XXIII. *A Petition of the City of Winchester to King Henry VI. Communicated by Dr. Ducarel.*

Read at the SOCIETY of ANTIQUARIES, March 13, 1755.

Anno 1450. 30 Hen. VI.

To the Kynge our Soverayne Lord,

BESECHES S fulle humblie your humble trew leige men, the maire, balifs, and comonalitie of your pouere citee of Wynchestre, that, whereas they have ben charged to bere the fee ferme of your said citee, whiche draweth yerlye to the somme of an cxii marc, and bere also to the maister of the Hospitalle of Marie Maudalene beside Wynchestre lx s. also when the xv penny or taxe is graunted to your highnesse, it draweth to the somme of li l. x s. iv d. withyne the said citee, the whiche whenne it is levable, sum oon man in the said citee is sette unto iiii marc, and sum v marc, because your said citee is desolate of peple; also expens of Burges of the said citee comyng to your parlements, draweth to iiii s. by the daye, for the which said fee ferme so to be paid, your bailiffs have little or nought of certigntee to arayse it of but oonly of casualtees and yerelie lesen in payment of the said fee ferme xl l. or more; for which causes above said, and also for the grete charges and dayelie costes the which your said pouere citee berethe abowte the enclosyng and meerage of your said citee, it is become right desolate, in so much as many notable parsons ben withdrawen out of the said citee for the causes above said, and ix^c iiii^{xx} and xvii (i. e. 997) houses, which, were wont to be occupied with peple stondene now voide, and bycause of these withedrawynge xvii parrys the churches stond inofficiate

att this day, the whiche parishes and houses be more plainly expressed in a sedula hereto annexed. And where it pleased your highnesse in relyvyng of your said pouere citee, the xxiiiith day of May, the yere of your regne the xix, to graunt unto your maire and commonalite of the said citee thenne beyng in reliefe of all the charges abovesaid xl marc, to be taken yerely to theyme and to their successors unto the end of . . . wynter thenn next following offe the festes of Estren and Michaelmesse by evyn porcyons, of the issues and profits comyng of the ulnage and subsidie of wollen clothes withynne the said citee and suburbs and soke of the same, and in all other places within your shire of Suth̄tn by the the hands of the collectors, farmers, receyvours and other occupiers of the same, for the time beyng, as in your letters patents thereof to theyme made may appear more playnlie: Which annuyte is now voyde to theym, and hoolye resumed to you, because of an Acte made in your Parliament, begonne at Westmynster and fyneshed at Leicester. And so now your said suppleants stond alle utterelie destitute of alle manere of reliefe of theyre charges abovesaid, to the utteriste undoyng of your said citee for ever, without your high and noble grace be shewede to theym in this behalfe. That it pleese your said highnesse graciously to confidre the charges abovesaid, and, of your most habundant grace, to graunt unto the maire, bailiffs, and commonalite of your said citee xl marc, to be hadde and taken yerelie to theyme, and to their successors, from the feste of Michaelmes in they ere of your reigne xxviii, for evermore, of the ulnage and subsidie of wollen clothes to be sold withynn your said citee, suburbs and soke of the same, and in other places withynn your shire of Suth̄t. by the hands of the collectors, fermours, receyvours and occupiours of the said ulnage and subsidie for the time beyng, at the festis of Estrenn and Michmas by evyn porcyons after the tēur and effecte of another sedula, to this bille annexed; the which sedula begynneth with these words, “Rex omnibus ad quos,” without any fine or fee in any wise to your use to be taken and paid, the said act of resumption,

sumption or any other statutes, ordinances, provisions, restreytes, acts, or any manere juggements, or assignements, in any wise made or to be made, nottewithestondyng: And thei be, and shalbe perpetuallie your oratours.

THESE ben the stretes that be fallen downe in the citee of Wynechestre withynne iii^{xx} (i. e. 80) yere last passed.

First, Juristrete, wherynne were iii^{xx} (80) householders, and now but ii.

Item, Fleshmonger strete, wherynne were vii^{xx} (140) householders, and now but ii.

Item, Fishmongers-strete, wherynne were lx householders, and now ben but iii.

Item, Colebroke-strete, wherynne were viii^{xx} householders, and now ben but xvi.

Item, Calpe-strete, wherynne were c householders, and now ben but vi.

