Character of entries omitted.

thirteenth century are given in English in Sir T. D. Hardy's introduction to the Patent Rolls. The longer and more precise forms used at a later period are given in Latin, in Fitzherbert's work "De Natwra Brevium."

Every entry on the Patent Rolls is noticed in its due order in this Calendar, with the exception of ordinary commissions of gaol delivery, and appointments of justices to try assizes of novel disseisin, of mort d'ancestor, or darrein presentment, and the like. The entries of these appointments occupy a considerable part of the rolls of the reigns of Edward I. and II. and of the early years of the reign of Edward III., but the scanty information contained in them is not given in these Calendars.* It may hereafter be made accessible to topographers and genealogists in a tabular form.

Certain details given in the Rolls have been omitted from the Calendar in the following cases:—

(1) Where the documents have been printed in extenso in Rymer's "Fœdera," in Palgrave's "Parliamentary Writs," in Dugdale's "Monasticon," or in other works of the kind ordinarily accessible to students.

(2) Where the Letters Patent recite previous Letters Patent or Charters, the abstracts of which should be sought elsewhere under the earlier date.

(3) Where the Letters Patent enumerate a great number of undated grants of lands and rents by private persons to ecclesiastical bodies. The bare lists of persons and places as given in the Patent Rolls are of comparatively small value, and fuller information is generally to be found in chartularies or in ancient deeds.

(4) Where the Letters Patent grant to corporations or persons the right to levy toll upon certain specified articles under the name of murage, pontage, pavage, and quayage, for the construction and repair of the walls, bridges, roads, and quays of different towns. As the lists of articles thus subjected to toll vary very slightly from one another, it has been thought sufficient to give a few samples only.

(5) Where the Letters Patent recite fictitious allegations of pecuniary loss or other damage stated, according to the ordinary legal forms of the time, to have been sustained by the applicants, in order to supply grounds for the issue of commissions of enquiry under the Great Seal.