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978-1-108-01765-7 - The Paston Letters, A.D. 1422-1509, Volume 2

Edited by James Gairdner

Excerpt

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THE PASTON LETTERS

Henry V

I

HENRY V.'S CONQUESTS IN FRANCE¹

THESE be the names of Townes, Castell, Citees, and ¹⁴¹⁷⁻⁹ Abbeys that the [King did]² gete in his second viage :—

The Town of Cane and the Castell.

The Town of Valeis [*Falaise*] and the Castell.

The Town of Argenton and the Castell.

The Town of Bayeux and the Castell.

The Town of Alawnsom and the Castell.

The Town of Frezsne le Vicont and the Castell.

The Town of Seint Savers de Vive and the Castell.

The Town of Seint Jakes de Beueron and the Castell.

The Town of Seint Jakes de Burvam and the Castell.

The Town of Seint Low and the Castell.

The Town of Valence and the Castell.

The Cytee of Averense and the Castell.

The Cytee of Sees.

The Cytee of Leseaux.

The Cytee of Everose.

The Town of Louerse.

The Town of Counsheux.

The Town of Vire.

¹ [From Paston mss., B.M.]

² Parchment mutilated.

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- 1417-9 The Town of Karentine.
 The Town of Chyrbourgh and the Castell.
 The Town of Vernoile and ij. Castell.
 The Town of Morteyn and the Castell.
 The Town of Powntlarche and the Castell.
 The Town of Esey and the Castell.
 The Town of Dounfrount and the Castell.
 The Town of Pountedomer and the Castell.
 The Town of Turve and the Castell.
 The Town of Costaunce and the Castell.
 The Cytee of Roon and the Castell.
 The Town of Galion and the Castell.
 The Town of Galdebek [*Caudebec*].
 The Town of Mustirvilers.
 The Town of Depe.
 The Town of Ve and the Castell.
 The Town of Vernoile suz Seyne and the Castell.
 The Town of Mawnt and the Castell.
 The Castell of Towk.
 The Castell of Morvile.
 The Castell of Overs in Awge.
 The Abbey of Seint Savers suz Deve.
 The Abbey of Seint Peers suz Dive.
 The Abbey of Seint Stevenis of Cane.
 The Bole Abbey of Cane.
 The Castell of Cursy.
 The Castell of Gundy.
 The Castell of Nevylebeke.
 The Castell of Vermus.
 The Castell of Garcy.
 The Castell of Oo [*Eu*].
 The Castell of Vileine.
 The Castell of Egyll.
 The Castell of Regyll.
 The Castell of Curton.
 The Castell of Fagernon.
 The Castell of Chamberexs.
 The Castell of Ryveers.

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The Castell of Bewmanill.
 The Castell of Bewmalyn.
 The Castell of Harecourt.
 The Abbey of Behelwyn.
 The Castell of Parlevesque.
 The Castell of Semper.
 The Castell of Tracy.
 The Castell of Tylly.
 The Castell of Groby.
 The Castell of Carsell.
 The Castell of Hommbe.
 The Castell of Seynt Denise.
 The Castell of Bonvile.
 The Castell of Grenneville.
 The Castell of Perers.
 The Castell of Seint Gilerinz.
 The Castell of Bewmound.
 The Castell of Asse la Rebole.
 The Castell of Tanny.
 The Castell of Antony.
 The Castell of Balon.
 The Castell of Mountfort.
 The Castell of Tovey.
 The Castell of Lowdon.
 The Castell of Noaus.
 The Castell of Seynt Romains in Plaine.
 The Castell of Daungell.
 The Castell of Peschere.
 The Castell of Bolore.
 The Castell of Keshank.
 The Castell of Turre.
 The Castell of Seint Imains.
 The Castell of Seint Germaines.
 The Castell of Bomstapyll.
 The Castell of Croile.
 The Castell of Bakuile.
 The Castell of Bellacombyr.
 The Castell of Douyle.

1417-9

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1417-9 The Castell of Likone.
The Castell of Ankyrvile.
The Abbey of Seint Katerinz.

These er the gates names of Roon, and how the lordys lay in sege, and to fore what gate, and also the derth of vitailles withyn the forseyd Cytee of Roon.

