BRISTOL

Frome'. No doubt there were other houses in this district just outside the walls, and it was near here that St Stephen's church was built, close to Pyle Street, almost certainly in Norman times. 43

Robert FitzHarding was evidently a man of immense wealth, and he was a staunch supporter of Bishop of Gloucester, assisting him, probably financially, in his struggle on behalf of Matilda and the young Henry. Like any wise man of the age he invested in landed property, and among the estates which he acquired were two in close proximity to his native town — the manor of Billeswick immediately west of the town, and that of Bedminster south of the Avon in the county of Somerset. 44

In the manor of Billeswick he chose a spot on slightly rising ground not 500 paces from his father's house and there founded an Abbey for Augustinian canons (1140-1148) that quite outdid in splendour Earl Robert's Priory of St James. Henry II once recalled that he had helped the Abbey in his early youth (initio inventatus me), and perhaps when in Bristol as a boy he may have watched the builders at work upon it. 45 Certainly he must have been well acquainted with FitzHarding, who from the first had joined Robert of Gloucester in championing his cause, and before he had been a year on the throne he rewarded him for his services by granting him the forfeited lands of Roger of Berkeley. The building of the Abbey, which continued for many years, must have stimulated development in the vicinity, but much of the land nearby was marsh and actual evidence of new settlement in Norman times is slight. More promising as a development area was FitzHarding's other acquisition, across the bridge over the Avon. The eastern part of this area had been granted by Robert of Gloucester to the Order of the Knights Templars, founded 1119; one is to be known as Temple Fee, and the Bristol Temple in time became the administrative centre of the Order's many lands in the West of England. There the Templars in due course built their own church and living quarters and rented out plots to others. 46

The western part became known as Redcliffe Fee, and here there was good harbourage along the Avon on Redcliff Back. Further south, on Redcliff Hill, stood the church of St Mary Redcliff; its foundation goes back certainly as far as 1178, and most probably earlier, and at least by the end of the Norman period there must have been a considerable population in the area. 47 Redcliffe Fee was in fact to prove so vigorous a growing point as almost to overshadow the ancient borough on the other side of the bridge.

THE LATE TWELFTH AND THIRTEENTH CENTURIES

By the mid-twelfth century profound changes were coming over the economy of Europe. The great days of Viking enterprise were at an end; no more was heard of the far-off lands across the Atlantic; slavery and the slave-trade were fast disappearing in western Europe. But as Bristol was deprived of one of its chief sources of gain new and even more promising opportunities were opening the way to an immense expansion of its economy of Europe. The great days of Viking enterprise were at an end; no more was heard of the far-off lands across the Atlantic; slavery and the slave-trade were fast disappearing in western Europe. But as Bristol was deprived of one of its chief sources of gain new and even more promising opportunities were opening the way to an immense expansion of its commercial structure, internal and external, and hence to an expansion of the city itself unparalleled until the eighteenth century. The economy of western Europe generally was entering upon a period of rapid growth as population increased, more and more land was brought under cultivation, and manufactures were intensively developed. In Bristol's hinterland, far into the Midlands, new settlements were planted in hitherto desolate regions like the Forest of Arden. Local exchanges multiplied as numbers of little market towns were created where peasants as well as landlords could dispose of their surplus produce and buy what they needed. Sheep-farming was in full swing on the Cotswolds and on the Welsh Marches, fostered particularly by the new Cistercian monasteries founded in large numbers around the middle of the century. 48 Inter-regional trade was so quickened that increasingly certain areas tended to specialize in what they could most profitably be produced there, as England specialized in the production of raw wool, Aquitaine in viticulture, and Flanders in the manufacture of woolens, made largely from English wool: indeed woollen cloth from Flanders and north-east France, and to a lesser degree from England, now took the place of slaves in the traffic between north and south Europe.

