

He left issue the following Sons, who each adopted the surname of CLAVERING:—*JOHN*, who succeeded him; *ALEXANDER*; *ROGER*; *ROBERT*; *ALAN* (afterwards Sir *ALAN*, whose heir male and lineal descendant is the present Sir *HENRY AUGUSTUS CLAVERING*, Baronet, of *Axwell Park*); *HENRY* and *EDMUND*.

9. *JOHN DE CLAVERING*,
BARON BY TENURE OF WARKWORTH AND CLAVERING.

And one of the 'Majores Barones' of England.

BARON BY WRIT (dated 29th December, 1299) and a LORD OF PARLIAMENT.

JOHN DE CLAVERING, the eldest son of *ROBERT FITZ-ROGER*, was born about the year 1270; and was betrothed on the 25th November, 1277, to *HAWISE DE TIBETOT*. He succeeded his Father, and had possession of his lands, by Homage and Fine to King *Edward* the Second on the 29th May, 1310, when he was about forty years of age.

JOHN DE CLAVERING was first summoned to Parliament in his Father's lifetime, by Writ dated 29th December, 1299; and this Summons was regularly continued to him during his own lifetime, until the 20th November, 1331; during which time he received fifty-four Summonses to Parliament. He was first summoned to Military Service by Writ dated 15th May, 1297; which was, upon occasion, regularly continued to him until the 5th April, 1327; of which Summonses he received forty-eight in number, being altogether a total of one hundred and two Summonses to Service. He served in the Wars in *Scotland*, and was present at the Siege of *Carlaverock*; and at the Battle of *Stirling*, where he was taken prisoner.

The Public Records record several of *JOHN DE CLAVERING'S* lawsuits, apparently commencing when he was fourteen years of age; which are very lengthy and tedious reading. He appears to have been continually involved in litigation; and was perpetually going to the King with some complaint either against his Brother, or his Neighbours, or even the Serfs upon his lands—disputing the poor creatures' claims of freedom. On the 29th March, 1324, he obtained a Royal Charter* for establishing a Weekly Market at his Manor of *Blythburgh*, in *Suffolk*, knowing it to be to the prejudice and impoverishment of the poor market people of *Dunwich*, a seaport close by; which was ineffectually petitioned against by them.

In the year 1330, *JOHN DE CLAVERING* endeavoured by introducing a Bill into Parliament to deprive these poor men of *Dunwich* of their Franchise. Their petition, in Norman-French, is still extant, in which they pray not to be so deprived without reasonable cause. In the same year the Men of *Dunwich*, headed by one *JOHN PAYNE*, rose up against him, and by way of reprisal they seized upon, and towed away, five of his ships, &c., to the value of £300; and thrashed his servants, wounding and imprisoning them. *JOHN DE CLAVERING* prayed justice against them for this 'horrible trespass,' assessing his damages at the sum of £1,000.

The great blemish, however, upon the memory of *JOHN DE CLAVERING* is, his alienation of the family property in the year 1311. By his wife *Hawise* he had had a daughter, *Eva*; and being disappointed of male issue, alienated the whole of his inheritance subject to his own life-interest, and reserving to his brother, *EDMUND DE CLAVERING*, a life-interest in the Manors of *Clavering* and *Blythburgh*. About one half of the property, including the

* 'Charter Roll,' 17 *Edward II.*, number 15, membrane 6.