

**THE RECORD SOCIETY FOR THE PUBLICATION
OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS RELATING TO
LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE, VOL. XLIX.
A CALENDAR OF THE LANCASHIRE ASSIZE
ROLLS PRESERVED IN THE PUBLIC RECORD
OFFICE, LONDON, PART II, PP. 175-439**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649034642

The Record Society for the Publication of Original Documents Relating to Lancashire and Cheshire, Vol. XLIX. A Calendar of the Lancashire Assize Rolls Preserved in the Public Record Office, London, Part II, pp. 175-439 by John Parker

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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JOHN PARKER

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FOR THE

Publication of Original Documents

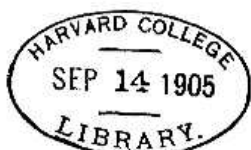
RELATING TO

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VOLUME XLIX.

1905.

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THE
RECORD SOCIETY
FOR THE
PUBLICATION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS
RELATING TO
LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

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RULES.

1.—That the Society shall be called the RECORD SOCIETY, and shall have for its object the transcribing and publishing of Original Documents relating to the Counties of Lancaster and Chester.

2.—That the affairs of the Society shall be governed by a Council consisting of a President and twelve Members, the former of whom shall be *annually* elected by the Council.

3.—That three Members of the Council shall form a quorum.

4.—That the subscription of Members of the Society shall be £1 1s. per annum, which shall entitle them to the publications for the year; but any Member whose subscription shall be two years in arrear shall thereupon be removed from the Society, and shall not be re-admitted until all arrears have been paid. The number of Members is limited to 350.

5.—That the subscriptions shall be due in advance on the 30th of June in each year, and that no work shall be issued to any Member whose subscription is in arrear.

6.—That an Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held in the month of October, of which due notice shall be sent to all the Members. At this meeting a Report of the work of the Society, with a Statement of the Income and Expenditure, shall be presented. These shall be annually published, together with a List of Members and the Rules of the Society.

7.—That so long as the funds of the Society permit, two volumes at least shall be issued to the Members in each year.

8.—That no copies of the publications of the Society shall be sold to non-members, except at an increased price to be fixed by the Council.

9.—That no payment shall be made to any person for editing any work for the Society, but that the Editor of each Volume shall be entitled to twenty copies of the work so edited by him.

10.—That the Treasurer's Accounts shall be audited by two Members of the Society, who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

11.—No alteration shall be made in any of the above Rules except at the Annual General Meeting. Notice of any proposed alterations must be sent to the Hon. Secretary a month before such General Meeting.

12.—That a meeting of the Council of the Society shall be called by the Hon. Secretary at least once in every three months.

The Annual Subscription of £1 1s., entitling the Members to all the Volumes issued for that year, may be paid to the Hon. Treasurer, or to the credit of the Society at their Bankers, the Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Company, Limited, at any of their branches.

Report for the Year 1903-1904.

*Read at the Council Meeting held in the Audit Room of the
Chetham Hospital, Manchester, October 24th, 1904.*

SINCE the last Annual Meeting, held on the 19th October, 1903, two volumes have been issued to the Members. These are, Volume 47, being Part I. of the Lancashire Assize Rolls, 1202-1281, edited by Colonel Parker, and Volume 48 being Lancashire Inquests, Extents and Feudal Aids, 1205-1307, which has been edited by Mr. William Farrer.

The Council feel that it would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of these two books as contributions to the early history of Lancashire, and they view with much satisfaction the continuation of the printing, in the near future, of both series of documents.

For the current year the Members will receive Part II. of the Assize Rolls, 1281-1285, to which will be added an Appendix, including extracts from the Patent Rolls relating to special Lancashire Assizes, and from the Pipe Rolls, together with a full index of persons and places. The second volume for the year will be Part III. of the Lancashire Final Concords, 1877-1509, which will be edited, as were the two former parts, by Mr. William Farrer. The Society has to thank Colonel Parker and Mr. Farrer for generously presenting the transcripts of both these volumes.

As to future work, the amount of material at the Society's command is so great that the difficulty is only one of selection. The Council has at this moment material ready, and competent workers willing to edit upwards of ten volumes of the greatest

interest and importance in the elucidation of the history of the two Counties, but owing to the poor support with which the Society meets, it is only possible to put two of them in hand at present. It is very deplorable that out of the five million inhabitants of Lancashire and Cheshire, scarcely two hundred can be found to contribute the sum of one guinea per annum to this important educational work.

The Rolls of Admission to the Freedom of the City of Chester (1892-1895) have been carefully transcribed, and where possible, collated with the original entries in the Mayor's Books, by Mr. J. H. E. Bennett, of Chester. Mr. Bennett has presented this transcript to the Society, and has undertaken to edit the volume; it is proposed to put this in the printers' hands at once. These Rolls relate to many persons in Lancashire as well as Cheshire. A complete transcript of the Marriage Licences of the ancient diocese of Chester, including Lancashire south of the Ribble, is in preparation, and at the present time the material for at least two volumes, covering the period 1806-1825, could be handed to the printers. The transcripts of a voluminous collection of Cheshire pedigrees, now preserved among the Harleian MSS., which includes the Heralds' Visitation of Cheshire for 1618, is in the hands of the Editor, as also is a transcript of the Chartulary of St. Werburgh's Abbey in Chester. In addition to these, an Index of the recently found Wills at the Probate Registry in Chester, 1596-1635, an Index to the Wills and Inventories remaining in the Bishop's Registry in Chester (1701-1800), and the Hearth Tax Returns for the County of Chester for the year 1668, only await the necessary funds to enable the Council to place them in the hands of the Members.

A few sets of the Society's Proceedings are still on hand. Members can obtain the price of sets or of single volumes by applying to the Honorary Secretary.

The following is a complete list of the Society's publications already printed up to the present time :

1878-79.	I. Commonwealth Church Survey.
	II. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1545 to 1620.
1879-80.	III. Lancashire Inquisitions. Stuart Period. Part I. 1608 to 1613.
	IV. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1621 to 1650.
1880-81.	V. The Register of Prestbury, co. Chester, 1660 to 1686.
	VI. Cheshire and Lancashire Funeral Certificates. 1800 to 1678.
1881-82.	VII. Lancashire and Cheshire Records. Part I.
1882-88.	VIII. Lancashire and Cheshire Records. Part II.
	IX. Preston Guild Rolls, 1697 to 1692.
1883-84.	X. Index to the Lancashire Wills proved at Richmond, 1457 to 1680.
	XI. Exchequer Depositions, 1558 to 1702.
1884-85.	XII. Miscellanies, Lancashire & Cheshire, Vol. I.
	XIII. Index to the Lancashire Wills proved at Richmond, 1680 to 1748.
1885-86.	XIV. <i>Annales Castrionenses.</i>
	XV. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1660-1680.
1886-87.	XVI. Lancashire Inquisitions. Stuart Period. Part II. 1614 to 1622.
	XVII. Lancashire Inquisitions. Stuart Period. Part III. 1622 to 1625.
1887-88.	XVIII. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1681 to 1700.
	XIX. Civil War in Cheshire.
1888-89.	XX. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1701 to 1720.
	XXI. The Register of Leyland, co. Lancaster. 1658 to 1715.
1889-90.	XXII. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1721 to 1740
	XXIII. Index to the Lancashire Wills proved at Richmond, 1748 to 1792.
1890-91.	XXIV. The Royalist Composition Papers relating to Lancashire. Vol. I. A and B.
	XXV. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1741 to 1760.
1891-92.	XXVI. The Royalist Composition Papers relating to Lancashire. Vol. II. C to F.