



The following document is part of a Dulwich Society project to digitise, transcribe and translate the Dulwich Manorial Court Rolls. They begin in 1333 and continue, with some breaks, to 1908.

A typical Manor Court Roll starts with apologies for absence and fines for non-attendance without excuse, followed by a list of local tenants serving on the manor jury, or 'Homage'. The 'Court Leet' or 'View of Frankpledge' dealt with minor offences, disputes between neighbours, and such matters as failing to keep ditches clear. The early Rolls list those with goods worth more than 30 pence, and those keeping pigs (and how many they kept). The 'Court Baron' dealt with property transactions and inheritance matters. Sometimes the functions of the two Courts, almost invariably held one after the other on the same day, overlapped. In time, the 'Court Leet' became increasingly less important.

For more details and links to images of the rolls and other documents please go to <https://www.dulwichsociety.com/courtrolls/>

Text in **red**, apart from modern notes by the transcriber, indicates text missing from, or entirely illegible in, the original Roll. Text in various shades of **grey** indicates text which, in the original Roll, is to a greater or lesser extent difficult to decipher. Otherwise, all contemporaneous text is in **black**, except for presumed later additions which are indicated in **brown** or **blue**.

Roll G5 [previously E8] (front) *[Tuesday] 27 Nov 1537*

E8.

Dulwyche ¶ Court there held on Tuesday next before the Feast of saint Andrew the Apostle, in the 29th Regnal Year of Henry the Eighth, by the Grace of god King of England And France, defender of the Faith, lord of Ireland, & on earth Supreme Head of the Anglican church.

Homage there Namely Henry Knyght, Henry Ode, John Wooddene, Henry Hunte, & Thomas Henley, Sworn, present that all is well, &c.

[10 Jan 1536] On one occasion, as appears in the View of Frank pledge with Court Baron, here held on the tenth day of January in the 27th Regnal Year of Henry the Eighth, by the Grace of god King of England And France, defender of the Faith, lord of Ireland, & on earth Supreme Head of the Anglican church, came not only Edward Dove, eldest son of John Dove deceased, eldest son of the first John & his wife Margaret, likewise deceased, And a certain Oliver Dove, youngest son of the aforesaid John Dove the eldest son, but also a certain Walter Dove, eldest son of a certain John Dove, third & youngest son of the aforesaid first John Dove and Margaret, And a certain John Dove, youngest son of the aforesaid John Dove the youngest son, with their counsel, And [each] sought that they ought to be admitted to various customary lands and tenements which were sometime the aforesaid first John Dove the elder's, husband of the said Margaret, and their grandfather, formerly of a certain John Brutone & his wife Joan, with their appurtenances, and now being in the lord's hands, not only by & after the death of the first John & of his wife Margaret, but also by & after the death of Henry Dove, second son of the same first John Dove & Margaret. Thus much is for informing the lord's knowledge. At the same Court the Homage were Sworn & charged to inquire, on their oath, who or which of them, by the custom of the aforesaid Manor, were or was the next heir or heirs for having the premises, And the aforesaid Homage, Sworn to this, seek a further day for delivering their verdict on the foregoing. And by the agreement of the aforesaid parties they have a further day given to them by the Court here, until the third day of February next to come &c., And the same day is given to the aforesaid parties here &c.

[3 Feb 1536] At another time, as appears in the Court here held on the aforesaid third day of February in the said 27th Year of the aforesaid King, that

there came not only the aforesaid Edward Dove & Oliver Dove, sons of the first John Dove's eldest son, but also a certain Walter Dove & John Dove, sons of the same John Dove's third & youngest son, between whom there is dispute, with their counsel. And the aforesaid Homage appeared, solemnly Sworn, likewise charged, who, speaking to the truth of the foregoing, present that Margaret Dove, widow, who held of the lord for her life-time certain customary lands & tenements, parcels of the premises within this lordship, has closed her last day (whereby nothing befalls to the lord as a heriot, because she had no animals), which same Margaret had & held the said lands & tenements from the aforesaid surrender of the first John Dove, lately her husband, the reversion or remainder thereof after the death of the same Margaret to his eldest son John Dove, & the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, with further remainders as appear by the the Copy of the Court Roll of the aforesaid Manor, Bearing date the Thursday on the feast of saints Simon & Jude in the 23rd Year of King Henry the Seventh, And that the same John Dove the elder, his son, died in the lifetime of the aforesaid Margaret, And that Oliver Dove is the youngest son of the same son John, & nearest heir of his body lawfully begotten according to the custom of the Manor. However, they further present, from notice lately given to them anew, that long before the aforesaid first John Dove, sometime husband of the aforesaid Margaret, had anything in the aforesaid lands & tenements, and other premises, a certain John Brutone & his wife Joan had & took from the lord according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor the aforesaid lands & tenements, amongst other lands & tenements, to have to themselves for term of life of the same John & Joan Brutone, as appears by the Court roll of the aforesaid Manor bearing date the 22nd day of April in the 12th Year of King Edward the Fourth, the reversion or remainder thereof, after their deaths, to the aforesaid first John Dove, lately husband of the said Margaret, & to the heirs of the body of the same first John Dove lawfully begotten, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, And for want of such issue the remainder of the premises to one Simon Ingolffe, his heirs & assigns for ever, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, as appears in the same Roll, &c. And that John Dove the younger, still being under age, is the kinsman & nearest heir of the aforesaid first John Dove, sometime husband of the said Margaret, lawfully begotten of his body, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, namely the youngest son of John Dove the youngest son of the first John Dove, late husband of the aforesaid Margaret &c. Upon which came the aforesaid parties & sought to be admitted to the premises &c. However, the Court is advised [=adjourned?] until the next Court, to be held here, namely on the second day of May next to come in the 28th Year of the above-stated King. And the same day is given to the aforesaid parties [to be] here etc. And that meanwhile there will be consultation with the lord & his counsel on the foregoing &c.



