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0521022487 - The Church and Politics in Fourteenth-Century England: The Career of Adam Orleton c. 1275-1345

Roy Martin Haines

Excerpt

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Chapter 1

APPRENTICESHIP

Of Adam Orleton's background and early education we know virtually nothing. That by 1301 he was both beneficed and a master of arts¹ points to his having been born about 1275 – certainly no later than the early 1280s.² Even his place of birth is uncertain, though John Leland, writing in the sixteenth century, may have been accurate in his bald assertion that Adam was born in Hereford,³ rather than his name-place Orleton, a township close to the Mortimer seat at Wigmore.⁴ In a number of documents of the early fourteenth century he is called either 'M. Adam de Orleton *seu* de Hereford' or, more simply, 'M. Adam de Hereford',⁵ descriptions which lend support to Leland's opinion.

¹ First mention of him as *magister* in the printed sources comes during the Worcester vacancy following Bishop Giffard's death, when he was granted letters dimissory for the diaconate (Emden, *Biog. Oxon.*, s.v. Orleton wrongly has 'all holy orders') 27 March 1302: *Worcester Reg. Sede Vacante*, p. 77 (fo. 33^v). Emden gives *Hereford Reg. Swinfield*, p. 532, as the earliest reference, though in fact the editor does not record the title in this or other instances in the abstract of institutions. The MS. register does so (fo. cxxxiv, al. 130^v). Orleton was instituted to Turnastone on 4 February; his successor, Nicholas Talbot, on 31 October 1301. *Op. cit.* pp. 532-3 (fos. cxxxiv, cxxxii^v, al. 130-1).

² *Licet canon* (*Sext* 1, 6, c. 14) laid down a minimum age of twenty-five for the rule of a parish church. Under the terms of the new constitution *Cum ex eo* (*Sext* 1, 6, c. 34) it was possible to secure a benefice as early as the eighteenth year, the minimum age for the sub-diaconate according to *Clement*. 1, 6, c. 3. In 1302 Orleton was in subdeacon's orders, and so was lawfully entitled to hold a benefice without taking further orders for the time being, provided he held a *Cum ex eo* licence for study. No licence for Orleton earlier than 1304 has been recorded, and in any case he *did* secure letters dimissory for orders beyond the sub-diaconate. For details of *Cum ex eo* and its operation see Boyle, 'Constitution *Cum ex eo*'; Haines, 'Education of the English Clergy'.

³ Leland, *Itinerary*, 5, pp. 161-2, 184. For Leland himself see McKisack, *Medieval History*, ch. 1.

⁴ Cf. *H.R.O.*, pp. i-ii.

⁵ S.C.1/50/29 (formerly 27); *Foedera* 1, iv, p. 192; *Treaty Rolls* 1, no. 494; *C.P.R.* 1313-17, pp. 200, 573, and cf. *ibid.* p. 90. He is also called 'de Hereford' in *Winchester Reg. Woodlock*, p. 592. In the appendix to *Biog. Oxon.* 3 Emden lists an 'Adam de Hereford D.Cn.L.' of whom it is recorded only that he was envoy to Philip IV in 1311 and that in 1316 he was granted protection for two years. This man is in fact Orleton. A possible pointer to Adam's origins is provided by his

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Orletons were certainly conspicuous in the affairs of Hereford at about this time,⁶ but the name is also to be found in some other towns, notably Ludlow.

From Orleton's subsequent association with the two Roger Mortimers, uncle and nephew, of Chirk and Wigmore respectively, the editor of his Hereford register conjectured that he was a protégé of that family and subsequently took the hypothesis for fact.⁷ It is true that Orleton's sympathetic relationship with these men, which brought him little but misfortune, argues either remarkable loyalty or strong identity of interest. The latter is arguably nearer the mark, but may have been a later development. After all, the Mortimers were prominent parishioners of the bishop of Hereford – which position Orleton was to occupy – and their goodwill would be looked for by the diocesan.

