the mayors and bailiffs of 15 Customs ports (each port also sending four men "of the most discreet, honest and wealthy of the town"), the collectors of customs in the same ports, (with their receipt rolls), and in addition 16 important wool merchants. 446.

The King returned from Flanders on 30th November 1340, furious at his inability to continue the French campaign and determined to vent his wrath on the officials and merchants whom he held responsible. Hasty arrests were made the same night, of Judges, high officers of the Exchequer and Chancery, Lord Wake, Sir John Pulteney, and of course William de la Pole. The arrests were made on "the common report and clamour of the people" and on divers petitions to the King to the effect that those arrested had acted "fraudulently and unfaithfully in their offices." 448.

Murimuth, but not the Meaux Chronicle, states that Richard de la Pole was included in the arrests. If so, he was not named with his brother and twelve other prisoners arraigned singly at the King's suit before three Justices in January 1341. Later in the year, the county justices were in fact ordered not to press any action against Richard. William was taken first to the Tower and later to the Fleet prison where he remained for six months. He is said also to have been imprisoned in Devizes Castle. 449.

The audit commission was renewed in July 1341, (the King's jewels now being specified in the royal property to be accounted for) and again in October 1342. That year de la Pole was brought to the Exchequer by the Constable of the Tower, when he and Conduit were charged with dilatoriness in purveying the wool in 1338. The defendants confronted with the wool agreement of 1337 asserted that this agreement had broken down, and they could account only for the receipt of the first 10,000 sacks, but had no information as to the purveyance of these. The Year Book for 1341 under Trinity Term records that "Monsieur William de la Pole was accused of having been corrupted in the Exchequer" (He is referred to, but apparently incorrectly, as formerly Chief Baron of the Exchequer). 450.

In October 1341, Burstwick manor was committed to William Ienglis, and by February 1342 the Sheriff of Yorkshire had taken into the King's hands the lands in Yorkshire held by 451.



de la Pole in 1338, the intention being to levy on William's lands the debts due by him to the King. Among these lands were the Studley and other estates of John de Graas, near Ripon, held in trust by William, as executor. On complaint by the heiress of Graas, the Sheriff was ordered to withdraw from them. 215.  
457.

The Exchequer was directed, in August 1342, to take over the debts due to de la Pole, and assign the proceeds to the King's Chamber, since the King had recently recovered great sums against him in the Exchequer, and de la Pole was endeavouring to exclude the King from any recovery on these assets. Towards 458.  
the end of 1342, the Mayor of Hull was ordered to pay one half of the current year's fee-farm rent of the town, viz. £35, to Richard de la Pole, King's serjeant, but to retain in his hands William's half of the rent and any arrears due to him. These instructions 459.  
were renewed yearly until 1345. William's annual grant from the Hull Customs was also suspended.

From entries in the Fine Rolls it appears that three ships of de la Pole which had been put under arrest were held at Hull by the Eschaetor until December 1344. By March 1342, some 460.  
instruments and tackle belonging to "la Blome" and a galley of Hull, "late of Sir William de la Pole, Knight," (which, with other goods and chattels of his had been taken into the King's hands) had been irregularly carried away. William Lenglis was ordered to make inquisition as to the missing gear and if found "to do therewith and with the ships and galley what he shall deem to the King's advantage." Two months later instruments and gear were missing from the other arrested ship "la Seinte Marie, cog," and a further inquisition was ordered. 461.

On 12th December 1344, William Lenglis, son of the Eschaetor, was ordered "to value and sell at the greatest possible price, by view and testimony of Robert de Lichfield, Mayor of Kingston upon Hull and others," the two ships and "la Galie" of Hull with the entire tackling. The sale was to be made by reason of the debts in which Sir William was bound to the King and the money was to be answered for in the King's Chamber. The ships however were not then sold. 462.

William had been released from the Fleet prison in May 1342, when Robert de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, and Ralph, Lord Neville of Raby, gave security to have him before the Exchequer from day to day to answer for "what is due to the King" by the Exchequer. About the time of his release he actually received 463.  
530 sacks of wool from the Lincolnshire merchants" in part satisfaction of the great sums lent by him to the King." The 464.  
same year, de la Pole was again employed in the King's service. In November, £22.10.0d was prested (advanced) to him for "certain secret affairs of the King." He evidently continued at large, 465.  
since five months later two clerks who were prosecuting for the King in his courts against de la Pole and his attorney, Robert de Denton, were given protection against possible personal injuries from the two defendants. 466.

By 1344 the proceedings against de la Pole and Conduit, both at the Exchequer and at the Commission on the accounts were described by the King as "too harsh and captious." The defendants, supported by trustworthy members of the Council had complained that allowances which should be made them were denied, and their estates were in consequence depressed and impoverished. The Commission were therefore ordered to audit the accounts anew, to make all due allowances and to do "all that is good and just." They were also to inform the King of any doubtful items in their first account.

467.

In August 1344, the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer were directed by the King's writ to annul the proceedings against de la Pole and Conduit, who he said had been unjustly charged in the matter. The unjust claim made on the defendants is illustrated by the fact that the Exchequer charged them "for gain of the King's wool" charged on 10,000 sacks of wool both in England and at Dordrecht "although it was the same wool," and again on 2,500 sacks, viz. £27,342.16.1½d, which was not taken or received by them. In all, the total claim then remitted amounted to £62,941.0.10½d. The defendants were however still to be ready to account for all their receipts and to help in the detection of irregularities.

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469.

Restitution of de la Pole's property had begun in April 1344, when William Lenglis was ordered to return to him all his lands (other than Burstwick and other lands acquired by gift or purchase of the King) together with the accrued issues. The King first gave instructions to Lenglis under his secret seal called "Griffom," or "Griffoun," (a seal used in connection with accounts for Burstwick and other Chamber Manors) but as de la Pole complained that no action had been taken by Lenglis, the King issued Letters Close. In March 1345, more than three years after the arrest of de la Pole's ships at Hull, Lenglis was ordered to restore them to him. The same year, the Collector at Hull was ordered to pay him any arrears of his grant of 260 marks annually from the Hull Customs. It seems probable that payment of the fee-farm rent of Hull was also resumed in 1345, when the whole of the rent would become payable to William, following his brother's death the same year. The rent had previously been payable to the brothers in equal portions, with remainder to William. It was not until 1354 that a settlement was reached between de la Pole and the King. In October, de la Pole released to the King all debts and surplusages due to him on the King's account. A month later a comprehensive pardon was granted by the King in Letters Patent to "William de la Pole, senior," who had "in the fullest manner possible remitted and quitted claim to the King of all debts in which he was bound to him." The pardon covered "all the actions and demands which have or had at any time been brought against him, by reason of the accounts of the King's money, or wool, which have been received or delivered by de la Pole and his attorneys. Likewise for all felonies, homicides, robberies, &c., &c., which he or his attorneys may have committed contrary to the peace of the realm."

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The proceedings however seem to have been revived in February 1355, when the Exchequer officials were ordered to continue them, but to permit de la Pole to go free of any main-prize. Even so, the King declared that he had been deceived when he annulled the proceedings in 1344. A petition had in fact recently been delivered by the men of Kingston upon Hull accusing of fraudulent practices Chesterfield and Denton who had been entrusted with de la Pole's business for many years, and acted as his advisers. (see p. 38). Denton, who had lately been Controller of Customs at Hull, was said to have falsified his entries, resulting in a great loss of revenue, and was in fact himself privately concerned in contraband trade. Moreover, with the connivance of Chesterfield, he was said to have allowed uncustomed wool to be shipped on 16 ships, and had, in Brabant, returned 3,000 sacks of arrested wool to the merchants on a consideration of £4 per sack for himself. It does not appear however that the wool proceedings were continued further.

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21. Richard and John: Later Years.

Richard de la Pole, after his appointment to London in 1327 continued to maintain his interests at Hull, both in property and trade. His property in Hull and district, which he held until his death was almost as extensive as that of his brother. His great ship at Hull, appropriately named "la Botiller" was sold there in 1342 to John Colyn, a burgess and mariner of the town, together with a barge warranted for a year and a day.

480.

It seems probable that his son, known as William the younger, carried on his father's business at Hull. He was a burgess of the town and like his father and his uncle before him, represented Hull in the Commons; but only in the Parliament of 1339.

481.

Richard's rights in Aton fee seem to have been challenged by the townsmen of Hull as late as 1343. In that year, described as "Lord of a fee caled 'Aton fee,' in Miton by Kingston-upon-Hull," he complained that Walter Helward and others had prevented him by force from holding a court of his tenants there and had carried away his goods both there and at Kingston upon Hull and had assaulted his men. Walter Helleward was at the time of the complaint actually Mayor of Kingston upon Hull and had once been Richard's colleague as Collector of Customs. The demesne messuage of Sir William Aton in 1293 was actually within the town of Wyke, afterwards called Kingston upon Hull. As Sir Richard held his court there, at Aton's mansion in High Street, within the borough of Kingston, this may well account for the attack by the mayor.

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483.

When the brothers deposited their deed of partition at the London Guildhall in 1331, Richard was a citizen of London. The following year he was appointed to represent the City of London at the Parliament at York, in December. He did not attend, but was requested by the Mayor "to give counsel and aid" to the actual Members for London. His messuage in Lombard Street, held jointly with his wife, lay in the Parish of St. Edmund the King. It stretched from the street to the churchyard of St. Michael, Cornhill, and the priests of the two churches were provided for in his will. (see App. C). 484.

Apart from his duties in London as King's Butler, Richard continued to serve the King in other matters. He was frequently advancing loans for the Household Expenses and in 1337 made a considerable loan for the Scottish war. (see p. 30). By the emergency of 1338, when measures were taken to protect London from a French invasion, Richard was one of the principal Aldermen of the City, representing the Ward of Bishopgate Within. He was then required to hold an inquiry as to the number of able-bodied householders in his ward possessing arms, and with Henry Darcy, the Mayor, he was appointed to supervise the watches by night, and the pile-driving operations for the defences of the River Thames. The following year he was assigned with his men to guard Aldgate and Bishopgate. As Alderman of the latter ward he witnessed deeds between 1331 and 1338 relating to parishes within his ward. 485. 486.

From 1337 to 1340, John de la Pole was closely occupied with his brother William in the wool operations both in England and Flanders, but he escaped the charges brought against William for default in 1340. Like both Richard and William, he became a knight and sat in the Commons from 1352 to 1354, representing Middlesex. He does not appear ever to have rejoined his brothers at Hull. The Sir John de la Pole of the diocese of York who in 1343 had papal licence to visit the Holy Sepulchre was however more probably the younger brother of Sir William de la Pole junior. 487. 488. 488a.

In 1339, Richard, like his brother William, was granted exemption for life from assizes, &c., and from appointment as Sheriff, &c., or as a Minister of the King, against his will. The same year he had Letters of Protection covering his many manors, viz. Slingsby and Hoxton in Yorks, Bourne and Maydenwell in Lincs, Loddon and Sizeland in Norfolk, with others in Lancs, Hunts, Cambs, &c. Richard also had a special protection for his manor of Thisleton in Sutton upon Hull. In his demesne lands in Norfolk and at Milton in Northants he had a grant of free warren by charter in 1334. 489. 490. 491.

Early in 1340, before the arrest of William, the King granted Richard 500 marks in consideration of losses on his loans to the King. This grant together with repayment of divers loans, including a recent one of £1,384.13.4d, and payment for 140 sacks of wool supplied by Richard, was met by an assignment of Customs 492.

at Hull and of ninthhs from Lincolnshire and neighbouring counties. 493.  
 The item 140 sacks of wool represents payments made for the  
 King in kind, viz. 120 sacks at 11 marks the sack to Henry de  
 Ferrers, the King's Chamberlain, for service with the King in  
 Flanders, and 20 sacks at 10 marks to Richard Talbot, for service  
 as Keeper of the town of Berwick-on-Tweed. On at least one 494.  
 occasion, in 1343, Richard made a gift to the King by remission  
 of 800 marks from a debt of £1,859.13.4d which he had borrowed  
 for the King, and of which £1,415.16.2½d was still owing. To 495.  
 liquidate the balance of £882.9.6½d, Richard was granted an  
 assignment of one penny in the shilling from the tax on wools,  
 &c., exported from Hull. 496.

