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978-1-107-46402-5 - Calender of Plea and Memoranda Rolls: Preserved Among the Archives of the Corporation of the City of London at the Guildhall: A.D. 1413–1437

Edited by A. H. Thomas

Excerpt

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CALENDAR OF  
PLEA & MEMORANDA ROLLS *of the*  
CITY OF LONDON

ROLL A 43

*Rolls of memoranda of the time of William Crowmere, Membr. 1  
mayor, in the end of the first and the beginning  
of the second year of King Henry V*

Writ of protection in favour of “our beloved clerk,” Master Philip Morgan, who was then about to cross to Holland on an embassy (*ambassata*) concerning the king and the realm. Dated at Westminster 18 June 1414. 18 June 1414

Bond of Richard Burgate, brewer, to Henry Whitby, cutler, in £60 to save the latter harmless against any claims arising from his executorship of the will of John Lye, pouchmaker, deceased. 20 June 1414

In a dispute between Thomas Pyke, draper, and Peter Gran of Gascony and Bertram Walcote, chandler, as to payment for goods supplied to the latter, the mayor and twelve aldermen awarded that the said Bertram pay 40 marks and the said Peter £26 6s 8d, by equal portions at Michaelmas and Christmas. 19 May 1414

Theodoric van Wettyr, citizen and goldsmith, and Bertram Clayherst, merchant of Almaine, came before the mayor and agreed to submit their differences to the arbitration of John Brikles, draper, and Robert Holand, acting for the said Bertram, and Richard Balman and John Rous for the said Theodoric. 17 Sept. 1414

Recognisance by John Knyvynnton *alias* John de Aula of Litchurch, clerk, of a debt of £40 due to Thomas Pyke, draper, and William Multon. Membr. 1 b  
17 Aug. 1414

Whereas James le Botiller, draper, by his will enrolled in the Husting A° 11 Edw. II<sup>1</sup> devised certain lands and tenements Aug. 1414

<sup>1</sup> R. R. Sharpe, *Cal. of Wills enrolled in the Court of Husting*, 1, p. 276.

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in the parishes of S<sup>t</sup> Mary Bothaw and S<sup>t</sup> John Walbrook to the prior and convent of the new hospital of S<sup>t</sup> Mary without Bishopsgate to provide two secular chaplains to celebrate for the souls of the donor and others for ever in the church of S<sup>t</sup> Mary Bothaw, in Aug. 1414 came William Robert, rector of the said church, and Richard Elton, Robert Tatersall, Peter Wymondham, John Reyner, John Umfrey and Hamo Elyot, parishioners, complaining that the prior, Robert Pynchebek, and the convent were remiss as to providing chaplains, and praying the mayor and aldermen to discuss the matter with the prior and convent. The parties were summoned and agreed to accept the arbitration of the mayor and John Preston, the recorder, who, after inspecting the will and hearing both parties, awarded that the prior should pay to the rector and parishioners the sum of 17½ marks per annum, for providing two fit and honest chaplains, and that in case the payment were in arrears, it should be lawful to the rector and parishioners to enter into the tenements and take distresses until they were paid their arrears, and further that both parties should enter into recognisances of £40 to carry out the award.

30 Aug. 1414 Bond of Walter Shirley of Salisbury, grocer, to Walter Gawtron, draper, in £16, to accept the award of the mayor and six aldermen on disputes between them as to the freighting of certain of Walter Shirley's wines in a ship belonging to the said Walter Gawtron and Edmund de Dertmouth, and also to save the said Walter harmless against any claims of John Clerc of Salisbury for wines similarly freighted.

Membr. 2 A list of the goods, chattels and moneys belonging to John Olyver, draper, at the time of his death on 17 Aug. 1406, when they came into the hands of William Weston, draper, and William Wanstall, scrivener, as executors of his will.

First, 5 cloths of *ray*<sup>1</sup>, the field being *piersblewe*<sup>2</sup>, and 5 with the field azure, at 5 marks each; 2 of *ray* with the field green *gaude*<sup>3</sup>, 3 of *ray* with the field *bukhorn grene*, 4½ of *ray* with the field red, 3½ of *ray* with the field *sangweyn*, 5½ of *ray* with

<sup>1</sup> Striped material.