[2 May 1536] At another time, as appears in the Court here held on the aforesaid Second day of May in the 28th Year of the aforesaid King, that there

came not only the aforesaid Edward Dove & Oliver Dove, sons of the first John Dove's eldest son, but also a certain Walter Dove & John Dove, sons of a certain John Dove, the third & youngest son, between whom there is dispute, with their counsel, And seek to be admitted to the premises ; however, the Court is further advised [=adjourned?] until the next Court, namely at the seven^{teen}/th day of April next to come, to be held here. And the same day is given to the aforesaid parties here &c.

[17 Apr 1537] At another time, as appears in the View with Court Baron here held on the aforesaid Seventeenth day of April in the Twenty-eighth Year of the aforesaid King, came not only Edward Dove & Oliver [Dove], sons of the first John Dove's eldest son, but also a certain Walter Dove & John Dove, sons of a certain John Dove, the third & youngest son, between whom there is dispute, with their counsel, And the aforesaid Edward Dove & Oliver [Dove] submit a certain letter of William Paulet, knight, one of the Counsel of the lord King, signed with his hand, addressed to the Steward & Supervisor of the aforesaid Manor &c., the import of which follows in these words :

As unacquainted, I commend me to you, And Forasmuch as a dispute has arisen on certain Customary lands in the parish of Camerwell between the Children of John Dove, elder son of John Dove, and [those] of John Dove the third son child, being nephews to [actually grandchildren of] the said John Dove, father of the said two Johns, by reason of the enrolment of a copy made at the request & upon the complaint of the said John Dove the third son, made to the Court, in Which Copy the said John the third son & the heirs of his body be made heirs, And John the eldest son & his children, and for lack of them Henry & his Children, And for lack of them Humphrey & his children, the remainder to Master Scott And his heirs in Fee simple, to be put by [i.e. set aside?], Which is contrary to the Grant and Surrenders made by John the Grandfather to these Complain[an]ts For, in his Surrenders made, appear certain parcels of land Surrendered to the use of Margaret, his Wife, [for her] term of life, remainder to John his eldest son and to the heirs of his body, With various remainders over, as in the same copy, And Surrendered another parcel to the use of his son Henry & the heirs of his body, remainder for lack of Such issue to John the eldest son & to the heirs of his body, With other remainders as in the

said Copy is declared. By reason Whereof, it appears that the copy made upon the surmise of John the third son cannot be good. And therefore it shall be Well done for Justice, for the matter to be heard & disinterestedly drawn to an end, & ordered, Whereunto the King's

more on the back

End of E8 (front). E8 (back) follows below.]

Roll E8 (verso) [Tuesday] 27 Nov 1537 (continued)

E 8v

Roll
E. 1 - 9

pleasure is [that] Master Sulyarde (now sick) and I should be involved, by reason of a bill put to His Grace by the Orphans, praying you it may so be, & We shall be ready all times thereunto and to put such order as shall stand with Justice, as closely as by your Wisdom & ours can be thought [out] Written the 7th day of April [1537]