During the later years of Richard's life, there are  
 many references in the Patent and other Rolls to a Richard de la  
 Pole of Hartington, M.P. for Derby, a Justice in Eyre for  
 Pickering forest, and a member of many commissions and inquisitions  
 in the Midlands and the Duchy of Lancaster. This Richard should 497.  
 not be confused with the Richard of Hull and London whom he  
 survived until 1356. He was possibly the second son of Sir  
 William the Welsh Knight, whose widow held lands in Great Sardon,  
 Staffs, in 1316, but unlike Richard of Hull, was not himself  
 knighted. (see p. 3). 498.

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22. Richard's Family.

Sir Richard de la Pole died at his manor of Milton  
 near Peterborough, on Sunday, 31st July, 1345, leaving an heir  
 Sir William, junior, aged 30 years or more. He had made his 499.  
 will at Milton five months earlier, in the presence of three  
 Northamptonshire Knights and Henry Darcy, a former Mayor of  
 London. His executors were his heir William junior (his eldest  
 son Roger having died) and his widow Johanna, with his brother  
 William and his son-in-law Ralph, Lord Basset K.G. of Weldon.  
 He directed his will to be sealed by the Mayor of London and  
 his body to be interred in Holy Trinity Church at Hull. The  
 arms of Sir Richard appear on two shields on the north wall of  
 the Ravenser or 'Broadley' Chapel in Trinity Church, Hull, and  
 on the canopy of an unidentified tomb below.

Richard left funds for the building and repairing of  
 Holy Trinity Church, for a chaplain to celebrate there, and for  
 distribution among the chaplains there and in London, and his  
 best palfrey for a mortuary fee. He also left rents for the  
 support of a chaplain to celebrate in perpetuity for his soul,  
 the souls of his parents and benefactors and of all faithful  
 departed in the church where he was to be buried. It seems 500.  
 probable that he would be buried in the newly-built chancel of  
 Holy Trinity Church. A tomb in the south aisle of the choir  
 supporting two effigies may be that of Richard and his wife.  
 The man is attired in the dress of a mid-14th century merchant

with a seal and a whittle (of a kind used to cut tallies)  
suspended from his belt.

501.

Richard also made provision for the repair of public ways to the west of Hull and the King's highways leading north from London. To Johanna his widow he left his houses in Lombard Street and a third part of his goods and chattels, except his silver and his military equipment which were to be divided between his two sons Sir William and Sir John. The remaining two-thirds were to be divided between the two sons and his unmarried daughter Margaret. Another daughter, Elizabeth, a nun of Barking received an annuity of five silver marks out of the Lombard Street property. A third daughter Joan, wife of Ralph Basset is not mentioned in the will. 502. 502a.

Richard, at his death, held a number of manors in the Fen country, and the Northants manor of Milton, all jointly with his wife, but no tenements in London except in Lombard Street. (see App. C). In Hull, in addition to his High Street house, Richard had yearly rents of £13.6.8d from tenements built upon, and £6.11.4d from plots not built upon. In that part of Myton known as Aton fee, held of Sir John Mowbray, he had tenants in fee or in bondage rendering £4.19.2d yearly. Both in Myton Manor and in Aton fee his arable and meadow lands had depreciated owing to inundations from the Humber and the river Hull. Each Bovate of land worth 30s. yearly in 1293 was now valued at only 10s. His windmill in Aton fee was returned as "worth nothing because it is decayed and not let to farm." 503. 504.

Some of Richard's property just outside the town lay in "le Pole Strete." Here in 1345 his son conveyed land at the corner of Hull Street and Pole Street to Adam Pund. After the death of Richard's widow in 1350, his son released two tenements to Pund, who became Mayor of Hull in 1352. His various tenements in the northern part of Hull Street are detailed in the town rental of 1347. Richard's lordship of the Aton fee extended beyond Myton and included the annual rental of £6.10.8d from free tenants in Hessele, £3.4.4d from bondsmen in West Ella, together with properties in Oustmersk, Willerby and North Ferriby, all held of Sir John Mowbray. 505. 506. 507.

According to a local tradition Richard was a benefactor of the Carmelite Friars at Hull. He held in 1342 a garden of  $\frac{1}{2}$  acres at the site now occupied by the Hull Trinity House, which his son (possibly in accordance with his father's intention) made over to the Carmelites in 1352 "for the enlargement of their dwelling place." 508. 509.

It seems odd that at his death Richard and his heirs were heavily in debt to the Exchequer. Yet three years later there was an Exchequer summons against the heirs of Richard and tenants of his lands for a debt of £2,576.12.0d. Towards its liquidation the Peruzzi Society were bound by their own recognizance to pay 2,500 marks leaving a debit balance of £909.18.8d. The King was led to excuse this debt because of

the good service which Richard had rendered him, and the remission by Richard of the King's debt of 800 marks five years earlier, and also because Richard's mansion in Lombard Street had been given up to the King by his widow and her new husband Sir Thomas de Chaworth, and by Richard's heir, William, junior. 510.

William junior had £20 yearly out of the town of Basingstoke, but two years after his father's death the town was taken into the King's hands because it had been granted to Richard "by an untruthful suggestion." The financial condition of William junior and his business relations with his uncle are indicated in a series of documents executed by them in 1353 and extended in May 1355, when the nephew entered into five separate bonds with his uncle acknowledging debts ranging from £400 to 50 marks to be levied in default of payment on his lands in Norfolk, which now included the manor of Seething. These bonds amounting in all to £800 provided security covering five corresponding indentures under which William was to hold extensive lands and rents, the property of Richard his late brother, in Myton, in the Aton fee, and in Kingston upon Hull. 511.

Sir William de la Pole, junior, married in 1351, Margaret, sister and heiress of Sir John Peverel of Castle Ashby. He had already made over his property in Myton Manor to his cousin Michael, his other local properties passing to his uncle by 1355. In 1364, styled "Baron" and "Lord of Castle Ashby," purposing to join a Crusade to the Holy Land he received the cross at the hands of the Pope. In his letters of recommendation to the Emperor of Constantinople and others, the Pope noted that William "hopes to lead with him a great number of the English." 512.

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By the time of his death in September 1366, William had alienated all his Peveril manors in Northants, and his property in Yorkshire. 516.

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### 23. William's Later Years.

Following the troubles of 1340-44, the King resumed financial relations with the brothers de la Pole. In June 1345, the King ordered William's account for victuals supplied in 1340 to be paid and in September, William lent the King 2,000 marks, receiving, as of old, an assignment from the Hull Customs. Repayment by customs assignment was at times liable to be long suspended, and it may be that this loan of 1345 is the one referred to in a grant of May 1352 which authorised William to take 20s. on each sack of wool exported from Hull after Michaelmas, until the 2,000 marks should be fully paid. 439.

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In 1346, in recompense for the Holderness manors taken into the King's hands, William had been granted the ancient custom on exports at Hull, viz.  $\frac{1}{2}$  mark on each sack of wool, one mark on each last of hides and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mark on every 300 wool-fells; and also 2s. a tun on imported wine. The Collectors at Hull were 193.

520.

to account on their roll for the moneys paid to de la Pole, who was again to hold one half of the Customs seal. 521.

The Customs payments to de la Pole continued to be made till 1354, since an acquittance by him for £680.3.4<sup>1</sup>d received from the collectors at Hull survives in a deed dated and sealed at Hull, 27th September of that year. In December 1353 the collectors were ordered not to pay any further moneys of the ancient custom to de la Pole who "has submitted himself to the King's will touching all the debts and other things which he demands from the King in accordance with the treaty between them." Nevertheless, the Customs were to continue to pay de la Pole his yearly fee of 260 marks "to maintain his estate of banneret." 522. 523.

In March 1346, the King had restored to his "beloved and faithful William de la Pole" the houses in Lombard Street, in the King's hands since 1340, to hold in the same way he had held them before his arrest. (See App. C). With his re-occupation of the London banking house, William began once again to make loans to the general public. In 1346-8 his loans included two to East Yorkshire families, viz. £1,000 to Herbert de St. Quintin and £100 to John Lord Fauconberg. 524. 525. Between 1350 and 1355 he lent £200 to John de Mowbray, Lord of Axiholm, £240 to Geoffrey le Say in Kent, and £90 to Gerard de Grimston in Holderness. In 1354, there was a small loan of 20 marks to Thomas de Cheworth, who had married his sister-in-law, Joan, and later a loan of £300 jointly to Sir Thomas Cheworth, senior and junior. As late as 1362, a citizen of York owing William £23.12.8d was committed to the Fleet Prison. 526. 527. 528.

Before the final settlement between the King and de la Pole, the latter was again in 1343 urgently required to advise the Council in London. At the beginning of the new French campaign, he was called to Westminster in July 1345, to consider matters touching the safety of the realm. Again in February 1347, he received, in Hull, an urgent order to go to Westminster "with all speed by day and night" to discuss with the Council "certain secret things specially touching the King" and to do what would be enjoined him on the King's behalf. This discussion may well have related to the siege of Calais, since after its capture in the summer of 1347, de la Pole, with Archbishop Stratford, John de Pulteney and others was ordered to go to Calais and give his assistance in re-establishing order and government in the town. He was at another meeting of the Council in 1349, this time with other merchants to discuss mercantile affairs, and again at a meeting at Westminster as late as 1356. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533.

An incident in 1349 shows that de la Pole was then doing important business at the court of Rome, but whether commercial or ecclesiastical does not appear. In order to obtain 2,000 florins for prosecuting some business in Rome, de la Pole paid that sum to Tidemann de Lemberg, a German merchant in London, probably receiving in return a bill of exchange. John Leek, Rector of the Church of Foston in the East Riding was sent by



de la Pole to draw the money in the court of Rome, and to prosecute his business there. Leek however died in the court after having been paid the florins, which were found in his custody and detained as his goods. In due course Sir William and Tidemann came before the Chancellor in Chancery, and testified to the facts, whereupon Sir William obtained Letters Patent from the Crown in order to regain control over his florins in Rome. 534.

In William's later years, repayments of his loans were increasingly acknowledged by his son, Michael, acting as his attorney. This occurs in two instances of loans made to family connections. Sir Richard Scrope, who had married William's daughter Blanche, borrowed £200 from her father in 1350, and repaid it eventually to Michael de la Pole. Another son-in-law Sir Robert Neville of Hornby Castle, who had borrowed £2,000 was imprisoned in Newgate under a writ taken out by William. On payment of the debt, with damages and costs, Michael requested the London Sheriff to release Sir Robert. The same year, Michael loaned Sir Robert's son £200, taking as security Hornby Castle. It was possibly in connection with a loan to Sir Robert de Neville, that the latter in 1348 demised to William and his heirs the Manor of Appleby in north Lincs. The land however proved to be worth little and was described on the death of William and of his widow as "hard and stony, and lies in common and uncultivated on account of its sterility." 535.  
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In 1354, William and Michael jointly purchased lands, rents, &c., in Stamford (Lincs.) and Burley. The same year William's three sons, Michael, Thomas and Edmund jointly acquired a number of manors in the south of England, which were later inherited by Michael's descendant, William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk. Three of these manors were applied by the Duke to the endowment of the Hospital at Ewelme in 1437. 540.  
541.

The year following his investment at Stamford, Michael was on active service abroad in the expedition of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, but it seems probable that towards the end of his father's life he would carry on the family banking business in Lombard Street. In 1364, William de Nessefield, Steward of the Duchy of Lancaster, borrowed £80 and promised to pay Sir Michael at his house in Lombard Street, London. In 1374, Michael received assignments for a loan of £1,800 made to the King. Two years later, when he was Mayor of Hull, he loaned £80 to merchants of London and £80 to a merchant of Barton on Humber. 542.  
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In 1353 William began to hand over his properties and responsibilities to his eldest son. He granted first his life estate in £70 of rent out of the fee-farm of Kingston upon Hull to Michael forthwith. Under the grant of 1339, provision had been made for the fee-farm to pass to William's heirs, and in fact the rent was now paid to Michael and in turn to his descendants. The following year Michael was granted 400 marks annually from the Hull Customs jointly with his father, payable in moieties at Whitsun and Martinmas (see p. 43). From 1382, Michael received part of this grant, viz. 220 marks from lands in fee and the 546.  
547.  
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balance of 180 marks from the Customs. Four years later Michael was granted part of the manor of Faxfleet in exchange for £50 out of the grant on the Hull Customs.

549.