What is certain is that no evidence has yet been produced to show that Orleton's early career benefited from Mortimer patronage, but there may have been a local benefactor, hitherto virtually overlooked, in the person of M. Robert le Wyse (or LeWyse) of Gloucester.⁸ A canon of Hereford as early as 1279 and member of Bishop Cantilupe's *familia*,⁹ Robert became diocesan official first of Hereford, then of Worcester diocese.¹⁰ From 1299 until his death during Orleton's tenure of the Hereford see¹¹ Robert was

testimony (in 1321) that he had known William Penk, a monk of Tintern born in St Martin's parish in Hereford, from the latter's early youth (*H.R.O.*, pp. 185–6).

⁶ *H.R.O.*, p. ii and index *s.v.* Orleton. William de Orleton was an especially prominent Hereford citizen in Edward II's reign, acting as bailiff for many years. On occasion he used the same proctor in the royal court, Hugh de Farndon, as did Adam himself and also Henry de Orleton. Henry, and after his death William, occur from time to time in the *Curia Regis* rolls: K.B. 27/251–63 (1322 x 1326). See also Just. 3/116/2^v (Hereford gaol delivery 18 Edward II). Henry, Thomas and William de Orleton were returned to parliament as Hereford burgesses 1307 x 1324: *Parliamentary Writs*, 2, iii, p. 1246. A Reginald de Orleton was one of Adam Orleton's attorneys in 1314: *C.P.R.* 1313–17, pp. 90, 200. Clemence (wife of Walter), Henry, Reginald, Thomas, Walter and William, together with Adam and his brothers John and Thomas, occur in H.C.M.

⁷ *H.R.O.*, pp. i–ii, xiii.

⁸ For a biographical sketch see *Biog. Oxon.*, *s.v.* Gloucester.

⁹ *Hereford Reg. Cantilupe*, index *s.v.* Gloucester.

¹⁰ Emden does not mention his appointment as official of Worcester on 25 October 1297 under Bishop Giffard or his work in that diocese, for which see *Worcester Reg. Giffard*, p. 489 (fo. 414^v), and index *s.v.* Gloucester, Robert of. The Robert of Gloucester at p. 135 of the register is the chancellor's relative, for whom see n. 11 below.

¹¹ He died 1 March 1320 x 31 January 1322. At the earlier date his relative M. Robert of Gloucester was made co-administrator of his affairs by Orleton. *H.R.O.*, pp. 127–8, 209.

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chancellor of the cathedral church there and an energetic canvasser for Thomas de Cantilupe's canonisation, a process brought to a successful conclusion by Orleton himself. In 1302 the fledgling *magister* was in the chancellor's *familia* and one of his brothers, Thomas, was at his instance being helped to a pension from Worcester Priory by their mutual patron.¹² Shortly afterwards Adam is to be found acting with Robert le Wyse, among others, as executor of the troublesome testament of Godfrey Giffard, bishop of Worcester.¹³

Notices of Orleton's academic career are sketchy. He has been numbered among the alumni of Oxford University¹⁴ and although there is no direct evidence of his having studied there, the probability is heightened by his subsequent concern with the affairs of that institution and his anxiety for its welfare.¹⁵ Having achieved the status of *magister*, Orleton turned his attention to the higher faculty of law – a discipline which at the time was attracting ambitious clerks and one which his patron had also pursued. In 1304 he obtained a three-year licence to be absent from his Gloucestershire rectory of Wotton from Michaelmas, for the purpose of studying at a university in England or abroad.¹⁶ Where he went is obscure, but it could have been to the continent as there is no further reference to him in English records for the duration of the licence. On his reappearance in 1307 he is described as 'utriusque iuris peritus' and three years later as doctor of canon law.¹⁷

For seculars engaged in the expensive pursuit of higher education benefice income was often essential, and in itself provided a measure of the worldly success of an aspiring clerk. Orleton's first benefice was the Herefordshire parish of Turnastone with its subordinate chapel of St Leonard, to which he was presented early