<sup>2</sup> *Sc.* perseblue, a shade of blue. Derivation uncertain.

<sup>3</sup> *Sc.* gaudy-green, a yellowish green colour produced by the plant weld, Fr. *gaude*, the *reseda luteola*.

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[More information](#)

## ROLL A 43

3

the field white, at 40s each; 2 of *ray* with the field black and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  of *ray* with the field *plonket*<sup>1</sup>, at 33s 4d each; 3 of *ray* with the field russet, 5 cloths of motley green, 5 of motley russet, 6 of *smal ray* green, 4 of *smal ray* russet, 8 of motley *blewe* and 2 of motley red of Salisbury at 2 marks each;  $10\frac{1}{2}$  of green *medle* of Winchester,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  of brown *medle* of Winchester, 13 of red *medle* and 10 of *plonket medle*, at 36s each; 30 of Gildeford blanket at 20s each; 8 of *blewe medle* of Winchester at 33s 4d each; 8 of *persblew* of Essex at £5 each; 18 of *blewe medle* of Colchester at 5 marks each; 34 of blanket of Redyng at 36s each; 2 of *gaude grene* of London make at £5 each; 2 of green of *lyre*<sup>2</sup>, 5 *doseins* of *persblewe*, 3 *doseins* of *asure blewe*, 4 cloths of better blanket of London make at £7 each;  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cloths of better scarlet at £18 the cloth; 2 of *sangweyn engreine*<sup>3</sup> and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  of *violet engreine* at £10 the cloth; 4 of *mustervilers*<sup>4</sup>, 2 of black of *lyre* and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  of black *fyn* at £6 each;  $1\frac{1}{2}$  of *frostymede* and one of *soppys in Wyn* at £7 the cloth; 4 rolls of green *fryse*, 5 rolls of blue *fryse*, and 3 rolls of black *fryse* of *lyre* of London make at 33s 4d the roll; 6 rolls of russet *fryse* and 4 rolls of white *fryse* of *Galys*<sup>5</sup> make at 20s the roll; one *pyle* of *remenauntz* to the value of £10; and 9 dozens of *chaux*<sup>6</sup> of divers colours at 13s 4d the dozen.

*Item*, one *sale*<sup>7</sup> of red and black *tapicerye*, 2 *bankers* and 12 *quysshons* of the same set (*suyte*) to the value of 40s; one *sale steyned*, 40s; 2 tables with 2 pairs of *trestelx*, one *countour*<sup>8</sup>, one *cuppebord* and one long *chaer*, 8 *stoles joyned* with one good *chaier*, 40s; one pair of *aunders*<sup>9</sup> of iron weighing 300 lbs. at  $\frac{3}{4}$ d the lb.; one hanging *lavour*<sup>10</sup>, 6s 8d; 9 *basyns* with 8 *lavours* weighing 100 lbs. at 4d the lb.

<sup>1</sup> A grey or light-blue colour.

<sup>2</sup> Originally cloth of Lire or Lierre in Brabant, usually in the phrases, "black of lyre," "green of lyre." Later it became a trade description. See below "black fryse of lyre of London."

<sup>3</sup> Originally dyed with "grain," the insect kermes, but later dyed in any fast colour. See *N.E.D.* sub "engrain."

<sup>4</sup> *Sc.* musterdevillers, originally cloth woven at Montivilliers in Normandy.

<sup>5</sup> Calais.

<sup>6</sup> Hose.

<sup>7</sup> Appears to be a set of hangings for a *sale* or hall.

<sup>8</sup> A counting-board.

<sup>9</sup> Andirons, fire-dogs.

<sup>10</sup> *Sc.* laver, a washhandstand.

