

NOTICES OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI GUILD, IPSWICH.

[COMMUNICATED BY W. S. FITCH, ESQ.]

GUILDS were societies of persons residing in the same town and of the same profession or class, united together for the common cause of trade, charity, and religion. They were bodies corporate licensed by the crown, had the power of purchasing lands, building chapels, erecting altars, and maintaining chaplains and priests, to hold frequent meetings, to make annual processions, and to administer oaths upon the admission of their members. Some of the richer fraternities had their musicians, and occasionally amused the public with pageants and plays from different subjects.

In Ipswich every parish contained one, and some several guilds, each having their patron saint, and their chapel or altar, sometimes in the church, and probably some of them their guildhall.

The period at which the greatest number of guilds was founded was from the 15th to the 16th century, although there were some of a much earlier date. The great guild at St. Edmond's Bury is said to have been founded in the time of King Henry II., and those at Framlingham and Kelsale about the middle of the 14th century.

The following notices respecting Corpus Christi Guild in Ipswich, are chiefly extracted from the manuscript by Nicholas Bacon, entitled "The Annals of Ipswich," written in 1654, and now preserved in the muniment room of the corporation of Ipswich, and from that volume we may infer that it was founded in the time of King Henry VI. This society probably held their meetings in the moot hall, for-

merly St. Mildred's church, and was under the patronage of the corporation, as all their proceedings are noticed in the rolls and great court books of that body, and no other fraternity is mentioned.

This brotherhood went every year in procession from St. Mary Tower church, on the Feast of the Holy Sacrament. The procession was made in the following order:—

1. White, or Carmelite Friars.
2. Grey, or Friars Minors.
3. Black, or Friars Preachers.
4. Clerks in surplices.
5. The tabernacle, containing the Host.
6. Secular priests.
7. Canons of the Holy Trinity.
8. Canons of St. Peter and St. Paul.
9. Bailiffs of Ipswich.
10. Portmen of Ipswich.
11. Aldermen of the guild.
12. The brethren of the guild.

The tabernacle, in which the Host was carried, with their plate, ornaments, and money, were deposited in the church of St. Mary Tower.

One of the rules of this Society was that all parish priests in the town, on the death of any one of the fraternity, should say mass for his soul.

Anno 23rd Henry VI., Thursday after All Saints.

John Causton is admitted and sworn free burgess upon condition that, for seven years next following, he shall maintain the ornaments belonging to the Corpus Christi pageant, and the stages, receiving the charges thereof from the farmers of the common marshe, and the portman's meadow, as the bailiffs for the time being shall think meet.

Ordered, that the farmers of the marshes and portman's meadow shall pay to John Caldwell, for his charge of Corpus Christi pageant, 40 shillings yearly, till all his arrears shall be satisfied.

Anno 24th Henry VI., St. Mark's day.

An alderman of the guild elected, and to him is granted to have the profits of the merchandize of stones.

Anno 19th Edward IV., Friday after Holy-rood.

John Squier, clerk, shall have the profits of the mill-stones during his life, to be a chaplain to celebrate holy rites in honour of Corpus Christi, and shall give security the sameto do, and the residue of the profits shall go to the use of the town of Ipswich.

Four wardens of the guild elected.

If any burgess shall refuse to pay 16 pence yearly to Corpus Christi, he shall forfeit his burgess-ship, and if any one shall bring with him to dinner more than his wife, he shall pay for every such person 4 pence.

19th Edward IV., Friday after Conception.

The guild chaplain shall celebrate 30 days mass for every brother or sister of the guild, which shall die in the town, which shall be done in the same church of the parish in which he or she lived.

22nd Edward IV., Thursday after St. Gregory.

Every burgess shall pay to Corpus Christi guild 16 pence, at the four times of the year, under peril of disfranchisement.

22nd Edward IV., Wednesday before St. Simon and St. Jude.

Every burgess inhabitant shall pay to the master of the grammar school for a boy 3 pence per quarter, and no more, and the master of the said school shall, during his life, celebrate for the guild of Corpus Christi.

2nd Henry VII., Monday before St. Matthew.

Four wardens of Corpus Christi elected.

4th Henry VII., Friday before St. Matthew.

Four guild-holders elected.

Granted to Mr. Head, schoolmaster, ten marks, to celebrate for the guilds, from Michaelmas last to Michaelmas next.

5th Henry VII., Tuesday after St. Simon and St. Jude.

