

SUMMARY: The document below is a record of King James' commission, dated 7 July 1603, authorizing the hearing of petitions by those claiming rights with respect to the coronation of the King and Queen. King James' commission in Latin, and Oxford's two petitions and the petition of Daniel Cage in law French have been transcribed below.

The translation below of Oxford's petition to attend on the King, and the adjudication of the Lord Steward with respect to that claim, is taken from Ward, Bernard Mordaunt, *The Seventeenth Earl of Oxford 1550-1604 From Contemporary Documents*, (London: John Murray, 1928), p. 346.

Oxford's and Daniel Cage's petitions to attend upon the Queen were left unexamined, and have not yet been translated below.

The office of Queen's Chamberlain was held by serjeanty of certain manors, and to it pertained the custody of the Queen's chamber and door on the day of the coronation, and the right to receive the Queen's bed and basins.

According to Round, the office of Queen's Chamberlain was held by serjeanty of the two Hertfordshire manors of Great Hornead and Nuthampstead (in Barkway) and the three Essex manors of Fingrith (in Blackmore), Margaretting ('Ginge') and Woolverston (in Chigwell). Oxford inherited the office of Queen's Chamberlain through Alice de Sanford (d.1311/12), who married Robert de Vere (1263-1296), Earl of Oxford. However Round states that Alice de Sandford's lands were divided among her two sons, 'and the serjeanty thus dismembered':

Two of the estates, Fingrith in Essex and Great Hornead in Hertfordshire, passed to her sons, the Earl of Oxford and his younger brother, Alphonse, respectively; three of them, Woolverston, Margaretting, and Nuthampstead, formed part of the marriage portion which her daughter Joan brought to her husband Earl Warrenne. There arises here an important question as to the law of serjeanty,. When the lands had been dismembered, who was entitled to perform the service?

With respect to Oxford's claim to be Queen's Chamberlain, Round writes:

This claim, purporting to be made in respect of four out of the five manors which originally formed the serjeanty, was a most impudent proceeding. Two out of these four manors had never even descended to the earls; Fingrith he had himself parted with many years before, and Hornead was the subject of a counter-petition on behalf of its real owner, Daniel Cage, gentleman! The latter claimed the office as being "seised in his demesne as of fee" of that manor. Both claimants further petitioned to have a clerk in the Exchequer to receive the Queen's gold and take from it sixpence a day for its receipt. This was the further claim which was made by Gilbert de Sandford at Queen Eleanor's coronation (1236), the consideration of which was deferred. It is clear from the silence of the record that neither claim was successful.

See Round, J. Horace, *The King's Serjeants & Officers of State With Their Coronation Services*, (London: James Nisbet, 1911), pp. 132-40.

Contrary to Round's statement, the record is not silent, but rather states, in Latin, 'These petitions not examined', likely because, as Round explains, the serjeanty had been dismembered and it was unclear who, if anyone, had the right to act as Queen's Chamberlain under the circumstances.

Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, presents to the court a certain petition in these words. Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, asks that as he is Great Chamberlain of England of the fee of our most dread Lord the King, that it should please the King that he should likewise at the Coronation, as formerly he was permitted, to do the said office and services as he and his ancestors have formerly done. That is to say that the said Earl had freedom and entertainment of the King's Court at all times; and that the said Earl on the day of the said Coronation, on the morning before the King rises, ought to enter into the chamber where the King lies, and bring him his shirt, and stockings, and under-clothing. And that the said Earl and the Lord Chamberlain for the time being together on that day ought to dress the King in all his apparel. And that he may take and have all his fees, profits, and advantages due to this office as he and his ancestors before him have been used to on the day of Coronation. That is to say, forty yards of crimson velvet for the said Earl's robes for that day. And when the King is apparelled and ready to go out of his chamber, then the Earl should have the bed where the King lay on the night before the Coronation, and all the apparel of the same, with the coverlet, curtains, pillows, and the hangings of the room, with the King's nightgown, in which he was vested the night before the Coronation. He also asks that [he should have the same privileges] as his ancestors [who] from time immemorial served the noble progenitors of our Lord the King with water before and after eating the day of the Coronation, and had as their right the basins and towels and a tasting cup, with which the said progenitors were served on the day of their Coronation, as appears in the records of the Exchequer.