Reference is made at the conclusion of the pardon granted him in 1354 to de la Pole's advancing years - "and because the aforesaid William is said to be impotent and of great age, and cannot personally labour in prosecuting and defending pleas, and other of his affairs, in the public courts, the King granted for himself and his heirs that the said William may appear by his attorney." Michael, his heir, a future Lord Chancellor, and probably educated for the law, became his father's attorney in 1355, "to gain or lose for him in all courts of England, to sue and receive any sums due to his father by recognizances," or otherwise, and to do all other court business for his father.

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551.

That William continued to export wool in his later years is shown by two surprising offences committed by him against the customs and the export laws. In 1353, 46 sacks and more of wool were taken uncustomed out of the country in his name, for which he was compelled to give bond to the King in £463.9.8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d, this being their value, forfeited to the King at £10 the sack. As the King was at that time also under bond to William for a loan of £500, the latter found it expedient to petition the King to accept cancellation of the royal bond, involving a sacrifice by William of £36.10.3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. The King accepted, and the two bonds were cancelled.

552.

Ten years later, William was convicted before Justices of the King's Bench of an offence against the law prohibiting the export of wool by denizens. Early in 1363, he had sold 300 sacks of wool to John Goldbetere of York under colour of one John of Flanders, in whose name they were exported with the knowledge and consent of Goldbetere. William was pardoned, on paying a fine of 100 marks, but Goldbetere was outlawed. The latter had long been prominent at York, where he had joined in a loan of 2,000 marks to William in 1338 for the King's business overseas.

553.

554.

A serious charge of "mahaym," (or maiming) was brought against William and his family in 1353 by John de Berlund of Co. Durham. The case resulted in an award by arbitration of 300 marks to the plaintiff. The award was dated on November 16th, at Lombard Street, probably in Sir William's banking house, his co-defendants being his two sons Sir Michael and Sir Thomas, his nephews Sir William junior and Sir John, and others.

555.

There are few references in records at Hull to Sir William de la Pole in his later years. In July, 1347, a rental of Kingston was drawn up by the governing body of the town, in the presence of the Mayor, two bailiffs, and other burgesses. De la Pole himself took part in the inquiry and is given precedence in the record over the Mayor and other witnesses. When the alien priories were taken into the King's hands in 1352, owing to the

556.

war with France, de la Pole received at Hull the mainpernors given on behalf of two local merchants to whom the priory at Burstall in Holderness was then committed. In 1361, he witnessed at Willerby a deed of Sir John Meaux to endow a chantry at Haltemprice Priory, to commemorate the Meaux family and Joan, Princess of Wales.

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In 1360, William, with his wife and heirs, was granted houses in Kingston upon Hull and at Little Smeaton (Yorks) formerly owned by people who had supported the Scots. Possibly William still made visits to his scattered manors accompanied by his chaplain, since in 1352, Pope Clement VI had granted him the exceptional indult to have a portable altar and also a licence to have mass celebrated in places under an interdict. In the last year of his life William had occasion to complain of malefactors breaking into his lands at Colthorp. When his agents impounded the cattle of the culprits, the latter broke into his pound and released their cattle. The usual commission was appointed to hear and decide the matter.

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Sir William de la Pole, the elder, died at Hull on Sunday, 21st June, 1366. Many years before, Pope Clement VI had granted him and his wife Katherine an indult to choose their confessors who were to give them (being penitent) plenary remission at the hour of death. He had also long had his private chapel in the manor house at Hull.

562.

In a brief will, made in August 1365, de la Pole left it for his executors - his widow and his heir - to decide his place of burial (see p. 66). He left all his lands and tenements at Hull (except those left in his hands by John Rotenhering) to his wife for life, with remainder to his son Sir Michael, subject to the payment of £20 from rents to the Maison Dieu hospital founded by him at Hull. He also left his wife all his goods and chattels whether in England or abroad.

563.

The lands of William in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, including the liberty of Holderness were taken over at his death by the three eschaetors and delivered to his heir in September 1366. William held extensive properties in and around Hull. In Holderness, he no longer held lands of the King, and his properties there had shrunk to Bewholme, East Halsham and Rimswell. It seems probable that William's lands in Bewholme and Rimswell had been acquired from Sir Herbert de St. Quintin who was heavily in his debt in 1347 (see p. 59).

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Most of his manors and lands, including 40 messuages and 2 gardens at Hull, the manor of Myton and 18 acres of land in Cottingham and Newland were held at his death jointly with his wife. The Cottingham and Newland properties with the advowson of North Cave Church were held of Edward the Black Prince, but the manor of Myton was held of the King in capite. His lands in Westella, part of his lands in Myton (other than the manor) and all of his lands in Hessle consisting of 86 acres of arable

and meadow and 4 acres of woodland were held (jointly with his wife and heir) of Lord Mowbray as part of the Aton fee. He also held the advowsons of Foston and Colthorp (Yorks) and Frisby (Lincs). 367. 568.

Sir William probably continued to reside at the Manor House in Lowgate until his death in 1366. There is mention of a member of his household in the foundation deed, c.1350, of the Gild of Saint John the Baptist, a fraternity of tailors at Hull. Among the names endorsed on the deed is that of "William, domestic tailor of Lord William de la Pole." 569.

Some idea of the size of the manor's household may be gathered from the Lay Subsidy Roll of 1377, recording the staff of his widow. She is shown in the roll as a resident in Myton, which included the site of the manor house in Lowgate. "Domina Katina de Pole," as she is recorded, had 17 persons in her establishment liable to the tax of 4d per head. Her named servants included Hugone de la Kychyn, Will.<sup>s</sup> Plant Gardener, Thomas Baker, John Bakerson, John de Colthorpe, Clerk, and Alice de Wath Chambers. There was also a Will.<sup>s</sup> de Thweng who may have been the William Twenge, a clerk associated with Sir William's clerk, John de Chesterfield. It would appear from the roll, that no de la Pole was resident in High Street, in 1377. 570. 571.

The value of de la Pole's various estates in the north of England can be gauged from a rent-roll made for his widow in the year 1380-81. "Rents and farms" payable on properties near her Hull residence realised (in round figures) Hull £84, Myton £8, Newland £2, Hessle, Ferriby, &c., £22. In Holderness, Rimswell produced £20, Bewholme £7 and East Halsham £2. Lands in West Yorkshire (Colthorp, Little Smeaton, &c.), in Co. Durham (Bradbury, Preston, &c.) and Westwood in Lincs produced in all £62.

Dower moneys amounting to £22 were paid to the dowager by her son, Sir Michael de la Pole. In all, Katherine de la Pole received £229.17.10½d, equivalent possibly to £15,000 today. 572.

The receiver of the de la Pole rents and farms for Hull and district was John de Colthorp, her resident clerk; for Holderness and the dower moneys, William de Hedon, and for the more distant possessions, Hugh de Mapilton. 573.

By the time of Katherine's grandson, the 2nd Earl of Suffolk, the northern de la Pole rental had risen to £243.19.8d. 574.

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#### 24. The Charterhouse.

The scheme for founding a hospital with an associated religious house at Hull was initiated by Sir William de la Pole in 1354 but not completed until his son's endowment of the later Maison Dieu in 1384. - 63 -

Sir William was granted licence in 1354 to found a hospital of chaplains and poor persons at Hull with power to assign up to 20 acres of land and £20 of rent in Hull and Myton as endowment. By 1365, he had established the hospital with its chapel on a site known as " 'La Maison Dieu,' by Hull," consisting of seven acres of land formerly part of his manor of Myton. The first Hospital was actually endowed by Sir William with four messuages in Hull (including John Rotenhering's early home in Monkgate) and the manor of Frisby, Lincs. The year before his death Sir William had licence under a papal mandate and two licences in mortmain to change the religious house into one for 13 nuns of the Order of Saint Clare, together with the hospital for poor persons, the endowments to be extended by four messuages in Hull and three advowsons of churches.

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Associated with the Master of the original Hospital was a small college of chaplains said by the Chronicle of Meaux to have been six in number. The nuns however were not in fact appointed, and Sir Michael de la Pole after his father's death provided, in 1377, for the foundation of a priory of Carthusian monks, on the ground that "their rules would be served with more vigilance and devotion than by women."

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The Carthusian Priory was built on the messuage of seven acres previously occupied by the first Maison Dieu. It stood in Myton outside the town of Hull on the north, and lay between "a Hospital of ours now called La Maison Dieu" on the east and a "certain pitfall" of Dame Katherine de la Pole on the west. It thus appears from the Priory's foundation deed of 18th February 1378, that a new Maison Dieu was already in existence when the monks took over the old site with the chapel and other buildings there. The deed was sealed by Sir Michael at Hull in the presence of Lord Chancellor Scrope (the founder's brother-in-law), the Mayor of Kingston, and other burgesses and local knights.

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The priory church and conventual buildings, with cells originally for 13 monks stood within a close near to the reputed site of the de la Pole brickyard. The church was probably aisled and, according to Ieland, built of brick. It was dedicated to the B.V. Mary, St. Michael and all Angels, and Saint Thomas of Canterbury, and known from its foundation as the house of St. Michael.

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In addition to its large messuage the priory was endowed with the advowson of Foston Church, the manor of Sculcoates with ten messuages and extensive lands, and with 10 marks of rents in Bishop Burton and Sutton in Holderness. The first prior, appointed by the founder, was Master Walter de Kele.

583.

The founder's son, Sir Michael (2), was licensed in 1398 to grant further lands in Anlaby to the priory; and in 1436 William de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, added further lands

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in Kingston upon Hull. In 1441 the Duke (as William had now become) gave the priory the manor of Rimswell in Holderness. In 1462 the prior and convent agreed with Alice de la Pole, Duchess of Suffolk, to perform certain religious services and to make daily distribution of pottage and beer to the poor of Hull in commemoration of the late Duke.

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The endowment of the new Maison Dieu, independent of the priory was not effected until the foundation charter of 1384. Authority to alienate lands, &c., in mortmain, for the support of the earlier almshouse had been obtained in 1354 and 1365 under the same licences which authorised the endowment of a religious house; but no separate foundation charter for the first almshouse appears to have survived. A new licence in mortmain specifically for the almshouse was granted in August 1383.

588.

The rebuilt hospital was situated in two messuages containing one acre and a half of land to the east of the Carthusian Priory. It was founded for 13 poor men and 13 poor women feeble or old "as was first provided."

589.

In addition to the two messuages, the hospital was endowed with five messuages in Hull and one messuage in Cottingham, together with four oxgangs of arable land and fourteen acres of meadow and pasture. These Cottingham lands were appropriated by the consent of Joan, Princess of Wales. A sum of £100, given by the founder for exigencies, was placed in a chest at the Treasury of the Priory. The first master and warden was Sir Richard de Killum, chaplain, who was bound to celebrate every day in one of the chapels of the house. By 1394, two chapels had been erected.

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The foundation deed was executed by Sir Michael de la Pole at Hull, on 1st March, 1384, in the presence of Alexander Neville, Archbishop of York, Henry de Percy, Earl of Northumberland, the Mayor of Kingston and others (including five witnesses of the Priory Deed).

Sir Michael's eldest son, the 2nd Earl of Suffolk, further endowed the Hospital in 1408 with considerable lands and rents in Hessle, Tranby, Westella, Willerby, Ferriby and Myton. These lands comprised 86 acres of arable and pasture land, with 6 oxgangs, some tofts and gardens, and rents, amounting to £11.3.2d. There were also six acres of woodland in Hessle, the "Hessilwod" acquired by Sir William in 1331. This grant, so far as it related to the Aton fee had the consent of Thomas Mowbray, Earl Marshal. The deed, or charter, was executed by the Earl of Suffolk at Wingfield Castle where it was witnessed by the Mayor and Bailiffs and other burgesses of Hull. The two foundation deeds of 1384 and 1408, in the "Charterhouse" collection at Hull, bear respectively the seals of the 1st and the 2nd Earls of Suffolk.

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The burial place of Sir William de la Pole had been left to the discretion of his executors and it is reasonable to suppose that he was buried in the chapel of the first Maison Dieu Hospital which stood on the site where the monastery was afterwards built. The chapel of the later Hospital, according to the Valor Ecclesiasticus of 1535 and Charterhouse Deeds of 1552 and 1556, was dedicated to the Holy Trinity and the conjecture 596. that Sir William was buried in Holy Trinity Church probably arose from this coincidence of dedications.