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*Item*, one *almerye*<sup>1</sup>, 4 shelves, 10s; 6 *bordclothes*<sup>2</sup> with 6 *towailx* of Paris work, 40s; 8 other *bordclothes*, 100 pieces of napery, 4 marks; 200 pieces of *peautre* weighing 400 lbs. at 2½d the lb.; 3 silver *salers*<sup>3</sup>, 5 dozen spoons, 6 *bikers*, 12 *plein cuppes*, 2 *basyns*, 2 ewers, 2 *potelpottes*, 12 silver *gobolettes* weighing 632 oz. troy at 2s 4d the oz.; 16 large masers well bound with silver and gilded<sup>4</sup>, £32; 4 knives well harnessed with silver and gilded, 10s.

*Item*, 16 *pottes*, 8 *pannes* and one *chauffour* of brass weighing 342 lbs. at 3d the lb.; 6 *spittes*, 3 *trevettes*, 2 *fryingpannes* with 2 *droppyng pannes* of iron, weighing 407 lbs. at ¾d the lb.; 20 quarters of charcoal (*charbones*) at 8d the qr.; 6 *flicches* of *bachoun*, 4 *sydes* of *boef*, 30s; 2 qrs. of salt at 5s 4d the qr.; one large *bathingfat*<sup>5</sup>, 1000 of *talughshyde*<sup>6</sup> for *fuayll*, £4 6s 8d; one *alegist*, 2s; 4 barrels, 3s 4d; 2 qrs. of *furment*<sup>7</sup> at 6s 8d the qr.; 2 axes, 2 *hacchets*, one saw with 2 iron *wegges*, 2s 6d; 4 pairs of *potellbotells*<sup>8</sup> and 2 pairs of *quartbotells*, 4 tubs with one *knedyngtrough*, 4s 4d.

*Item*, 2 beds with 2 testers of *tapicerye* of large *assise*, at 10 marks each; 4 beds of worsted hangings with all their furnishings (*apparailles*) well embroidered at 40s each; 12 beds of Winchester work with 12 testers at 13s 4d each; 10 pairs of blankets, 8 mattresses, 5 marks; 29 pairs of sheets, one good *fetherbedde* with 2 bolsters and 12 *pilwes*, £10; 4 *chestes joyned*, one chest of spruce well bound with iron, 20s; 7 *furres* of *cristigrey*<sup>9</sup> for *hopelondes*<sup>10</sup>, 10 marks; 4 *furrez* of *fycheus*<sup>11</sup> for *hopelondes*, 10 marks; 2 furs of *bever*, £5; one *jakke* of black

<sup>1</sup> *Sc.* ambry, a cupboard or locker.<sup>2</sup> Table-cloths.<sup>3</sup> Receptacles for salt.<sup>4</sup> *Bien liez ove argent* & *endorrez*, i.e. silvergilt.<sup>5</sup> *Sc.* bathing-vat, bath-tub.<sup>6</sup> *Sc.* talshide, lengths of wood for making faggots. The sizes of talshide were prescribed by 43 Eliz. c. 4.<sup>7</sup> *Sc.* frumenty, a kind of wheat or spelt. An early use of the word in this sense.<sup>8</sup> Two-quart or half-gallon bottles.<sup>9</sup> A variety of grey or *gris* fur, which according to the *Liber Horn*, fo. 249 b, was the back of the squirrel in winter. "*Memorandum qe Gris et bis est le dos en yver desquirel.*" It has been suggested that it means Christmas grey, or cresty grey, i.e. tufty, full-coated, the fur then being at its best. J. Hodgkin considered the word to be a repetition, *gris de grey*.<sup>10</sup> *Sc.* houpland, a long tunic.<sup>11</sup> The fur of the foul-martin, fitchew or polecat.