John Squier, clerk, Jeffrey Osborne, and James Hill, made farmers of the profits of the stone trade, for the benefit of Corpus Christi guild.

Four wardens of the guild elected.

6th Henry VII., Monday before St. Mark's day.

Orders given for the pageant on Corpus Christi day.

6th Henry VII., Monday after Rogation day.

The Earl of Oxenford made a free burgess of the town, and one of the brethren of the guild.

7th Henry VII., Friday before the Assumption.

Every burgess shall pay yearly to the guild 8 pence, and there shall be no dinner. A keeper of the ornaments and utensils of Corpus Christi appointed.

The prior of Ely is made free burgess, and one of the fraternity of the guild.

8th Henry VII., Friday after St. Mark's day.

Four guild-holders elected, and ordered that every burgess shall pay to the dinner 16 pence, and order is given to make provision for the pageant.

9th Henry VII., Friday after Philip and Jacob.

The guild wardens for Corpus Christi elected for seven years next to come, "ita tamen quod reddent gildæ predicta ultra expensa prandii."

Agreed that a house shall be built upon the south of the House of Pleas for a kitchen, and thereabove for a sociary for the guild, with a cellar under the House of Pleas, and the house above the cellar; viz., between the House of Pleas and the tavern shall belong to the guild for ever.

12th Henry VII., Friday before Christmas-day.

Every burgesse defaulting in his duties to the guild shall be summoned by the wardens to the next court, to show cause why he should not forfeit his freedom, and if he comes not at the next court, then shall he be reputed a foreigner.

Corpus Christi pageant shall be provided at the charge of such as have been used.

Surveyors appointed to value the mill-stones, and other stones of quarry for the use of the guild.

18th Henry VII., Friday before Michaelmas-day.

Corpus Christi pageant shall hereafter be observed, and a convenient artificer shall be entertained to that end, and shall have 40 shillings. Each portman shall pay 1 shilling and 4 pence, and each of the 24 men shall pay 8 pence, and the remaining 6 shillings and 8 pence shall be levied. No bailiff shall interrupt or hinder the pageant, unless by order of the great court, or upon special cause, under 10 pounds forfeiture. Collectors also are named.

20th Henry VII., Tuesday after Edward the Confessor.

Granted to Thomas Drayll and Edward Dandy to make a free burgesse for their expenses at Corpus Christi play.

20th Henry VII., Vigils of St. George.

Granted to John Stangelts 20 shillings and 8 pence yearly for twelve years, to find the staging for Corpus Christi plays; and to John Parnell 33 shillings and 4 pence, to find the ornaments during such time, and collectors named for the assessments for the play.

22nd Henry VII., Wednesday after Valentine's-day.

The guild ordered to be upon the Lord's-day after the octaves of Corpus Christi. Two guild-holders elected, with a collector of the money for the same.

The yearly obsequies and vigils shall be holden for the death of every brother of the guild, and thereat none of the fraternity shall be absent, under the forfeiture of a pound of wax.

23rd Henry VII., Friday, 12th of May.

Two guild wardens elected, and the bailiffs for the time being upon Corpus Christi day, shall order the table of the portmen, and the diet thereof, and two collectors elected for the pageant.

All the inhabitants of the town shall have their tabernas*, and attendance at the feast of Corpus Christi, under the penalty of 6 shillings and 8 pence, and every one shall hold the orders of their procession according to the constitutions.

3rd Henry VIII., Friday before St. Matthew.

Contributions ordered to the Pageant of St. George.

3rd Henry VIII., Wednesday before St. George's day.

Corpus Christi dinner and pageant laid aside, and every free burgesse ordered to pay 8 pence towards a mass for the souls of all the brethren and sisters of the said town.

4th Henry VIII., Monday after St. Agnes.

Corpus Christi pageant and dinner again laid aside.

* Musicians.

6th Henry VIII., Monday in Whitsun week.

Corpus Christi play and dinner again laid aside.*

All the utensils belonging to Corpus Christi guild, shall be entered into a book, to be kept safe by John Butler to the use of the guild, viz. :—

1 dozen of spoons, weighing 11½ ounces	1 pan
5 mazers, weighing 44½ ounces	A garnish of vessels
5 table cloths	2 chargers
3 cloths of 3-quarter cloth	5 platters
14 salts	4 dishes
2 brass pots	5 saucers

7th Henry VIII., Wednesday after St. Matthew.

