

## **CHARTER OF QUEEN ELIZABETH, 27 JUNE 1562**

[Patent Roll, 4 Elizabeth, Part 3, m.37. Public record Office]

[The Latin text of the 1562 Charter printed below has been reproduced from that contained in the report of the Prison Board case which was itself copied from the original in the Public Record Office.<sup>1</sup> The Service of Process and Taking of Evidence (Jersey) Law 1960 and Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) (Jersey) Law 1960 contain in their respective Preambles an extract from the translation of the Charter in identical terms to that printed below.]

## Pro Ballivo et Juratis Insule de Jersey

## Regina Omnibus ad quos &c. salutem

[1] Cum dilecti et fideles ligei et Subditi nostri Ballivus et Jurati Insule nostre de Jersey ac ceteri incole et habitatores ipsius Insule infra Ducatum nostrum Normannie et predecessores eorum a tempore cujus contrarii memoria hominum non separales existit Cartas per concessiones confirmaciones et amplissima diplomata illustrium progenitorum ac antecessorum nostrorum tam Regum Anglie quam Ducum Normannie ac aliorum quam pluribus Juribus Jurisdiccionibus Privilegiis annuit-atibus libertatibus et franchesiis libere quiete et inviolabiliter usi freti et gavisi fuerunt tam infra Regnum nostrum Anglie quam alibi infra dominia et loca ditioni nostre subjecta ultra citraque mare Quorum opere et beneficio Insule prenominate ac loca maritima predicta in fide obediencia et servicio

## For the Bailiff and Jurats of the Island of Jersey

The Queen to all to whom these Presents shall come, greeting

[1] Whereas our beloved and faithful lieges and subjects the Bailiff and Jurats of our Island of Jersey and other inhabitants of and dwellers in that Island within our Duchy of Normandy and their predecessors have from time immemorial by special charters grants confirmations and most ample writs of our illustrious progenitors and predecessors as well kings of England as Dukes of Normandy and others used enjoyed and been in possession of very many rights jurisdictions privileges immunities liberties and franchises freely quietly and without molest-ation as well within our realm of England as elsewhere within the dominions and places subject to our government beyond and on this side of the sea, by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> TNA:PRO, C 66/978 (Patent Roll, 4 Elizabeth I, part 3) m 37–38 (*CPR 1560–1563*, p 270) printed in *Prison Board*, at 216–220.

tam nostre quam eorundem progenitorum nostrorum constanter fideliter et inculpate prestiterunt ac perseveraverunt liberaque comm-ercia cum mercatoribus et

aliis indigenis ac alienigenis tam pacis quam belli temporibus habuerunt et exercuerunt Judicia eciam et cogniciones omnium et omnimodorum causarum et querelarum accionum et placitorum tam Civilium quam criminalium et capitalium ac judicialem potestatem ea omnia tractandi decidendi discutiendi audendi et terminandi atque in eisdem procedendi et in acta redigendi secundum leges et consuetudines Insule et loci predictorum ex antiquo receptas et approbatas preterquam in certis casubus cognicioni nostri (sic) regie reservatis de tempore in tempus exercuerunt executi sunt et peregerunt

[2] Que omnia et singula cujus et quanti momenti sunt et fuerunt ad tutelam et conservacionem Insule [et] loci maritimorum predictorum in fide et obediencia Corone nostre Anglie Nos ut equum est perpendentes neque non im-memores quam fortiter et fideliter Insulani predicti ac ceteri incole et habitatores ibidem nobis et progenitoribus nostris inservierunt quantaque detrimenta damna et pericula tam pro assidua tuicione ejusdem Insule et loci quam pro recuperacione et the help and benefit of which the before mentioned Island and maritime places before named have steadfastly faithfully and unblame-ably continued and persevered in their allegiance obedience and service as well to us as to those same ancestors of ours and have enjoyed and gone on in their free trade with merchants and

others natives and foreigners as well in times of peace as of war and have moreover exercised and executed and carried through judgment and cognisance of all and every sort of causes complaints actions and pleas as well civil as criminal and capital and have received the judicial power of taking into consideration deciding discussing hearing and determining all those things and of proceeding in the same and keeping records of their proceedings according to the laws and customs of the Island and before mentioned places accepted and approved of old except in certain cases from time to time reserved to our royal cognisance