Saint Michael's monastery was founded expressly to commemorate Sir William and his family, Sir Michael and his family, and their benefactors. Sir William's widow, Dame Katherine, who died in 1382, four years after the priory's foundation, desired to be buried in the choir of the church "constructed by him" (her late husband). Sir Michael, the Lord Chancellor and his wife were both buried in the chancel. Their son Michael, 2nd Earl of Suffolk, desired in his will to be buried in the priory church between the High Altar and the tomb of his parents, if he should die in the north country. He died on campaign at Harfleur in France in 1415, and was therefore buried in the south, at Wingfield. The latter's son, William, Duke of Suffolk, assassinated at sea, near Dover, in 1450, was first buried at Wingfield, and in 1458 brought to Hull where he was buried in the Charterhouse in accordance with his will. 597. 598. 599.

The precise positions of the tombs of Sir William the Mayor and William the Duke are given by Wriothesley, Garter King, who visited the Priory c.1500. The Mayor was buried beneath the High Altar, and the Duke in front of and beneath the High Altar. It seems improbable that these tombs or that of Michael de la Pole were removed from the Priory Church after its Dissolution in 1539. Much of the stonework of the Priory was used in 1541 for the construction of the Blockhouses in Drypool, when, as Leland gathered a few years later, "dyverse trowehes of Lead with Bones in a Volte under the High Altar" were found. 600. 601.

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William de la Pole:  
Grant of Knight Banneretcy.

Know that our faithful and well-beloved subject, William de la Pole presently after our coming to the parts on this side of the sea, hearing and understanding that our affairs, for which we took our journey were for want of money very dangerously deferred, and being sensible of our wants, came in person unto us, and to us and our followers hath made and procured to be made such a supply of money that by his means our honour, and the honour of our followers -thanks to God!- hath been preserved, which otherwise had been exposed to great danger.

And afterwards the said William, continuing our supply with exceeding bounty hath undertaken the payment of great sums for us to divers persons, for which he hath engaged himself by bonds and obligations, and if he had not done so, and intrusted his bounty and goodwill thus, not only unto us, but also unto our confederates and subjects with us in Brabant, we could not by any means have been supplied, but must necessarily, with a great deal of reproach, have ruined our journey and designs. And by his means, being assisted and supplied, we got to Hainault, near the marches of France, but could go no further, our moneys thereagain failing us. And when it was held for certain that our journey was altogether in vain and our affairs utterly ruined, the said William, having still a care to relieve our extreme necessity, engaged himself and his whole estate, procured for us a great sum of money, and delivered us again out of exceeding great danger.

We, therefore, having worthy and grateful considerations of the premises, as also of the importable burden and expenses which the said William has undertaken for us, and doth undergo, and being willing to advance him to honour, having decorated him with the belt of Knighthood, commanding him that he take upon him and hold the state and honour of a Banneret; and, that he may the better, and with reputation, support the aforesaid honour and estate both (for) himself and his heirs, we have granted to the said William, and his heirs, within our realm of England, lands and rents in Kingston upon Hull, and elsewhere, to the value of five hundred marks a year.

Moreover, forasmuch as the said William, in our aid, and for the recovery of our right of inheritance within the kingdom of France, hath most liberally expended himself, and his estate, we promise and grant to the said William, that if it so fortune that we recover and get our aforesaid right of inheritance, we will give and assign to him out of our lands and rents so recovered, in some convenient place within the said kingdom, to the value of one thousand marks sterling a year, to have and to hold to him and his heirs of us, and our heirs for ever.



APPENDIX A. (continued).

Given under our hand at Marcoyne, in France, September the 27th, in the 13th year of our reign. (1339).

Witnesses - Henry, Bishop of Lincoln.  
William Northampton.  
William Salisbury.  
Robert Suffolk.  
Henry de Ferrers, our Chamberlain.  
Percy, Steward of our House.

(Tickell History of Hull, p.22)

Note. This grant to de la Pole of the status and dignity of a Knight Banneret appears in the text of the Patent Roll under the year 1339 (C 66, No.201, m.13), but was omitted in the printed Calendar. The grant was renewed in Letters Patent dated May 2, 1355, and is printed in the Calendar for that year (C.P.R. 1354-58, 209).

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APPENDIX B.

De la Pole Houses: Hull.

(1) The Merchant House.

Richard's residence in High Street on the north side of Grimsby Lane stood on part of the site which had been held in 1293 by John del Wyk, father and son, who took their name from the early township Wyke upon Hull. The messuage had a frontage of 32 feet and included a large garden reaching westward to the Austin Friary, with direct access to the Market Gate and Holy Trinity Church. This was the residence of Richard and his brother William in 1320, when it was the property of John Rotenhering. After the latter's death in 1328 it was acquired by Richard subject to a yearly rent of six marks payable under Rotenhering's will to Sir Robert del Ker, chaplain at Holy Trinity Church. The house opposite, on the south side of Grimsby Lane was then Rotenhering's dwelling and was probably connected with Richard's house over the narrow lane.

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By 1347, and for a century later, the High Street property also included three messuages opposite Richard's house, lying between High Street and the River Hull, the whole paying a burgage rent of 2ls.3d. These latter messuages would accomodate the de la Pole wine vaults and warehouses, and included "a staithe

and a crane built upon the staithe." The property extended to "the middle of the Water of Hull" providing a quay for the shipping of Rotenhering and the de la Poles after him.

The capital burgage of Richard with its adjacent curtilage passed in 1345 to Richard's son, William, junior, and from him to William, senior. It was held by the latter's descendants, together with two large messuages a few yards to the south, the two having a combined frontage of 93 feet. In 1391, Michael de la Pole, 2nd Earl of Suffolk, conveyed the whole of the property to Simon de Grimsby, a prominent Hull merchant, then Mayor of Hull.

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The High Street site, held from the 13th to the 15th century by four outstanding Hull families, is clearly one of particular interest in relation to the early history of Hull trade and commerce.

(2) The Manor House.

The site of the de la Pole Manor House in Lowgate was within the Aton fee in that part of Myton which became merged in Kingston upon Hull. The outer manor buildings were either within the manor of Myton, acquired by the brothers de la Pole in 1330, but more probably they were for the most part within that part of the Aton fee comprised within Wyke upon Hull.

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The Manor House of William de la Pole was also possibly on or near the site of the Manor Hall which Edward I ordered to be made in 1297 at Myton near Hull, for the custody of the town by his bailiff, Richard Oysel. These early buildings were to comprise a suitable hall, chambers and chapel, with a ditch enclosing the buildings and a bridge for entry from the town.

610.

De la Pole's properties on the Lowgate site are detailed in the Town Rental of 1347. They were bounded on the east by Marketgate (now Lowgate), on the south by Bishopgate (now Bowlalley Lane), and westward towards the town moat and also on the north-west by "the common way under and within the north moat." The estate had a frontage on Lowgate of 719 feet, but probably less than one-half of its area was within the Fee of Aton.

The Rental describes the capital messuage of de la Pole as follows -

"And there is within the 'Mansum' of the said Sir William one other plot of the said Fee of Aton to wit the middle place of the court of the said Sir William extending up to a certain house in the same 'Mansum' of the said Sir William which is called

APPENDIX B. (continued)

Gardenerhouse towards the west, and it contains by these bounds in length 332 feet, and in width from the north wall of the chapel of the 'Mansum' of the said Sir William to the wall of the same court towards the south 62 feet. And pays to the King per annum 22s.8d."

611.

The Manor House, later known as the Courthall, is said to have been rebuilt by Sir Michael de la Pole c.1383. The main buildings were of brick and stone; the other buildings and the enclosure walls were, like the earlier Carthusian Priory, of brick. The Great Hall was 60 feet by 40 feet, and a large chamber 60 feet by 20 feet. The Chapel, like the Priory, was dedicated to Saint Michael and measured 28 feet by 15 feet. The courtyard and the kitchen garden each covered half an acre, and the flower garden an acre.

Gent's detailed description of the premises is taken from Beckwith's Survey made for the Crown in 1538. Drawings of the buildings (but with their Tudor additions) are preserved in the British Museum.

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Leland mentions other houses built by Sir Michael in Hull - "Michael de la Pole buildid also 3 houses besides (the "goodly house lyke a palace") in the town, whereof every one hath a tour of brike, 2 of them be in the hart of the town. The 3 is apou Hull ripe (bank) in the haven side."

614.

The practice of building a tower to town houses in the the Italian fashion was probably introduced into Hull by Sir Michael after his embassies to Milan in 1379, and 1383. One of these houses was later the White Horse hostel of the Duke of Suffolk, in Marketgate. Another, which displayed the leopard's face of de la Pole stood to the south of the Market Cross.

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APPENDIX C.

De la Pole Houses: London and York.

(1) Lombard Street.

The brothers de la Pole had each a business house in Lombard Street, London. The famous banking house of the Italian Bardi Company on the north side of Lombard Street was occupied in the 13th century by Gregory de Rokesley, Mayor of London, who, like Richard de la Pole after him had held the offices of King's Butler and Gauger of Wines, and like William had been Keeper of the King's Exchanges. (see pp. 17 & 23).

APPENDIX C. (continued).

Acquired by the Bardi Company in 1318, the house had been purchased from them by Edward III in 1328 for £700, for the use of his Great Wardrobe. William de la Pole was granted the use of the house at some time prior to 1333, by which time, the Keeper of the Wardrobe had established himself elsewhere in the city, for as long as de la Pole should continue to occupy the Bardi mansion. In November 1338, William was promised possession of the house, which was in fact ceded to him in September 1339. The Lombard Street house was taken into the King's hands in 1340 on the arrest of William, but restored to him in March 1346. As the King's Wardrobe officials had meanwhile resumed their occupation of the 'houses,' the Keeper was ordered on the same day to remove the Wardrobe to the Tower of London and deliver up the houses to William. The grant of 1346 was confirmed by Letters Patent in 1355 and the property continued to be used as a banking house by William, and by his son Michael, Earl of Suffolk.

617.  
618.  
619.  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
620.  
621.

Sir Michael de la Pole appears to have rebuilt the Lombard Street house in the year 1355, when judgement was given for him in an action brought against his neighbour. Sir Michael had complained of the lack of a gutter to carry off the rain-water from his neighbour's house and of a ruinous chimney overhanging his own newly-built house, both of them in the parish of St. Mary Wolnothe. On the outlawing of the Earl in 1389, the house was taken over by the Crown, but restored to his son in 1398. In the order for restitution, the property is referred to as "an inn or tenement and twelve shops adjacent in the parishes of St. Mary Wolnothe in 'Lumbardestrete' and St. Michael Cornhill." (The site of the house, extending from Lombard Street to Cornhill is now occupied by the head office of Lloyd's Bank).

622/3.  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
624.

+ + + + +

In 1328, soon after he became King's Butler, Richard de la Pole acquired (jointly with his wife and his heir) houses in Lombard Street, near to the King's Great Wardrobe, in the parish of St. Edmund the King. He made further acquisitions in the same parish in 1331 and again in 1334, and was elected Alderman of the Ward of Bishopgate in 1330.

625.  
626.

In 1330 Richard seems to have rebuilt his residence, since he was then involved in an action against his neighbour 'when building a foundation for his house on the site of a former enclosure.' The form of the building, 'according to the ancient metes and bounds' was prescribed by the city assize. After nearly three months, the assize visited Richard's house, inspected the work, and found that the stonework running from St. Michael's Churchyard southward had been duly built according to the prescribed form.

627.

On Richard's death his London messuage was valued at 5 marks per annum.

628.

APPENDIX C. (continued).

(2) York.

In connection with the war in Scotland, the King's Exchequer moved to York Castle in May 1333, and the Queen's Exchequer the following month. As the King's Exchequer remained at York until September 1338, it seems probable that William de la Pole would have a business house in York early in this period. In any case he had, by March 1338 acquired houses in 'Conyng' Street (Coney St.), the well-known banking centre of the Jewish financiers a century earlier. The houses were granted 'free of the livery of the King's Butler and other ministers.'

629.

630.

In September 1339, York became a port authorised to export wool direct, having its own Collector of Customs, with a Controller and a cocket seal. The privilege was granted in recognition of the part played by York in the French war effort. Provision was specially made for times "When great ships on account of too shallow water cannot get to the City."

631.

In these circumstances the wool would be duly customed at York and "taken thence in small ships or boats and put on board such (great) ships at Selby or Faxfleet." The following year, de la Pole's attorney at the 'Port of York' was given control over the customs seal there. The possibility that the shipment of wool from Hull would be prohibited in favour of York appears to have been then in contemplation, since de la Pole, who was granted the 'ancient custom' on wool at Hull in 1346, was to receive the custom at York or at any other Yorkshire port to which the shipment of wool might be transferred from Hull.

