

SUMMARY: The document below is a warrant authorizing payment for expenditures made on behalf of the Queen's ward, William Carr of Northumberland, for the period 25 June to 30 September 1570. The warrant affords a basis for comparison with similar warrants authorizing payment for expenditures made on Oxford's behalf in 1570.

This and similar documents indicate that the procedure followed was that an account of bills received from various merchants as well as moneys paid out by John Hart (c.1501-1574), Chester Herald, was drawn up. The account was then signed by Sir William Cecil, Master of the Court of Wards, who forwarded it to Sir William Damsell (c.1520-1582), Receiver-General of the Court of Wards. Damsell paid Hart, who acknowledged receipt, and used the funds to pay the outstanding bills.

For further information on Damsell, see Bindoff, S.T., *The House of Commons 1509-1558*, Vol. II (London: Secker & Warburg, 1982), pp. 9-10.

For John Hart, Chester Herald, see the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, available online:

Hart, John (c.1501–1574), herald and phonetician, . . . may have spent some time at the University of Cambridge, since he had intellectual or personal links with three Cambridge scholars, two of whom, Sir Thomas Smith (d. 1577) and Sir John Cheke (d. 1557), were (like Hart) active in promoting spelling reform; a third, Sir William Cecil (d. 1598), was described by Hart as his 'specially good master'. As a powerful figure in government circles, Hart's 'master' was in a good position to act as his patron, and he became by the 1550s a diplomatic courier, then in the 1560s an official of the court of wards and liveries and a herald pursuivant. He was finally promoted in 1567 to the highly prestigious rank of Chester herald at the College of Arms in London.

*Hart wrote three treatises on spelling reform; the first (1551) was not published at the time; the second, *An Orthografie* (1569), was a more sophisticated version of this manuscript; and the third, *A Methode* (1570), instructs learners in the use of the 'phonetic' alphabet which Hart devised. A fourth work intended to provide a simpler alphabet was not completed. Hart proposed to reform English spelling because it was both inconsistent and irregular. . . . Hart died in London on 16 July 1574.*

For warrants authorizing payment for expenditures for Oxford for the first three quarters of 1570, see TNA SP 15/19/38, ff. 89-90, TNA SP 15/19/39, ff. 91-2 and TNA SP 15/19/40, f. 93.

For an account summarizing expenditures for Oxford from the beginning of his residency at Cecil House on 3 September 1562 until Christmas 1566, see TNA SP 12/42/38, ff. 91-2.

LM: At Cecil House, 1570

Payments made for the behoof of William Carr, the Queen's Majesty's ward, for one quarter of the year of 14 weeks beginning the 25th of June and ending the last of September An{n}o R{egni} R{egi}ne Elizabethe xijmo, viz.

To Peter Flory, tailor, for the cloth, making, and all the furniture of one nightgown of sheep's russet, and for one canvas doublet, as by his bill it particularly appeareth, £4 5d

To William Tary, capper, for one taffeta hat and one cloth cap, 14s

To William Wood, cutler, for dressing of one rapier and dagger, and garnishing them with velvet scabbard, girdle and dagger sheath, as by his bill, 11s 10d

For William Carr's board in Grey's Inn Lane, for the rent of his chamber, for one leather jerkin, and for one pair of hose, as by one bill it particularly appeareth, £6 4s 4d

And for 6 pair of shoes, one pair of boots, mending of his apparel, a bow and shafts, one pair of netherstocks, his laundress' wages, for gloves, points and other necessaries and charges, and for [-and for] 3 shirts, 6 handkerchiefs, and 6 pair of socks, as by one other bill it particularly appeareth, £3 19s 6d

S{u}m{ma} totall{is} £15 10s 6d

Mr Receiver, I pray you to cause the parcels herebefore expressed amounting to the sum of fifteen pounds ten shillings and six pence to be paid to this bearer, Chester Herald, that he may make payment thereof whereas it is due, and this bill by [me] subscribed, together with his acknowledging of the receipt thereof hereafter, shall be your sufficient warrant in that behalf. Given at my house in Strand the 9th of November A{n}no R{egni} R{egi}ne Elizabethe xijmo. Your loving friend, W. Cecil.

Endorsed: Received of Sir William Damsell, knight, Receiver-General of the Court of Wards and Liveries, by virtue of this warrant the sum within named of fifteen pounds ten shillings and 6d the 15th of November A{n}no R{egni} R{egi}ne Elizabethe xijmo, p{er} me J{ohannem} H{art} Chester Herald.

Endorsed: To my loving friend, Sir William Damsell, knight, Receiver-General of the Court of Wards and Liveries