

CALENDAR OF THE MUNIMENTS OF THE BOROUGH OF SUDBURY.

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The following account has been drawn up with a view to providing a calendar of the records of a Suffolk borough upon which the Historical Manuscript Commission has published no report. The unvarying courtesy and kindness of the members of the Corporation have made the task a very pleasant one.

It is to be hoped that the publication of the local material relating to Sudbury may be followed in the course of time by some account of the mass of information concerning the borough, which is to be found in the records of the Duchy of Lancaster. It would also be desirable to make public the whereabouts of other sources for the borough history.*

The records are, on the whole, in a good state of preservation: a few of the books have suffered from damp at some former time.

The earliest charter in the possession of the Corporation is that of Gilbert de Clare (Jan. 1270-1); an earlier charter of Richard de Clare has, unfortunately, disappeared. There are also missing from among the charters those of Elizabeth de Burgh, Roger Mortimer, Queen Mary, and Oliver Cromwell.

A small collection of miscellaneous deeds includes conveyances, which have evidently been preserved on account of mention of the unfortunate Archbishop Simon of Canterbury, and leases of demesne lands of the manor of Neales in Sudbury. They date from 1274 to 1684.

* (*) There is one early Churchwardens' Book for the Parish of St. Gregory; it covers the years 1661-1829.

The remaining records are in book-form. The court-books begin in 1563. The earlier books contain record of the various courts of the borough until 1672, and are fairly complete. Book II. (1582-85) is missing, and there is a gap of three years (1636-39) between the fifth and sixth books. Unfortunately the plea rolls which were 'fair-written by the steward or his deputy,' and also the court-rolls for the manor of Woodhall, and for the town-leets, are not forthcoming. They have disappeared in spite of an order of 1602 for their yearly transference to the newly-elected mayor on the Monday after St. Denis (Oct. 9), and the provision of three leathern boxes for the town's evidences in 1579.

This series of Proceedings in the Borough Courts is directly followed by Books of Orders and Decrees, beginning in 1658 and ending in 1835 (the year of the Municipal Corporations Act). The most serious loss is that of the entries between 1685 and 1717. In the first book are recorded proceedings in the Court of Piepowder, Sessions of the Peace and View of Frankpledge. Minutes of Quarter Sessions and Court Leets are continued in a separate series from 1749 to 1836. There is also a single book containing Proceedings in the Court of Record, 1717-87.

Admissions of freemen are recorded in the earliest series of Court Books, but there is a separate series of 'Cocket Books,' containing the admissions of freemen from 1657 to 1812, and the enrolments of apprentices' indentures for some part of that period.

Other miscellaneous books are of considerable interest, especially the Town Clerk's Book of Precedents, and the Book of Pleas in the Borough Court 1600-8.

A list of mayors, supplementary to that given in Hodson's "History of Sudbury," has been added from the records.

The following is a brief summary of the records :—

Charters of—

- (1) Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester (undated), missing (see Hodson's *History of Sudbury*, p. 10).
- (2) Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, Jan. 1270-1.
- (3) Elizabeth de Burgh, 1330, missing (see Hodson's *History of Sudbury*, p. 11).
- (4) Roger de Mortimer, 1397, missing (see *Proc. of Bury & West Suff. Inst. of Arch.* i. 200).
- (5) Henry VI. 1439.
- (6) Henry VI. 1455.
- (7) Mary, 1554, missing, but recited in Elizabeth's charter.
- (8) Elizabeth, 1559.
- (9) Cromwell, 1658, missing (mentioned by Hodson, p. 34).
- (10) Charles II. 1664.
- (11) James II. 1685.

Grant of Arms 1576.**Miscellaneous Deeds** including—

Surrender to Charles II. 1684.

The Custumal, 1515.

Exemplification of Quo Warranto Roll, 1596-7.

Writ addressed to the Mayor and Constables, 1274.

Earliest admission of a burgess, 1505.

Admission of a burgess, 1612.

Conveyances (a) of tenements in Sudbury to Simon, son of Nigel Thebaud (afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury), (b) of a croft in St. Gregory's, Sudbury, 1356—1436, (c) of lands in Bulmer, Newton, Balham, Wickham and Sudbury, 1512—1633, (d) of a house to be used as a House of Correction, 1623.

Will of Alice de Dryeue, 1434.

Copy of the grant of the College and its possessions to Sir Thomas Paston, knt., 1545.

Leases of demesne lands of Neale's Manor, Sudbury, 1545—1641.

Lease from the Corporation of pasture in Bulmer, 1610.

Proceedings of the Borough Courts. A series of books:—

Book I. 19 Aug., 1573—16 Oct., 1581, with some gaps, particularly between 11 Eliz. and 13 Eliz.

Book II. (missing) should cover 1582—1585.

Book III. 26 July, 1585—9 Oct., 1598.

Book IV. 4 Sept., 1598—20 July, 1618, containing also some accounts for 1625 and 1635.

Book V. 17 Oct., 1618—28 Sept., 1636.

Vol. 15 Ch. I - 1674. Below, p. 294.

Books of Orders and Decrees.

- 1 Courts of Orders and Decrees, View of Frankpledge, Courts of Piepowder, and Sessions of the Peace from 19 July, 1658—15 Apr., 1685.
- 2 Courts of Orders and Decrees, 2 Oct., 1717—26 Nov., 1733 ; also the "King's Court for the Borough."
- 3 Orders and Decrees, 9 May, 1750—29 Oct., 1771.
- 4 Orders and Decrees, 2 Sept., 1771—30 Oct., 1780. Book "A."
- 5 Orders and Decrees, 9 July, 1778—16 June, 1785 (rough drafts of proceedings).
- 6 Orders and Decrees, 24 May, 1781—24 June, 1822 : Book "B." Also containing entries relating to the Navigation of the Stour, 22 May, 1799—11 Oct., 1811.
- 7 Orders and Decrees, 4 Sept., 1785—8 Dec., 1790 (rough draft).
- 8 Orders and Decrees, 2 June, 1791—26 May, 1815 (rough draft).
- 9 Orders and Decrees, 4 Sept., 1815—12 Oct., 1835 (rough draft).
- 10 Orders and Decrees, 21 Aug., 1822—12 Oct., 1835. Book "C."

Books of Minutes of Quarter Sessions and Courts Leet.

- 1 Quarter Sessions 8 Jan., 1749—15 July, 1771 ; also containing Proceedings in the Court Leet, 30 Apr., 1750—15 Apr., 1771.
- 2 Quarter Sessions, 9 Jan., 1781—8 Apr., 1836 ; Courts Leet, 30 Apr., 1781—18 Apr., 1831.

Cocket Books.

- Book I. Admissions of freemen, 17 Sept., 1657—30 Apr., 1723 ; also indentures of apprentices 1671-3; and 20 Nov., 1656—18 May, 1695 (with a gap from 1689-93).
- Book II. Enrolments of freemen, 5 May, 1724—24 May, 1770 ; indentures of apprentices, 30 Nov., 1717—24 Nov., 1766.
- Book III. Admissions of freemen, 8 May, 1750—29 Oct., 1771.
- Book IV. Admissions of freemen, 28 Feb., 1772—7 May, 1812.

Miscellaneous Books.

- 1 Proceedings of the Court of Record, 18 Nov., 1717—25 Aug., 1787.
- 2 Book of Pleas in the Borough Court, 1 Dec., 1560—23 May, 1608 ; Courts of the Manor of Woodhall, 18 March, 1605 ; 3 Nov., 1606.
- 3 The Town Clerk's Book of Precedents, 17th century.
- 4 A Case Book, 1722—89.
- 5 Elections of Guardians, 3 July, 1771—6 July, 1892.

- 6 Proceedings of the Commissioners for Paving and Improving the Borough, 25 May, 1825—7 Dec., 1846.
- 7 Special Sessions relating to the Highways, 8 Oct., 1784—14 Oct., 1809.
- 8 Accounts of Commissioners for Lighting and Paving, 1825—30.
- 9 Rate Books, 1872-74.

The following is a detailed account of the records mentioned in the summary above :—

Charter of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford, confirming to the burgesses of Subyr' all the liberties and good customs obtained and used in the time of his ancestors.

3 Jan., 55 Hen. III. (1270-71).

[This charter is printed in full and translated in Hodson's *History of Sudbury*, p. 13.]

Endorsed, "No. 3, 23 Jan., 55 Hen. III., 1272. Sudbury. Gilbert of Clare, confirmation of all liberties and customs granted by his Ancestors."

Copy of Letters Patent, 22 Nov., 18 Hen. VI. (1439), confirming to the men and tenants of the town of Sudbury freedom from toll, etc.

Endorsed : "Sudbury, 6 Hen. 1440."

Letters Patent, 24 Nov., 34 Hen. VI. (1455) confirming to the men and tenants of the town of Sudbury, which is of the honour of Gloucester, freedom from tolls, etc., throughout the realm.

Seal broken.

Endorsed : "34 Hen. 6. Tolls."

There is a full translation in Hodson's *History of Sudbury*, p. 14, but the last phrase should read as follows :—

"... pannage and murage, as they ought, and as other men and tenants of the said town before these times were wont to be free."

Affixed is a modern translation.

Charter of Elizabeth, dated 7 Nov., 1 Eliz. (1559), inspecting and confirming letters patent of Mary, dated 30 May, 1 Mary (1554). These recite that the town of Sudburye had from time to time without memory, a mayor, 6 aldermen, 24 burgesses, 2 sergeants at mace, a bailiff, 2 constables and other officers ; that the men and inhabitants of the town had been quit from toll, passage, etc., but that their charters had been embezzled and set aside on the grounds of ambiguity ; therefore in order to prevent any ambiguity as to the incorporation of the said officers, and at the petition of the inhabitants, and upon the information of

Edward Waldegrave, knt., that during the insurrection of John, late Duke of Northumberland, the inhabitants of Sudburye adhered to Mary and resisted the rebellion, she incorporates the burgesses and inhabitants of Sudburye by the name of Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses ; henceforward seven of the senior and principal inhabitants and burgesses are to be aldermen, and one of the aldermen to be mayor ; 24 of the best and most discreet men and inhabitants to be chief burgesses ; Mary nominates Thomas Russham, now mayor, to continue as mayor till Monday after St. Denis (9 Oct.) next ; she nominates Thomas Russham, Thomas Ellys, William Smythe, Thomas Willet and John Cooke as aldermen during good behaviour, and M . . . Jacobe, John Marten, John Bannestre, Thomas Mason, George Alyston, Edward Palmer, John Curde, William Gardyner, Robert Clamfeld, senior, John Fuller, Thomas Fuller, Edmund Grove, Thomas Fenning, Richard Barker, Robert Newman, William Garrarde, Robert Missinge, William Ruggle, Richard Powell, Jasper Wistowe, Richard Cage, Andrew Byat, John Hasyloode, and Robert Barrell, as 24 chief burgesses during good behaviour. Upon the death, deposition or departure of an alderman, the mayor and aldermen to elect another from the chief burgesses ; in the case of a chief burgess, another to be elected by the mayor, aldermen and chief burgesses, from the inhabitants and burgesses ; the burgesses, with the assent of 24 men, who shall be free tenants and inhabitants of the borough, and chosen by the mayor and aldermen, are to meet yearly Monday before the Nativity of the Virgin (8 Sept.) between 9 and 11 a.m., in the town hall or elsewhere, to elect an alderman as mayor, who shall take the Sacrament Monday after St. Denis (9 Oct.) following, before the mayor and the steward of the town, and then enter upon his office ; there are provisions in the case of the death or deposition of a mayor ; the Mayor, with the assent of the Aldermen and chief Burgesses after the election of a mayor, is to appoint constables and a bailiff and other officers ; the mayor to be Justice of the Peace, without power to determine matters of life and limb, save by special writ ; the ex-mayor to be coroner in the borough for one year ; the acting mayor to be escheator in the borough ; the mayor, aldermen and burgesses to hold a Court of Record every Monday, before the Mayor, Aldermen and Steward, for pleas of debt, trespass, &c., below £10 ; the mayor to draw up writs and panels, &c., for the Court of Record ; the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses to hold leets and law-days, and view of frankpledge, for the inhabitants yearly on Hockmonday ; to hold a market weekly on Saturdays, and 3 fairs yearly (1) on the eve, feast and

morrow of St. Gregory (12 March), (2) in Gregory Croft* on the eve, feast and morrow of St. Peter and St. Paul (29 June); (3) within the borough on the eve, feast and morrow of St. Bartholomew (24 Aug.); with courts of pie powder, stallage, &c.; the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses to have return of writs and to be quit from suits at the county or hundred, and from sheriff's aid and from passage, pontage and tolls; the borough to be without the jurisdiction of the Sheriff; the Mayor and Aldermen to appoint 2 sergeants-at-mace, and the Mayor to be clerk of the market; the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses to have assize of bread and ale; the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses to make ordinances, and to have common of pasture and free fishery within the limits of the borough, and all other possessions which the inhabitants held by custom by the name of the bailiff and burgesses; the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses, or the bailiff, elected by them, to collect rents of assize of the free tenants of our manor of Sudbury within the borough, and rents, profits of tolls, &c., and the rent from Manscroft Gate, the fishery at Sudbury Bridge, the rent of 60 stalls, and all fines and profits of court belonging to 'our manor of Sudbury,' formerly collected by the bailiff of the borough, and to account for them to the Receiver of the Honour of Clare; the Borough to pay to the receiver of the honour £21 3s. 1½d. yearly.

Charter of Chas. II., dated 27 July, 16 Chas. II. (1664), at the petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses, confirming the incorporation of the Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses and Commonalty of Sudbury, and granting a constitution identical with that of Mary's charter; nominating as Mayor, Barnard Carter; as Aldermen, John Cook, John Death, John Warner, Nathaniel King, Thomas King, and Christopher Pettit; as Chief Burgesses, William Wilson, Thomas Jarvice, senior, Martin Harris, senior, Francis King, John Place, Roger Well, John Gooding, John Jones, John Gibbon, Robert Park, Nathan Quarles, William Frost, William King, William French, James Yennis, William Sherman, Nathaniel Groome, Francis Hamont and William Moore. The articles are identical with Mary's charter, but—

- (1) Pleas in the Court of Record are below £20.
- (2) All officers are to take the Sacrament and the oath of Supremacy.
- (3) No Recorder or Common Clerk is to be elected without the Royal assent.
- (4) The first fair (St. Gregory) is to be held in Gregory Croft.

* In the following charters it is the fair on St. Gregory's day which is held in Gregory Croft. The St. Peter's fair was also held here, see *infra*, p. 280.

Charter of Jas. II., dated 26 March, 1 Jas. II. (1685), re-incorporating the Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses, and Commonalty; ordaining that there shall be a mayor, 10 aldermen, 24 chief burgesses, and a common clerk; nominating Henry, Duke of Grafton, as the Recorder, and nominating the other officers; granting 3 fairs, (1) 27 and 28 Apr. in Gregory Croft, (2) eve, feast and morrow of St. Peter and St. Paul (29 June); (3) 25, 26, 27 Sept., a cattle and cheese fair; Mayor, Aldermen, Recorder, Clerk, or any of the Common Council or Sergeants-at-Mace to be removable by the Privy Council; Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses to elect the Common Clerk and the Recorder; provision for deputies to mayor, common clerk and recorder.

