

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Rolls Series

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.

Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury

Christ Church, Canterbury, was the seat of the archbishop and an important pilgrimage site. The letters and other documents in its register reveal not only its history, but how complex was the management of the priory and its estates. This three-volume edition is based on a transcript of the register compiled in 1411 and continued thereafter. Volume 2, edited by Joseph Brigstocke Sheppard (1827–95) and published in 1888, contains items 495–943, ranging in date from 1333 to 1373. The editor has selected documents addressed to individuals or groups, and the subjects vary widely. Most relate to church affairs and include formal letters of appointment and disputes with other monasteries. Others are financial, dealing with rents, taxes and donations by important pilgrims. Also covered are matters of national importance (as the prior sat in parliament), such as the Hundred Years' War and the Black Death. The texts are in Latin, Norman French and English, with translations provided for the French documents.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church,
Canterbury: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Literae Cantuarienses
The Letter Books
of the Monastery of
Christ Church, Canterbury

VOLUME 2

EDITED BY
J. BRIGSTOCKE SHEPPARD



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108052405

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2012

This edition first published 1888
This digitally printed version 2012

ISBN 978-1-108-05240-5 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church,
Canterbury: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

RERUM BRITANNICARUM MEDH ÆVI
SCRIPTORES,

OR

CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND IRELAND

DURING

THE MIDDLE AGES.

U 52122.

a

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church,
Canterbury: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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.

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.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

4

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.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church,
Canterbury: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LITERÆ CANTUARIENSES.

THE LETTER BOOKS

OF THE

MONASTERY OF CHRIST CHURCH,

CANTERBURY.

VOL. II.

EDITED BY

J. BRIGSTOCKE SHEPPARD, LL.D.

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

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; or
ADAM AND CHARLES BLACK, 8, NORTH BRIDGE, EDINBURGH; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1888.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church,
Canterbury: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Printed by
EYRE and SPOTTISWOOD, Her Majesty's Printers.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page
495. On the collection of a King's tenth at Cliff-at-Hoo	1
496. An attorney appointed for the Convent	2
497. A similar appointment	4
498. On the same subject	4
499. The Bishop of Chichester thanked for an offering at the Shrine of St. Thomas	5
500. An obscure letter of business	6
501. The tenants at Risborough to be coerced	6
502. A feigned receipt for the Wine of St. Thomas	7
503. In the matter of Peter de Dene, alleged to be a professed monk of St. Augustine's Abbey	7
504. On the same subject	8
505. On the same subject	10
506. To the King of France in the matter of the Wine of St. Thomas	11
507. To the Countess of Hainault, on the same subject	12
508. The agent for the Wine in France is reminded of his arrears	12
509. The <i>Senescallus Aulae</i> is allowed to appoint a deputy	14
510. The Prior's proctor in the Curia is asked to obtain certain privileges for him	16
511. On the matter of Peter de Dene	17
512. Monks of St. Augustine's excommunicated for the matter of Peter de Dene	19
513. The Prior declines to pay an <i>aid</i>	20
514. The Bishop of Rochester is asked to impart chrism	22
515. The liberties of the Church invaded by the Sheriff of Kent	22
516. In the matter of the Wine of St. Thomas	24
517. On the same subject	24
518. The master's degree of a student of Canterbury College deferred	26
519. The Prior declines to supply transport to the King's army	26
520. On the same subject	28
521. The Prior yields, and promises the transport asked for	28
522. On the same subject	30

