

SANT/BEQ/28/1/2/114

Handwritten copy of entry in Court Leet Rolls re. election of Freemen in Morpeth, Northumberland, nd. [c.1800]

In the Court Roll of the Court Leet ^(11.) Michias 1729. is following ¹¹⁴
Entry made by the Grand Jury —
Whereas no Freemen being made in this Corporation for several
years last Past in which Time a great many is dead and
others by age become unserviceable we therefore desire the
Bailiffs and Aldermen for the Time being to join with my
Lord's Jury in requesting the R^t. Hon^{ble} Earl of Carlisle
to make such a Number of Freemen as to his L^{or}dship shall
seem convenient according to the Antient Custom of
this Corporation —
In the Court Roll of the Court Leet Michias 1747 is the
following entry made by the Grand Jury —
We do order that no Alderman in any of the Trades or Company's
for the future shall or do proceed to an Election of Freemen within
this Borough without obtaining the Consent of the Earl of
Carlisle Lord of the Said Borough for the making and
confirming such Freemen as aforesaid.
At this Court (Michias 1747) when a Number of Freemen
~~were~~ ^{was} a paper writing was drawn up by some of the Lord's
Agents and signed by almost the whole Freemen whereby (as
it is said) they promised not to go to an Election of Brothers
for Freemen without first obtaining a License from the
then Lord his Heirs or Successors Lords of the Manor &
Borough of Morpeth, some of the Freemen w^ould not
sign it when offered. There is no Copy or extract of
this Writing in the Court Books but it is believed to
be to the Purport of the case laid before Mr Dunning.
I have been inform^d this Writing was not long ago
in the hands of Mr Lisle but whether he can be com-
pell^d to produce it by Virtue of the Rule of Court or not
I am not Clear, as it is possible he will say it is not a
Publick Book, Record, Entry, or Paper belonging to the
Court Leet, but aprivate agreement between the Lord
& Freemen —

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