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Pleas of the Crown at Bristol in 1287

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PLEAS OF THE CROWN AT BRISTOL, 15 EDWARD I.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE following pages contain a translation of that part of the Assize Roll for Gloucestershire at the Paschal Circuit of the year 15 Edward I., *i.e.* A.D. 1287, which concerns the Pleas of the Crown for the City of Bristol, as dealt with by the justices, Saham and Metingham. A separate roll in the case of Saham (No. 283), another part of the roll (No. 282) in the case of Metingham, contains the report of the trial of civil actions, pleas between man and man; but what is here printed is mainly the review by the King's justices of all cases, which had occurred since the last similar circuit of the justices, which appertained to what were called Pleas of the Crown. These would be cases of death whether by murder or by misadventure, cases of transgression against the assize of cloth and wine, withdrawals of suit and service to the hundred or royal manors, encroachment on the King's highway, and attempts to levy new duties or customs by local officials, &c. The records of the local courts of justice and of the coroners' courts had to be produced, and the officials of these courts had to justify their procedure therein. Then the English system of social life, fundamentally shown as a rule in the enrolment of every adult in some tything,¹ by which the folk of a neighbourhood were made answerable for the good conduct of their neighbours, was extended to their responsibility for all deaths by violence in their district,

¹ There were no tythings in Bristol. (*See* No. 3.)

unless they could prove innocence, and that they themselves had done their best to discover the murderer and arrest him. So also with regard to their duty to arrest robbers, if the theft took place in the daytime; again, had they fulfilled their duty in aiding the coroner at his inquest? Every failure or excess of duty was visited by a fine; and in the margin of the roll, by way of index, was in such cases entered *mîa*, i.e. *in misericordia*, i.e. in mercy, the technical phrase for a fine for breach of duty, the amount of which was at the will of the Crown through the justices, but which the Crown in its mercy did not exact to the extent of ruining the defaulter. The amount of the fine was settled in the presence of those who would know the circumstances of folk, and the list was entered at the end of the roll. Where special fines were entered in the roll of fines for special offences, I have entered the amount of such fine against the case involved. The various offences of the borough of Bristol through its officials were not separately assessed, but were all comprehended in one item of assessment: "From the whole borough of Bristol, as a fine for many transgressions, and for the transgression of the twelve jurors, except Henry Horncastel, 40 marcs," i.e. £26 13s. 4d.

Of course, these fines were a source of some profit to the Crown; and this minute examination of the work of local officials, and of mercantile transactions with the consequent fines, was felt to be oppressive, so that protests were made against it, and it became the accepted rule that there should be an interval of at least seven years between these Crown circuits of the Royal justices. There was a greater chance of small transgressions being passed over, and offenders might have had the luck to die. (*See* No. 44.) For some reason this circuit was the first in the reign of Edward I., so that at least fifteen years had elapsed since the previous one; and as a case of death (*see* No. 2) is considered which occurred as far back as 53 Henry III. (1269), there had apparently been no such review for eighteen years. From the Pipe Roll of 16 Edward I., it appears that the amount

of the amerciaments levied by Saham and Metingham in this circuit was for Gloucestershire £1281 3s. 8d., and for Bristol £115 3s. 3d., these amounts including the value of the chattels of felons.

Another frequent judgment is entered in the margin concerning felons who had fled, "*exig' et utlag'*," i.e. "*exigatur et utlagetur*," i.e. "let him be exacted, that is summoned five successive times in the County Court, and on non-appearance be outlawed." An outlaw had lost all civil rights, carried a wolf's head, as was said, and might be slain by anyone with impunity. A woman not being in any tything could not be outlawed; but she might be waived (see No. 75), and left derelict, "a waif whom no man could warrant and no prince protect." Of course, if a man was guilty, but managed to escape, his chattels were confiscated. Nor was an innocent man in a better plight, if through fear he had at first fled from justice. For though he might afterwards, on better thought, return, stand his trial, prove his innocence and be acquitted on the charge of felony, yet his chattels were equally confiscated because he had fled from justice at first. (See Nos. 18 and 53.)

Another frequent marginal entry of judgment is "*abjur'*," i.e. "*abjuravit regnum*;" that is, "has abjured the kingdom." It was open to any criminal to take sanctuary in some church, if he could reach it, and there in the presence of the coroner to own his felonious act, and abjure the kingdom. There is an instance in No. 29 of a fine upon the coroner for receiving the abjuration in a private house which had on right of sanctuary, and another instance in No. 26 of a fine upon the bailiffs of Bristol for usurping the office of coroner in receiving an abjuration. Originally, the felon could choose his own port of departure; but gradually the coroner assigned a port, Dover as a rule, and there are instances in this roll, Nos. 59 and 74, of the coroner being fined for allotting a wrong port to the criminal. The felon, bearing a wooden cross, with only a coat on, bareheaded and barefooted, had to go by the most direct way to the port of departure, or he

ran the risk of being beheaded as an outlaw. There is an instance of this in the roll of this circuit, under the head of Berkeley Hundred, membr. 23 d.

"The jurors present that John the Frankeleyn killed William de Lench in the Township of Erlingham,¹ and afterwards, at the suit of one Letitia Lench, was outlawed in the County Court; and afterwards returned to the country and placed himself in the Church of Cirencester and owned his crime before the coroner; and after he had abjured he went out of his way and again returned to his country, and was pursued by the township of Erlingham, and in his flight was beheaded. His chattels were worth 40/-, for which the Sheriff has to answer."

Occasionally, the ominous **S** appears,—that is, "*suspendetur*," or "let him be hung." But with the opportunity of escape by flight, or by abjuring the kingdom, there were relatively few executed in proportion to the cases for which death was the penalty. With regard to the review of the action of the local courts, there are two instances of fines, No. 66, a case where the court proceeded to hang without making a proper inquisition, and No. 68, where the court had a criminal hung without waiting for the arrival of a witness called for the defence.

In the review of the coroner's rolls the judgment and marginal entry is really, in all cases where the death was not imputed to violence, "*Infort*," i.e. "*Infortunium*," or "Misfortune." It is noteworthy that there is only one case during these eighteen years of suggested suicide, with the verdict of *felo-de-se*;² and that was shown afterwards to be a mistake, as suspicion attached to some person of having killed the deceased; No. 52. The point of difference between those days and our own time is the practice then and afterwards of forfeiture of the thing—whether living, as horse, &c., or without life, as boat, cart, &c.—which was the

¹ Arlingham.