¹² *Worcester Reg. Sede Vacante*, p. 44 (fo. 17^v): 'ad instanciam dilecti nostri clerici magistris Ade de Orleton'. Robert was collated on 16 September and installed on 29 September 1299: Hereford Reg. Swinfield, fo. cxxvi^r al. 124. Thomas succeeded him in his Westbury canonry and in the chancellorship of Hereford: *C.P.L.* 1305–42, p. 185; *H.R.O.*, p. 387. From at least 1305 Thomas was also receiving an annual pension from the Hereford chapter: *H.C.M.*, nos. 2591, 2663, 2716.

¹³ *Worcester Reg. Gainsburgh*, pp. 195, 197, 203, 207–8, 215. These citations concern debts due to the king.

¹⁴ *Biog. Oxon.*, s.v.

¹⁵ See below, pp. 7, 60–1, 187.

¹⁶ *Worcester Reg. Gainsburgh*, p. 84 (fo. 25^v).

¹⁷ *Foedera* 1, iv, p. 103. The first mention of him as D.Cn.L. appears to be in *Bath & Wells Reg. Droķensford*, p. 35 (2 September 1310).

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in 1301 by the precentor of Hereford cathedral, John de Swinfield, a nephew of the bishop, Richard Swinfield.¹⁸ This rectory he held for less than nine months, probably because in the interval he had been instituted to Wotton-under-Edge on the authority of the neighbouring Worcester diocesan, Godfrey Giffard.¹⁹ Then in 1304 the bishop of Bath and Wells, Walter de Haselshaw, presented Orleton to Ashbury church in Berkshire. Without papal dispensation he could not have held this in addition to Wotton, so Simon of Ghent, in whose diocese of Salisbury it lay, granted him the commend for the canonical period of six months, and this allowed Orleton to make use of the revenues.²⁰ It could be that Ghent, well known for his interest in rising scholars, was anxious to assist him towards the cost of his university studies. In the event, another clerk who was to be closely associated with Orleton, M. Gilbert de Middleton, was instituted after only two months.²¹

Orleton's subsequent promotions coincide with his newly-won status of doctor, just as his earlier ones marked his completion of the arts course. Clement V provided him to a canonry and prebend of Wells in 1310,²² and in the following year he is first mentioned as canon of Hereford.²³ Walter Reynolds, bishop of Worcester, in whose service Orleton was at the time, dispensed him from the plurality regulations by virtue of a grace from Pope Clement. A further dispensation, not implemented because of Clement's death but reiterated by his successor, John XXII, enabled Orleton to hold the rectory of Acle in Norwich diocese as well as his other rectory (Wotton) and both canonries, but he had to surrender the first-fruits of Acle as subsidy for the mooted crusade.²⁴ Reynolds

¹⁸ *Hereford Reg. Swinfield*, p. 532 (fo. cxxxiv^v al. 130).

¹⁹ *Worcester Reg. Giffard*, p. 543 (fo. 464^f al. ccclxix). This is a commission of 1 May 1301 to institute Orleton ('clericus noster'). The institution itself is not recorded, but presumably took place shortly afterwards. The abbot and convent of Bristol (Augustinian) were patrons and appropriated the church in 1313, but failed to gain possession on Orleton's relinquishing it when promoted bishop (1317). *Worc. Admin.*, pp. 246, 256, 265.

²⁰ *Salisbury Reg. Gandavo*, p. 629. According to the canonical regulation (Lyons II, c. 14: *Sext* 1, 6, c. 15) the beneficiary had to be in priest's orders and of age to hold a benefice (i.e. twenty-five). See *Worc. Admin.*, pp. 197-9.

²¹ *Salisbury Reg. Gandavo*, p. 631.

²² *Bath & Wells Reg. Drokensford*, pp. 35, 59; *H.R.O.*, p. v.

