latter case, whether the person named was known as Fitz-william, Williamson, or Williams.

Surname beginning with "Fitz" in the Rolls have of course been so given in the Calendar, but "filius" has never been translated "Fitz." Consequently certain surnames compounded of Fitz and some proper name must generally be sought in the Index under their second syllable.

There are many instances of surnames resembling Christian names, both masculine and feminine, but having the termination of the genitive case, and although there is reason to believe that they were originally patronymics, it has not been thought advisable to supply words which do not occur in the Rolls. Thus Walter Reynolds, Archbishop of Canterbury, the son of a baker named Reginald, or Reynold, appears in the Calendar, as in the Rolls, for the reign of Edward II., under the name of Walter Reginaldi. Welshmen are indexed under their respective Christian names.

Most names of places are given in the Calendar according to the form used in the Rolls, the ordinary abbreviations being extended. Those, however, which occur in obviously Latinised forms, have been translated and printed according to the modern form, the original rendering being in some cases retained within brackets. Thus, the castle described in the Rolls as "de Monte Alto" appears in the Calendar as the castle of Mold, while no attempt is made to determine whether the owners thereof similarly described in the Rolls as "de Monte Alto" should appear under the name of Montalt, of Mohaut, of Moald, or of any other variant.

The names in the margin of the Calendar, showing the places at which the different Letters Patent were dated, are in most cases given in their modern form.

In the Index, too, the names of places are given according to their ordinary modern form when they can be identified with certainty and without difficulty.

Great care has been taken in the transcription of all proper names, but it is important to observe that the medieval Patent Rolls present very serious palaeographical difficulties. The forms of the letters n, u, and v, are practically identical; im or mi may easily be mistaken for un or nu, and it is often impossible to distinguish between f and s, between c and t, or between bb and lb. The occurrence therefore of any of these doubtful letters, especially in the early part of a name, is liable to affect its general aspect in the Calendar and its place in the Index. To take a single instance, the letters Do followed by four upright strokes and an e may stand alike for Donne, Doune, Douve, Doime, or Domie.