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

	Page
523. On the same subject - - - - -	30
524. Land escheated at Mersham - - - - -	32
525. Provisions to be collected for winter store - - - - -	34
526. On the same subject - - - - -	36
527. On the same subject - - - - -	36
528. Instructions to an attorney in a suit with the Arch- bishop - - - - -	38
529. In the matter of Peter de Dene - - - - -	40
530. On the same subject - - - - -	41
530A. On the same subject - - - - -	43
531. Instructions to an attorney in the suit with Dover Priory - - - - -	44
532. On the same subject - - - - -	44
533. On the same subject - - - - -	46
534. Instructions as to the Wine of St. Thomas - - - - -	48
535. On the same subject - - - - -	50
536. A tenant does fealty for his inheritance - - - - -	52
537. Order for the delivery of timber - - - - -	54
538. The rector of Bocking is supplied with fuel, and corn is lent to him - - - - -	54
539. Complimentary letter to the Archbishop - - - - -	56
540. Money received for the Wine of St. Thomas - - - - -	57
541. The tenants of six manors required to combine for the carriage of timber - - - - -	56
542. A judge's influence asked for in the suit with Dover Priory - - - - -	56
543. On the same subject - - - - -	58
544. Adam de Murymouth is refused a pension - - - - -	59
545. Papers in the Dover suit sent to Adam de Murymouth	60
546. A fee refused to the Archbishop's Seneschal - - - - -	60
547. A tenant reminded of the near expiration of his lease	62
548. The Bailiff of Risborough called to a consultation - - - - -	62
549. The matter of Peter de Dene is likely to be referred to Rome - - - - -	64
550. A legacy left to Christ Church by John de Dene - - - - -	66
551. A felon's goods seized at Shoreham - - - - -	68
552. Receipt given to the executor of J. de Dene - - - - -	68
553. A <i>Senescallus Libertatum</i> appointed - - - - -	69
554. A pension granted to A. de Murymouth - - - - -	70
555. The next presentation to a benefice refused to Earl Warne - - - - -	70
556. A pass, conferring free board and lodging, in all the manors of the Convent - - - - -	72
557. Instructions, relating to Cheam and Risborough, given to the Seneschal - - - - -	74

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

iii

	Page
558. The Prior claims the sole right of correcting his monks at the Archbishop's visitation - - - -	76
559. The Abbot of Boxley wishes to buy land in the fee of Christ Church - - - -	77
560. The Balliff of Risborough called to a consultation -	76
561. Power given to the Prior to absolve <i>ad cautelam</i> -	78
562. Form of absolution to be used - - - -	80
563. The Chapter resent an irregular citation of the Com- missary of the diocese - - - -	80
564. The Archbishop upholds the citation - - - -	81
565. A King's tenth twice demanded - - - -	82
566. Instructions to the Bailiff of Risborough - - - -	82
567. On the same subject - - - -	86
568. On the same subject - - - -	88
569. Transport promised for the King's army - - - -	90
570. On the same subject - - - -	90
571. On the same subject - - - -	92
572. A list of the servants in the cellarer's department -	94
573. The Archbishop borrows two horses - - - -	95
574. On the same subject - - - -	95
575. On the same subject - - - -	96
576. A King's tenth twice demanded - - - -	96
577. The Prior certifies the Archbishop that there is peace at Christ Church - - - -	98
578. The Archbishop's answer. Sir J. Stonor declines the office of Seneschal of Christ Church - - - -	98
579. On the same subject - - - -	99
580. The Archbishop's answer on the same subject - -	100
581. A writ of right to be tried in the Manor Court of Merstham - - - -	102
582. On the same subject - - - -	104
583. Two monks of Battle Abbey trespass on the pasture at Loose - - - -	104
584. The Prior asks for the power of appointing <i>obedientarii</i> at Christ Church - - - -	106
585. On the exchange of foreign and debased money -	108
586. J. de Stonor recommends a Seneschal - - - -	108
587. The Seneschal appointed - - - -	110
588. A suitor introduced to the Archbishop - - - -	111
589. Commission of an attorney to act in the election of a Bailiff of Romney Marsh - - - -	112
590. Commission of a Woodreeve for the Weald - - - -	112
591. Mortuary roll of John Hotham, Bishop of Ely - -	114
592. The King excuses the Convent from granting corrodies to his nominees - - - -	122

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

iv

CONTENTS.

	Page
593. The Chapter protest against being called on to furnish a coast guard - - - - -	122
594. The Bishop of Exeter delivers his <i>professional</i> cope to Christ Church - - - - -	124
595. The Countess of Valois offers an image at the Shrine of St. Thomas - - - - -	124
596. A suit of esquire's livery granted for life - - -	126
597. An adviser called to consultation - - -	126
598. The Prior declines an invitation to a funeral - - -	128
599. Notice sent to the Archbishop of the cellarer's unfitness for his office - - - - -	128
600. Disputes between the Burgesses of Sandwich and the tenants of Christ Church in Thanet - - -	130
601. The Prior complains that the Archbishop has misjudged him - - - - -	130
602. The Prior asks the Archbishop to support him in his dispute with the Risborough tenants; and to allow him to <i>profess</i> novices - - - - -	131
603. The Prior inquires into the condition of Dockcombe manor - - - - -	133
604. An affray between the servants of the Archbishop and those of the Convent - - - - -	134
605. Two Canons of St. Frideswydes migrate to Canterbury	136
606. A Canon of Kenilworth migrates to Canterbury -	137
607. The Archbishop has misjudged the Chapter - - -	138
608. On the same subject - - - - -	139
609. A dispute with the Archbishop about a palfrey forfeited in a manor belonging to Christ Church - - -	140
610. On the same subject - - - - -	141
611. Memorandum of the amount of the bread consumed in Christ Church in three months - - - - -	141
612. Cost of the decorated window in St. Anselm's Chapel in the Cathedral - - - - -	142
613. A promissory note <i>juata formam Lombardorum</i> - - -	143
614. Counsel's opinion as to selling land to the Abbot of Boxley - - - - -	143
615. The Archbishop releases an <i>obedientiaris</i> from his office - - - - -	144
616. The Chapter nominate three persons for the office of whom the Archbishop may choose one - - -	145
617. A receipt for the pension due from the rector of Westerham - - - - -	145
618. The <i>call-over</i> of the library of Christ Church - - -	146
619. The Archbishop is thanked for help in the matter of Risborough and the suit with Dover Priory - - -	152

