1427.

Membranes 24 to 21—cont.

dean came in person, the chapter was represented by two proctors, and the vicar and parishioners in large numbers attended before the archbishop in the said parish church. His proposal was then expounded in public, the letters of the pope and king were read and declared, and those present were asked to express dissent or consent for their interests in common or severally, but no one appeared to gainsay the proposal, and those present having expressly consented, and the archbishop having pronounced the others who had been generally called, and had not appeared, to be contumacious, decreed that the foundation of the college should be proceeded with. So on that day, 28 August, 1425, by virtue of the apostolic authority committed to him, and of his authority as ordinary during the voidance of the see of Lincoln, he founded the said [as in No. 1], saving the rights of the parish church of Hiegham, and appointed John Smyle, priest ordained, to be the first master or warden, decreeing that the said office should be perpetual, and compatible with the perpetual vicarage of the said parish church; the archbishop reserved to himself and his heirs the right of introducing chaplains, clergre and choristers to the appointed number, and endowed the master and college with the ground before referred to, with the gardens and lands adjacent, the houses built or to be built thereon, for their dwelling and the alien priory, or manor, of Merseyc, co. Essex. He curses those who shall attack the foundation, and blesses those who shall defend it. The document was sealed with the seal of St. Thomas the Martyr, and with the archbishop's own seal, and the seal of John Bolde, notary public; and all these things, except the sealing, were done in the church in the presence of Simon Felbrigge and Thomas Wanton, knights, Master William Lynedewode, official of the court of Canterbury, doctor of both laws, Master Thomas Branum, archdeacon of Stowe in the church of Lincoln, doctor of both laws, William Carvell, Thomas Wydevyle, esquires, and others in plenteous multitude.

5. Declaration under seal by John Bolde, notary public, of the above account, which was reduced by him to its present form, same date.

6. Confirmation by Richard, bishop of Lincoln, dated at his manor of Bugden, 8 August, 1427.

7. The like by the dean and chapter of the cathedral church of St. Mary, Lincoln, dated in their chapter-house at Lincoln, 16 August, 1427.

8. Letters patent of the same archbishop, dated 28 August, 1425, and sealed with the seal of St. Thomas the Martyr, and the archbishop's own seal of arms, being a grant in frank almonia to the master and college of the ground (3 acres) in Hiegham Ferrers, with the hall, chambers, and chapel, and the houses and messuages thereon, and the adjacent gardens and croft. The ground reaches to the public street of Hiegham Ferrers towards the east, and to the demesne land towards the west; and is bounded on the north by the bond land which John Warin formerly held, and on the south by the messuages of John Stanfeld and Stephen Marshall, and the lands of John Chandliry of Hiegham, as marked out by walls and dykes. Witnesses: Simon Felbrigge,