

Westminster Abbey Muniments 1833: (cf WAM 1834)

Description

Royal writ to (John Assburnham) Sheriff of Surrey to bind over William Pottere of Estcheyham, John Gerard, William Beste, Robert Beste, Henry Heggere, John Prat, John Rolf, Walter Kent, John Standard, Nicholas White, Richard Magot and Henry Joynour of Estcheyham to answer John Carpenter and Alan Berynger why they seized their cattle and unlawfully detained them.

Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Dat. at Westminster 30 October 20 Richard II (AD 1396)

No seal

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. Put in bail and safe pledge William Potter of East Cheam, John Gerard, William Beste, Robert Beste, Henry Hegger, John Prat, John Rolf, Walter Kent, John Standard, Nicholas White, Richard Magot and Henry Joynour of East Cheam, that they be before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Hilary to answer John Carpenter and Alan Berynger on the charge whereby they seized the animals of the same John Carpenter and Alan, and unjustly detained them, against bail and pledge,* as is said, and to show why they were not before our justices at Westminster within one month from the day of Saint Michael as they were summoned. And have there the names of the pledges and this writ. Witness William Thirnyng at Westminster, 30 October, in the twentieth year of our reign.

NOTES:

* ie against the terms of bail

William Potter is presumably an error for Walter Potter, the name that appears in all the other records.

WAM 1834 also refers to this case. Some of the defendants are also the subject of the case referred to in WAM 1831, 1832, 1837, 1838 and 1839. It is not clear whether both cases deal with the same event. Walter Potter, Walter Beste, Robert Beste, John Hegger, Nicholas White, Walter Kent, John Rolfe and another John whose surname is illegible were all presented at Morden's manor court on 10 May 1395 for trespass in the common pasture with their beasts. Walter Potter was similarly presented on 16 November 1396 for trespass in the common pasture called 'Sparwefeld'. Walter Potter and John Gerard had been similarly presented on 20 October 1393 for trespass with their sheep. (BL Add Charters 56038-9)

An Alan Berengar served as Westminster Abbey's bedel and rent-collector for the manor of Morden in 1408-9. (WAM 27367)