

**Victoria, McPherson Library MS Brown Eng. 1**  
**Acc. 1989-069, Item #8**  
***Statutes of the Order of the Garter***  
**England      1553**

*Statutes of the Order of the Garter* as revised by King Edward VI. Complete manuscript on parchment with modern paper endleaves (x +2+16+2+x), currently unfoliated; parchment bifolia before and after the two main gatherings were once pastedowns and flyleaves, but codex is now rebound in modern (nineteenth century?) padded embroidered cover with four 280mm blue silk tie-ribbons. Binding is degrading such that first gathering is wholly detachable. Pages measure 220mm x 158mm; fols. 3-18 ruled in plummet, 26 lines to the page with ruled margins. Fol. 2v bears coat of arms of the Order of the Garter under Edward VI, blue and red with silver and gold illumination (silver has tarnished somewhat). Main text is written single-column by one hand in an ornamental secretary script; decorative initials at section heads alternate gold-on-blue and gold-on-red throughout, with the exception of the first initial, which is blue on gold leaf. Date of 17 March 1552, 7 Edward VI, noted in preface on fol. 4r (and embroidered on binding), indicates 17 March 1553 according to modern dating practices (Edward's seventh regnal year began 28 January 1553 while the new calendar year was reckoned from 25 March). Text and conclusion, including date and witnesses, match the ratification of the short-lived statutes issued as a reform measure under Edward VI shortly before his death; they were abolished within the following year by Philip and Mary. Manuscript appears to match nos. 772 and 774 in the Ashmole collection, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, and thus to be related also to versions of the *Statutes* in Ashmolean manuscripts nos. 812, 820 (item 1), 1119 (item 13), as well as to a draft in William Cecil's hand included in the latter section of British Library MS Cotton Nero C.x.

**Garter knights and officers named in conclusion (fol. 18v), present 17 March 1552 [1553]**

Henry Grey (Duke of Suffolk), William Parr (Marquess of Northampton), John Dudley (Duke of Northumberland), Henry FitzAlan (Earl of Arundel), Edward Stanley (Earl of Derby), Frances Hastings (Earl of Huntingdon), William Paulet (Marquess of Winchester), William Herbert (Earl of Pembroke), Walter Deveraux (Viscount Hereford), Edward Clinton (Lord High Admiral), Thomas Cheney, Thomas Darcy (Baron of Chiche), George Brooke (Baron Cobham), Andrew Dudley, William Cecil (Chancellor of the Order), Philip Hobby (Usher of the Black Rod), Gilbert Dethick (Garter Principal King of Arms)

**Works Consulted**

- Anstis, John. *The Register of the Most Noble Order of the Garter*. Vol. 2. London: John Barber, 1724. [Text of this version of the *Statutes* begins on p. 560.]
- Beltz, George Frederick. *Memorials of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, from its Foundation to the Present Time*. London: Pickering, 1841. [See pp. xcvi-c.]
- Black, William Henry. *A Descriptive, Analytical and Critical Catalogue of the Manuscripts Bequeathed Unto the University of Oxford by Elias Ashmole*. Oxford: OUP, 1866. [See pp. 390-392, nos. 772 and 774.]
- Nicolas, Nicholas Harris. *History of the Orders of Knighthood of the British Empire*. Vol. 1. London: Pickering, 1842. [See pp. 178-183.]
- Nichols, John Gough. *Literary Remains of King Edward the Sixth*. London: J.B. Nichols & Sons, 1857. [See pp. 516-517.]

Thompson, E.M., "The Revision of the Statutes of the Order of the Garter by King Edward VI." *Archaeologica* 54 (1894): 173-198.  
Trigg, Stephanie. *Shame and Honor: A Vulgar History of the Order of the Garter*. Philadelphia: U of Pennsylvania P, 2012.

## Transcription

### [fol. 3r]

Edward the Syxte by the grace of god  
kyng of Englande ffraunce and  
Irelande defendor of the faithe and in  
earthe of the Church of Englande and  
also Irelande the Supreme hedd / To all that shall  
see these presents / Gretyng /

Our moste noble auncestors king(es) of Engl-  
and studyeng gretly and long considering  
with them selues what deuoute Reuerence  
towards god / what naturall love to their Countrey  
what loving affection to their Subiects they owght to  
bere / they sone fownde that nothing was eyther  
fytter or more agreable with their office then to  
advauce to high honor and glory good / godly  
valiaunte well couraged wise and noble men and  
to brede and manteyne a certeyne amytie fellowship  
and mutuall agreement / in all honest thing(es) among-  
ste all men but especially among equall(es) ffor  
they iudged honor (as surely it is) the Rewarde of  
vertu / and concorde / the fundacion and enlarger  
of comen weales / when they had wysely weyd  
these thing(es) they thought it beste to make a certeyn  
fellowshipp and as it were a Colledge of those that  
had very well and honestly borne them selues at  
home in tyme of peace and had tryed them selues