My Lord Steward adjudicates to the aforesaid Earl the fees, services, and fees of presenting water to the Lord the King before and after dinner on the day of the Coronation; and to have the basins, tasting cups, and towels. And for the other fees the said Earl is referred to examine the records of the Jewel House and the King's Wardrobe.

f. 187

Claims at the Coronation of King James

f. 188r

Rotulo Clameorum ad Coronac{ionem} R{egis} Irr{otulato} de a{nn}o 3o Iacobi Regis

RM: Com{m}issio ad audiendum et terminandu{m} petic{iones} et Clamea in die Coronac{ionis}

Iacobus &c Charissimo Consanguineo suo Gilb{er}to

Comiti Salop{ie} et p{re}dilectis suis Henr{ico} d{omi}no Howard

fratri Thome nup{er} Ducis Norff^o Edwardo d{omi}no Zouche

et Ioh{ann}i d{omi}no Lumley dilecti s{uo}q{ue} et fidelibus suis Ioh{ann}i

Popham Militi Capitali Iustic{iaro} suo ad pl{ac}ita coram

nob{is} tenend{um} assign{ato}(?) et Ed{ward}o Anderson Militi Capitali

Iusticiario suo de Banco salutem Cum quidam Domini

Magnates Milites et alij Proceres et ligei no{m}i{n}i Regni

n{ost}ri Anglie r{ati}one et p{re}textu tenurarum hereditatum

suarum vel aliter alia diu{er}sa sp{eci}alia servicia obsequia

et Ministeria circa p{er}sonam n{ost}ram et R{eg}ine n{ost}re in

die solempnis Coronac{ionis} eorundem adtunc et ibidem

agere facere prestare solent et tenerntur [sic?] et sup{er}inde

feoda sua h{ab}ere et consequi debeant. Et quia dies

solempnis Coronac{ionis} n{ost}re iam appropinquat Nos

idcirco vnicuiq{ue} ligeorum n{ost}ror{um} iustine complementum

fieri et nobis de hindi(?) servicijs p{ro}ut decet fideliter

responderi volentes de fidelitatibus industrijs et

providis circumspecc{ionibus} v{ost}ris plenius confidentes

Assignavimus et Constituimus vos quinq{ue} quatuor

vel tres v{est}r{u}m quorum alterum v{est}r{u}m p{re}fatum Ioh{ann}em

Popham et Edwardum Anderson vnam esse volumus

Commissarios nostros in ea parte damas et concedentes

vobis in forma predicta plenam tenore presencium potestatem

et auctoritatem ad omnes et singulos hmbi(?) Tenentes nostros

et alios quoscumque coram vobis ad certos locos et dies

quod ad hoc provideritis evocandum(?) et venire faciendum(?) ac

f. 188v

Clamea ad Coronacionem

ipsos et eorum quemlibet petitionesque et Clamea

ipsorum secundum leges et consuetudines(?) Regni nostri Anglie

audiendum terminandum adiudicandum et faciendum ceteraque

omnia et singula que de iure et consuetudine in hac

parte requiruntur faciendum exercendum et expediendum

Et ideo vobis mandamus quod circa premissa diligenter

in forma predicta intendatis ac ea fac et exequamini

in forma predicta secundum legem et consuetudinem Regni

nostri Anglie Mandantes enim tenere presencium

Domini Comitibus Baronibus Iusticiariis et omnibus alijs

Officiariis Ministris Servientibus et ligeis nostris quibuscumque

quod vobis omnibus et singulis in executione premissorum

intendentes sint et auxiliantes in omnibus prout decet

In cuius rei &c Teste Rege apud Westminster vij die Iulij

Anno Regni sui primo et xxxvjto

Per br{ev}e de privato Sigillo &c

Processus coram Com{m}issionar{ijs} d{omi}ni Regis

ad audiend{um} et terminand{um} Clamea et servicia

in die Coronacionum d{omi}ni Regis Iacobi et Anne

Consortis eius xviiij die Iulij 1603 vjto die

ante Coronac{i}onem p{re}dictam

Die Lune xviiij die Iulij Gilb{er}tus Comes Salop{ie} Henr{icus}

D{omin}us Howard frater Thome nup{er} Ducis Norff' Ed{wa}r{d}us d{omin}us

