

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England: Reward and Punishment

Michael Burger

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century England

This book investigates how bishops wielded reward and punishment to control their administrative subordinates in thirteenth-century England. Bishops had few effective avenues available to them for disciplining their clerks, and they rarely pursued the ones they had, preferring to secure their clerks' service and loyalty through rewards. The chief reward was the benefice, often granted for life. Episcopal administrators' security of tenure in these benefices, however, made them free agents, allowing them to transfer from diocese to diocese or even leave administration altogether; these clerks did not constitute a standing episcopal civil service. This tenuous bureaucratic relationship made the personal relationship between bishop and clerk more important. Ultimately, many bishops communicated in terms of friendship with their administrators, who responded with expressions of devotion. Michael Burger's study brings together ecclesiastical, social, legal, and cultural history, producing the first synoptic study of thirteenth-century English diocesan administration in decades. His research provides an ecclesiastical counterpoint to numerous studies of bastard feudalism in secular contexts.

Michael Burger is Professor of History and Dean of the School of Liberal Arts at Auburn University at Montgomery. He is the author of *The Shaping of the West: From Antiquity to the Enlightenment* (2008) and the editor of the two-volume *Sources for the History of Western Civilization* (2003). His articles have appeared in *Historical Research* and *Mediaeval Studies*, among other journals.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England: Reward and Punishment

Michael Burger

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England: Reward and Punishment

Michael Burger

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

**Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan
Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England**

Reward and Punishment

MICHAEL BURGER

Auburn University at Montgomery



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
 England: Reward and Punishment
 Michael Burger
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
 Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,
 Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press
 32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473, USA
www.cambridge.org
 Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107022140

© Michael Burger 2012

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
 and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
 no reproduction of any part may take place without the written
 permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2012

Printed in the United States of America

A catalog record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication data

Burger, Michael, 1962–
 Bishops, clerks, and diocesan governance in thirteenth-century
 England : reward and punishment / Michael Burger.
 p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-02214-0 (hardback)

1. England – Church history – 1066–1485. 2. Benefices, Ecclesiastical –
 England – History. 3. Church polity. 4. Church discipline. I. Title.

BR750.B87 2012

282'.4209022-dc23 2012012498

ISBN 978-1-107-02214-0 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs
 for external or third-party Internet Web sites referred to in this publication and does not
 guarantee that any content on such Web sites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England: Reward and Punishment

Michael Burger

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

For Miriam, with infinite love and gratitude

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England: Reward and Punishment

Michael Burger

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
 England: Reward and Punishment
 Michael Burger
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	page ix
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xi
<i>Note on Citations</i>	xvii

PART I THE PROBLEM

1. Introduction	3
2. Dangers of Service	13

PART II REWARDS AND PUNISHMENTS

3. The Benefice for Service and as Benefit	23
<i>Benefices and Service</i>	23
<i>The Benefits of Benefices</i>	30
4. Benefices and Security of Tenure	40
<i>Law and Sentiment</i>	43
<i>Testing the Limits of Security of Tenure</i>	52
<i>Bishops, Archbishops, Popes, and Benefices: Appeals</i>	64
<i>Getting around Security of Tenure: Sequestration</i>	70
<i>Archdeacons</i>	72
<i>Getting around Security of Tenure: Commendation</i>	74
<i>Incapacity</i>	78
5. Pensions	80
<i>Pensions de Camera in General</i>	90
<i>Simple Pensions versus Pensions in Lieu of Benefices, and</i> <i>Pensions versus Benefices</i>	95
6. Other Rewards	110
<i>Uses of Episcopal Authority</i>	110

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
 England: Reward and Punishment
 Michael Burger
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

viii

Contents

<i>Uses of Papal Authority</i>	116
<i>Enhancing Benefices</i>	120
<i>Secular Lands and Favors</i>	124
<i>Simple Gifts</i>	126
<i>Fees, Bribes, and Extortion</i>	127
7. Punishment	136
<i>Material Penalties: Bonds</i>	136
<i>Spiritual Penalties: Excommunication</i>	141
<i>Humiliation</i>	146
<i>Prison</i>	147
<i>Oaths</i>	148
<i>Social Exile</i>	158
PART III CONSEQUENCES	
8. Patronage Hunger	169
<i>Acquiring Advowsons</i>	170
<i>Collation by Lapse</i>	173
<i>Episcopal Pressure and Control of Process</i>	175
<i>Creating Benefices and a Move for Reform</i>	182
9. Continuity and Discontinuity of Service	186
<i>Continuity and Discontinuity in the Diocese of Lincoln</i>	190
<i>Other Dioceses</i>	200
<i>Some Observations</i>	208
10. Affection and Devotion	210
<i>Expressions of Affection and Devotion</i>	211
<i>Affection and Devotion in Action</i>	224
11. Conclusions: Culture and Context	239
<i>Appendix 1: Handlist of Pensions Granted by Thirteenth-Century Bishops</i>	251
<i>Appendix 2: Lay Servants Named as Legatees in Episcopal Wills</i>	260
<i>Sources Cited</i>	265
<i>Index</i>	289