### [fol. 3v]

valiant and wise abrode in martiall feates wher-  
fore they deuised þ(a)t such men in a token of concord and  
vnyte / shuld weare aboute their legg(es) a certeyn  
garter / whereby they shuld declare to all men that  
for their country and gods cause they wold be redy  
valiantly and manfully to spend / nat onely their  
goods / but also them selues and their lyues and for  
that cause they haue caulled this fellowshypp the  
order of the garter / but that olde serpent Sathan

a contynuall aduersary to mankynde, had so grete  
envy herat for þ(a)t he espied it to be of all men / bothe  
in owr owne and foreyne countreys much commend-  
id, that he busyly labored / to deface and vtterly  
to destroye so grete an encouragement and occasion  
of vertue / and this he did so much the rather when  
he sawe so many valiante men styrred with desyer  
of this honor to thatteyning of p(er)fytte and absolute  
vertue / wherypon so farre furth he went (subtilly  
blyndyng mens eyes vpon hope of prey) that  
at the length he filled and stuffed, the very  
statutes and ordynauncys of this fellowshipp  
and order with many obscure sup(er)sticious and  
Repugnant opinions / we therefore to defeate  
this so greate malyce of that subtill ennemy haue  
ben gretly moved by thauncientnes Ma(ies)tie and  
very godlynes of this order / so that we thought

**[fol. 4r]**

all owr studye labor and diligence to be well be-  
stowed in reducyng the same to his originall estate  
and prystyne fundacion ~

Wherfore at a solempne convocation at owr chap-  
ter holden at owr palaice of westminster the xvij of  
Marche / in the yere of the lord / after the computaci-  
on of the church of Englande 1552 / and in the  
seventh yere of owr Reigne / where the most p(ar)te  
of the knightes of the same order were presente  
with vs / It was enacted and decreed by vs with  
thassent of those knightes of thorder whose  
names be subscribed in thende herof, that thartic-  
les within wrytten shalbe trewly obserued as  
the statutes of this order ~ ~

**Thorder of the Garter / Caput .j.**

First of all be it decreed that this order  
from hensfurth / shalbe caulled thorder of þe  
Garter / and nat of saynte George, leste thonor  
which is dewe to god the creator of all thing(es) mi-  
ght seame to be geuen to any creature

Also there shalbe of the same order twenty and  
five worthy and honorable knightes besyde /

[fol. 4v]

the soverayne being all gentillmen borne and without Reproche

**The Soverayne / Caput .ij.<sup>m</sup>**

The Kyng of England his heyres (and) successors king(es) shalbe souerayne of this order, as he hath euer ben heretofore / To whome also the declaracion interpretacion / definicion / and as the matter shall requyre / the correction of the statutes / shall allweys belong hauyng therto þe consent of .vj. of thorder at the leaste

When so euer the Soverayne shall understand that one of the knights of thorder is ded and wolde haue another apoynted in his place / he shal sende by his l(ett)res to the reste of the knightes of thorder being in the Realme, or to so many of them as to his Ma(ies)tie shall seame expedient, being nat vnder the number of syx at the leaste, com(m)auyng them to attend vpon his highnes at such place and tyme as he shall apoynte for the election /

The Souerayne shall haue this pryvelege that he may dispence with ceremonyes belonging to this order and as cause requyred geue lycense to omytte the same ~ ~

[fol. 5r]

**The Knights of Thorder / Cap(u)t iij**

None shalbe admitted into this fellowshypp except he be a gentillman of bludd of þe fathers syde from thre discents and bearyng Armes and shalbe of thorder of knighthod before his election w(i)t(h)out dew reproche of all maner of shamefull actes and deades

When so euer a Rome or moo shalbe voyde and the knightes of thorder ether all or at the leste syx of them besyde the souerayne hauyng on their accustomed Robes / shalbe assemblid w(i)t(h) the soverayne euery one of them shall wryte the names of Nyne worthy p(er)sonag(es) / ffirst of pryncys / that is to saye of Emperors / kyng(es) / Archidukes / Dukes / Marquyses or Erles / and thre of viscountes / barons or lordes / and thre of banneretts / knightes or knightes comenly caulled bachelor knightes / which being so wrytten

and presented, to the souerayne accordyng to thaccoust  
umed maner / his Ma(jes)tie / shall chose owt of them who-  
me he thynketh moste worthy of the place voyd  
and if he or they which shalbe so chosen be there p(rese)nte  
two knights of thorder shall leade hym or them in  
to the place where the souerayne is the one after the  
other accordyng to their honore and place, and his  
highnes shal pute aboute his neck a coller or littell