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

v

	Page
620. Extract from the will of R. de Haute, Rector of Westerham - - - - -	153
621. The Cathedral defiled by blood-shedding - - - - -	153
622. On the same subject - - - - -	155
623. On the same subject - - - - -	156
624. On the same subject - - - - -	157
625. The Bishop of Rochester, called to officiate at Christ Church, warrants the Convent against future <i>pre-</i> <i>judice</i> in consequence - - - - -	157
626. On the same subject - - - - -	157
627. A petition sent to the Archbishop by the religious houses of Kent, asking that men capable of defending them may not be sent out of the county - - - - -	158
628. A legacy left to the church - - - - -	159
629. The rector of Westerham on his retirement - - - - -	159
630. The Archbishop forbids the prior to <i>profess</i> novices whom he has not introduced to the Archbishop - - - - -	160
631. The Prior's acknowledgment of the Archbishop's pro- hibition - - - - -	161
632. On the same subject - - - - -	161
633. On the same subject - - - - -	162
634. On the same subject - - - - -	163
635. The Bishop of Rochester is asked to nominate a vicar for Westerham - - - - -	164
636. The Chapter of Canterbury are urged to present to Westerham at once - - - - -	165
636A. On the <i>profession</i> of novices, continued - - - - -	166
637. On the tithes of the vacant rectory of Westerham - - - - -	167
638. The defaulting Provost of Ickham arrested - - - - -	168
639. The tithes of Westerham sequestered - - - - -	168
640. On the same subject - - - - -	170
641. The Priory of Dover submits itself to the Archbishop's arbitration - - - - -	171
642. The Chapter of Canterbury incur a risk of excom- munication through delay in paying a subsidy - - - - -	172
643. On the same subject - - - - -	173
644. The Archbishop advises the Prior to ascertain what <i>procurations</i> his House has been used to pay to papal Legates - - - - -	174
645. On the same subject - - - - -	174
646. The Prior refuses to collate a candidate to Aldermari- church - - - - -	175
647. The town of Romney under an interdict - - - - -	176
648. Advice to the Prior obscurely given - - - - -	177
649. The reply to the same - - - - -	177

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi

CONTENTS.

	Page
650. On a diverted water-course at Borley - - -	178
651. On the same subject - - -	179
652. On the Romney interdict - - -	179
653. An attorney in the Dover suit appointed - -	182
654. On the same subject - - -	184
655. The King asks for a licence of <i>alibi</i> for the Elect of London - - -	184
656. The licence granted - - -	186
657. Thanks for the same - - -	187
658. Cautionary letter given by the Bishop elect - -	188
659. The Prior declines to furnish transport for the King's army - - -	190
660. The Prior and Chapter consent to furnish the transport asked for - - -	190
661. The Archbishop on going abroad empowers the Bishop of Chichester to superintend the election of a Prior of Christ Church - - -	192
662. The new Prior invites his friends to attend the celebration of his first mass - - -	194
663. The same in Latin - - -	195
664. A protest against a demand of aid in furnishing a coast guard - - -	194
665. A request for letters testifying to the regularity of the Prior's election - - -	196
666. A request that a servant of the Convent may not be sent out of England with the King's wool - -	196
667. The Archbishop complains of the presence of the Bishop of Chichester at the Prior's election - -	199
668. The Prior's reply - - -	199
669. Summary of a papal Bull on Provincial Benedictine Chapters - - -	200
670. A judge is asked to favour a person suing in his court	202
671. A pension settled upon a counsel - - -	204
672. The bond tenants of Risborough submit to their lord	204
673. A legacy left to the Church - - -	206
674. A protest against a demand for aid towards a coast guard - - -	206
675. An agent commissioned to exact feudal dues - -	208
676. An attorney commissioned to resume possession of the rectory of Ash Bocking - - -	208
677. The Prior intercedes for a tenant charged with trespass - - -	210
678. The Prior refuses to acknowledge the King's right to confer a corrody in Christ Church - - -	212
679. The Archbishop on the Prior's election - - -	215

