MEMBRANE 17.

1349. June 20. Inspe·rimits and confirmation, for 20l. which the bishop will pay to the king, of letters patent of Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, dated at Banewelle, 1 June, 1349, made with the assent of his chapters of Bath and Wells, shewing that whereas, with the licence of all interested and by apostolic authority he has appropriated the parish church of Chyw to the bishop's table, he ordains that the vicar of that church shall find two chaplains, one attendant upon the cure of the parish and the other to celebrate masses daily in the chapel of Doundray, as has been wont to be done in the past, and to take part in the other divine offices in the church of Chyw, further that in the said church there shall be three chaplains, bound to celebrate daily masses as fixed by the vicar, one in honour of the Virgin Mary, another for the good estate of King Edward and for his soul when he is dead, and for the souls of his progenitors and successors and the faithful departed, and the third for the good estate of the bishop and for his soul when he is dead and for the souls of his predecessors and successors and of his relations and benefactors and the faithful departed, in which masses and the prayers special prayer shall be made for the peace of the church, the king and the realm, and these chaplains shall attend daily in the church of Chyw at the canonical hours with the vicar and chaplains aforesaid, and shall render assistance to the vicar at other times if required. And seeing that there are in his church of Welles boys called choristers (choriste) who serve in the divine offices, who have no rents assigned them for their food and clothing, so that many times they are in such want that they must needs be absent from the divine offices and seek elsewhere for means of livelihood, the bishop, with the assent of the chapters ordains that there shall be ten choristers to receive ten marks yearly from the vicar of the said church from fruits assigned to him below, to be paid by him in the church of Welles every quarter beginning from Michaelmas next. For the charges expended by him in prosecuting the annexing of the church as above, the bishop ordains that the dean and chapter of Welles and the prior and chapter of Bath shall be held to celebrate every year for ever on the morrow of the Purification solemn masses in their churches for his good estate, and his obit when he shall have passed away, as the devout and more solemn masses have been wont to be held there, on the day of his passing away, each chapter receiving for such celebration and holding 5 marks out of fruits assigned below to the church of Chyw and the vicar thereof. To enable the vicar to bear all the charges imposed on him by the foregoing, the bishop appropriates to him the lands, meadows, tenants and tenements, wood, underwoods and groves, as well as the manse of the rectory, which have been wont to be of the demesne of the church or the rectory aforesaid, the water-mill, great and small tithes and all fruits, rents and issues with all other profits received by the rectors of Chyw in the past, and endows the vicarage with these, saving to the bishop and his successors the tithes and issues of animals or of other things arising in their demesne and their jurisdiction of the church, and a pension of 20 marks to his churches of Bath and Wells of ancient time paid out of the church of Chyw. Each vicar at his institution shall swear on the Holy Evangelists to observe these ordinances. In witness whereof the bishop has caused these letters tripartite, one part for the treasury of the church of Wells, the second for that of the church of Bath and the third for the vicar of the church of Chyw, to be strengthened with his seal.

By p.s.

And the 20l. have been paid in the hanaper. Somerset.