In other respects the charter is similar to that of Chas. II.

Grant of Arms, 20 Sept., 1576, by "Robert Cooke, Esquire, alias Clarenciaulx King of Armes. . . ."

The grant recites the incorporation of the "towne and borough of Sudbury" by Queen Mary, by virtue of which the corporation was allowed a common seal:

The seal to be 'A hownde seaunte silver on a chief gules a Lion passante gardante between two floure de lucis Golde,' and 'for the Creaste or Cognoisaunce upon the Heaulme on a Wreath Silver and Sable a howndes head razed Golde between two Ostrich fethers Silver mantled Gules dubbed silver.'

Seal broken.

Endorsed: "20th September, 18th Eliz., 1576. A Grant from Robt. Cooke, Esq. (King-of-Arms), of the Arms of Sudbury.

The 24th of August, A.D. 1611. Seene and alowed by me, John Raven Richemond, Marshal to Clarencieux."

Surrender of all Charters and Liberties and Privileges, whether held by custom or charter, to Charles II., 9 Oct., 36 Chas. II. (1684).

"To all to whom these presents shall come, The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Sudbury in the County of Suffolke, Send greeting. Know Yee that wee, considering how much it imports the Government of our Corporation to have men of knowne loyalty and improved Integrity to beare offices of Magistracy and places of Trust, We, the said Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses, have granted, surrendered and yeilded up, and by these presents do grant surrender and yeild up unto his most gracious Majestie, Charles the Second, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., his heires and successors, All and singular, the powers, franchises, liberties

and privileges and Authorities whatsoever granted to or to be used or exercised by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses by virtue of any right, title or interest vested in them by any charters, letters patents, Custome or prescription in force of or concerning the electing, nominating, constituting being or appointing of any person or persons into or for the severall and respective Offices of Mayor, Aldermen, Cheife Burgesses, Recorder, Steward, Towne Clerke and Clerke of the Peace and Sergeants-at-Mace of the said Corporation and all other Officers of the same Corporation. And the said Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses do hereby humbly beseech his Matie to accept of this their surrender and do with all submission to his Maties good pleasure implore his grace and favour to regrant to the said Corporation the naming and chosing of the said Officers and the said Libertyes, Franchises, or so many of them and in such manner as his Matie, in his great wisdom, shall judge most conducing for the Government of the said Corporation And with and under such reservations, restrictions, qualifications as his Matie shall be pleased to Appoynt. In witness whereof the said Mayor and Aldermen and Burgesses have hereunto sett their hands to the Common Seale of the said Borough the ninth day of October in the six and thirtieth yeare of the Reign of our most gracious Sovereign Lord King Charles the Second. Sealed with the borough seal (perfect).

[Signed] John Catesby, Mayor.

Daniel Cook, Alderman.

John Houlton, Thomas Griggs, James Sudbury, John Brackitt, Thomas King, Edward Smith, Thomas Colman, Isaac Brackett, Henry Hallewall, Robert Gainesborow, Thomas Lilly, Geo. Catesby. The marks of Thomas Warner, Phillip Garrod.

" 36, Car. 2."

Endorsed : 9 " Surrender of Sudbury Charter."

Customs of the Borough, drawn up 15 Nov., 1515.

Printed in full in Hodson's *History of Sudbury*, p. 24 *et seq.*, but note that John Baker, *grocer*, is constable; the name given as John *Jegon* among the burgesses is John *Begon*.

Throughout the customal 'everyth' in the printed copy is 'everych' in the original. In the paragraph, "Of Sauts and Frays," "Fust" should be "furst"; in the paragraph "For defaulte of appearance," "dewe monycyon," should be "yeve monycyon," and "burgesses" should be inserted between 'Chamberlaynes' and "heedborwes."

The following seals are missing :—John Guybilon, William Park, William Dalton, Thomas Hawkin, Thomas Mist, John Peanny, William Barbour, Thomas Kerver.

Exemplification of the Entries on the Quo Warranto Roll, 3 Edward I. relating to the manor and town of Sudbury, at the request of John Tucke, Mayor of Sudbury, 2 Feb., 39 Elizabeth, as follows :--

“ Elizabeth dei gratia Anglie Francie et Hibernie Regina, fidei defensor, &c. Omnibus ad quos presentes littere nostre pervenerint Salutem. Inspeximus tenorem cuiusdam Recordi de Inquisitionibus captis in diuersis comitibus tempore Regis Edwardi primi progenitoris nostri in Thesauro Recepte Scaccarii nostri sub custode Thesaurarii et Camerarii nostrorum ibidem remanentibus Cuius quidem Recordi tenor inter alia in comite Suffolk tangens villam de Sudbir' sequitur in hec verba. Extractum Inquisitionum factarum per preceptum domini Regis in Comitibus Norf., Suff., Essex, Hertf., Dorset, et Northumberland de Juribus et libertatibus domini Regis substractis et excessibus vicecomitum coronatorum Escaetorum et aliorum Balliorum domini Regis quoquomodo Dominum Regem spectantibus, Anno Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici tertio. Suff. Villa de Sudbyr'. Qui de novo appropriant sibi liberas chacias, etc., dicunt quod Michaelis filius Walteri et Walterus filius suus appropriaverunt sibi quandem Warrenam in piscaria communi que pertinet ad Sudbyr' sine Warranto. Qui etiam domini aut eorum seneschalli non sustinuerunt mandata domini Regis, etc., dicunt quod Comes Glouc' et Ballivi eius non sustinent executionem mandatorum Regis fieri in Sudbyr', Clare, Hevendene et Disning nisi habuerint a Senescallo libertatis Sancti Edmundi Retornum brevium domini Regis qui clamat habere per quandam finem dudum factum in Curia domini Regis inter Ricardum de Clare patrem comitis qui nunc est et Simonem de Luton nunc Abbatem de Sancto Edmundo unde nota eisdem finis pendet adhuc in Curia domini Regis. Qui dona vel lucra recepit pro officiis suis exercendis, etc. Dicunt quod Henricus de Heleweton dum fuit coronator de Sancto Edmundo quotienscumque veniret ad videndum quandam mortuum cepit pro quolibet adventu suo 2s. Cuiusmodi seisinam Escaetores ceperint, etc. Dicunt quod Willelmus de Haselbech et Gerard la Grue seisiverunt in manu Regis manerium de Sudbyr' cum tota villata et illud retinuerunt a festo Translationis Sancti Thome Martiris usque ad idem festum proxime post et ab eodem festo usque ad festum Sancti Michaelis proxime sequens. De ceteris articulis nichil dicunt. Que omnia et singula premissa ad requisitionem dilecti et fidelis subditi Johannis Tucke Maioris de Sudbyr' predicti sub sigillo Scaccarii nostri duximus exemplificanda per presentes. In cuius rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste predilecto et fideli conselario nostro

Willelmo Domino Burghley Thesaurario nostro Anglie apud Westmonasterum duodecimo die Februarii, Anno regni nostri tricesimo nono (1596-7).

Endorsed: "12 Febr., 39 Eliz. Exemplificatio Recordi in Scaccario tangentis villam de Sudbir'."

Seal broken.

The jurors in 3 Edward I. state that—

- (1) Michael, son of Walter, and Walter his son have encroached upon the common fishery belonging to Sudbury.
- (2) The Earl of Gloucester suffers no writs to run in Sudbury save those returned by the Abbot of St. Edmund, in accordance with a fine between Richard de Clare, father of the present Earl, and Simon de Luton, Abbot of St. Edmund.
- (3) Henry de Heleweton, while he was coroner of St. Edmund, took 2s. for every inquest.
- (4) William de Haselbech and Gerard la Grue seized the manor and town of Sudbury into the King's hands, and kept them from the Translation of St. Thomas (July 3) for more than a year.

Writ, dated 27 June, 2 Edward I. (1274), commanding the Mayor and Constables of the town of Sudbury to produce William Fysshlak at the next Sessions of the Peace at Henhowe, to be bound over to keep the peace against John Levyng.

"Edwardus dei gratia Rex Anglie et Francie et [Hibernie] Dominus Maiori et Constabulariis Ville de Sudbury et eorum cuilibet Salutem. Supplicavit nobis Johannes Levyng ut cum ipse de vita sua et mutilatione membrorum suorum per Willelmum Fysshlak graviter et manifeste comminatus existit velimus pro securitate dicti Johannis in hac parte providere vobis et cuilibet vestrum mandamus quod ipsum Willelmum capiat et ipsum salve custodiat, ita quod habeatis corpus coram justiciariis nostris ad pacem in Comite Suffolk conservandam assignatis apud Henhowe ad proximam Sessionem ibidem coram eis tenendam ut ipse Willelmus justiciariis nostris predictis tunc et ibidem sufficienter manucapiat quod ipse dampnum vel malum aliquod eidem Johanni non faciet nec fieri procurabit quovismodo compellant Et habeatis ibi hoc breve. Teste Johanne Howard milite uno justiciariorum nostrum predictorum, 27 die Junii, Anno regni nostri secundo."

Endorsed: "2 A.A. Majori et Constabulariis Ville de Sudbury."

Admission of a Burgess, Monday before St. Michael, 21 Hen. vii., (1505).

At a court held at Sudbury, William Salter of Sudbury, weaver, came before James Hobart, Knt. Steward there, and gave the King a fine to be burgess of Sudbury, and was admitted to the jurisdictions and liberties of the town. Witness, John Dister, Chamberlain, and many others.
Affixed is a recent translation.

Admission of a Burgess, 10 Jas. i.

Thomas Wood of Sudbury, at a court held before John Willett, gent, Mayor of Sudbury and the Aldermen and Burgesses of the borough, was admitted to be a free burgess. His fine was remitted since he was the apprentice of George Abbott, weaver of Sudbury; but he paid a fine for the entrance of one horse upon the common.

[Signed] John Wyllett, Mayor.

Endorsed: "10 Jac. 1612. Sudbury. Adm. Tho. Woode, Weaver."

Deeds.

- 1 *Conveyance* (dated at Sudbury Thurs. after St. Gregory, 14 Edw. iii., 1340), by *Hugh de Dedham of Sudbyr'* to *Simon, son of Nigel Thebaud and Sarah, wife of Nigel, of a cottage*, a barn with a curtilage adjacent and two pieces of land in Sudbyr'; the cottage, curtilage and barn lying next the land of John de Chilton and abutting upon Rotouristret; one piece of land lying next that of John de Wyuesle, and the other piece lying between the land of Nigel Thebaud on both sides. Witnesses [named].

Seal perfect.

Endorsed: "A deed belonging to Symon the son of Nigel Thebaud, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury."

- 2 *Conveyance* (dated at Sudbury, 27 March, 30 Edw. iii. 1356) by John Arundel, of Peyton, and John de Bromlegh to John Ondby and Isabel his wife in fee of a *piece of land called Leketonecroft*, between the cemetery of St. Gregory's Church and the way leading towards the Stour.

Two seals.

Endorsed: "30 Edward 3. A Grant of the Croft in St. Gregory's Parish."

N.B.—Nigel Thebaud is one of the witnesses.

- 3 Feoffment of the same croft (10 Ap., 14 Hen. vi., 1436) by Thomas Dobbys of Sudbury to Thomas West, Henry Roberd, Thomas Tame, John Newman, Peter Forsteer, William Folour, John Cowelle, William Payn, Robert Deynes, Roger Deynes, John Hyne, John Tille, dyer, John Till, weaver, and many others [named].

Seal.

Endorsed : " 14 Hen. 6th. Grant of the Croft in St. Gregory's Parish, Sudbury."

- 4 *Will of Alice de Dryeue*, late wife of Guy de Dryeue, knt., 6 Sept., 1434. Land in Aketon, Polstede, Newton ; chaplain to celebrate in the chapel of the Virgin Mary in Aketon Church ; the Master of the College of St. Gregory is one of the feoffees.

- 5 *Conveyance* (1 March, 4 Hen. viii., 1512-3) by John Scaldar, Mayor of Sudbury, and William Fleg, chaplain, surviving feoffees to John Parson of Sudbury, chaplain, *of pasture land in Bulmer*, Co. Essex.

Seals broken.

Endorsed : " 1513."

- 6 *Lease*, 14 Ap., 36 Hen. viii. (1545), by Sir Thomas Paston, knt. gentleman of the Privy Chamber, who had recently obtained the manor of Neales in Sudbury, late of the College of St. Gregory, Sudbury, to Water Sydey of Sudbury, waxchandler, *of land in Wyndemellfeld*, parcel of the demesne lands of the manor, for 300 years.

Endorsed : " Original Lease of 4 acres of land in Windmillfield in Sudbury."

- 7 *Copy of Letters Patent* granting Sudbury College, the Manor of Neales, the manors of Brundon, alias Brundon Hall, Balindon Hall, Middleton and Kethin, co. Essex, and 4 tenements of the College in London, the rectory and church of St. Peter, Sudbury, the advowson of Brundon church, the choirs of Acton and All Saints, Sudbury, and a choir in Milford, co. Suff., and certain lands and tenements in Sudbury and elsewhere [given in detail], late possessions of the College, together with all the goods and moveables which belonged to the College, to Sir Thomas Paston, knt., gentleman of the Privy Chamber. 3 Jan., 36 Hen. viii. (1544-5).

Endorsed : " King Henry Eight to Sir Thomas Paston. Copy of the Grant of Sudbury Tithes, And of the Colledge, &c., cum multis aliis. In the 36 year of his reign by letters patents, fol. 60. Examined, 21 Oct., 1706, by Mr. Pannell's Copy."

- 8 *Conveyance of the lease of five acres in Windmillfield*, parcel of the demesnes of Neles in Sudbury, from John Smyth to Richard Firmyn, 6 June, 1579.

Endorsed: "6 June, 31 Eliz. An Assignment from John Smyth to Richard Firmyn, gent, of fyve acres in Wyndmillfld," with notes. "Gibbons Estate."

- 9 *Conveyance of the lease of 2 ac. arable land*, parcel of the demesnes of Neales manor, by William Byatt to Richard Firmyn, 23 March, 1583.

Seal perfect.

Endorsed: "A deed of sale of 2 acres, etc."

- 10 *Conveyance of the Sarazens Head, Newton*, and copyholds of the manor of Buttlers belonging to Sir Robert Crane in Newton, late possessions of Peter Whiting, dec. by Thomas Whityng of Saxlingham to his brother, John Whitynge of Hadleigh, 2 June, 1610.

Endorsed: "Mr. Whiting, 1610. (1) Sudbury Land."

- 11 *Lease* (30 Ap., 8 Jas. I., 1610), to John Sheppard of Sudbury, weaver, by John Curd, gent, now Mayor of Sudbury, and 5 aldermen [named] and 11 chief burgesses [named] and 17 free-burgesses and inhabitants [named], "being the greater part of the Corporation of the Town," of pasture called Earmsye, sometime of Thomas West, decd. in Bulmer, reserving free ingress and egress for the crier of the town or others appointed, to pasture their cows; Sheppard agreeing to prevent strangers from pasturing cattle there, to sell brick and tiles to the said cofeoffees and the inhabitants of Sudbury at a cheap rate; Sheppard to be allowed to build a brick-kiln on the land and to dig, etc.