² In the Crown Roll of the Assize for 5 Hen. III., i.e. 1221, there is only one case of suicide in the whole County of Gloucester.

unconscious instrument in causing death. This forfeiture was exacted in an irregularly assessed value of the thing forfeited; but this assessed value does not appear to have been at any time necessarily the real full value of the chattel. Thus in this roll, membr. 4, under the head of the Township of Winchcomb, is the case of a man killed by the falling upon him of the bell of the great bell-tower of the church, and the value of the bell for deodand was assessed at 12 pence. This forfeit thereupon, being paid as a fine to the Crown, was by the Crown, through the justices, given to some pious use. It was said to be given to God, and so was called a Deodand. There is an instance in this roll, No. 41, of a fine inflicted on a person who had appropriated a deodand without warrant. This system of deodands, as fines to the Crown, continued till the era of serious railway accidents, when it began to be felt that a fine of some part value of a railway engine and train was not an adequate mulct on a company through whose default, by their own insufficient precautions, or their servants' neglect, a bad accident had happened. Moreover, the sufferers or the relatives of those killed were without redress. In A.D. 1841 there was a disastrous accident near Twyford on the G.W.R. to a mixed train, by which eight persons lost their lives, and seventeen were severely injured. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death," and assessed a deodand of £1000, on the engine, tender and trucks, which was due to the lord of the manor under a grant from the Crown by James I. At last, in A.D. 1846, an Act of Parliament was passed which did away with the old system of deodand, gave the Crown a criminal action against a proved defaulter in duty, and provided for the sufferers and the dependent relatives of those killed a civil action for damages against the company.

The untrustworthiness of trial by combat is shown by No. 77, where on review the local court was fined for causing a witness to prove his truthfulness by combat; the only person who by law had thus to prove his truth being an

approver—that is, an informer. In this case there was a clear miscarriage of justice, a truthful witness being hung because he did not conquer both of the accused in the combat.

No. 46 is a case of money clipping. The felon was sentenced by the local court to be drawn asunder, and on review the officials were fined because they proceeded to have him hung.

No. 75 is a case of murder of a husband by a wife, with the judgment of death by burning.

There is an interesting entry at the beginning of the Gloucestershire Roll as to the presentation of Englishry. Membr. 2:—"The whole county records that no Englishry is presented in that county, nor was ever wont to be presented, but that it is altogether unknown what Englishry is, because they had never heard it spoken of. And because it has been found from the rolls of the preceding circuit, that is to say, the circuit of Richard de Midelton and his companions, justices itinerating in that county, that Englishry is presented in that county by two on the part of the father, and by one on the part of the mother, concerning felonies alone, and both concerning males and females, except the children being under seven years of age; and it has been found by the same rolls that Englishry was not wont to be presented in the hundreds and townships in the western part beyond the water of Severn, neither again in the hundred of Berkeley, nor in the borough of Berkeley, but in the eastern part in all hundreds, therefore the whole county is in mercy."

Midelton's Roil is not now in existence, but his death in A.D. 1272 would make a period of fifteen years since his circuit. It has been shown above, however, that it must have been at least eighteen years since he went on a circuit in the county. With regard to the claim itself, *Murdrum* was the fine inflicted, after the period of the Norman Conquest, upon the hundred or other separate liberty in which a murder had been committed, concerning which it could not be proved that the murdered person was an Englishman. The fine was not abolished till 14 Edw. III., 1340.

It does not appear from the roll itself what the object of this claim of the non-presentation of Englishry thus made was. If the non-existence of the presentation of Englishry had been equivalent necessarily to freedom from the murder fine, it would be easy to understand that the county wanted to establish a right by custom to such freedom. But practice varied much in the English counties. In his preface to the *Early Somersetshire Assize Roll*, which Mr. C. E. Chadwick Healy, Q.C., edited, he gave some specimens of these variations as recorded by the counties. Thus, Yorkshire: "No Englishry presented in this county, therefore no murder fine." Warwickshire: "Be it known that in this county Englishry is not presented, therefore there is no murder fine." Lincolnshire: "No Englishry is presented in this county; yea, the whole county says that if anyone is found slain it is murder."

In respect to Gloucestershire, in the *Pleas of the Crown for Gloucestershire in 5 Hen. III.*, 1221, edited by Mr. F. W. Maitland, it is said, with regard to a case of death by violence, f. 98: "The county records that beyond the course of the water of Severn, as long as the county of Gloucester endures, there is no murder reckoned; therefore there is nothing (no fine) in this case." And Mr. Chadwick Healy quotes from the same assize roll for Gloucestershire, under the head of Westbury Hundred: "In that hundred there is no murder fine, because it is beyond Severn;" and in the case of a death by violence, "No murder fine, because it is beyond Severn." It might have seemed therefore, apart from the detailed evidence of this roll, that the idea of the county was to claim the extension over the whole county of this relief from the murder fine which existed beyond the Severn; and that they hoped the eighteen years which had elapsed since the last circuit might avail to make this claim pass current without further enquiry. But the evidence of the cases recorded in this roll shows that the entry *Nulla Englisheria* did not carry with it the exemption of the hundred from the murder fine. On membr. 20, in the Hundred of Westbury,

occurs a case of violent death at Brydewode,¹ with the entry, "No Englishry; judgment, murder upon the hundred;" and on the same membrane is a case of violent death at Minsterworth, in the same phrase, "No Englishry; judgment, murder upon the hundred;" and on membr. 22, a similar entry about a violent death at Dymok, in Bottelaw Hundred. The Hundred of Berkeley is declared, as above, to be under the same rule of the non-existence of the presentation of Englishry; but entries in the roll, membr. 23 d. and 25 d., show there equally "No Englishry," followed by "judgment, murder," either upon the hundred, or upon the town as not participating with the hundred. In fact, there is no difference in the entries of judgment for violent death in these districts said to be under the special rule of no presentation of Englishry, and the entries in ordinary hundreds, such as Cirencester and Bradley. In all it is "No Englishry; judgment, murder upon the hundred." It does not appear, therefore, what the idea was in making this claim.

Of course a separate liberty might, by Royal grant, have the franchise of being quit of the murder fine, *quietus de murdro*. Thus in No. 70, "No Englishry," in the case of a death by violence on St. Michael's Hill, is followed by "judgment, murder upon the Borough of Bristol." Whereupon there was produced to the justices a Royal charter granting the borough quittance of the murder fine.