Zouche Presidens Wallie Ioh{ann}es D{omin}us Lumley Joh{ann}es

Popham Miles Capitalis Iustic{iarius} ad pl}ac}ita coram Rege

tendend{um} et Edmundus Anderson Miles Capitalis Iusticiar{i}us de

Banco sedebant in interiori Camera Stellata virtute

Com{m}issionis d{omin}us Regis eis direct{i} ad audiend{um} terminand{um}

f. 189r

a{nn}o 3o Iac{obi} Regis

adiudicand{um} et finiend{um} omnia et singula petitiones et

Clamea dominorum Magnatum Militum et aliorum

Procerum et ligeorum domini Regis diu{er}sor{um} servicior{um}

et ministeriorum circa p{er}sonas dict{as} Regis et R{egi}ne

in die solempnis Coronac{i}onis r{ati}one et p{re}textu tenurar{um}

hereditatum suarum vel aliter Qua quidem die

petic{i}ones tantum modo recep{er}unt Mandantes Clerico
Corone petic{i}ones illas Consiliarijs d{omi}ni Regis in
lege literatis liberare vt illi de earum contentis
ad diem Veneris p{ro}p{re} sequen{tem} Com{m}issionarijs p{re}dictis
relac{i}onem facerent
Et quia p{ro}pter invalescentem pestem aerisq{ue} pestiferi
infecc{i}onem in Civitate Londo{ie} dominus Rex a Turri
London{ie} ad Palaciam suam de Westm{onasterium} more solito
p{ro}ficisci non potuit Per Com{m}issionarios p{re}dictos
ordinatum fuit quod petic{i}ones serviciorum a ponte
Westm{onasterium} v{er}s{u}sq{ue} ad Ecclesiam ac in Ecclesia solummodo
prestandorum tractarentur Et omnes alie petic{i}ones
in manus Cl{er}ici Corone dependentur tum domum
examinand{um} cum tempus hind{er}i solempnitatibus
p{re}standis accom{m}odarius constitueretur Die Veneris
xxij die Iulij sequen{ti} Ioh{ann}es Crooke et Edwardus
Phelipps Servientes Regis ad legem in Camera
Stellata p{re}d{i}c{t}a via in petici{i}onibus p{re}d{i}c{t}is contenta
et earum p{ro}bac{i}ones Com{m}issionar{um} anted{i}c{t}is retulerunt
Qui petitores omnes coram magno Anglie
Senescallo apud Westm{onasterium} xxiiijto die Iulij xx sequen{ti}
ad Iudicium finale inde recipied{um} comparere
ordinaverunt

Processus factus coram magno Anglie Senescallo in audiendum et terminandum Clamea Serviciorum factorum in die Coronacionum Regis Iacobi et Regine Anne Consortis eius

RM: Quomodo Senescallus Anglie sedebat

Memorandum quod die Solis xxiii^{to} Julij 1603 post meridiem

f. 189v

Clamea ad Coronacionem

proximo ante Coronacionem predictam Carolus Comes Notingham

magnus Admirallus Anglie litteris domini Regis patent

munitus(?) locum et officium Magni Anglie Senescalli

in Banco domini Regis infra Aulam Westmonasterium cum

Comissionarijs antedictis sedens exequabatur Et

inquirebat que et qualia officia seu feoda dicto die

per quoscumque faciendum vel obtinendum fuerant Et cum hoc

eodem die Solis publice proclamari fecit quod tam

Magnates quam alij qui alia officia ad Coronacionem

predictam facere seu feoda aliqua obtinere clamare

vellent billas et petitiones suas clamea continentis

coram ipso Senescallo perferri facerent indilate super

quo diversa officia et feoda per petitiones coram

ipso Senescallo exacta et rendicata fuerunt in

forma sequenti

LM: Pro Comite Oxon{ie} grand Chamb{er}lain D' angleterre

Edwardus de Veere Comes Oxon{ie} exhibuit Cur

quandam petitionem suam in hec verba Supplie

le vostre Edward de Veere Conte Doxenford

que come le dit Countee est grand Chamberlaine

Dengleterre de fee de n{ost}re tresdoubt seigneur le

Roy Quil plese a v{ost}re tresnoble seigneurie quil

sibn(?) a cest xut(?) Coronacion come a iours puist

estre admis a faire le dit office et les services

dicell come il et ses Ancestres ount faitz adevt(?)