Endorsed: "Lease of Armsey."

- 12 *Conveyance* (11 Oct., 1623), by Sir Robert Crane of Chilton to Charles Abbott, gent, Mayor of Sudbury, and the inhabitants, certain aldermen, chief burgesses and others being named, *of a messuage* in the parish of St. Peter, Sudbury, in Fryar Street (abuttals given), *to set up a working-house or house of correction*; 4 surviving feoffees to enfeof 26 others, elected by the Mayor, Aldermen, and chief burgesses.

Endorsed: "Conveyances touching the House of Correction of Sudbury. Since and now made use of as the *Common Gaol* in Sudbury. 28 Nov., 1781."

Seal.

- 13 *Assignment of lease of land in Windmillfield*, next the manor place, and garden called Neales, by John Fisher of Huntingfield, gent, Anne Coleman of Braintree and Rose Whityng of Hadleigh to James Nickoll, 2 Jan., 1641.

Endorsed : " Sudbury."

- 14 *Assignment of the same lease* by John Strutt of Wickham St. Paul to John Fisher of Huntingfield, gent, 15 Nov., 13 Chas. I. (1637).

- 15 *Conveyance of a messuage in Ballingdon*, by Thomas Baker of Ballingdon to Richard Shillito of Colchester, 26 May, 1627.

Endorsed : (1) " Thos. Baker
and
Richd. Shillito } Deed of feoffment, etc."

- 16 *Conveyance of same tenement*, by Richard Shillito to William Crane of Ballingdon, 28 Feb., 1633.

Endorsed : (3) " Richd. Shillito
and
Wm. Crane } Deed of feoffment, etc."

- 17 *Quitclaim of all profits of leases of lands in Wickham and Sudbury*, by John Fisher of Huntingfield to John and Rose Whitynge and to Anne Colman, 20 Aug., 1633.

Endorsed : (2) " Sudbury Land."

Proceedings of the Borough Court of Sudbury. The first volume, lettered as : Burgus de Sudbury in Com. Suff. : Liber Primus. 19 August, 1563. 9 October, 1582.

(4 pages are torn away before what is now page 1).

The first entry is " a decre made for the deposynge of Will'm Garrad, alderman, made by the consent of Richard Barker, mayor, Thomas Mason and Andrewe Beyatt, aldermen, the xix daye of Auguste, anno. 1563 ; for that he was impotente and natt a man meete for thatt Rome, and upon occasion that the sayd Will'm Garrad was fullye myndyd and determynyd to dwell out of the towne."

The second page is occupied with admission of John Baxter to sell ale and bread, finding John Sudbury and John Fuller his sureties in £10 ; 28 Oct., 5 Eliz., before Andrew Byat, mayor.

On the *dorso*, of fol. 2 is the list of Jury sworn for 'the inquiryng of servants' wages, Anno Elizabeth sexto, being John Kyffyn, John Fuller, Robert Osborne, inholder, Edmond Johnson, John Scoyle, William Lether *alias* Stanton, Thomas

Greene, William Ruggell, George Nunn, Richard Smyth, Robert Sudbury, Richard Clenche, John Ollyfe and John Frende.'

John Reshbroke, John Letche, John Curd and William Coole made default.

Fol. 3 blank.

Fol. 4 (old no. 25). Account of Master Hyat, late mayor, made .. Feb., 7 Eliz., before George Elystone, then mayor, the alderman and burgesses, and 'so resayved of money of the foresayd Mr. Hyatt, 9s. 8d. over and besydes payd to Mr. Smythe for his charges at Hatford abowt the corantts at serten tymes, £11 20d.'

Fol. 4 (25) dors. "Md. the 21 day of Marche, 7 Elizabeth. It is orderyd by comon and mutuall assent of the parties whose names are underwrytten that from henceforthe yf any person or personnes inhabytyng or dwellyng within the towne or borowe of Sudbury or the lybertyes of the same, do or shall contend in any cawse or matter eyther by word or deede or shall wryght, speke or testyfy aganst the mayor of the towne or borow aforseyd for the tyme beyng dewryng his seyde offyce to any forreyn Judge or Justyce for any cause or matter growyng or dependyng byttwene him or them or any of them, and the seyde mayor for any tollage, fyne or ponyshment which he or they or any of them shall have susteynyd for his or theyr owne offence or for takyng parte with any who shall soo offend or the lyke shall from thenceforthe stond and be utterley voyde to all intentes of all and allmaner of freedoms, lybertyes, commonynges and comodytyes of and in the seyde borowe and of and in all the lyberty of the same and be holden mereley as a forreyner untill such a tyme as he or they shall have fynyd for the seyde offence at the dyscressyon of the seyde mayor and others his brethren." (No names are "underwritten.")

Fol. 5 (26). Wm. Curde fined 40s. for his contempt and receiving the wife of Nicholas Byron. On the *dorso* of the folio is an order of 17 April, 6 Eliz., by Andrew Byett, gent, mayor, and the aldermen in the court and leet there holden, that "Nicholas Byron and Alys his wife, for their evil conversation and lyffing, shall avoyde the said towne of Sudbury before the first day of Maye next commyng, upon such pain and punishment as then shall be adjudged by the mayor."

The regular entries of proceedings of the court

begin (with subsequent interruptions) on fol. 7 (28); (The folio is also numbered in a later hand, 25):

3 Sept., 1565. Election of John Crosse, gent., mayor.
Edmund Johnson, bailiff.

Fol. 8 (29). Verdict, 11 Oct., 1565, as to certain defaults contrary to orders, viz., that no chandler within the town sell candle to any man dwelling therein above 3*d.* the pound.

That none ought to take in drink and to sell it, and also to brew themselves.

That no man shall sell wine, being white or claret, above the queen's price, that is to say, 2*d.* of the pint.

Concerning the statutes for servants and labourers we do find that all men do offend.

Mr. Barbor *alias* Russham and the Goodman Leke do carry candle out of the town contrary to the order therein taken by Mr. Mayor and his brethren.

That Mr. Barbor *alias* Russham hath 4 wyne pottes that be not right measure.

That all brewers within the said town doth not brew according to the order therein taken by Mr. Mayor and his brethren, which was that they should have brewed after 2*d.* the gallon and not above.

Earlier pp. 15 and 16 of the later numbering are bound up after this, giving election of Richard Barker as mayor, and John Sudbury, bailiff, 7 Sept., 1562, and on same page, election of Andrew Byet, mayor, and John Elliston, bailiff, 6 Sept., 5 Eliz.

Fol. 10 (31). In the *ac* of George Ellyston, late mayor (for year 7 Eliz.), is "10*s.* recd. for one that came to the seycke howse."

2 Sept., 8 Eliz. Election of Thomas Willet, gent, mayor, and John Skoyle, bailiff, by the chief burgesses and 24 free tenants of the boro'.

In these earlier pages are entries of agreements to sell, notes of receipt of wages by servants, &c.

1 Sept., 9 Eliz. Election of Richard Barker, gent, mayor.
Thos. Oldfilde, bailiff.

20 Oct., 9 Eliz. It is decreed for a law to be used within the town, for the better order and behaviour within the said town, that no person dwelling within the liberties of the same town using the art or science of a butcher, shall, on the Sunday or Wednesday, sell or utter unto any manner of person any manner of flesh upon pain of imprisonment, provided that this ordinance extend not to the sale or utterance of any flesh in their private dwelling houses, but only in the market place; and besides imprisonment to forfeit for every offence 6*s.* 8*d.*

22 Nov., 10 Eliz. A duty of 1*d.* put on every hide sold in the market of this town, "for the countervaylement of the great charge of the towne which they are charged with, for thanswering of the Quenes Maiesties rentles and other charges of the towne."

Election of Mr. John Rushebrooke, one of the burgesses, to be 7th alderman in place of Mr. George Eliston, now departing out of the town.

16 May, 10 Eliz. Willm. Cole, Town Clerk.

21 June, 10 Eliz. Order that no person inhabiting the town shall keep open any shop, or have any occupying, towards any gain of living within the said town, or any manor of liberty or commodity of any of the commons, that refuses to be ordered by the mayor and his brethren and the more party of his company, with the assent of the more part of the burgesses, except and unless he be made a freeman before the said mayor and his company, and his name recorded in the town book, the same party to have his copy to shew upon pain of 4*d.* for every day so offending.

Same date. A list of divers inhabitants of the town assessed for their freedoms, to be presently paid, and to have every one of them their copy, and the same to be entry of record.

The trades of many are given.

6 Sept., 10 Eliz. Election of Martin Cole, mayor, William Curde, bailiff.

4 Oct., 10 Eliz. According to decree of Sir William Cordell, of Long Melford, Kt., Master of the Rolls, John Rushebrooke was to supply the place of the said mayor in case of his death or absence.

Accounts of Andrew Byatt, mayor.

Inter alia. 3*s.* 4*d.* from the widow Grenegras of Melford for a fine for leather not sufficiently tanned; and the fine for freedoms as previously assessed.

Among the payments are £3 to Wm. Smythe of Stratford, late Towne Clerke of this town.

11 Oct., 1568. Presentment of defaults contrary to the orders and decrees of the mayor and his brethren.

All the shoemakers of the towne do use to sell and deliver shoes every Sunday morning.

The dyers in this towne do use to dey with brasell.

Richard Sharpe amerced for that he lyve idely without a master.

All the shoemakers amerced, for that they offend in making ther undersoles, and for dressing lether in their own houses.

Every of the bochers for casting hornes in the heye waye.

All the bakers do offend, and also every one of the cuntrye bakers.

The cuntry bakers whit loffe of 1*d*. shall weye 1 oz. more than the towne bakers'.

We finde the common welles to be in great decay for want of reparations.

We amerce James Warde, Thomas Hayward and others ther abowt for the anoyauce of the churche yerde.

And Robart Jarvice and others for digging the churche yerde, and nott filling ytt up agen.

We amerce Mr. Byatt, mayor, for that the mote hall is out of reparations.

18 Oct., 10 Eliz. Order that all butchers bringing flesh for sale also offer the corresponding hides, tallow, etc.

20 Oct., 10 Eliz. Thomas Goslynge of Mapelstede Parva paid to the mayor £5, being half a year's rent of a farm there called THREBARNES, belonging to the schoolhouse at Sudbury; which money was paid to Mr. Daukes, schoolmaster of Sudbury.

1 Dec., 1568. Statement by Thomas Neve of Bocking, Essex, as to evidence given by him, while labouring under a mistake, in connection with the drowning of Mr. Barbor's daughter of Sudbury.

15 Nov., 1568. Deposition of John Rushebroke from being alderman, on account of his seduction of his maid servant Margaret—as he confessed before the Ordinary at Bury St. Edmund's.

20 Nov., 11 Eliz. Return of bakers amerced for contravening the assize.

22 Nov., 11 Eliz. William Adames chosen alderman in place of Rushbrooke.

1 Dec. [11 Eliz.] Christopher Curde fined 20*s*. for refusing to obey the summons of the mayor to attend at the mote hall, 10*s*. thereof to be given to 30 poor people, and 10*s*. to the repairs of the church of St. Peter's.

20 Dec., 11 Eliz. Every chief burgess of the town to purvey and provide himself with a gown, like unto his company of burgesses, and to orderly and decently in their said gowns attend the mayor and his officers at every fair, and other occasions when thought good by the mayor.

18 Dec. John Russhbroke gave 20*s*. in release of his punishment, 10*s*. to go to the repairing of the common well before the mansion house of the said Rushbroke in Borum gate ende, 10*s*. to the poor of St. Peter's.

On the same day he gave up 2 spowtes of lead weighing 135 lb. and a cloth of gold and velvet called the Palle, which did belong to the church of St. Peter's aforesaid, being taken by the said John Rushebroke before from the said church.

The mayor forgave the offence of Rushbroke's wife in mis-calling him in the howse called the Swane, being a common inn, because her husband was put to the bench. Rusbroke had taken the said goods from the church to recover payment for certain charges he had been at for the said church, which he now agreed to remit.

4 Sept., 6 Eliz. Election of George Elistone, mayor, and John Rushebroke, bailiff.

7 March, 11 Eliz. Two certificates signed in open court, under the town seal, one for Thomas Camell, "guyder" of the poor house of Colnies, and one for John Deane, proctor of the same house.

Order that any person having occasion to require the town seal to any document, shall pay 2s. 6d.

4 April, 11 Eliz. A rate put upon cattle on the common, for the amending of the bridges, etc., there, especially Kyngesmersche bredge.

28 Mar., 11 Eliz. Robart Humfrye admitted a freeman, and paid 5s. fine; other sums received of Bryand Richardson of Sudbury, brewer, Owlde Cotte, Thomas Harrys, the glover, and Owlde Robardes.

17 Apr., 1569. Payment of the rent of FREBURNES to Richard Masson, schoolmaster.

May, 11 Eliz. Presentments of leather searchers.

2 May, 11 Eliz. Ordered that in every action entered in the court of the town, the attorney's fees for a town dweller shall be 18d., for a foreigner 2s., over and above the costs and charges due in court.

Between 11 June, 11 Eliz. and 13 Eliz. Ten pages containing writing have been torn out.

Accounts of Thomas Rysham *alias* Barbor, mayor.

Paid for perfumes at the hall, when the commissioners were there, 2d.

Charges paid in riding to my Lord Keeper for the appointing of the burgesses for the parliament.

To the Town Clerk for his fee, 20s.

Charges paid in riding to London to the Master of the Rowles for the schole howse and for Jervys.

17 Aug., for the aldermen's dinner at the Swan, when the amercements were received, 5s.

Paid for the makynge of too steppes goynge on to the benche in the mote hall, 8d.

For 8 skaynes of pakethred to mend the Tumblinge nett of the townes, 8d.

The balance delivered into the hands of Mr. Godfrye, mayor, by Mr. Barbor, 18 Aug., 1572.