²³ In letters of credence dated 10 October 1311: *Foedera* 1, iv, p. 196. Cf. *Worcester Reg. Reynolds*, p. 29 (fo. 37^v).

²⁴ Walter Reynolds's dispensation is dated 30 January 1312 (I read 'iii' rather than

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also favoured him with a grant of the sequestration of the Worcester archdeaconry, only to revoke it within a fortnight. The reason for this abrupt change of plan seems to have been that news of the papal reservation and appointment to the archdeaconry had reached the bishop meanwhile.²⁵

In such manner Orleton financed himself, his studies, and to some degree his other activities, until his promotion to a bishopric in 1317. By the standards of his day this amount of benefice accumulation was moderate, certainly less extensive than that of his contemporary, Thomas de Cobham, with whom he has been unfavourably contrasted.²⁶

Two careers were now opening up before this able cleric: diocesan administration and diplomacy. His qualifications fitted him for either, and for a time he made it his business to interest himself in both.

The precise means by which Orleton came so quickly to the notice of Edward II, who succeeded his father in July 1307, can only be surmised. The context was provided by the new king's anxiety for the canonisation of Bishop Thomas de Cantilupe, partly perhaps from motives of filial piety, for Edward I had set the matter in train towards the end of his life.²⁷ A man beneficed in Cantilupe's former diocese and with experience in the household of the Hereford chancellor, who moreover had served as one of the chapter's proctors in the cause of the prospective saint, clearly had a strong claim to Edward's attention. At any rate, it was as envoy to the pope in this business that Orleton is first

'iv Kal. Feb.'). Orleton may have had a Hereford prebend early in 1311, if we can judge from an erased memorandum (rubric: 'Preb' collata magistro Ade Orleton') in Hereford Reg. Swinfield (fo. clxi^r al. 170) noted by Bannister (*H.R.O.*, p. vi, n. 1). In November 1316 he was granted further prebends at Wells and Hereford by Pope John XXII, on condition that he surrendered his former ones. These papal letters were presented to Bishop Swinfield on 22 February 1317 by Orleton's brother and proctor ad hoc, Thomas. *C.P.L.* 1305-42, pp. 133-4; *Worcester Reg. Reynolds*, p. 84 (fo. 42^r); *Hereford Reg. Swinfield*, p. 523 (fo. ccviii^r al. 206). He was instituted to Acle, Norfolk, on 22 February 1312, in the person of his proctor Roger de Badyngton, the monks of Tintern being the patrons (Norwich Reg. Salmon, fo. 46^r). In 1317 Acle passed to his brother Thomas by papal provision (*ibid.* fos. 72^v-73^r; *C.P.L.* 1305-42, p. 160). We know that he held Hanwell church, Oxon., because in 1317 he acknowledged his obligation to pay annates for it. *H.R.O.*, p. 43; cf. Lunt, *Financial Relations* 1, pp. 494-5.

²⁵ *Worcester Reg. Reynolds*, p. 154; *Worc. Admin.*, p. 33, and for *custodia sequestri*, *ibid.* pp. 202-4.

²⁶ See *Biog. Oxon.*, s.v. Cobham, Thomas de.

²⁷ *Foedera* 1, iii, p. 51.

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designated 'king's clerk'.²⁸ After that he eludes observation until 1309, when he is to be found travelling on royal service in the entourage of Walter Reynolds, the king's treasurer.²⁹ As we shall see, diplomatic missions interrupted his association with Reynolds's diocese of Worcester, but in December 1311 he is numbered among those of the bishop's *familia* in London, where he was deputed to examine and confirm the election process at Wroxall Priory.³⁰ The episcopal register provides few glimpses of him thereafter.³¹