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

vii

	Page
680. The Prior asks leave to <i>profess</i> novices - - -	216
681. The Archbishop confers an office in Christ Church upon his kinsman - - - - -	217
682. The Chapter consent to the collation - - -	217
683. The Archbishop is asked to suspend his sentence upon a Canon of St. Gregory's - - - - -	218
684. Receipt for a <i>professional</i> cope - - - - -	218
685. A <i>stet processus</i> - - - - -	219
686. Confirmation of the transfer of the advowsons of Boughton and Preston to Faversham Abbey - - -	219
687. The Chapter confer a pension at the request of the Archbishop - - - - -	220
688. A letter of credence - - - - -	221
689. A certificate of legitimacy - - - - -	221
690. An undergraduate allowed to remain in Oxford in the long vacation - - - - -	222
691. Other undergraduates provided with the means of returning home - - - - -	222
692. Covenant for the sale of timber - - - - -	223
693. A proposal to farm Chilham Rectory - - - - -	223
694. On the Benedictine Provincial Chapter - - - - -	224
695. A complimentary letter sent to a Kentish Knight serving in France - - - - -	224
696. A letter of thanks to a patron ; with mention of a riotous summons made to the Archbishop for a debt due to the Duke of Brabant - - - - -	226
697. A complimentary letter to the same patron - - - - -	230
698. The Rector of Hadleigh wishes to rent a piece of land	231
699. A pension granted to a counsel - - - - -	232
700. An attempt to convert a bond tenure at Risborough into a freehold - - - - -	232
701. The Chapter decline to grant a corrody upon the King's nomination - - - - -	234
702. A King's writ exempting the manor of Eleigh from payment of scutage - - - - -	236
703. On the same subject - - - - -	237
704. On the <i>Procurations</i> of Papal Nuntii - - - - -	238
705. On the same subject - - - - -	239
706. The Prior cannot confer a benefice on the King's nominee - - - - -	240
707. The Prior asks a Cardinal to procure for him the privilege of using pontifical vestments - - - - -	240
708. A petition to the Pope on the same subject - - - - -	242
709. A felon's goods seized - - - - -	242
710. Instructions and thanks to the bailiff of Risborough Manor - - - - -	-

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

CONTENTS.

	Page
711. The Prior asks to be allowed to <i>profess</i> novices	- 244
712. The same in a special case	- 246
713. On the same subject	- 246
714. A denial of the complaints made by the Rector of Risborough	- 247
715. Timber refused to the "Black Prince"	- 248
716. The Chapter offer security for a loan to the Hospital at Hythe	- 250
717. A counsel called to consultation on the suit with Dover Priory	- 250
718. The Chapter ratify the Archbishop's appointment of an apparator	- 251
719. New statutes for the hospital of St. Thomas of Eastbridge	- 251
720. The Prior agrees to lend 100 <i>l.</i> to the King	- 256
721. The Vicar of Preston has demanded Tithes from the manor of Hamme, belonging to Christ Church	- 258
722. A question of dower at East Horsley	- 260
723. On the same subject	- 261
724. A corrody in St. Jacob's Hospital granted	- 262
725. The Queen Dowager intercedes for the Minorites of Canterbury	- 262
726. A Canterbury College Monk asked to act as a tutor	- 266
727. The Chapter confirm the Archbishop's foundations at Stratford and Harbledown	- 267
728. The Prior intercedes for the Sisters of St. Jacob's Hospital	- 266
729. A Proctor at the Curia appointed	- 268
730. A Benefice asked for by the Chapter from the Archbishop	- 268
731. The protest of a prisoner in Saltwood Castle in French	269
732. The same in Latin	- 269
733. A protest against exactions in the collection of the <i>procurations</i> of Papal Nuntii	- 270
734. Power to collect the wine of St. Thomas given to an agent	- 271
735. A letter to the Abbot of St. Deny's on the same subject	271
736. A tenant's waste condoned	- 273
737. A skilled assessor given to the bailiff who presided in the Manor Court of Merstham	- 272
738. The Prior of Winchester introduces a Canterbury Pilgrim	- 274
739. A reply to the proceeding letter	- 275
740. A letter of introduction of a clerk going to the Archbishop	- 276
741. The Prior attempts to nominate a Sub-Prior	- 276
742. Timber given to one of the Archbishop's clerks	- 277