- 24 April, 14 Eliz. Election of Mr. Richard Eden, gent, and Mr. Martin Cole, gent, to be burgesses of Parliament.
- 31 July, 14 Eliz. John Godfrey chosen mayor for the rest of the year in place of Mr. John Crosse, deceased.
- 1 Sept., 14 Eliz. John Alyston elected mayor, Thomas Harrys, bailiff.
- 1 Sept., 14 Eliz. Order that every alderman provide himself with a robe of scarlett, to attend upon the mayor on every fair day and every other principal feast day, with a velvet typpyt; and every burgess shall provide himself with a gown of murrey, and every burgess that hath been bailiff to have also a tippett of satin or taffeta.
- 1571-2. Money paid:
 For whipping of rogues, 4*d*.
 A loke for the prison dore, 6*d*.
 For reparations of the crosse, 30*s*.
 For whipping of Elizabeth Osborne, 2*d*.
- 2 March, 15 Eliz. George Hibbell, weaver, admitted a burgess.
- 3 Aug., 15 Eliz. Order that none but freemen put cattle on the common; with rates to be charged the said freemen:
 All handy craftsmen to pay for their freedom, 6*s*. 8*d*.
 All other persons, having goods to the value of £10, to pay 40*s*.
 Persons of greater wealth to pay "after the rate."
- 19 Aug., 1573. Edward Jones, one of the proctors of the Colnes howse sworn to be guider of the same house in the place of John Dene, deceased.
- Feast of St. Bartholomew, 15 Eliz. Court of Piepowder.
- 6 Sept., 15 Eliz. Wm. Cole elected mayor, Robert Segar, bailiff.
- 20 Oct., 15 Eliz. 2 persons were appointed to keep typlynge howses for the lodging of fotte men travilers, and 28 such were put downe and commaunded to kepe no typlyng howses.
- 20 Oct., 15 Eliz. Paid unto Mr. Colman of Waldingfeld upon a precept sent by comaundement of the Justices for the reparation of Yarmowthe Haven and Katyward[sic] Bryde [Bridge], 4*s*.
- 23 Oct., 15 Eliz. Received of Mr. John Ellystone:
 The Towne seale and Colnys seale (the weights, measures and seals for marking the same, with the H, and the E and the crown).
- 19 July, 16 Eliz. Admission of freemen.
- 6 Sept., 16 Eliz. Wm. Adams elected mayor, John Howe, bailiff.
 Wm. Cole elected coroner according to the form of the charter.
- 16 Eliz. Accounts of William Cole, mayor.
 I gave therle of Sussex players, 3*s*. 4*d*.
 For whipping Bes Osborne (twice), 4*d*. and 3*d*.
 Paid for bordes, etc., for making strong the prison howse, 11*s*. 6*d*.

- 2 June, 17 Eliz. No houses or tenements in the town to be leased to persons not dwelling in the town, without consent of the mayor and aldermen, under pain of 40s.
- 5 Sept., 17 Eliz. John Godfrey elected mayor, William Adams, coroner, Robert Jacob, bailiff.
- Accounts of Wm. Adam, mayor, 17 Eliz.
 Paid for paper for the leete bookes, 1*d*.
 For nayles for the pipowder bothe, 1*d*.
 Paid to therle of Sussex his players, 2*s*. 9*d*.
- 17 Oct., 17 Eliz. Recital of a laudable custom for punishing of persons committing adultery or fornication, proved by one or two credible witnesses,—the parties to be set on a cart and carried about the town with papers set on their heads, declaring the matter and cause of offence—which ancient and laudable custom and prescription is now by common assent ratified and confirmed, and established to be a law for ever hereafter.
- 23 Feb. [18 Eliz.]. Two men to pay the foreign fine, if they do not depart by Michaelmas next, in consequence of decree that all new comers into this town depart to the place, where they were born, or where they dwelled three years last.
- 6 May, 18 Eliz. Robert Jacob, lately elected bailiff or gatherer of all the rates and other perquisites of the town, has of late obstinately and frowardly denied such good orders and decrees as time out of mind have been established; he is therefore disfranchised.
- 6 May, 18 Eliz. Every occupyer using any manuall occupacion, as grocer, draper, haberdasher or suchlike, shall pay forryn fyne for the first yere 13*s*. 4*d*., and so every year after till he be made a freeman, besides his first entry for his cattell.
- 25 June, 18 Eliz. Restoration of Robert Jacob to the office of bailiff.
- 18 Eliz. Court of Pie Powder at the time of the fair there, held in a place called Gregory Crofte at the Feast of St. Peter.
- 23 July, 18 Eliz. Apprenticeship of Barnard Ingham of Sudbury, aged 11, to Stephen Muriell of Sudbury, wever.
- Same date. Because Martin Cole remitted to the town his expenses and costs as a burgess of parliament, it was considered that he should be allowed to enclose with a pale 4 feet of the townland at the E. corner of his messuage in Boreham gate ende, paying a yearly rent of 2*d*.
- 3 Sept., 1576. Thomas Ofelde elected mayor, John Godfrey, coroner, and John Skynner, gent, bailiff.
- 3 Sept., 1576. There is an order heretofore used that when the baylif is elected the mayor, his brethren and the burgesses should go to the baylif elected and ther to receyve dyet of ther dyner, nowe at this tyme the said John Skynner elected baylif refused to observe the order afforsaid notwithstanding dyvers gentle requestes, therefore he is fyned at

5 Oct., 1576. The said John Skynner delivered his writ of privilege out of the queen's court of Common Pleas at Westminster to be discharged of execution of the said office, by reason whereof some ambiguity hath grown in this behalf; afterwards he was contented to take upon him the said office, in consideration whereof it was ordered that he should be exonerated of all other offices within the town, except the office of alderman and mayor; and Thomas Ofyld, alderman, took upon himself the collection of all such profits as belong to the said office and to pay to the Queen's Majesty the fee farm of the town, and acquit the said John Skynner thereof; and also to keep the dynners for the courtes in all poyntes as belongeth to the same.

Accounts of John Godfreye, mayor [18 Eliz.] :

Paid for clothe to wrappe up the charter in, when it was carryed to London, 6*d*.

Paid to Mr. Martin Cole, when he went up with the charter, £3 12*d*.

Paid for 2 pottes of beere at the Crowne for 2 collectours of the statute of cappes, 2*d*.

Item, paid to them that they should not meddle within the towne, 7*s*. 7*d*.

Paid to the King of Armes for the armes of the towne, 5 marks, and to the Clerke, 4*s*. 2*d*. Total, £3 10*s*. 10*d*.

Item sent to the Master of the Rolls, 6 gallons of clarett wines and for beere and cakes when we talked with Mr. Clarensyas man, 8*s*. 4*d*.

Paid for the Colneys bell, 12*d*.

Paid for Mr. Stuardes dyner and the three officers with him when he sate to chuse a bayliffe, 16*d*.

Paid for Mr. Stuardes dyner at the Swane the second tyme he came about the controversye for owre bayliffe, 6*d*.

Paid to John Cornwell for the making of the seling uppon the mote hall, 20*s*.

Paid to Peter the carpenter for making a pale and a gate at Ballingdon Brydge, 6*s*.

Paid to John Cornewall for a frame for the armes of the towne, 18*d*.

2 Sept., 19 Eliz. Wm. Funston elected mayor, Thos. Ofeld, coroner, and Thomas Robynson, bailiff.

Robynson also neglected to provide the dinner, and was fined, 20*s*.

19 Eliz. Accounts of Thomas Ofyld, mayor.

For making clean all the town armour, 3*s*. 10*d*.

- 14 Apr., 1578. Forasmuch as the corporation hath just title to felons' goods happening within the town and to divers other franchises, which said title and franchises have of late and are very like to be impeached, and dyvers chardges to be susteyned in the defence of the said tytle and franchisez, therefore it is decreed by the assent of the mayor, aldermen and burgesses, that the mayor and every alderman shall pay towards the said charges 2s. 6*d.*; every burgess, 20*d.*, and every other inhabitant such somme of money as they ben particularly assessed and rated in thendyng of this present booke.
- 20 Eliz. Accounts of Wm. Fustone, mayor.
- Charges of Mr. Mayor, Mr. Barbor, Mr. Eliston and the Sergeant riding to London in Michelmes terme about the towne suites—
- For scoring the towne corslett to Willes, 3s. 4*d.*
 For a sword for the towne to Hix, 4s. 8*d.*
 For dressing a dagard to him, 12*d.*
 To Florytt for going to Mr. Johnsons in resisting the clerk of the markett, 16*d.*
 For serching of records in the Tower, 15s.
 For a copi of the charter of the Abbot of Bury, 13 January, 7s. 10*d.*
 For records to Mr. Fenton, clerke of the Tresurye, for the liberties of the towne of Sudbury, 8s.
 To Mr. Aggard on other clarke of the Tresury of Ragmans Row, 6s.
 For a funder serche to him, another tyme, 2s. 4*d.*
 For his and Mr. Bedells dener and serche about the same busines, 2s. 6*d.*
 For Sir Water Myldmais warrant to have license to make serche, 5s.
 To Mr. Bilsby, Keper of the same recordes for his fee, about the serche, 6s. 8*d.*
 To his clarke attending upon the same, 12*d.*
 For a funder serche made by Mr. Bilsbye, 4s. 4*d.*
 For a funder serche by Mr. Goldyng and Mr. Skynner and ther deners, 6s. 2*d.*
 To the Lord Sheffylde players plaine in the towne, 3s. 4*d.*
- 1 Sept., 20 Eliz. Martin Cole elected mayor, Wm. Fanstone coroner, Peter Ellys bailiff.
- 10 Nov., 1578. Assessment for repairing of the Corne Crosse.
- 7 Sept. [21 Eliz.]. John Skynner elected mayor, Martin Cole, coroner, Robert Pote, bailiff.

- 21 Eliz. Accounts of Martin Cole, mayor—
 For a copy of the serche in the exchequer paid to Mr. Skynner,
 6s.
 For a towne chest to Baxter, 12s.
 For 3 lether boxes for the townes evidences, 12*d*.
 For mending of the stockkes, 16*d*.
- 21 Dec., 22 Eliz. Alehouse Keepers licensed by a J.P. for Suffolk
 and a J.P. for Sudbury.
- 24 Dec., 22 Eliz. Sessions held at Sudbury before John Skynner,
 gent, mayor of the said borough, and clerk of the market of
 our Lady the Queen in the said borough.
- 11 Jan., 22 Eliz. Sessions [etc.] before J. S., gent, mayor of the
 said borough, and Justice of the peace in the same.
- 5 Sept., 1580. John Elyston elected mayor, John Skynner, coroner,
 Robert Jervis, bailiff.
- 29 Mar., 23 Eliz. Presentment of Ralph Raynam of Sudbury,
 yeoman, and others for fishing on 25 Feb. last with nets and
 instruments in the common fishery of the Mayor, aldermen
 and burgesses of the said borough, called the lake, without
 right or title, so that the said mayor, etc., could not have and
 enjoy the furst fishing there as they have been accustomed
 from time immemorial. Fine, 10s.
- [23 Eliz.]. The names of thos wiche do paye any rent to the
 Corporacion. Philip Marchall, bocher, for the rent of the stall
 next the Powltri crosse yearly.
- 9 Oct., 1581. Thomas Rede, dyer, indicted for throwing 'dienge
 water' into the common ditch called the 'Cōēn Gull' of the
 borough.
- 16 Oct., 1581. Swearing of Wm. Cole, mayor, John Ellistone,
 coroner, Richard Barton, bailiff.
- 17 May, 15 Eliz. An assessment of the town.
 On the last page is a note of 3 March, 7 Eliz., that Thomas
 Compton, servant unto Edward Skogges, yeoman, purveyor
 to the Queen's Majesty, did take 6 hens in Sudbury market,
 without any officer with him, contrary to the statute.

The book is bound in an indenture between
 Thomas Edon, of Suffolk, Esq., and John Turner, of
 Little Henny, Essex, yeoman, 20 Oct., 15 Elizabeth,
 being a lease of the manor of Lyes, in Little Henny, &c.

A leaf of a Latin theological work in two columns
 remains now as an end-leaf (? the original cover),
 closely written in two columns.

Vol. II. (which should extend from 1582 to 1585) appears to be
 missing.

Vol. III. Lettered, "Burgus de Sudbury, in Com. Suff. Liber Tertius."

26 July, 27 Eliz., 1585.

9 Oct., 40 Eliz., 1598.

The first 5 pages are occupied with orders and decrees touching the court of the town and borough of Sudbury, and of the leet there, and of the court of the manor of Sudbury *alias* Woodhall, and for and concerning all fees, etc., etc., made by the assent of the judges and officers of the whole court.

April, 1602.

The verdicts of the court of the borough of Sudbury are to be fair written on plea rolls of parchment by the steward or his deputy.

All playnts pending are to be entered in a good and convenient book of paper, with all pleadings, etc.

Court rolls of parchment are to be kept for the manor of Woodhall, and also of all leets.

All court rolls, etc., etc., to be delivered to each new mayor on the Monday next after St. Dennis.

Followed by lists of fees of the mayor, steward, etc., etc.

26 July, 27 Eliz.

Articles of Agreement between the corporation of Sudbury and George Goldinge, gent, son of Richard Goldinge, and others, who release all right to any fishing in any water lying at, or being within, "twelve score" [*sic*] of Balingdon bridge; in return for which the corporation grant him one competent and friendly dish of fish every year always, to be delivered at the said bridge.

With a note that George Golding, the younger son to Richard Golding, did fish in Balingdon river in 1633.

1585. **Assessment of a Subsidy.**

6 Sept., 1585. Martin Cole, gent, elected mayor, John Godfrey, coroner, John Curde, junr., bailiff.

Accounts of John Godfrey, gent, mayor, 26 Eliz.—

Paid to Lorde and one other for helping to fish the Lake, 8*d*.

Paid to the Lord of Oxenforde's players, 17 April, 5*s*.

Given to the Earl of Leicester's players the 2 of June, 6*s*. 8*d*.

Paid Mr. Yorke a harrould at armes by consent, the 6 of August, for takeing vewe of oure armes for the towne and in some parte amending them, and for draweing the coate in silver and goulde, 5*s*.

Paid Thomas Pilgrome for a newe towne booke, 2*s*. 8*d*.

5 Sept., 1586. Robert Jervis elected mayor, Martin Cole, coroner, Thos. Pilgrome, bailiff.

4 Sept., 1587. John Ellystone elected mayor, John Lyttle, bailiff.

2 Sept., 30 Eliz. Thomas Smythe elected mayor, John Ellistone, coroner, and John Hedge, bailiff.

5 Oct., 30 Eliz. Thomas Pilgrome elected alderman, *vice* John Ellystone, now deceased, and Wm. Cole elected mayor till the Monday after St. Dennis next (Elliston being dead).

1 Sept., 31 Eliz. Thomas Robynson, gent, elected mayor, Thomas Smythe, coroner, Thomas Godfrey, bailiff.

7 Sept., 1590. Thomas Pilgrome elected mayor, Thomas Robynson, coroner, William Smythe, bailiff.

20 Aug., 1590. A view of weights and measures taken by Thomas Robynson, gent, [mayor of the borough of] Sudburye, and her Majesty's Clerk of the Market in the same town at her Majesty's sessions before him holden, 20 Aug., 32 Eliz.

A list follows of all tradesmen with their weights and measures.

6 Sept., 33 Eliz. John Godfrey elected mayor, Thomas Pilgrom, coroner, and Robert Bryant, bailiff.

20 Julie, 1592. Assessment and rate of sums of money to be gathered of the inhabitants according to the last order taken in her Majesty's Honourable Duchy Court, on behalf of Thomas Godfrey, touching his bill of costs, there allowed at £15.

4 Sept., 34 Eliz. John Howe elected mayor, John Godfrey, coroner, George Osborne, bailiff.

Accounts of John Howe, mayor—

5 sugar loves, wayynge LXV, lb pryse of them £3 13s. 9d., wherof ii. to our worshippful frynd, Sr. Willm. Waldegrave and too other by consent to Mr. Ives, and one waying 18 li., to my Lady Pawllet, in remembrance of her favours toward our pore peopell as allsoe for that hir good Knight, Sir Edward Waldegrave, who holpe us to our charter frome Queen Marye [*sic*].

