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978-1-107-44817-9 - The Award of William Alnwick, Bishop of Lincoln, A.D. 1439

Edited and Translated by Reginald Maxwell Woolley, B.D.

Frontmatter

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EDITED AND TRANSLATED

by

REGINALD MAXWELL WOOLLEY, B.D.

Rector and Vicar of Minting

WITH A PREFACE, INTRODUCTION AND
CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

by

CHRISTOPHER WORDSWORTH, M.A.

Subdean of Sarum and Master of St Nicholas' Hospital, Salisbury

Cambridge
at the University Press

1913

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107448179

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First published 1913

First paperback edition 2014

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-107-44817-9 Paperback

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE

THE Latin Text of Bishop Alnwick's Award, or *Laudum*, has been already issued twice—in the first instance by my Father, Dr Christopher Wordsworth (Bishop of Lincoln, 1869–85) in *Statuta Ecclesiae Cathedralis Lincolnensis* (8vo, Londini, 1873, pp. xvi+112), which contains the 'Novum Registrum' and the 'Laudum Willelmi Alnwick' (as well as the 'Statuta Vicariorum' and five little documents of the 14th and 15th centuries). On the second occasion the Award was edited by myself, in continuation of the work begun by Henry Bradshaw, in volume III. of *Lincoln Cathedral Statutes* (Cambridge, 1892–7).

The present Edition, giving for the first time an English translation, was undertaken at the request of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, who considered that after the lapse of forty years there was again need for a convenient edition of this Award which all who are collated to stalls in the Cathedral church are called upon at the time of their installation to promise to obey.

They have been fortunate in securing the services of a Lincolnshire Rector, possessing such literary experience as Mr Woolley has acquired, to make an intelligible English version from the cramped and involved sentences of the notary's Latin text, some of the constructions certified by Thomas Colston being sufficient to make the heart of the stoutest translator quail. Such difficulties in the Latin may be in part attributable to some want of scholarship in the scribe himself, but I am inclined to suppose that the

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Bishop's Registrar transcribed faithfully the documents which had been handed to him and certified by Robert Stretton the Chapter-clerk and Thomas Atkyn the Dean's notary on behalf of the two parties then contending and eagerly awaiting a decision from the Bishop. But even in the first part of the troublous reign of King Henry the Sixth the Dean and the Canons at Lincoln had already banded themselves in contrary parts, too ready 'to begin their ancient bickerings'; and often for some 'slight and frivolous cause' those 'factious emulations would arise' which, among other results, render the combatants incapable of weighing well their words. And, in a stormy atmosphere so highly charged, a Bishop called in, as Alnwick was, to arbitrate, might be excused if once and again he uttered and let pass a sentence which calmer revision would condemn, but which might pass muster while he was intent upon understanding the local circumstances and the points at issue between those who recognised his spiritual fatherhood, and while he was doubtlessly filled with such an aspiration as Shakespeare's Duke of Exeter expresses,

"And I, I hope, shall reconcile them all."

Our thanks are due to the Cambridge University Press as well for the care and skill employed in producing the book now presented to the reader, as also for the free scope allowed us in reproducing those portions of the volumes of *Lincoln Cathedral Statutes* which relate to the Lincoln Awards and to the *Laudum* of Bishop Alnwick in particular, with the facsimile of Colston's mark.

Mr Woolley suggests that it may be added that readers who may be sufficiently interested by the perusal of the introduction and the award here printed, and who desire further knowledge of the history of the times when the award was made, and of the general conditions of the

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Edited and Translated by Reginald Maxwell Woolley, B.D.

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE

vii

Cathedral and its Chapter, may be referred to the three volumes of *Lincoln Cathedral Statutes* mentioned above: likewise, to the volumes of *Calendars of Papal Registers*, a series still in progress, to the editors whereof, and especially to Mr J. A. Twemlow, as also to the Very Reverend Joseph Armitage Robinson, D.D. (Dean of Wells), we have elsewhere acknowledged our obligation.