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[More information](#)

## ROLL A 43

5

*velvet* and harness of armour (*hernyse darmure*) for four men, 40 marks; £50 in a pouch; £50 in a chest; £700 in a bag in money counted out; one gold ring with a seal, 120 gold rings, 15 gold *ouches*, weighing 60 oz. at 20s the oz.; 4 oz. of *calperell*<sup>1</sup> at 2 marks the oz.; one *cercle* of gold and *perell*, £20; one *hanap* of gold weighing 19 oz. at 20s the oz.; one gold ring with an *emeraude*, 6s 8d; 20 *hanaps*<sup>2</sup> of silvergilt and 20 *hanaps* with covers of silver (*coverez d'argent*), 10 *potellpottes* of silver, 6 pottle pots of silvergilt, 3 silver basins with 2 silver ewers, weighing 80 lbs. troy weight, which were put in pledge to John Olyver by John Pretelwell, esquire, of Essex for the sum of 100 marks, and in default of payment at the time of John Olyver's death they came into the hands of the said executors; *item*, 3 dozen *vessell granishe*<sup>3</sup> of silver, 20 *plein hanapes* of silver, 12 *gobolettes* of silver, weighing 150 lbs. troy weight, which were put in pledge to the said John Olyver by my lady Straunge for the sum of 200 marks and in default of payment they came into the hands of the said executors. [French]

Roger Olyver, son of John Olyver, received so much stock, live and dead, and grain of diverse kinds and other goods at Fulbourne as belonged to his father, in satisfaction for his marriage portion, to the value of £103 6s 8d.

*Item*, for clothing of the said Roger, his wife and others, for his marriage, £10.

*Item*, the said John paid a certain Whitehobbe of Cambridge, for a debt of the said Roger, £26 13s 4d.

*Item*, the said John paid a certain man of Walden for a debt of the said Roger, £24.

Return to a writ by William Crowmere, mayor, late one of Membr. 2 b the justices of Oyer and Terminer for London and Middlesex, that on 9 Jan. 1414 Thomas Cornvyle surrendered himself to prison on an information for treason and felony brought against him by a servant, whose name the mayor did not know, claiming to be a servant of Thomas, then earl of Arundel, and that the said Thomas Cornvyle remained in

<sup>1</sup> Possibly seed-pearls used for a woman's caul, or ornamented net-cap.

<sup>2</sup> Cups.

<sup>3</sup> Garnish, a set of vessels.

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[More information](#)

prison until 27 Jan., when the mayor and sheriffs sent him before the king<sup>1</sup> at Westminster with the cause of his taking and detaining, as required by the king's writ.

Membr. 3  
8 June 1414 Memorandum that on 8 June 1414 Roger Olyver, son of John Olyver, late citizen and draper, brought a bill of complaint against William Weston, draper, and William Wanstall, scrivener, executors of his father's will, that whereas it was immemorial custom of the city that the children born in matrimony of free men of the city, if they had not been advanced in their father's lifetime, should on his death have a third part of their father's goods, chattels and money after the payment of his debts, and that when one of the children had so been advanced, the other children or child should have the third part, and whereas the said John Olyver died on 17 Aug. 1406, leaving a son, the plaintiff, by his first wife Isabella, the said son not having been advanced, a daughter Joan by his second wife Elianore, who had been suitably advanced, and a widow, his third wife Alice, surviving him, and whereas the deceased left goods and chattels of the value of £1198 11s 6½d, and in money £800, and debts due to him £213 14s 4d, as appears in two schedules annexed, which debts had been collected before 20 March 1411—the executors had not paid the plaintiff his third part, but had detained it to his damage £2000. [French]

After three defaults the defendants appeared on 22 June and demanded a copy of the bill and a day to imparl according to the custom of the city. Afterwards on 8 July they said, by way of protestation<sup>2</sup>, that on the day of the presentment of the bill they had none of the goods of the testator except £17 8s 9d, that the custom of the city was not as stated in the bill, and that the goods and chattels alleged to have come into their hands were not of the value named, and by way of plea, Membr. 3 b they said that none of the goods, chattels and debts mentioned by the plaintiff had come into their hands except certain goods,

<sup>1</sup> Into King's Bench.

<sup>2</sup> In pleading this was a formal protest against certain statements, which the defendant could not directly deny without duplicating his plea, and which he could not pass over without mention lest he should be held to have tacitly admitted them.

