amended so soon: but by the first amendments which will be made in the first counties where the king shall send his justices and other good men to do this, they can have certain hope that it will be done to them in like manner as soon as can be. And know that the king has made each of his sheriffs swear this oath, that he will serve the king loyally and will keep to the best of his power what is written above, that is, that he will do right commonly to all people according to the power which he has of his office, and will not fail for love or hatred, nor for fear of any nor for any covetousness, to do speedy justice well and quickly for the poor as for the rich, and will take nothing from anyone either himself or by another, or by any manner of art or devise by occasion of his bailiwick, except only food and drink which it is customary to bring to the tables for one day at most, and that he will only have five horses in the place where he lodges with anyone by occasion of his bailiwick, and that he will lodge with no one who has less than 40L. yearly of land, nor in any house of religion which has less than the value of 100 marks yearly in land or rents, and only once a year or twice at most, and this only by their will, and that he shall not draw this into a custom, and if it is agreed that he lodge there, he shall not take any present or other thing worth more than 12L. And of serjeants he shall not have more than is necessary to guard his bailiwick, and he shall take such serjeants as he can be answerable for with certainty for their good faith, and such that the country shall not be too much aggrieved by their eating and drinking, and all, so long as they are in the exercise of their office (en baillie) from no man, clerk or lay, free or villein, house of religion or township (ville) shall demand or take lamb, sheaf or corn, wool or any manner of moveable or money or money's worth, as many have been accustomed to do heretofore. This to do the sheriff shall make them swear, when he commits the bailiwick to them. And he shall not let to farm counties, hundreds, wapentakes or other bailiwick of the realm, to anyone. And sheriffs and all other manner of bailiffs may be sure that if anyone is indicted of any other kind of prise than is written above, by reason of his bailiwick, he shall abide judgement (rivit), and also the giver with the taker, for the king has provided by the counsel of his magnates that always for the future full and swift justice shall be done to all without any manner of hire. And for this the king forbids all persons male and female that they offer, permit or give anything to any of his bailiffs on pain of abide judgement, for when the sheriff comes at the end of the year on his account, he will be allowed his proper expenses, that he has made in keeping the king's bailiwick both for himself and for the hire of his serjeants. And for this the king gives of his own, because he does not wish that they have occasion to take anything of another. And he wills that none of his bailiffs whom he places in his land, whether sheriff or other, remain in his bailiwick more than a year, and therefore, the king gives it to be known, that if harshness or wrong be done to them, by the aforesaid bailiffs, they shall fear (doter) them less and more securely expose their wrongs.

Proclamation of the king's will that whatever is ordained by the council, or the greater part of them elected by the king and the commonalty of the realm, shall be established for ever; and all persons are commanded to maintain the same, and not to take any land or moveable whereby this can be endangered; and if any go against this he is to be held as a public enemy; and that this be firm and established, the king gives his letters patent to every county, to remain there in the treasury. Witnesses:—Boniface, archbishop of Canterbury &c. French. [Annales Monastici, Vol. I, p. 458.]

[Cf. Stubbs's Select Charters.]