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Matthew Paris Edited by Henry Richards Luard

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Rerum Britannicarum Medii Aevi Scriptores, or The Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages, usually referred to as the 'Rolls Series', was an ambitious project first proposed to the British Treasury in 1857 by Sir John Romilly, the Master of the Rolls, and quickly approved for public funding. Its purpose was to publish historical source material covering the period from the arrival of the Romans to the reign of Henry VIII, 'without mutilation or abridgement', starting with the 'most scarce and valuable' texts. A 'correct text' of each work would be established by collating 'the best manuscripts', and information was to be included in every case about the manuscripts used, the life and times of the author, and the work's 'historical credibility', but there would be no additional annotation. The first books were published in 1858, and by the time it was completed in 1896 the series contained 99 titles and 255 volumes. Although many of the works have since been re-edited by modern scholars, the enterprise as a whole stands as a testament to the Victorian revival of interest in the middle ages.

### Chronica Majora

Henry Richards Luard (1825–91), a Church of England clergyman and fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, edited a number of works in the Rolls Series, for which he was noted for the quality of his indexing and the depth of his commentary. This seven-volume work, first published between 1872 and 1883, has been hailed as one of the best editions in the series. It is a rich source for English history from the Creation to 1259, written by England's greatest medieval historian. Matthew Paris (c.1200–59) became a monk at St Albans in 1217 and had access to a wide variety of documents as an acquaintance of such men as Bishop Robert Grosseteste and King Henry III, whom he knew well. The Latin text of Volume 4, covering 1240–7, includes royal letters, exchequer records and papal documents, alongside vibrant and opinionated passages about taxation and royal extortion.

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# Chronica Majora

VOLUME 4:  
A.D. 1240 TO A.D. 1247

MATTHEW PARIS  
EDITED BY  
HENRY RICHARDS LUARD



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RERUM BRITANNICARUM MEDII ÆVI  
SCRIPTORES,  
OR  
CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND IRELAND  
DURING  
THE MIDDLE AGES.

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**THE CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS**  
OF  
**GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND**  
DURING THE MIDDLE AGES.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY, UNDER  
THE DIRECTION OF THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

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ON the 26th of January 1857, the Master of the Rolls submitted to the Treasury a proposal for the publication of materials for the History of this Country from the Invasion of the Romans to the reign of Henry VIII.

The Master of the Rolls suggested that these materials should be selected for publication under competent editors without reference to periodical or chronological arrangement, without mutilation or abridgment, preference being given, in the first instance, to such materials as were most scarce and valuable.

He proposed that each chronicle or historical document to be edited should be treated in the same way as if the editor were engaged on an *Editio Princeps*; and for this purpose the most correct text should be formed from an accurate collation of the best MSS.

To render the work more generally useful, the Master of the Rolls suggested that the editor should give an account of the MSS. employed by him, of their age and their peculiarities; that he should add to the work a brief account of the life and times of the author, and any remarks necessary to explain the chronology; but no other note or comment was to be allowed, except what might be necessary to establish the correctness of the text.

a 2

The works to be published in octavo, separately, as they were finished ; the whole responsibility of the task resting upon the editors, who were to be chosen by the Master of the Rolls with the sanction of the Treasury.

The Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, after a careful consideration of the subject, expressed their opinion in a Treasury Minute, dated February 9, 1857, that the plan recommended by the Master of the Rolls "was well calculated for the accomplishment of this important national object, in an effectual and satisfactory manner, within a reasonable time, and provided proper attention be paid to economy, in making the detailed arrangements, without unnecessary expense."

They expressed their approbation of the proposal that each Chronicle and historical document should be edited in such a manner as to represent with all possible correctness the text of each writer, derived from a collation of the best MSS., and that no notes should be added, except such as were illustrative of the various readings. They suggested, however, that the preface to each work should contain, in addition to the particulars proposed by the Master of the Rolls, a biographical account of the author, so far as authentic materials existed for that purpose, and an estimate of his historical credibility and value.

*Rolls House,  
December 1857.*

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**MATTHÆI PARISIENSIS,**  
**MONACHI SANCTI ALBANI,**  
**CHRONICA MAJORA.**

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MATTHÆI PARISIENSIS,  
MONACHI SANCTI ALBANI,  
CHRONICA MAJORA.