He would wish also to join me in thanking the Dean and other members of the Chapter of the 'City set on an Hill,' who have enabled us to work together in the present congenial task.

CHR. WORDSWORTH.

SALISBURY,
St Luke's Day, 1913.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

THE DECLARATION MADE IN LINCOLN CATHEDRAL CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF AN INSTALLATION.

“I, *A. B.* Canon of this Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lincoln, and Prebendary of the Prebend of *N.* founded therein,—

(*Or* ‘I, *A. B.* Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry of *C.* founded in this Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lincoln’ :—

Or ‘I, *A. B.* appointed to the Dignity of *D.* and Canon of this Church’ :—)

“do solemnly declare that I will be faithful to this Church and Chapter, and obedient to the Dean, as Dean, and to his successors, and in his absence or neglect, to the Chapter of this Church; that I will [to the best of my power]¹ observe all the Ordinances² and reasonable and approved Customs³ of the same; +that I will faithfully perform the duties of my said Prebend, especially by preaching in this Church at the time appointed to the holder of it⁵. Furthermore⁶ I will to my best assist in defending the rights of this Church; and, so⁷ far as in me lies and

¹ These words occur in the *Form for Installing a Dignitary (whether Precentor, Chancellor, or Sub-dean)* as printed by Mr Williamson, Lincoln, in 1895, and likewise in the *Form for Installing as Archdeacon* a person already a Canon. The Declaration of the Dean at his Installation, 1910, printed by W. K. Morton and Sons, Lincoln, is similar to that of the other Dignitaries (only of course omitting the clause of obedience to the Dean).

² ‘all the Statutes, Ordinances’: *Installation of an Archdeacon*.

³ ‘ancient approved and reasonable Customs and Privileges’: *Installation of Dignitaries* (1895), and of *the Dean of Lincoln* (1910).

⁴⁻⁶ A Dignitary here promises to keep Residence, to contribute to the defence of the Rights of the Church, as well as to cause the Ordinances &c. to be observed by others.

⁵ The *Statutum de Concionatoribus*, a copy whereof is given to each Canon at his Installation, may be found in *Lincoln Cathedral Statutes*, Camb. 1897, iii. 630–636; or in the *Lincoln Diocesan Kalendar*.

⁷ ‘and that, as far’: *Installation of an Archdeacon*. ‘and, as far... lawfully may, that’: 1895.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

I lawfully may, I will inviolably observe the **Laudum** or Award of the Venerable Father in God [of pious memory]¹, William Alnwick, sometime Bishop of Lincoln, and all the contents thereof; nor will I² give my assistance, advice, or encouragement to any person or persons whatsoever, desiring or endeavouring to violate that **Laudum**, or [to] contravene the same.”

After the act of Installing :—

“ Then, all standing up, the Person Installed also rising, the Person Installing shall turn him, and say :—

Look upon the titles of the Psalms, which you are to recite every day³ if nothing hinders.”

¹ ‘ of pious memory ’ : These words are in the forms of 1895, 1910.

² ‘ and that I will not ’ : 1895, 1910.

³ The list which shows how the Psalms are apportioned among the Prebendaries of Lincoln for a daily recitation of the Psalter with the Litany, is printed in the *Lincoln Diocesan Kalendar*. The form of prayer prescribed by St Hugh to be said by each Canon after his Psalm or Psalms will be found, together with its translation (by Archbishop Benson, formerly prebendary of Heydour and Chancellor), printed on pp. 172, 173, at the end of this present book.

We are indebted to M. H. Footman, Esq., the Chapter Clerk, for a copy of the Forms of Installation.

Cambridge University Press

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Edited and Translated by Reginald Maxwell Woolley, B.D.