Item, Golde-strete, wherynne were vii^{xx} householders, and now ben but viii.

Item, Burden-strete, wherynne were lx householders, and now is never oon.

Item, Shulworth-strete, wherynne were lxx households, and and now ben but iii.

Item, Bukkes-strete, wherynne were xl households, and now ben but ii.

Item, Mynestre-strete, wherynne were iii^{xx} and x householdes, and now ben but iii.

Item, Gar-strete, wherynne were c householdes, and now is never oon.

THE numbere of householdes that ben fallen ix^c iii^{xx} xvii (997), and without theise ben fallen withynne the same citee, fethe the last parlement holden there, iii^{xx} householdes and oon.

THEISE ben the parishe churches that ben fallen downe within the said citee,

The chirch of Saint Saviour	}	in Burden-strete.
The chirch of our Lady		
The chirch of Saint Michael, in Juri-strete.		
The chirch of Saint Michael,	}	in Fleshmonger-strete.
The chirch of Saint Swithin,		
The chirch of Saint Martin, in Parishment-strete.		
The chirch of Saint Swithin, in Shulworth-strete.		
The chirch of Saint Johan de Port Latyne, in Bukke-strete.		
The chirch of Saint Martine, in Myneftre-strete.		
The chirch of Saint Alphege,	}	in Calpe-strete.
The chirch of Saint Petrok,		
The chirch of Saint Nicolas,	}	in Golde-strete.
The chirch of Saint Boniface,		
The chirch of Saint Margaret,	}	in Gar-strete.
The chirch of Saint Andrewe,		
The chirch of Saint Poule,		
The chirch of Saint Johan in the Joye, in Tanner-strete.		
The nombre xvii cherches.		

THE desolation of the said pouere citee is so grete, and yerelie fallyng, for there is fuche decaye and unwyne, that, without gracious comforte of the Kyng our soverayne lord,, the mair and the bailiffs must of necessitee cesse and deliver uppe the citee and the kayes into the Kynges hands.

Mem^d. “ Quod primo die Febr. anno regni Regis Henr. vi,
 “ post conquestum tricesimo, ista billa liberata fuit Domino Can-
 “ cellario Angliae, apud Westm. exequend.

“ REX omnibus ad quos, &c. salutem. Sciatis quod de gratia
 “ nostra speciali, ceterisque notabilibus causis nos specialiter moven-
 “ tibus, dedimus et concessimus, ac per presentes damus et conce-
 “ dimus

“ dimus, dilectis nobis, majori, ballivis, et communitati civitatis
 “ Winton, quadraginta marcas habend. et percipiend. annuatim,
 “ prefatis majori, ballivis et co'itati, ac successoribus suis, civibus
 “ dicte civitatis, de exitibus, firmis, et proficuis de ulnagio et subsidio
 “ per annorum venalium infra dictam civitatem et suburbia ejusdem,
 “ ac infra sokam ibidem, ac alibi infra Com. Suth. provenientibus
 “ per manus collectorum, firmariorum, receptorum seu occupatorum
 “ ulnagii et subsidii predict. pro tempore existen. ad terminos Pasche
 “ et Sancti Michaelis per equales porco'es, eo quod expressa mentio
 “ de aliis donis et concessionibus eisdem, majori, ballivis et com-
 “ munitati aut predecessoribus, five antecessoribus suis, et eorum
 “ successoribus, per nos aut aliquem progenitorum nostrorum re-
 “ gum Anglie ante hec tempora habitis, five factis presentibus,
 “ facta non existet, aut aliquibus statutis, ordinationibus, provisioni-
 “ bus, resumptionibus, five actibus quibuscunque ante hec tempora
 “ quovis modo fact. ordinat. provis. five habita, aut aliquo sta-
 “ tuto, ordinatione, provisione, resumptione, five actu quocunque
 “ ante hec tempora, aliquo modo fact. ordinat. provis. five habit.
 “ aut aliqua alia causa, materia, five alia re quacunque non obstant.
 “ In cujus rei, &c. Teste, &c.

“ Dat. apud Westm. le xxviii jour de

“ Janvier, l'an, &c. tricesimo.”

THE King hath graunted this bille for the terme of 1 yeres next
 comyng, under such forme, as he, by his other letters patents, graunt-
 ed the same herbefore. Present my lords of Wynchester and
 Somerfet.

JOSEPH.