In transcribing the roll, I have numbered the cases for facility of reference.

ASSIZE ROLL No. 284, 15 EDWARD I.—GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
PASCH.

Membr. 35. Pleas of the Crown of the borough of Bristol, which appears by twelve men. (Their names, given on membr. 34 d., are—Gilbert Cissor de Banes, Robert de Monemue, John Bruselaunce, Adam de Siston, John Seynt

¹ Birdwood, in Churcham parish.

de, Stephen Turtle, Robert la Ware, William Dale, Everard Fraunceys, Ralph Romeneye, Henry Horncastel, John de Cardiff.)

These were mayors in the borough of Bristol since the last circuit; namely, Reginald de Panes, John Wyssey, Symon the Clerk, and John de Lydherd, who are dead; and after them, Thomas de Hameldene and Everard le Franceys, who survive,¹ and Richard de Mangodesfeld, who now is mayor and who answers.

These have been coroners since the last circuit; that is to say, Ergleys, John Tresour, William le Rus, who are dead; and Ralph le Tanur, Richard de Bercham, Roger le Taverner, and Gilbert le Spicer, who survive and who answer.

These have been constables since the last circuit: John de Muscegros and Bartholomew le Jofne, who are dead; and Hugh de Turbeville, and Peter de la Mare, who now is (constable) and who answers.

These have been bailiffs since the last circuit; that is to say, Sanekyn Reveward, Ralph Beauflur, William Beauflur, and Walter de Berham, who are dead; and Symon Adrian, Walter Fraunceys, Henry le Waleys, Richard le Draper, and Geoffrey Agodeshalve, who now are bailiffs and who answer.

1. The jurors present that Richard de Clerk fell from a bridge and was drowned. The first finder and the four who were nearest are all dead. Misfortune. Price of the bridge 1s. 6d., for which the sheriff has to answer; and because the twelve jurors made no mention in their verdict of the pledges of the first finder, therefore they are in mercy.

2. Richard Hyne fell off his horse into the Frome, and was drowned, in 53 Henry III.² The first finder, &c. Misfortune. Price of the horse 6s., for which the sheriff, &c.

¹ According to Ricart's *Calendar*, the names and dates were these:—

1271. Radulphus Paldene.

1278. Johannes Lydeyarde.

1272. Johannes Wissy.

1275. Thomas de Hamelesden.

1277. Symon de Bardeney.

1276. Gerardus le Fraunces.

3. Alan Bereman and Roger Byndedevel killed William de Mangodesfelde in 54 Henry III., and forthwith after the deed placed themselves in the Church of St. Peter, and owned to the deed, and abjured the kingdom, in the presence of the coroner. They had no chattels, nor were they in a tithing, because there are no tithings in that borough. And because the borough of Bristol did not arrest them, therefore it is in mercy.

4. John, the son of Robert Brid, was crushed by a certain wall. The first finder, &c. Misfortune. Price of wall 1s.

5. John le Tanur, in the Church of St. John de la Redeclyve,¹ owned himself a robber, and abjured, &c. His chattels were worth 6d., for which the borough of Bristol has to answer. And because the B. of B. did not arrest him, therefore it is in mercy.

6. Alice, the wife of Peter the Crossbowman, cut the throat of her son William and threw him into her cesspool, and abjured, &c., in the Church of St. Peter. She had no chattels.

7. William de Yvenok fell from a boat into the Frome, and was drowned. The first finder, &c. Misfortune. Price of the boat 2s. 6d. And because the twelve jurors concealed the said deodand in their verdict, therefore they are in mercy.

8. Walter le Cornmangere placed himself in the Church of St. Mary de la Redeclyve, 54 Hen. III., and owned himself a robber, and abjured, &c. No chattels. And because the borough of Bristol did not arrest him, therefore it is in mercy. And the wards of Holy Trinity,² of All Saints, of Redeclyve, of St. Owen's, and St. Mary did not come fully to the inquest before the coroner, therefore they are in mercy.³

¹ The Hospital of St. John the Baptist in Redcliff Pit, where the Friends' Burial Ground now is.

² The present Christ Church.

³ We see from this entry that though the Lords of Berkeley still had their prison in Redcliff Street (*see* No. 24), already by 1270 Redcliff was reckoned by the Crown to lie in the Borough of Bristol.

9. Richard de Credewell owned to robbery, and abjured, &c., in the Church of St. James. His chattels were worth 5s, for which the B. of B. answerable. And because the B. of B. did not, &c., therefore it is in mercy.

10. Adam Olyver killed Gilbert Pistare in the town of Bristol, and forthwith placed himself in the Church of St. James, and owned the fact and abjured, &c. His chattels 3s. 4d., for which the B. of B., &c. And because the ward of Holy Trinity did not arrest him, and the matter happened in the daytime, therefore the ward is in mercy.

11. Margery, the daughter of Alice Laceby, was crushed by something that fell from the roof (*de quodam stillicidio*) in Bristol. The first finder, &c., are dead. No one is suspected. Misfortune. The value of what fell 8d., for which B. of B., &c.

12. Nicholas de Weston killed Aaron the Jew and straightway fled. Let him be exacted (*i.e.* summoned in the County Court) and outlawed. No chattels. And because the B. of B. did not arrest him, and the thing happened in the daytime, therefore the B. of B. is in mercy.

13. Simon Pipereman killed Nicholas le Hunte and straightway fled. Let him be summoned and outlawed. No chattels. And because the ward of Holy Trinity did not answer fully at the inquest before the coroner, therefore it is in mercy.

14. Margery, the daughter of Adam le Comare, fell into a caldron full of boiling water, and was scalded to death. The first finder, &c., dead. No one is suspected about it. Misfortune. Price of the caldron 6s. 9d., for which B. of B., &c.

15. John de Calne fell off his horse into the Frome and was drowned. Misfortune. Price of the horse 6s. 8d., for which B. of B., &c.

16. John the Fatte thrust William Wellop into a caldron of boiling water, so that he was scalded and died at once. John the Fatte fled and is suspected. Let him be summoned and outlawed. Price of the caldron 2s., for which B. of

B., &c. And because the ward of Holy Trinity did not, &c., therefore it is in mercy.

Membr. 35 dors.—

17. Philip le Kemeys killed John Gourde, and was at once caught and hung for that deed. Chattels 10s., for which B. of B., &c. And because the ward of All Saints put a false value upon these chattels before the coroner, therefore it is in mercy.

