



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**.

Dulwich
£.5.

¶ View of frank pledge with Court Baron of Francis Calton Esquire, there held on the twenty-sixth Day of October in the Thirty-Eighth Year of the Reign of our Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the faith &c., in the presence of me Thomas Ashtone, Steward.

Excuses

¶ John Casinghurst, Robert Kyngesland, Christopher Savage, John Mathewes, John Fearing, Richard Watford, John Hammond, Nicholas Frend, and Thomas Parrye gentleman. /

Sworn into allegiance
to the Lady Queen }

¶ James Johnson, Richard Bodger, and Ralph Mortymer.

12 Sworn for the Lady
Queen and for the
Lady of the manor }

¶ Nicholas Knight gentleman
John Garrett .
John Bone .
Ambrose Shepheard

} Sworn

William Darbye
John Heathe
Henry Hunter
John Ambler

} Sworn

John Longe
Edmund Hunter
Thomas Abeck
John Hall

} Sworn

Henry Mathew
John Staple

} Sworn

verdict of the Jury
amercement

¶ Who, truly Sworn and charged, Say upon their oath that Thomas Shott, Constable, makes Default at this Day in coming to make presentments. Therefore he is is mercy 6s 8d.

2d

2d

2d

2d

Likewise they present that Ellis Parrye, Citizen ; William Jones ; Walter Bone ; John Lewys ; John Shott ; and Richard Virgo, Owe suit of Court and make Default at this Day. Therefore they are in

amercement

mercy, as appears over each of their Head.

A Day is Given.

Likewise they present that Nicholas Watford, aged fifteen Years or thereabouts, dwelling within this View for the space of one Year last past, has never to their knowledge been Sworn into allegiance to the Lady Queen. Therefore a Day is Given to the same Nicholas in the next Court, under penalty of 3s 4d.

amercement. Likewise they present that Thomas Calton, gentleman, and a certain [blank], servant of the same Thomas, effected a recovery against a certain James ap Howell, servant of Ambrose Shepheard, while chasing the Cattle of the same Thomas Calton towards the common pound. Therefore each of them is in mercy o--- 12d.

amercement. Likewise they present that each inhabitant within this View (apart from Thomas Fearing and Robert Nelson) makes Default in not wearing caps each holy Day and each Sunday, in accordance with the form of the statute. Therefore each of them is amerced o--- 2d.

amercement. Likewise they present that Thomas Parry, gentleman ; Thomas Calton, gentleman ; Nicholas Knight, gentleman ; John Longe ; Ellis Parry ; John Ambler ; John Hall ; John Fearing ; George Mortymer ; John Bone ; John Goodynough ; and John Lewys, played bowls in an open space, contrary to the form of the statute. Therefore each of them is amerced o--- 2d.

penalty Likewise they present that a certain poorly-repaired ditch lies between the lands called Addingtons Mead Coppice and Blanche Downe, through the fault of Thomas Calton, gentleman. And Therefore they order that the same Thomas will scour, or cause to be scoured, the Said ditch well and sufficiently, before the feast of the Annunciation of the blessed Mary next to come, under penalty of forfeiting for each Rod not scoured Two feet in depth and three feet in width o--- 12d

Total o--- 11s 8d, besides for 'Cappes' 1d each

Assessors John Garrett }
John Heathe } Sworn

Thomas Hammond is elected Constable, and is Sworn.

John Goodynough and John Staple are elected Head tithingmen and are Sworn.

Robert Beast is elected taster of ale, and is Sworn.

A Day is Given to the Homage and aforesaid Jurymen, until the Sabbath Day [i.e. Saturday] next after All Souls, the better to

make enquiries and presentments.

[Saturday, 6 Nov
1596]

verdict of the
Homage }

And now here at the aforesaid Day, namely Saturday the sixth Day of November in the aforesaid 38th Year, the Homage came here, Namely Nicholas Knight and John Garrett, tenants of the Lord, and the aforesaid other Jurymen likewise come and Say upon their oath that Ellis Parrye, gentleman, owes suit of Court, and makes Default at the aforesaid Day. Therefore he is amerced 2d.

amercement.

Likewise they present that Francis Fromans, who held Of the Lord of this Manor one House and 14 Acres of land, by Copy of the Rolls, died since the last Court seised thereof, whereby falls to the Lord Two heriots, And to their knowledge John Fromans is his nearest heir, and, since he wishes to be admitted tenant thereof, Ought to pay for his common[sic] fine, according to the ancient Custom of this Manor (as it appears by the oath of various old men to be) 9s 4d, being Double the Yearly Rent payable for the aforesaid lands.

death.
heriots

Likewise they present that William Jones Of London, Merchant Tailor, and his wife Agnes, daughter and sole heir of Thomas Hunt, late of Dulwich, deceased, which said William freely held of the Lord of this Manor, in Right of his wife, by fealty and suit of Court, one messuage or Tenement and 12 Acres of land, with appurtenances, lying and being within this Manor, by Indentured Charter bearing date the 12th Day of January in the aforesaid 38th Year, Gave, Conceded, alienated, bargained and sold all and singular the premises, with appurtenances, to Thomas Turnor of London, yeoman, and his heirs (Which said Thomas Turnor, present in Court, offered to make fealty to the Lord, which is respited until the Lord will be present, and he concedes because &c).

alienation.

4s.

Likewise they present that Peter Marshe of London, gentleman, freely held Of the Lord of this manor six Acres of land, with a recently-derelict ['decasa'] house, called Kennalls, by fealty and suit of Court and 8d Rent Yearly, by his Charter since the last Court bargained and sold all and singular the premises, with

alienation.

appurtenances, to Nicholas Knight, gentleman, and his heirs.

~~Likewise they order that the penalty formerly imposed (that no tenant or inhabitant within this Manor of Dulwich should not impound any Cattle outside the Common pound of this Manor) shall be made void and of no effect.~~

pena vacua .

Likewise they present that John Garrett made Default in not flattening ['prostrando'] the encroachment [?], according to the penalty imposed upon him. Therefore he is amerced 2s .

amercement.

Likewise they present that William Dolton made Default in not scouring his ditch at Ashepoole end. Therefore he himself forfeits for each Rod 4d, according to the penalty imposed upon him, being in all about twenty Rods.

amercement

Total 8s 10d, besides the 2 heriots.

Assessed by the Homage

Sum total 20s 6d besides as above

Thomas Ashtone, Steward

[End of J14 [previously L5 (front). Nothing on J14 [previously L5] (back) except, in the bottom right-hand corner, in a contemporaneous hand :]

Dulwiche

[End of Roll J14 [previously L5].]