

Houſes, without a Liſenſe from the Chief Juſtice in Eyre; which could not be obtained without Expence and Trouble, and ſometimes not at all: They could not take in Agiſtments, nor plough their Lands, and ſow them with Corn, but they muſt lie open to the Deer, (*i. e.*) they might incloſe them with a low Hedge, ſo that the Deer might eaſily get in.

And as there were many new Foreſts made, ſo there were many Courts erected, and made peculiar to ſuch Places; which Courts were kept oftner than at firſt they were appointed to be kept, and the People were compelled to attend upon a general Summons, or to be amerced if they neglected.

There were likewiſe many Oppreſſions and Extortions made by a multitude of Officers, who were to take Care of thoſe Foreſts; for the Regarders would make their Preſentments every Year, which they ought to do but once in three Years, and tho' ſuch Preſentments were void, yet the Party muſt be at Expence to diſcharge himſelf by Plea.

Then no Man could keep a Dog near the Foreſt, without cutting off three of the Claws of the Fore-feet, under the Penalty of being amerced 3 s. every third Year. The Foreſters likewiſe kept Ale-houſes in the Foreſts, and compelled People to come thither to ſpend Money for Fear of their Diſpleaſure; and no Man could enjoy his Common quietly without making them Preſents of Lambs, or Pigs, or Corn, or Hay; and they exacted Toll, not only of thoſe who came with Carts and Horſes loaded, but generally of every Man, who travelled thro' the Foreſts.

Then if any Treſpaſs was done in the Foreſt, and the Offender could not be taken, he was proſecuted to the Outlawry; and if he was afterwards taken upon that Proceſs, he was ſure to be committed to Priſon, there to remain without Bail, and never to be releaſed, but by a Special Warrant from the King or Chief Juſtice in Eyre; all which was remedied by the Grant of this Charter.

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*A Confirmation of the Charters of the Liberties  
of England, and of the Foreſt, made in the  
35th Year of Edward I.*

C H A P. I

**E** *Dward*, by the Grace of God, King of England,  
Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Guyan, to all  
 thoſe theſe preſents Letters ſhall hear or ſee, Greet-  
ing,