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Excerpt

[More information](#)

## ROLL A 43

7

chattels and debts contained in a schedule which they exhibited to the court, which they were prepared to verify. They prayed judgment. And as regards the goods, chattels and moneys contained in their (the defendants') schedule, they said that the plaintiff ought not to have any action against them, because they had paid divers creditors of the testator the sum of £94, as appeared by their schedule; and whereas the testator, with John Payn, John Wederisfeld, Robert Essex and the plaintiff jointly held to them and their heirs 2 messuages and 190 acres with appurtenances in Fulbourne, co. Cambs, with £10 per annum beyond reprises, of the feoffment of William Hanyngfeld to the use of the testator, the testator before his death had by deed of release and confirmation made an estate in fee simple in the messuages and lands to the plaintiff, who was then of full age, and had delivered to him divers goods and chattels then at Fulbourne, viz. sheep, oxen, horses, carts, hay, corn, barley and other grain to the value of £103 6s 8d, and woollen cloth to the value of £10, and had further, on behalf of the plaintiff, paid to divers persons named in the defendants' schedule the sum of £50 13s 4d, being debts owed by the plaintiff, which they were ready to verify, which being so, the plaintiff had been competently advanced in his father's life time, wherefore they demanded judgment whether the plaintiff had any action against them.

And the plaintiff in his proper person could not deny the matters pleaded and alleged by the defendants.

Therefore it was considered that the plaintiff take nothing by his bill and be in mercy and that the defendants go quit thereof.

Roger Olyver came into court and acknowledged as his deed *21 Sept. 1414* a general release to William Weston, draper, and William Wanstall, scrivener, of all actions, suits and demands against them.

Memorandum that John Thorley, esquire, senior, gave *3 Nov. 1414* notice to the mayor in Guildhall, by John Murydon, chaplain, Thomas Mitford and Robert Keleby that he wished to take his writs of right against John Lincoln, clerk, Richard Walgrave, knight, John Hynkebey, Robert Clerk, clerk, William

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[More information](#)

Hanyngfeld, Thomas Lopham, Thomas Hokkele, clerk, James Hogge and Robert Velaunce, tenants of two parts of the manor of Fakenham Aspys with appurtenances co. Suffolk, and against Rose Cavendyssh, tenant of the third part, returnable before the king's justices of his Common Bench on the octave of S<sup>t</sup> Martin, according to the form and effect of indentures between himself and others on the one part and John Hynkele and William Cavendyssh and others on the other part.

[*French*]

29 July 1414 Memorandum that John Guy, master of the ship "*le Trinite*" of Plymouth and Menauton *alias* Menaldus de Lartiga of Bordeaux, merchant, came to an agreement as regards a claim for £40 freight for wines laden in the said John's ship, on terms that William Reynold, vintner, whom the said John had appointed as his attorney, should have the key of a cellar in which 16 casks of red Gascony wine belonging to the said Menauton were stored, and that he should receive the sum of £40 from the first money accruing from the sale of the wine, with liberty to sue for that amount if the wines were not sold within seven weeks.

Membr. 4  
5 July 1413 Bond of William Poteman, son of Guy Poteman, draper, deceased, to John Profyt, chamberlain, in 20s, not to fish in the Thames without permission.

10 July 1413 Thomas, son of Thomas Peverell, brings a plaint of intrusion against Philip Burton, Giles Burton, Nicholas Kymbell, John Bryan, tailor, and Richard Walsshe, fruiterer, touching his free tenements in the parishes of S<sup>t</sup> Dunstan in the East, S<sup>t</sup> John Walbrook and the Blessed Mary of Fanchirche.

10 July 1413 Robert Weston, prior of the house and church of S<sup>t</sup> Mary Overe, brings a plaint of intrusion against Nicholas Mokkyns, warden of the chapel of Corpus Christi or college of S<sup>t</sup> Laurence Pulteneye, London<sup>1</sup>, touching his free tenement in the parishes of S<sup>t</sup> Mary Abbechirche and S<sup>t</sup> Laurence Pulteney.

<sup>1</sup> The chapel of Corpus Christi and college of St Laurence Pountney was erected by John de Pulteney about 1334. *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1334–8, p. 60.