EDITED

BY

HENRY RICHARDS LUARD, D.D.,

FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE; REGISTRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY; AND VICAR OF  
GREAT ST. MARY'S, CAMBRIDGE.

VOL. IV.

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**P R E F A C E.**  
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## P R E F A C E.

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THE present volume contains the history of the reign of Henry III. for the eight years 1240–1247. The whole is certainly by Matthew Paris, the MS. having been executed under his direction at St. Alban's, and corrected afterwards by his own hand.

Contents  
of the  
present  
volume.

With the exception of an extract from the *Historia Scholastica* of Peter Comestor (a work of which so much use was made in the earlier portions of the chronicle), identifying the Tartars with the ten tribes shut up by Alexander the Great within the Caspian mountains (p. 77), and a letter<sup>1</sup> of the abbat and convent of Pontigny to Innocent IV. on the miracles of St. Edmund of Canterbury, asking for his canonization, which is taken from MS. Cotton, Julius, D. 6, I have not been able to trace the source of any portion of this volume. I therefore conclude that we can go no farther for the authority of the facts stated than Matthew Paris himself, and that they must rest upon his statements for the credit attached to them. That he had in many respects the best means possible for collecting his materials and for ascertaining the truth of his statements may be considered as certain. No one can read the interesting and vivid accounts of the sorrow of Richard of Cornwall on his wife's death (p. 2), of the misery of the condition of the prelates captured on their way to the council of Lyons by Frederick II. ("ceci-  
" derat super eos æstus intolerabilis, muscis circum-  
" volitantibus et more scorpionum pungentibus, fame et

Authori-  
ties.

Matthew  
Paris the  
responsible  
author.

Vivid de-  
scriptions  
contained  
in the  
volume  
obtained  
from eye-  
witnesses.

<sup>1</sup> This is especially remarkable as embodying an extract from the account of the miracles of St. Thomas of Canterbury by Benedict, 40245.

which is thus made to do duty again for St. Thomas's successor. See p. 327 and the note.

“siti cruciati,” &c., p. 130), of the campaign of the English king and his brother against St. Louis in 1242, and the saving of the English army by Earl Richard,<sup>1</sup> who crossed the bridge “*assumpto uno baculo in manu sua*,” and was received with such honour by the French nobles, many of whom he had delivered from their captivity in Palestine (p. 211), of the flight of Pope Innocent IV. from Rome to Genoa (pp. 354–356), of the interview of the papal nuncio Martin with the king in 1245, and his ludicrous terrors on his journey to the sea coast (p. 421), without feeling certain that the writer’s information on these points must have proceeded from eye witnesses of what he is describing.

Richard of  
Cornwall.

Of these eye witnesses there can be little doubt that Richard of Cornwall was one. With him Paris had many opportunities of becoming intimate. He was at St. Alban’s immediately before he started on his crusade in 1240 (p. 43), where he went to ask the prayers of the convent for his success; a visit which evidently made a great impression on Paris, as he mentions it again (p. 146). And in later times Paris expressly mentions his intercourse with the earl. Besides the events already mentioned, the details of Richard’s farewell to the prelates at Reading in 1240 (p. 11), of his journey through France to Marseilles where he embarked (pp. 45–47), and later, of his reception by the emperor on his return in Sicily, where Saracen girls were exhibited before him moving about on rolling spheres, of which Paris has added a drawing to his description (p. 147), the account of the elephant brought out by the Cremonese in his honour, and of the splendours of his marriage with Sanchia of Provence in 1243 (p. 263), could only have come to the historian from the chief

<sup>1</sup> The dialogue between the king, his brother, and his step-father Hugh le Brun, and the language used by the last as to his wife, the king’s mother, could only have been known through one of the three, and could have scarcely been an invention of Paris.



