

John Gerard debtor

To the venerable and discreet the illustrious chancellor of the lord king, his humble and devoted John de Sibford the elder of the vill of Norhampton and William de Watford, clerk, appointed to accept recognisances of debts at Norhampton, greetings. Whereas by all reverence and honour to your reverend rule, we signify by these presents that John Gerard of Creek and Thomas Henward of Lillebourne, on the 22nd day of November in the 27th year of the reign of King Edward III after the conquest, came before us and acknowledged that they owe to Ranulph de Horton, in the presence of Thomas Cok, Almaric de Braundeston, William Baillif and others, 100 shillings of sterling by the form of the statute thereupon issued, which they ought to have paid to him on the feast of St Thomas the apostle then next following, and they have not yet paid them to him, as he says. And because the aforesaid John and Thomas have not observed the term of their payment, we entreat your reverend rule that the sheriff of Northampton wishes to write in due form that he forced the aforesaid John Gerard and Thomas to make the payment of the aforesaid debt to the aforesaid Ranulph according to the form of the aforesaid statute. May your rule be strong for a long time. Dated at Norhampton on the third day of September in the 28th year of the reign of King Edward, above-said.

Note: Edward III, born 13 November 1312, died 21 June 1377, was King of England from 25 January 1327. So 27th year 1354.

