

Swinnerton, Sheriff of the two counties, Robert Mauveysiu, chivaler John de Aston, chivaler, William de Perton and Ralph Bassett of Cheadle, were appointed to assess the inhabitants of the County of Stafford, for 125 sacks 5½ lbs. of wool, as their proportion of the 30,000 sacks of wool granted to the king by the parliament at Westminster. The roll of 1343 records an assize as to whether Henry de Perton and Agatha his wife, Richard de Perton and William de Perton, had unjustly disseized Hugh de Penne, of a messuage, and twelve acres of land, in Over Penne. William stated that he held nothing in the tenement, and had done no injury to the plaintiff; and Henry de Perton, Agatha and Richard, answered as tenants, by their bailiff, John de Walshale, and stated that they had entered by the deed and feoffment of Thomas de Penne, and they put themselves on the assize. The jury found that the defendant, except William de Perton, had unjustly disseized the said Hugh de Penne and assessed his damages at ten shillings. In 1337 Alianora (Eleanor) formerly wife of William de Weston, John son of William de Weston, and William de Wootenhull, executors of the will of William de Weston, sued William son of John de Perton, and John de Lappeley of Wolverhampton, for a debt of £26. Defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain. They also sued Simon de Congreve for a debt of £8-16-4. At Easter. 1335 Robert atte Wood of Kidderminster sued William Wolrych, William Bold, Thomas atte Mulne, and William de Perton, executors of the will of John de Perton, for a debt of sixty-three shillings, and he sued William de Perton, together with Margery de Perton, his co-executrix, for a debt of five marks. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff returned certain sums into court, as proceeds of distress levied against them. He was therefore ordered to distrain again, and produce them at the quindene of Michaelmas. This case is noticed again in 1337, when the Sheriff returned that Margaret had been distrained up to twenty pence, and that Adam de Perton, Richard de Perton, Walter de Perton and Richard Horn were her sureties; and that the said William de Perton, had been distrained up to twenty pence, and his sureties were Adam Stet, Richard Mouny, Roger Douse, and Adam the Smith. They were therefore declared *in misericordia*, and as regards the others, the Sheriff returned that they held nothing within his bailiwick; and it was testified that they held sufficient. He was therefore ordered to distrain again, and to produce the defendants at the octave of Hillary. A postscript states that at the latter date, the Sheriff made no return, and he was ordered to produce them at the octave of Trinity. At Hillary 1336 William de Perton sued William de Morton, clerk, for causing waste and destruction in the houses, woods and gardens in Stirchley and Malynleye, which the said William de Morton held for the life of William de Leversete, by a demise of the said William de Leversete, to whom John de Perton, father of the said William, and whose heir he is, had demised it for the said term. Defendant did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him. In the same year another record says, that in the suit of William de Perton against William de Morton, clerk for causing waste and destruction in Stirchley and Malynleye, William de Perton stated that the defendant had pulled down and sold a room worth 100 shillings; and two chambers each worth £10, a kitchen worth 10 marks; a stable worth ten marks; a grange worth ten marks; an oxstall worth 100 shillings; and had cut down and sold forty oaks, each worth three shillings; sixty ash-trees, each worth two shillings; twenty pear-trees, each worth two shillings; and twelve apple-trees, each worth twelve pence, and for which he claimed £60 as damages. William de Morton denied waste and destruction, and