632.

633.

In 1353, when the Staple of Wools, &c., for Yorkshire was fixed at York, the export dues were assessed and the goods sealed there, before removal to Hull for verification and shipment.

634.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Bibliographical Note.

The material for a history of the de la Pole family of Hull, though extensive appears to have attracted little attention. Napier's Historical Notices of Swyncombe and Ewelme and Aldwell's Wingfield: Its Church, Castle and College give the most considerable account of the family, more particularly for the period after the elevation of Michael de la Pole of Hull to the Earldom of Suffolk. The Hull forbears of the Suffolks are given some detailed treatment however in the appendices to Napier's work.

Tickell's History of Hull gives only a brief account of the family, whilst Frost in his Notices of the Early History of Hull deliberately confines himself to a pedigree of the Hull brothers, with their famous partition deed and a few foot-notes. Travis-Cook's Manor of Myton deals with the Hull properties of the brothers and Poulson's History of Holderness gives a detailed account of the family possessions in the seignory.

Two important collections of original de la Pole records have survived, viz. (1) documents relating to the lordships of Hull and Myton in the Penschurst Collection of Lord De L'Isle and Dudley, and (2) estate and family documents preserved at the Ewelme Almshouse, founded by William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk.

The various series of the Rolls publications form the principal source of information on the financial and trading activities of the brothers, more especially in reference to the financing of the Royal Households, the management of the Wool Monopoly and William's activities for the Crown in the early stages of the Hundred Years' War.

The subject of trade and finance in Edward III's reign, with special reference to the wool monopoly is treated comprehensively in Urwin's The Estates of Merchants in Finance and Trade under Edward III and Terry's The Financing of the 100 Year's War. The part played by William de la Pole in financing the Crown and in the wool transactions, leading to his prolonged and inconclusive trial is too complicated and obscure to be treated here in detail.

Reference should also be made to Lucas' The Low Countries and Hundred Years' War and Hughes' A Study of Social and Constitutional Tendencies in the Early Years of Edward III.

The Calendars prepared by the City Corporations of London and Hull, and by the Trustees of the Hull Charterhouse, together with the series of Ancient Deeds in the P.R.O. give particulars inter alia of the widespread de la Pole landed properties.

Details in the text from P.R.O. documents are normally taken from the printed Calendars, but in some instances the more extended translations given in Napier have been followed. A.S.E.

Abbreviations.

Rot. Parl.	Rotuli Parliamentorum.
Rot. Scot.	Rotuli Scotiae.
C. Ch. R.	Calendar of Charter Rolls.
C.P.R.	Calendar of Patent Rolls.
C.C.R.	Calendar of Close Rolls.
C. Chanc. R.	Calendar of Chancery Rolls.
C.F.R.	Calendar of Fine Rolls.
Cal. I.P.M.	Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem.
Cal. Misc. Inq.	Calendar of Miscellaneous Inquisitions.
Cal. Pap. Reg.	Calendar of Papal Registers (Papal Letters).
Inq. A.Q.D.	Inquisitions ad quod damnum.
Cat. A.D.	Catalogue of Ancient Deeds.
Anc. Corr.	Ancient Correspondence.
Anc. Pet.	Ancient Petitions.
Lib. R.	Liber Rolls.
Rot. Orig.	Originalia Rolls.
Ward. A/cs.	Wardrobe Accounts (Edward III).
Cal. Ltr. Books Ldn.	Calendar of Letter Books of the City of London.
Cal. P. & M.R. Ldn.	Calendar of Plea and Memoranda Rolls of the City of London.
Cal. H.R. Ldn.	Calendar - (M.S.) Hustings Rolls, Deeds and Wills, London.
Cal. R.A.N. Ldn.	Calendar - (M.S.) to Rolls of Assize of Nuisance, London, 1301-1427.
Cal. Esch. R. Ldn.	Calendar - (M.S.) to Escheat Rolls, London, 1340-89.
Cal. Hull Corp.	Calendar of Ancient Deeds, &c., Kingston (1951) L. M. Stanewell. upon Hull.
Cal. Hull. Chse.	Calendar of Documents relating to the Charterhouse of Kingston upon Hull (1906) E. Laverack.
B.B.	Hull Corporation Bench Book.
Pens. Colln.	Penshurst Collection: } Royal Commission } Report 77, Vol. I, 27-28. Historical Manuscripts } (Yorkshire 606).
Ewe. Colln.	Ewelme Collection: } Royal Commission } Report 8, 628. Historical Manuscripts }

Abbreviations (continued).

S.S.	Surtees Society.
Test. Ebor.	Testamenta Eboracensa (Surtees Society).
Y.A.S., R.S.	Yorkshire Archaeological Society: Record Series.
E.R.A.S. Trans.	East Riding Antiquarian Society, Transactions.
Rym.	Rymer's Federa.
R.D.P.	The House of Lords' Reports on the Dignity of a Peer (1826).
Melsa.	Chronica Monasterii de Melsa, E.A. Bond.
Murimuth.	Murimuth's Chronicle, E.M. Thompson.
Burttt.	M.S. Contributions to the Mediaeval History of Hull, Joseph Burttt (Wilson-Barkworth Colln, Hull Central Public Library).
Mon. Ang.	Dugdale's Monasticon Anglicanum.
Homeland.	The Homeland of the de la Poles, A.S. Harvey, Hull, 1934, Printed for Private Circulation.
P.R.O.	Public Record Office.
B.M.	British Museum.
D.N.B.	Dictionary of National Biography.

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Notes and References.

(An asterisk (\*) against a reference indicates that a photostat of the original document can be consulted at the Hull Central Public Library).

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1. Archaeologia XIII, 19.
2. The Britannia, Wm. Camden (enlarged by Richard Gough, 1789) II, 77.
3. B.B. II, 179.
4. Lloyd History of Wales II, 701: D.N.B. XXIII, 304.
5. The Paston Letters, Edited by James Gairdner II, 210.
6. Melsa, III, 48. C. 1396.
7. Leland's Itinerary, Part I, 48 (Toulmin Smith).
8. Camden, III, 14.
9. Charles Frost, Notices relative to the Early History of the Town and Port of Hull (1827), 31. (Brooke's reference (quoted by Frost) to an Inquisition taken 1336 9 Edward III cannot be confirmed by any known Inquisition of Edward III's reign).
10. Dugdale's Baronage (1676), II, 182.
11. C.C.R. 1354-60, 196: C.P.R. 1364-67, 322.
12. Frost, pedigree opposite p.31.
13. C.C.R. 1302-7, 318.
14. The D.N.B. statement that this Sir William died in 1328 is based on an obvious misreading of Frost (D.N.B. XLVI, 48).
15. C.P.R. 1343-45, 234.
16. C.C.R. 1302-7, 318: C. Chan. R. 1277-1326, 96.
17. C.F.R. IV, 203.
18. B.B. II, 83.
19. Burt, p.18a (ex York Assize Roll, 9 Edw. II).  
(Jordan le Flekere in 1293 held a plot in Halestreet, which by 1320 was held by John Rotenhering. B.B. II, 134).
20. J. Bilson, Wyke upon Hull in 1293, E.R.A.S. Trans. XXVI, 87.
21. The Monkgate house, formerly referred to as "De la Pole House" came into the possession of William de la Pole after the death of Rotenhering's heiress and was applied to the endowment of the Maison Dieu in 1365.
22. B.B. II, 132.

23. T.T. Wildridge, Honour Roll of Kingston upon Hull I, 17 1891.  
(B.B. II, 83).
24. C.P.R. 1327-30, 304.
25. B.B. II 93, 180.
26. Y.A.S.R.S. 16, 118.
27. B.B. II 130, et. seq.
28. Y.A.S.R.S. 16, 117.
29. The term "port of Hull" is used both for (1) the "great port" of Hull which comprised all the ports and coastline of Yorkshire and (2) the local port of Hull which comprised all the harbourage of the R. Hull, up to and including Beverley.
30. (Mon. Ang. VI, II, 959.  
(C.P.R. 1281-92, 321.  
(C.P.R. 1301-7, 503.
31. C. Ch. R. II, 353.
32. Cal. I.P.M. III 138 (Nos. 211-212).
33. C.P.R. 1292-1301, 137.
34. Ib. 343.
- 34a. The Anglo-Saxon designation "atte" is occasionally met with in the early years of the brothers at Hull. The more usual "de la" may suggest knightly origin of the family, but their normal use of the French language in both commercial and official documents only shows that the brothers followed the general practice in England of their time.
35. C.P.R. 1313-17, 401, 390.
36. C.C.R. 1318-23, 136.
37. Ib. 361.
38. C.P.R. 1327-30, 103; 1330-34, 434.
39. C.F.R. IV, 197.
40. C.P.R. 1317-21, 9.
41. Ib. 187; C.F.R. IV, 6.
42. C.C.R. 1318-23, 67.  
(Robert de Hastang would appear to have been Warden from 1316 to 1331).
43. \*Cat. A.D. III, 439 (D.292).
44. C.P.R. 1321-24, 84, 195.
45. Reg. Greenfield i, 289 (S.S. 152, 253).
46. Cal. Ltr. Bks. Ldn, D.53.  
(Hamo Box was Sheriff of London in 1291).

47. B.B. II, 140.
48. Frost, 119 et. seq.
49. J. Raine, Letters from Northern Registers p.334 (Reg. Melton 419-20).  
 (The Editor's marginal reference to the new appointment as "butler at the port of Hull" is obviously incorrect. The date of the letter should read 4 May, 1327).
50. N.S.B. Gras, The Early English Customs System p.211.
51. {C.C.R. 1327-30, 51: 150.  
 {Rym. IV, 299.
52. C.F.R. IV, 174.
53. Ib. 360.  
 The tun (or dole) of wine comprised 252 gallons, irrespective of the size of oasks in which contained.
54. Frost, 128. 53a. "Quo Warranto" - see page 98.
55. C.P.R. 1330-34, 526: 1334-38, 107, 182.
56. Burt, 14a, 19a.
57. C.C.R. 1318-23, 551.
58. Frost, App. 39.
- 58a. The tax on hides was one of the most productive of the Hull local dues. William also collected the town's tallage or levy.
59. Cal. Hull Corp. M.479 (1).
60. Wildridge, I, 21-22.
61. Frost, 141 (B.B. II, 205).
62. C.C.R. 1318-23, 170, 180.
63. C.C.R. 1323-27, 593.
64. Cal. Misc. Inq. II, 214 (No.859).
65. Return of Members of Parliament (1878) Part I, 66, 79.
66. Ib. 80.
67. Cal. P. & M.R. Ldn., XXXIV, 56.
68. C.F.R. III, 40, 75, &c. IV, 5, 6, &c. Y.A.S.R.S. 64, 6. iii.  
 (During this period members of the Barton family were frequently appointed Collectors. Robert, William and John de Barton in succession, served as joint Collectors with Richard).
69. Atton and Holland, The King's Customs, I, 7.
70. The term "Cocket" is thought to be a colloquialism deriving from the words "quo quietus est," which terminated the Customs 13th century form of acquittance. (An engraving of the early 14th c. Cocket Seal is given in the Gentleman's Magazine, 76, 1105).

71. Y.A.S., R.S. 64, 111.
72. Gras, 143, n.7.
73. C.P.R. 1340-43, 578.  
 (This Thomas de Swanland had in 1339 been commissioned to enquire into Customs irregularities on the east coast. Styled "King's merchant" he was in 1349 one of three "farmers" of the Customs for the whole country. In 1369 he and his wife were among the original subscribers to the Foundation Deed of the Hull Guild of the Holy Trinity).
74. C.C.R. 1330-33, 36; 1333-37, 20.  
 Rot. Parl. II, 385, 408.  
 H. Hall, Formula Book of Diplomatic Documents, 123.
75. C.P.R. 1327-30, 572.
76. C.C.R. 1327-30, 345, 353, 513.
77. C.F.R. IV, 435.
78. C.P.R. 1334-38, 166.
79. Ib. 168. 78a. See page 98.
80. C.P.R. 1345-48, 93.
81. C.C.R. 1349-54, 16, 333, &c.
82. C.F.R. VI, 384.
83. C.F.R. III, 257.
84. C.P.R. 1321-24, 98-100.
85. Burttt, 16c.  
 C.P.R. 1321-24, 225.
86. Hurdles - Fascines; used for crossing swamps and for protecting bowmen and others from stones.
87. Burttt, 16ab.
88. C.C.R. 1323-27, 247.  
 C.P.R. 1324-27, 60.
89. Burttt, 16b.
90. C.P.R. 1324-27, 249.
91. C.P.R. 1327-30, 518.
92. Ib. 544.
93. Cal. Ch. R. IV, 219. J. R. Boyle, Charters of Kingston upon Hull,
94. Cal. Hull Corp. D.39 (B.B. II, 203). p.13.
95. C.P.R. 1334-38, 253.
96. C.P.R. 1338-40, 382.
97. Inq. A.Q.D. 3 Edw. III, 204 (14).