[2] And we as is just considering of how great advantage and moment all and singular the premises are and have been for the safety and preservation of the Island and maritime places before mentioned in their fidelity and obedience to our crown of England and being not unmindful how bravely and faithfully the aforesaid Islanders and other inhabitants and dwellers in the same place have been devoted to us and our ancestors and how great losses damages and dangers they have sustained and do still sustain as well for the constant defence of the same Island and place as for the recovery and

defensione Castri nostri de Mount Orguill' infra predictam Insulam nostram de Jersey sustinuerunt indiesque sustinent non solum ut regia nostra benevolencia favor et effectus erga prefatos Insulanos aliquo illustri nostri beneficientie testimonio ac certis inditiis com-probetur verum eciam ut ipsi et eorum posteri deinceps imperpet-uum prout antea solitam et debitam obedienciam erga nos heredes et successores nostros teneant ac inviolabiliter observent has literas nostras patentes magno sigillo Anglie roboratas in forma qua sequitur illis concedere dignati sumus.

[3] Sciatis quod nos de gratia nostra speciali ac ex certa sciencia et mero motu nostris dedimus et concessimus ac pro nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris per presentes damus et concedimus prefatis Ballivo et Juratis Insule nostre de Jersey predicte ac ceteris Incolis et Habitatoribus dicte Insule quod ipsi et eorum quilibet licet in presentibus non recitati seu cogniti per defence of our castle of Mont Orgueil within our aforesaid Island of Jersey. So that not only our royal benevolence favour and affection toward the aforesaid Islanders may be shown by some remarkable testimony and evident proof of our beneficence but also that they and their posterity may hereafter for ever as formerly retain and inviolably observe their wonted and due obedience to us our heirs and our successors we have thought fit to grant to them these our letters patent confirmed under the Great Seal of England in the following form.

[3] Know ye that we of our special grace and certain knowledge and mere motion have given and granted and by these presents we give and grant for us our heirs and successors to the said Bailiff and Jurats of our aforesaid Island of Jersey and the other natives and inhabitants of the said Island that they and any seperalia nomina sunt semper in futuro ita liberi quieti et immunes in omnibus Civitatibus Burgis emptoriis nundinis mercatis villis mercatoriis et aliis locis ac portibus infra Regnum nostrum Anglie ac infra omnes provincias dominia territoria et loca ditioni nostre subjecta tam citra quam ultra mare de et ab omnibus vectigalibus theoloneis custumis subsidiis hidagiis tallagiis pontagiis one of them although not mentioned in these presents or specified by their separate names be ever in future as free quit and exempt in all states boroughs markets trading towns fairs mart-towns and other places and ports within our kingdom of England and within all provinces dominions territories and places subject to our rule as well on this side of as beyond the sea of and from all tributes tolls customs subsidies hidage taylage pontage

pannagiis muragiis fossagiis operibus expedicionibus bellicis nisi in casu ubi corpus nostre prefate Regine heredum vel successorum nostrorum quod absit in prisona detineatur et de et ab omnibus aliis contribucionibus oneribus et exccionibus quibus-cumque nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris quovismodo debitis reddendis seu solvendis prout prefata Insula virtute aliquarum Cartarum concessionum confirmacionum sive deplomatum per predictos progenitores nostros quondam Reges Anglie et Duces Normannie sive alios seu virtute aut vigore alicujus rationabilis et legalis usus prescripcionis seu consuetudinis unquam aliquando fuerunt aut esse debuerunt vel potuerunt debuit vel quovismodo potuit.

[4] Cumque nonnula alia Privilegia Jurisdicciones annuitates libertates et franchesie per predictos progenitores ac predecessores nostros quondam Reges Anglie et Duces Normannie ac alios prefate Insule indulta donata concessa et confirmata fuerunt ac a tempore cujus contrarii memoria hominum non existit infra Insulam et locos maritima prenominata inviolab-iliter usitata et observata fuerunt de quibus unum est quod tempore belli omnium nacionum mercatores et alii tam alienigeni quam Indigeni tam hostes quam amici libere

