

antient perquisite called queen-gold or *aurum reginae*; which is a royal revenue, belonging to every queen consort during her marriage with the king, and due from every person who hath made a voluntary offering or fine to the king, amounting to ten marks or upwards, for and in consideration of any privileges, grants, licences, pardons, or other matter of royal favour conferred upon him by the king: and it is due in the proportion of one tenth part more, over and above the intire offering or fine made to the king; and becomes an actual debt of record to the queen's majesty by the mere recording the fine^k. As, if an hundred marks of silver be given to the king for liberty to take in mortmain, or to have a fair, market, park, chafe, or free warren: there the queen is intitled to ten marks in silver, or (what was formerly an equivalent denomination) to one mark in gold, by the name of queen-gold, or *aurum reginae*^l. But no such payment is due for any aids or subsidies granted to the king in parliament or convocation; nor for fines imposed by courts on offenders, against their will; nor for voluntary presents to the king, without any consideration moving from him to the subject; nor for any sale or contract whereby the present revenues or possessions of the crown are granted away or diminished^m.

THE revenue of our antient queens, before and soon after the conquest, seems to have consisted in certain reservations or rents out of the demesne lands of the crown, which were expressly appropriated to her majesty, distinct from the king. It is frequent in domesday-book, after specifying the rent due to the crown, to add likewise the quantity of gold or other renders reserved to the queenⁿ. These were frequently appropriated to particular purposes; to buy wool for her majesty's use^o, to purchase oyl for her

^k Pryn. *Aur. Reg.* 2.

^l 12 Rep. 21. 4 Inst. 358.

^m *Ibid.* Pryn. 6. Madox. hist. exch. 242.

ⁿ *Bedesfordshire. Maner. Lestone redd. per annum xxii lib. &c. ad opus reginae ii uncias auri.* — *Herefordshire. In Lene, &c. con-*

suetud. ut praepositus manerii veniente domina sua (regina) in maner. praesentaret ei xviii oras denar. ut esset ipsa laeto animo. Pryn. Append. to *Aur. Reg.* 2, 3.

^o *causa coadunandi lanam reginae.* Domesd. *ibid.*