
COMMON SEAL OF LYNN-REGIS IN 1394.—Some years ago, I found an example of this seal among the Duchy of Lancaster deeds. The deed is an indenture between John, Duke of Guienne and Lancaster, and the Mayor and Commonalty of Lenne, by which the Duke leases to them for 20 years, from Michaelmas, 1394, all the profits of their "Tolbothe" of Lenne, from "tolun, tronage, lovecou'p (?)," &c., excepting "wrek de mere, lagan', pesson' roialle, chateux de futifs, felons et utlags," at a yearly rent of 17 marks, to be paid to his Receiver of the county of Norfolk. Done on Thursday next after Michaelmas, 17 Rich. II.

The seal of the commonalty, in green wax, is attached, rather damaged. The obverse represents a large bird like a gannet or cormorant with outstretched wings, looking backwards; standing on a scroll with the letters " . . . . IDERAT." The inscription round the edge of the seal is ". . . . . TATIS : LENNIE." The reverse of the seal shews a deeply recessed canopy, beneath which stands an elegant female figure, holding in her right hand a cross-headed staff, and an open book in her left hand. On her left side is a serpent in pale, with its tongue protruded. The inscription is ". . . . A SUU. MARGARET . . . ."

Perhaps the counterpart of the document, with John of Gannt's seal, may be among the Corporation Records, which I think have not yet been examined for the Historical MSS. Commission, so far as I have seen the reports. There may also be more perfect specimens of the Common Seal, but meanwhile this may be worth notice, as the style is different from the usual seal of a seaport town to the best of my knowledge.

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