98. \*Pens. Coll. No.1.  
C.P.R. 1327-30, 518;
99. C.F.R. IV, 175 (Travis-Cook, 78).
100. \*Pens. Coll. No.2.  
C.P.R. 1338-40, 386 (Travis-Cook, 86).
101. Cal. Hull Corp. D.31.  
(A week earlier the brothers had jointly made a grant of land in High St., Hull, near the North Gate, Cal. P. & M.R. Ldn., 1364-81, 217).
102. Cal. Hull Corp. D.36 (Travis-Cook, 139).
103. Melsa, II, 192.
104. C.P.R. 1338-40, 211.
105. B.B. II, 104 (Travis-Cook, 93).
106. Cal. I.P.M. VIII, 430 (No.596).
107. B.B. II, 104 (Travis-Cook, 95-6).
108. Crecy and Calais (William Salt Historical Collections, Vol.18, 32).
109. C.P.R. 1364-67, 322, 350.
110. Act 21 Rich. II, cap.13 (Travis-Cook, 110).
- 110a. Mark - For purposes of account 13s. 4d.
111. \*Frost, App.39; Cal. Hull Corp. D.28.
112. Cal. Ltr. Bks., Ldn., E.258.
113. C.C.R. 1330-33, 153. 606; C.C.R. 1333-37, 469. 526. 645.  
654. 717. &c.
114. C.C.R. 1333-37, 300. 352.
115. Ib. 84.  
Cal. Ltr. Bks. Ldn., E.250-1.
116. C.F.R. IV, 185.
117. C.C.R. 1337-39, 81.
118. C.P.R. 1334-38, 3.
119. C.C.R. 1337-39, 604.
120. Ib. 240.
121. C.C.R. 1333-37, 317. 319.
122. C.C.R. 1330-33, 187.
123. C.C.R. 1333-37, 20.
124. C.F.R. IV, 33. 237.
125. Ib. 359.
126. C.F.R. V, 65.

127. Burt, 14a.
128. C.F.R. IV, 45.
129. C.P.R. 1327-30, 391.
130. Ib. 128.
131. Roger Mortimer had witnessed on May 25th, 1330, the King's Ed. III Charter confirming the Hull Charter of 1299 (Boyle, p.12).
132. In May, 1327, the Mayor of London had been ordered to admit Richard's nominee, John de Shirburn to the office of Coroner as "he cannot execute the office in person." C.C.R. 1327-30, 129.
133. T. F. Tout, Chapters in Mediaeval Administrative History, IV, 159.
134. Cal. Ltr. Books, Ldn., B VII - VIII, 190n.
135. For the office of King's Butler, see H. Hall, Red Book of the Exchequer, III, 915.
136. C.F.R. IV, 56.
137. Madox, History of the Exchequer, 528.
138. C.P.R. 1281-92, 270. 278.
139. Frost, 122 et. seq.
140. C.P.R. 1327-30, 103.
141. Ib. 417-8.
142. Ib. 504.
143. C.P.R. 1334-38, 56.
144. C.P.R. 1330-34, 434.
145. Ib. 49.
146. C.P.R. 1334-38, 255.
147. C.C.R. 1341-43, 280. 575.  
C.C.R. 1343-46, 68.
148. C.P.R. 1327-30, 266. 345.
149. For extracts from the Hull Accounts of the King's Butler,  
\* Richard de la Pole, see P.R.O. Exch. (K.R.) a/cs.  
E.101, Bdle 78, No.3.
150. C.C.R. 1327-30, 141.
151. Lib. R. 1 Edw. III (Napier 262).
152. C.C.R. 1327-30, 277.
153. Rot. Orig. II 90a (Frost 74).
154. Lib. R. 3 Edw. III (Napier 264).
155. C.C.R. 1333-37, 566. 632.
156. Ib. 287.

157. C.C.R. 1333-37, 276.
158. C.P.R. 1334-38, 83.
159. C.C.R. 1333-37, 368.
160. Ib. 602.
161. Ib. 631. 639.
162. Burt, 19a.
163. C.C.R. 1333-37, 577.
164. Ib. 39.
165. C.C.R. 1337-39, 467.
166. C.P.R. 1338-40, 125.
167. T. T. Wildridge, Holderness and Hullshire Historic Gleanings,  
76.
168. T. Gent, History of Hull (1735), 72.
169. A deed of 1421 describes the mansion as "a messuage called Courthall Manor" (Cat. A.D. I, 83 A 707).
- \* (See also Photostats of six 15th century releases of Courthall in B.M. Harl. MSS).
170. Travis-Cook, 128.
171. Dugdale, II, 182.
172. Cal. Hull Chse., 52.
173. C.C.R. 1330-33, 520.
174. Ib. 520 et seq (The King was at Beverley Dec 15 - Jan. 4, and at Burstwick Jan. 5 - Jan. 20).
175. C.C.R. 1330-33, 497 et seq.
176. Gent, 67.
177. Melsa, III, 48.
178. J. R. Boyle, Charters of Kingston upon Hull, 13.
179. Cal. Misc. Inq. II, 316 (No. 1294).  
C.P.R. 1330-34, 418.  
Cal. Hull Corp. D.37.
180. Frost, 145.
181. Cal. Hull Corp. D.36.
182. Wildridge, Honour Roll I, 25. 27.
183. In July 1334, Robert de Denton (later de la Pole's attorney) was appointed to the custody of the smaller piece of the seal used for recognizances of debt at Kingston in pursuance of the Statute of Merchants. (C.P.R. 1330-34, 566).
184. Boyle, 19.

185. C.F.R. IV, 155. (Henry de Burton was an attorney of the Commonalty when William de la Pole had been a Chamberlain in 1321, Cal. Hull Corp. M.479 (1) ).
186. \* P.R.O. Anc. Corr. 39, 11.  
C.F.R. IV, 321.
187. Cal. Misc. Inq. II, 316 (No. 1294).
188. Frost, 51.
189. Y.A.S., R.S. 64, XXV.  
(The Ulnager or Alnager collected the Crown dues upon all cloths exposed for sale).
190. C.P.R. 1330-34, 414.
191. Return of Members of Parliament (1878) Part I, 97. 105. 108.  
112. 120.
192. C.C.R. 1333-37, 349.
193. C.F.R. IV, 435.  
(The export duties on wool, &c., granted to the King in 1275 were known as the "ancient customs." The additional duties granted on wool, &c., and on wine in 1302 were known as the "new customs."
194. \* P.R.O. Exchequer K.R. Subsidy Rolls, E.179. 202/23.  
(Burtt, 20a).
195. C.C.R. 1333-37, 37.
196. Ib. 287. 393.
197. C.P.R. 1334-38, 53.
198. C.C.R. 1333-37, 675.
199. Ib. 681.
200. Tout, 401 et seq.
201. Statutes at Large I, 457-9.
202. C.F.R. IV, 459.
203. C.C.R. 1333-37, 529.
204. \* P.R.O. Exch. a/cs. E.101, Bdle 301, No.11.
205. C.C.R. 1333-37, 557.
206. Cal. Hull Chse., 51.
207. Ib. 52 et seq.
208. Ib. 27.
209. C.F.R. IV, 184.
210. Ib. 185.
211. Black Prince's Register IV, 524.



212. R. Brown, History of Barton-on-Humber, II, 117,  
(C.P.R. 1330-34, 397).
213. Ib. II, 155.
214. C.P.R. 1334-38, 36.
215. Ib. 494. 560.  
C.C.R. 1341-43, 423.
216. C.P.R. 1334-38, 36 (Napier, 271).
217. The priory was probably Thornholme, on de La Pole's manor  
of Appleby, Lincs., of which "William died seised of  
the foundation."
218. Year Books of Edward III, 11-12 Edw. III, 562.
219. C.C.R. 1341-43, 423.
220. C.P.R. 1377-81, 318.
221. Blomefield, History of Norfolk IV, 510 V, 34.  
Homeland, 5.
222. C.F.R. VIII, 296.  
Homeland, 38.
- 222a. C.C.R. 1327-30, 141.
223. C.P.R. 1327-30, 191 (Napier, 263).
224. C.C.R. 1327-30, 197.
225. Lib. R. 2 Edw. III (Napier, 263).
226. C.P.R. 1327-30, 254.
227. Ib. 301.
228. C.C.R. 1327-30, 345. 353. 401. 439.
229. C.P.R. 1327-30, 376.
230. Lib. R. 7-9 Edw. III (Napier 264-5).
231. C.F.R. IV, 460.  
C.P.R. 1334-38, 265.
232. Ward. a/os, 12-16 Edw. III p.345 (Napier, 280).
233. C.P.R. 1345-8, 67.
234. C.P.R. 1348-50, 34. 35.
235. C.P.R. 1330-34, 157.
236. C.C.R. 1330-33, 507.
237. C.P.R. 1348-50, 420.
238. C.C.R. 1339-41, 513. 515.  
(It seems probable that William provided these funds  
for the education of the royal children. In later  
years his eldest son Michael came to be closely  
associated with the young Black Prince, serving as a  
Banneret in the Prince's campaigns and marrying the  
heiress of the Prince's Secretary, Sir John Wingfield.

- (cont.) 238. The Prince's coat of arms was placed by Sir Michael in the Collegiate Church founded by Sir John at Wingfield).
239. Black Prince's Register IV, 18, 327.  
(John Pecche had been Sheriff of London in 1352, and became Mayor in 1361).
240. C.P.R. 1321-24, 7 (Boyle, 9).
241. Cal. Hull Corp. M.479.  
Wildridge, Honour Roll I, 21.
242. C.P.R. 1321-24, 98-100 (Burt, 16c).
243. The Treasurer at this time was Walter de Norwich, whose daughter later married William de la Pole.
244. Wildridge, I, 21.
245. C.P.R. 1327-30, 33 (Boyle, 10).
246. Ib. 137.  
C.C.R. 1327-30, 180.
247. Ib. 179.
248. Ib. 277.
249. Chronicles of Edward I and Edward II, II, 104.  
(The King ordered Sir Henry Percy of Leconfield to oppose the passage of Balliol's troops. Lord Thomas Wake of Cottingham supported the campaign).
250. C.P.R. 1313-17, 344.  
Frost, 66.
251. Issue Roll 2 Edw. III (Burt, 18b).
252. C.P.R. 1330-4, 418. Rot. Scot. I, 238.
253. Ib. 425.
254. C.C.R. 1333-7, 52.
255. Ib. 33.
256. C.P.R. 1330-4, 418.
257. C.C.R. 1333-7, 35.  
Cal. Misc. Inq. II, 337 (No. 1378).
258. Rot. Scot. I, 292. 294.
259. Ib. I, 277. 279.
260. Ib. I, 326.
261. C.C.R. 1333-7, 431.  
Rot. Scot. I, 341.
262. C.P.R. 1334-38, 159.  
Rot. Scot. I, 367.
263. Dugdale II, 182-3.
264. C.C.R. 1333-37, 548.