Le Port Causches. To fore thys gate, lay my Lord of Clarence¹ vnto riversyde of Seyne with mykyl of hys howsold and a grete market; and then fro that gate upward lay my Lord of Urmound,² my maistre Corwayle³ with the Lord Talbotts meyne. *Le Port de Castell.* At thys gate my Lord Marchall,⁴ the Lord of Haryngton. *Le Port de Bewvoisyn.* At thys gate lay my Lord of Excester. *Le Port de Vowdelagate.* To fore thys gate lay the Lord Roos, the Lord Wylleby, the Lord Fyhew,⁵ Sir John Gray, and Sir William Porter. *Le Port Seint Yllare.* To fore thys gate lay the kyng and my Lord of Glowcestyr. *Le Port de Martynvile.* To fore thys lay my Lord of Warwyk and Sir Phelip Leche. *Le Port debut de Pount.* To fore thys gate lay my Lord of Huntyngdon, my Lord of Sawlisbry, my maistre Nevile, and my mayster Umphirvile. *Le Port de Vicount.* Thys ys the chefe Watergate of the town, and at thys gate cometh in al maner marchawndys and vitailles.

Furthymore as towchyng to the derth of vytayles withyn this forseyd Cytee, j. [one] Buschell of Whete was worth v. scutys, j. lofe j. frank, j. dog j. frank, j. kat ijs. sterlinges, j. rat vjd. sterlinges. And as towchyng all other vitailles, it was spendit or that we com in to the Cytee.

Urbis Rotomagi Wulstano captio claret,
Quam Rex Henricus Quintus sexto capit anno.

¹ Thomas, Duke of Clarence, the King's brother.

² James Butler, Earl of Ormond.

³ Sir John Cornwall, afterwards Lord Fanhope.

⁴ John Mowbray, Earl Marshal, afterwards Duke of Norfolk. ⁵ Fitz-Hugh.

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HENRY V

2

AMYE BOWET TO — 1

TRESCHER et mon tresfiable amy je vous salue tres-¹⁴¹⁷⁻⁹ souvent de tout mon cuer, desirant pur savoir et oier bons noveles de vous, et que vous soiez en prosperitee. Et, mon tresfiable amy, vous face assavoir que monsieur mon baron covient sey apparailer et ordenyier envers le Roy ore en y ceste proschein viage en la presence oue le Duc de Excestre, pur la quelle luy covient faire grandes expenses entour son arraie en salvacion de son honour, lequel je vorreie faire ma diligence pur saluer et encrescer a mon poair, come je suy grandement tenuz; et vous estez la persone en la quelle je plus grandement maffie devaunt aucune altre ore vivant. Pur quey je vous emprie tresespecialment de trestout mon cuer que vous please pur faire a tant pur moy quant a ore pur moy faire chevyceance de xl. marcz come pur voie dapprompt ore en y ceste nostre grande busoigne, promittant de certeyne que sereez bien et loialment repaiez a aucune jour reisoignable que vous veulliez assigner; et si vous ne osez pleinement affier en y ceste ma promys pur peril quent purra avenir en temps avenir, vous auerez tiel seuretee come vous veuillez deviser. Trescher et mon tresfiable amy, pluisours a vous nay escrier au present, mays que vous veuillez doner foie et credence a une gentile feme portour dycestes. Et pri al Saint Espirit qil vous ait touz jours en sa tressaintisme garde. Escript en haste a Wrentham, le xxviii^{me} jour de Mars.

AMYE BOWET.

On the back is written in a different hand:—

‘Thomas Lente et Matilda uxor mea petunt de Galfrido Somerton xiijs. iiijd. quos Willelmus Lyster et dicta Matilda, circa xxiii. annos elapsos quum ipsi levaverunt finem de tenementis in Castre inter ipsos et Walterum Gase; et dicit quod dicta Matilda quando ipsa examinata fuit per Justiciarios apud Jernemuth qui sedebant super Rayes (?) in ecclesia Fratrum Carmelitarum,

¹ [Add. ms. 34,889, f. 141.] This letter appears to be of a very early date. If its contents refer, as seems probable, to the preparations for Henry v.'s expedition in France, it is of the year 1417, and so earlier than No. 1; which, however, it may follow as bearing on the same subject.

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1417-9 dictus Justiciarius dedit dictos xiiis. iiiid. quos ipse habere debuisset pro labore suo dictæ Matilldæ, et dictus Galfridus dictos xiiis. iiiid. posuit in loculo suo proprio et nullatenus illos dictæ Matilldæ solvit: et ad festyngong per iii. annos elapsos le boteler apud Somerton audivit quod dictus Galfridus promisit dictæ Matilldæ et dicto Thomæ tunc viro suo dictos xiiis. iiiid.¹

3

[THE PARSON OF EDINGTHORPE] TO WILLIAM SEWARDBY¹

A mon trescher et honure sieur, William Sewardby.