Item, gave Mr. Dudley Fortescue a Banket at the croone when we chose hym Burges for the parlyment, by consent, 10s. Item, wee was drevne to send a letter of attorney to sware our other burges at London apoynted by Sr. John Fortescue, 13s. 8d.

Item spent upon the bushopp of Norwich Chaunceler by consent of my brethren, 5s. 4d., and to his orgayn player, 2s. 6d. So all, 7s. 10d.

Gave to the Lord Stranges players, 3s. 6d.

To the Earle of Sussex players, 2s. 6d.

Mr. Newman's wages, beyng Towne Clarke, 20s.

For the Sargente's wages and livery, 32s.

Gave to Melford for a relife in the plage tyme, 6s. 8d.

8 Feb., 35 Eliz. William Fortescue and Dudley Fortescue, esquires, elected free-burgesses.

3 Sept. 1593. John Tucke elected mayor, John Howe, coroner, Robert Manwoode, bailiff.

18 Oct., 1593. A note of such thinges as weere delivered by Mr. Howe unto Mr. Tucke, nowe Maior.

First 3 Towne Bookes.

Two town seales and the Colnes seale.

Weights and measures, four leather pailles, etc., etc.

A note on the following page says, more in detail, that there were three brassen sealls, one being the town seal, the other the courte seall, beyng the "fetter loke" (?) with a handell of wood, the other the Colnes seale.

The towne armer at Willes the cutler, that is two costlettes reddy furnyshed, with pikes, swordes and daggards and all other necessities.

Also another pike and a brigonett [? brigantine], and another costlet furnished with swords and daggards and a pike.

Item. Three paper Bokes for the towne matters, as decres, quarter sessions, courtes, and other matters belonging to the town.

2 Sept., 1594. Robert Jervis elected mayor, John Tucke, coroner, John Willett, bailiff.

16 Jan., 1594 [5]. The jury present that William Strutt of Sudburye, clerk, vicar of the parish church of All Saints, on 5 Jan., being Sunday, publicly said morning prayer, not using or putting on a surplesse, contrary to the law and custom of the Kingdom, and against the statute, etc.

Also on St. Stephen's day.

1 Sept., 1595. William Buckstone elected mayor, Robert Jervis, coroner, and Robert Boreham, bailiff.

6 Sept., 1596. John Tucke elected mayor, Wm. Buckeston, coroner, and Thomas Fox, bailiff.

5 Sept., 1597. Peter Grene elected mayor, John Tucke, coroner, and Edmund Welde, bailiff.

9 Oct., 40 Eliz. £100 to be borrowed and laid out in making and finishing half the bridge called Balingdon Bridge. If the inhabitants of Suffolk will not of their goodwill contribute this amount, it shall be collected by an indifferent rate on the inhabitants of Sudbury.

Book IV.

4 Sept., 1598—20 July, 16 James.

4 Sept., 1598. John Hedge elected mayor, Peter Grene, coroner, Ezechiell Adams, bailiff.

23 July, 1599. Presentment *re* Ballingdon Bridge. On 4 Sept., 36 Eliz., it was broken up by a sudden inundation, and now remains in ruinous condition, so that people cannot cross with carts and cattle. It cannot be proved what hundred,

parish, body politic or person is responsible for the repair. For want of such knowledge the jury say that the town of Sudbury should repair half, and the inhabitants of the county of Essex the other half.

3 Sept., 1599. Robert Jervis elected mayor, John Hedge, coroner, and Roger Bridgman, bailiff.

1 Sept., 1600. John Curde elected mayor, Robert Jervis, coroner, Eden Curde, bailiff.

7 Sept., 1601. John Skynner elected mayor, John Curde, coroner, and Thomas Bowen, bailiff.

22 Nov., 44 Eliz. A rate made of all the inhabitants and occupiers of land in Sudbury, how they proportionably shall pay unto the Queen's Majesty the sum of £4 10s. towards the provision to be made for her majesty's household.

6 Sept., 44 Eliz. John Hedge elected mayor, and John Houlton, bailiff.

1602. Accounts of John Skynner, gent, late mayor.

Expenses of a suit in the Duchy Court against Mr. Mawe of Bury for infringing the liberties of Sudbury.

Paid to the clerk of the crown of the King's Bench for the copy of the presentments concerning the great bridge of Balingdon, and for a copy of the answer of the inhabitants of Essex to the said presentments in the time of Mr. Hedge, being last mayor of the said towne.

5 Sept., 1 Jas. I. John Willett elected mayor, and Richard Ellyce, bailiff.

18 Jan., 1603 [-4]. Roger Clarke of Sudbury, labourer, presented for publicly saying scandalous and contemptuous words of the Book of Common Prayer, saying that it ought not to be read in church, and that the same book in many places thereof is not agreeable to the word of God.

22 Feb., 1 Jas. I. Sir Thomas Beekingham, Kt., and Thomas Eden, jun., esq., elected free burgesses.

5 Mar., 1 Jas. I. An assessment to be made of 50s. 6d., laid out in resisting the illegal assessment of £10 and 40s. imposed, set upon John Curde, late mayor, by Robert Dawes, deputy to Richard Dawes, esq., clerk of the market of the late Queen's Majesty's household, which said amercements were set for offences committed only within the town of Sudbury, and be now levied of the goods of the said John Curde, by the officers of Sir Nicholas Bacon, who claims the same as appertaining to his liberty of Bury St. Edmund.

3 Sept., 2 Jas. I. John Curde elected mayor, Edward Newman, bailiff.

2 Sept., 3 Jas. I. John Hedge elected mayor, William Nicholls, bailiff

14 Oct., 3 Jas. I. John Curde, who is coroner by virtue of Queen Mary's charter, is sworn.*

[1607]. Whereas the Hall comonlye called the Moothall of this towne of Sudburye hath byn broughte in much ruyn and decaye by meanes of diuers disordred and unrulie persons resortinge thither to playes of enterludes and other playes heretofore usually suffred to be acted within the same hall, And forasmuch as the saide hall, by the consent of the maior, aldermen and burgeses of the saide towne have byn nowe latlie repaired and bewtified by the nowe maior as well at the greate chardges of the corporacion of this towne, as also at the proper chardges of the saide maior, as upon his accompte nowe shewed forth unto us it doth and maye appeare, For the avoydinge of which inconvenience and to the ende that no more playes may be hereafter acted within the same Hall, It is ordered. . . that if any person or persons which shall succede in the place or office of the maior of this towne . . . shall at any tyme hereafter give licence unto or willinglie permitt or suffer any playes of enterludes or other playes to be acted or kepthe within the same Hall, the same person or persons therein so offendinge shall forfeete and paye to and for the use of the corporacion of the saide towne £5 of good and lawfull money of England for every tyme in that behalffe offendinge.

Account of John Howe, gent., late mayor, 1607—

Paid for tiles, evesbordes, lymes, etc., of the hall, and for mending the gable ends.

To Hockett for seeling the hall, £6 9s.

To Charles Abbott for canvas for the Kinge's armes and one other piece, 11s. 4d.

To John Greene for paynting the Kinge's armes, 25s.

To Jervis for making two porche windows in the roof, 14s.

Item to the Queen's players, 6s.

Mr. Skynner, Town Clerk.

27 May, 1608. The causeway leading from Sudbury cornmills to Brandon (*sic*) in Essex is in bad want of repair. William Gladwyn miller of the said mills, ought to repair the same.

10 Oct., 1609. John Willett sworn mayor, John Holton, who is coroner (as above) sworn, and Oliver Andrewe sworn bailiff.

42 Jas. I. A rate to be made for levying £3 6s. 8d. of the inhabitants of this town for the defending of a suit commenced by William Gladwyn against Giles Elliston touching the erecting of his horsemill within the town, being necessary and beneficial to the inhabitants thereof.

16 Oct., 1609. John Curde sworn mayor, John Willett, coroner, and Wm. Burghe, bailiff.

* From here to the entry 27 May, 1608, referring to the causeway to Brandon, the following entries are filled in in pages left blank, which make a gap.

1610. Accounts of John Willett, mayor—

Paid to the Kinge's players, 5s.

To Willes for scouring the towne armor, 2s. 6*d.*

To Mr. Skynner for putting the auncient demeasne into English, 4s.

Payments to "the Colneis" (for coats, shirts, tendance of the sick, etc.).

- 3 Sept., 8 Jas. I. Thomas Smythe elected mayor, John Curd, coroner, Charles Abbott, bailiff.

- 20 May, 9 James I. On 5 Dec., 5 James I. an order was made restraining mercers, grocers, linen drapers, woollen drapers, butchers, shoemakers, chandlers, and all artificers from selling their wares on the Sabbath day; but there is no restraint upon working or travelling on the said day, which is now prohibited under a pain of 2s. 6*d.*, providing it is always lawful for an apothecary to sell to people resorting to him.

- 2 Sept., 1611. John Howe elected mayor, Thomas Smyth, coroner, Henry Evered, bailiff.

- 29 Aug., 1611. Robert Jervis, whose estate is much decayed, and who refuses to do any service at the mote hall, deprived of his place as an alderman.

1612. Account of Thomas Smythe, mayor—

Paid for dinners, etc., at the Crowne and the Christopher.

To Mr. Ravens, *alias* Richmond, for the allowance of the towne armes, entrance of them in his booke, and the charges of his dynner, 11s. 4*d.*

For the suit in the name of the corporation against William Gladwyn for fishing in Fullingpitt meadow in the broad meadow there, and near Gregory crofte, 20s.

- 1 Sept., 1612. Richard Formyn elected mayor, John Howe, coroner, Robert Parmeter, bailiff.

- 6 Sept., 1613. Wm. Byatt elected mayor, Richard Firmyn, coroner, John Smythe, bailiff.

- 5 Sept., 12 Jas. I. Charles Abbot elected mayor, Wm. Biatt, coroner, and John Skynner, bailiff.

- 5 Oct., 12 Jas. I. The bridge commonly called Sudbury Great Bridge over the Stower is ruinous.

Accounts of William Byatt, mayor—

Given to the Queen's Players, 10s.

Given to the Prynce's Players, 10s.

For the booth at Peeter's fayer, 3s.

For our charges at the Crowne with the Justices for recusants, 4s.

- 4 Sept., 13 Jas. I. John Holton elected mayor, Thomas Baron, bailiff.

Accounts of Charles Abbott, late mayor—

To Prig for soderinge the crosse, 1s. 8*d*.

Geven to the Quene's players, 10s.

Sept., 14 Jas. I. Ezekiel Adams elected mayor, Robert Howe, bailiff.

20 Jan., 14 Jas. I. Martin Warner and George Warner presented for killing a bull, not being baited by dogs as it ought to have been according to the ordinance of the town. (There are several such entries later).

(Two pages blank, apparently where court of Sept., 15 Jas. I. and others should have been entered).

20 July, 16 Jas. I. Order that the Mayor be henceforth discharged from collecting the rents and revenues of the town, and two persons shall be yearly elected chamberlains to collect the same (signed) William Nickoll, mayor, etc., etc.

1618. Accounts of Wm. Nickoll, late Mayor.

Paid to Barton the Knaker for a roop to bait the bull with, 5s.

To Stevens for a day's work with his horse and tomberell to cary earth to levell the grown at Myll hill, 4s.

Given to a man to carry a setter [? letter] for the apprehending of Axsie, 6*d*.

Given to the Quene's and Prince's players a gratuite, 10s.

Given to Kernisson for lead, soder and his work to mend the Corne crosse, 34s.

To Mr. Thirgood the Town Clarke, his waggas, 20s.

1625-6. Account of Wm. Nickoll, late mayor.

Paid for a copy of a petition sent by the fremen into the parlement conserneing "to Coyse" of Burgesses, 2s. 6*d*.

For a petition sent by the corporation into the parlement to answer the petition sent by the fremen, 2s. 6*d*.

Account of Wm. Nickoll, mayor, 1635—

Given to an Irish gentillwoman which came with a passe, 1s.

To an Irish gentellman named Corlew, 1s. 6*d*.

Given to seventeen poore cripples which weare sent to an ospitall in Norfolk, 2s.

Payed to White the carpender to mend the Bridewell House, 6s. 6*d*.

The names of all those unto whom the £10 of Mr. Hunewick's Gyft was given and bestowed, 1635, by me, William Nickoll, mayor (on the second page of this book is a note of the will of John Hunwyck of Colchester, merchant, dated 24 Nov., 36 Eliz. (1593), bequeathing £300, the interest thereof (£30) to be paid every 5th year, £10 to Ipswich, £10 to Sudbury, £10 to Malden, for their poor).

Book V.

(No record of election of mayor, bailiff, etc., 16 James I.

17 Oct., 16 James I.

—28 Sept., 12 Chas. I.

Note of the several parties that had shirts and smocks * according to the gift of Mr. Martin Cole, deceased, 30 May, 1622 (arranged in parishes).

4 Mar., 16 James I. John Smyth presented for disturbing John Harrison, clerk, celebrating divine service at St. Peter's.

Alice Curly, wife of John Curly, absented herself from her parish church at divine service, 28 Feb., 16 Jas. I., and permits men of evil fame and conduct to frequent her house.

6 Sept., 17 Jas. I. John Willett elected mayor, Benjamin Fisser, bailiff.

1618. Account of Thomas Smith, late mayor.

To the Quene's players, the Ladye Elizabeth, her players, and the Children of the Revelles, every of them, 10s. ; in all, 30s.

Layd out for a new town book, 2s. 6d.

16 Oct., 17 Jas. I. Wheras there is a *quo warranto* brought out of the crown office against the corporation, it was ordered that the same should be defended at the general charge, and a rate presently made.

4 Sept., 18 Jas. I. William Byat elected mayor, William Shave, bailiff.

1619-20. Account of John Willett, late maior.

Paid to the Princes and the Lady Elizabeth's servants, and to the Children of the Revells, to every of them, 6s. ; in all, 18s.

Account of disbursements out of £4 received from Sir Robert Crane for the Colnes.

3 Jan., 18 Jas. I. Election of Brampton Gurdon, Esq., and [] Osborne of Sudburie, free burgesses.

30 May, 19 Jas. I. Thomas Gurney of Sudbury, innkeeper, presented for fishing with a casting net in the free fishery of the mayor, etc., and in the liberties, limits and precincts of the said borough, and taking 100 roaches, 100 perches and 40 pikes, value 20s.

Similar presentments of John Bowser of Sudbury, kember, and John Coppin and Edward Thorpe, weavers.

3 Sept., 19 James I. Robert Howe elected mayor, William Hills, bailiff.

13 May, 19 James I. A decree concerning commons.

2 Sept., 20 James I. Charles Abbot elected mayor, and John Curd, bailiff.

* The early churchwardens' book of St. Gregory has a list of those who received 'shifts' on Holy Thursday, 1682.

1622. Accounts of Robert Howe, late maior.

Paid for skouring the ryver between Ballingdon bridge and Cocke Myll more then was levied by rate, 9s. 7*d*.

Given to the Queen's players, the La: Elizabeth, her players, and the Children of the Revells, 28s.

To the two soldiers that did wear the towne armor at Babor heath, 2s.

To Nicholas White for making the dopping stoole, 12s. 10*d*.