It is testimony to Adam Orleton's reputation for administrative and legal expertise that in August 1312 Henry Woodlock, bishop of Winchester, appointed him official. He seems to have continued in office at least until 30 October 1315³² when, because of his absence *in remotis*, a deputy was appointed to hear the consistory court cases and to carry out the official's additional duties of enquiry, correction and punishment with respect to the bishop's subjects.³³ Even between those dates his professional activities are scantily recorded; in fact he is mentioned only twice by name: in September 1312, and again in April of the following year, when he was present with M. Gilbert de Middleton at the bishop's manor of Southwark on the south bank of the Thames opposite London.³⁴ Pressure of legal business in the consistory is conceivably the reason for Orleton's lack of employment in day-to-day diocesan business as recorded by Bishop Woodlock's registrar. A more convincing explanation is that he was busy elsewhere, as he certainly was for much of 1314. His absence would not have occasioned much embarrassment since continuity was maintained by his assessor M. Peter Poleyn *alias* 'de Worldham', the commissary-general and a clerk experienced in the diocesan's service.³⁵ It may be a mark of Orleton's methodical character that he kept his commission of appointment and in 1330, as Worcester

²⁸ *Foedera* I, iv, p. 103.²⁹ *C.P.R.* 1307-13, p. 103.³⁰ *Worcester Reg. Reynolds*, pp. 29-30 (fo. 37^v).³¹ *Ibid.* pp. 59, 96, 119.³² *Winchester Reg. Woodlock*, p. 584. He could even have continued as nominal official until early in 1317, the end of the episcopate.³³ *Ibid.* p. 645.³⁴ *Ibid.* pp. 592, 631.³⁵ See, for instance, *ibid.* p. 655: appointment (3 January 1316) jointly with M. Adam de Capel to deal with vacant benefices in the bishop's absence. *Pace* the editor this does not appear to be a general commission for vicars-spiritual. See also the index to this register *s v.*

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diocesan, made use of its preamble in the commission for his own official, Robert de Worth.³⁶

In May 1313 Orleton, jointly with a fellow canon of Hereford, Richard de Bello, the reputed author of the *Mappa Mundi*, was appointed Bishop Swinfield's proctor for the provincial council summoned to St Paul's for the morrow of the Ascension (i.e. 25 May).³⁷ Not much more is to be gleaned about his employment in England at this time, except that in a document dated 9 November 1313 he is named as proctor of M. Gilbert de Middleton, one of four arbitrators in a dispute between the University of Oxford and the Friars Preachers.³⁸ Years later, as bishop of Worcester and in his capacity as conservator of the privileges of the Franciscans, Orleton was to write a warning letter to the chancellor about what seems to have been a recrudescence of this conflict between secular and regular masters.³⁹

Meanwhile – and this was to be crucial for the future – Orleton had created a favourable impression at the papal Curia. Doubtless this arose from his effectiveness in the despatch of business there and at the Council of Vienne in 1311. It was about the time of the council that Clement V made him a papal chaplain.⁴⁰ Clement's successor, John XXII, promoted him auditor of causes in the Sacred Palace. He was one of three such auditors to be advanced by Pope John to the English episcopate.⁴¹

The signs were auspicious for a man who had gained the approbation of pope, king and a number of diocesan bishops: one of these last, Reynolds, had in 1313 become archbishop of Canterbury. But Orleton's interests had turned decisively in the direction of the king's diplomatic service and his experiences in that sphere between 1307 and 1321 and, in the reign of Edward III, between 1327 and 1336, will be the subject of the following chapter.

³⁶ *Worc. Admin.*, p. 112.

³⁷ *Hereford Reg. Swinfield*, p. 491 (fo. clxxxvi^r al. 184). The editor gives the date wrongly as 16 August. Cf. *H.R.O.*, p. vi, n. 7. For Bello see Denholm-Young, 'Mappa Mundi', pp. 74–82, esp. 77–8.

³⁸ *Collectanea*, pp. 264–72, esp. p. 266.

³⁹ *W.R.O.* 2, fo. 49^v [898].