**[fol. 5v]**

litle chayne or lace / hauing a Massye golden Ima-  
ge of a armed knyghte sytting on horseback com-  
passed with a garter of gold hanging thereat  
in which garter shalbe this sentence conteyned  
Hony Soit, quy mal / y, pense / which is the  
cognisaunce of thorder / And that don two other  
compagnions of the saide order shall fasten or tye  
the garter about his lefte legg /. To whome shalbe  
delyuered by the Chauncelor or his deputie a  
boke of the statutes of thorder, signed with the  
soueraynes hand, which after the deth of the saide  
knyghte must be restored to garter kyng of armes

After this he shall within a moneth after this /  
election haue in Redynes the mantell / kyrtell  
hodd and Coller / with thaccoustumed apparell  
of thorder / and at the time apoynted by the sove-  
rayne shall repayre to wyndesor with two other  
knyghtes of thorder hauyng comyssion from  
the Soverayne / and the reste of thofficers of  
thorder that may be present / and there in the  
chapell takyng his othe shalbe enstalled and  
have thabytt put on in maner and forme as  
hath ben accoustumed and there his hachements  
beyne sette vp by garter he shalbe then accom-  
pted and reputed for a p(er)fytt knight of this order

**[fol. 6r]**

Neverthelesse for that it may often chaunse that  
some shalbe chosen to this order, being ether absent  
owt of the Realme / or otherwyse employed in the  
servyce of the kynge Ma(jes)tie / or els be so deteyned in  
sycknes / as they can nat conveyently within a  
monethes space after the election repayre eyther  
to the presence of the souerayne to receue thorder  
or to wyndesor to be enstalled / in that case the

election being made in chapter and knowledge  
geuen by the Soveraynes l(ett)res to the knight chosen  
of his election / and the order of the garter being  
sente to the saide knight by one of the said knight(es)  
of the saide order / or by Garter the kyng of armes  
the saide knighte shalbe accompted and taken as a  
knight of this order / to all maner of pourpo-  
ses as though he had ben present at the election  
and had ben actually stalled and arayed w(i)t(h) thabytt  
although he shuld chaunse to dye before any enstal-  
ment / or to be lenger absent after hys election  
than one moneth / provyded nevertheles that as so-  
ne as he may conveniently repayre to the soveray-  
ne he shall ofer hym self redy to procede at the  
pleasure of the soverayne / to his enstallment  
in such sorte as is aboue lymyted for them which  
shall within one moneth after their election be  
installed / and shall there be enstalled as if he

**[fol. 6v]**

might within the moneth conveyently have repay-  
red to wyndSOR / and yet nevertheles, it shalbe lefull  
for þe soverayne to dispence at his pleasor w(i)t(h) any such  
knighte so chosen to this order being absent touching  
any p(ar)te or ceremony of the enstalling, forseying that  
he be chosen accordyng to the manor prescribed and  
that he haue thorder sente to hym from the soveray-  
ne and that his hachements be sete up in dew place  
by garter ~ ~

When Garter shall sett vp at wyndSOR the  
hachements of any knights of this order newly  
chosen in the place of anny deceased owt of this lyf  
without condemnacion of any cryme / he shall  
before the setting up of the new hachements /  
take downe in order and that reuerently the banner  
sworde / hellmet / and Crest / of hym that last deceased  
in whose place the new doth succede, and shall in  
the chapell present the same, one after another  
to the deane or in his absence to the subdeane  
or other of the principall Cannon there with  
theis wordes / These were the hachements of  
A knight of this noble order who deceased his  
lif souche a day Addyng thereto this sentence  
Blessed be the dead that dye in the Lorde /  
which don the dean or he to whome these hache-

**[fol. 7r]**

ments shalbe presented / shall enter in wryting  
the same to be entryd by the Register / and then  
shall Garter sett vp the new hachements ~

Also every knight of the saide order within  
syx monethes after he is appoynted by the so-  
verayne to his stall at wyndesor shall cause  
a plate in convenyent proportoin of some kynd  
of metall hauyng therin his Armes graven  
to be sett vp in his proper stall

Every Whitson euen yerely / Garter the prin-  
cipall kyng of armes, shall cause scuchions  
of the armes of euery knight as well p(rese)nte as absent  
to be paynted with metall and couler and sete vp  
in the proper seates / at such place where the  
kyng(es) Ma(jes)tie shall kepe or celebrate / the feaste that  
yere / at the cost of the Soverayne ~ ~

If any Duke / Marquys Erle viscounte Baron  
Banneret or bachelor knight / being of htis order  
shall chaunse to dye / he that succedith hym of what  
estate so ever he be / shall haue onely that stall which  
his predecessor before had nether shall he change  
it / without speciall apoyntment of the soverayne  
unles he be an Emperour or kyng or the prynce of