The guild wardens are elected, and every burgesse shall pay for his dinner as anciently been used, and the play set aside for this year.

11th Henry VIII., Friday after the Conversion of St. Paul.

Every person absent from Corpus Christi mass shall forfeit a pound of wax, and the play and dinner shall be held this year.

The guild wardens are elected, and the pageant ordered to be ready. A priest elected to say mass yearly, and he is made Master of the Grammar School for the year coming.

12th Henry VIII., Thursday, 5th week in Lent.

Guild wardens elected, and the master of the pageant called "the Ship" shall have the same, under the forfeiture of 10 pounds.

The play called "Corpus Christi play" laid aside until further orders. Every burgesse of the 24 men shall have murray gowns engrained ready before Corpus Christi next.

13th Henry VIII., Thursday, 5th week in Lent.

Guild wardens elected, but the play to be deferred, and the dinner ordered.

15th Henry VIII., Nativity of the Virgin.

John Fenn and John Pypho were elected aldermen of the guild.

22nd Henry VIII., Monday before Candlemas.

Corpus Christi play laid for ever aside by order.†

30th Henry VIII., Monday after All Saints day.

Guild elected and discharged at a fine of 40 shillings.

Thomas Selsden, the old master of the Corpus Christi guild, re-elected, and Thomas Shapsted to be his companion.

32nd Henry VIII., Friday, the 7th week in Lent.

Ordered, that all persons shall bring the sacrament of Corpus Christi from Saint Laurence church towards the Fish market, then to the Corn-hill, and so to St. Mary at the Tower church, and so from thence on Corpus Christi day to St. Margaret's-green, and thence round about the town to St. Mary Tower church again, and there shall hear a mass, and on the next day shall bring the same from the same church, through the Brook-street, into the Fish-market and Corn-hill, and so to St. Lawrence church, and there it ends.

And every of the portmen shall have two torches, and every of the 24

* This entry is of frequent subsequent occurrence.

† Royal Order.

men one torch, and all the torchers shall wait on the sacrament upon all the said three days, under forfeiture of 12 pence for every default, and each portman torcher shall, upon the same penalty, wait upon the sacrament upon the Sunday.

32nd Henry VIII., Tuesday after the Conversion of St. Paul.

Robert Fisk elected alderman of the guild, and to associate with old alderman Thomas Sharplin.

34th Henry VIII., Friday in Whitsun week.

Every householder, with their family, shall follow the pageants upon the day of Corpus Christi in due order, under penalty of 4 pence, if lawful cause shall not be shewn. Except the 12 portmen and their wives and the 24 men.

Every warden and master of the trade shall offer to their pageants upon the day of Corpus Christi day each of them one penny; the one half thereof shall go to the parish priest, the other half shall be divided between the clerk and the sexton, and every defaulter shall pay 4 pence.

Every burgess shall offer on the Guild Sunday one halfpenny to the priest, to be divided, one half to the priest, the other half to the clerk and sexton, and every defaulter shall lose 4 pence.

34th Henry VIII., Friday after St. Matthew.

On Corpus Christi day, and the Sunday after, the priest of St. Mary Tower, for a masse and other ceremonies, shall have every day 20 pence, and the clerk, for his attendance there and at the procession, 16 pence, and his foreign fine shall be remitted him, and the sexton shall have for his service 16 pence.

36th Henry VIII., Monday after St. Peter ad Vincula.

Edmund Lerthe discharged from the master's place of Corpus Christi guild, for the fine of three pounds.

36th Henry VIII., the 1st day of April.

Robert Barker and William Woodler discharged from being masters of the guild of Corpus Christi, and also Matthew Gooding, and their fines sett at 3 marks and 5 marks.

37th Henry VIII., Nativity of the Virgin.

Robert King, Thomas Whiting, and Andrew Treforby, are elected Aldermen of the guild of Corpus Christi.

1st Edward VI., Wednesday in the 4th week in Lent.

Robert Brown is discharged from being a'derman of the guild by the fine of 40 shillings, and Stephen Lully is elected in.o the same place.

6th Edward VI., Friday, the 3rd of June.