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE	v
INTRODUCTION	1
The <i>Lauda</i> , or Awards on matters in dispute between the Dean and the Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral Church	
The earlier Bishops of Lincoln were for the most part elected <i>de gremio istius ecclesiae</i> , with some noteworthy exceptions	1
After 1398 strangers were very frequently appointed	1
Result of Grosseteste's appeal to Rome	2
Visitation of the Chapter by Bishops of Lincoln, 1246—1880	3
The position of Bishops of Salisbury in their Chapter	3
Jurisdiction at Lincoln during vacancy of the See	5
Meeting, cir. 1255. Intervention of Popes and Archbishops	6
Metropolitan Visitations	10
Royal Visitations	10
The Dean is 'supervisor'	11
Decanal Visitations	12
Disputes and Compositions, <i>Lauda</i> or Awards at Lincoln in the 13th—15th centuries	12
Dr J. Macworth, Dean of Lincoln, 1412—1451	15
The Canons make repeated complaints against him	15
The Preamble of Bp W. Gray's Award (1434) and heads of Articles 1—12	17
The 37 complaints of the Canons in Bp Gray's time	19
Failure of his <i>laudum</i>	23
Dr W. Alnwick, Bishop of Lincoln 1437—1449	23
His primary visitation (Oct. 1437)	24
The Dean complains of the Canons. Their counter-charges	25
The vicars, boys, and servants of the Church	26
The complaint of the Canons (7 June) 1438 and of the Dean (16 June)	27
They agree to abide by Bp Alnwick's decision	29
Bp Alnwick's political character. His reputation as an arbitrator	31
Relations of Bishop and Chapter at Lincoln and elsewhere	32

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-44817-9 - The Award of William Alnwick, Bishop of Lincoln, A.D. 1439

Edited and Translated by Reginald Maxwell Woolley, B.D.

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

xi

	PAGE
Alnwick's proposal for a 'new book' of Statutes	34
His obligation to the collection of Statutes of St Paul's, London, cir. 1300	35
A part of his compilation read in Chapter at Lincoln, 7 Oct. 1440. The Parker MS. 108, at C.C.C. Cambridge, bears signs of the discussion and the amendments adopted	36
Account of the proceedings of 1439—1442, furnished by Dean J. W. Blakesley and Chapter in 1879 and reprinted in 1885	37
Bp Chr. Wordsworth's conjecture, as to the ground of Macworth's dissatisfaction, supported by Dr Gascoigne's contemporary notice of the controversy at Lincoln (ed. Prof. J. E. T. Rogers in 1881).	40
Subsequent history of Alnwick and Macworth	40
Robert Burton the Precentor	42
Bp Alnwick's 'Order on Censing the Choir'	43
Later fortunes of the 15th century Draft <i>Novum Registrum</i>	45
Grounds for reprinting it in 1897	47
Its <i>marginalia</i>	47
Note on the Wells Cathedral MS. copy of Alnwick's <i>Novum Registrum</i> , cir. 1506	47–51

LAUDUM W. ALNEWICKE episcopi Lincoln anno 1439^o.
Chapter House, 23 June, 1439

(i) COMPROMISSUM CAPITULI	54
[Decem Canonici residentes]	54
Bp Fleming's Award (1421)	56
Questiones litis per Capitulum (1—42).	56
Terminus compromissi, Wednesday, June 24, 1439	74
Nota pro iuramento Canonicorum	76
Chapter House, Saturday, 7 June, 1438	78
Notarial mark (T. Colston, <i>pro</i> R. Stretton)	78
(ii) COMPROMISSUM Joh. Macworth DECANI	82
[Decanus iure prebende residentiam facit canonicalem]	84
Questiones litis per Decanum (1—14)	84–90
['Quia decanus sede vacante obijcit canonicis. Nota laudum Alnwici in medio folij de decano presenti ad tale signum +']	88
Nota protestacionem Decani	90
Terminus compromissi (Wednesday, 24 June, 1439)	92
Nota iuramentum Decani	94
(Nassington, Monday, 16 June, 1438)	96
Attestatio T. Atkyn notarii	96

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-44817-9 - The Award of William Alnwick, Bishop of Lincoln, A.D. 1439

Edited and Translated by Reginald Maxwell Woolley, B.D.