**[fol. 7v]**

some Realme / or of the bludd Roiall / who shall haue  
allweys the stalles / accordyng the estate next to  
the soverayne /

Every one of the Compagnions of this order  
shall haue allweys remayning at wyndesor  
colledge in a redynes A mantle for thorder to be  
ever redy for such busynes as dyuers tymes  
chaunseth to be don aboute thorder

No knight of this order shall departe the Sove-  
raynes domynion without leve firste had of /  
the Soveraigne ~ ~

No knight of thorder shall come into counsell  
of this order or go abrode openly without his

garter / except it be when he rydeth booted / and  
as ofte as he shall mysse herof he shalbe blame  
worthy, and being admonyshed shall paye vnto  
the mynisters of the church of wyndesor a Noble

**Sum(m)es of monny payable by the  
knightes of thorder at the time of  
their election ~ ~**

By the kyng of England / fforty markes

**[fol. 8r]**

By a fforeyne kyng ~ Twenty pownde  
By the prynce of wales or an heyre aparante to our  
kyng ~ Thirtene pownd syx shill(ings) (and) eight pens  
By a Duke ~ Tenne pownd – by a Marquys  
Eight pownd syx shill(ings) (and) eight pence / By a Erle  
Syx pownd / thirtene shill(ings) (and) fower pence / By a  
viscounte ~ Fyve pownd syxtene shill(ings) (and) eight pence  
By a baron ~ fyve pound ~ By a knyghte – thre  
pownd syx shill(ings) (and) eight pence ~

**The Sum(m)es of mony folowing are  
such as besyds the other shalbe levyed of  
the Rest of thorder when so euer any knight  
of thorder shalbe elected ~ ~**

Of the king of Englande / eight pownd syx shill(ings)  
and eight pence ~ Of a forreyne kyng syx pou(n)d  
thirtene shill(ings) (and) fower pence / ~ Of the prynce of  
wales or any heyer apparante to any other kyng –  
fyve pownd syxtene shill(ings) (and) eight pence / Of a  
Duke – fyve pownde / ~ Of a Marques Thre  
pound fyftene shill(ings) ~ Of a Erle fyftie shill(ings)  
Of a viscount ~ forty one shill(ings) (and) eight pence /  
Of a baron ~ Thirtie thre shill(ings) (and) fower pence  
of a bacheler knyghte ~ Syxtene shilling(es)  
and eight pence /

**[fol. 8v]**

Lett the saide Sum(m)es of mony be gathered and  
bestowed upon the poore and for Repaying of high  
wayes ~ ~

The mony that shalbe dew aforesaid by straingers  
elected to this order / the kyng as souerayne of this



order shall disbourse / And the reste of the Som(m)es  
of mony that shalbe dew by the knight(es) of this order  
being no straingers / euery of the saide knights shall  
paye for them selues / and if any of them refuse  
so to doo / then the recusant shall paye ouer and  
besid(es) the Sum(m) payable by hym / a thirde p(ar)te of  
the same som(m)e as a penaltye or payne for brekyng  
of this order / ~ ~ ~

### **The othe of a knight of Thorder**

I N / named and chosen knight of this moste noble  
order of this garter / do promyse and swaere p(a)t  
I will defend and manteyne all the dignities / causes  
Lawes and domynions of the kyng of Englande /  
soueraigne of this order / that I will set furthe  
god(es) glory and honor / and throughly obserue so much  
as shall lye in me the statutes of this order / and  
fynally defend and manteyne to my power the liberti-  
es of the same wherof I take god to wyttnes

[fol. 9r]

### **Stranger knights of thorder**

#### **Caput iiij**

When any forreyne prynce shalbe chosen into  
this order / the Soverayne shall send to hym  
one of the knightes of the saide order and Garter the  
kyng of Armes / with the statutes signed with the  
Soveraynes hand and sealed with the seale of the  
same order / who after the ende of the com(m)en prayers  
vsed in that countrye shall put vpon the p(er)son elec-  
ted into this company, the accoustumed Robes and  
apparell / of thorder that is to saye / the mantell the  
kertell and the hoode, also aboute his neck they shall  
put a collar of golde wrought with Roses hauyng  
the order of the garter hangyng thervnto / and about  
his legg they shall tye the Garter / ~

No forreyne prynce elected into this order / shalbe  
bounde to geue any othe or to p(er)forme thother ceremo-  
nyes of thorder, vnles they will them selues nor yet  
to leue duryng their lyves the wearyng of thimage  
of Saynte George which they firste receued but as  
hit shall please them ~

