

1371.

MEMBRANE 7d.

May 12. Commission to Gilbert de Umframvill, earl of Angus, William Westminster. de Fyncheden, Robert de Umframvill, 'chivaler,' Roger de Wyderyngton, Roger de Fulthorp, Clement de Skelton, the mayor of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Thomas de Horsele, reciting that whereas the king lately appointed the earl and others to remove all weirs, mills, stanks, piles and kiddles in the waters of Tyne between Prodhowe and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and thence to the sea, which were put there in the time of Edward I or afterwards, he has now learned from the complaint of men of the county of Northumberland and other counties that although the said weirs &c. were removed by the said commissioners, nevertheless divers men of those parts have raised them and others anew so as to totally obstruct the river for the passage of ships and boats; and appointing them to survey the said weirs &c., make inquisition in the county of Northumberland touching those who raised them anew after they had been removed, punish them by fines, ransoms, amercements and otherwise, cause all such weirs &c. to be removed, and arrest and commit to prison until further order all who are contrariant in the matter.

May 18. Commission to Henry de Percy, John de Moubray, Thomas de Westminster. Ingelby, William Percehay, and Richard Bernard to make inquisition touching a complaint by the abbot of Whiteby that Alexander de Lith of Whiteby, who was steward of the house and one of his council, and was retained in the house at a great fee for life, scheming with others of that town to destroy him and dissipate the goods of the abbey, instigated certain monks of the abbey to accuse the abbot before the king and council, as well as before the diocesan, of certain pretended alienations and wastes done by him, prevented him from repressing the insolence of his said fellow-monks, who are apostate and vagabond, and from bringing them back to their proper state, cunningly stole the common seal of the house from his possession and had a bond of 300 florins counterfeited and sealed in his name, procured that he should be detained in prison in York castle by colour of a writ obtained from the king, and afterwards had him indicted of divers trespasses, and so afflicted him with injuries and vexed him with labours and expenses that the abbey is depressed and impoverished to such an extent that there is fear of the desertion of the house and dispersal of the monks.

MEMBRANE 6d.

May 20. Association of Guy de Briene, admiral of the fleet of ships from Westminster. the mouth of the Thames towards the west, in the commissions of array to Hugh de Courteneye, earl of Devon, and his fellows, in the county of Devon, John de Monte Acuto and his fellows, in the county of Southampton, Robert Fitz Payn and his fellows, in the county of Dorset, and Richard Sergeaux and his fellows, in the county of Cornwall.

May 20. The like, addressed to the former commissioners, Westminster.