1 Sept., 21 Jas. 1. John Holton elected mayor, John Croke, bailiff.

8 March, 21 Jas. 1. Order that brewers, inhoders, alehouse-keepers and tiplers shall brew with sea-cole, in view of the scarcity and dearness of fuell and fierwood.

6 July, 22 Jas. 1. Order that John Chamberlyn, Thomas Gourney and Justinian Kinge be common brewers for the towne of Sudbury, and brew with sea-cole only and not with wood.

6 July, 1624. Orders for the House of Correction, for the safe keeping, punishing and setting to work of Rouges, vagabones, sturdie beggers, idle persons and such as are not able to fynde for themselves habitacions, nor to susteyne themselves and their children, through their owne willfull slouthfullnesse, beinge stronge of boddie and able to worke, and will not, etc., etc.

Francis Longe of Sudburye, clothier, to be master of the said house.

6 Sept., 22 Jas. 1. Robert Howe elected mayor, John Gouldinge, bailiff.

1622-3. Accounts of Charles Abbott, late mayor.

Paid to two companies of players, 20s.

To Mr. Lea for his wages, 20s.

West country packthread and other items to mend the nets.

For one to watch the Plashlake, 6*d*.

For two locks for the town chest, 2s.

5 Sept., 1 Chas. 1. Wm. Nicholl elected mayor, and John Lord, bailiff.

4 Sept., 2 Chas. 1. John Willett elected mayor, John Ruggell, bailiff.

1626. Accounts of Robert Howe, late mayor.

3 Sept., 3 Chas. 1. Richard Skynner elected mayor, and William Hasell, bailiff.

20 Aug., 4 Chas. 1. Presentments for not attending the parish churches, viz., of Eden Curd, son of William Curd, late of Sudbury, butcher (St. Peter's), Ezekiel Adams, junior, cordwayner, John Wodes of St. Gregory's, comber, Anne and Joan Marshall of St. Peter's, spinsters.

13 Oct., 4 Chas. 1. Thomas Smyth sworn mayor, and Vincent Cocke, bailiff.

12 March, 1628 [9]. Further order *re* use of sea-coal by brewers.

29 June, 5 Chas. I. At the court of Piepowder at St. Peter's fair, William Shave is fined 2s. for walking about with the mayor and other aldermen in a gray coloured hat on his head, to the bad example of the others.

7 Sept., 5 Chas. I. Benjamin Fisher elected mayor, Daniel Byatt, bailiff.

An undated order that all members of the corporation are to walk on public occasions according to due precedence, under pain of 5s.

1628. William Maishant, keeper of the House of Correction.

6 Sept., 6 Chas. I. William Hasell elected mayor, John Willett, bailiff.

1628-29. Accounts of Thomas Smyth, maior.

Received for old armour of Richard Browne, 6s. 10*d*.

For one mace mendyng at London, for carrying upp and downe and to the goldsmyth at home, 11s. 10*d*.

5 Sept., 7 Chas. I. Thomas Baron elected mayor, Richard Golding, bailiff.

1632. Accounts of Benjamin Fisher, late maior.

10 Dec., 8 Chas. I. Order concerning the House of Correction; William Maizant, governor.

3 Sept., 8 Chas. I. Daniel Biatt elected mayor, Nicholas Last, bailiff.

The following are presented for not going to their parish church of All Saints: John Woodes, Nathaniel Garrard and Alice his wife, John Partridge and Anne his wife, Thomasine Sheffield, widow, Mary, wife of Thomas French, George Pentlowe, Thomas Totty and Anne his wife, Robert Page and Martha his wife, and John Wattes and Martha his wife.

18 Jan., 1633 [4]. A similar presentment *re* Edward Sheffield of the same parish.

1632. Accounts of Thomas Barron, late mayor.

To Mr. Alston for his towne clerkes wages, 20s.

2 Sept., 9 Chas. I. John Andrewe elected mayor, Oliver Andrewe, bailiff.

1634. Accounts of Daniel Biatt, late maior.

Spent at the Chequer in wyne with Mr. Doctor Warren and Mr. Spenser, when did wee meete aboute making the river navigable, 2s.

Paid to John Grigges for a paten for the butter crosse, 2s. 6*d*.

1 Sept., 10 Chas. I. William Nicholls elected mayor, John Meade, bailiff.

1636. Accounts of Thomas Baron, late mayor.

Layd owte to 18 men for watching that nighte the fyer was
in Weegen end, 6s.

To Mr. Mann for his towne clarke's wages, £1.

Accounts of John Goulding, late mayor.

For a new town book, 3s. 8d.

Book VI. (without a cover) begins 15 Charles I. to 1672, the entries
being irregular, and the various items merely jottings for the
most part. At the other end of the book are lists of freemen
and commoners, 1710—1716, 1718—1728.

18 June, 1639. John Lord, mayor.

24 Aug., 15 Chas. I. Court of Piepowder.

General Sessions of the peace, held 8 Oct., 1639.

" " " 20 Feb., 15 Chas. I.

Court of Piepowder of Gregory's fair, 12 Mar., 15 Chas. I.

Court of the Borough, 16 March, 1639 [40].

Richard Pepys, Esq., elected a free burgess.

View of Frankpledge, 20 Apr., 16 Charles I.

General Sessions of the peace, 9 July, 16 Charles I. William
Hasell, mayor.

Court of ordinations and decrees and for election of officers, 7 Sept.,
16 Chas. I. Daniel Byatt elected mayor, Robert Metcalfe,
bailiff.

Court of ordinations and decrees and for election of officers, 17 Oct.,
16 Chas. I.

General Sessions of the Peace, 1 March, 16 Chas. I.

General Sessions of the Peace, 6 Oct., 17 Chas. I.

General Sessions of the Peace, 7 Mar., 17 Chas. I. John Lord,
mayor.

Court of ordinations, etc., 5 Sept., 18 Chas. I. William Byatt
elected mayor, John Fothergill, bailiff.

General Sessions, etc., 9 Sept., 18 Chas. I.

20 Sept., 1642. It is decreed that no sergeants or crier keep an
alehouse.

Court of ordinations, etc., 10 Oct., 18 Chas. I.

William Byatt and John Fothergill sworn.

25 Oct., 1642. Order for watching in the time of the civil war.

Whereas in these troublesome and dangerous tymes of warr
in this kingdome of England this towne of Sudbury for neglect
of a sufficient watch by the inhabitants of the same towne to
bee kept every night is in a great and eminent danger of fireing
or other crime to bee donne to the same towne by Cavaleeres,
Papists and those of the Malignant party which wish, indeavour,
plott and devise the destruction of this saide Kingdome and
consequently of this towne. Wee, the Mayor, Aldermen and

chieffe Burgesses of this Towne of Sudbury whose names are hereunder written doe order and decree for the present Security of this Towne that there shall be a sufficient watch kept in this Towne of Twelve persons to bee sufficient housekeepers whoe shall pay to the value of 1*d.* by the weeke collection whoe shall begin their watch at eight of the clock in the even until sixe in the morning to be warned throughout the towne by the family by the Constables of every of the said parishes. And if any man being warned shall refuse to watch as above said, either in person or by a sufficient deputie, then to forfeit for [every] offence 2*s.*, to be to the use of the said Corporation. And if any neglect shall bee in the said Constables, or any of them, then bee or they so neglecting to forfeite to the use above said the summe of 5*s.* for every offence. (Signed) Willm. Byatt, maior, Willm. Nickoll, Tho. Barron, Roger Scarninge, Richard Caunt, John Fothergill, Robert Medcalfe, Francis Longe, John Cooke, William Abbot, John Goulding, John Lord, John Skynner, John Wiatt, Nicholas Last, John Mead, Henerey Cocksadge, Robert Hasell, Nathaniell Kinge, Thomas Gilson, John Death.

Court of Piepowder, 13 March, 18 Chas. I.

Court of orders and decrees, together with the court leet, 6 May, 1644.

Order relating to the commons, (signed) John Mead, mayor, etc., etc.

Court of Orders and Decrees, together with the court leet, 14 July, 1645, before William Abbot, Mayor.

Order relating to the repair of the common pump near the Moot Hall, with a list of people from whom contributions should be levied; order relating to the repair of the common well by the Fryers' Wall.

Borough of Sudbury, 21 July, 1645. Order concerning the payment of the fee-farm rent.

Order concerning the commons.

Court of Orders and Decrees, 2 May, 1646.

Order concerning Commons.

Account of William Abbott, Mayor, from Monday, feast of St. Dennis, till 12 March, 1645.

Fine of Francis Long, late bailiff, for not keeping the customary feast, £8.

To certain Irish gentlewomen . . . to ridde them out of the town, 5*s.* 6*d.*

Expenses for a journey to London, for drawing up the cause of commitment, etc.,

For obtaining a copy of Steward's false oath and affidavit which he made before the Judge against us for our three oathes, viz., Mr. Meade, Mr. Man, and myself to disprove him, £1 3*s.* 4*d.*

For the messenger belonging to Parliament for the service done, and for our diet and other charges about getting a hearing, £1 3s. 2d.

Item to Sergeant Bartlet, sometime Judge of the Court at Westminster, for his counsel about the habeas corpus certiorari for wine selling in town, £1.

For diet and horsemeat there and by the way home, and for our discharge out of the Court, £2 10s. 5d.

Many other items relating to the same case.

29½ lbs. of dubble refine sugar which I sent for a gift by consent unto Mr. Gurdon and the Colonel, his son, at 16s. the lb., £1 19s. 4d.

For a journey to Bury for an order concerning £4 due from the Treasury of Suffolk to the Colneise in regard to the wrong Steele hath done to the poor in misemploying the same contrary to the grant of the donor, etc., 16s.

For a sessions dinner to the Jury, £1 17s. 6d.

For wine and sugar . . . when we gave Judge Gorbould a visit at the Crowne at his coming to town, 6s.

Orders and Decrees, 16 May, 1647.

On account of complaints concerning deceit in the weight of wool and yarn, and of drinking in the houses where bargaining goes on, ordered that all wool and yarn be brought to the cornmarket under the Moot Hall to be weighed, and nowhere else shall it be bought or sold.

Rates of market dues.

The wool-market to be held every Monday.

A decree for restraining the nuisance by hogs, 17 May, 1647.

Order for appointing a scavenger (undated).

Court of Orders and Decrees, 20 Nov., 23 Chas. I.

A list of orders which had not been duly entered as they should have been.

- (1) Regulating the fine for admission to freedom.
- (2) In lieu of the grand dinner on Hockmonday the Bailiff to pay £8 to the Chamberlains towards a town stock, and to make an ordinary court-dinner, one of the eight court-dinners which according to custom hath been.
- (3) An order to make the Bay Hall over the Shoochall into a storage for the wool of foreigners [erased].
- (4) An order concerning the passages about St. Peter's Church and the Cornmarket, and against bringing horses into the new Cornmarket.
- (5) Appointment of a treasurer to relieve poor distressed and undone persons driven out of Ireland by the enemy.
- (6) Order for planting willow-setts upon the Commons.

- (7) Ditto, for repairing the Shoehouse under the Bay Hall or for paying a sum yearly for a room for the bailiff instead of the place now appointed for the Corn-market.

The Account of William Abbot, late mayor, 29 Nov., 1647.

Rents of houses.

For Sessions dinner on Plowmonday, £1 3s. 8*d*

For an iron beam to weigh wool and yarn, 17s.

For two iron half-hundred weights, 17s. 7*d*.

For expenses in attending a meeting of the Commissioners of Sewers at Clare for the cleansing of the Stour, 5s. 6*d*.

The Account of William Abbot, late Mayor, 13 May, 1649.

For rents of butchers' and shoemakers' stalls.

Disbursed for my fine for non-appearance at the Assizes unjustly imposed, being unavoidable, 13s. 4*d*.

For my journey to London about the cessments, £18 8s.

At Court of Orders and Decrees, 12 Nov., 1647.

Order concerning poor travellers.

Orders concerning saymakers and weavers, 31 Oct., 1648.

Settling the number of wardens, the number of looms to be kept by one person, the binding of apprentices; every clothier or weaver to have served as apprentice; every apprentice to have a testimonial; names of journeymen to be registered; journeymen to finish cloths before leaving a master; penalty for wilfully spoiling work; notice of leaving to be given by a journeyman, after which he must weave four cloths; cloth to be marked, and weaving not to be put out of the town so long as it may be well and orderly done by the weavers of the town; the overseers to try the work of any poor weaver who is not able to make his wages, and to endeavour to make an arrangement for better wages; two or more honest inhabitants—some clothiers, some weavers—to be chosen on St. Bartholomew's day by the said company of weavers with the consent of the Mayor and Aldermen [no office mentioned]; overseers to endeavour to end the controversies between master and apprentice; masters needing an apprentice are bound to take the son of a poor artificer at the request of the overseers, churchwardens or Mayor, or to pay a fine of 20s.; the overseers and collectors to account to the Mayor and Aldermen quarterly.

Orders and Decrees concerning the House of Correction, 1648.

Appointment of a governor and details of his functions; provision for the lame and diseased; the Mayor and Aldermen to view the utensils, etc., there, and they to be recorded in this book; the Governor to provide work and food, etc., at his own cost, but to be lent £10; the malt mill in the house to be set in repair; ale houses to be bound to send fixed quantities of malt to be ground.

Order for repairing the pump and well upon the Butter Market [undated].

Orders and Decrees, [] Nov., 1648.

Order for part of the Shoothouse in the Bay Hall next the churchyard to be closed in for the bailiff to keep boards and staff for stalls for fairs and markets there, in place of the trestlehouse now used as a cornmarket; for the cornmarket to be railed in so that no one can ride through; for apprentices to leave their indentures in the custody of the Town Clerk till the end of their term.

Names of such of the Company and the sums they have contributed to two new maces. Total, £19 12s. 8d.

Account of William Abbot, late Mayor, for the time of his mayoralty delivered before the Company of Mayor, Aldermen and Chief Burgesses, 10 Oct., 1653.

Received for bulls unbayted contrary to statute, £1 6s. 8d.

Received of constables for payment of alehouse keepers for the quartering of soldiers, £7 11s. 8d.

Paid to Mr. Welton that married widow Gurney, £1.

To Samuel Skinner for the new maces, £20 7s.

Order by the Trustees for the sale of fee farm rents that the Mayor etc., pay £21 3s. 1½d. due for the borough, and 9s. rent reserved on the site of the late Preaching Friars in Sudbury to John Fothergill, Esq., who has contracted for them, 20 Aug., 1650.

Account of John Goulding, gent, late Mayor, 21 July, 1651.

Received of Thomas Foster for a half-year's rent of the chamber over Bayhall, 8d.

Paid to three poor Irish women and their children, 4s. 6d.

Account of Thomas Gunton, gent, late mayor for the last year, 3 May, 1652.

Paid for several Acts of Parliament, 9d.

Laid out at London about the ministers, 1s. 6d.

Account of Joseph Mann, gent, for his mayoralty last year, 10 Apr., 1654.

Paid to Mr. Barnard for fee for his advice to procure us some maintenance for ministers, 10s.

Various items in expenses relating to an indictment against the constables for not paying the rate for county bridges.

At General Sessions of the Peace, 5 Apr., 1653.

Orders concerning commons.