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actor in these events. It is clear, too, with what freedom he spoke on these and similar matters to Paris, as there is no trace of any attempt at concealment either in respect to things done or words spoken.<sup>1</sup>

Of Paris's intercourse with the king there is more Henry III. evidence in the years which follow those the history of which is contained in the present volume. One remarkable proof, however, will be found under the year 1247 (p. 644), when the vase containing a portion of the Blood of our Lord was offered by the king to the church of Westminster on the feast of St. Edward the Confessor. The king walked in procession with the London clergy (p. 641) from St. Paul's to Westminster, and after the ceremony, seeing Matthew Paris among the spectators, especially ordered him to write an account of the proceedings, and invited him to dinner with three of his brother monks.<sup>2</sup>

In subsequent years we shall find many persons men- Other persons. tioned by Paris as giving him information. In the present volume, we only find mention of Nicholas the Greek, clerk of the abbat of St. Alban's, who was Grosseteste's coadjutor in translating the Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs (p. 233), and of the prior of Westacre, who had been a monk of Cluny, and gave our historian an account of the gifts of the abbot of Cluny to Pope Innocent IV. at Lyons (p. 428). He speaks of himself on one other occasion,<sup>3</sup> that of his visit to Norway, when he was charged with the letters patent sent by St. Louis to king Hacon, whom the French king had invited to join him in his crusade (pp. 651, 652).

During the years the history of which is contained in Attention given to foreign affairs. the present volume, Matthew Paris has by no means

<sup>1</sup> See the account of his regrets at not being present at the translation of the body of S. Edmund at Pontigny, and the cure of his secret illness, p. 632.

<sup>2</sup> See Madden, Preface to the *Historia Anglorum*, iii. p. xv.

Paris also mentions his hearing bishop Grosseteste's defence of the authenticity of the relic.

<sup>3</sup> He also mentions hearing a speech of one of the Llewellyns respecting Henry III. (p. 232).

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confined his attention to English affairs. Though in revising his work with a view to the abridgement which he afterwards carried out in the *Historia Anglorum* or *Minor History*, he prefixes to many paragraphs and chapters the words "impertinens historiæ Anglorum," "pertinet historiæ Scotorum," and the like; yet for this, his greater chronicle, he was evidently glad to take a wider range. Thus, into all the affairs of the empire and the papacy he enters with great zest; the wars of the emperor in Italy, the affairs of Milan and Bologna, the attempted election to the papal chair<sup>1</sup> in 1241, &c., are all described in great detail. But to the struggle between the empire and the papacy, which is the keynote to the history of the time, he has paid very great and most important attention. Many of the most valuable documents that issued from both sides are only preserved to us in his pages. They were no doubt sent to St. Alban's by the king for preservation, and found their natural place in the great work of the historian of the house. Unfortunately, he has taken less pains in revising these portions of his works than he has done with his own composition, and the documents are often very corruptly written.<sup>2</sup> Many of the emperor's letters are the composition of Peter de Vineis, and are to be found in the collection of his letters, and thus some help has been afforded in printing the text.

Struggle between the empire and the papacy.

Carelessness with which the documents have been written.

Other documents.

Of the other documents contained in the present volume, the most important are the record of the proceedings of the Parliament of 1242 (p. 185), the very curious and interesting letter of the Paterine Ivo of Narbonne<sup>3</sup> to the Archbishop of Bordeaux, giving an

<sup>1</sup> There is a complete list of all the cardinals engaged in the election, and an account of how each voted, (p. 165).

<sup>2</sup> In addition to this, how grotesquely some of these have been disfigured in the printed editions is

the subject of some remarks I have made below.

<sup>3</sup> By a singular mistake some modern writers have styled this Ivo *Archbishop* of Narbonne. He gives a very honest account of his own evil life in early youth.

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account of his own adventures and the progress of the Tartars (pp. 270–277), and the account of the errors discussed at the University of Paris and refuted by the prelates in 1243 (p. 280).

On the other hand, a lamentable instance of a forged document being quoted as genuine may be seen in the case of the charter giving a pretended history of the church of Lincoln, which was produced by the canons in their quarrel with Bishop Grosseteste as to his right of visitation (p. 155.) I fear that Paris in this case allowed his party spirit to get the better of his good sense and love of truth. One can hardly suppose that he could have believed in its genuineness,<sup>1</sup> yet he quotes it just as if its authority were undoubted.