**The othe of a Stranger chosen  
into thorder ~ ~**

**[fol. 9v]**

I N. do promyse and sweare that I shall  
trewly obserue in all poyntes from article  
to article the statutes of the noble order of  
knighthod in England Caused the order of the  
garter / as is conteyned p(ar)ticularly in a booke of  
the same order geuen to me, so that nothing be  
therin specified contrary to such thing(es) as I haue  
heretofore sworne vnto

**The depriuacion of a knight  
of thorder / Caput .v.<sup>m</sup>**

Who so ever shalbe convicted of any capitall  
offence or shalbe knowen cowardly to haue  
torned their face from their ennemys in battell  
or shalbe spotted with any capitall cryme though  
they escape the paynes of deth / or haue ben receued  
into this company for lack of knowledge of their  
stock / and lynage accordyng to the ordynaunce aboue  
expressed / and shalbe afterward dewly proued no  
gentillman / shalbe removed and expelled from  
this order and fellowshipp

Be it further ordered that when a knight of  
this order is degraded, the vssher als provest  
of this order and fellowshipp by thappointment

**[fol. 10r]**

and commaundment of the Soverayne / shall first  
of all arrest the knight convict with his black  
rodd, and afterward he with the kyng of Armes / asso-  
ciate with hym / or one of them being aucthorised  
by the kyng / shall take a waye from hym the coller  
and garter of thorder / provyded allweys that no such  
Rest be executed or donne vpon any of the saide com-  
pany or fellowshipp / without first the same be consulted  
upon at a chapter holden in the presence of the soue-  
rayne and there concluded with the number of syx at  
the leaste of thorder ~ ~

Furthermore after that Garter the kyng of  
Armes hath declared openly his offence being

treason or heresy at wyndsor accordyng to thaccou-  
stumed maner one of the heraulds of armes shall  
throwe downe his hachements hanging over his  
seate there and contemptuously sporne them with  
his feate (as he may) owt of the chappell by w(hi)ch  
facte he shalbe taken euer afterward for a p(er)son  
degrated / and quyte depryued of this order /

The Name of a knight of thorder condemned  
of treason being entred into the Register  
booke of thorder / shall afterwards haue this note  
in the mergent ouer agenst the place where

**[fol. 10v]**

where the name shalbe wrytten / Vah traytor / the  
name nevertheles remayning vnputowte

**The publishing of a knyght degra  
ded from thorder to be pronownced by  
Garter kyng of Armes in these words  
folowing**

Be it knowen to all men that N. late a knight  
and Compagnion of the noble order of the garter  
is accused and atteynted of treason / wherefore  
he hath deserued to be remoued and put from the  
saide order and fellowship wherefore the king(es)  
most exellent Ma(jes)tie Souereyne of this order  
caullyng a Chapter of the Compagnions of  
the same hath willed and commaunded that  
these unworthy Armes / of that traiterous p(er)son  
shalbe throwne downe and defaced as a manyfest  
argument to depryue hym of this order / That  
by his ensample all men herafter may beware  
to com(m)ytte lyke offence ~ ~

**Of the feaste and Ceremonyes <Caput vj>**

The feaste of this order shall yerely be celebra-  
te and kept on whitson euen whitsondaye

**[fol. 11r]**

and whitson monday / except it shalbe the kyng(es)  
Ma(jes)t(es) pleasure by reason of sicknes or some other  
greate cause to dyferre the same vntill some  
other tyme which thing shall allweis be refer-

red to the kyng(es) Ma(jes)t(es) order ~

It is also ordered, that all the knights of the saide order shalbe present at whitsontyde at the place where the kyng(es) Ma(jes)t(e) shall then be except they shall haue his Ma(jes)t(es) license to be then absent / And there wearyng the Robes of this order, shall gyve their attendaunce during the saide feaste as they haue hitherto don

Furthermore at this tyme of the feaste the companions of thorder shalbe p(rese)nte with the souerayne / at mornyng and euenyng prayers / and as many of them as may prepare them selues shall receue the communyng of the body and blud of Christe /

Afterward if cause shall so require, they shall go together into the Chapter to consulte of such matters as doth belong to the order

Also the knightes of thorder being there p(rese)nte

**[fol. 11v]**

with the souerayne shall sytte at dyner and supper in their Robes all vpon one syde of the table / takyng euery man his place in such order as they be enstalled at Wyndesor ~

Also the Residew of the fellowes of the saide order that shall nat be present at the feste shall celebrate the same at the same tyme / and after lyke sorte / and fascion with Reuerence and comlynes in their owne howses wearyng on their Robes of thorder all the tyme of their fest except in case of sicknes /

### **Thapparell of thorder    Cap(u)t .vij.**

Be it ordered that the Apparell of Thorder which the knightes of thorder shall weare at the feastes and at other apoynted assemblies of thorder / shalbe such as followeth / that is to saye a syde kertell of Crymesyn veluet / a Mantell of blew purple with a hood / a coller also or a cheyne of golde / and a Garter to be tyde aboute the

left legg ~ ~

The Coller shall weye xxx ownc(es) of Troye  
weight / or thereabouts / and be made by

