enemies of the said king, coming to King Henry set up the horns of their pride against the king, and also because after the last retirement of the king's enemies and of the king of Castile from King Henry, an immense quantity of money was sent from the side of the king of Castile which he would not have sent if he had intended to make a treaty in good faith. In consequence of this abundance of money and in the hope of succour from him, the enemy grows madder from day to day and opposes the king and his more often and more bitterly than before, and also the king of Castile, summoning his peoples on all sides, is preparing against the king as much as he can, so that this Easter he will be at Bures which is said to be only ten days distant. It would be a shame to the nobles of England, who have always excelled other nations in valour and strenuousness, if through inactivity the land of Gascony, which is the right of the king and of the crown of England, should be disgracefully torn from his hands and lost. Therefore let them gird themselves, and hurry up what help they can, for if they do not come swiftly and in force the king will incur shame and enormous expense. If the power of the Spaniards suddenly anticipate their aid, the king might easily be dispossessed of what he holds at present in Gascony, and in consequence of the whole of the remainder of that land, as the barons, burgesses and others now adhering to the king's fealty desire and affect the dominion of the king of Castile rather than of the king. But if their power anticipate that of the king of Castile, there is no fear but that the king will be able to resist his incursions and endeavours.

Those who cannot come in person will kindly contribute such and so prompt an aid that the king shall be bound to them and their successors in a worthy acknowledgment. And let it be so that the aid be sent when the queen comes. And that this service and aid shall not prejudice them or their heirs as a precedent the king has thought fit to send letters patent accordingly. Also in order that the king may do them such favour as he can without breach of justice, he has commanded the queen and earl to cause the Great Charter of England to be proclaimed and held by oath of the several sheriffs in the several counties, on condition however that they (the archbishops and barons, &c.) cause it to be observed by their subjects, and that they give them letters patent accordingly.

Those who come in person should labour for the king's honour by being a fortnight after Easter or at latest three weeks after at Portesmuth ready to go on board. The greater and swifter their preparation, the more formidable it will be, and no information should get through to the notice of the enemy.