TRESCHER et honure sieur, jeo me recomaund a vous si tresentierement de t doyere et de savore bonez novells de vous et de vostre entiere estat et souereyn tres bonz de vous auore et savore com vous mesmes lez sauera meltz devisere ou et si de moy le vostre. Vous plese savore, a la fesaunce de cestez j'estoy en bon saunte. [Et quant a] vostre boys de denz le boys de Baketon vous plese savore que le Prieur de Bromholm est (?) [nostre] parochen, et nous ade prie pur avore vostre dit boys dissevere et departie a son boys issint boys que est parcel a vostre boys pur lour profit et saunz damage de vostre dit boys, mes Richa[rd] dis-severyng fere saunz vostre volunte ou autre maundement de vous, come le portour de ment que jeo ne puis ore escrire. Et touchant vostre manere illuques si longuement com maynez de dit priour, vous, ne null de voz bien voliauncez y aueroyent nulle conyschaun[ce] . . . de vostre manere as autrez de leurs seigneuries, et ensi vous et vostrez serrount en temps avenir que vous les tenez en voz maynez proprez et sure tiele colour si vous plese Richard Causton et payr omez a vous si taunt come le priour avaundit fet a termes et jours par vous assign[ez]

¹ [Add. ms. 34,889, f. 142.] This letter appears also to be of a very early, but quite an uncertain date. It is unfortunately mutilated, some words being lost on every line on the right hand side of the ms.

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HENRY V

. pur avore par voz tenauntz lez ditz terez, rentz et ^{1417-9?}
 tenementz, boys et autres comoditez disseverez
 et departez. Et vous covyent avore i. seneschal pur tenere
 vostres courtez iluque[s] de dit priour ne en
 son daungere, mes tiel homme que nad null dom de eux et
 tiele vous luy voliez bien rewardere pur son travail.
 Trescher et honoure sieur, de ceste matere et de
 par le portour de cestz, et nous ferrouns nostre powere et
 diligence de lez accomplere a vostre Sieur, jeo
 prie a Dieux quil vous doyne tresbon vie et long honour et
 souereyn joye de A Edythorp juxta Bromholm,
 le primer jour de Jul'.

4

ABSTRACT¹

Marriage Settlement of William Paston, dated the Eve of the Annunciation ¹⁴²⁰
 of the Virgin, 8 Henry v.—It is agreed between Sir Edmund Berre, Kt., on ^{24 MARCH}
 the one part, and William Paston of Paston on the other, that the latter shall
 marry Agnes, daughter of the said Sir Edmund, and that his trustees of the
 manor of Oxenede, Norf., shall demise the same to the said William and
 Agnes, and the heirs of their bodies, &c. Also Sir Edmund's trustees, either
 of the manor of Estodenham, co. Norf., or of the manor of Hollewellebury,
 Herts, at the option of William Paston, shall deliver one or other manor to the
 said William and Agnes, and the heirs of their bodies, &c. If Estodenham be
 chosen, Paston is to make to Sir Edm. and his wife Alice an estate for life,
 either in the manors of Marlingford, Norf., and Stanstede, Suff., or in the
 manors of Elghe and Willyngham, Suff., &c.

5

ABSTRACT²

Inspeximus of a Deed of Thos. Pecke, clk., dated 10 Hen. v., granting ¹⁴²²
 the reversion of the manors of Breydeston, Caston, &c., then held by Sir John
 Carbonell and Margery, his wife, to Sir Rob. Brewys, John Fitz-Rauff, and
 others.—(See Blomefield's *Norfolk*, ii. 285.)

¹ [Add. Charter 17,225, B.M.]² [Add. Charter 17,243.]

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THE PASTON LETTERS

Henry VI

6

INFORMATION AGAINST WALTER ASLAK¹

1424

BE it remembred that where, on the nyght next biforne the feste of the Circumcision of owre Lord Jesu, the [second]² yeer of the regne of Kyng Henry the Sexte, certeyns maffaisours, felons, and brekeres of the kynges peas vnknowyn, to the noumbre of iiij^{xx} [*four score*] and more by estimacion, of malice and imaginacion forne thowght felonowsly, the dwellyng place of John Grys of Wyghton, in Wyghton, in the shyre of Norffolk, brokyn, and with carpenteres axes the yates and the dores of the seyde place hewen, and the seyde John Grys, and hys sone, and a servaunt man of hese by here bodyes tokyn, and fro the seyde dwellyng place by the space of a myle to a payre gawles ledden, there hem for to have hangyd; and by cause hem fayled ropes convenient to here felonowse purpos, the seyde John Grys, hese sone, and hys man there felonowsly slowen and mordered in the most horrible wyse that ever was herd spoken of in that cuntre. Wher up on Walter Aslak, purposyng and imaginyng to

¹ [From Paston MSS., B.M.] This paper refers to proceedings as late as the fourth year of Henry VI., and therefore cannot be earlier than 1426; but as it mainly relates to outrages committed in the second year of Henry VI., *i.e.* 1424, we have arranged it under that year.