licite et impune queant et possint dictam Insulam et locos maritima cum navibus mercibus et bonis suis tam pro evitandis tempestatibus quam pro aliis licitis suis negociis inibi peragendis adire accedere commeare et frequentare ac libera commerica negociacionis ac rem mercatoriam ibidem exercere ac tuto et secure commorari indeque commeare ac redire tocies quocies absque damno molestia seu hostilitate quacumque in rebus mercibus bonis aut corporibus suis idque non solum infra Insulam et locos marittima predicta ac procinctum eorundem verum eciam infra spacia undique ab eisdem distancia usque ad usum hominis id est quatenus visus oculi possit assequi Nos eandem annuitatem impunitatem libertates et privilegia ac cetera omnia panage murage fossage works and warlike expeditions except in case our aforesaid royal person or that of our heirs or successors should be detained in prison which God forbid and of and from all other contributions burdens and exactions whatsoever actually due or which are to be paid or given to us our heirs and successors in any manner, as the before mentioned Islanders by virtue of any Charters grants confirmations and princely writs of our said progenitors formerly kings of England and Dukes of Normandy or others or by virtue or force of any reasonable and legal usage prescription or custom have ever been or ought to be or could be or any of them ought to be or in any way could be.

[4] And whereas some other privileges jurisdictions immunities liberties and franchises were conferred upon given granted and confirmed to the aforesaid Island by our before mentioned pro-genitors and predecessors formerly Kings of England and Dukes of Normandy and others and have from time immemorial been inviolably used and observed within the Island and maritime places before mentioned one of which is that in time of war the merchants and others of all nations as well foreigners as natives as well enemies as friends could and

might freely lawfully and without fear of punishment resort to come to visit and frequent the said Island and maritime places with their ships merchandises and goods as well to avoid storms as to carry on their other lawful business there and there to exercise a free commerce trade and traffic and safely and quietly to remain there and thence to depart and there to return as often as they think fit without any harm molestation or hurt whatsoever to their wares goods or persons and that not only within the Island and maritime places aforesaid and the precincts of the same but also farther on all sides at such space and distance from them as the sight of man goes to that is as far as the sight of the eye can reach. We holding the same immunity impunity premissa ultime recitata rata grataque habentes ea pro nobis heredibus et succ-essoribus nostris quantum in nobis est prefatis Ballivo et Juratis ac ceteris incolis habitatoribus mercatoribus et aliis tam hostibus quam amicis et eorum cuilibet per presentes indulgemus ac elargimur auctoritate nostra regia renovamus reiteramus et confirmamus in tam amplis modo et forma prout predicti incole et habitatores Insule predicte ac predicti indigeni et alienigeni mercatores et alii preantea usi vel gavisi fuerunt

vel uti aut gaudere debuerunt universis igitur et singulis Magistratibus Ministris et Subditis nostris per universum Regnum nostrum Anglie ac cetera dominia et locos ditioni nostre subjecta ubilibet constitutis per presentes denunciamus ac firmiter injung-endo precipimus ne hanc nostram donacionem concessionem et con-firmacionem seu aliquid in eisdem expressum aut contentum temerarie infringere seu quovismodo invio-lare presumant. Et si quis ausu temerario controfecerit seu attemptaverit volumus et decern-imus quantum in nobis est quod restituat non solum oblata aut erepta sed quod eciam pro damno interesse et plenariam recompensam expensas ad et satisfaccionem compellatur per quecumque juris nostri remedia severeque puniatur et regie nostre potestatis legum nostrarum contemptor ac temerarius.

[5] Preterea ex uberiori gratia nostra per presentes ratificamu approbamus stabilimus et confirm-amus omnes et singulas leges et consuetudines infra Insulam et locos marittima predicta rite et legittime usitatas et ex antiquo receptas et approbatas Dantes et tribuentes prefatis Ballivo et juratis ac omnibus Magistratibus Ministris aliis et ceteris quibuscumque ibidem in officio aut functione aliqua constitutis plenam integram et absolutam auctoritatem potestatem

et facultatem cognoscendi juris-discendi et judicandi de se et super omnibus et omnimodis placitis processibus litibus accionibus querelis et causis quibuscumque infra Insulam et locos predictos emergentibus tam realibus person-alibus et mixtis quam criminalibus et capitalibus eaque omnia et singula ibidem et non alibi placitandi et peregendi prosequendi et defendendi atque in eisdem vel procedendi vel supersedendi examinandi audiendi terminandi absolvendi condenandi decidendi atque execucioni mandandi secundum leges et consuetutines Insule et loci marittimorum predictorum preantea usitatas et approbatas absque provocacione seu appellacione quacumque