In revising his history for abridgement, as has been already stated in the preface to the third volume, Paris directs the omission of many passages, besides those relating to foreign affairs, by the words *vacat, cave, offendiculum*, placed in the margin. These relate chiefly (if not entirely) to the king and his belongings. Thus, he marks in this way the complaints by the bishops of the king's oppressions of the church (p. 3), his description of the king "solito tyrannior effectus et procacius" (p. 14), the application of the abbats to the king for relief from the Pope's demands and the king's threats (p. 36), the description of the king as a reed to depend upon (p. 60), the deprivation of Simon le Norman of all his benefices but one (p. 63), the king's anger against Bishop William de Raleigh (p. 159), the hatred of the citizens of Saintes against the king's stepfather, Hugh le Brun (p. 217), the king's unjust treatment of William de Ros at Bordeaux, the remonstrances of Richard of Cornwall, the king's consequent anger, and the earl's departure after in vain for a time "dissimulans ut impetus "fratris voluntarios palliaret cautius," leaving the king

<sup>1</sup> See the Preface to *Roberti Grosseteste Epistolæ*, p. li.

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to waste his time and treasure at Bordeaux (pp. 228, 229, 231), the seizure of the corn belonging to the see of Canterbury (p. 230), the increasing contempt entertained for the king by the Gascons (p. 231), his poverty and debts (p. 233), the aid demanded from the Cistercians in 1242 (p. 234), the accusation of Hugh le Brun and his offer to clear himself by duel, with the flight of his wife, the king's mother, to Fontevraud, the statement of how the French and Poitevins hated her, and their assertion that she ought to be called Jezebel rather than Isabel (pp. 252, 253), the contrast of Henry III. and St. Louis as regarded their conduct to the Cistercians, the latter requesting their prayers while the former demanded their wool<sup>1</sup> (p. 257), the king's measures against the Bishop of Winchester, William de Raleigh (p. 265), the injuries done to him by the king (p. 285), the consequence of which was a serious darkening of the king's fame (p. 296).

Alterations and softening of many passages.

But a more remarkable feature than this in the present volume is the alteration of many passages, chiefly those which relate to the character and conduct of the king. In these, the original writing has been carefully erased, and a fresh sentence written in its place over the erasure. Fortunately, the copy now in the Cotton collection (MS. C.) was written before these alterations were made, and thus we are able to know both Paris's original words as well as those which either his softened feelings or the caution of old age induced him to substitute for them in his last revision of his work. I have printed these side by side with a line between them, so that the two editions can be seen at a glance. As they chiefly relate to the king, the change is probably due to the more kindly feelings entertained towards him by the historian, after he became acquainted with him; possibly to the fear he might have had of the king seeing his book

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<sup>1</sup> This is omitted in MS. C., though there is no direction to omit it.

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while on one of his visits to St. Alban's, and of the consequences which might have followed. Enough, however, was even then left to anger monarchs of less hasty temper than Henry III. But the strongest remarks are toned down in a very remarkable way.

In addition to what is done in those passages which relate to the king, similar alterations are made in many of those which concern Archbishop Boniface and the Roman see. Moreover, many similar passages, and others, relating to the king's mother Isabella, the luxury and pride of the Dominicans and Franciscans, the infamy and avarice of the papal court, &c., are absolutely erased, without anything being substituted for them. All these are known from the Cotton MS. (C.), and the text is printed from that MS.<sup>1</sup>

The passages where the original reading has been altered for a milder one will be found in p. 101 (the simoniacal arrangement between the Pope and the monks of Peterborough, altered into a very gentle definition of the transaction), p. 102 (the king's forbidding this, detesting the avarice of the Roman court "ne tam enorme factum amplius etiam aera maculet," toned down by the omission of all the abuse of the Roman court, and the introduction of the king's attributes), p. 104 (the character of Archbishop Boniface altered from a description of him as a man utterly unfit in knowledge, manners, and age for his high office into a sketch of him as a man of noble stature and elegant person, the uncle of the Queen), p. 105 (the flight of some of the Canterbury monks to the Carthusian order rather than accept the archbishop, altered into an account of his general acceptance by the clergy) p. 206, (the different reports of the speech of one of St. Louis's nobles on the affair of Con-

<sup>1</sup> Parker, or his scribes, have usually written the passages from MS. C. over the erasures in the original MS. In the printed text

he makes a curious jumble of the two readings in most of the instances mentioned above.