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

ix

	Page
743. Order for the delivery of the same - - -	277
744. An official of the Archbishop's Court is asked to suspend action in a suit - - -	277
745. A similar request in the case of St. Jacob's Hospital -	278
746. The Prior intercedes for certain monks condemned to penance - - -	279
747. The Prior thanks the Archbishop for useful medical advice - - -	279
748. The Archbishop is asked to interpose in the quarrel of three Kentish knights - - -	280
749. On the same subject - - -	280
750. To the Abbot of St. Deny's testifying to the good conduct of one of his monks - - -	281
751. The Queen asks for the patronage of a corrody in St. Jacob's Hospital - - -	282
752. Report of delapidations at the Archbishop's palace in Canterbury - - -	282
753. The Prior consents to the exchange of the benefice of Eastry for another - - -	284
754. The Prior intercedes for the Sisters of St. Jacob's Hospital - - -	285
755. The Chapter consent to the appropriation of Westenhanger Church - - -	285
756. Books given to the Church - - -	286
757. The patron of a benefice is asked to consent to an exchange - - -	286
758. An <i>obedientiaris</i> is too infirm to perform his duties -	287
759. The Chapter nominate three candidates for the office to the Archbishop - - -	287
760. An official is asked to stay proceedings in a suit between Christ Church and Eastbridge Hospital -	288
761. A servant of the Convent is appointed to collect the King's subsidy of wool - - -	288
762. The Archbishop is thanked for good counsel - - -	289
763. An alternative form of the same - - -	289
764. A counsel summoned to consultation - - -	290
765. A similar summons - - -	291
766. Commission of a superintendent of the midland manors of the Convent - - -	290
767. The Archbishop intercedes for a monk condemned to penance - - -	292
768. An answer to the Archbishop's intercession - - -	292
769. A corrody granted to a Counsel - - -	293
770. Form of presentation to a benefice - - -	294

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

CONTENTS.

	Page
771. An attorney appointed to exact payment of a debt from the King - - - - -	295
772. Commission for holding Manor Courts - - - - -	296
773. A pension paid to Christ Church from the church of St. Mary Bothaw - - - - -	297
774. The King's offering at the Shrine of St. Thomas - - - - -	296
775. A corrody granted - - - - -	299
776. A friend anxious about the Prior's health during the plague - - - - -	299
777. Letter certifying that the Sisters of St. Jacob's are not <i>professed</i> - - - - -	300
778. Recommendation for a clerk wishing to become a monk - - - - -	300
779. Rent collector's commission - - - - -	300
780. General release given to an ex-agent - - - - -	301
781. Power of Attorney for finally settling the suit with Dover Priory - - - - -	301
782. On the same subject - - - - -	302
783. An agent for Dockombe manor appointed - - - - -	303
784. The first payment of the pension from Dover Priory settled by the late <i>composition</i> - - - - -	303
785. The Chapter acknowledge the Archbishop's summons to a visitation - - - - -	304
786. Auditors' commission - - - - -	305
787. An ancient agreement with the Abbey De Voto resealed - - - - -	305
788. The suspension of a suit asked for - - - - -	307
789. A formula prescribing the duties of the Bailiffs of the demesne lands of the Convent - - - - -	306
790. The Archbishop is asked not to prejudge the Chapter	308
791. Archbishop Islip builds Maidstone palace out of the ruins of Wrotham manor house - - - - -	309
792. Auditors' commission - - - - -	310
793. Receipt for a pension paid by the Archbishop to the Chapter - - - - -	311
794. A partition of Eastry parsonage between the Chapter and the Rector - - - - -	311
795. An agreement between the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, as to the bearing of their crosses, reported	314
796. The Prior advises the Archbishop to postpone a visit -	314
797. A legacy left to the Church - - - - -	316
798. A general release given to a trespasser - - - - -	316
799. A corrody granted to a Counsel - - - - -	317
800. The monopoly of a ferry demised - - - - -	317
801. Three monks nominated for an office - - - - -	318