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England: Reward and Punishment

Michael Burger

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgments

I had set out to write a book on bishops' attempts to exercise power over distance in thirteenth-century England. A necessary preliminary was an assessment of how those bishops rewarded and punished their clerks: a chapter or two, I thought. But that assessment demanded more attention; the result is this book. This circumstance helps explain why it has taken such a long time to write. How long the book took to write in turn helps explain why so many debts have been incurred in the writing. It is good at last to be able to offer thanks.

All historians depend on archivists and librarians. I am grateful for the cooperation of staff at the Bodleian Library, the British Library, the archives of Christ Church, Canterbury, the archives of the dean and chapter of Hereford Cathedral, the library and archives at Lambeth Palace, the Herefordshire Archive Service, the Lincolnshire Archives Office, the United Kingdom's National Archives, the West Sussex Record Office, and the Worcestershire Record Office. Most of this book was written at Mississippi University for Women, whose indefatigable interlibrary loan librarian, Gail Gunter, was indispensable. I would also like to thank the interlibrary loan staff at my new academic home, Auburn University at Montgomery, for their invariable cooperation with my requests. Professor Thomas Richardson, of Mississippi University for Women, also kindly provided me access to scholarly resources. Nicholas Vincent generously made available to me Jeanne Stones's preliminary transcripts of Ralph Neville's hard-to-read correspondence. David Smith, then director of the University of York's Borthwick Institute, gave me access to the Institute's collection of microfilms of manuscripts and a comfortable place to work

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England: Reward and Punishment

Michael Burger

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

Acknowledgments

as I labored on my dissertation, some of which ultimately found its way into this book.

Three institutions generously supported the research necessary to write this book. Mississippi University for Women made several small grants and also provided a sabbatical leave during which I made progress in reading sources. A summer stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities provided critical help. Finally, I am grateful to Auburn University at Montgomery for support at the end.

Various scholars have also helped me with different parts of this book over the years, probably more than I will recall now. The late Jeffrey Denton gave me information concerning the *taxatio* of Nicholas IV and concerning archdeacons of the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield. Marie Lovatt helped me navigate part of the career of Archbishop Geoffrey Plantagenet of York. Sue Ridyrd advised me regarding one of Thomas Cantilupe's clerks. David Smith offered guidance on abbatial registers and more. Nicholas Vincent rendered me one of the biggest favors one historian can do another by directing me to a new source.

I have also received helpful criticism. Marty Claussen, Sharon Farmer, Richard Helmholtz, Warren Hollister, Paul Hyams, Sears McGee, David Smith, Richard Southern, Emily Tabuteau, and Scott Waugh commented years ago on a dissertation chapter in which I first laid out some of the ideas that appear in this book. Much more recently, David Smith and Nicholas Vincent took time to read and comment on the book in draft. Anonymous readers from the Cambridge University Press generously undertook that work too. Various papers presented at the Annual Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University and the Southern Conference on British Studies also led to this book; I am grateful to those audiences and commentators, in particular Robert Berkhofer, who offered comments and asked questions that moved the work along. This assemblage of critics has saved me from numerous mistakes, large and small. I am solely responsible for those that remain.

Emily Spangler, my first editor at Cambridge University Press, took an interest in the book, and Eric Crahan kindly took on the project at a later point. Patterson Lamb saved me from various errors at the copyediting stage, while two enthusiastic students, Antonio Byrd and Lacy Young, helped with page proofs, for which I hope readers will be as thankful as I am.

Finally, I am grateful to my wife, who has patiently watched for many years as this book took shape and who offered last-minute encouragement on a point of detail. I dedicate it to her with gratitude, and not just for her tolerance of my obsession with dead bishops and their dead clerks.