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stantine Fitz-Athulf, the first putting the guilt of this on Henry III. himself, the second especially stating that he was ignorant of it), p. 260 (the avarice and tyranny of the king in pillaging the Jews and the abbats and priors, softened altogether in the alteration), p. 265 (the king's rage against the Bishop of Winchester, softened), p. 360 (the oppression of the Canterbury monks by Archbishop Boniface, entirely changed), p. 396 (the oppression of the citizens of London by the king, where "levi causa fictaque occasione nimis impudenter extorsit," is changed into "causa rationabili, ut sibi et suis dabatur intelligi"), p. 509 (the king's anger with the archbishop for quashing the election of Robert Passelew to the see of Chichester, softened, "procaciter præcipitavit" being changed into "licet juste, cassavit,"<sup>1</sup>) p. 510 (the injuries done by the archbishop, altogether softened). Occasionally single words have been altered in this way; thus, the Pope in 1246 (p. 565) is mentioned as making the Dominicans and Franciscans his "theleonarios"<sup>2</sup>; this is altered into "procuratores."

The instances in which the objectionable passages have been simply erased without anything being substituted for them will be found in p. 211 (the words of Hugh le Brun about his wife, the king's mother), p. 254 (the mockery of the Poitevins at the king's lavish gifts and their character), p. 260 (an attack upon Archbishop Boniface), p. 279 (an attack on the luxury of the friars in their buildings, their extortions from the dying, &c.), p. 405 (the revenues of the see of Canterbury used by Archbishop Boniface and his brother for their niece's interests), p. 410 (the character of the papal court, "cujus foetor usque ad nubes fumum teterrimum exhalabat"), p. 425 (other hits at the archbishop as "plus genere

<sup>1</sup> Here, too, "quem creavi," which the king was at first made to say of Archbishop Boniface, is altered into "quem promovi."

<sup>2</sup> This word, applied to them later, "theleonarios et bedellos," p. 612, is struck out there altogether.

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“ *quam scientia choruscus, plus armis martialibus quam spiritualibus formidatus* ”), p. 511 (the king spoken of as fulfilling Merlin’s prophecy of the lynx by his extortions), p. 514 (the pride of the Dominicans and their behaviour respecting their hearing confessions), p. 553 (the avarice of the Roman court), p. 553 (another violent attack on the archbishop), p. 561 (the excessive intimacy of Richard of Cornwall with the Pope), p. 565 (some strong words against the Dominicans and Franciscans), pp. 604, 612, 613, 619, 639 (the avarice of the Pope, the Roman court, and the legates).

Single words, which Paris, in looking through his work, considered too strong, are not unfrequently struck out without anything being substituted for them: *e.g.*, *indecens* in the title, p. 230; *falsum*, p. 259; *indecenter*, p. 285; *turpiter*, p. 297; the mention of the avarice of the Roman court in the heading of the paragraph in p. 552; *ignobiles* applied to the Poitevin ladies brought over to marry English nobles, p. 628; *sophistice, temere*, applied to the Archbishop of Rouen, p. 629. In all these instances we know for certain what the original reading was, as it is given in the Cotton MS.

This MS., during these years, is a copy, for the most part exact, of the original in Corpus Christi College, as it is in the previous portion of the history. There are, however, a few additions, namely, the description of William Marsh’s castle in Lundy Island, and some additional particulars as to his capture (p. 195), the description of Scilly Island (p. 229), and the mention of the burial of the Countess of Oxford at Oxford (p. 406). Mere omissions in the Corpus Christi MS. are occasionally, though rarely, supplied; *e.g.*, pp. 219, 220, 229. On the other hand, many of the marginal additions in B. are not given in C., as, for instance, the names of Alan of Beccles and the justiciary Adam FitzWilliam, two enemies of St. Alban’s, who met with sudden deaths in 1243 (pp. 262, 263).

Additions  
in the  
Cotton  
MS. (C.)

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**Errors.** A few minor errors will be observed, generally easy to be corrected, and such as, though showing haste or occasional carelessness, cannot be considered as detracting to any serious extent from the general accuracy of the historian; *e.g.*, the Duke of Louvain and Brabant made into two persons (p. 21), *Arragon* for *Navarre* (pp. 79, 179), *Stollius*, a fleet, made into a proper name (pp. 125, 128, see the notes on the passages), *Baldwin Wake* for *Hugh* (p. 194), Hugh le Brun said to have married before he married John's widow (p. 202), Guy, his son, said to be older than Hugh (p. 218), La Réole confounded with Ravenna, and a bishop of La Réole invented to bury the abbat of Evesham (p. 233), *Papali* for *Cantuariensi* (p. 247), *kalendas* for *idus* (p. 255), *Decembris* for *Novembris* (p. 261), John de Coucy called the heir of Engelram de Coucy (p. 361), *Martin* for *Laurence de S. Martino* (p. 412), *abbatem* for *episcopum* (p. 446), wrong dates (pp. 586, 645), &c. If the chronology is correct, there is an error respecting Henry of Susa or Sessa, who was mixed up in the quarrel between the king and the Bishop of Winchester, and whom the king had made warden of S. Cross. Paris speaks of his leaving the country in 1244, and obtaining for himself ("utinam non comparavit," Paris says, p. 353,) a bishoprick in his own parts. It is difficult not to identify him with the Henry of Sessa who is mentioned by Ughelli as Bishop of Bergamo in 1241, but he died, according to that authority, in 1242.<sup>1</sup>