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury: Volume 2*

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

xi

	Page
802. A private hint, supplementary to the foregoing nomination - - - - -	318
803. On the same subject - - - - -	318
804. Statutes of a chantry in Reculver Church - - -	319
805. A Canterbury monk emigrates to Robertsbridge -	326
806. On the same subject - - - - -	326
807. On the same subject - - - - -	327
808. On the same subject - - - - -	327
809. Commission of the Proctor of the Convent in the Curia - - - - -	328
810. Instructions to the same Proctor - - - - -	328
811. The Prior begs from the Pope the privilege of using pontifical vestments - - - - -	329
812. On the same subject - - - - -	330
813. On the same subject - - - - -	331
814. On the same subject - - - - -	331
815. On the same subject - - - - -	331
816. The Archbishop recommends that young monks be sent to the Universities - - - - -	332
817. The Prior admitted to confraternity by the Nuns of St. Sexburga - - - - -	333
818. A corrody conferred - - - - -	334
819. The Archbishop warns the Chapter not to obstruct his visitation - - - - -	335
820. A letter of credence - - - - -	336
821. A letter of credence relating to the Nunnery of St. Sepulchre - - - - -	336
822. The Archbishop thanked for collating the nominee of the Convent to the Vicarage of Littlebourne - -	337
823. A reformation of the endowment of the Hospitals of Harbledown and Northgate - - - - -	337
824. A corrody granted to a man and his wife - - -	342
825. A corrody at Eastbridge Hospital purchased - -	343
826. The Bishop of Ely is asked to help the Convent -	344
827. A <i>stet processus</i> - - - - -	345
828. Congratulation to the Black Prince on his victory at Poitiers - - - - -	344
829. The Prince's letter - - - - -	346
830. Notice of provisions sent from London to the Convent	348
831. Seneschal's commission for Dockombe - - - -	348
832. A layman appointed keeper of the Cloister gate -	350
833. Composition between the Convent and the citizens of Canterbury relating to the mills at St. Mildred's and King's Bridge - - - - -	350
834. A legacy left to the Church - - - - -	354
U 52122.	b

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xii

CONTENTS.

	Page
835. A corrody of food granted - - - -	354
836. The Seneschal of Dockcombe reproved - - - -	356
837. The men of Rye illegally demand toll from tenants of Christ Church - - - -	358
838. Acknowledgment of the Archbishop's summons to a visitation - - - -	360
839. Receipt for rent at Dockcombe - - - -	361
840. The Black Prince stationed at Northbourne - - - -	362
841. Arrears at Dockcombe reported - - - -	362
842. A candidate for admission as a monk recommended - - - -	362
843. Composition by which the men of Ipswich grant privileges to the tenants of Christ Church - - - -	364
844. The Prior is asked to consent to an exchange of benefices - - - -	368
845. A felon's goods forfeited, although the felon had received the King's pardon - - - -	369
846. A livery and a pension granted - - - -	370
847. A corrody granted to a Counsel - - - -	370
848. The Prior excuses himself from attending Parliament - - - -	371
849. The Prior excuses himself from visiting the Archbishop - - - -	372
850. A corrody at Eastbridge Hospital purchased - - - -	372
851. The Abbot of Arbroath asks for relics of St. Thomas - - - -	373
852. The King asks for transport for his army - - - -	374
853. A bondman who has obtained holy orders is manumitted - - - -	376
854. The Prior promises to contribute transport for the King's army - - - -	378
855. On the same subject - - - -	378
856. Bishop Grandison sends a copy of his <i>Life of St. Thomas</i> to Christ Church - - - -	380
857. The Prior promises to provide transport for the King's army - - - -	382
858. Land at Brightwell, Oxon., demised - - - -	382
859. The odd man at the Domus Dei of Dover appointed by an indented deed - - - -	384
860. The Black Prince borrows from the Prior - - - -	386
861. A monk whose studies have been discontinued wishes to resume them - - - -	386
862. On the same subject - - - -	388
863. The proposed chantry to be founded in the Cathedral by the Black Prince - - - -	388
864. The Bishop of Winchester introduces the heir of a person of late deceased at Canterbury - - - -	390
865. The next presentation to a benefice asked for - - - -	390