Political circumstances, too, proved particularly favourable to Bristol. Henry II's marriage to Eleanor of Aquitaine brought to England an overseas empire that included some of the most famous wine-producing districts of Europe, and by the thirteenth century Gascon wines had virtually captured the English market. Bordeaux replaced Rouen as the paramount wine port of Europe, and forged those close and friendly links with Bristol that have lasted into modern times. 49 Bristol now dominated the wine trade of the west of England. Thence wine was despatched far inland up the Severn and its tributaries, along the coasts of Wales and the shores of south-west England, to Ireland, and occasionally even by road to London. 50 King John, who ordered vast quantities of wine and was a discriminating purchaser, did not hesitate to deal with Bristol if good quality wines of some favoured Bordeaux merchant were to be had there; on one occasion he bought there for his own use no less than a hundred and twenty tons (thirty thousand gallons) imported by Gascon merchants. Great churchmen and noble-men were also purchasers on a lavish scale. In one year alone, for instance, a hundred and seventeen tons were brought to Bristol from Gascony for the Bishop of Worcester. 51 Large quantities of salt were also now coming to Bristol from salterns on the west coast of France. 52 Beyond Gascony new and fruitful contacts were being made with lands still further south in the Iberian peninsula. Bristol also had links with northern France and the Low Countries, and among the foreign traders regularly visiting the city, at least from the time of Henry II, were merchants from Amiens, Corbie and Neste, which sold there the celebrated Picardy wool which had virtually a monopoly in the supply of this most essential dyestuff throughout England as well as in Flanders. 53 Meanwhile new opportunities were also opening up in the west, for the English conquest of the greater part of Ireland in the later twelfth century had

43 Smyth, op. cit. li, 14, 32, 35.
44 St Stephen's seems to have preceded St Leonard's, which was certainly founded by 1112, no. 129; The Great Chartulary of Glastonbury, ed. Dom. A. W. Wrinch, i, p. 153, 154, 250 (Somerset Rec. Soc. 15, 1897).
45 The manor of Bedminster was granted to him by Henry II with other confiscated lands of Roger of Berkeley. The building of the Abbey, which continued for many years, must have stimulated development in the vicinity, but much of the land nearby was marsh and actual evidence of new settlement in Norman times is slight. More promising as a development area was FitzHarding's other acquisition, across the bridge over the Avon. The eastern part of this area had been granted by Robert of Gloucester to the Order of the Knights Templars, founded 1119; one is to be known as Temple Fee, and the Bristol Temple in time became the administrative centre of the Order's many lands in the West of England. There the Templars in due course built their own church and living quarters and rented out plots to others.
46 The western part became known as Redcliffe Fee, and here there was good harbourage along the Avon on Redcliff Back. Further south, on Redcliff Hill, stood the church of St Mary Redcliff; its foundation goes back certainly as far as 1178, and most probably earlier, and at least by the end of the Norman period there must have been a considerable population in the area.
47 Redcliffe Fee was in fact to prove so vigorous a growing point as almost to overshadow the ancient borough on the other side of the bridge.

51 Cal. Pat. 1247-58, 516 (1257); cf. Carus-Wilson (4), 268. The Bishop no longer troubled to cultivate his own vineyards.
53 Carus-Wilson (4), 94 sqq.; Cal. Pat. 1223-33, 43; Chartularies (3), 68-4, for links with the Low Countries see e.g. Cal. Pat. 1236-73, 495; ibid. 1236-21, 114; and Cal. Clw. 1247-57, 104 for wool bought by Flemish merchants in Ireland and Wales and brought to Bristol.
given fresh impetus to Bristol's long-established trade with that country. Dermot McMurrough, King of Leinster, had visited Bristol in 1166 when seeking help against his enemies, and had there been hospitably entertained by the aged Robert FitzHardinge, before he went on his way to plead his cause at the court of Henry II. It was from Bristol that the invasion of Ireland was afterwards launched, and when Dublin was captured Henry gave it to Bristol to occupy and granted it a charter with all the liberties of Bristol. 59 Hence many colonists from the West of England set out for Dublin, and as the English lands in Ireland became steadily more productive under their Anglo-Norman lords so trade increased. Ireland now became an exporter of farm produce like grain and wool, and a growing market for consumer goods. 60