**Quotations from classical authors.**

The citations from Latin poets are generally stock quotations, most of them occurring more than once. Horace, Terence, Ovid, Lucan, Juvenal, Persius, and Claudian are cited, the last once (p. 395) under the name of Statius, the others generally unnamed. Several

<sup>1</sup> Such an error as that respecting the marriage of Thomas of Savoy in p. 649 is rather the representation of a false rumour than a careless slip. See also p. 654, where Paris has given the initial (M.) of one sister of Ranulph Blun-devil for that of another (A.).



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## PREFACE.

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quotations are given as from Seneca, but I have not been able to identify them. Aristotle is once (p. 249) cited (the *Meteora*), relative to falling stars.

I have already in the prefaces to the previous volumes called attention to the incorrectness of the editions of Matthew Paris published by Parker and Wats, and shown what strange ideas the original editor had of editing his MS. The present volume affords other instances of this, but of a very different character. The archbishop must have employed different transcribers. Sometimes for many pages together the MS. is very carefully and honestly followed. At others the editor amused himself not by altering the MS. as he did in the earlier portion, but by introducing fresh matter or inserting synonyms of the words used, which gives the appearance of having been done for an elaborate joke. Thus in p. 416, the edition of Wats (1640), p. 657, l. 53, gives *congregandis ac conferendis*, (the words in italics are insertions of the editor, and have no representation whatever in the MS.); p. 657, 54, *honestius et tutius esse*; p. 417=658, 5, *pro multiformi et incessabili oppressione et deprædatione regni dolentium et miserantium*; p. 418=658, 34, *civiliter et humiliter postulanti incivilius et frontosius*; 658, 43, *magnum et serenissimum*; p. 419=658, 48, *fraudulenter et violenter*; p. 423=660, 24, *imminentibus autem et instantibus*; p. 660, 26, *per literas suas regias strictissime submonitis et convocatis*.

This is even done with the inserted documents; I give a few specimens from the sentence of Innocent IV. deposing Frederick II. from the empire: p. 445=668, 40 (Wats), *congruis attollamus et evehamus favoribus*; *quos autem reos et culpabiles invenerimus, pœnis debitis pro gravitate culpæ afficiamus et deprimamus*; p. 447=669, 69, *discrimen aut periculum*; 669, 22, *obstinata elatione et superbia despexit ac contempsit*; p. 449=670, 4, *violator et transgressor*; 670, 19, *cogendo et com-*

Errors  
of the  
editions of  
Parker  
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*pellendo* ; p. 450=670, 40, *capi et incarcerari* ; p. 451=670, 48 *bonis aut rebus* ; p. 453=671, 42, *vilipendentes et contemnentes* ; p. 454=671, 53, *afflictione et persecutione* ; 671, 55, *construxisse aut fundasse* ; 672, 5, *ejectis et expulsis* ; 672, 10, *nephandis et execrandis excessibus ac flagitiis* ; 672, 15, *iniquitates atque scelera* ; p. 455=672, 19, 20, *astrecti vel obligati . . . absolvimus et liberamus . . . firmiter et strictim*.

It has been hard upon our historian to have had not only his own words, but his representation of important documents, thus caricatured. Another instance of an alteration which has been productive of error may be observed at the end of the year 1246 (p. 588). Here in mentioning the death of Ranulph Brito, Paris describes him as “familiarissimus regi et regis . . . . (a word has “been omitted by the scribe), multis postpositis magnatibus, et ejusdem consiliarius specialis.” Parker’s editor (Wats, p. 718, ll. 46, 47) altered *consiliarius* to *cancellarius* ; and on the strength of this Dugdale and others have inserted him in the list of chancellors. See Foss’s Judges, ii., p. 263.