² This word is omitted in the MS.

HENRY VI

putte William Paston in drede and intollerable fere to be slayn and mordered in the seyde forme with force and ageyn the kinges peas, on the shyre day of Norffolk, halden at Norwiche, the xxvij day of August, in the seyde secunde yeer, beyng there thanne a grete congregacion of poeple by cause of the seyde shyre, in hese owne persone, and by Richard Kyllynworth, that tyme hese servaunt, to the seyde William Paston swiche and so many manaces of deth and dismembryng maden and puttyn by certeyns Engliche billes rymed in partye, and up on the yates of the Priorie of the Trinite chirche of Norwiche, and on the yates of the chyrche of the Freres Menures of Norwiche, and the yates of the same Cite called Nedeham yates and Westewyk yates, and in othre places wyth inne the seyde Cite by the seyde Walter and Richard sette, makyng mension and beryng this undyrstondyng that the seyde William, and hese clerkes, and servautes schuld be slayn and mordered in lyke forme as the seyde John Grys in the seyde forme was slayne and mordered: conteynyng also these too wordes in Latyn, *et cetera*, by which wordes comunely it was undyrstandyn that the forgeers and makers of the seyde billes imagyned to the seyde William, hese clerkes and servautes, more malice and harm than in the seyde billes was expressed. Wherfore the seyde William, hese seyde clerkes and servauntz, by longe tyme aftyr were in gret and intollerable drede and fere by the sayde maffaisours and felons to be slayn and mordered. Wherfore the seyde William, hese clerkes and servautes, ne durst not at here fredom nothyr goon ne ryde.

Wher up on the seyde William, for hese owyn persone, affermyd a pleynt of trespas ageyn the seyde Walter and Richard, processe contynued ther up on til the seyde Walter and Richard were founden gilty of the seyde trespas by an inquisicion ther of takyn in dwe and lawefull forme, by whiche inquisicion the damages of the seyde William for the seyde trespas were taxed to cxx^{li} [£ 120]. Aftyr which pleynte affermyd, and to fore ony plee up on the seyde pleynt pleded, the seyde Walter and William, by Thomas Erpyngham, Knyght, a myghty and a gret supportour of the seyde Walter in alle these matiers and circumstaunces ther of ageyn the seyde

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1424 William, were induced to trete in the same matier in the forme that folwith: That is to seyne, that the seyd William schuld sue forth the seyd pleynt and the execucion ther of at hese owne will, and the seyd Walter schuld defende hym self in the seyd pleynt at hese owne will, except that he schuld no benefice take by noon proteccion, ne wrytte of *corpus cum causa*, ne of no lordes lettres up on the seyd sute. And what so ever fortunyd in the seyd pleynt, the proces, execucion, or the sute ther of, the seyd Walter and William schuld stonde and obeye to the ordinaunce of certeyns persones by the seyd William and Walter arbitraiores that tyme named, if thei myghten accordyn, and ellys of anoonpier also that same tyme named, of alle the seyd trespas, pleynt, and sute, and alle the circumstaunces ther of, so that the seyd arbitrement and ordinaunce of the seyd arbitraiores, or ellys of the seyd nounpier, were made withinne xl. dayes next folwyng aftyr the judgement geven in the seyd pleynt.

And aftyrward, the Thursday next biforn Pentecost, the thrydde yeer of the regne of the seyd kyng, at London, in the presence of the right excellent, high and myghty prynce, the Duc de Gloucestre,¹ and by hese commaundement, atte sute and instaunce of the seyd Thomas Erpyngham, it was accordyd bytween the seyd William and Walter that thei schuld stande and obeye to the ordinaunce and award of alle the seyd matiers of twenye of these iiij. persones, William Phelip, Knyght, Henry Inglose, Knyght, Oliver Groos, and Thomas Derham, chosen on the partye of the seyd William Paston, and tweyne of those iiij. persones, Symond Felbrygge, Knyght, Bryan Stapilton, Knyght, Roberd Clyfton, Knyght, and John of Berneye of Redeham, chosen on the partie of the seyd Water, and elles the decree and judgement of a nounpier to be chosen by the same arbitrores. The whiche William Phelip, Bryan Stapilton, Roberd Clyfton, Oliver Groos, John of Berneye, and Thomas Derham, takyng up on hem the charge of the makyng of the seyd award and ordinaunce by the assent of the seyd Thomas Erpyngham, the Fryday next aftyr the feste of the Assumpcion of Owre Lady, in the seyd

¹ Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Protector of England.