18. Juliana de Anford appealed Robert de Newent, chaplain, concerning the death of her son John. And Robert now comes and says that he is a clerk and ought not to make answer to the charge here. And upon this comes the Dean of Christianity of Bristol, and by letters patent of the Bishop of Worcester claims him as a clerk. But that it may be known what kind of a man is thus delivered up let the truth of the matter be enquired into by the twelve jurors of the B. of B., and the jurors say upon their oath that the said Robert is not guilty of the said death. Therefore he himself is quit of that. And let the said Juliana be committed to gaol for false appeal. And the jurors testify that when the said John was dead the said Juliana raised a hue against Robert, and the said Robert in fear fled to the Church of the Holy Trinity and kept himself there for two months, and afterwards gave himself up to the peace. Therefore let his chattels be confiscated for his flight. They are worth 13s. 4d., for which B. of B., &c.

19. Thomas Brun and William Paternoster killed Robert le Cu (Keu) and fled. Let them be summoned and outlawed. W. P.'s chattels 4s. 4d., for which B. of B., &c. T. B. had no chattels. But because the ward of All Saints did not arrest them and this, &c., it is in mercy.

20. John le Lokere and Walter le Cotiler killed John Macy by night in B. of B., and fled. Let them be summoned and outlawed. W.C.'s chattels 5s., for which B. of B., &c. J. the L. had no chattels.

21. John Bonsergiant, arrested on suspicion of robbery, was taken and imprisoned by the bailiff of John de

Muscegro, at that time farmer of the borough, in the borough prison. J. B. broke prison and fled. Let him be summoned and outlawed. The executors of John de Muscegro have to answer for this escape, and are fined £5 os. od. One John de Tolsede was attached for having aided and abetted this escape, and was attached by Richard Heued, John Beel, Elias of Pokelchurche, John the Clerk of the Market, John Dode, and Simon the Smith, and John Waryn. John de Tolsede does not appear, nor is he suspected; therefore they are in mercy.

22. Simon Guager and Stephen Cuclake were imprisoned in the borough prison, and escaped, and then in St. James' Church owned this prison-breaking, and that they were robbers, and abjured, &c. B. of B. in mercy for this escape. Fined £10 os. od.

23. Sampson, the son of Agnes de Haleweye, fell from a boat into the Frome and was drowned. The first finder, &c., not suspected. Misfortune. Deodand 3s. 6d., for which B. of B., &c.

24. Roger Bat and Nicholas Bagge killed William Lof of Taunton and fled. They are believed to be guilty. Let them be summoned and outlawed. No chattels. And because the ward of St. Owen did not arrest them, therefore it is in mercy.

24. William Dikere was imprisoned on suspicion of robbery by the bailiffs of Thomas de Berkeley, in his prison in Redeclyve Street, and escaped. He is believed guilty. Let him be summoned and outlawed. No chattels. And because of this escape, Th. de Berkeley is in mercy. Fined £5 os. od.

25. John Godchild, Seward of Clifton, and Nicholas de Ras were in a boat on the Frome. Seward and Nicholas threw John into the water and he was drowned. They fled, and are believed to be guilty. Let them be summoned and outlawed. No chattels. And because the ward of St. Owen did not arrest them, and this happened by day, therefore it is in mercy.

26. William Whiteheved, Peter de Tomasse, and Margaret Maniword were imprisoned in Bristol prison, and broke prison and killed Walter de la Haye the gaoler. Peter and Margaret fled to St. Peter's Church, and owned and abjured, &c. No chattels. William was at once taken and hung. No chattels. B. of B. in mercy for the escape, and fined £10 os. od. The jurors testify that John Dollyng and Agnes his wife were also in prison on suspicion of robbery; they also escaped, and were consenting to Walter's death. Being brought before Bartholomew le Jofne, then constable, since dead, John de Lydechert, then mayor, since dead, and the bailiffs, by that Court John was hung, and Agnes in full court abjured, &c. And because the said bailiffs assumed the office of coroner and made the said Agnes, a burglar, thus abjure, therefore judgment passes upon the whole borough and the bailiffs. John's chattels 20s., for which B. of B., &c.

27. Robert de Combe Martyn fell from a boat into the Frome and was drowned. The first finder, &c. Misfortune. Deodand 4s., for which B. of B., &c.

28. William Beauchamp fled to the Church of the Brethren of Mount Carmel,¹ and owned himself a robber, and abjured, &c. No chattels. And because this happened by day, &c., therefore B. of B. in mercy.

Membr. 36—

29. The jurors present that Robert, a servant of Robert Fromund, was pursued by a man of Mynedep in the county of Somerset, and for fear placed himself in the house of William Litegrom of Bristol, which is of the tenure of the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England. And he kept himself in that house until Richard de Berkham, the coroner, came there and caused to be summoned before him the five wards of that borough. And the said Robert owned that he had killed a man on Mynedep, and that he was a robber, and he abjured, &c. No chattels. And because the said coroner caused the said felon to abjure in the said place where was

¹ The House of the White Friars, where Colston Hall now is.

no sanctuary, and this was plainly against the crown of the King, therefore judgement passes upon the coroner (fined £1 os. od.) and the whole borough.

30. William Page fell from a boat into the Avon and was drowned. The first finder, &c., Misfortune. Deodand 6s. 8d., for which B. of B., &c.

31. Robert Berman killed Robert, the son of Mariota the water-carrier, and fled. He is believed to be guilty. Let him be summoned and outlawed. And because Roger the Taverner, the coroner, did not attach the next neighbours, therefore he is in mercy. Fined £2 os. od.

32. Lyo de Stamford, a Jew, Ryke his wife, and Covesleye his son, Abraham Levy, and Mossy, son of Leo le Mire, killed Juliana, daughter of William Roscelyn, in the town of Bristol. Lyo and Ryke fled, and are believed to be guilty. Let them be summoned and outlawed. Chattels 33s. 6d., for which Hereward le Boteler and Roger le Rus have to answer. Abraham and the others were taken and hung for that deed. Chattels 40s., for which as above. It was afterwards found by the coroner's jury that Agnes, wife of Reginald Wake, had appealed these men in the Bristol Court for the death of the said Juliana her sister, but had not prosecuted her suit beyond one court only. Therefore let her be arrested, and let her pledges for prosecution, to wit John, the son of Nicholas Iggelbert le Ireys, Master Ralph le Myre, and Richard le Ku, are in mercy.