By the mid-thirteenth century Bristol's port facilities were proving inadequate for the business done there, particularly for the new, bulky cargo ships which could carry up to two hundred tons (fifty thousand gallons) of wine. 61 The citizens therefore embarked on an ambitious programme of harbour improvement, comparable to very similar projects being undertaken at this time on the continent. In March 1240 they bought the eastern part of St Augustine's Marsh from the Abbey, leaving the western part to the Abbey which had already reclaimed and cultivated land there. 62 They then undertook the formidable task of diverting the Frome from its old course by cutting a new and deeper channel for it through the marsh to join the Avon lower down. Work was already in progress when in April 1240 a writ arrived from the King ordering the men of Redcliff to assist the Bristol burgesses in making the trench, since its completion was 'for the common good of all' but it could not be completed 'without great costs'. 63 At the northern end of the new channel, on the Bristol side, facing St Stephen's, a new quay was then constructed and firmly bound in stone. It was here that ocean-going ships in future docked, while smaller vessels engaged in coastwise traffic from Wales and the southern shores of Britain continued to sail up the Avon, putting in at what came to be known as the 'Welsh Back'; this was on the site of the old quay below the bridge. 64 At about the same time the citizens turned their attention to the bridge over the Avon. Eulogizing the Londoners, who half a century earlier had replaced their wooden bridge with a stone one, they completely rebuilt theirs in stone. 65 This involved damming and diverting the Avon while work was in progress. Nevertheless the task was a light one compared with that of the Londoners: Bristol's new bridge had but four arches, as compared with London's nineteen. The width of the bridge seems to have been only fifteen feet, apart from the three massive piers on which it rested. Meanwhile attention was also being paid to Bristol's defences. From 1234 frequent grants of murage were made by the Crown, permitting tolls to be taken at the gates in aid of enclosing Bristol 'for the security of the town and its suburbs' (et partium acijacentium). 66 The men of Redcliff and the tenants of the Knights Templars were given the task of constructing the wall to the south of their suburb, using the proceeds of tolls taken at the gates leading into it, and the Redcliff portion of the wall seems probably to have been finished by 1230; this wall, when completed, was known as the Port Wall, and was pierced by two gates: Redcliffe Gate and Temple Gate. Yet another new wall was built in the marsh to enclose the suburb that was developing there between the Avon and the new channel of the Frome. 67 Thus from being one of the smallest of walled towns Bristol became one of the largest, its walls enclosing about a hundred and thirty-six acres. 68

An integral part of the new defences were those constructed at the Castle. By the end of the twelfth century this had ceased to be a baronial castle and had come directly under the control of the Crown, with a constable appointed by the king to take charge of it. Under Earl William it had continued to be of central importance for the whole Honour of Gloucester, but in 1175 William had been compelled to surrender it, at least temporarily, to Henry II, and after his death in 1183 his daughter and heiress Isabel had been married to Henry's son John. Thus John had acquired the whole Gloucester inheritance, and even when, on divorcing Isabel, he gave back part of it he kept the Castle and the lordship of Bristol. 69 The Castle then became one of the chief royal castles of England, ranking with Nottingham, Newcastle, and Winchester as a major fortress, a political prison, and a centre of local administration. As King, John stayed there every year between 1204 and 1210, commissioned various works there, and at the time of his Irish expedition had his treasury there; but it was Henry III who made major alterations and additions, especially to the residential quarters. Between 1239 and 1244, for instance, the great hall (one hundred and eight by fifty-four feet) was rebuilt, the wine cellars, two chapels, and various rooms were improved, and a new barbican was added outside the west gate. 70 With the rebuilding of the garrison chapel in Edward I's reign, however, work on the Castle came virtually to an end.