Abbreviations

- Acta of Hugh of Wells* *The Acta of Hugh of Wells, Bishop of Lincoln 1209–1235*. Ed. David M. Smith. Lincoln Record Society 88. Woodbridge. 2000.
- Acta Stephani Langton* *Acta Stephani Langton Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi A.D. 1207–1128*. Ed. Kathleen Major. Canterbury and York Society 50. Oxford. 1950.
- Annales Monastici* *Annales Monastici*. Ed. Henry Richards Luard. Rolls Series. London. 1864–9.
- BL British Library.
- Calendar of the Manuscripts of the Dean and Chapter of Wells* *Calendar of the Manuscripts of the Dean and Chapter of Wells*. Ed. W. H. B. Bird and W. P. Baildon. Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts. London. 1907–14.
- Councils and Synods* *Councils and Synods with Other Documents Relating to the English Church, II, A.D. 1205–1313*. Ed. F. M. Powicke and C. R. Cheney. Oxford. 1964.
- CPL *Calendar of Entries in the Papal Registers Relating to Great Britain and Ireland*. Ed. W. H. Bliss et al. London. 1893–.
- EEA I: Lincoln *English Episcopal Acta I: Lincoln 1067–1185*. Ed. David M. Smith. Oxford. 1980.
- EEA II: Canterbury *English Episcopal Acta II: Canterbury 1162–1190*. Ed. C. R. Cheney and B. E. A. Jones. Corrected edition. Oxford. 1991.

EEA III: Canterbury	<i>English Episcopal Acta III: Canterbury 1193–1205</i> . Ed. C. R. Cheney and Eric John. Corrected edition. Oxford. 1991.
EEA IV: Lincoln	<i>English Episcopal Acta IV: Lincoln 1186–1206</i> . Ed. David M. Smith. Oxford. 1986.
EEA VI: Norwich	<i>English Episcopal Acta VI: Norwich 1070–1214</i> . Ed. Christopher Harper-Bill. Oxford. 1990.
EEA VII: Hereford	<i>English Episcopal Acta VII: Hereford 1079–1234</i> . Ed. Julia Barrow. Oxford. 1993.
EEA IX: Winchester	<i>English Episcopal Acta IX: Winchester 1205–1238</i> . Ed. Nicholas Vincent. Oxford. 1994.
EEA X: Bath and Wells	<i>English Episcopal Acta X: Bath and Wells 1061–1205</i> . Ed. Frances M. R. Ramesey. Oxford. 1995.
EEA XI: Exeter	<i>English Episcopal Acta XI: Exeter 1046–1184</i> . Ed. Frank Barlow. Oxford. 1996.
EEA XII: Exeter	<i>English Episcopal Acta XII: Exeter 1186–1257</i> . Ed. Frank Barlow. Oxford. 1996.
EEA 13: Worcester	<i>English Episcopal Acta 13: Worcester 1218–1268</i> . Ed. Philippa M. Hoskin. Oxford. 1997.
EEA 17: Coventry and Lichfield	<i>English and Episcopal Acta 17: Coventry and Lichfield 1183–1208</i> . Ed. M. J. Franklin. Oxford. 1998.
EEA 18: Salisbury	<i>English Episcopal Acta 18: Salisbury 1078–1217</i> . Ed. B. R. Kemp. Oxford. 1999.
EEA 19: Salisbury	<i>English Episcopal Acta 19: Salisbury 1217–1228</i> . Ed. B. R. Kemp. Oxford. 2000.
EEA 21: Norwich	<i>English Episcopal Acta 21: Norwich 1215–1243</i> . Ed. Christopher Harper-Bill. Oxford. 2000.
EEA 22: Chichester	<i>English Episcopal Acta 22: Chichester 1215–1253</i> . Ed. Philippa M. Hoskin. Oxford. 2001.
EEA 23: Chichester	<i>English Episcopal Acta 23: Chichester 1254–1305</i> . Ed. Philippa M. Hoskin. Oxford. 2001.
EEA 24: Durham	<i>English Episcopal Acta 24: Durham 1153–1195</i> . Ed. M. G. Snape. Oxford. 2002.
EEA 25: Durham	<i>English Episcopal Acta 25: Durham 1196–1237</i> . Ed. M. G. Snape. Oxford. 2002.
EEA 27: York	<i>English Episcopal Acta 27: York 1189–1212</i> . Ed. Marie Lovatt. Oxford. 2004.