33. The said Agnes had also appealed in the same court Robert de Stafford, cutler, for aiding and abetting the same murder. Robert did not appear, and is believed to be guilty; therefore let him be summoned and outlawed. No chattels. And because the said Agnes did not &c., (as before), therefore her pledges, Thomas de Lyuns and William Dunning, are in mercy. Afterwards Reginald le Rous, who with the heir of Adam le Botiller had to answer for these Jews' chattels, came and said that they were unjustly charged with them, as by the King's command they had, together with the sheriff, who was dead, arrested all the Jews in

Bristol, and seized their goods, and delivered them to John le Fauconner and William Braybrok appointed to receive such goods of the Jews, among them being the chattels of these murderers. The jurors say that this is so; therefore they are quit.

34. Robert de Ferleye, a robber, had abjured in the Church of St. Werburge. Chattels 6d., for which B. of B., &c.

35. Robert de Sebentone, a robber, had abjured in the Church of St. Augustine the Less. Chattels 6d., for which B. of B., &c.

36. Ralph Osmund fell from a boat into the Frome and was drowned. The first finder, &c. Misfortune. Deodand 1s. 4d., for which B. of B., &c.

37. John the son of Reginald the Woolbeater, a robber, had abjured in the Church of St. Mary Redeclyve. No chattels.

38. Peter Cof de Senyse, a companion of the great military order (*magne milicie*) of the Temple in England, killed Robert de la Pole. Peter fled. Let him be summoned and outlawed. Chattels 1 marc; the master of the Temple to answer for them.

39. Richard Bolre of Wynchelse killed David of Kermardyn. Richard fled. Let him be summoned and outlawed. No chattels. And because the B. of B. did not arrest him, and this happened by day, therefore B. of B. in mercy.

40. Matthew de Barton, a robber, had abjured in the Church of All Saints. No chattels.

41. Hugh le Ennyse, wishing to oil his mill, was crushed between the wheel and axle, so that he died at once. The first finder appears. The four neighbours are dead. No one is suspected. Misfortune. The value of the wheel and axle and the running mill 6s. 8d., for which B. of B., &c. And because the master of St. Marc of Bristol¹ took the

¹ St. Mark's Hospital in College Green.

said deodand without warrant, therefore he is in mercy. Fined £1.

42. John Stok fell from a boat into the Avon, and was drowned. The first finder, &c. Misfortune. Deodand, 2s. 7d. And because Walter de Warewyche had taken the said deodand without warrant, therefore he is in mercy.

43. William de Lacy, who was imprisoned in Bristol Castle in the time of Peter de la Mare, the constable, had escaped, and while fleeing to the Church of St. Philip and St. Jacob had been caught and beheaded. Therefore judgment passes on the said Peter for the escape. But Peter produced a Royal pardon. Therefore he is quit.

Membr. 36 d.—

44. Robert, the Mower of the Prior of St. James, Bristol, killed Robert de Leye in the town of Bristol, and straightway fled, and is believed to be guilty. Let him be summoned and outlawed. Chattels 1s. 6d., for which B. of B., &c. Robert belonged to the household of the Prior, who has him not now to stand the justice of the court. Therefore the Prior is in mercy. Afterwards evidence was given that the said Prior is dead. Therefore nothing here about him being in mercy.

45. The B. of B. is answerable for the chattels of Robert le Boltere, Roger le Ireys, and Sely le Berman, robbers, who have been hung. Chattels 4s.

46. William de Boys of Netlynton¹ was arrested for clipping money to the value of 5d., and was put in prison for that deed in the time of Peter de la Mare, constable of Bristol Castle, and afterwards before the said Peter and the bailiffs of Bristol denied the said felony, and for good or evil put himself upon the jurors of the said town. And the jurors said upon their oath that he was guilty. Wherefore it was considered by the said court that the said William should be drawn asunder (*detraheretur*). No chattels. And because the said constable and bailiffs proceeded to have

¹ Nettleton in North Wilts.

him hung, therefore judgment passes upon the said Peter and the whole borough. Afterwards Peter comes and produces a writ of our lord the King, dated June 5th, 1285, bidding the justices on circuit not to trouble Peter about this matter, as the King had pardoned him this his trespass.

47. Robert Selyman killed John le Hare of Scotland, and fled. He is believed guilty. Let him be summoned and outlawed. Chattels £4 os. od., for which B. of B., &c. And because the B. of B., &c., therefore it is in mercy.

48. Richard Wombestrong accused Robert Brid the elder, Randolf his son, and Thomas the Cornishman, of assault. They put themselves upon the jurors of Bristol, who upon their oath declare that these men are not guilty of any assault. Therefore they are quit. Richard is sent to prison for false appeal, but afterwards he is pardoned.

49. The same borough has to answer for the chattels, 10s., of John le Ford, a robber, who was hung; and the chattels, 3s. 6d., of John le Waters, a robber, who was hung.

50. Maurice de Ingelby placed himself in the Church of St. John de Bradeforde¹ in Bristol, and owned himself a robber, and abjured, &c. Chattels 6d. So did Humfry le Joglur in the Church of St. Peter. Chattels 6d. For both these B. of B., &c. So did David of Ireland in the Church of St. Mary. No chattels.

51. Walter Blakers killed Henry Leverych and fled. He is believed guilty. Let him be summoned and outlawed. The jurors declare that Edith Stoker, a harlot, held Henry while Walter killed him. She had abjured in the Church of St. James. No chattels.

52. Eva la Fornere wilfully threw herself into the water of Avene and was drowned. The first finder and the four neighbours came. No one suspected. Judgment, *Felo-de-se*. Chattels 6d., for which B. of B., &c. Afterwards it was testified by the jurors that one John le Grant had fled on

¹ There is nothing known about this Church, said to be in Bristol.

account of that death, and is believed guilty. Let him be summoned and outlawed. No chattels.

53. Saphyret, the wife of Mossy of Kent, appealed in the Court of Bristol Mabilia la Noyare for the death of her daughter Basse, and Saphyret now does not appear nor prosecute her appeal. Therefore let her be arrested, and her pledges to prosecute—viz., Hake le Evesque and Samuel, son of Samuel le Myre—are in mercy. And it is testified by the jurors that the said Mabilia had withdrawn herself because of the death of the said Basse, but she is not believed to be guilty of the murder. Therefore let her return if she will; but let her goods and chattels be confiscated, because of her flight. 7s. 4d., for which B. of B., &c.