The guild day shall be holden upon the Sunday after Trinity Sunday yearly, according to the auncient order, and the communion shall be celebrated at St. Mary Tower church, beginning at 9 o'clock of the same day. The bailiffs, portmen, and the 24 men, and the wardens of the several companies, all of them in their several habits or gowns; and they and all the burgesses shall offer, and the offerings shall go to the poor. The defaulters of the portmen shall forfeit 12 pence a piece, and of the 24 men the forfeit shall be 6 pence, and of the burgesses 4 pence, unless reasonable cause shewed. The priests,

clerk and sexton, shall have, the priest 12 pence, and the clerk and sexton 6 pence to each of them.

1st Mary, Friday after the Nativity of Mary.

Matthew Butler and William Dandy are elected aldermen of the guild for two years, and at the next election day they shall be new chosen.

3rd and 4th Philip and Mary, Wednesday, the 8th of April.

John Brenn, for the fine 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, to be paid to the treasurer before Easter next, and Geoffrey Cautche is elected in his room, and, in regard of the great dearth and scarcity, 33 shillings and 4 pence is allowed to the guild holders, to be paid by the treasurer.

2nd Elizabeth, Monday, the 22nd of January.

John Reward, alias Hares, discharged from being alderman of the guild; and Richard Eddy and Richard Bell are elected aldermen in his stead.

2nd Elizabeth, Sunday, Nativity of the Virgin.

Richard Ceely, Richard Bell, and Robert Sparrow, are elected aldermen of the guild.

2nd Elizabeth, the 12th day of October.

Robert Sparrow discharged from being alderman of the guild for the fine of 40 shillings.

Robert Cutler is elected alderman of the guild, and is also discharged of the same for the fine of 40 shillings.

Robert Nottingham is elected alderman of the guild, with Richard Seely and Richard Bell.

3rd Elizabeth, Friday, the 13th of March.

Robert Nottingham is discharged from his office of guildholder for the fine of 40 shillings, and John Moore is elected in his stead, and John Moore is discharged for the like, and Robert Sallowes is elected and discharged for the same fine, and Christopher Ward is elected in his stead; and he likewise is discharged for the like fine, and George Coppinge* is elected in his stead.

6th Elizabeth, March the 29th.

Richard Hayward elected alderman of the guild for the next year.

7th Elizabeth, 6th of December.

John Barker elected alderman of the guild for the next year, to hold it with Richard Hayward.

7th Elizabeth, 7th of December.

Thomas Bobbett is elected alderman of the guild, with Stephen Baxter, if the said Thomas hath not already been fined for the same, and if he hath been fined, Richard King is elected in his place, with the said Baxter to serve in his place.

8th Elizabeth, the 7th of March.

Richard King is discharged of his place of alderman of the guild, at the fine of 4 pounds, and George Wilde is elected in his place, and he also is discharged at 4 pounds fine, and Robert Andrews is elected in his stead.

* The builder of the house in the Old Butter Market, now called "Sparrowe's House."

8th Elizabeth, the 28th of May.

The chamberlains or ushers shall serve in the next guild, and 12 of the last admitted burghesses, by command of the bailiffs for the time being, shall serve at the same guild. The bailiffs, portmen, and town clerk, shall each of them send one capon, or forfeit five shillings.

9th Elizabeth, the 14th of April.

William Bloyse, Christopher Crane, John Baker, John Tye, Thomas Burrow, William Huggett, and Henry Ashley, elected one other, and in the room of each other, to be guild holder, and every of them are discharged at the fine of 5 pounds each; and lastly, William Buckenham is elected to hold with Robert Andrews, to whom is granted 33 shillings and 4 pence, and unto William Buckenham, 3 pounds, 6 shillings, and 8 pence, to hold for two years.

11th Elizabeth, the 2nd of April.

Richard Cage elected alderman of the guild, with Thomas Blossie, and is discharged for 6 pounds, 13 shillings, and 4 pence fine, and John Harrison is elected in his stead, and is discharged for 5 pounds fine, and in his stead Thomas Bennett is elected, who is also discharged at 40 shillings fine, and the same also remitted.

13th Elizabeth, the 27th of April.

Christopher Merell elected guildholder at Mr. Revett's request, is discharged at 5 pounds fine, and 33 shillings and 3 pence thereof is remitted, and Christopher Alderman is elected in his place, who also at the like fine is discharged, and James Bedingfeild elected to serve with John Cole.

16th Elizabeth, 24th of September.

Lawrence Frost elected alderman of the guild, and is discharged for 10 pounds fine, and Oliver Cooper is elected in his room.

Allowed to the alderman of the guild 3 pounds, 6 shillings, and 8 pence, in consideration of the scarcity of victuals.