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xii

CONTENTS

		PAGE
		Initium LAUDI 98
		Articuli Laudi . xl. 100-140
Articuli Laudatoris	Ad Questiones	
	Dec. Cap.	
Art. 1	D. 1 —	Cum Decanus vice duorum fungitur, contribuat ut canonicus 100
Art. 2	D. 2 —	Vicariorum et Capellanorum pecunie ne alienentur 100
Art. 3	D. 3 C. 41	Concessionem fiant sub nomine Decani et Capituli 102
Art. 4	D. 4 C. 26	De auctoritate Capituli in dispensacionibus in causis leuibus, absente Decano 102
Art. 5	D. 5 —	Quilibet residenciarius habeat Capellanum in habitu 104
Art. 6	D. 6 —	De collacione cantariarum infra xl. dies 104
Art. 7	D. 7, 8 —	De usu legatorum. De auctoritate Episcopi in donatis huiusmodi 106
Art. 8	D. 9 —	De panno clericorum pro pauperibus 106
Art. 9	D. 10 —	De minori residencia 106
Art. 10	D. 11 C. 24, 25	De inspeccione munimentorum per Decanum 106
Art. 11	D. 12 —	Nota de tempore vacacionis sedis 108
Art. 12	D. 13 —	Quando operabitur contradiccio Decani 108
Art. 13	D. 14 [C. 33]	De reparacione hospiciorum canonicalium infra clausum. Nota ordinem deputacionis 108
Art. 14	— —	Dividencia unde oritur 110
Art. 15	— —	Duo fideciarj pro Capitulo. Nota presidentem in absencia Decani 112
Art. 16	— —	Stans in obsequio alterius nullo modo percipiat cum residenciarijs 112
Art. 17	— C. 24	De inventorijs triplicatis, et a quibus conseruantur 114
Art. 18	— C. 1, 2	Decanus debet pascere, eciam absens 116
		De ignitegijs 118
Art. 19	— C. 3, 6	De exhibicione Vicarij per Decanum. Nota iiii l., deducendo septimas 118
Art. 20	— C. 4	Decanus a pascendo et celebrando in cursu sit immunus 120
Art. 21	— C. 4, 6	Decanus, semel in residencia existens, non solvet septimas 120
Art. 22	— C. 5, 7	Decanus procedat nomine suo et Capituli, et non nisi deliberacione prehabita cum Capitulo 122
Art. 23	— C. 13	In cuius manibus debent remanere claves portarum. Nota bene de pena xl. s. 122
Art. 24	— C. 14	De communi iurisdiccione in prebendis, exceptis quibusdam 124
Art. 25	D. 8 C. 15	Decanus soluet Clerico Commune Capituli xxvj. s. viiij. d. ad obitum ?Willelmi de Lexington [8 (vel 20) Sept. † A.D. 1272] 124
Art. 26	— C. 17	Decanus non debet prohibere soluciones Capitulo, nec recipere reddit[us] 124
Art. 27	— C. 8, 19	Extranei ad negocia Capituli non admittantur 126

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-44817-9 - The Award of William Alnwick, Bishop of Lincoln, A.D. 1439

Edited and Translated by Reginald Maxwell Woolley, B.D.