54. Walter the baker of Gloucester, imprisoned on suspicion of robbery, escaped from prison, and owned and abjured in the Church of St. James. Judgment passes upon the B. of B. for this escape. Fined £5 os. od.

55. Simon Hok of Bristol killed Hugh Belchere and fled. He is believed guilty. Let him be summoned and outlawed. Chattels 1s., for which B. of B., &c.

56. Robert le Ware fell into a caldron of boiling water and died. The first finder, &c. Misfortune. Deodand 8s. 2d., for which B. and B., &c.

57. Adam de Howille of Crokerne's Pulle killed Philip Archer of Kerry, in Ireland, and fled. Let him be summoned and outlawed. No chattels.

58. John de Southwyk, a robber, abjured, &c., in the Church of St. John de Redeclyve. And because the B. of B. did not, &c., therefore it is in mercy.

Membr. 37—

59. William Flambord in the Church of St. Thomas owned himself a thief and abjured, &c. Chattels 6d., for which B. of B., &c. And because the coroner, Richard de Bergham, gave him the port of Lyme, therefore judgment passes upon Richard.

60. Richard Frankeleyn of Belmynton owned himself a robber, and abjured, &c., in the Church of the Brethren of

the Sack (*fratres sacci*)¹ in the town of Bristol. No chattels. So did Richard Gendlac in the Church of St. James. Chattels 6d., for which B. of B., &c. So did Philip le Noble in the Church of St. Martin.² No chattels. So did William the Carpenter in the Church of St. Augustine the Less. No chattels.

61. Geoffrey le Hore in the daytime killed Richard Cake, and fled. Let him be summoned and outlawed. No chattels. And because the B. of B. did not, &c.

62. Milo de Webley and Matilda de Donhurst were arrested at the suit of John South, the valet of Dame Margery Mayn, in possession of a bench that had been stolen, and other goods to the value 10 marcs; and at the suit of the said John they owned the robbery. Wherefore it was considered by the said Court (of Bristol) that the said Milo should be hung, and that the said Matilda should abjure the kingdom as being a woman. Their chattels 8s. 8d., for which B. of B., &c. And because this was done contrary to the laws and customs of the kingdom, therefore judgment passes upon the bailiffs and the whole borough.

63. Walter the Carpenter for robbery abjured, &c., in the Church of St. Augustine the Greater. No chattels. And because the B. of B. did not, &c., therefore it is in mercy.

¹ Tanner, *Notitia*, preface, page xiv., tells us that Friars of the Sac appeared in England in A.D. 1257. Their right style was Friars of the Penance of Jesus Christ: They were more commonly called Friars of the Sac from their habits being either shaped like a sack or made of that coarse material called sackcloth. They seem to have had their first house near Aldersgate, London. But their order was very short-lived here, being put down by the Council of Lyons A.D. 1307. At page v. he tells us that in the reign of Hen. III. there were founded six houses of Friars de Sacco. And elsewhere he says that altogether they had eight houses. Where the house was in Bristol there is no knowledge. Dugdale gives a short account of them vi., 1605-1608; he mentions houses as existing in England at London, Cambridge, Leicester, Lincoln, Lynn, Newcastle, Norwich, Oxford, and Worcester, but nothing is said about any house in Bristol.

² The chapel in the outer ward of the Castle was, like Battle Abbey, dedicated to St. Martin. Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, who founded the castle, had shriven the Normans the night before the battle of Senlac, and had fought in the battle.

64. The B. of B. has to answer for chattels, worth 6s. 8d., of William Pende of Godseth, a robber.

65. Ralph the Cook of London in the Church of St. Mary owned to robbery, and abjured, &c. So did William Hale of Dodyngton, and Isabella his wife, in the Church of the Friars Preachers; and Richard of Malmesbury in the Church of St. Philip and Jacob. Their chattels 3s. 11d., for which B. of B., &c.

66. Richard the Hayward of Norton Malreward was arrested with a stolen piece of blue cloth, at the suit of Ralph Bammeswet, and was brought before the court of Thomas de Berkeley at Radeclive; and being charged by the said bailiff with robbery of the said cloth, both denied the fact, and called to warranty Margaret, the wife of Ralph atte Slype, who was present in the court, and entirely denied having sold and delivered the said cloth. Wherefore the suitors of the said court, for defect of his warranty, proceeded to have him hung without any inquisition. And because the suitors of the said court delivered their judgment against the law and custom of the kingdom, therefore judgment passes upon the suitors of the said court. Afterwards the said suitors paid a fine of £2 os. od. for false judgment by the pledges of Robert de la Stone and Nicholas of Aperle.

67. Adam Best fell from a boat into the Avon and was drowned. The first finder, &c. No one suspected. Misfortune. Deodand 2s. 3d. B. of B.

68. Margaret, the wife of Rykon of Yate, was arrested in the town of Bristol with a stolen ox at the suit of Thomas Gurney, and was brought into the full court, and there called one Walter de Smetheleye her husband to warranty about the said ox. And the said bailiffs would not wait for her warranty, but had her hung. Therefore judgment passes upon the said bailiffs and the whole court. No chattels.

69. William the Parchment-maker was crushed between the wheel and shaft of a water-mill at Tremleye. First

finder, &c. No suspicion. Misfortune. Deodand 4s., for which B. of B., &c.

70. A stranger was found slain upon St. Michael's Hill. No one knows who killed him. The first finder comes and is not suspected, therefore he is quit. No Englishry. Judgment, murder upon the borough of Bristol. Thereupon came the burgesses of Bristol and produced a charter of the present King,¹ which testifies that they are quit of murder. Therefore nothing here of that.

71. The B. of B. has to answer for the chattels, worth 6d., of John Roddyng, who was hung.

72. Richard Fox of Sydemure killed William of Ameneye and fled. He is believed guilty. Let him be summoned and outlawed. No chattels. And because the B. of B. did not, &c.

73. Robert Gurnard, barber, in the Church of St. Thomas owned to robbery, and abjured, &c. Chattels 1s. 6d., for which B. of B., &c.

74. William Barbe killed Luke Wall in the town of Bristol; and the said William forthwith placed himself in the Church of St. Mary de la Redeclyve, acknowledged the crime and abjured the kingdom before the coroner. No chattels. And because Gilbert le Especar, the coroner, allowed him the port of Portesmue, therefore judgment passes upon him; and because Redeclyve Street did not arrest the said William, and the crime was committed by daylight, therefore it is in mercy.

