1857.

33 Edward I, appointed Philip Aubyn, Henry le Especer, John de Brandeston and Henry de Lezewyz, their fellow citizens, as their attorneys to shew before the king and council at Westminster, on Midlent Sunday, wherefore Simon, now bishop of Salisbury, who was then prosecuting the rights of his church, ought not to take from them tollage or aid which he sought, and these attorneys with Richard de Letegarshale, then mayor of the said city, exceeding the limits of their power, when asked by the king and given free choice whether they would continue to enjoy their liberties and submit to the charges thereby incumbent on them or would renounce their liberties and charges for ever, without consulting the commonalty, with too haughty presumption, renounced these, and so the city stripped of her liberties has for some time been the derision of all people and their song, and so they, the residue of the city, seeing their ruin have lately returned to their mother church and submitted to Simon, their bishop, promising to cause what he should order to be observed to the utmost of their powers; who, like the father who took up with joy his prodigal son, admitted them into his grace and by Master Walter Hervy, canon of Salisbury, and the bishop's domestic clerk, whom he deputed for this, caused them to be brought back into their pristine state and arranged a modus vivendi between the bishop and them as follows.

The citizens shewing due subjection and reverence to the bishop and his successors shall willingly pay their due rents and services, and shall be content with their tenements and places which they have in a charter of Richard, sometime bishop, defining the same, and shall make no usurpations on their lord the bishop in respect of these, but permit the present bishop to freely measure out the places and dispose of the residue of his soil without contradiction, to arrent what he shall find to be not rented and to make the profit of his church thereof as shall seem expedient.

Item the commonalty shall elect a mayor every year and present him to the lord's steward or bailiff, as has been accustomed to be done, who when sworn in shall execute his office, knowing himself to be not above the steward or bailiff aforesaid, but rather in subjection to them, in the presence of them, or, if they cannot attend, at least of the clerk of the manor.

Item the servants and ministers in the city shall likewise be elected in public by the commonalty, on condition that if at any time they be convicted of delinquency in their office, it shall be forthwith lawful for the bishop or his bailiff to punish them. If the delinquency necessitate removal from office, the commonalty shall be bound to make satisfaction for those removed, where these will not do so themselves and shall be distrained to this by the said steward or bailiff; and when these are removed from office, others shall be elected in their place as before. Provided that when among such ministers there ought to be two commonly called servitors of the city, the bishop may, if he will, have a third who as superintendent of the others shall execute matters specially concerning the bishop, as the collection of amercements, at his charges, for whom or whose fault in his office the commonalty shall in no wise be responsible.

Item the citizens shall not be compelled to come to the bishop's court or do suit beyond twice a year at the view of frank pledge unless a writ of the king be pending to be pleaded in the court or there be held a plea of prisoners or a question of the king's peace.