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
 England: Reward and Punishment
 Michael Burger
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Abbreviations

xiii

EEA 29: Durham	<i>English Episcopal Acta 29: Durham 1241–1283</i> . Ed. Philippa M. Hoskin. Oxford. 2005.
EEA 30: Carlisle	<i>English Episcopal Acta 30: Carlisle 1133–1292</i> . Ed. David M. Smith. Oxford. 2005.
EEA 32: Norwich	<i>English Episcopal Acta 32: Norwich 1244–1266</i> . Ed. Christopher Harper-Bill. Oxford. 2007.
EEA 34: Worcester	<i>English Episcopal Acta 34: Worcester 1186–1218</i> . Ed. Mary G. Cheney, David Smith, Christopher Brooke, and Philippa Hoskin. Oxford. 2008.
EEA 35: Hereford	<i>English Episcopal Acta 35: Hereford 1234–1275</i> . Ed. Julia Barrow. Oxford. 2009.
Grosseteste, <i>Epistolae</i>	<i>Roberti Grosseteste Episcopi Quondam Lincolnensis Epistolae</i> . Ed. H. R. Luard. RS. London. 1861.
LAO	Lincolnshire Archives Office.
LN Bath and Wells	John le Neve, <i>Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 VII: Bath and Wells</i> . 3rd ed. Compiled by Diana Greenway. London. 2001.
LN Chichester	John le Neve, <i>Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 V: Chichester</i> . 3rd ed. Compiled by Diana Greenway. London. 1996.
LN Exeter	John le Neve, <i>Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 X: Exeter</i> . 3rd ed. Compiled by Diana Greenway. London. 2005.
LN Hereford	John le Neve, <i>Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 VIII: Hereford</i> . 3rd ed. Compiled by Julia Barrow. London. 2002.
LN Lincoln	John le Neve, <i>Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 III: Lincoln</i> . 3rd ed. Compiled by Diana Greenway. London. 1977.
LN London	John le Neve, <i>Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 I: St. Paul's, London</i> . 3rd ed. Compiled by Diana Greenway. London. 1968.
LN Monastic Cathedrals	John le Neve, <i>Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 II: Monastic Cathedrals</i> . 3rd ed. Compiled by Diana E. Greenway. London. 1971.
LN Salisbury	John le Neve, <i>Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 IV: Salisbury</i> . 3rd ed. Compiled by Diana Greenway. London. 1991.

- LN York John le Neve, *Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1066–1300 VI: York*. 3rd ed. Compiled by Diana E. Greenway. London. 1999.
- Pecham, *Epistolae*. *Registrum Epistolarum Fratris Johannis Peckham, Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis*. Ed. C. T. Martin. Rolls Series. London. 1882–5.
- Reg. Bronscombe *The Register of Walter Bronscombe, Bishop of Exeter, 1258–1280*. Ed. O. F. Robinson. Canterbury and York Society 82, 87, 94. Woodbridge. 1995–2003.
- Reg. Burghersh *The Registers of Bishop Henry Burghersh 1320–1342*. Ed. Nicholas Bennett. Lincoln Record Society. 87, 90. Woodbridge. 1999–.
- Reg. Cantilupe *The Register of Thomas de Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford (A.D. 1275–1282)*. Ed. R. G. Griffiths with an introduction by W. W. Capes. Canterbury and York Society 2. London. 1907.
- Reg. Gainsborough *The Register of William de Geynesburgh, Bishop of Worcester, 1302–1307*. Ed. J. W. Willis Bund with an introduction by R. A. Wilson. Worcestershire Historical Society 22. Oxford. 1907–22.
- Reg. Gandavo *Registrum Simonis de Gandavo, Diocesis Sarisberiensis, A.D. 1297–1315*. Ed. C. T. Flower and M. C. B. Dawes. Canterbury and York Society 40–41. Oxford. 1934.
- Reg. Giffard of Worcester *Episcopal Registers, Diocese of Worcester: Register of Bishop Godfrey Giffard, September 23rd 1268 to August 15th 1301*. Ed. J. W. Bund. Worcestershire Historical Society 15. Oxford. 1898–1902.
- Reg. Giffard of York *The Register of Walter Giffard, Lord Archbishop of York, 1266–1279*. Ed. W. Brown. Surtees Society 109. Durham. 1904.
- Reg. Halton *The Register of John de Halton, Bishop of Carlisle A.D. 1292–1324*. Ed. W. N. Thompson. Canterbury and York Society 12–13. London. 1913.

