importance, for one commonly encounters two things. The clerk has left it out at first writing and, on checking original with enrolment, supplies his omission by inserting it over a caret; or the clerk has mistakenly included it at first writing and, on checking original with enrolment, has rectified the error by erasing the phrase, sometimes ornamenting the blank to avoid suspicion of subsequent tampering. In most cases erasure is thorough; but in a few the scraping has been too shallow to remove all traces of ink, so that all or part of the erased phrase is visible by ultra-violet light. This makes it reasonable to assume that the phrase 'hac vice' has been taken out whenever one encounters a small blank between 'existentibus' and 'deliberandum'.

While the presence or absence of 'hac vice' conforms broadly to what one would expect, there are many exceptions; chiefly where one would expect a Commission to be limited to 'this turn' and finds it is not; but also where one would expect justices or serjeants to have received an unlimited Commission, and it is instead only 'for this turn'. The Notes indicate the few instances in which original or enrolled Commissions in the Gaol Files or Rolls suggest that the Patent Roll erred over the presence or absence of this phrase. In general, while the Patent Roll clerks obviously took care about it, it is possible that they sometimes erred by either the inclusion or the omission of the phrase.

Newgate gaol always stood apart from the circuit system and its Commission eventually differed from the common form. Under Henry III it was normally delivered by a senior justice of the central courts or the king's attorney. Between 1273 and 1334 it had a succession of senior gaol delivery commissioners, some of whom acted for many years. Their assistants during 1273-1286 and 1298-1302 included mayors, ex-mayors and sheriffs; as experienced individuals, not as city officers. From 1302 to 1327, mayors, as individuals, were the normal assistant commissioners. Edward III's charter of 6 Mar. 1327 gave the mayor the right to be a Newgate gaol delivery commissioner; the first Commission under this charter issued on 10 Mar. and the delivery under it was held on 21 Mar. 1327. Unfortunately, except for small remains from a slightly later broken file, the last surviving Newgate gaol delivery records from medieval times are the roll and file for deliveries 24 Jan.-23 Sept. 1334, with an enrolment of the Commission of 10 Nov. 1333. For Richard II's reign we have only the entries in the Patent Rolls and in the City Memoranda known as the Letter Books. These show that, in contrast with the period until 1333, when the operative clause was generally in the simplest form, a longer formula, similar to that in the illustrative example, was usual under Richard II.

The 15th century Chancery precedent roll, already referred to, has only three forms of Commissions for Gaol Delivery: for delivery of a gaol with the 'hac vice' clause; for delivery of the delivery of a gaol with the 'hac vice' clause; for delivery of the Tower of London of prisoners in it for treasons; and for special