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Excerpt

[More information](#)

## ROLL A 43

9

The king sent a letter close dated 14 April 1413 containing *1 July 1413* a copy of the enrolment of a deed in the rolls of Chancery, whereby William Roo, skinner, made a gift of all his goods and chattels to John Payne, John House, John Lemman and Peter Penne, skimmers, the deed being witnessed by William Combe, John More, John Trethewy and others on 4 Nov. 1408, in order that the mayor and sheriffs might proceed with the prosecution of the said donees, John, John, John and Peter.

Quitclaim from John Lardener, esquire, to William *4 July 1413* Kedyngton of Clare co. Suffolk, late his apprentice.

Quitclaim from Emma, widow of John Hert, haberdasher, *Membr. 5* to John Shadworth, mercer, John Micholl, vintner, Nicholas *28 Aug. 1413* Aghton and Adam Broun, stockfishmongers, executors of her husband's will, who in turn acknowledged a quitclaim to the said Emma.

Bond of John Dowble, fishmonger, John Stachesden, fish- *30 Aug. 1413* monger, Hugh Neal, brewer, John Byle, cutler, Richard Cobald, armourer, and Walter Walssh, *friser*<sup>1</sup>, in 100 marks to John Whitby, rector of S<sup>t</sup> Peter's on Cornhill, for the good behaviour of the said John Dowble towards him.

Memorandum that Robert Banburgh and Robert Bever, *19 Sept. 1413* wardens of the mystery of Drapers, John Prentout, John Somer, Thomas Mountgomery and John Claveryng, drapers, who were chosen arbitrators between John Inhewe of Bokkyng, plaintiff, and Geoffrey Glemesford, defendant, brought in an award concerning an action for a debt of £28 due on the sale of woollen cloth.

William, prior of Holy Trinity within Aldgate, brings a *Membr. 6* *20 Nov. 1413* plaint of intrusion against Henry Pountfreyt, John Cokeyn, John Prophete, Robert Skrace, Thomas Newport and Thomas Porter touching his free tenement in the parish of All Hallows Graschirchstrete.

<sup>1</sup> An unusual word in the city. Probably for friezer, one who creates a nap on cloth.

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[More information](#)

16 Dec. 1413 Writ of *certiorari* demanding that the tenor of the record and process of an action of debt before the mayor and aldermen between Agnes Brightwell, plaintiff, and William Rody, defendant, be sent to Chancery. Dated at Westminster, 16 Dec. 1413.

Return of William Crowmer, mayor, and the aldermen that on 6 Nov. 1413 Agnes Brightwell came into court before the mayor and aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall and brought a bill of debt against William Rody, mercer, for £60, in which bill she alleged that her son-in-law William Gritford, being her attorney and merchant overseas, lent that sum to the defendant in the parish of St Margaret Moysy on 22 July 1406, to be repaid by him to the plaintiff, which he refused to do. Process being continued, the parties appeared on 22 Nov. 1413 before the mayor and aldermen in the Inner Chamber of the Guildhall, when the plaintiff prayed the court to examine the parties, because the matter in her bill partly concerned the law merchant. Thereupon the parties submitted themselves precisely and peremptorily to the examination, discretion, award, decree and sentence of the mayor and aldermen, who ordered them to bring into court all evidences, written and unwritten, on 24 Nov. On that day, as it appeared from the evidences and the reasons put in by both parties that the defendant had sealed letters of payment to the plaintiff for £60, and that the plaintiff had received 16 pipes of salt and other goods to the value of £7 8s 4d, they awarded that the defendant pay the plaintiff the balance due, viz. £52 11s 8d.

1 Dec. 1413 In the presence of William Crowmer, mayor, and Richard Whityngton, Thomas Knolles, Richard Merlawe, Robert Chichele, Thomas Fauconer, William Louthe, Henry Barton, Stephen Speleman, Nicholas Wotton, William Norton, John Penne, John Lane, Thomas Pyke and William Sevenok, aldermen, in the Inner Chamber of the Guildhall came John Bally, who being sworn on the Gospels said that Thomas Dyster, late citizen and mercer, owing to the confidence which he had in him, caused certain persons to be bound in the sum of 800 marks payable to the deponent, and that after Thomas Dyster's death he delivered to Robert Domenyk, one of the