The impressive public works carried out by the citizens in the mid-thirteenth century were achieved by a town that had quite outgrown the original Saxon and Norman borough. By far the most vigorous growth seems to have been in the transept area south of the bridge over the Avon. The earliest evidence of burgesses in this area comes from the Somerset Pipe Roll of 1264–5 which records that the 'burgesses de Ponte Avon extra brist(e)' owe three marks of gold. These three marks may well be the payment for a charter of Henry II (issued 1164–1170) which granted the men of his fee in the marsh near the bridge the same freedom of trade throughout the realm, as his burgesses, that he had already granted to his burgesses in Bristol itself by his charter of 1155. 71 So populous and wealthy had this area become by the early thirteenth century that when Bristol contributed a thousand marks to the aid levied by King John in 1210 Redcliff also contributed a thousand marks, and Temple Fee five hundred marks (as much as the borough of Gloucester). 72 The three main thoroughfares in the area were Temple Street, where stood the Templars' church, St Thomas' Street, which was named after the new church of St Thomas the Martyr, built probably shortly after the murder of Becket in 1170, and Redcliff Street. 73 Several connecting lanes ran through these streets and so to wharves on the Avon along 'Redcliff Back'. St Mary Redcliff, though outside the walls, attracted many benefactions from burgesses within them, and gradually, in the late twelfth

64 Charter(s), 57–4; Seyer, ii, 40–51. Med. Arch. x (1966), 158.
66 Charter(s), 24.
68 Pipe R. 1149 (PRS viii), 65; Charter(s), i, 25–7; for Cronce's interpretation see Charter(s), 32–4. Cf. below p. 3 and FitzHardinge's own charter (quoted by Cronce as above).
69 Pipe R. 1210 (PRS vii), 245–46.
70 The church cannot antedate Becket's murder in 1170. A fragment of late Norman work remains in the tower.
and thirteenth centuries, it was being transformed into an elegant Gothic
edifice.67 In the suburb east of the Castle - in Feria, or in Mercato - late twelfth
and thirteenth-century deeds certainly point to some demand for land.
But in comparison with Redcliffe and Temple this area was of minor
importance, and it remained unwalled, its boundary marked only by
Lawford's Gate and a surrounding ditch.68 Deeds also point to a land
market in the "new borough of the meadow" north of the town. Here the
Dominicans, first of the Friars to arrive in Bristol, obtained a site, close
to the weir leading to the Castle mills. It was granted to them by Robert
FitzHarding's grandson, Maurice de Gaunt, probably shortly before his
death in 1230, and for over forty years building continued on the church
and Priory. Shops and houses sprang up near by, in Broad Mead, Irish
Mead, and around the Priory. North-west of the town the Franciscans
settled about the same time on Lewin's Mead, where also there was other
building, and in 1236 the Carmelites established themselves in Billsweik,
on rising ground looking down on St Augustine's Back. The Friars of the
Sack had a house outside Temple Gate in, or before, 1266, but after
the abolition of their order in 1274 this community gradually became
extinct. Early in the fourteenth century (1313) the Augustinian Friars, or
'Hermits of St Augustine', were also established near Temple Gate. Thus
when the older religious houses had lost their appeal for the laity it was
these and very different houses that enjoyed their patronage.69 One
house of the older type was the Augustinian monastery at the foot of St
Michael's Hill, opposite St Michael's church. This was founded and
endowed by Eva, wife of Robert FitzHarding, probably shortly after his
death in 1170, and thither she herself retired as a widow, dying there as
Prioress a few years later.70 Development west of the town in the manor of
Billsweik is not easy to trace because of the scarcity of twelfth-century
documents and the difficulty of dating thirteenth-century deeds. Never­
theless it is clear that by the mid-thirteenth century land had been
drained and cultivated, while there were houses, including a manor-
house of the de Gaunts, near St Augustine's, and signs of genuine urban
development in Fosnere Street, where there were shops and bur­
gages.71 There was also a new parish church, St Augustine-the-Less, near
St Augustine's, and signs of genuine urban development in Frogmore Street, where there were shops and bur­
gages.72 The other - St Mary Magdalen, Brightbow - was for
women, and was founded in 1219 by the Berkeleys; it lay on the road to
Bedminster. St Bartholomew's Hospital, an almshouse for the poor out­
side Frome Gate was founded (by 1207) by the de la Werre family, related
to the Berkeleys.73 Other foundations by members of the Berkeley family
included St John the Baptist's Hospital in Redcliff Pit, founded certainly
by 1190, for the relief of the poor,74 St Katherine's on the road to Bedminster, for the sick and infirm and the needy traveller (by
1210),75 and the provision made, by an agreement with St Augustine's
Abbey (1116-1410), for a daily free dinner to be given by the abbot to a
hundred poor people in an almshouse built for the purpose. Shortly after
1230 this charity was freed from the control of St Augustine's and estab­
lished independently as the almonry of St Mark's Billsweik; its build­
ings were separated from the Abbey only by the open green (later College
Green) which was the Abbey's cemetery. The daily doles were gradually
discontinued, and resident almshouses taken instead.76 This great era of
charitable foundations in Bristol by the famous family whose fortunes
had been so closely linked with the town was ended by 1230. No further
institutions until those have been established for the poor or the sick
until the very end of the thirteenth century, and then the initiative came
not from a magnate but from a merchant, when in 1292 Simon Burton,