Membr. 37 d.—

75. Robert of Bristilton was found slain in his house in Bristol, in the fourteenth year of the present King; and it is testified by the jurors that Alice de Blakeford, wife of the said Robert, and Joan de Bannebyre killed the said Robert, and immediately after the deed fled away. The said Alice was afterwards caught and brought back. She now comes, and being asked how she would acquit herself of the said

¹ Previous charters of Hen. III. and John had contained the same franchise.

death, says that for good or evil she puts herself on the twelve jurors of the Borough of Bristol. And the jurors say upon their oath that she is guilty of the said death. Therefore it was considered that she should be burnt. Her chattels are worth 13s. 8d., of which the same borough will answer for 4s. 8d. and Master Nicholas de Salford for 9s. And the said Joan de Bannebyre immediately fled and is believed guilty. Let her be summoned and wayved. No chattels. And it was testified by the jurors that Adam Colle, Margery Baker, and Felicia de Lacy were, on another occasion, impleaded for the said death. Now they come, and being asked how they would acquit themselves of that death, they say that elsewhere before Richard de Ripariis and his fellow-justices for gaol delivery they had been acquitted and let go. And since, on searching the rolls of R. de R., &c., this was found to be so, they were quit of the charge. And because the said Master Nicholas of Salford took the said chattels without warrant, therefore he is in mercy.

76. Elena, who was the wife of Adam Togod, appealed in the Bristol Court Richard de Bercham for the death of the said Adam her husband. She now comes and withdraws her appeal. Therefore let her be committed to gaol, and her pledges for prosecution—viz., David the Carpenter and William de la Marine—are in mercy. But for the keeping of the peace of our lord the King, let the truth of the matter be enquired of through the jurors of the B. of B., who say upon their oath that Richard is not guilty. Therefore he is quit.

77. Peter le Grey and John le Melemuth were arrested by the bailiffs of the B. of B. on suspicion of the theft of three measures of salt, worth 2s., which they had stolen. Being brought into court before the said bailiffs, and being asked how they would acquit themselves of the said robbery, they said that they had come into possession of the said salt well and faithfully, and they called to warranty about it one Richard Tykys, who was present in court, and declared that

he had nothing to do with the said salt, and denied handing over and delivering the said salt, and said that he never knew anything about the said salt; and this he offered to defend against them by his body as the court might consider. And the said Peter and John offered to prove their truth against him by their bodies. Wherefore it was considered by the same men, and by the counsel of the same court pledges of battle were given between them; and battle was waged so that the said Richard conquered the said Peter, wherefore the said Peter was hung. No chattels. And the said Richard and the said John fought in their turn the next day, and Richard proved recreant and was hung. His chattels were worth 6d., for which B. of B., &c. And the said John was taken back to prison until he should find pledges for his faithfulness. This he refused to do, but owned the said robbery, and was therefore hung. No chattels. And because the said court considered that the said Richard, who had been called to warranty by the said John and Peter, ought to defend himself by his body, which is contrary to the law and counsel of the kingdom, therefore judgment passes upon the said court and bailiffs.

78. Robert the Carpenter was crushed by a log of wood, so that he died at once. The first finder, &c. Misfortune. And one Silvester the Carpenter was attached because being present he did not come, and he is not suspected. And he was attached by John, the cook of the Abbot of St. Augustine, and Jordan¹ of the malthouse; therefore they are in mercy.

79. Margaret the Fatte fell into a caldron of wort, and was so scalded that she died. The first finder, &c. No one suspected. Misfortune. Deodand 5s. 4d., for which B. of B., &c.

80. John, the son of Richard Eversone, in the Church of St. Leonard owned a robbery, and abjured, &c. Chattels 4s., for which B. of B., &c.

¹ The name of Jordan in connection with the Abbey is noteworthy on account of the existence of St. Jordan's Chapel in College Green, the tradition being that he was a companion of St. Augustine.

81. John of Bruges appealed Henry de Fynet, a seller of woad, for that he, on St. Gregory's day, in the fifteenth year of the present King,¹ had after curfew come to the house of the said John wickedly and feloniously, and had burgled it, and had abducted Clarice the wife of the said John, and took away his goods to the value of 40s. And that the said John² did this wickedly and feloniously he offers, &c. And the said John³ comes and defends all the felony, and demands judgment on his appeal, because the said John does not in his appeal say anything about the circumstances of the place, nor of what kind were the chattels taken away. And this being allowed him, it was considered that as to that appeal he may go free, and that the said John should be committed to gaol. However, for the keeping of the King's peace, let the truth of the matter be enquired of through the jurors of the B. of B. And the said jurors say upon their oath that the said Henry is not guilty; therefore he is quit concerning it. And the said Henry de Fynet claims, since he is acquitted by his country, that his damages should be taxed according to the form of the last issued statute of their present lord the King at Westminster, and that the said John should be kept in custody till he makes satisfaction, &c.

82. Concerning serjeanties, they say that Richard the Taylur holds a serjeanty called La Maryne in the town of Bristol, by the will of the present King, and that the serjeanty is worth £4 os. od. a year.

83. Concerning encroachments, they also say that Edward le Fraunceis⁴ has narrowed the King's highway near the Tower Arras⁵ by a certain dyke, newly raised, 46 feet long and 6 feet wide; and Geoffrey de Lung has narrowed a certain common pathway which is called Pile Lane⁶ by two dykes; and brother Stephen,⁷ the Master of the Hospital of St. John,⁸ has

¹ March 12, 1287.

² A mistake for Henry.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Fined 6/8.

⁵ At the end of the city wall on Temple Back.

⁶ Pile Street.

⁷ Fined £1.

⁸ In Redcliff Pit.

made a certain encroachment by newly erecting a certain gate where there ought to be a common passage; and John de Portesheved¹ has made an encroachment by a wall raised on Avene Marsh six perches in length and six perches in breadth; and William, the Vicar of St. Augustine the Less,² has made an encroachment on the King's highway by a certain wall raised 20 feet in length and 14 feet in breadth; and Simon the Clarke, who is dead, has made an encroachment on the water of Avene by a plantation of trees 200 feet in length and 10 feet in breadth; and Richard Bell³ has made an encroachment on the king's highway by a certain house raised up 10 feet in length and 5 feet in breadth, to the injury of the whole borough. Therefore the Sheriff is ordered to cause to be thrown down and amended, at the cost of the raisers, anything which by the jurors at their view should be found to be injurious, and Edward and the others are in mercy. Afterwards comes the said William the Vicar, and seeks that his wall may stand, as it is not injurious, and the jurors testify so. Therefore it is granted by the justices that the said wall may stand, and it is rented at sixpence to the ferm of the B. of B., &c.