liberties and privileges and all other the premises last mentioned as fixed and acceptable do by these presents grant and bestow the same for us our heirs and successors as much as in us lies unto the said Bailiff and Jurats and other natives inhabitants merchants and others as well enemies as friends and to each one of them and by our royal authority do renew reiterate and confirm the same in as ample a manner and form as the said natives and inhabitants of the said Island and the said natives and foreigners merchants and others have in time passed used

or enjoyed or ought to have used or enjoyed the same. Therefore by these presents we order and strictly enjoin all and singular our magis-trates officers and subjects through-out our whole realm of England and other dominions and places subject to our rule wheresoever constituted that they do not presume rashly to infringe or in any way to violate this our grant con-cession and confirmation or anything therein expressed or cont-ained and if anyone should rashly dare do anything to the contrary or attempt to do we will and decree as much as in our power lies that he restore not only the things he has taken and seized but also that he be compelled by every remedy of our law to make full restitution and satisfaction for the loss interest and expense and that he be severely punished as a rash despiser of our royal authority and of our laws.

[5] Further of our further grace by these presents we ratify approve establish and confirm all and singular the laws and customs duly and lawfully used in the Island and maritime places before mentioned and received and approved of old giving and granting to our aforesaid Bailiff and Jurats and all other magistrates officers of justice and any other persons appointed there in any office or duty full absolute and complete authority power

and faculty to have the cognisance jurisdiction and judgment con-cerning and touching all and all sorts of pleas processes lawsuits actions disputes and causes of any kind whatsoever arising in the Island and before mentioned places as well real personal and mixed as criminal and capital and there and not elsewhere to plead proceed with prosecute and defend all these things and every one of them and in the same matters either to proceed or supersede to examine hear end acquit condemn decide and put their sentences in execution according to the laws and customs of the Island and before mentioned maritime places heretofore used and approved without any cha-

preterquam in casibus qui cognicioni nostre regali ex vetusta consuetudine Insule et loci predictorum reservantur vel de jure aut privilegio nostro regali reservari debentur. Quam quidem auctoritatem potestatem et facultatem (preterquam in eisdem casibus reservatas) nos pro nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris prefatis Ballivo et Juratis ac aliis damus committimus concedimus et confirmamus per presentes adeo plene libere et integre prout prefati Ballivus et Jurati ac alii vel eorum aliquis unquam antehac eisdem rite et legittime uti functi aut gavisi sunt velu ti fungi et gaudere debuerunt aut licite potuerunt debuit aut potuit.

[6] Volumus preterea et pro nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris per presentes concedimus prefatis Ballivo et Juratis ac aliis incolis et habitatoribus infra Insulam et locos marittima predicta quod nullus eorum de cetero per aliqua brevia sen processus ex aliquibus Curiis nostris sen aliorum infra Regnum nostrum Anglie emergencia sive eorum aliqua citetur apprehendatur evocetur in placita trahatur sive quovismodo aliter comparere aut respondere cogatur extra Insulam et loca maritima predicta coram quibuscumque Judicibus Justic-iariis Magistratibus aut Officiariis nostris aut aliorum de aut super aliqua relite materia seu causa quacumque infra Insulam predictam emanante sed quod Insulam predictam et eorum quilibet hujusmodi citacionibus apprehencionibus brevibus et processibus non obstantibus licete et impune valeant et possint valeat et possit infra Insulam et locos predicta residere commorari quiescere et Justiciam ibidem expectare absque aliqua pena corporali seu pecuniaria fine redempcione aut mulcta proinde incurrenda forisfacienda necnon absque aliqua offencione vel causa contemptus seu contumacis per nos heredes et successores nostros illis seu eorum alicui aut aliquibus

proinde infligenda irroganda vel aliter adjudicanda. Exceptis tantummodo hujusmodi casibus qui per leges et consuetudines Insule et loci predictorum regali nostre cognicioni atque examini reser-ventur vel de jure aut privilegio nostro regali reservari debentur.

[7] Et ulterius de ampliori gratia nostra ac ex certa sciencia et mero motu nostris dedimus concessimus et confirmavimus ac per has literas nostras patentes pro nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris quantum in nobis est damus concedimus et confirmamus prefatis Ballivo et Juratis ceterisque llenge or appeal whatsoever except in cases which according to the ancient custom of the Island and before mentioned place are reserv-ed to our royal cognisance or which by our right or royal privilege ought to be reserved, which authority power and faculty except in those cases reserved we for ourselves our heirs and successors give entrust grant and confirm by these presents to our said Bailiff and Jurats and others as fully freely and completely as the said Bailiff and Jurats and others or any of them have ever up to the present rightly and lawfully used practised or enjoyed the same or ought or could legitimately have used performed or enjoyed the same or any one of them ought or could.