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 ERRATUM.
 

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P. 213, line 17, for *Hubertus* read *Herbertus*.

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# MATTHÆI PARISIENSIS

## CHRONICA MAJORA.

*Quomodo rex Balduinum baltheo cinxit militari, et A.D. 1240.  
investiuit comitatu Vectæ insulæ, præsentem comitem  
Ricardo.*

Anno Domini MCCXL., qui est annus regis Henrici f. 131 b.  
III. vicesimus quartus, tenuit idem rex curiam suam The king  
ad Natale Domini apud Wintoniam. Ubi Baldewinum keeps  
de Ripariis, juvenem elegantem, scilicet die Natalis Christmas  
Domini, baltheo cinxit militari et comitatu Devene<sup>1</sup> at Win-  
investiuit, præsentem et id procurante comite Ricardo; chester.  
in cujus custodia idem Baldewinus pluribus annis Baldwin  
extiterat, et filiastram suam, scilicet Amiciam filiam de Redvers  
uxoris suæ Ysabellæ, Gloverniæ quandoque comitissæ,<sup>2</sup> knighted  
sibi matrimonialiter copulaverat. and invest-  
ed with  
the earl-  
dom of  
Devon.

*De electione domini Hugonis de Pateshulle in epi-  
scopum Coventrensem.*

Eodem tempore confirmata est electio<sup>3</sup> Hugonis de Hugh de  
Pateshulle, electi Coventrensis; qui cum thesaurarius Pateshulle  
domini regis per aliquot annos antea [fuisset], et se made  
ibidem irreprehensibiliter habuisset, sedens ad regis bishop of  
scaccarium, accessit ad omnes barones scaccarii se- Lichfield.

<sup>1</sup> *Devene*] So Par. in the margin.  
The text has *Vecte*; in *veste*, C.,  
where *Devene* has been also added.  
Below his shield is drawn.

<sup>2</sup> Daughter of William Marshal,  
whose first husband was Gilbert de  
Clare, 6th earl of Gloucester.

<sup>3</sup> A mitre and pastoral staff are  
drawn in the margin.

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## 2 MATTHÆI PARIENSIS CHRONICA MAJORA.

A.D. 1240. dentes ibidem secundum solitum ordinem suum, et cum omnes assurgerent ei, solitum honorem impendentes, ait eis, "Amici mei et socii carissimi, vale-  
 His farewell to the treasury. dico vobis, non recedens unquam a vobis, sed a " scaccario; vocavit me Dominus, licet indignum, ad " regimen animarum." Et cum prorupissent in singultus<sup>1</sup> verba sequentia, omnes sigillatim osculatus est, pro recessu ipsius tenerrime lacrimantes.

*De nimis dolenda morte Hysabellæ uxoris comitis Ricardi.*

Death of Isabella, wife of Richard of Cornwall. Circa idem tempus nobilissima mulier Isabella, comitissa Gloverniæ et Cornubiæ, uxor scilicet comitis Ricardi, ictericia usque ad mortem periclitans infirmabatur. Cujus cum impletum fuisset tempus pariendi, (erat enim gravida et partui proxima,) exanimata est; præscisis copiosarum comarum suarum tricis cæruleis, et facta plenarie peccatorum suorum confessione, simul cum puerulo adhuc vivo, sed non vivido, et iccirco statim baptizato, cui nomen Nicholaus aptatum est, migravit ad Dominum. Quod cum comes R[icardus], qui tunc apud Cornubiam gressus direxerat, audivit, prorumpens in genitus lacrimabiles, doluit inconsolabiliter; et festinanter reversus, corpus venerabilis uxoris suæ veneranter apud Bellum Locum, domum scilicet quam rex Johannes a fundamentis construxerat et Cisterciensium ordini addixerat, fecit in præsentia sua sepeliri.

Her burial at Beaulieu.

*De quodam sono mirabili in multis locis Angliæ audito.*

Strange sound heard. Temporibus sub eisdem auditus est sonus terribilis nimis, quasi mons immanissimus projectus maximo impetu in medio mari a sullimi corruisset. Qui sonus in

<sup>1</sup> C. ins. per.