

APPENDIX I.

No. 1. Letters Patent of King Edward III., confirmatory of the Gift of Bishop Ralph, of Shrewsbury, to the Vicars-Choral of Wells.

Edward, by the Grace of God, King of England and of France, and Lord of Ireland, To all to whom these present Letters shall come, Greeting, because We have received by an Inquisition which Wee caused to be made by our beloved Thomas Carey our Escheator in the County of Somerset That it is not our hurt or prejudice, or of others if Wee Grant to the Reverend Father Ralph Bishop of Bath and Wells, That he may give and Assign to the Vicars of the Church aforesaid (not having a common Habitation), a certain place of the Soil of the Church of S' Andrew in Wells, and of the Bishop in the same Place, which was lately collated by the Bishop of the same Place upon Mr. Alane of Hotham Canon of that Church, for his Habitation, and the Houses in the same Place by the said Ralph now built and to be built. To have and to Hold to them, and their Successors Vicars of the Church aforesaid for their Common and perpetual Cohabitation, and that the said Bishop may Charge his Lands and Tenements in Congresbury parcell of his Bishoprick aforesaid with an Hundred Shillings Annuity, and certain other Lands and Tenements with the Appurtenances in Wookey which William of Camell, and John his Brother held for term of the Life of either of them the said William and John of the said Bishop and which after the Death of them the said William and John ought to remain to the said Bishop and his Successors with another Hundred Shillings Annuity, and that he may give and Assign the same Tenn Pounds Annuity to the said Vicars celebrating and which shall celebrate Divine Service in the said Church in Augmentation of their Sustenance to be perceived, and had Yearly out of the said Lands and Tenements to the same Vicars and their Successors for ever. Wee commending the godly and wholesome Purpose of the said Bishop in this behalfe which so much respecteth the Praise of God's name, the Comlinesse of the said Church (which is of the foundation of our Progenitors, and of our Patronage) the increase of Divine Worship, and the security honesty and Quietness of the Colledge of the said Vicars, And considering also that the said Lands and Tenem^{ts}. in Congresbury to be charged with an Hundred Shillings annuity as afore is said, are come to the Hands of the said now Bishop by the Death of S' John Randolffe Knight & Joan his Wife Tennants thereof from the said Bishop by the service of a certain Yearly Rent. And that the said Ralph now Bishop hath purchased, by himselfe and to his Successors the said Lands and Tenements in Wookey which are to be charged with another Hundred Shillings Annuity (our License for that purpose first

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