17th Elizabeth, 21st of March.

The guild feast shall henceforth be holden upon Sunday se'nnight next, after Midsummer-day.

19th Elizabeth, 1st of April.

Henry Hammond discharged from alderman of the guild, for the fine of 10 pounds, and in his place is elected John Knapp, who is discharged for 20 marks fine, and William Middenhall elected in his room.

19th Elizabeth, Nativity of the Virgin.

Robert Lymbard, by the Court's consent, is elected by his partner, William Mednall, to be alderman of the guild. Robert Lymbard prayed his discharge, and was assessed 15 pounds fine, which he refused, and was thereupon fully elected.

23rd Elizabeth, 19th of December.

The manner of keeping a guild-merchant is referred to a committee.

25th Elizabeth, 19th of December.

The schoolmaster shall have 40 shillings for his pains and charges in presenting certain pageants in joy of the Queen's coronation, upon the last 17th of November.

25th Elizabeth, 17th of January.

Richard Goltz, having served one year as alderman of the guild, at his request is to be discharged, he is discharged for a fine of 8 pounds, and Edward Revett shall be discharged for the sum of 12 pounds, and in their rooms Samuel Smith and Thomas Fuller are elected. Samuel Smith, discharged as alderman of the guild for his fine of 12 pounds, but Thomas Fuller not submitting to such fine, he standeth chargeable with the same place, and William Flicke is elected in Mr. Smith's room, and if such persons do not compound with the treasurer by security or by payment of their fines by to-morrow night, they shall hold their places in their several courses.

25th Elizabeth, 22nd of May.

Godfrey Woolnall discharged from being alderman of the guild for 8 pounds fine, at Thomas Fuller's proposal John Paris is elected to hold with him the said Thomas Fuller, and the 8 pounds fine of the same elect alderman is given to them.

26th Elizabeth, 7th of April.

By the proposal of Edward Cage, alderman of the guild, Robert Cutler is elected and discharged of 20 marks, and liberty allowed to the said Edward Cage to nominate until one should hold with him, and thereafter he nominated William Acton,* who is elected and discharged for 20 nobles fine, and then Edward Cage nominated Christopher Lawrence, who was elected and discharged, and then he nominated Thomas Sherman, who was elected and discharged for 20 marks fine, and then he named John Humphrey, who was discharged or dispensed with, and after him Jeremy Barber was dispensed with. Then he named Richard Cornelius, who was elected and discharged for 10 pounds fine, and after him Edward Hunting was nominated and elected and discharged for 10 pounds fine, in all 66*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* John Humphrey particularly discharged of election of alderman of the guild for his fine of 8 pounds, William Scoles being elected alderman of the guild thereof, and from the chamberlain's place for 10 pounds fine and 5 pounds fine.

27th Elizabeth, 3rd of May

John Gaylmer elected alderman of the guild at the last court, is at this court discharged for 12 pounds fine undertaken, and Robert Hally is elected.

29th Elizabeth, 13th March.

Refusers to pay duty to the alderman's guild shall be committed to the gaol till payment be made.

32nd Elizabeth, 30th of July.

A *scire facias* shall issue to the last guildholders to appear at the next court to answer touching their misusage of the last feast.

Richard Seely's debt ordered and granted to him that he shall not be elected alderman of the guild for seven years after this court.

32nd Elizabeth, 11th of September.

The two last guildholders fined 20 shillings each for their disorderly and insufficiently holding of their dinner at the last guild.

* Founder of the family of "Acton," of Bailham and Bramford, in this county.

37th Elizabeth, 11th of April.

Thomas Eldred* is elected alderman of the guild, and is discharged for 16 pounds fine. Thomas Fuller is elected and discharged at 13 pounds 6 shillings and 8 pence, and in their stead Thomas Burrow and Robert North are elected.

37th Elizabeth, 24th of September.

William Bloyse and Matthew Brownrigg discharged from serving in the places of chamberlain and alderman of the guild for the fine of 18 pounds 6 shillings and 8 pence, to be paid by each of them.

Christopher Ballard is elected chamberlain and submitted thereto, and prayeth to be acquitted from the service of alderman of the guild for 7 years, and it is granted to him.

39th Elizabeth, 22nd March.

No guild to be kept this year, in regard of the dearth.

40th Elizabeth, 20th of May.