Membr. 38—

84. Concerning cloth sold against the assize, they say that Thomas de Weston, Ralph Wyneman, William de Glastyngbyre, Richard le Draper,³ Henry de Berewyke, Henry de Sytheston,³ Gilbert le Plumer, John Bryselance, Ralph le Prude, William de Hampton, John le Clyvare, John le Ley, Hugh de Uphill, John de Seynde, William Tyard, William de Powell, John de Kerdif,³ John le Clerk, Jordan le Lung, John Tropyng, Thomas le Wolbetere, Adam de Brinton, Robert le Bret, Roger le Taverner, Walter Pype, and William de Farleye have sold cloth against the assize. Therefore they are in mercy. They are fined various sums from 5s. to 2 marcs.

¹ Fined 6/8.

² Fined 13/4.

³ Fined 6/8.

The names of these men have the pen run through them in the roll of fines, and no fine is assessed on them.

85. Concerning wines sold against the assize, &c., they say that

John Koke has sold	40 casks of wine.	Fined 2 marcs.
Peter Otry	50	" " 40s.
Robert le Taverner	10	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ marc.
John le Clerke	20	" " 1 marc.
Henry de Berewyke	6	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ marc.
Richard le Draper	20	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ marc.
Richard le Roper	25	" " 20s.
Everard le Fraunceis	15	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ marc.
William de Eston	9	" " 10s.
Hugh le Hunte	6	" " 5s.
Richard Osmund	23	" " 1 marc.
Henry de Sytheston	33	" "
John le Cheddre	6	" " 5s.
John Martyn	9	" " 5s.
John Tovey	10	" " 10s.
John Brun	22	" " 1 marc.
Matthew le Pakkere	46	" " 2 marcs.
Geoffrey Godeshalve	45	" " 1 marc.
William de Bruges	25	" " 1 marc.
Richard de Calne	6	" " 5s.
Peter le Fraunceis	33	" " 40s.
William Dale	3	" "
Robert de Kilmaynam	15	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ marc.
Ralph Dunnyng	11	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ marc.
Nicholas Gange	13	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ marc.
Ralph Wyneman	18	" " 1 marc.
Simon Adrian	62	" " 40s.
Walter Beauflur	7	" " 10s.
Roger de Leycestre	12	" "
Stephen Turtle	5	" " 40d.
Richard le Fraunceis	21	" " 1 marc.
William le Welric	3	" "
John le Forester	11	" "

Therefore they are in mercy.¹

¹ The names of those against whom no fines are written have the pen run through their names on the roll of fines.

86. Concerning new customs levied, they say that John Champayne, gatekeeper of Bristol Castle, takes by extortion undue tolls; viz., from every foreign cart going out of Lafforde's Gate 1d., and from every home cart $\frac{1}{2}$ d., where there used not to be taken any money. And the said John cannot deny this. Therefore he is in mercy; and it is forbidden him, under the forfeiture of 40s., hereafter to make any such extortions. (No fine assessed.)

87. Concerning withdrawals of service, they say that Geoffrey, Bishop of Worcester, owes suit to the King's Hundred of Bristol; that he has not appeared, and is now six years in arrear, they know not by what warranty. The Bishop says by his attorney that his bailiff of Henbury does suit for him. The jury say that the Bishop is bound to appear personally. They tax the six years in arrear at 6s. The Sheriff is ordered to distrain the Bishop to appear in future, and the bailiffs of B. of B. are to answer for the 6s. of arrears; and the Bishop is in mercy for unjust withholding of service.¹

88. John de Aston has withheld service in the hundred for seven years; so has John Giffard for six years, and also Fulco Fitzwarin for six years. The Abbot of Kyngeswode has withheld service due in the market of Bristol for twenty-two years, and the Prior of Farley has withheld service in the hundred for fifteen years. They are all in mercy, and fined at the rate of 1s. a year. The Sheriff is ordered to distrain to compel service in future, and the B. of B. to answer for the arrears.

89. Also they say that John of Leygrave holds a tenement of the King for 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., but has not for some years made the proper payment, only 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., they know not by what warrant. The Sheriff is ordered to make him appear. John appears, and produces his warrant. So he is quit.

¹ In the roll of fines, the Bishop's name is entered, but no fine is assessed, a marginal note of "Baro" explaining the reason. He was a Peer of the realm. There is the same note against the names of J. Giffard and F. Fitzwarin.

GAOL DELIVERY OF THE TOWN OF BRISTOL.

90. Peter le Sley arrested for the death of Geoffrey, the son of William le Hore, and Joan Beumund arrested for stealing 40s. from the purse of Nicholas le Kuttede, come and defend, &c., and for good or evil place themselves on the jurors of the B. of B., who say upon their oaths that they are guilty. Therefore let them be hung. The chattels of the said Peter are worth 1s. 4d., for which the township of Stapleton is answerable. Joan had no chattels.

91. Walter Mydewinter, Henry the son of John de Bath, John le Coverturwrythe, Roger Mansel, Cristina the wife of Richard le Cornwaleis, Mabel the servant of Henry de Sitheston, Emma de Wytehulle, Juliana de la Foreste, Alice Cosyn, Nicholas Truant, Elena his wife, Philip de Wynton, Emma his wife, Leuina de Baa, John Cobbler, John de London, Matilda le Holte, Sarra de Portesheved, John the son of Martin le Pescur, and Richard Maryot, were arrested on suspicion of robbery and other misdeeds. They come and defend all, &c., and for good or evil place themselves on the jurors of the B. of B., who say on their oath that they are not guilty. Therefore they are quit of this.

92. These remain coroners in the B. of B., namely, Simon Adrian, John le Clerke, and John de Dene; and the others, who formerly were coroners, were removed.

Dors.

93. Reginald de Horsefeld, chaplain, and William le Clerke, dwelling in the Priory of St. James, were arrested for the murder of the master of the Hospital of St. Bartholomew. They pleaded their clergy, and the Dean of Christianity in Bristol claimed them on behalf of the Bishop of Worcester as Clerks. The truth of the matter being enquired into, the jury of the B. of B. declared that they were guilty. They were handed over to the Bishop of Worcester. Their chattels were worth 3s. 10d.