

**REMAINS, HISTORICAL AND LITERARY.  
VOLUME 46. - NEW SERIES. THE PORTMOTE  
OR COURT LEET RECORDS OF  
THE BOROUGH OR TOWN AND ROYAL  
MANOR OF SALFORD, FROM THE YEAR  
1597 TO THE YEAR 1669 INCLUSIVE. VOL. I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649689484

Remains, Historical and Literary. Volume 46. - New Series. The Portmote or Court Leet Records of the Borough or Town and Royal Manor of Salford, from the Year 1597 to the Year 1669 Inclusive. Vol. I by J. G. de T. Mandley

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**J. G. DE T. MANDLEY**

**REMAINS, HISTORICAL AND LITERARY.  
VOLUME 46. - NEW SERIES. THE PORTMOTE  
OR COURT LEET RECORDS OF  
THE BOROUGH OR TOWN AND ROYAL  
MANOR OF SALFORD, FROM THE YEAR  
1597 TO THE YEAR 1669 INCLUSIVE. VOL. I**



0

# REMAINS

**Historical and Literary**

CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF

**Lancaster and Chester.**



*Chetham Society—*

VOLUME 46.  $\frac{1}{4}$  NEW SERIES

MANCHESTER:

**Printed for the Chetham Society**

1902



## The Chetham Society.

COUNCIL FOR 1901-1902.

- A. W. WARD, Esq., Litt.D., LL.D., MASTER OF PETERHOUSE,  
CAMBRIDGE, PRESIDENT.  
LIEUT.-COLONEL HENRY FISHWICK, F.S.A., VICE-PRESIDENT.  
HENRY BRIERLEY, Esq., B.A.  
HENRY THOMAS CROFTON, Esq.  
G. H. HANKINSON, Esq.  
JOHN HOWARD NODAL, Esq.  
FRANK RENAUD, Esq., M.D., F.S.A.  
WILLIAM O. ROPER, Esq., F.S.A.  
J. PAUL RYLANDS, Esq., F.S.A.  
REV. CANON J. H. STANNING, M.A.  
JAMES TAIT, Esq., M.A.  
PROFESSOR T. NORTHCOTE TOLLER, M.A.  
J. JOSEPH JORDAN, Esq., TREASURER.  
CHARLES W. SUTTON, Esq., M.A., HON. SECRETARY.

©

**The Portmote**  
OR  
**Court Leet Records**  
OF THE BOROUGH OR TOWN AND ROYAL MANOR OF  
**Salford**  
FROM THE YEAR 1597 TO THE YEAR 1869  
INCLUSIVE

TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED BY  
**J. G. DE T. MANDLEY**  
CHAIRMAN OF  
THE ROYAL MUSEUM, LIBRARIES AND PARKS COMMITTEE, SALFORD

VOL. I.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY  
1902

## PREFACE.

THE spirited and highly laudable action of the Manchester City Council in ordering the transcription and printing of the Court Leet Records transferred to them (in the year 1846) by the Lord of the Manor, on their purchase of his manorial rights, soon led to commendable emulation in other cities and boroughs. Salford was not slow in taking steps to join in the good work. But at the outset there came the discovery that the earlier Records of the Borough had disappeared, and could not be traced. Inquiries were made in what were considered to be the most likely quarters, and liberal rewards for the return of the books were, it is said, freely advertised, but without effect. So far back as the 15th October and 4th November, 1891, the Deputy Town Clerk of Salford (Mr. A. Holmes) wrote, at the request of the Libraries Committee, to the Registrar of the Salford Hundred Court of Record for information on the subject, and subsequently a deputation was appointed to wait upon him to view the old Court muniments in his possession. Every courtesy and facility of search were shown to them, but the labour was fruitless. Consequently the Committee relaxed their efforts, trusting to time and chance for the restoration of the missing books.