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

xiii

	Page
866. An order to provide money to make a payment on a certain day - - - - -	392
867. A bill of exchange given by the Prior in payment for wheat purchased - - - - -	394
868. Rent collector's commission - - - - -	394
869. The Prior protests against some of the Archbishop's proceedings at his visitation - - - - -	394
870. Petition to the Pope, intended to be sent by the King of England, concerning the proceedings of the Provincial Chapter of the Benedictine Order - - - - -	398
871. Another form of the same petition - - - - -	400
872. The King warns the Presidents of the Provincial Chapter not to molest the Prior of Christ Church - - - - -	400
873. Goods belonging to Christ Church, which a monk had abstracted, are restored - - - - -	404
874. The next presentation to a benefice asked for - - - - -	405
875. Portion of a will by which a tenement was given to the Church - - - - -	406
876. The Prior warns a person who is obstructing the administration of the goods of a defunct tenant of the Convent - - - - -	406
877. An agent appointed to guard the interest of the Convent at Wissant - - - - -	408
878. The same agent empowered to receive the wine of St. Thomas - - - - -	408
879. The King's licence for the foundation of Canterbury College in Oxford - - - - -	409
880. A whole family of bondmen, save one, manumitted - - - - -	411
880A. Bond securing a debt - - - - -	413
881. A monk of Hatfield migrates to Canterbury - - - - -	413
882. An agent is required to admit a daughter to her deceased father's tenement - - - - -	414
883. The Prior's sister (?) appoints attornies - - - - -	414
884. Nomination of the first Warden of Canterbury College - - - - -	416
885. Another form of the same - - - - -	417
885A. Rules for selecting the Warden - - - - -	417
886. A remission of rent at East Peckham - - - - -	417
887. A creditor accepts ten pounds in full payment of a debt of five hundred marks - - - - -	419
888. The goods of a felon, at Monks Risborough, belonging to Christ Church, have been seized by the authorities at Princes Risborough, belonging to the Prince of Wales - - - - -	418
889. The Earl of Arundel has leave to dig ironstone at Merstham - - - - -	420

b 2

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xiv

CONTENTS.

	Page
890. The Prior declines to be <i>executor</i> of a papal <i>provision</i> -	420
891. Ash Bocking rectory let to farm - - -	422
892. The Black Prince conveys the manor of Vauxhall to the Chapter, to furnish the endowment of his recently founded chantry - - - - -	422
893. The foundation deed of the Black Prince's chantry -	424
894. Commission of an Attorney appointed to compel the payment of <i>professional copes</i> by suffragan Bishops or their executors - - - - -	430
895. Receipt for their first year's stipend given by the Priests of the Prince's chantry - - -	431
896. A Canon of Ledes migrates to Canterbury -	432
897. A composition by which the Earl of Arundel commutes for a sum of ready-money, an annual gift of venison to the Archbishops of Canterbury - - -	432
898. Scheme for the resuscitation of the decayed Hospital at Romney - - - - -	436
899. Scheme of the foundation of Canterbury College in Oxford - - - - -	442
900. A postponement of the court day of Romney Marsh asked for - - - - -	444
901. Consent to an exchange of benefices asked for -	444
902. Pagham Church appropriated to Canterbury College -	445
903. Woodford Manor Northants given to Canterbury College - - - - -	447
904. The Prior appoints proctors at the Curia to defend him in the matter of the Provincial Benedictine Chapter - - - - -	448
905. Instructions to the proctor at the Curia - -	449
906. Acquittance for <i>professional copes</i> - - -	450
907. The Abbot of Tynterne promises payment of his debt	451
908. The Abbot is introduced to the Archbishop - -	453
909. A candidate for the monastic habit - - -	452
910. The Chapter permit the foundation of a chantry in Godmersham church - - - - -	454
911. The present a chaplain to the same - - -	455
912. A letter of recommendation - - - -	456
913. A special grant of confraternity - - - -	456
914. A letter of introduction - - - - -	458
915. Agent's commission in French - - - -	458
916. Complaint of illegal distraint - - - -	460
917. On the same subject - - - - -	462
918. On the same subject - - - - -	464
919. Intercession for a late master of the school -	464
920. Election of a Prioress of St. Sepulchre's -	467