At Court of Orders and Decrees, 9 May, 1653

Order concerning commons.

At Court Leet and Court of Orders and Decrees, Hockmonday, 1654.

Order concerning commons,

At Court of Orders and Decrees, 30 Oct., 1654.

Order concerning commons.

The Account of Wm. Byatt, late Mayor, 1 Jan., 1654.

At Court of Orders and Decrees, 20 Oct., 1656.

To preserve the Sabbath, butchers to depart the market on Saturday (market-day) at 7 p.m. from 29 September to 25 March; after at 8 p.m.

At Court of Orders and Decrees, 30 Oct., 1656.

Aldermen and Chief Burgesses to appear at the Moot Hall when summoned; the bell to be rung and the hourglass turned up.

The Account of Jn. Death, gent, late mayor, 1656.

At a general Session of the Peace, 20 Jan., 20 Chas. II.

Order concerning Colneis money due from the Treasurer of the King's Bench.

Account of John Warner, gent, late mayor, 1656-7.

Paid to the troop of horse and to the foot and to the trumpeter when the Lord Protector was proclaimed, £1 7s.

Account of Mr. Joseph Mann, late mayor, 1657.

Account of Samuel Hasell, gent, late mayor, 1659.

Account of Mr. Nathaniel Kinge, late mayor, 1660.

Paid for discharging of the great guns, 2s. 6d.

For trumpeting in the morning when we went to choose the knights of the shire, 1s.

Account of Wm. Byatt, gent, late mayor, 1660-1.

Account of John Cooke, gent, late mayor, 1661-2.

Account of John Death, gent, late mayor, 1662-3.

Account of Nathl. Kinge, gent, late mayor, 1663-4.

Account of Barnard Carter, for moneys disbursed about the renewing of the Charter, 1665-6. Total, £118.

Account of Christopher Pettit, late mayor, 1666.

Account of Mr. Joseph Wood, late mayor, 1669.

Account of Mr. John Cook, late mayor, 1667.

Many payments to seamen.

Account of Wm. Gilson, gent, late mayor, 1670.

Account of Francis Kinge, gent, late mayor, 1671.

To Henry Pleasance, chipping and scouring the Standard.

Account of Danl. Cooke, late mayor, 1672.

Sudbury. Orders and Decrees. Beginning 19 July, 1658. Ending 28 August, 1681." [Note the last court is 15 Apr., 1685.]

20 Sept., 1658. Order that no cakes and wine be provided at the funerals of members of the Corporation, to prevent confusion such as had arisen.

A green carpet and thirty-two green cushions to be provided at the Moot Hall at the expense of the Mayor, Aldermen and Chief Burgesses.

4 Oct., 1658. Proposition of Mr. Maynard to make the river navigable from Maningtree to Sudbury.

The book includes also General Quarters Sessions of the Peace from 1658 onwards.

7 Dec., 1658. Order for an address of acknowledgment and congratulation to be handed by the Corporation next week to Richard, Lord Protector.

11 July, 1661. Bequest of £20 by Mrs. Suzan Aylett for a town stock for coals and wood for the poor.

12 Aug., 1661. Order for repair of the Bridewell House of Correction.

26 Aug., 1661. The Chamberlain to take off all the gates of the town at the end of the town and make money thereof for the repair of Ballingdon Bridge.

Court of Piepowder in the Moot Hall, Wednesday, 12 March, 1661; 12 March, 1662-3, and throughout the book yearly 12 March, 29 June, 1667, 4 Aug., 1667, etc.

Bye-election, 1661.

View of Frankpledge, 14 Apr., 1662, 1664, etc., 10 Apr., 1665, 1666 etc. Declaration by Geo. Denny of Chancery Lane, 11 Apr., 1664, that he will use his best skill with regard to the renewing of the Charter.

29 Aug., 1664. Rate of fines due from those who refuse to take office.

Sessions of the Peace, 7 Oct., 1664, 3 Apr., 1665, 7 Oct., 1665, Jan., 1665, 3 Sept., 1666, and throughout the book.

7 Oct., 1664. Deposition of an alderman.

3 Apr., 1665. Order for making of a prison for debtors within the Bridewell.

7 Sept., 1665. Order for building houses in the clay pits as pest houses in case the plague shall be in the town. Order against carrying wool and yarn out of the town.

3 Nov., 1665. A searcher of the plague sworn.

27 Nov., 1665. The watch to be omitted for the present and the ward to be carefully upholden from 5 a.m. till 9 p.m. Note, appointment of wardsmen, 18 July, 1666.

Sessions of Peace, 19 Apr., 1667. Great inconvenience having arisen from refusal of the overseers of the poor of St. Gregory to aid the officers which have been appointed for St. Peter, which is in reality a chapelry, but has become reputed to be a district parish, the overseers of St. Gregory are ordered to act also for St. Peter.

18 Nov., 1668. A refutation of the Solemn League and Covenant by the Mayor and a few others.

17 May, 1669. To prevent irregularities which have arisen, no person is to have the freedom of the common unless he show the Mayor the cocket of his admission to the freedom of the town.

Apparently courts are omitted from 17 May, 1669-12 July, 1669.

- 5 Oct., 1669. The foreign fine quadrupled.
 5 Oct., 1669. Agreement touching an Act of Parliament for the settlement of a conforming minister, since many people absent themselves and attend conventicles.
 18 Nov., 1669. Proceedings against defamers of the Corporation.
 12 July, 1670. Order that the constables no longer give drink to the watch at night, as they have been used to do.
 12 March, 1672. Thos. Griggs to glaze his tallow shop a nuisance to his neighbour.

Proceedings in the later court are scanty and formal.

Ordres and Decrees, 1717—1733.

- A stiff-covered book beginning 2 Oct., 1717, ending 26 Nov., 1733.
 19 Oct., 1717. "King's Court for the Borough."
 14 May, 1719. Purchase of two fire-engines to be kept in St. Peter's and All Saints' Churches. See also 20 Dec., 1731.
 18 May, 1721. No person save members of the Corporation to be in Court during debates.
 4 Jan., 1723. Ordered that a fair be holden 17, 18, 19 September.
 23 May, 1723. The Corporation Shoe-house to be pulled down and the materials used in repairing the gaol.
 19 May, 1726. Order concerning the purchase and custody of aldermen's gowns.
 Verdict of Mr. John Sparrow, 1729, on the sale of boots and shoes.

Orders and Decrees, 1749. A leather-bound book containing

- (1) The names of the Mayor, Aldermen and Capital Burgesses, May, 1750.
 - (2) Proceedings of the Court of Orders and Decrees from 9 May, 1750—29 Oct., 1771, ending in the mayoralty of John Oliver.
- 25 May, 1753. Details of the debate on the restoration of Samuel Wyatt, weaver and Jonathan Wyatt, weaver, to the freedom of the Borough of which they had been deprived. Their father's vote had been set aside by the House of Commons upon the assertion of John Cock (called Surly Cock), that he was not free of the borough.
 28 March, 1760. The opinion of Mr. Weller to be taken touching the right of persons carrying on trades within this borough. they not being free thereof.

At the end of the book is a summary of contents.

Book A. Borough of Sudbury. Court Book of Orders and Decrees.

Beginning 2 Sept., 1771, ending 30 Oct., 1780. (Complete).

- Fol. 9, 29 Oct., 1771. The Ancient Customs in respect to the title of freeman of the borough admit (1) the son of a freeman at 21; (2) the apprentice of a freeman; (3) any person by favour or by purchase by the consent of the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses, but the Court rejects all claims that are

not warranted by the said ancient customs. [Signed] John Oliver, Mayor.

Fol. 15, 28 Jan., 1772. Record of dissensions as to the admission of freemen and protest of the Mayor and fourteen others against violence used with regard to the pretended admission of John Addison, John French and Richard French to the freedom of the borough, 29 Oct., 1771, when a "wicked, seditious and turbulent multitude of ill-advised men under the false pretence of asserting their title to the freedom of this Corporation, but with an illegal design to disturb the peace . . . did so effectually break in upon the business of the Court as to necessitate the Mayor to dissolve the same." At the dissolution of the Court the mob prevented the return of the Mayor, Aldermen and Capital Burgesses, imprisoning them in the Town Hall from between eleven and twelve a.m., till after nine at night, denying the access of their friends and depriving them of refreshment; and at the close of the day the mob put out the lights and continued their inhuman outrages and threats with horrid imprecations in the dark, throwing stones, pieces of timber, and the buckets that hung in the Hall . . . so that in the end we were compelled to assent." [Signed]

John Oliver, Mayor.	Jona. Hawes.	Stephen Oliver.
Wm. Humphrey.	Rowld. Godfrey.	Thos. Firmin.
Peter Delande.	Jas. Godfrey, Senr.	W. Strutt.*
Dansie Carter.	Isaac Olive, Junr.	Jno. Abbot, Junr.
J. Hasell.	Thos. Kimmis.	Rich. Gardiner.

28 Feb., 1772. A large number of freemen were admitted; also in the following court.

Various references to the fee farm of £21 3s. 1½d. to the receiver of Honour of Clare; to inconveniences due to irregularity in the admission of freemen; many admissions took place in 1778.

Borough of Sudbury. Minutes of Courts of Orders and Decrees, 1778-1785. *Hodge, Town Clerk.*

A book slightly injured by damp, beginning 9 July, 1778, ending 16 June, 1785. Evidently rough drafts only of the Proceedings. Chiefly admissions of freemen.

Book B. Book of Orders and Decrees. From 24 May, 1781, to 24 June, 1822. With an index of proceedings and of enrolments in the Cocket Book.

Note. Fol. 191, 27 Oct., 1791. Order for publication of the Recorders' reply in Proceedings of the Quarter Sessions of

* In 1774 it was proved before the Committee for Controverted Elections that William Strutt, mayor, and the other members of the corporation refused to admit to the freedom, inhabitants duly qualified by the custom of the borough.

the Peace, which have been misrepresented in Public Prints, relative to the forcible separation of the Jury without giving a verdict.

The back cover of this Book is entitled "Book of Entries Respecting the River Stower Navigation, 1781."

Fol. 1. A list of all boats, barges, etc., navigating upon the River Stour from Manningtree to Sudbury, with the names of their owners, 1781-95.

Fols. 3-11. Minutes of the annual meetings of the Commissioners appointed for putting in force the Act of 21 Geo. III., for executing the Act of 4 and 5 Queen Anne for making the River Stour navigable from Manningtree to Sudbury. The proceedings date from 22 May, 1799 to 11 Oct., 1811, but are incomplete. They contain regulations for the setting of staunches and the appointment of new commissioners.

Fol. 8. A notice to the town clerk of the setting up of a printing press by John Burkitt of Sudbury, 7 Dec., 1799.

Borough of Sudbury. Minutes of Courts of Orders and Decrees, beginning 4 Sept., 1785. *Hodge, Town Clerk.*

A paper book containing—

- (1) A printed copy of the oath of admission to the freedom of the Borough.
- (2) Proceedings of the Courts of Orders and Decrees from 4 Sept., 1785—8 Dec., 1790. Scrappy and badly kept.

Borough of Sudbury. Minutes of Courts of Orders and Decrees, Commencing 2 June, 1791. *Hodge, Town Clerk.* Containing proceedings of the courts from 2 June, 1791—26 May, 1815. Evidently a rough draft.

Borough of Sudbury. Minutes of Courts of Orders and Decrees, Commencing 4 Sept., 1815. *Frost, Town Clerk.* Containing rough drafts of the proceedings of the courts until 12 Oct., 1835.

Note. 3 July, 1830, an account of the proclamation of William IV.

N.B.—"The Book of Orders and Decrees B. from 24 May, 1781 to 24 June, 1822," is evidently a fair copy of the above minutes for the period which it covers.

Book C. Borough of Sudbury in the County of Suffolk. Court Book of Orders and Decrees. Beginning 31st Aug., 1822.

Containing—

- (1) A list of the forty-eight persons nominated to the end that a mayor may be elected with the assent of twenty-four of them, 31 Aug., 1822, and similar lists till 1834.
- (2) Proceedings of the Court of Orders and Decrees from 2 Sept., 1822 to 12 Oct., 1835.
- (3) An index of contents.

Book of Quarter Sessions, from 8 Jan., 1749, to 15 July, 1771.

A leather bound book damaged by the damp.

14 Jan., 1754. List of ale-houses, their names and occupiers ; similar lists occur throughout the book.

Loose in the book. A list of persons liable to serve on the Grand Jury, 1765-8.

At the back of the book are—

Minutes of proceedings of the *Court Leet* from 30 Apr., 1750 to 15 Apr., 1771.

“Borough of Sudbury in the County of Suffolk. Quarter Sessions.

Book beginning Epiphany Sessions, Jan., 1781,” or the Sessions and Leet Book containing, at one end, the Proceedings at the Quarter Sessions in the Moot Hall from 9 Jan., 1781 to Friday, 8 Apr., 1836.

Note. Fol. 65. Proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Commissioners for the Navigation of the Stour, 30 Sept., 1782.

Fol. 69. Similar proceedings, 1788, and throughout the book, especially fol. 414.

Fol. 120. At the Quarter Sessions, 6 Oct., 1794. Ratification of a friendly society meeting monthly at the Bull.

Fol. 125. At the Petty Sessions, 2 Apr., 1795, William Strutt, Esq., Mayor, and William Oliver, Esq., J.P., order that the return relating to the raising of men for the navy be made by the churchwardens later, since they have used the utmost endeavour to make a return but have been unable to do so. Finally two men, a currier and a millwright, are enrolled as volunteers.

No sessions for 1804.

On the back cover, “Borough of Sudbury, Court Leet Book,” beginning 30 Apr., 1781, ending 18 Apr., 1831.

The court meets yearly “on the Moothall,” jurors are sworn and constables elected, the court adjourns to an inn where presentments are made, of which no details are given.

Cocket Books. A series of four books containing the admissions of freemen from 17 Sept., 1657—7 May, 1812.

Cocket Book I. A parchment covered book entitled “Cockets of Freemen,” and on the back, “A Book of Apprentice Indentures.”

17 Sept., 1657—30 Apr., 1723. No admissions, 1688-94, 1696-1703 ; 1708-11. Admissions are entered in the following form :—

“Memorandum the Seaventh day of September in ye yere of our Lord 1657 in the time of the Mayoralty of John Warner gent, Mayor of the Borrough aforesaid Edward

Vynes who served his apprenticeship with Francis Ellitt of Sudbury aforesaid Saye-maker was admitted a free burgesse of the Borrough aforesaid Soe that he the Libertyes and Priviledges of the same Borrough maye freely and lawfully use and enjoye As other like free Burgesses there from the tyme of which to the Contrary the memory of man is not to use and enjoye have accustomed. And he gives for his first entrance of one horse on to the Commons Twenty-shillings And as the manner is the said Edward is swoarne before the said Mayor to all the lawfull Rights Jurisdictions Libertyes Priviledges Customs orders decrees and hereditaments of the same Borrough to his power well and faithfully to maintayne and keepe etc."

[Signed] John Warner, Mayor.

From 1664 admissions are in Latin.

The fine varies in amount from 20s. (generally from an apprentice) to £5.