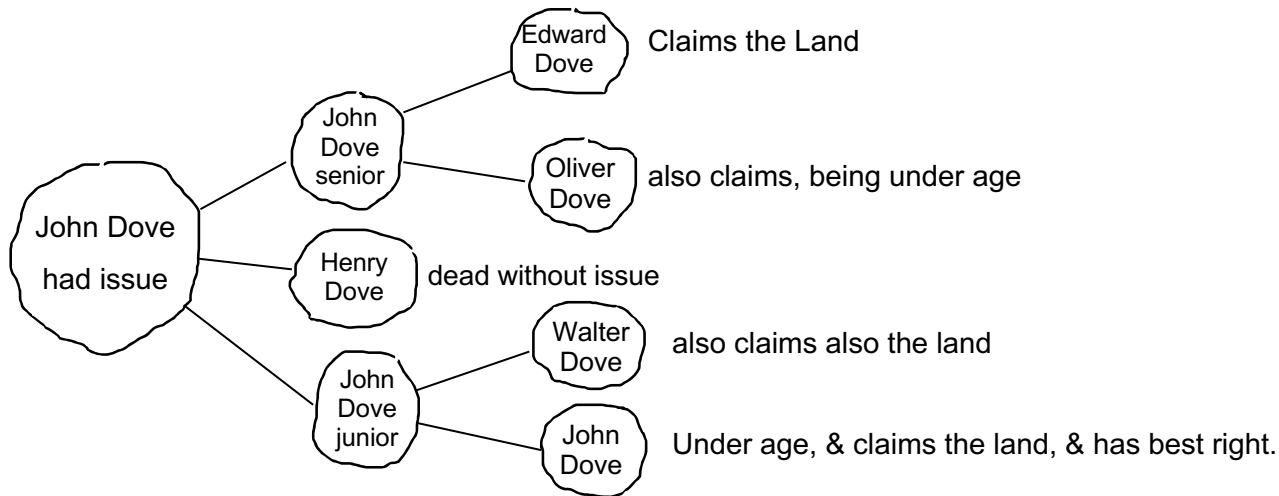
Yours, William Poulet

Therefore the Court is adjourned further, until & unless the premises are heard & examined by the counsel of the said lord King &c., In accordance with the import & force of the aforesaid letter, &c.

[27 Nov 1537] And afterwards, & before this Court, came not only the aforesaid Steward of the aforesaid Manor but also the aforesaid parties, with their Counsel,
^ Copies, allegations & probates, in the presence of the aforesaid William Sulyarde, one of the Counsellors of the said lord King and very well learned in the law. And the Right, title, [&] interest of the aforesaid parties was there, at their instigation & special pleading, diligently & patiently heard, examined, & determined by the same William Sulyarde &c. Upon which the aforesaid William Suliarde sent his 'letters' [i.e. his Opinion], Signed in his own hand, to the lord of the aforesaid Manor, Of which

the import follows in these words, &c.

May it please your lordship to be advised, that a matter of dispute pending in the Court of Requests for and concerning certain Copyhold lands Within the Manor of Dulwiche belonging to your Monastery of Barmondeseey hath been lately heard & examined before me, the parties being present with their Counsel. Whereupon it plainly appears, as well by the confession of the parties as by certain presentments of the homage of the said Manor, that the youngest son shall inherit, by the custom of the said manor there, used time out of mind. And that one John Brutone was sometime actual owner of the said lands in Fee, and made a Surrender thereof into the Lord's hands and took an Estate again, by copy, to him and his wife Joan for the term of their two lives, the remainder thereof to one John Dove and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and afterwards the said John Brutone and his wife died, and the said John Dove entered into the said lands & was thereof Seised in tail, after the Custom of the said Manor, which John Dove had issue as here followeth by Pedigree :



And it appears plainly by the said pedigree, which is confessed by the parties to be true, that the

right to the said lands by force of the said entail resteth only in the said John Dove (now being under age), as younger son of John Dove the youngest son of the First said John Dove, and ought to inherit the same by the Custom of the said Manor, notwithstanding any manner of Copies, presentments & court rolls, or any other matter alleged by the said Edward & Oliver for the maintenance of their pretended[i.e. claimed] titles to the premises, Which seems nothing availing for them. And thus I certify your Lordship as the matter appeareth before me, referring it to your Lordship to do Justice therein in your own Court, as the King's laws do require in this behalf, agreeable to right & conscience &c. Written at Lincolns Inn the 26th day of October 1537 :

Your own assured

William Sulyarde

The Final determination, order, direction and decree made by us Robert, Bishop of Saint Asaph, & Abbot-bursar of the Monastery of Saint Saviour's of Barmondeseey, & Lord of this manor, concerning all such Customary lands & tenements that lately were John Brutone's and afterwards the First said John Dove's lying & being within our lordship & manor of Dulwyche in the County of Surrey, now being in Dispute & contention between Edward Dove & Oliver Dove, kinsmen & heirs to the said First John Dove on the one part, and Walter Dove & John Dove, likewise kinsmen & heirs of the said first John Dove of the one part :

Forasmuch as it evidently appears to us, of record as well as by various Court rolls & records of Courts Barons kept & held within our Said manor of Dulwyche as by the certificate of the said Master Sulyarde directed to us in Writing as is aforesaid that one John Brutone was sometime actual owner of the said Lands & tenements in Fee after the Custom of the Manor & made a Surrender of the premises into the Lord's hands and took an Estate again by copy to him and to Joan his wife for the terme of their two lives with remainder thereof to the said First John Dove & to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, with further

remainder over to one Simon Ingolffe & to his heirs in Fee, and that the pedigree afore plainly made & set out is true, And So confessed by all the said parties, And Further that the right to all the said lands by force of the said entail resteth only in the said John Dove now being under age, as younger son to John Dove, the youngest son of the said First John, And that the same John Dove, now being under age, ought to inherit the same premises by the custom of our said lordship & manor Wherefore, & to that intent, we would of our Charitable disposition administer Justice according to right & Good conscience between the said parties concerning the said lands & tenements now hanging in dispute & being in our hands. We have decreed & determined and, for a Final peace to be had between the said parties, do order & decree as hereafter is declared, that is, to wit, that the said John Dove, now being under age, as younger son to John Dove, the youngest Son of the said First John Dove

more in the roll following

[End of Roll G5 [previously E8]. (Final entry continued on Roll G6 [previously E9.])]