

the hand of the king, and not of inferior tenure, in the hands of the tenants, and thus the tenements were a free fee, and sneable at common law. William denied this and appealed to jury. The jury found that the tenements were in the seizin of King Edward the first, grandfather of the present king, as part of his demesne lands of the said Manor, and not of inferior tenure, and that the said William and Thomas Crey had unjustly disseized the said Walter of them. Damages to be paid to Walter de Pertou twenty shillings, and the said Walter to recover seizin; but he is *in misericordia* for a false claim against the others. In 1339 William de Pertou was appointed one of the justices to hear and determine the complaint of John son of John de Sutton on Trent, that Hugh son of John de Prestwood, and John brother of said Hugh had robbed him of goods and chattels to the value of £60 and of money in coin to the value of £100. At Michaelmas 1340, Richard de la Lone and Margaret his wife, sued William de Pertou of Trysul, for a debt of £10 10s. owing to the said Margaret, as arrears of an annual rent of ten shillings. William did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him. Richard son of Henry de Pertou, who brought an assize of *novel disseizin* against Matilda formerly wife of Nicholas, son of Roger de Lee, and Roger son of Walter Millson, in the matter of tenements in Over Penne, did not appear, so that he and his sureties Adam de Swyneshed and Henry de Swyneshed are *in misericordia*. At Easter 1341 Margaret formerly wife of John de Pertou, executrix of the will of John de Pertou was still being sued by Robert atte Wood of Kidderminster, in a plea that she, together with her co-executor William de Pertou, should render to him five marks, which they unjustly detained. Margaret appeared, and pleaded that she never had administered to the goods and chattels of John de Pertou, in Pertou and Tresel, as stated by Robert, and she appealed to jury. William de Pertou did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him. Same year 1341 William de Pertou lord of Trysul grants to Richard of the Hill of Wytemere, two acres of his waste in Tresel, for life, remainder to the son of the said Richard in tail, remainder to William his brother in tail, remainder to Robert his brother, and the heirs of his body for ever. In 1345 Leo de Pertou had a grant from the king of one hundred acres of waste in the Forest of Kinfare, at Oldford, near Staplehall, while he was holding the appointments of *pannetarius regis* or king's napperer and later in front 1348 to 1366 of escheator for Worcestershire. He lived at Wightwick and was the uncle of Sir John. In 1345, Henry de Pertou, who brought an assize of *novel disseizin* against Henry son of Richard de Flechewere, and others *re* tenements in Over Penne, did not appear to prosecute it; so he and his sureties William son of Hugh, and John Buffary were *in misericordia*. In 1346 William de Pertou appeared by essoin against William de Kynges, William son of John Lovekyn, Richard Gilbard, William de Wolmere, Admyn son of Walter Devey, Adam de Ellwalle, Roger Baroun, Robert Malot, Robert atte Yate, John son of John Lovekyn, Richard Bungay, and several others named, all tenants of Pertou and Pattingham Manors, for forcibly breaking into his close at Pertou, and burning his gates and fences, to the value of a hundred shillings. Defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff returned that they held nothing in his bailiwick, by which he could attach them. He was therefore ordered to arrest them, and produce them at the quindens of Trinity. A postscript shows that the suit was adjourned to the following Hilary. In the same year, John son of William de Pertou, sued Philip de Lutteley, for a debt of £20. Philip did not appear, and the Sheriff is ordered