**[fol. 12r]**

pec(es) or lynkes of golde coupled together lyke the  
fascion of garters with Roses Red as hath ben  
of late accoustumed ~

At the end of the Coller or Cheyne or a small  
lace of sylke black / which shalbe sumetymes vsed  
in stede of the cheyne, shall hang the cognisaunce  
of thorder, that is a Massy golden Image of a  
armed knight, syttyng on a horseback with a  
drawen sworde in his right hand all compassed  
within the Garter /

The Garter shall haue this sentence wrytten  
wrought or embrodered on the owte syde /  
aboute it in ffrench with golden l(ett)res / Hony  
soit quy maly pense / ~

In the Rest of thapparell of thorder let the olde  
fascion bothe of the makyng and wearyng of the  
same be kept and obserued ~ ~

Be it also ordered that tharmes of Thorder  
shall still be as heretofore they haue ben, that  
is a Red Crosse geulles paynted in a siluer feld  
or Scuchion ~ ~

**[fol. 12v]**

The hachments also shalbe such as they haue  
ben heretofore / that is to saye / a banner a  
healmet / a Crest / the ornament of the hellmytt  
which is caulled, the Mantell and the Sworde ~

**The mynisters of Thorder Cap(u)t / viij**

Forasmuch as it is very me ate that sume myni-  
sters of honor shulde serve this so honorable  
an order it is ordered / that fowre shalbe appoynted  
for the same porpose / that is to wete / the chauncelor  
first the Register second the vssher or provest  
thirde / and the kyng of Armes fowrth which shall

be cauled garter whose offices be hereafter p(ar)ticularly declared

### **The Chauncellor Caput , ix /**

Forasmuch as thoffice of the Chauncellor is an honorable office and of very grete charge, it is ordered that to thadministracion thereof, sume man of good estimacion being a knight and a gentillman borne / and also of good experience and Lerynyng shalbe chosen and poynted therto

It shalbe the office of the Chauncellor vpon

#### **[fol. 13r]**

the Soveryanes comaundymnt to somen and geue warnyng of the Chapters to be kept by the soverayne and compaignons of the saide order / and there to propound and put furth all such matters as are there to be consulted of, he shall also be present yereyly at the feaste of the order, if he be nat syck or otherwyse employed in the seruyce of the kyng(es) Ma(jes)tie at the same tyme in the chapter howse shall declare and rehearse as well the noble actes as the / shamefull deades (if any chaunse to be) of the compaynons and fellowes of thorder / to thentent the Register of thorder may accordyng to the auncyent / custome recorde and Registre them / in the cronycles of thorder ~ ~

ffurthermore the Chauncelor at þe tyme of thelection of knight(es) into thorder shall exhibite to þe soverayne w(i)t(h) such Reuerence as shall become hym þ(e) names of those þ(a)t be in election taken in wrytyng afore by þ(e) register

### **The seale and signet of Thorder**

The Chauncellor shall also kepe þe grete seale (and) signett of thorder where w(i)t(h) he shall also seale þe statut(es) (and) decrees of thorder / com(m)issions / com(m)aundiment(es) / graunt(es) certificates (and) all oþ(er) instrument(es) p(er)teyning, to thorder upon þe soveraynes com(m)aundymnt (and) if he chaunse to dep(ar)te from þe Souerayne the space of lx miles of knowen porpose he

#### **[fol. 13v]**

shall delyu(er) the saide seales to þe souerayne or to anye

other apoynted by the Soverayne ~ ~  
The Prynte of the Seale and Signett shalbe in  
this sorte / the Armes of England and ffraunce  
together with tharmes of thorder shalbe therin  
grauen with this brefe sentence aboute hit  
Hony soit quy mal y pense /

The Chauncellers garment w(hi)ch he shall weare at the  
celebracion of þe feste, (and) all other solempne assembl-  
ies of þe compagnions of the said order, shalbe a syde  
gowne w(i)t(h) sleues made of blew satyn, and for token  
þ(a)t he is an officer of thorder he shall weare about his  
neck hanging by a lace or cheyne a crosse of thorder w(i)t(h) a  
Red rose in a white of gold all compassed w(i)t(h) a garland  
as Red and white Roses ~  
ffynally þ(e) saide chauncelor shall haue besyde his fee belon-  
ging to his office a howse at wyndSOR w(i)t(h) allowance of  
mete and drynk after tholde Custome

### **The Register** / **Caput x.<sup>m</sup>**

If he þ(a)t occupieth thofice of þe Register be an eccl(es)iasticall  
p(er)son he shalbe then ether a doctor of dyuinitie or of þe  
ciuill lawe but if he be a temporall man he shall then be  
a knight (and) a gentill(man) of blud of experience also (and) lerning  
com(m)endable ~