265. C.P.R. 1334-38, 310.
266. Ib. 322 (Napier 272).
267. Lib. R. 9-10 Edw. III (Napier, 272-3).
268. \* P.R.O. Exch. a/cs. E.101, Bdle 387, No. 21.
269. C.C.R. 1337-39, 68.
270. \* Cal. Misc. Inq. II, 365, No.1496.
271. C.P.R. 1334-38, 542.
272. Lib. R. 10 Edw. III (Napier, 265).
273. C.C.R. 1333-37, 632.
274. Ib. 543.
275. Ib. 545.
- 275/78. Ib. 628. 608.
279. C.P.R. 1338-40, 43.
280. C.C.R. 1337-9, 373.
281. C.P.R. 1334-8, 36.
282. In 1326, there was a King's ship La Blome (40 men) and a "cogge Johan" (120 men), (C.P.R. 1324-27, 278). "La Sainte Marie cogg of Hull" was trading to Bordeaux in 1386 (C.C.R. 1385-89, 183).
283. C.P.R. 1334-8, 310 (Napier, 273).
284. C.C.R. 1337-9, 68.
285. C.P.R. 1334-8, 339.
286. Ib. 345.
287. Ib. 421.
288. C.P.R. 1334-8, 566.
289. Rot. Scot. I 475. 478 (Frost, 133).
290. Rym. IV, 730.
291. C.C.R. 1337-9, 2.
292. C.P.R. 1334-8, 379.
293. Ib. 388.
- 293a. C.C.R. 1339-41, 135.
294. This is probably the Sir Thomas Ughtred, 1st Lord Ughtred of Kexby, Yorks, a Banneret and Sub-marshal of the army at Crecy, 1346, Knight of the Garter, c.1360.
- 294a. \*Anc. Pet. 5902. 5952 (Frost, 133).
295. \* P.R.O. Exch. a/cs. Bdle 7, No.25.
296. . Frost, 135.

297. C.P.R. 1330-34, 161.  
Blomefield I, 83-8.
298. C.C.R. 1333-37, 52. 115. 118.  
Rym. IV, 561. 587.
299. C.C.R. 1333-37, 189.
300. \* B.M. Add. Ch. 70689.
301. C.P.R. 1330-34, 479. 510.
302. C.P.R. 1334-38, 36. 52.
303. Ib. 103. 197 (Rym. IV, 645-6).
304. C.C.R. 1333-37, 486.
305. Ib. 640.
306. C.C.R. 1337-39, 14.
- 306a. Rym. II, 23.
307. H.S. Lucas, The Low Countries and Hundred Years War, 323.
308. Ward. a/cs. 12-16 Edw. III, 227 (Napier, 277-8).
309. C.P.R. 1338-40, 387.
310. Ib. 372-3.
311. Ward. a/cs. 12-16 Edw. III, 224 (Napier, 275).
312. R.D.P. IV, 474.
313. C.C.R. 1337-9, 148.  
(De Conduit, a vintner, had been Mayor of London in 1334).
314. Ib. 165. 168.
315. Ib. 268.
316. C.P.R. 1334-8, 480. 484.
317. Ib. 577.
318. C.P.R. 1338-40, 179.
319. Lucas, 236.
320. C.C.R. 1337-9, 169.
321. C.F.R. V, 41.
- 321a. C.C.R. 1337-9, 457.
322. C.C.R. 1337-9, 424.
323. Ib. 384.
324. C.P.R. 1338-40, 43.
325. Cal. Misc. Inq. II, 399 (No. 1628).
326. C.C.R. 1337-9, 427.
327. Ib. 606.
328. C.P.R. 1338-40, 177. 318. 380.
329. Ib. 385.

330. In June 1339, when a writ was issued revoking all assignments of Customs moneys, de la Pole's assignments alone were exempted from the revocation. C.C.R. 1339-41, 155.
331. C.C.R. 1337-9, 579.
332. C.P.R. 1338-40, 386.
333. Ib. 318. 372.
334. C.C.R. 1337-39, 384.
335. C.P.R. 1338-40, 71.  
D. Hughes, A Study of Social and Constitutional Tendencies in the Early Years of Edward III, 19.  
(P.R.O. Chanc. Misc. Bdle 2, No.30).
336. Id. 191. (P.R.O. Chanc. Wts. f250, No.11385).  
C.C.R. 1339-41, 160.
337. Id. 41.
338. \* P.R.O. Enrolled a/cs. E.358/4, m.18.
339. G. Poulson, History of Holderness I, 55 (Rot. Scot. I, 529).
340. Rym. V, 66.
341. C.P.R. 1338-40, 189.
342. Hughes, 62.  
C.C.R. 1337-39, 517.
343. Lucas, 286.
344. C C.R. 1337-39, 506-7.
345. C.P.R. 1338-40, 193.  
Note. Early in November 1338, William and Richard, representing Yorkshire and London respectively were summoned as merchants to a Council meeting at Westminster. On a new summons, issued to defer the meeting for a month, William's name was not included. (C.C.R. 1337-39, 614. 620).
346. C.P.R. 1338-40, 43.
347. C. Ch. R. IV, 446, &c.
348. Ward. a/cs. 12-16 Edw. III, p.64 (Napier, 278).
349. Ib. p.62 Ib. 275.
350. S. B. Terry, The Financing of the 100 Years' War, 1337-60, 30.
351. Rym. V, 91.
352. C.P.R. 1338-40, 192 (Rym. V, 92).
353. C.C.R. 1337-39, 331.
354. Rym. V, 101.
355. C.P.R. 1343-45, 105.

356. C.P.R. 1338-40, 371.
357. Ib. 388.
358. Ib. 384.
359. Ib. 372.
360. After the financial crisis of 1340, the pay of a banneret was reduced to 4s. per day.
361. Ward. a/cs. 12-16 Edw. III, p.268 (Napier, 280).
362. Ib. p.305-6. Ib.  
(The Wardrobe Accounts suggest that de la Pole and his men followed the King to Antwerp in August).
363. C.P.R. 1338-40, 382-3, 386.
364. Napier, 276.
365. C.P.R. 1338-40, 386.
366. J. W. Clay, Extinct and Dormant Peerages, 51.
367. N. H. Nicolas, The Scrope and Grosvenor Roll, II, 336.
368. \* Pens. Colln. No.2.  
(The original Letters Patent are dated at Antwerp 15 August 1339).
369. C.P.R. 1338-40, 386.
370. Ib. 383.
371. Ib. 382.
372. Ib. 383.
373. Ib. 393-4.
374. Ib. 394.
375. Ib. 393.
376. Ib. 394.
377. C. Ch. R. IV, 470.
378. C.P.R. 1354-8, 209.
379. Tout III, 99; IV, 232, n.1.
380. C. Ch. R. IV, 446.
381. C.C.R. 1337-9, 509.
382. C.P.R. 1338-40, 193. 173.
383. Ib. 383.
384. C.F.R. V, 83.
385. C.P.R. 1338-40, 383.
386. C. Ch. R. IV, 470.
387. \* Pens. Colln. No.3.  
C. Ch. R. IV, 471.
388. C.P.R. 1338-40, 148.

389. C.P.R. 1338-40, 286.
390. C.P.R. 1340-43, 89.
391. C.P.R. 1338-40, 545.
392. C.P.R. 1340-43, 59.
393. Ib. 509 (Poulson, II, 109).
394. C.F.R. V, 244.
395. Melsa III, 17.
396. Cal. I.P.M. VIII, 250, No.377.
397. C.P.R. 1345-48, 93.
398. C.C.R. 1354-60, 194-6. (The two surrenders were  
\* Cat. A.D. I, 40 (A.350). enrolled in March 1355).
399. \* Ib. (A.355).  
C.C.R. 1354-60, 195.
400. H. Hall, Red Book of the Exchequer I, cxliv.
401. C.C.R. 1354-60, 195.
402. C.P.R. 1358-61, 105.
403. C.C.R. 1364-68, 315.  
(The series of seven instruments relating to the  
Holderness and associated properties granted by  
Edward III to William de la Pole are tabulated  
in H. Hall's Red Book of the Exchequer (Deeds  
and Releases). I, cxliv-cxlvii; see also Poulson I,  
62-64).
404. Poulson, I, 65.
405. Statutes at Large, I, 333.
406. C.P.R. 1334-38, 330.
407. Poulson, I, 55.
408. Statutes at Large, I, 301 (28 Edw. I cap. xx).
409. \* Cat. A. D. IV, 104 (A.6961).
410. Archaeologia 74, 109 (Cat. A. S. A.5, 243).
411. Blomefield X, 175 (Homeland, 5).
412. S. W. H. Aldwell, Wingfield, 69. &c.
413. Melsa, III, 17.
414. Cal. Hull Corp. D.82a.
415. Gent, 67: Abraham de la Pryme History of Kingston upon Hull,  
416. C.P.R. 1338-40, 394 (Rym. V, 124). (B.M. Lans. M.S.890).
417. Cal. Ltr. Bks. Ldn. F.55, 149.
418. Rot. Parl. II, 103.
419. Rym. V, 124 (Napier, 278).
420. C.P.R. 1338-40, 394; (Rym. V, 125).

421. Tout III, 99 (Rot. Parl, II. 104).  
422. Rot. Parl. II, 103.  
423. C.C.R. 1339-41, 318.  
424. C.P.R. 1338-40, 408.  
C.C.R. 1339-41, 41.  
425. C.P.R. 1338-40, 409.  
426. Ib. 476.  
427. Rym. V, 167.  
428. Rot. Parl. II, 110.  
429. Ib. II, 112.  
430. Ib. II, 113.  
431. Lucas, 426.  
432. C.C.R. 1339-41, 370.  
433. C.P.R. 1338-40, 474.  
434. C.C.R. 1339-41, 415.  
435. Ib. 618.  
436. C.P.R. 1340-43, 24.  
Rot. Parl. II, 121.  
437. Ib. II, 118.  
438. C.P.R. 1340-43, 94.  
439. C.C.R. 1343-46, 539.  
440. Hughes, 92.  
C.P.R. 1338-40, 474.  
441. C.P.R. 1340-43, 87.  
442. Rot. Parl. II, 114.  
443. C.P.R. 1338-40, 551.  
444. C.P.R. 1340-43, 87.  
445. C.C.R. 1339-41, 488.  
446. Hughes, 95.  
447. C.C.R. 1339-41, 624-7.  
448. Murimuth XXXV, 116-7.  
(Pulteney had been Mayor of London four times  
between 1330 and 1336).  
449. C.P.R. 1340-43, 110.  
450. Murimuth 117, fn.8.  
Melsa III, 48.  
451. C.P.R. 1340-43, 110-3.



452. C.C.R. 1341-43, 242.
453. Melsa III, 48.
454. C.P.R. 1340-43, 313.  
C.C.R. 1341-43, 297. 672.
455. Hughes, 189 (Exch. Mem. R., K.R. 116).
456. Year Books of Edward III, Year 15, 188.
457. C.C.R. 1341-43, 423.  
C.P.R. 1340-43. 443.  
Cal. Misc. Inq. II, 443 (No.1791).
458. C.C.R. 1341-43, 656.
459. Ib. 622.
460. C.F.R. V, 402.
461. Ib. 282.
462. Ib. 402.
463. C.C.R. 1341-43, 536.
464. Ib. 437.
465. Ward. a/cs. 12-16 Edw. III, 360 (Napier, 281).
466. C.P.R. 1343-45, 20.
467. Ib. 405.
468. Rot. Parl. II, 154.
469. C.C.R. 1343-46, 409. 423.
470. Ib. 311.
471. Ib. 496.
472. C.C.R. 1343-46, 539.  
C.C.R. 1346-49, 218.  
C.C.R. 1354-60, 16.
473. C.C.R. 1343-46, 288. 514.  
C.P.R. 1338-40, 382.
474. \* Cat. A.D. IV, 104, A.6961: C.C.R. 1354-60, 195.
475. C.P.R. 1354-58, 158, 209.
476. C.C.R. 1354-60, 183.
477. Hughes, 191.
478. C.P.R. 1338-40, 462.
479. Hughes, 191 (Coram Rege Roll, No.323).
480. B.B. II, 103.
481. Return of M.P.'s, Part I, 125.
482. C.P.R. 1343-45, 71. 95.
483. Bilson, Wyke, 61.