Meantime the seven folio manuscript volumes of the Manchester Manorial Court Leet Records (which had lain almost in oblivion from 1846 to 1880 in the Town Hall)



were being transcribed and printed regardless of labour or expense, and the fifteen beautifully printed and handsomely bound volumes now to be seen in The Free Reference Libraries of Manchester and Salford, are a lasting monument to the memory of Alderman Sir Thomas Baker, who initiated the work, the Sub-Committee who acted with him, and the learned Editor (who personally made the transcription), the late Mr. J. P. Earwaker, F.S.A. One of the seven old books in question, it may be said, had been missing for many years and its return was made anonymously.

It may be of interest to tell how the Records herein copied came into the possession of the Corporation of Salford.

On the 5th June, 1894, the following Letter was read to the Museum and Libraries' Committee:—

MECHANICS' INSTITUTION,

NOTTINGHAM, 31 MAY, 1894.

"THE TOWN CLERK OF SALFORD,

DEAR SIR,

While examining on behalf of the above Institution the Library of the late Archdeacon Maltby, prior to its sale at his house near Newark, I found in one of the lots a quarto book of M.S. in a vellum cover. On examining the same I saw it was a Record of the Presentments of the Borough Reeves' Juries from 1597 to 1669 for your Town of Salford. The Records are written in Court Hand, and the Volume is I should say the original, and certainly should be in the possession of your Corporation.

There not being time to advise you of the matter prior to the sale, I instructed our Librarian to purchase the Volume with a view of laying the matter before you, deeming it better that it should fall into the hands of our Institution rather than to a dealer or other purchaser. This he did at a cost of £3.

I have forwarded the Volume to you for your inspection \* \* \* and I trust that the result will prove our services to have been useful to you.

I may add that we were quite unable to trace the way the book came into the possession of its late owner.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(signed) PERCY J. CROPPER,

Hon. Sec. Library Committee."

It was Resolved: "That the best thanks of the Committee be presented to Mr. Percy J. Cropper for purchasing and forwarding the Volume \* \* \* and that it be purchased from him at the price named."

Accordingly, on the 7th June, the Chairman—the late Alderman C. Makinson—wrote to Mr. Cropper conveying to him an expression of the obligation that the Committee felt they were under to him for the public spirit he had shown in securing for Salford this Volume of the Borough Court Records, an act "worthy of praise." Mr. Cropper's reply was as modest as the service he had rendered to the Borough was great.

By another Resolution passed by the Committee at the same sitting these Records were referred to Mr. Councillor Cottrill and the Curator to examine the same, and report thereon to the next Meeting. The Chairman, however, took the matter in hand, and his Report was ordered to be printed. Many errors being found therein, a "revised and extended" Report was printed in August. In the concluding paragraph of that Report Mr. Makinson says: "I may be permitted to

add, however, that until every effort has been made to discover the missing volumes I think it would be hardly worth while to produce a printed transcript (*verbatim et literatim*) of the present volume."

Mr. Alderman C. Makinson died on the 12th June, 1895, and I succeeded him in office. At that time the old volume had been in my possession a little over eight months, and, in the hope that some day the decision of the Committee not to print these Ancient Records would be reversed, I had during that time transcribed close on 250 pages of the book. Encouraged by the Very Rev. Canon J. Moyes, D.D., who had rendered me valuable assistance in deciphering many of the puzzling contractions in the entries in Latin, I determined to endeavour to convince the Committee of the desirableness of having the Records printed. Fortifying myself with three estimates for the printing and binding, I brought the matter up on the 11th February, 1896, when I undertook to personally—gratuitously, of course—transcribe, edit, and see through the press the two Volumes as estimated. That offer was met by Mr. Councillor (now Alderman) F. S. Phillips, who, as I anticipated, moved that the question be postponed *sine die*, and although an Amendment was carried that such postponement should be for three months, I promptly withdrew my offer. I think it right to mention this simply as an explanation of the seeming apathy of the Salford Council, and why, unlike Manchester, Nottingham, Cardiff, and other places, the printing and publishing of these Ancient Records have been left to the generosity and public spirited action of a Society unconnected intimately with the Salford Corporation.

After the lapse of more than five years, it was intimated to me that had the offer I made to my Committee in 1895 been made to the Chetham Society it would have met with