Richard Bateman discharged from the office of alderman of the guild for his fine of 12 pounds, and William Mydnall for his fine of 15 pounds. John Horne is elected alderman of the guild, being also one of the chamberlains, and he is discharged for his fine of 10 pounds. William Cutler is elected alderman of the guild, and is discharged for his fine of 13 pounds 6 shillings and 8 pence, and shall be discharged of the office of chamberlain for 5 pounds. Edmund Base is elected alderman of the guild, and is discharged for his fine of 6 pounds 13 shillings and 4 pence, and John Man and Bartholomew Fenne are elected aldermen of the guild, and the keeping of the guild is deferred until August next.

40th Elizabeth, 26th of July.

Bartholomew Fenne discharged as alderman of the guild for his fine of 6 pounds, and Richard Dautry is elected in his stead, to serve with John Man, and the guild is deferred until the accustomed day in the next year.

The fines for the discharge of the alderman aforesaid shall be paid before Saturday come se'nnight, or defaulters therein shall be committed to prison, till payment be made.

40th Elizabeth, 27th of September.

The chamberlains petitioning to be discharged, the Court will not discharge them, nevertheless it is ordered that Thomas Ashley shall not be alderman of the guild within the space of 7 years next coming.

41st Elizabeth, 17th of May.

The guild deferred until the accustomed time next year.

43rd Elizabeth, April the 28th.

The guild to be holden by John Man and Stephen Copping at the usual time this year, and shall be discharged from providing a supper usually kept at that time.

43rd Elizabeth, June the 6th.

The guild is deferred till Sunday before St. James's day, and then a convenient dinner and supper shall be holden, and in consideration

* For an account of Eldred *vide* Clarke's Ipswich, p. 304, and Gage's Thingoe Hundred, under "Saxham."

thereof, and the dearness of victuals, the guildholders shall be discharged for the future.

44th Elizabeth, 6th of May.

The guild shall be holden at the accustomed time this year with a convenient dinner and supper, and the aldermen shall, in regard thereof, be discharged for the future.

44th Elizabeth, 22nd of October.

Roger Wallis elected alderman of the guild, and having neglected to hold the guild this summer past, whereby it was omitted, he is now disfranchised and be deemed a foreigner.

3rd James I., 15th of April.

Owen Jolley and Christopher Alderman elected for the guild, to keep two sufficient dinners in two years upon the usual day, and no supper.

3rd James I., 24th of May.

Richard Seeley elected alderman of the guild to serve with Christopher Alderman, instead of Richard Cocke, to keep two dinners each in each year, whereat every burgess shall pay 16 pence for himself and his wife, and shall provide their ordinary allowances as formerly. And the first guild shall be holden on Sunday se'nright after Midsummer next.

4th James I., 7th of July.

A tierce of claret shall be laid in for the guild, at the cost of the town.

4th James I., 4th of March.

Robert Snelling is made free burgess conditionally, not to bear office of chamberlain, alderman of the guild, nor one of the 24 men.

5th James I., 29th of April.

Nicholas Groome discharged from being alderman of the guild for his fine of 5 pounds, and Robert Benham is appointed in his stead to join with Cornelius Hubright to keep two dinners, one this yeare and the other the next yeare, and all freemen, not subsidy men, shall come with their wives, and no others.

6th James I., 23rd of April.

On the day appointed for the guild, the portmen shall pay 5 shillings a piece, and no capon; and the 24 men 3 shillings and 4 pence a piece, and every freeman 2 shillings and 6 pence a piece for them and their wives, and none shall come but subsidy men, and they shall pay the former rates whether they come or not.

7th James I., June the 9th.

Thomas Cock, having kept one dinner at the guild, is discharged at 10 pounds fine, and John Sicklemere is elected in his stead.

7th of James I., 20th of November.

John Sicklemere discharged of guild-holding for his fine of 5 pounds, having kept one year, and he is discharged from the election of chamberlain for his fine of 10 pounds.

8th James I., 18th of April.

The Court will not discharge the aldermen of the guild, but that they shall keep the dinner on the 5th of June next, and such as come as formerly are to pay as formerly.

8th James I., 8th of May.

John Flick discharged of alderman of the guild, for his fine of 6 pounds 13 shillings and 4 pence, and William Ingelthorpe is elected in his stead, and the day for the guild set, and such shall come as formerly, and pay as formerly, and a tierce of wine shall be laid in by the town.

9th James I., 27th of May.

The guildholders fined each 40 shillings, for not holding the guild at the day accustomed, and they are ordered the same on Tuesday next come five weeks, the persons enjoined to appear as formerly and paying as formerly.