⁴⁰ The first mention of Orleton as papal chaplain seems to be in Clement V's letter of 18 October 1311 to King Philip: Lizerand, *Clément V et Philippe IV*, p. 470. See also Edward's letter of 16 December 1311 to Clement: *Foedera* 1, iv, p. 202.

⁴¹ Cerchiarì, *Capellani Papae*, pp. 24–7. The other two were Rigaud d'Assier and John de Ross.

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THE DIPLOMATIC ENVOY

IN EDWARD II'S SERVICE 1307-1321

It was in December 1307, less than six months after Edward II's accession, that Adam Orleton, described as the king's chosen clerk skilled in civil and canon law, was despatched to Pope Clement V to promote the canonisation of Bishop Thomas de Cantilupe. The mission marked the beginning of a highly successful diplomatic career.

As the young monarch pointed out in his letters to pope and cardinals, Cantilupe's sanctification had been the subject of representations by his late father, of whose council the bishop had been a member, and the lengthy process of assessing the candidate's credentials was far advanced.¹ The papal commissioners, William Durandus, bishop of Mende, Ralph Baldock, bishop of London, and William Testa, archdeacon of Aran, had been hard at work examining witnesses and pursuing other enquiries. They spent the summer and autumn months of 1307 at Hereford; indeed they did not complete their investigations in the city until mid-November, at which point they returned to London and despatched a letter to Clement V in which Orleton and Thomas de Guines are named as the Hereford chapter's proctors.² Thus Orleton went to the Curia in a double capacity. Quite when he returned is unknown, though the king in a letter of 15 April 1308, reiterating his wishes with respect to Cantilupe, implies that the envoy was still abroad.³

While Orleton was at the papal court, which had not yet moved

¹ *Foedera* 1, iv, p. 103: 12 December 1307. 'Et dilecto clerico nostro magistro Ade de Orleton, utriusque juris perito (qui, pro huiusmodi negotii promotione, ad vestram beatitudinis praesentiam accedit).'

² *Acta Sanctorum mensis Octobris* 1, p. 592. Cf. H.C.M., no. 1443. Also Yates, 'Fabric Rolls of Hereford Cathedral', pp. 80-1, quoting Douie, 'Canonisation of St Thomas', p. 277.

³ *Foedera* 1, iv, p. 117.

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to Avignon,⁴ the vacancy of the see of Worcester precipitated the first of many struggles between Edward II and the papacy on the subject of promotion to English bishoprics.⁵ Royal instigation was clearly behind the election by the Worcester chapter on 13 November 1307 of Walter Reynolds, the king's treasurer. This was some two months after the death of Bishop Gainsburgh at Beauvais, while travelling back from the Curia.⁶ Pope Clement promptly claimed the reservation of the see, a move which Edward (with some inconsistency) denounced as an unheard-of encroachment on free capitular elections. The outcome was a compromise: the elevation of the royal candidate by papal provision on 12 February 1308.⁷ What part, if any, Orleton played in the affair can only be surmised; he was, after all, still a novice in the intricacies of curial practice and politics. All the same, it may not be wholly coincidental that we next encounter him in Reynolds's *familia*.

The occasion was the embassy which set out for Avignon in March 1309. At its head were two prelates, Walter Reynolds and the Norwich diocesan, John Salmon, and two nobles, John of Brittany, earl of Richmond, and Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke. Some specially secret business, which touched the king closely, was entrusted independently to Reynolds and the earl of Richmond.⁸ The main purpose of the embassy was to secure a reversal of Archbishop Winchelsey's excommunication of Piers Gaveston, the king's unpopular favourite. Among the clerks of the bishop of Worcester's party enumerated in the royal letters of protection were Orleton and M. William de Birston, whom Reynolds had recently made archdeacon of Gloucester and who was to function as his auditor and commissary-general.⁹

⁴ Most of the papal letters of this period are dated from Poitiers. E.g. *C.P.L.* 1305-42, pp. 22-49.

⁵ On this topic see Smith, *Episcopal Appointments*, chs. 1-2.