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

xv

	Page
921. On the same subject - - - - -	469
922. Eastry and Monkton Churches restored to the Convent and the Archbishop recompensed - - - - -	470
923. On the same subject - - - - -	472
924. A petition to the King of France for the Wine of St. Thomas - - - - -	478
925. A monk of St. Denys asked to favour the petition -	479
926. Charter of Louis VIIth; the first grant of the Wine of St. Thomas - - - - -	480
927. Confirmation of the same by Philippe IInd - - - -	481
928. Free pass for the Wine given by the Count of Bou- logne - - - - -	483
929. <i>Quietus est</i> of the Master of Eastbridge Hospital -	483
930. A monk of Faversham migrates to Canterbury -	485
931. A chantry proposed for Sir John Beauchamp - - -	484
932. On the same subject - - - - -	486
933. On the same subject - - - - -	488
934. Contributions for the rebuilding of the nave of the Cathedral - - - - -	488
935. A letter to Cardinal Langham concerning Canterbury College - - - - -	490
936. A chantry founded in St. Sepulchre's Nunnery at Can- terbury - - - - -	493
937. The first Warden of Canterbury College migrates from Abingdon Abbey to Christ Church, Canterbury -	497
938. Amended statutes for the collegiate church of Rush- worth (Norwich diocese) - - - - -	498
939. Power of attorney for carrying out the decree in favour of the <i>regulars</i> at Canterbury College - - - - -	504
940. A pension granted to (the future) Archbishop Arundel	506
941. The King forbids payment of procurations to a Car- dinal Nuntius - - - - -	508
942. A rent charged upon Canterbury College in favour of St. Frideswyde's - - - - -	509
943. A letter to Cardinal Langham concerning Canterbury College and the Provincial Benedictine Chapter -	510

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church,
Canterbury: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church,
Canterbury: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

INTRODUCTION.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - Literae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church,
Canterbury: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

INTRODUCTION.

THE period covered by the letters in the present volume—roughly corresponding to the reign of Edward III.—was a brilliant one in the political history of the kingdom; remarkable for the heroic military achievements of the French and Scottish wars, and for the growth of the power of the Commons gained by the control acquired by Parliament over the granting of supplies to the Crown. But momentous as was the reign in the national history, the course of events within the monastery of Christ Church was but very slightly affected by the political and military events of the time.

The energetic Prior Eastry, whose contributions filled so large a space in the first volume of these letters, where he appeared as a statesman and an adviser of the Archbishop in critical circumstances, after fifty years of office, died in 1331, and to him succeeded Richard Oxenden.

This Prior sprang from one of the most influential families in East Kent, and he probably owed his promotion to his high social rank and family influence. He was received into the Benedictine Order in the year 1320, and therefore at the date of his preferment in 1331 he was not more than thirty years of age—an age at which a monk was ranked as a *junior of the lower choir*—and hence it may be supposed that other considerations than distinguished services or ripe experience favoured his advancement.

His incumbency was chiefly marked by the series of attempts which he was constantly making to filch from the Archbishop his privileges of inspecting and approving

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05240-5 - *Litterae Cantuarienses: The Letter Books of the Monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury*: Volume 2

Edited by J. Brigstocke Sheppard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xx

INTRODUCTION.

candidates for *profession* before they were received into the Order; and of appointing certain of the superior officers of the Convent. In the latter case ancient custom prescribed that when the office of Sub-Prior, Sacrist, Cellarer, Confessor, and some others—the holders of which were designated *Obedientiarii*—became vacant, the Chapter should send up to the Archbishop the names of three of its members qualified for the office by skill and experience, and from these three the Archbishop should select any one at his own free choice. Within a few days of his own election Prior Richard attempted to break through the ancient rule of procedure, by asking Archbishop Meopham to allow him to supersede the nominee of the latter and to substitute one of his own choosing, and from time to time, now encroaching on one side and now on another, he renewed his efforts to obtain these small pieces of patronage, and thus to diminish the Archbishop's power of interference in the domestic affairs of the monastery.

Vol. I.,
423.

He appears, from the prominent place which money matters occupy in the letters, to have had a keen eye for business, and he was apparently proud of his literary style and ornate composition. The rhetoric of which he was so vain on one occasion drew down upon him a sharp reproof from Archbishop Stratford, who wrote to him:

Displicent nobis multum ea quæ . . . non cum
“debita brevitare sed inutili verboritate nobis vestris
“litteris intimastis.” On this occasion a priest's nose had bled in the course of an affray in the churchyard, and the Prior in announcing this *pollution* of the consecrated area had told the Archbishop that: “the face of his Spouse, the Church, having been “besmirched, the Archbishop must consider himself “befouled.”

p. 155.

Prior
Hath-
brand.

Prior Oxenden ruled the monastery for seven years, and at his death he was followed by Robert Hathbrand, who also found sufficient safe occupation in the government of his House, without seeking a wider field for