

through Design or Negligence in After-times it was not so carefully kept.

'Tis certain, that several Copies of this Charter are still extant in the antient Annals of several of the dissolved Monasteries, particularly in the Annals of *Burton-Abbey*, lately publish'd, in the 1 Vol. of *Antient English Writers* fol. 271, and witnessed by *Stephen Langston*, who was Archbishop of *Canterbury* at that time, and by many others; because after the Name of that Archbishop, there is an &c.

'Tis also recited in the *Chronicle of Walter Hemmingford*, printed at *Oxford*, Anno. 1687, and publish'd by the Learned *Sir Tho. Gale*, in his 2d. Vol. of *Antient English Historians*, only with this difference, that it hath not any Witnesses Names at the End of it, as that in the Annals of *Burton* hath; but 'tis witnessed by the King himself, (*viz.*) *Teste me ipso*; and both these Copies agree with four more very antient Manuscripts of it, one in the Reign of *H. 3.* when he was in his Minority, and which is now to be seen in the *Cotton Library*; a second was in the Possession of *Samuel Baldwin*, late Serjeant at Law; a third was in the Possession of *John Coke*, Esq; late one of the Prothonotaries of the Court of Common Pleas, and a fourth in the Hands of *Mr. Pettyl*, late of the *Inner Temple*, and Keeper of the Records in the *Tower*, in the Reign of King *William*.

But to put this Matter out of all Doubt, there is still extant a fair Original of this Charter of *Confirmation*, Anno. 9. *H. 3.* when he was of full Age, and 'tis under the Great Seal of *England*, supposed formerly to belong to *Battail Abbey*, and to be seen now in the hands *Sir Nath. Powell*, a Benchet of the *Inner Temple*.

And