1440.

Dover, unless prevented by great and sudden tempest or the king's command, or having freight or lading not belonging to the passage; that the people of Dover should have the whole freight and profits of the passage to Calais and of the ships going thither and putting in there, and in like manner the people of Calais should have that of those coming to Dover, unless a fresh agreement be made to the contrary; that no merchant stranger, horse or animal should cross to Calais from any Kentish port except Dover, and if the owner of a ship appointed for the passage of Dover should sell her or any share in her to any person dwelling in a place not belonging to the said passage, that then the said ship should be expelled from the said passage. The said franchises are said to have been interrupted in recent times, and the inhabitants of Dover cannot, therefore, without the king's aid keep their sea walls in proper repair, while the town is nearly half empty of inhabitants and many of its dwellings have fallen into decay. [Statham, Dover Charters, No. Ixv.]

April 5. Westminster. Inspectimas and confirmation to John Surynhill, prior of Ledeis, and the convent of that place, of letters patent, dated 2 June, 9 Henry V.

Feb. 27. Westminster. Exemplification at the request of the lepers of the hospital of St. Mary Magdalene, Ipswich, of a charter, dated 27 April, 1 John. [Rotuli Chartarum, p. 52.]

May 2. Westminster. Pardon to Thomas Freeman of New Sarebury, co. Wilts, 'marchaunt,' lately appointed controller of customs and subsidies at Southampton, with power to act by deputy, by letters patent, for having occupied the said office by deputy, and having had his rolls written by another person, contrary to the statute in that behalf; also for having disobeyed commands of the king not to meddle with the said office, and to deliver up the part of the coket seal in his possession to a certain person named in the said commands. Pardon also of any pecuniary penalty, fine, ransom, amercement, forfeiture or imprisonment incurred by him in the premises.

By K.


Grant for life to Robert Browne, yeoman of the saucery and keeper of Berkhampsedee park of 5 marks a year out of the revenues of the lordship of Berkhampsedee, to be applied to the maintenance of the enclosure of the said park: his petition shewing that such allowance was ancienly made, but that the park was recently almost destroyed for lack of enclosure, so that the game thereof had wandered away to divers places, but now is enclosed again, although the enclosure will soon decay if the allowance be not made for keeping it up, and the game, which now begins once more to abide in the park, will again diminish or even be destroyed.

By p.s.


General pardon to Thomas Wederby alias Wetherby alias Wetherby, citizen, alderman and merchant of Norwich, esquire, late one of the customers in the port of Great Yernemouth.

By K.


Grant, for life, to Ralph Rocheforth, king's knight, and William de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, of 38l. a year, by the hands of the abbot and convent of Wychecombe, in lieu of a grant thereof to the former by Henry IV, confirmed by the present king, and other grants, surrendered.

By p.s.