⁶ *Worc. Admin.*, p. 77.

⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 77, 323; Smith, *Episcopal Appointments*, pp. 11-13. Edward wrote of Reynolds: 'Virum utique consilii maturitate conspicuum, discretione providum, quem vitae conversatio, morum honestas, laudabiliaque decorant gratiarum munera et virtutum, quemque in spiritualibus novimus et temporalibus circumspicuum, cuius etiam probata fidelitas ipsum nobis et populo regni nostri gratum reddit multipliciter et acceptum. . .'. *Foedera* 1, iv, p. 98.

⁸ *Foedera* 1, iv, pp. 136-7; and see Phillips, *Pembroke*, p. 29.

⁹ For Reynolds's entourage see *C.P.R.* 1307-13, pp. 103, 107; and for Birston, *Worc. Admin.*, index *s.v.*

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According to a rubric in his diocesan register Reynolds set out on Palm Sunday (23 March), having appointed M. Benedict de Paston his vicar-general seven days previously.¹⁰ It can be assumed that Orleton travelled with him. Amongst his effects he carried a petition to the pope with covering letters from Walter de Bedewynde, the treasurer of York.¹¹ These were intended for Bedewynde's clerk, William de Ros, who notes that he received them on 4 May, which must have been some time after Orleton's arrival at Avignon. In his reply Ros enigmatically remarks of his principal's advice to consult Orleton about his affairs, that because the latter and Andrea Sapiti, the king's permanent proctor at the Curia,¹² were of one mind in all things, such a course would serve no useful purpose.¹³ William de Ros's letter is dated 10 May, and he adds a postscript to the effect that on the previous Monday Edward's envoys had delivered to the pope money and other items to the value of 30,000 florins.¹⁴ This can be taken as a conspicuous mark of the king's gratitude for the success of the negotiations: the bull for Gaveston's absolution from excommunication is dated 25 April, and another bull of 18 May directed the bishops of Lincoln and London to resume their collection of the papal tenth, three-quarters of the proceeds of which were to be paid to the king.¹⁵

The principals of the embassy moved off towards the end of

¹⁰ *Worcester Reg. Reynolds*, p. 7 (fo. 9^v).

¹¹ S.C.1/50/29 (formerly 27). What follows comes from Ros's reply to Bedewynde. This is dated 10 May from Avignon and can with a measure of confidence be ascribed to 1309. Bedewynde, the royal appointee as treasurer of York, was disputing the dignity with Francesco Gaetani. *C.P.R.* 1301-7, p. 467; *C.P.L.* 1305-42, p. 344; *Le Neve* 6, pp. 12-13. The ramifications of the case are discussed by Smith, *Episcopal Appointments*, pp. 62-4, 66. Bedewynde was to die *pendente lite*.

¹² For whom see Kirsch, 'Andreas Sapiti'; P.R.O. 31/9/17A (transcript of his register of petitions).

¹³ S.C.1/50/29. 'Item continebatur in eisdem [litteris quod?] magister Adam impenderet auxilium suum et consilium circa expeditionem dicte petitionis dubito quod non foret sanissim[um] [con]silium multum cum eodem conferre super negociis vestris nam ipse et Andreas Sapiti sunt unanimes in omnibus unde absque ipso negocium vestrum occasione predicta melius expedietur.' (Some tears in the MS. A version is given by Langlois, 'Documents', pp. 76-7.) Does this stem from professional jealousy?

¹⁴ Ros promised to keep his principal informed: 'Adhec domine mi reverende qualiter nuncii regis Anglie negocia pro quibus venerunt . . . expedient et quid facient vos celeriter certificare non omitam. Ex parte regis presentarunt pape in pecunia et in aliis usque ad valorem xxx millium florenarum auri die Lune ante confectionem presencium.'

¹⁵ *Hereford Reg. Swinfield*, pp. 451-2; Lunt, *Financial Relations* 1, pp. 384-5.