10th James I., 8th of July.

The guildholders having neglected to hold the guild at the day prefixed they are fined 20 pounds, and at their request they are discharged of the fine, provided they shall hold the same guild upon the 11th day of August, whereunto they do submit.

11th James I., 16th of March.

Henry Buckenham shall be discharged of the guild-merchant, at the payment of 10 pounds fine.

12th James I., 8th of August.

Thomas Alderton and Henry Humphrey, in regard that they have made a good entertainment this year of the guild, shall be discharged from further holding the same.

14th James I., 26th of March.

William Fane and Lawrence Moss, elected alderman of the guild, to hold the dinner on the Tuesday se'nnight after Trinity Sunday, and no supper. The persons to come, only such as are last mentioned.

15th James I., 5th of May.

The guildholders feast deferred until the 8th of July, and a tierce of claret wine shall be laid in for that end.

17th James I., 16th of June.

Edward Waller and Thomas Mulliner, guildholders, for neglecting to hold the guilds this yeare at the time accustomed, are fined 20 pounds each of them, and nevertheless to hold the accustomed entertainment at the usual time next year.

17th James I., 8th of September.

Edward Waller and Thomas Mulliner, aldermen of the guild, fined each 20 pounds, and refusing to pay, are now ordered to be committed to prison till payment made, unless they being sent for shall enter bond to pay the same at a certain day. And for that the said Edward Waller refuseth to come to this court, being summoned, and hath sundry times refused to come to master bailiffs, being sent for, he is fined 40 pounds, to be paid next Michaelmas.

17th James I., 16th of October.

Edward Waller, according to former order, being committed to prison, sued out a *habeas corpus*, and upon full hearing at the king's bench, it was ordered.

“Ordinat est quod return. sup. Hab. Corp. emend. et quod defend
“permittat ad quod ad prox Mag. Cur. p' Burg. predicat solo finem sup'
“ipsu prandiu assessat et submittat sec' ordi'm ejusd' curia.”

And at this court the said Edward Wallis, being demanded upon the reading of the order, whether he would submit or not thereunto, he did in open court pay the fine of 20 pounds, and did submit to the order of the court, and hath acknowledged the fault of disobedience, promised conformity, and is released from imprisonment.

18th James I., April the 5th.

Edward Mulliner discharged from being alderman of the guild, for his fine of 10 pounds, which shall be part of his bond of 20*l.* entered into for his fine formerly set.

22nd James I., August the 2nd.

Robert Wade and John Aldus shall hold the guild upon Tuesday after Michaelmas next, and upon performance thereof according to the order, shall be discharged from that service for the future.

22nd James I., 15th of September.

20 marks shall be bestowed by the treasurer for repairing of the houses and making an oven, against the time of holding the next guild.

3rd Charles I., June the 12th.

John Sherman and Robert Howe, aldermen of the guild, fined each of them 20 pounds for neglecting to hold the guild upon the Tuesday after Corpus Christi, as was appointed. The fine shall be paid before July the 12th next, and in default the chamberlains shall distrain or bring actions of debt against them.

4th Charles I., May 5th.

John Sherman, at the request of the Earl of Warwick, discharged of his fine of alderman of the guild and of all offices in this town.

4th Charles I., 26th of March.

Isaac Day discharged as alderman of the guild for clearing the way against Mr. Snelling's house, and making a passable way through the channell along the way to the Bill.*

5th Charles I., 11th of June.

The guild shall be holden for the 12 and 24 men, and such as have borne the office of chamberlain, or alderman of the guild, and their wives, upon Tuesday, the 30th of June, and the 12 (portmen) shall pay 5 shillings a piece for them and their wives, and the 24 (common council men) shall pay 3 shillings and 4 pence a piece, and the residue 2 shillings and 6 pence each.

9th Charles I., 2nd of May.

The guild put off till the 2nd day of July.

11th Charles I., 10th of June.

Samuel Algate discharged from the office of alderman of the guild, chamberlain, and of the 24 men, for the fine of 60 pounds.

14th Charles I., May 4th.

William Doggett and John Brandlin discharged of the guild-holding for their several fines of 15 pounds each, and no feast shall be holden this year.

20th Charles I., 11th April.

In regard of the public distractions, it is ordered that no guild shall be holden this year.

* Probably the Bell public-house near to Stoke Bridge.