1427.

Nov. 7.

Westminster.

*Inspeccimus* and confirmation of the following:

1. Letters patent, dated 2 May, 10 Henry V, being the king's licence for Henry Chichele, archbishop of Canterbury, and papal legate, to found at Higham Ferrers, co. Northampton, a college of eight chaplains, four clerks, and six choristers, and to endow it with divers lands. [*Monasticon.*]

2. A indenture between the said archbishop and William Chichele, then archdeacon of Canterbury of the one part, and Isabella, late the wife of John Doreward of the county of Essex, son of William Doreward, of the other part, dated Monday in a week of Easter, 1 Henry VI, being a demise to the said archbishop and archdeacon, and the heirs of the former, by the said Isabella, tenant for life by virtue of a demise, made on 20 June, 1400, by Guy, late abbot of St. Audoin, Rouen, and the convent of that place, to her, and to her said husband, and to Henry, then bishop of Annadaw in Ireland, both since deceased, of the manor or priory of Merseye, co. Essex, with all lands, rents, and services, woods, meadows, feedings, pastures, wards, marriages, reliefs, escheats, heriots, suits of court, franchises, liberties, tithes, and privileges thereto belonging, for her life, at the yearly rent of 100 marks to be paid in the church of St. Andrew, Cornhill, and nowhere else: with a clause of distrain, and the allowance of a penalty of 10 marks, should payment of the rent be in arrear for half a year. The reversion of the same manor, which came to Henry V by virtue of the Act of his Parliament, held at Leicester, in his second year, relative to alien priories, was granted by him to the said archbishop and archdeacon in No. 1 above.

3. Letters patent, dated at Westminster, 12 December, 2 Henry VI, of Henry, bishop of Winchester, Thomas, bishop of Durham, Thomas late duke of Exeter, Ralph late earl of Westmoreland, Henry Fitz Hugh and Walter Hungerford, knights, John Wodehouse and John Leventhorp, esquires, to whom, with the said Henry archbishop of Canterbury, still surviving, and with Richard, late bishop of Norwich, Edward, late duke of York, Thomas late earl of Arundell, Henry Lescop, Roger Leche and John Phelip, knights, and Hugh Mortimer, since deceased, on 23 July, 3 Henry V, the then king granted the castle and manor of Higham Ferrers in fee simple, and who, on 30 November, 4 Henry V, demised the same to the then king and his assigns for 12 years, confirming the royal grant of the said castle and manor contained in No. 1 above, and licensing the said archbishop to grant the grounds therein specified to the master and college in mortmain.

4. Letters patent of the said archbishop, dated in the parish church of Higham Ferrers, 28 August, 1425, in the 3rd indiction and 10th year of pope Martin V. He premises the transitory nature of earthly possessions, his desire to found such a college in the place where he was baptized, and his having obtained the leave of the pope and king. He adds that he had invited the dean and chapter of the new collegiate church of St. Mary, Leicester, who have the parish church of Higham Ferrers to their own use, and the vicar and parishioners of the same in especial, and all other persons interested in general, to be present and to consent or otherwise to the foundation. The