[6] Moreover we desire and for us our heirs and successors by these presents we grant to the aforesaid Bailiff and Jurats and others natives and inhabitants within the Island and other maritime places before mentioned that none of them for the future should be cited apprehended or drawn into a lawsuit by any writs or process issued from any of our Courts or other Courts within our kingdom of England or any of them or in any other way be compelled to appear or reply without the Island and maritime places aforesaid before any Judges Courts Magistrates or officers of Justice of ours or of others concerning or touching any thing suit matter or cause whatsoever arising within the aforesaid Island but that the said Islanders and any one of them notwithstanding citations apprehensions writs and processes of the kind mentioned may and might lawfully and with impunity in the Island and aforesaid places reside remain be at rest and there await justice without any corporal punishment or pecuniary fine ransom or loss on that account to be incurred or suffered and without any offence or cause of contempt contumacy as far as concerns our heirs and successors on them or on any one

or more of them on that account to be inflicted imposed or otherwise adjudged. Except only such cases as by the laws and customs of the Island and aforesaid places may be reserved to our royal cognisance and examination or by our royal right or privilege ought to be reserved.

[7] And moreover of our fuller grace and certain knowledge and mere motion we have given granted and confirmed and by these our letters patent for ourselves our heirs and successors as much as in us lies we give grant and confirm to the said Bailiff and Jurats and the other natives of and dwellers in the Island and maritime places before

incolis et habitatoribus Insule et loci maritimorum predictorum necnon mercatoribus et aliis eo confluentibus tot tanta talia hujusmodi et consimilia Jurisdicciones annuitates Jura impuni-tates indemnitates exempciones libertates franchesias et privilegia quecumque quot quanta qualia et que prefati Ballivus et Jurati ac ceteri incole et habitatores mercatores et alii aut eorum aliquis antehac legittime et rite usi freti seu gavisi fuerunt usus fretus seu gavisus fuit ac omnia et singula quecumque alia in quibuscumque Cartis aut literis patentibus nostris seu progenitorum nostrorum quondam Regum Anglie seu Ducum

Normannie aliorum eis aut sen eorum predecessoribus antehac data concessa vel confirmata et non revocata seu abolita quocumque nomine seu quibuscumque nomin-ibus iidem Ballivus Jurati ac ceteri incole et habitatores ejusdem Insule et loci marittimorum predictorum aut eorum predecessores seu eorum aliqui vel aliquis in eisdem literis patentibus seu eorum aliquibus censeantur nuncupentur aut vocen-tur seu censeri nuncupari aut vocit-ari debuerunt seu soliti fuerunt ac ea omnia et singula licet in present-ibus minime expressa prefatis Ballivo et Juratis ac ceteris incolis et habitatoribus Insule et loci marittimorum predictorum necnon mercatoribus et aliis eo confluent-ibus Indigenis et Alienigenis per presentes confirmamus consolidamus et de integre ratificamus adeo plene libere et integre prout ea omnia et singula in eisdem literis patentibus contenta modo particul-ariter verbatim et ex expressis in presentibus literis nostris patent-ibus recitatata et declarata fuissent

[8] Salva semper atque illabifacta suprema regia potestate dominac-ione atque imperio Corone nostre Anglie tam quoad ligeanciam subjeccionem et obedienciam Insule predicte ac aliorum quorumcumque infra Insulam et locos predictos commorancium sive degencium quam quoad regalitates privilegia

res redditus vectigalia ac cetera Jura proficua commoditates ac emolumenta quecumque infra Insulam et locum predictos nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris per prerogativam Corone nostre Anglie sive Ducatus Normannie seu aliter ex antiquo debita et consueta Salvis eciam appellac-ionibus et provocacionibus quibuscumque Insule predicte ac aliorum ibidem commorancium sive degen-cium in omnibus ejusmodi casibus que legibus et consuetudinibus Insule et loci predictorum regali nostre cognicioni mentioned as also to merchants and others resorting thither such great similar or like rights jurisdictions immunities impunities indemnities exemptions liberties franchises and privileges whatsoever as the said Bailiff and Jurats and other natives and inhabitants merchants and others or any one of them have heretofore legally and rightfully used practised and enjoyed or any one of them has used practised or enjoyed and all and every other thing that has been given granted and confirmed heretofore to them or their predecessors in whatever charters or letters patent of ours or of our progenitors formerly Kings of England or Dukes

