

hampton and depasturing cattle on his grass. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered as in the last suit. *m.* 316.

Northampton. Edmund Acton sued Alianora Stafford, widow, late wife of Humfrey Stafford, late of Grafton, co. Worcester, knight, for the manor of Dodford and 20 messuages, 8 cottages, 30 virgates of land, 80 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 200 acres of wood, and £12 of rent in Dodford, Flore, Claxthorp, Harleston, Walton, and Brokhole as his inheritance, by the King's writ of right, and he stated he had been seised of the manor, etc., in the present King's reign, and offered to prove his right, etc.¹

And Alianora appeared by attorney, and stated that a certain Walter Wrottesley, knight, Alexander Gray, chaplain, and Thomas Hall were seised of the manor in demesne as of fee, and long before the writ of the said Edmund was issued they had demised it to her for her life, with remainder to her daughter Joyce and heirs male of her body, and failing such to Thomas Stafford, armiger, the son of the said Alianora, and heirs of his body, and failing such to Humfrey Stafford, armiger, brother of Thomas, and heirs of his body, and failing such to the right heirs of the said Alianora for ever, and as she only held the manor for her life, she could not answer without the said Joyce, Thomas, and Humfrey, and she asked that they might be summoned and made parties to the suit, which was conceded. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to summon them for the Octaves of St. Hillary. A postscript states that on that date the Sheriff made no return to the writ, and he was ordered to produce them on the following Octaves of St. Michael. *m.* 398.

London. In the suit of Edmund, Earl of Kent, versus Walter Wrottesley, knight, and others, none of the defendants appeared on the Quindene of St. Martin, and the Sheriff stated he had distrained Walter up to 2s., and the others could not be found. He was therefore ordered to distrain the said Walter again, and to arrest the others and produce them on the Octaves of St. Hillary.² *m.* 465, *verso*.

CORAM REGE. MICH., 11 E. IV.

Staff. Elizabeth, late wife of James Powntenall, appealed in person Thomas Coke, late of Wolvernehampton, yoman, Roger Coke, of Wolvernehampton, yoman, and William Baxster, of Wolvernehampton, yoman, for the death of her husband, viz., Thomas Coke as principal, and the other two as accessories. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to put the said Thomas into *exigent*, and if he did not appear to outlaw, and to arrest the others and produce them on the Octaves of St. John the Baptist. *m.* 16.

Staff. The King sent a close writ to the Sheriff of co. Stafford, stating that whereas Margaret, late wife of Robert Harecourt, knight, had found security to prosecute her suit by John Statham, late of Staunton Harecourt,

¹ The "cteetera" in a writ of right stands for wager of battle, or any other way the Court might consider fit.

² There appears to be no sequel to this suit. The onslaught on the Earl of Kent was clearly of a political nature, and had taken place during the troubles of the kingdom consequent on the deposition of Edward IV. in 1470. On the 6th August, 1471, *i.e.*, about a month before the writ in this action was issued, Sir Walter Wrottesley and Sir Geoffrey Gate had obtained a full pardon for all offences committed up to that date, and this pardon would have covered the trespass complained of.

co. Oxon., gentelman, and Robert Daumport, of Melcombe, co. Oxon., gentelman, he was to attach William Stafford, bastard, late of Grafton, co. Worcester, gentelman, John Shaylle, late of Evesham, yoman, Richard Raynold, late of Kedermyster, yoman, Thomas Stafford, late of Grafton, armiger, John Rudyng, late of Dyrtywych, co. Wygorn., gentelman, Robert Porter, late of Evesham, gentelman, William Chyd, late of Wurcetun, co. Worcester, gentelman, Richard Leveson, late of Wolverhampton, armiger, John Salford, late of Wolverhampton, gentelman, Richard Salford, late of Wolverhampton, gentelman, Henry Hancocks, late of Compton, in the parish of Tetenhale, yoman, Hugh), late of Codsale, yoman, Robert Baylly, late of Walsale, yoman, William Wrasteler, late of Walsale, barker, William Stokes, late of Yardeley, co. Worcester, gentelman, Humfrey More, late of Brommesgrove, gentelman, John Bowear, late of Wolverhampton, gentelman, Humfrey Stafford, late of Grafton, armiger, and upwards of 100 others named of the counties of Worcester and Stafford, to answer the appeal of the said Margaret for the death of her husband, dated 8th November, 11 E. IV., and which writ was delivered *coram Rege* at Westminster to Simon Adyngton, the Deputy of the Sheriff, on the 15th November, to carry into execution. "*periculo incumbente.*" *m.* 52.¹

Glouc. Margaret, late wife of Thomas Talbot, knight, late Viscount Lysle, appealed in person William Berkeley, of Berkeley, knight, Maurice Berkeley, late of Berkeley, armiger, Thomas Berkeley, of Berkeley, armiger, brothers of the said William, James Hyot, late of Lyddeney, co. Gloucester, armiger, and four others named, for the death of her husband. *m.* 81. (*An interesting suit, but does not refer to Staffordshire.*)

DE BANCO. HILLARY, 11 E. IV.

Staff. Richard Bromley sued Thomas Swynerton, of Boturton, yoman, and Thomas Paulyng, of Boturton, yoman, for breaking into his close at Boturton and depasturing cattle on his grass. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff returned they held nothing, etc. He was therefore ordered to arrest and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. A postscript states that on that date the Sheriff made no return to the writ, and he was ordered to arrest and produce them on the Morrow of St. John the Baptist. *m.* 100.

Staff. Robert Bughey sued Edward Fyton, late of Gausworth, co. Chester, gentelman, John Bidyll, late of Bidyll (Biddulph), gentelman, Laurence Rope, of Sapley, co. Chester, gentelman, Roger Damporte, of Gausworth, co. Chester, gentelman, Thomas Plant, of Derliston, co. Stafford, husbandman, William Alcock, of Riston (Rushton), co. Stafford, yoman, Roger Higgonbotham, of Derliston, husbandman, John Couper, of Annesley, co. Stafford, husbandman, John Bromley, of Whitmore, yoman, and others named for taking by force from Derliston a horse, 14 pigs, and 5 cows

¹ On *m.* 76 Margaret appeared in person and appealed the above named for the death of her husband. The Sheriffs of the Counties concerned returned that none of the defendants could be found, and they were ordered to arrest and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. At Easter term, 12 E. IV., she appeared again in person and appealed William Stafford, bastard, late of Grafton, co. Worcester, gentelman, John Shaylle, late of Evesham, yoman, and Richard Reynold, late of Kedermyster, yoman, as principals and the rest as accessories. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff of co. Worcester was ordered to put the defendants named above of that county into *exigent*, and the Sheriffs of the other counties to arrest the other defendants. For further proceedings see p. 189.

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