Curious fines are:—

Edward Smyth, chandler of Sudbury, 6 June, 1671, £6 et duo situla aquaria in le Mootehall pro usu burgi suspensa. Two other freemen give two buckets at about the same date.

Sons of former burgesses evidently paid no fine.

From 1706 there are memoranda that the admissions took place in the Court of Orders and Decrees in the Moothall.

John Skippen, Esq., M.P. for Sudbury, admitted, 20 Dec.. 1706.

Harvey Elwes, Bart., admitted, 5 Aug., 1706.

At the end of the admissions is the copy of a declaration by the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of Sudbury, 10 Oct., 1646, reciting that the borough and town, with the manor of Sudbury, alias Woodhall in Sudbury, is of the ancient demesnes of the Crown, and a member of the Honour of Clare, and thus annexed to the Duchy of Lancaster; and that by reason of charters to the former holders of the Duchy and Honour, and to the Mayors, bailiffs and burgesses of Sudbury, the tenants, farmers or inhabitants of the Duchy or the Honour or of the Manor of Sudbury should be free from tolls, etc., throughout the realm; and declaring that Francis Whitlock, clothier, of Sudbury, is a free burgesse of the borough.

At the end of Book I. are entered the bonds of apprenticeship to tradesmen of Sudbury and elsewhere, and of poor Sudbury children apprenticed in other towns, e.g.—

Richard Joyce, sonn of William Joyce of . . . Northants, yeoman, with the consent of his father, was bound apprentice to Benjamin Warner of Henny, Co. Essex, webster, by Indentures bearing date the first day of May, Anno Domini 1678, to serve from thence unto the full end and terme of seaven yeares,

and at the end of the terme double apparell.

There are bonds dated 1671, 1672 and 1673 (on a fly leaf); a regular series of entries then begins, dating from 20 Nov., 1656—18 May, 1695. There are no entries 1689–1693.

The apprentices (in this series) are for the most part bound to Sudbury tradesmen; their parents live in the neighbouring parts of Suffolk and Essex. The trades are chiefly those of saymakers and weavers.

Note. "We, the Wardens of the Trade, doe acknowledge to have received full payment for Inrolling of Apprentices Indentures to the 6th day of Oct., 1681."

Cocket Book II., entitled, "Inrolments of Freemen by Purchase." Beginning 5 May, 1724, ending 24 May, 1770; and on the back, "Inrolment of Indentures from 1717 to 1748."

Smiliar to Book I. the entries before 4 Sept., 1732 are in Latin.

Fol. 18. "These are to certify . . . that William Harris, now of London, gent, son of Richard Harris of the same, weaver, is a freeman of the said Borough [of Sudbury] and hath a right to vote for members to serve in Parliament for the Borough aforesaid . . . 25 March, 1733." [Signed] John Gent, Mayor.

The admission to freedom has not always definite mention of the right to vote.

At this date the fines are larger, varying from about £8 to £15, or £15 5s., and two buckets in the case of purchase.

Fol. 35. A note against the admission of John Frost states that his wife acknowledged that he had one son living.

Fol. 40. *Note.* 29 Nov., 1748. William Merrells of the said Borough, barber (being free of the said borough), purchased the freedom of the Common lands belonging to the said Borough. Fine, £7 18s. and 2 water buckets.

The fine of £15 5s. and 2 water buckets seems to be for admission to both the freedom of the Borough and the freedom of the Common lands.

At the back of the book is the "Inrollment of Apprentices according to Act of Parliament and the Antient Orders and Customs of Sudbury by Denny Cole, gent, Town Clerk there, 1717."

The indentures begin 30 Nov., 1717, and end 24 Nov., 1766. They are comparatively few.

Cocket Book III., entitled, "Cocket Book, 1750–1771."

On the fly-leaf. "A book conteyning the names of the Free Burgesses of the Burrough of Sudbury in the County of Suffolk."

Fastened to the fly-leaf is a list of the Mayor, Aldermen and Capital Burgesses, 1703, signed, "Ray Clement, Town Clerk."

There follows an alphabetical list of the freemen, showing whether they obtained the freedom by inheritance, apprenticeship or purchase.

Fol. 9. "25 May, 1753. On examination of the Records and papers in my custody it appears that this book was prepared in 1703, possibly on account of the Controverted Election between Sir Garves Elwes, Bart., Joseph Haskin Stiles, Esq., and George Dashwood, Esq. In which year Mr Dashwood lodged a petition against the return of Sr. Garves Elwes and Mr. Stiles, and the same was heard before a Committee of the House of Commons." [Signed] Stoll Clarks, Town [Clerk].

There are several non-resident burgesses. A distinction is apparently made between burgesses and chief burgesses.

Fols. 52-65 Admissions of free burgesses in the Court of Orders and Decrees from 8 May, 1750 to 29 Oct., 1771.

At the other end of the book the cockets themselves are sewn in for the year 1762, and there are several enrolments from 31 May, 1764 to 12 May, 1768.

Cocke Book IV., entitled "Cocket Book. Beginning 28 February, 1772."

Enrolment of Admissions to the freedom of the Borough from 28 Feb., 1772 to 7 May, 1812.

There are many admissions of non-residents including weavers of London and Norwich. At the end of the book is an index of admissions.

From Oct., 1806 the pages are stamped.

Court of Record of the Borough of Sudbury, in the County of Suffolk, held by Denny Cole, Steward.

Containing brief notices of pleas from 18 Nov., 1717 to 25 Aug., 1787.

On the fly-leaf is a list of officers (?) 1743.

Book (numbered I.) of Pleas, presumably the first "good and convenient book of paper" referred to in Book III. of the Orders and Decrees, Apr., 1602. Including record of pleas of trespass and debt in the Borough Court in the Moothall, from 1 Dec., 43 Elizabeth to Monday, 23 May, 6 James I.

The court is held before the Mayor, Aldermen and Steward.

The last two pages contain the names of tenants attending the courts of the King's manor of Woodhall to 3 Nov., 4 Jas. I. from 18 March, 2 Jas. I.

The Town Clark's Book of Sudbury, drawn up in the time of Oliver Cromwell, with later additions.

A book of precedents containing—

- (1) Charges for the Court of Record and the Court of Orders and Decrees.

- (2) The oaths of the Mayor, the deputy mayor, the bailiff, the chief constable, chamberlains, sergeant-at-mace, cryer or bedell, justice of the peace, coroner, aldermen, chief burgesse, town clerk and clerk of the peace, steward or recorder, deputy recorder, surveyors of the cornmarket, fishmarket, poultry-market, flesh-market, tanned leather, the Town Commons, of sizers and sealers of weights and measures, ale conners and bread weighers, surveyors of the weaving trade, free burgess or freemen, constables, tryers (of leather), attorney of the town, the oath of supremacy, and the oath of searching of infected persons.
 - (3) An acquittance for £14 from the owner of Shernford Mills in Henny for shirts and smocks in accordance with the bequest of Martin Cole, 1659.
 - (4) Translation of the charter of incorporation of Mary, 30 May, 1 Mary.
 - (5) A copy of the same charter.
 - (6) Copy of the Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses praying for new letters patent of incorporation since they fear that they have committed errors in their trust, 13 Jan., 1684-5; the petition was referred to the Attorney or the Solicitor General.
 - (7) The opinion of R. Sawyer on the petition, with a list of the officials as approved by the Duke of Grafton (Recorder), and provisoes that (1) the mayor and recorder have power to make deputies; (2) the chief officers be bound to take the oath of Supremacy; (3) the Crown to have the removal of officers; (4) a confirmation of their remaining rights.
 - (8) List of freemen of the Common, 2 June, 1729, with their cattle.
 - (9) Similar lists, 1733, 1734, 1749.
 - (10) At the back of the book a copy of the confirmatory charter of Elizabeth, 1 Nov., 1 Eliz.
 - (11) Copy of the Charter of Charles II., 16 Chas. II.
- Case Book, 1723** (injured by damp), containing—
- (1) Mr. Burrough's case *circa* 1789. Counsel's opinion.
 - (2) Case concerning the will of Mr. Samuel Chaplin of Bury St. Edmunds. Counsel's opinion and pedigree of Johnson, 1789.
 - (3) Case concerning the estate of Sneyd and Cooke. Counsel's opinion, 1777. See also later in the book.
 - (4) Case concerning John Edwards' estate in Toppesfield. Counsel's opinion, 1789.
 - (5) Case concerning the estate of Edward Cook, the elder.

- (6) Case relating to a right of way near Chequer Lane, St. Peter's, Sudbury, *circa* 1788.
- (7) Miss Steare's case concerning a farm in Sudbury, 1791.
- (8) Case concerning Daniel Sidey's estate in Bures St. Mary, 1792.
- (9) Case concerning a mortgage on the houses, etc., of Thomas Gainsborough in Church Street, Sudbury, *circa* 1722.
- (10) Case concerning the taking of tithes in kind in S[udbury], 18th century.
- (11) Case concerning lands in Boxford and Assington of Edward Nutton, 1779, and other similar cases with counsel's opinion.

Book entitled "Guardians and Annual Elected Officers." Containing:—

- (1) A printed copy of the Act for Erecting Hospitals and Workhouses in Sudbury, 1 Anne, cap. 34, underlined and annotated.
- (2) Record of election of guardians and appointment of Governors of the Poor in the Court or Meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen and several Inhabitants of the several parishes within the Borough from 3 July, 1771—6 July, 1892.

Book of Proceedings of the Commissioners for Paving and Improving the Borough of Sudbury. Appointed under the Act for Paving the Borough, etc., 4 Geo. IV.

Proceedings from the first meeting, 25 May, 1825, to the meeting at the Town Hall, 7 Dec., 1846, with an index.

Fol. 103. *Note.* 19 July, 1828. Leave given to the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses to bring forward and continue in a straight line the wall of the west side or front of the new Town Hall and Gaol adjoining Chequer or Exchequer Lane.

Fol. 133, 18 Sept., 1830. The Commissioners agree to purchase the Old Town Hall for the improvement of the town.

The commissioners first met at the New Town Hall, 30 Jan., 1836.

Fol. 324. Arrangements for lighting the town with gas were made, 1836, but some oil lamps remained, see *fol.* 424.

Order for pulling down the Old Town Hall, 9 Jan., 1843.

Inventory of the Commissioners' effects, 1843, *fol.* 413.

A petition against the proposed Colchester Stour Valley and Halsted Railway as prejudicial to the town, and in favour of the Chelmsford and Bury Line, March, 1846.

Special Sessions for Sudbury. Beginning the 8th of October, 1784, and ending 14 Oct., 1809.

The business relates entirely to the highways.

310 MUNIMENTS OF THE BOROUGH OF SUDBURY.

A Stiff-covered Book of Accounts of the Commissioners for Lighting and Paving. 1825—1830.

Rate Books, in marble-paper covers.

- (1) Assessment of the parishes of St. Peter and St. Gregory and All Saints, May, 1872.
- (2) *Do.* Nov. 1872.
- (3) Assessment of the hamlet of Ballingdon cum Brundon, Feb., 1874.

A List of Mayors, supplementary to that given by Hodson, "History of Sudbury," p. 76.*

1559. Thomas Russham.	1685. Richard Hobart.
1638. John Lord.	1686. Bernard Carter.
1639. William Hasell.	1687. John Catesby.
1640. Daniel Byatt.	1704. William Cocke.
1641. John Lord.	1705. Laurence Gibbon.
1642. William Byatt.	1706. William Hall.
1643. John Mead.	1707. Benjamin Carter.
1644. William Abbot.	1716. Joseph Barker.
1646. William Abbot.	1717. Thomas Robinson.
1648. William Abbot.	1718. Thomas Smith.
1650. John Goulding.	1719. Thomas Newman.
1651. Thomas Gunton.	1720. Robert Sparrow.
1652. William Abbot.	1721. Laurence Gibbon.
1657. Samuel Hasell.	1722. Joseph Barker.

9 July. 2 Jan. I. Jn. Willett; gent.
 27 Mar 18 Chas. D. Christopher Pettit.
 Records in Suff. Inst. Arch. Library.

* The dates here given are those of the election of the mayor: some discrepancies with Hodson's list are, doubtless, due to the fact that he apparently gives the date when a Mayor is mentioned, e.g., as holding a court.

CALENDAR
OF THE
MUNIMENTS OF THE BOROUGH OF SUDBURY.

ADDENDUM.

Whilst this Calendar was passing through the press, Mr. H. H. Almack, of Long Melford, generously presented to the Corporation of Sudbury a parchment-covered book entitled "Burgu de Sudbury in Com. Suff." 1681."

The Book appears to be a Town Clerk's "Book of Precedents," compiled in two different hand writings early in the eighteenth century. It was in the possession of Robert Kedington in 1778. It contains—

A table of contents.

Fols. 1-28. Forms for the admission of freemen, the holding of courts, and the oaths of officers of the borough.

Fols. 29-55. Forms of writs, fines and recoveries in the Borough courts, copied in another hand.

Fols. 63-78. A copy of the charter of Charles II., 1665.

Fols. 81-84. A copy of the answers of John Clench, Esq., Serjeant-at-law, relating to certain articles of the charter of Sudbury, 1580. [These are evidently part of the proceedings in the dispute with Sir Nicholas Bacon upon the right of the Mayor to be Clerk of the Market].

Fols. 85-90. Copies of oaths and bonds.

Fols. 91-94. A copy of a new feoffment of an annuity of £14 given by Martin Cole of Sudbury (1620) for the purchase of "ten score yards of good strong French canvas, ell-broad and twelve-pence the yard" to be given to the poor in shirts and smocks.

Fols. 97-99. An account of proceedings in 1688 after James II.'s Proclamation for the restoration of borough charters (17 Oct.), with lists of the Aldermen and Chief Burgesses then in office, denoting those who had held office at the time of the surrender of the old Charter to Charles II. Immediately after the Proclamation, Mr. Brackett, then Mayor, sent the maces to John Catesby, who had been Mayor at the time of the surrender.

'Mr. Catesby when he had got the maces, not being able to make a party with the Aldermen then remaining to procure a Bill of such freeholders as would chuse him Mayor again according to his usuall custom refused to call a Hall, choose a Mayor and fill up the vacant places in the Corporation. But affirming himself to be Mayor, proceeded so farr as to Execute the prince of Oranges Circular Letter. After which time many Inconveniencies and abuses happening for want of a Legall Government,' a meeting of Aldermen and Burgesses decided that the major part of the Aldermen should summon a meeting to elect a Mayor. The chief burgesses and freeholders thus summoned elected Mr. William Fothergill, mayor, 8 Jan., 1688-9.

Fols. 100-104 have been cut out:

Fols. 107-110. A copy of the will of Mr. Martin Cole, 29 Sept., 1620.

Fol. 112. A copy of the surrender of the old charter to Charles II., 1684.

Fols. 113-119. A copy of the Orders and Directions for the government of clothiers, weavers and their servants, apprentices and journeymen.

Fols. 121-123. An abstract of Mr. Martin Cole's will.

Fols. 125-6. A copy of the certificate of freedom of John Skinner the younger, 1602.

Fol. 129. A bill of costs by George Catesby, 1696.

Fol. 130. Sudbury ancient court fees.

L. J. R