Cestascavoir que le dit Counte ayt lib{er}aciones et

hospicia Cur d{omi}no Regis a toutz temps et that(?) le dit

Countee au iour dee dit Coronacion au matin dememe

avant that(?) le Roy se leva doit entrer en la Chambre

LM: porter au Roy sa chamise &c

du dit Roy ou le Roy se coucha et porter au dit

Roy sa chamise et ses base et priue drapes et that(?) le

f. 190r

Anno 3o Iac{obi} Regis

dit Countee et le seigneur Chamberlayne pur le

temps estant ensemble mesme le jour doivent

appareller le dit Roy de toutz sez apparell Et

quil puit prendre et avoier toutz ses fees p{ro}fitts

et advantages a cel office dewes appendant et
appurtenantz come il et ses Auncestrs avant
ces heures ount v{er}sez et prinsez a chascun iour
RM: Feodo Camerarij Angl{ie}
de Coronacion Cest ascavoir quarantz virges
de Crymsen velvet pur le Robes le dit Countee
en contre le iour de dit Coronac{i}on Et quant le Roy
est apparaille et prest daler hors de sa dit
Chambre al dit jour de sa Coronacion que donques
le dit Countee doit avoir et prendre le lite
ou le Roy se coucha a le nuite avant le dit
Coronement et toutz les apparellz dicel ovesq{ue}
les solonns et curteyns dycel et toutz les cuishins
et drapes pendantz entour en la Chambre le
jour avantdit ovezq{ue} tout lapparail de cel
et la nuyte robe le Roy de quele il fuit vestu
la naytte adevant le dit Coronement Supplie
auxi v{ost}re Suppliant that(?) come ses Auncestrs
de temps dont memoire ne court servoent as
noble progenitours n{ost}re dit seigneur le Roy
RM: Ewry
del en s{er}b{n devant manger come après le
jour de leur Coronement Et ont en come leur

droit lez basens et lez towells et vn cupp de
 assay dount les ditz p{ro}genitours ount estre
 servies as ditz iours de leur Coronement sicome
 appiert en les Recordes del Eschequer le Roy
 Que il soit resceue afaire le dit office auxico{m}e(?)

f. 190v

Clamae ad Coronac{i}o{n}em

ses Auncestres ount fait devant et auer les ditz
 fees au ces appendant D{omin}us Senescallus
 servicia et feoda de aque exhibic{i}one domino
 Reg{is} ante et post prandium in die Coronacionis
 predict{o} ac h{ab}ere pelves guttas et inanutergia
 p{re}d{i}c{t}o Comiti adiudicavit salvo iure cuiuslibet
 Ac p{ro} alijs feodis in petic{i}one p{re}d{i}c{t}a vendicatis
 d{i}c{t}us Comes ad Record{a} domus Iocalium et
 Gardrobe d{omi}ni Regis examinand{um}(?) referebatur

[NOTE: The remainder of the claims by other petitioners on this and the succeeding folios have not yet been transcribed]

f. 197v

LM: Edward de Veer Countee de Oxenford destre Chamb{er}layne de Royne
 fem{m}e(?) le Roy

Supplie v{ost}re seigneurie Edward deVeere

Counte de Oxenford que come il tient sicome

ses Auncestres ount tenuz le manner de ffingry
 ovesq{ue} les man{n}ors de Hormeade Ginges et
 part del Vlstanston en les Countees de Essex et

f. 198r

Anno 3 Iacobi Regis

RM: Iste petic{i}o{n}es non examine
 Hertford p{er} serieancy Cestascavoir p{er} le service
 destre Chamberlayne de Royne feme(?) le Roy et
 de garder Chambre la Roigne et le huis de ceo(?)
 al iour de coronement la Royne Et dau{er} tout
 le lite del dit Roigne et les bassines et les
 auters choses quex app{er}teigne a le Chamb{er}layne
 Et de au{er} vn Clerke en lexchequer de requirer
 et resceuer le or de la dite Roigne Et dau{er} et
 prendre a luy mesme hors de mesme le or pur
 chascun iour size deniers pur sa liuerie come
 p{er} divers Record{es} en Lexchecquer appiert que il
 puisse estre rescen de faire son dit office al
 manner come appent et dau{er} les ditz fees a ces
 appendantz Et il supplie v{ost}re seigneurie que
 Henry viscount Bulbeck son fitz et heir app{ar}ant
 puisse estre admitt de faire le dit office

et service luy le dit Countee son piere et dau{er}

et prendre les ditz fees accordant

LM: Daniel Cage destre Chamberlayne de la Roigne

Humblement monstre a v{ost}re Honeur Daniel Cage

gent{leman} prayant v{ost}re seigneurie que lon il est sei

en son demesne come del fee del mannor de

Hormede en le Counte de Hertford quel manoir

v{ost}re est et de temps dont memoire des homes nest

al contrarie ad estre tenuz del dit n{ost}re Seigneur le

Roy et del ses noble progeniteurs Royes ad anglet{er}re

p{er} grand Serieanty Cestassavoir pur destre

Camerar{ij} la Roigne al sa Coronement Par

f. 198v

Clamea ad Coronac{i}onem

incheson(?) de quel service v{ost}re supplyant clayme

de auer le lect la Roigne et tout le furniture

de ceoj(?) et les bassines et auters choses al Camerar{io}

la Roigne p{er}tinen{tes} Et v{ost}re suppliant oustre

clamast de aver vn Clerke en Leschequer pur

resceuer le or la Roigne et de auer del or

avantdit chescun iours sex deniers pour le liuer

del dit or Et treshumblement prie que cest office

et les ditz fees et p{ro}fitz soient a luy allowez

[NOTE: The remainder of the claims by other petitioners on this and the succeeding folios have not yet been transcribed]