of Normandy or others and not revoked or abolished by what-soever name or names the said Bailiff Jurats and other natives and inhabitants of the said Island and maritime places aforesaid or their predecessors or some or any of them may be described called or named or ought to be described called or named or have been wont to be in the said letters patent or any of them and all and singular which things although not expressly mentioned we do by these presents confirm consolidate and ratify anew to the said Bailiff and Jurats and other residents and inhabitants of the said Island and before mentioned maritime places as well as to merchants as others natives and foreigners coming together there as fully freely and entirely as if all and singular the things contained in those letters patent were just now particularly expressly and clearly recited and declared in our present letters patent.

[8] Saving always entire and unimpaired the supreme royal power dominion and empire of our Crown of England as much as to what may concern the allegiance and obedience of the aforesaid Island and of others whoever they may be sojourning or living in the Island and above named places as to what may concern the regalities privileges

interests revenues tributes and other rights profits commodities and emoluments whatever in the Island and said places anciently due and accustomed to be paid to us our heirs and successors by the prerogative of our Crown of England or Dukedom of Normandy or otherwise; saving also every possible right of appeal of the said Island and of others dwelling or being there in all kinds of cases which by the laws and customs of the Island and aforesaid places are reserved to our royal cognisance and examination or ought by law or our royal prerogative to be reserved; atque examini reservantur vel de jure aut privilegio nostro regali reservari deb-entur aliqua sentencia clausula re aut materia quacumque superius in presentibus expressa et specificata in rontrarium aliquo non obstante Proviso semper quod Aliqua clausa articulus sive aliquod aliud in presentibus literis nostris patent-ibus expressis et specificatis non exponantur interpretentur nec se extendant ad aliquod quod sit vel fieri possit nobis vel heredibus nostris prejudiciale quoad aliqua terras tenementa redditus regal-itates vel hereditamenta nostra infra Insulam predictam.

[9] Postremo volumus ac per presentes concedimus quod dicti Ballivus et Jurati ac ceteri incole et habitatores Insule predicte necnon mercatores et alii illuc

commorantes seu confluentes habeant et de tempore in tempus habere possint has literas nostras patentes sub magno Sigillo nostro Anglie debito modo factas et sigillatas absque fine seu feodo magno vel parvo nobis in Hanaperio nostro seu alibi ad usum nostrum pro premissis quo-quomodo reddendis solvendis vel faciendis.

[10] Eo quod expressa mencio etc.

In cujus rei etc.

notwithstanding any sentence clause thing or matter whatever expressed above in these presents and set out to the contrary. Provided always that no clause article or any other thing expressed and set out in these our present letters patent should be explained or understood or should enlarge themselves in some way which might be or might possibly become prejudicial to us or our heirs as regards any tenements lands revenues regalities or inheritances of ours within the aforesaid Island.

[9] Lastly our pleasure is and by these presents we grant that the said Bailiff and Jurats and others natives and inhabitants of the aforesaid Island as well merchants as others

dwelling or coming together there should have and from time to time should be able to have these our letters patent made and sealed under our great seal of England in the required manner without yielding paying or rendering any fine or fee whether great or small to us in our Hanaper or elsewhere to our use for the same.

[10] And that although express mention

[Ed. The translator has completed the text which did not appear in the version printed in the *Prison Board* case] of the fine annual value or of the certainty of the premises or of any of them or of the other gifts or grants before this time made by us or by some of our progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid Bailiff and Jurats and other natives and inhabitants of the said Island or to any of them do not appear clearly in these presents or notwithstanding any statute act ordinance proviso edict or restriction to the contrary thereof up to the present had, made decreed ordained or provided or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in any way notwith-standing.

In witness whereof We have caused these our Letters to be made patent

At Greenwich the 27th day of June in the fourth year of our reign.

Teste regina apud Grenewiche xxvij die Junii per preve de Privato Sigillo etc.

TNA:PRO, C 66/978 (Patent Roll, 4 Elizabeth I, part 3) m 37–38 (*CPR 1560–1563*, p 270) printed in *Prison Board*, at 216–220.