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

xiii

Articuli Laudatoris	Ad Questiones		PAGE
	Dec.	Cap.	
Art. 28	—	C. 21	Pulsacio campanarum continuetur vsque adventum executoris officij 126
Art. 29	—	C. 22	Notatur de missa, quod Decanus non faciat exe- cutores reincipere 126
Art. 30	—	C. 30	De Decano volenti celebrare quando non sit tabu- latus 126
Art. 31	—	C. 27	Quod Decano per se non liceat expellere vicarium, etc. Nota hic specialem mencionem fieri de Subdecano, ante alium presidentem, scilicet in admissione vicariorum 128
Art. 32	—	C. 32	De annullacione arbitrij facti [A.D. 1434] per W. Gray nuper episcopum, pro defectu 128
Art. 33	—	C. 38	De custodia sigilli 130
Art. 34	—	C. 39, 42	Formam litterarum Subdecani et Capituli Decano non subesse. Jurisperitorum sententiam con- trariam Decanus non asserat 130
Art. 35	—	C. 42 b	De redditibus deputatis ad fabricam 132
Art. 36	—	C. 31	De procuracionibus racione visitacionis. Extrav. ' <i>Vas Eleccionis.</i> ' Benedicti PP. XII. (tit. x. cap. 1 <i>De censibus</i>) 134
Art. 37	—	—	De emolumentis inter Decanum et Capitulum per capita (non per partes quotas) dividendis 136
Art. 38	—	C. 20	De admissione pauperum clericorum per Decanum 136 Nota hic non fieri mencionem de subdecano (sed de Capitulo) absente Decano, quantum ad recep- cionem iuramenti 136
Art. 39	—	—	De iuramento obseruacionis huius Laudi 138
Art. 40	—	—	Quilibet canonicus qui violauerit hunc Laudum soluet ecclesie xx. libras 140
			PROTESTATIO laudatoris. Et INIUNCCIO 142
			Tuesday, June 23, 1439 144
			Sealed by the Bishop at Nettleham, Monday, 29 June, 1439 144
			Notarial Attestation of T. Colston, Tuesday, 23 June, 1439 144–148
			CONTENTA in Laudo suprascripto (per Matthaicum Parker) 150
			CHRONOLOGICAL NOTES on the Liberties, Customs, Statutes, Disputes and Awards of the Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral Church, 1090–1451 155
			Prayers after the Canons' Daily Psalter 172
			INDEX 174

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-44817-9 - The Award of William Alnwick, Bishop of Lincoln, A.D. 1439

Edited and Translated by Reginald Maxwell Woolley, B.D.

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

ERRATA, &c.

p. 32 n. 4. It appears from Dr J. C. Cox's *Catalogue of Muniments of the D. and C. of Lichfield* (Hist. Collections of Stafford, W. Salt Archæol. Soc. Part ii. vol. vi., 1886, p. 91), that 'le Black Book' is, at Lichfield, the name of their 3rd vol. of Chapter Acts, 1490—1523; but as it extends only to 131+12 folios, it seems doubtful whether it is the book to which Mr Reynolds was referring. Dr Cox notes the occurrence at f. 288^b of the Lichfield *magnum Registrum Album* (a MS. cir. 1327) of a note of "Customs of different Cathedral Churches as to guarding the temporalities and spiritualities during vacancies of the see: Wells, Hereford, London, Lincoln, Salisbury, Exeter."

pp. 57–71, *for* because *introducing the several complaints of the Canons against the Dean*, *read* that.

p. 71 ll. 21, 22, *for* to the damage of the same while your visitation was impending, *read* pending your visitation, to the prejudice thereof.

p. 73 ll. 19, 20, *for* through [the growth of] some contrarient [yet] reasonable and legitimate use, *read* through reasonable and legitimate usage to the contrary.

p. 73 l. 28, *after* arbitrator *read* awarder, definer, etc.

p. 75 l. 23 *for* pecuniary, penalty *read* pecuniary, censure.

p. 75 last line *for* even under, *read* and to.

p. 77 l. 11 *for* judgement, *read* custom.

p. 77 l. 18 *for* With regard to these, *read* Furthermore.

p. 79 l. 1 *for* our, *read* a.

p. 80 l. 10 *for* faciendi *read* faciendum.

p. 97 l. 23 *for* all the foregoing *read* all [thereof], as foregoing.

p. 103 l. 4 *for* because *read* that.

p. 129 ll. 26, 27, *omit* from fellowship with the Chapter or.