

Aids and scutages : 1253-4 : Aid for getting the king's oldest son made a knight

This is the account of the aid of 1253-4 — levied at the rate of 40 shillings per fee — as it appears in the exchequer roll for 1254 (E 372/98, rot 12 d, IMG_8318). In detail as well as in outline, it is mostly very similar to the account of the aid of 1245-6. The items are differently arranged, and the sums of money are all doubled; but the only new entry is the one for a holding of 35 acres in Hurst which, since 1250, had been counted as a sixtieth part of a knight's fee (*Book of fees*, p 1189).

Auxilium regi concessum ad primogenitum filium suum militem faciendum, scilicet de quolibet feodo xl s'.

Id' vic' r' comp' de xl s' de Roberto de Barmeling' de i feodo. Et de iii marcis et dimidia de Willelmo de Cirenton' de i feodo et sexta parte i feodi <de feodis> Willelmi filii Helte. Et de xl s' de Thoma Abelin de i feodo Willelmi de Moreston'. Et de iii marcis et dimidia de Roberto de Septem vannis de i feodo et sexta parte i feodi <de feodis> Willelmi filii Helte. Et de iii marcis et dimidia de Iohanne Mar<escallo> de i feodo et sexta parte i feodi <de feodis> eiusdem Willelmi. Et de xx s' de Radulfo filio Bernardi de dimidio feodo. Et de xx s' de Radulfo filio Nicholai de dimidio feodo Robertti Bardulf. Et de xx s' de Reginaldo de Meudr' de dimidio feodo eiusdem Roberti. Et de xxviii li' de Ricardo de Chileham de xiiii feodis Foberti de Douere. Et de xl s' de Iollano de Neuill' de i feodo. Et de xl s' de Reginaldo de Cornhull' de i feodo. Et de lxvii li' de Hamone de Creuequer de xii feodis propriis et de xxi feodis et dimidio de feodis Willelmi de Abrincis. Et de xl s' de Gilberto Pecche <de i feodo> in Westclue. Et de xxx li' de abbate sancti Augustini de xv feodis. Et de vi li' de Roberto de Caunuill' de iii feodis. Et de xl s' de Roberto de Sancto Iohanne de i feodo in Nessinton'. Et de viii d' de Iohanne Herebert et Emma uxore eius de sexagesima parte unius feodi de seriantia Godefridi le Faukener, sicut continetur in Kancia in rotulo xxxiiii. Summa cliii li' viii d'. — In thesauro cli li' x s' et viii d'. — Et debet xxx s'.

Comitissa Augi xxii li' de xi feodis in hoc comitatu.

Comes Leyc' iiii li' de ii feodis in hoc comitatu.

Comes de Clare xviii li' de ix feodis in hoc comitatu.

Willelmus de Say r' comp' de quater xx et iiii li' de xxvii feodis Maimot et de xv feodis Inger' Pateric. — In thesauro lix li' iii s'. — Et d[ebet] xxiiii li'] xvii s'.

Warinus de Monte canis' (Willelmus filius et heres) r' comp' de xxix li' de xiiii feodis et dimidio. — In th' xiiii li' x s'. — Et debet xiiii li' x s'.

Now that I have seen these two accounts, for the aids of 1245-6 and 1253-4, I realize that I was wrong to suppose that aids began to be collected in a new way after 1242-3. On the contrary, these

aids were collected in the same old-fashioned way as the aid of 1235-6 – county by county, from the king's tenants in chief. For the large baronies, the amounts due were still being calculated from the numbers of knight's fees reported in 1166. (And the same is all true for scutages later than this.)

This means that the list of knight's fees printed by Greenstreet (1878) cannot be associated directly with the aid of 1253-4, as he suggested it was, and as I believed it was, until I saw this account in the exchequer roll. Nevertheless, it dates from around that time. I have revised those files accordingly.

First posted October 2012