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
 England: Reward and Punishment
 Michael Burger
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Abbreviations

xv

- Reg. Langton *The Register of Walter Langton, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, 1296–1321.* Ed. J. B. Hughes. Canterbury and York Society 91, 97. Woodbridge. 2001–7.
- Reg. Martival *The Registers of Roger Martival, Bishop of Salisbury, 1315–1330.* Ed. K. Edwards, C. R. Elrington, S. Reynolds, and D. Owen. Canterbury and York Society 55–59, 68. Oxford and Torquay. 1959–75.
- Reg. Pecham *The Register of John Pecham, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1279–1292.* Ed. F. N. Davis, D. L. Douie, et al. Canterbury and York Society 64–65. Torquay. 1908–69.
- Reg. Pontissara *Registrum Johannis de Pontissara, Episcopi Wintoniensis, A.D. MCCLXXXI–MCCCIV.* Ed. C. Deedes. Canterbury and York Society 19, 30. London. 1915–24.
- Reg. Quivil *The Registers of Walter Bronscombe (A.D. 1257–1280), and Peter Quivil (A.D. 1280–1291), Bishops of Exeter, With Some Records of the Episcopate of Bishop Thomas de Bytton (A.D. 1292–1307); also the Taxation of Pope Nicholas IV, A.D. 1291.* Ed. F. C. Hingeston-Randolph. London and Exeter. 1889.
- Reg. Reynolds of Worcester *The Register of Walter Reynolds, Bishop of Worcester, 1308–1313.* Ed. R. A. Wilson. Worcestershire Historical Society 39. London. 1927.
- Reg. Romeyn *The Register of John Le Romeyn, Lord Archbishop of York, 1286–1296.* Ed. W. Brown. Surtees Society 123, 128. Durham. 1913–17.
- Reg. Swinfield *Registrum Ricardi de Swinfield, Episcopi Herefordensis, A.D. MCCLXXXIII–MCCCXVIII.* Ed. W. W. Capes. Canterbury and York Society 6. London. 1909.
- Reg. Wickwane *The Register of William Wickwane, Lord Archbishop of York, 1279–1285.* Ed. W. Brown. Surtees Society 114. Durham. 1907.

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
 England: Reward and Punishment
 Michael Burger
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

xvi

Abbreviations

- Reg. Winchelsey *Registrum Roberti Winchelsey Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi*. Ed. Rose Graham. Canterbury and York Society 51, 52. Oxford. 1952–6.
- Rolls and Reg. Sutton *The Rolls and Register of Bishop Oliver Sutton, 1280–1299*. Ed. R. M. T. Hill. Lincoln Record Society 39, 43, 48, 52, 60, 64, 69, 76. Hereford, Lincoln, Woodbridge. 1948–86.
- Rot. Gravesend *Rotuli Ricardi Gravesend, Diocesis Lincolniensis*. Ed. F. N. Davis, with additions by C. W. Foster and Alexander Hamilton Thompson. Canterbury and York Society 31. Oxford. 1925.
- Rot. Gray *The Register, or Rolls, of Walter Gray, Lord Archbishop of York: With Appendices of Illustrative Documents*. Ed. J. Raine. Surtees Society 56. Durham. 1872.
- Rot. Grosseteste *Rotuli Roberti Grosseteste, Episcopi Lincolniensis, A.D. MCCXXXV-MCCLIII*. Ed. F. N. Davis. Lincoln Record Society 11. Horncastle. 1914.
- Rot. Welles *Rotuli Hugonis de Welles, Episcopi Lincolniensis, A.D. MCCIX–MCCXXXV*. Ed. W. P. W. Phillimore, F. N. Davis, et al. Canterbury and York Society 1, 3–4. London. 1907–9.
- RS
 Swinfield Roll Rolls Series.
A Roll of the Household Expenses of Richard de Swinfield, Bishop of Hereford, during Part of the Years 1289 and 1290. Ed. John Webb. Camden Society. First Series 59. London. 1854–5. I.
- TNA The National Archives (London).
- WRO Worcestershire Record Office.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-02214-0 - Bishops, Clerks, and Diocesan Governance in Thirteenth-Century
England: Reward and Punishment
Michael Burger
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Note on Citations

The historian of thirteenth-century English bishops is fortunate in that the bishops' registers of the thirteenth century have been edited, at least in calendar form. In some cases, however, evidence – appearing as additional information or occasionally as correction – has to come from the manuscript instead. I have cited manuscript in such cases only.

The manuscript of the register of Godfrey Giffard, bishop of Worcester (WRO, Rf.x716.093 BA 2648/1(i)) presents a difficulty in citation. Its foliation is marked in Roman numbers and by a later hand in Arabic numbers. Unfortunately, these numerations are not always consistent. Moreover, some of the folios are out of order, which probably explains why a third hand consecutively paginated the manuscript throughout in its current order. Where the manuscript is cited, I have given the Arabic folio number followed by the page number.