#### **[fol. 14r]**

His office shalbe to be present at all assemblies  
of the companyons of thorder and at euery  
election to wryte the Names of such persons as  
are named in election / and when he hath so donne  
(if the chauncellor be absent) to delyuer up the  
same with dew Reuerence to his soveraiyne or  
to his lieutenant

In the absence of the Register, the deane or the moste  
auncyent Cannon or prebendary of Wyndesor  
Colledge shall supplie his place in that poynTE  
for the tyme

The Register shall wryte the daye wherin any  
knighte is made of this order and the tyme  
of his dethe /  
Also what statutes are in force (and) what Repealed

Moreouer he shall cronycle and put in wry-  
tyng the Martiall feates and valiant actes  
of the Souerayne and knightes of thorder with  
credyte and memory which eyther by his owne  
Industry, or by informacion of the chauncellor or  
kyng of Armes he hath lerned ~ ~

ffor which purpose he shall prepare two grete

**[fol. 14v]**

bookes or Registers / thone whereof allweys remayni-  
ng / in the Castell of wyndesor / thereto be kept  
of such as shall succede in the saide office / shalbe  
cauled the Register of wyndesor / thother the Regist(er)  
shall haue allweys with hym in a redynes in the  
Courte to be shewed the Soverayne / when he shall  
call for it / shalbe cauled the Register of the cowrte

Furthermore the Register shall yerely at  
whitsontyde / in the begynnyng of the counsell  
or Chapter before the soueraigne or his lietenante  
and other knightes of thorder there present  
reherse all thing(es) don the yere past belongyng to  
thorder noted faithfully by hym, to thentent p(a)t  
if any thing be therin wrytten amysse or untrew-  
ly the same might be revoked and amendid ~

He shall allweys vse the Counsell and advyse of  
the Chauncellor, in the wrytyng and Registring  
of all thing(es) p(er)tyning to thorder /

The Register and Deane of wyndesor shall  
haue the collection and gathering of all suche  
sumes of mony as are apoynted by these statutes  
to be payde by the knightes of thorder / and shall  
bestowe the same vpon the pore vpon the mendyng

**[fol. 15r]**

of high wayes and vpon other lyke charitable deades  
which the soverayne shall thinke mete / of the recept  
and bestowing of which somes of mony / they shall ma-  
ke accompt ones yerely to the soverayne wherin if  
they doo faile they shall forfeyte x<sup>li</sup> to be employed  
in such sorte as thother mony shalbe ~

The Registers gowne shalbe lyke the Chauncellors



and shall weare aboute his neck hangyng by a  
lace a Redd Rose and a white of gold one within the other

he shall also haue a house in the castell of windesor  
and meate and drynke in such sorte as hath ben  
heretofore vsed / And also he shall haue his accoust-  
umed fee / and of euery knight chosen into this compa-  
ny at the tyme of his enstallying – xxx<sup>si</sup>

### **The Vssher or provest / Cap(u)t. xj**

The vssher or provest shalbe also a gentillman  
and beare Armes, who if he be no knight at  
the tyme of his entrye into thoffice, he shall then be  
made knyghte / when so euer the Souerayne and  
the residew of the knyghtes of this order mete to  
gether in counsell to consulte of any matter belon-  
gyng to thorder he shall kepe the vtter dore where so

#### **[fol. 15v]**

euer the souerayne or his lieutenante shall  
celebrate yerely the feste of thorder, the vssher  
or provest shall cary there before hym a black  
Rood / or els in his necessary absens some other  
appoynted by the provest being a mete man  
for the pourpose and allowed by the soverayne

He shall execute his auntyent authorite in dis-  
gratyng knyghts from this order / in such sorte  
as is declared in the Chapter of depriuacion

For the execution whereof he shall receue  
of euery one that shalbe so depryued  
fyve pownd accordyng to thaccoustumed maner

But if he shall admonyshe any of thorder  
by the Soveraynes commaundymment (and) fellows  
of sume smaller faute by hym commytted  
he shall then clayme of the p(ar)tye so admonysshed  
but ~ xx<sup>si</sup> /

The Provest shall weare a lyke gowne  
as the Chauncellor and Register doo, but  
he shall weare about his neck hangyng at a  
lace a Redd Rose, and a white of golde lyke the  
Register

**[fol. 16r]**

Besydes his yerely fee he shall haue a howse at wyndsor / and meate and drynke in lyke sorte as / the Register

**The Kyng of Armes / Caput xij<sup>m</sup>**

Garter the king of Armes (shalbe for thonor of thorder) a gentillman of bludd as the reste of the officers are, and of a well knowen name and reputacion, the same Garter bering armes hym self, and being borne within the Realme shalbe hedd and cheff herauld of all oficers of armes w(i)t(h)-in the saide Realme ~ ~