484. Cal. Ltr. Bks. Ldn., E.282.
485. Cal. P & M.R. Ldn., 176.
486. Ib. 102. 177.
487. C.P.R. 1338-40, 474.
488. Return of M.P.'s, Part I, 152-3, 155.
- 488a. Cal. Pap. Reg. (Petitions), 1343.
489. C.P.R. 1338-40, 199.
490. Ib. 211.
491. C. Ch. R. IV, 305.
492. C.P.R. 1338-40, 434.
493. Ib. 425.
494. C.P.R. 1340-43, 41.
495. C.P.R. 1343-45, 101.
496. C.C.R. 1343-46, 286.
497. D.N.B. XLVI, 48.
498. Feudal Aids V, 16.
499. Cal. I.P.M. VIII, 430 (No.596).
500. Test. Ebor i, 7 (S.S. 4).  
Note. Among the endowments made in 1380 to provide a chantry in the Parish Church of Thorpe Salvayn, Yorks, to pray for the soul of Sir Richard de la Pole and others were 10 shops and 2 messuages in Richard's home parish of St. Michael Cornhill - C.C.R. 1377-81, 402. 519).
501. R. Gough, Sepulchral Monuments I, II, 122.  
 (For illustrations of the effigies, see Homeland, pp.4 & 12 where, following Gough, the tomb is incorrectly ascribed to Sir William de la Pole and his wife).
502. Richard's silver plate bore the mark R.P. in lettering similar to that on the wine merchant's seal referred to on p.19).  
 Test. Ebor. ii, 132,(S.S.30).
- 502a. Test. Ebor. i, 7.
503. C.C.R. 1343-46, 621.
504. Cal. I.P.M. (see above).
505. Cal. Hull Corp. D.73, D.82A & 83.
506. B.B. II, 31 et. seq.
507. Cal. I.P.M. (see above).  
 B.B. II, 104.
508. B.B. II, 18.

509. Inq. a. q. d. 303, No. 8.  
C.P.R. 1350-54, 270.
510. C.P.R. 1348-50, 119.
511. C.C.R. 1346-49, 349.
512. C.C.R. 1349-54, 608.  
Blomefield X, 175.
513. C.C.R. 1354-60, 196-8.
514. Clay, 50.
515. Cal. Pap. Reg. IV, 8.
516. Cal. I.P.M. XII, 56 (No. 76).
517. C.C.R. 1343-46, 539.
518. C.P.R. 1343-45, 544.
519. C.P.R. 1350-54, 267.
520. C.P.R. 1345-48, 93.  
C.C.R. 1346-49, 97. 122.
521. C.F.R. V, 481.
522. \* Cat. A.D. I, 415 (B.3543).
523. C.C.R. 1354-60, 16.
524. C.P.R. 1345-48, 94.
525. C.C.R. 1346-49, 175. 275.
526. C.C.R. 1354-60, 109. 272. &c.
527. Ib. 420.
528. C.P.R. 1361-64, 233.
529. C.C.P. 1343-46, 101.
530. Ib. 637.
531. C.C.R. 1346-49, 238 (R.D.P. IV, 562).
532. Chronique de Jean le Bel (1904) II, 349.
533. C.C.R. 1349-54, 64 (Rot. Parl. II, 457).
534. C.P.R. 1348-50, 427.
535. C.C.R. 1349-54, 265.
536. C.C.R. 1360-64, 398. 403.
537. Ib. 390.
538. C.P.R. 1348-50, 214.
539. Cal. I.P.M. XII, 54 (No. 75) and I.P.M. 5 Rich. II, m. 2 (No. 48)  
(Napier, 285).
540. C.P.R. 1354-58, 158.
541. One of the parchments in the *Ewelme* Collection bears a list of the children of Sir Edmund de la Pole taken from a psalter owned by his mother, Katherine de la Pole of Hull.

542. French Roll, 29 Edw. III.
543. \* Cat. A.D. III, 453 (D.411).
544. C.P.R. 1374-77, 7.
545. C.C.R. 1374-77, 351. 468.
546. C.P.R. 1350-54, 408.
547. A grant of £50 a year out of the fee-farm rent was made in 1392 to Michael, 2nd Earl of Suffolk (Travis-Cook, 110) and in 1438 to William, Earl of Suffolk (Cal. Hull Corp. D.320). See also the Earl of Suffolk's receipts at Hull in 1402-3 (Travis-Cook, 112), and Alice, Duchess of Suffolk's receipts in 1460-61. (Ewe. Colln. A.41).
- \* 548. C.P.R. 1354-58, 159.
549. C.P.R. 1381-85, 123. 570: \* B.M., Harl. M.S., 43E26.
550. C.P.R. 1354-58, 158.
551. Ib. 184.
552. C.C.R. 1349-54, 567.
553. C.P.R. 1361-64, 342.
554. C.P.R. 1338-40, 330.
555. C.C.R. 1349-54, 615.
556. B.B. II, 31-58.
557. C.F.R. VI, 339.
558. Mon. Ang. VI, I, 521.
559. C.P.R. 1358-61, 439.
560. Cal. Pap. Reg. III, 460.
561. C.P.R. 1364-67, 147.
562. Cal. Pap. Reg. III, 308.
563. Test. Ebor i, 76 (S.S.4).
564. C.F.R. VII, 339. 344.
565. C.C.R. 1364-8, 245.
566. Poulson, I, 389. II, 411.
567. Three years after William's death, his widow and his heir sued the Prior of Ferriby for cutting down 100 oaks, 100 ashes, and 100 hazels valued at £40 on their property at Hesslewood (Y.A.S., R.S. 17, 60). The Hesslewood lands of de la Pole extended "even to the wood of the Prior of Ferriby." (Cal. Hull Chse., 52).
568. Cal. I.P.M. XII, 54 (No.75).
569. J.M. Lambert, 2,000 Years of Gild Life, 112.

570. John Colthorp, Mayor of Hull 1389-90, founded a cell at the Carthusian Priory, Hull, where a chantry was endowed by Sir Edmund de la Pole and others to pray for his soul.  
Travis-Cook, 119: B.B. II, 247.
571. \* P.R.O. Exch. K.R. Subsidy Rolls, E.179, 206/45 (Burt, 68a).
572. \* P.R.O. Rentals and Surveys, Hull, Portf. 17, No.27.
573. Hugh Mapleton was the manager for the Earl of Suffolk in 1402-3, at his manor of Myton. His wife had one of the Earl's doves on hire for 6s.8d. Two other servants, (perhaps related to their namesakes of 1377), were John del Kychyn, receiver of rents for the Holderness properties, and Benedict Gardiner who kept and planted the Manor House garden, and paid 6s.8d. for another dove, near the gardener's house. The same year a horse was taken by Robert Mapleton, a groom, to John del Kychyn at Rimswell for the Earl's use. (Travis-Cook, 115. 117).
574. Travis-Cook, 111. 115.
575. C.P.R. 1354-58, 158.
576. Bilson, .98.
- 576a. Licence in mortmain - Permission given to an ecclesiastical or other corporation to hold lands or tenements inalienably.
577. Cal. Pap. Reg. IV, 91.  
C.P.R. 1364-67, 153. 176.
578. Melsa, I, 170.
579. C.P.R. 1374-77, 470.
580. Mon. Ang. VI, I, 20.
581. Frost, 141.  
Cal. Hull Corp. D.150.
582. Leland, Part I, 50.
583. C.P.R. 1377-81, 289. 318.  
\* Pens. Colln. No.6.
584. C.P.R. 1396-99, 464.  
\* B.M. Egerton Charter, 2131. (formerly in Pens. Colln.).
585. C.P.R. 1429-36, 599.
586. C.P.R. 1436-41, 498.
587. \* Ewe. Colln. A.42.
588. C.P.R. 1381-85, 305 (Cal. Hull Chse. 5).  
\* Pens. Colln. No.4.
589. Cal. Hull Chse. 13.
590. \* B. M. Egerton Charter, 2130. (formerly in Pens. Colln.).

591. Cal. Hull Chse., 56.
592. C.P.R. 1405-8, 450; 1408-13, 57.
593. Cal. Hull Chse., 56.
594. Homeland, 28. 41.
595. \* Pens. Colln., No.5.  
Cal. Hull Chse., 11. 27.
596. Valor Ecclesiasticus V, 130.  
Cal. Hull Chse., 61. 62.
597. Test. Ebor. i, 119 (S.S.4).
598. North Country Wills (S.S.116) 8.
599. Cal. Hull Corp. M.479 (31).  
N.C. Wills 50.
600. Collectanea Topographica and Genealogica IV, 131.
601. Leland, Part I, 50.
602. Bilson, 88.
603. B.B. II, 132.
604. Robert del Ker was the Town Chaplain of Hull, paid by the Chamberlains £10 a year in three equal instalments. He celebrated at the Altar of the B.V. Mary in the south aisle of the Chancel.  
(Cal. Hull Corp. M.479(1) ).
605. B.B. II, 39. 132. 154.
606. The Earl of Suffolk still had a house in High Street in 1408.  
Frost 75 (B.B. II, 164).
607. Homeland, 39; Cal. Hull Chse. 55 (B.B. III, 32).
608. Bilson, 99.
609. Ib.61.
610. C.C.R. 1296-1302, 68.  
When the near-by site of the new Hull Guildhall was excavated in 1908, the bed of a waterway was in fact laid bare with the wood posts to carry a small bridge across, and steps to lead to the water's edge. A canopied niche found near-by dating from the 14th century perhaps indicates the site of a chapel (Hull Museum Publications, No.89, 196-7, Plate XVIII).
611. B.B. II, 41.
612. Gent, 72-3; Travis-Cook, 131-2; Cal. Hull Corp. M14, M16, M112.
613. Homeland, 13. (B.M. Cott. M.S. Aug. I, V.II, No.13).  
Two finely worked stones bearing the de la Pole leopard's face and other carved stones taken from the site in 1910 are now in the Hull Wilberforce Museum.  
Leopards' faces also appear on the capitals of pillars in Holy Trinity Church.

614. Ieland I, 49.
615. Rym. VII, 213.
616. See Hollar's Plan, 1640. (Tickell History of Hull, opp. p.203).
617. Tout, 401 et. seq.  
C.C.R. 1327-30, 362. 378-9.
618. Rym. II, 1065.
619. C.P.R. 1338-40, 394.
620. C.P.R. 1345-48, 94.
621. C.P.R. 1354-58, 210.
622. Cal. R.A.N. Ldn., 98.
623. C.P.R. 1388-92, 403.
624. C.P.R. 1396-99, 359.  
C.C.R. 1396-99, 342.
625. Cal. H.R. Ldn. Rolls, 56 (89); 59 (134-5); 62 (99).
626. Cal. Ltr. Bks. Ldn., E.243.
627. Cal. R.A.N. Ldn., 71.
628. Cal. Esch. R. Ldn., 15a.
629. C.P.R. 1330-34, 412.  
C.C.R. 1333-37, 50. 154.  
Tout, III, 59.
630. C.P.R. 1338-40, 32 (Napier, 274).
631. B.M. Cat. of Seals, I, No.1166. (The York seal was used for the  
old and the new customs).
632. C.P.R. 1338-40, 393.
633. C.P.R. 1345-48, 93.
634. Statutes at Large, II, 78.
- 78a. Tronage - The levy for weighing wool on the King's trone or beam.  
Pesage - The levy for weighing other goods (avoirdupois).
- 53a. Quo Warranto - A writ against anyone who usurps any franchise  
against the King.

Sir Griffin de la Pole, Prince of Powys, d. 1289.

Owen, d. 1293.

Sir Lewis de  
la Pole, d. 1294.  
m. Sibilla

Griffin.

Sir William de  
la Pole, d. c.1305.  
m. Wladusa (alive 1344).

Griffin de la Pole.

Sir Richard de la Pole,  
d. 1345. \*

Sir William de la Pole,  
the elder, d. 1366. +  
m. Katherine de Norwich,  
d. 1381. +

Sir John de la Pole.

Sir William de  
la Pole,  
the younger,  
b. c.1316, d. 1366.

Sir John  
Joan.  
Agnes.  
Margaret.  
Elizabeth,  
(a.nun).

Michael de la Pole,  
1st Earl of Suffolk,  
b. c.1330, d. 1389. +  
m. Katherine Wingfield,  
d. c.1380. +

Sir Edmund (alive 1384).  
Sir Walter, d. c.1378.  
Sir Thomas, d. 1362.

Blanche.  
Katherine.  
Margaret.

Michael,  
2nd Earl of Suffolk,  
b. c.1362, d. 1415. x

John,  
Canon of York,  
d. 1415. x

Michael,  
3rd Earl of Suffolk,  
b. 1394, d. 1415.

William,  
1st Duke of Suffolk, K.G.,  
b. 1396, d. 1450. +

John,  
2nd Duke of Suffolk, K.G.,  
b. 1442, d. 1491. x

John,  
Earl of Lincoln,  
d. 1487.

Edmund,  
Earl of Suffolk, K.G.,  
d. 1513.

\* Buried at Holy Trinity Church, Hull.  
+ Buried at the Carthusian Priory, Hull.  
x Buried at Wingfield Church.



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