Windesore on account of the distance of the place, for some of them take eight or nine days coming to the town, and as many returning from it to their own parts, and some of them more and some of them less, each according to the distance of his mansion; and those men to avoid such labour and expense frequently omit to present felonies, which manifestly leads to the breaking of the king's peace, and also they omit to indict felons, and to follow them because the country would be charged to bring the thieves to a place so remote, and sometimes that they pass through the middle of the county of Berks, and sometimes through parts of the counties of Oxford and Buckingham with such felons towards the said prison, by which if it happens that those felons effect their escape either by rescue or in any other manner, the king loses such escape, especially when such escape made in one county ought not to be presented in another; moreover the commonality of the town of Windesore is so weak, that prisoners being in gaol there cannot be supported by the alms of the men of the town, so that the prisoners, as well lieges as others, and also those who are not admitted to bail, frequently die for want of sustenance before judgment is rendered, by which the king frequently loses the goods, although the thieves are found with them in their hand, and also the chattels of the felons themselves, and in like manner other escheats to the loss of the crown; furthermore because the gaol of Windesore is within the liberty of the forest of Windesore, and the coroner there, who hears the confessions of approvers, being of the same liberty, is not elected by the commonality but within the said liberty, and is not sworn in the county to serve the king in geldable as he ought to be, many losses have frequently happened: moreover because those indicted for felony and sent to the gaol of Windesore are permitted to go forth from the gaol whither they wish, the men of those parts very often fear to indict such felons, on whom due justice is not done for the felonies committed by them, for which causes the said commonality as well on behalf of the king as for themselves, have petitioned the king to provide a suitable remedy. The commissioners are to enquire by oath of good and lawful men of the said county touching all persons, the matters set forth above, and other things touching the business, and where within the said county the common prison for the county can best be placed for the profit of the king and the people and for their easement, and for the firmer preservation of the peace. By pet. of C.

Commission to John de Hothun and John de Heselarton, to enquire by oath of good men of the county of York touching the allegations that, the king having lately appointed John de Boteturt to levy from the mouth of the Thames towards the north along the sea coast 23 ships and a certain number of footmen to man them, to take the sea against his Scotch enemies and rebels, certain persons employed in making such levy, having received divers sums of money not to select the better ships and men, chose less suitable ships and an inferior class of men.

The like to the under-mentioned commissioners, viz.:—

Roger de Cubbeldyk,
Henry de Baiocis,
Walter de Friskeneye,
William de Goldyngton,
William de Rolleston,
William de la Doune,

in the county of Lincoln.

Commission de walliis et fossatis for Roger de Cubbeldyk, Laurence de Holebeche, and William de Farford, for the sea-coast in the parts of Holland, and of the adjacent parts in the county of Lincoln.

The like to William de Basinges, John de Ifeld, and Thomas de Briston for the seacoast of the county of Kent: and as the king has heard that large