His office shalbe, to take the names surnames and cognisauncys, of euery knight chosen into this order and to cause the boke wherin the same shall be wryten to be delyuered to his Successors /

The saide garter shall make diligent enquiry and serche for the noble and valiant actes of the Soverayne and Compagnions of thorder and shall therof make trew Reporte to the Chauncellor and Register to thentent they may be put in wrytyng by the saide Register as aforesaide

**[fol. 16v]**

He shall / either convey by hym self or procure to be conveyd all such l(ett)res as do belong to the / order / and also shall signifye to the Soverayne Chauncellor or Register of theorder / the deth of euery knight, that there may be appoynted a New election / at the Soveraynes pleasure ~

Furthermore he shall doo or cause to be done what of euer the Soverayne or Chauncellor in the Soveraynes name shall com(m)aunde hym in thing(es) p(er)teyning to thorder

Also the said Garter of his deputie shall minister the othe to all officers of Armes for the which he shall Receue thaccoustumed fees

The said Garter shall have of the Souerayne

his yerely fee accoustumed

Also he shall clayme and haue, as often as any Duke, Marquys Erle viscount Baron or knight are made knightes of this order thup-  
permost garment, that they so elected shall weare vpon them ~ ~

He shall weare thapparell that he hath

**[fol. 17r]**

ben accoustumed to wear / and shall haue mete and drynke and a howse at wyndesor as the vse hath ben in tymes paste

**Thoffice of all Mynisters Ioyntly  
Caput xiiij /**

The Mynisters that shall wayte on the Soueraigne and knightes at the feste of the order and other metyng(es) touching the same shall kepe this order in their goyng ~ ~

First of all the provest and the kyng off Armes shall go together next before the Soverayne and so then before them the Chauncellor and the Register

When the knightes of thorder shall sytt in their stalles in the quyer of wyndesor / the saide officers of thorder shall sytte on two formes sett overthwart in the same place vpon the one whereof shall sytt the Chauncelor and the Register / and on the other the provest and Garter the kyng of Armes

The saide Mynisters dischargyng their office(es) well shall allweys be vnder the protection of the Soueraigne / that is they shalbe kept and /

**[fol. 17v]**

defendid by hym from all Iniury and wrong that shalbe ofred them / and shall haue all their causes of sewtes determyned by the Soverayne without vexacion in any other Cowrtes

And shall haue and enioye all auntyent liberties and preemyneycys heretofore apperteyning to euery

of their offices

Euery one of the said Mynisters before they be chosen into office shall sweare they shall dily- gently in all thing(es) discharge their office and the maner of their othe shalbe such as foloweth

**The com(m)en Othe to be Mynistred to  
to the Mynisters ~ ~**

Thow shalt first sweare, that thou shalt obeye the Souerayne in all thing(es) and after hym the knightes of this moste noble order especially in those thing(es) which shall aperteyne to the and agree with thy offyce

Thow shalt sweare that when thou arte called to Chapter and shalbe made pryuye to secrets there thou shalt kepe counsell and shall nat

**[fol. 18r]**

vtter nor disclose that which thou shalt there here in Counsell ~ ~ ~

Thou shalte sweare that thou shalte defend (and) manteyne the dignite of this order and all the com pagnions of the same / and if anything shalbe attempted agenst the same / thou shalte to thy power withstand and resiste it

Finally thou shalte sweare that thou shalt execute / discharge and faithfully doo all thing(es) that shall aperteyne or belong to thyne office w(i)t(h)out any maner affection / favor / hate / or feare of any man

This othe the Register shall mynister to the chauncellor / provest and Garter / and the Chauncellor lykewise to the Register

**The Conclusion**

Tharticles before wrytten in this booke shalbe taken for the monyment(es) / Statutes and lawes of this order / and all other which are contrary to the same shalbe abolished and Repealed

**[fol.18v]**

Be it Remembred that at the Chapter mentioned  
in the begynnyng of this booke were present with  
the Soverayne these knight(es) of thorder folowing

Duke of Suffolke ~	Marquys of Northampton
Duke of Northumb(er)land ~	Erle of Arrundell
Erle of Derby ~	Erle of Huntyngton
Marquys of wynchest(er) ~	Erle of pembrooke
Vicount Hereford ~	Lord Clynton Admirall
S(ir) Thomas Cheny ~	Lord Darcy of Chichee
Lord Cobham ~	S(ir) Andrew Dudley

Mynisters	S(ir) W(illiam) Cecill / Cancell(or)
	S(ir) phillip Hobby Vssher
	S(ir) Gilb(er)t Dethik Garter

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