1200 given their name to Irish Mead (pratum sibarium).77 Frenchmen
were naturally prominent among immigrants from the continent, and a
colony of Jews was settled in Bristol at least by Henry II's reign and
continued there until the expulsion of the Jews in 1290. By the mid­
thirteenth century, though not large in numbers, it was one of seventeen
recognized Jewish communities in England. The Jews' synagogue was
at least at one time in Wynch Street, their cemetery was outside the town
by St Brandon's Hill, and they held much property in St Mary's parish,
in St James's Street, in the 'street next the castle', and in 'Broadweik', as
well as in Wynch Street.78

Urban growth brought with it inevitably new problems of sickness
and poverty. If the wealth of the city as a whole increased, so too, no
doubt, did the numbers of the poor and needy. But the practical charity
of the late twelfth and thirteenth centuries was as much concerned with
men's bodily as with their spiritual needs. By 1230 six hospitals had been
founded on the outskirts of Bristol, almost wholly on Berkeley land and
by members of the Berkeley family - the descendants of Robert Fitz­
Harding, whose eldest son Maurice had taken up residence in Berkeley
Castle and was hence called 'de Berkeley'. Two were leper hospitals,
placed, as was customary, outside the bounds of the town. One - St
Lawrence - was for men, and was founded by King John when Count
Mortain; it was situated outside Lawford's gate, and there the lepers
were permitted to beg for alms from those passing in or out along the
London road.71 The other - St Mary Magdalens, Brightbow - was for
women, and was founded in 1219 by the Berkeleys; it lay on the road to
Bedminster. St Bartholomew's Hospital, an almshouse for the poor out­
side Frome Gate was founded (by 1207) by the de la Werre family, related
to the Berkeleys.7 Other foundations by members of the Berkeley family
included St John the Baptist's Hospital in Redcliff Pit, founded certainly
by 1190, for the relief of the poor,74 St Katherine's on the road to Bedminster, for the sick and infirm and the needy traveller (by
1210),75 and the provision made, by an agreement with St Augustine's
Abbey (1116-1410), for a daily free dinner to be given by the abbot to a
hundred poor people in an almshouse built for the purpose. Shortly after
1230 this charity was freed from the control of St Augustine's and estab­
lished independently as the almonry of St Mark's Billsweik; its build­
ings were separated from the Abbey only by the open green (later College
Green) which was the Abbey's cemetery. The daily doles were gradually
discontinued, and resident almshouses taken instead.76 This great era of
charitable foundations in Bristol by the famous family whose fortunes
had been so closely linked with the town was ended by 1230. No further
institutions until those have been established for the poor or the sick
until the very end of the thirteenth century, and then the initiative came
not from a magnate but from a merchant, when in 1292 Simon Burton,
five times mayor of Bristol, and traditionally a principal benefactor of St Mary Redcliffe, founded his almshouse in Long Row. 81

The late twelfth and thirteenth centuries saw also the foundation of the water supply which must have contributed much towards the health of the city and for which it was so justly famed. It was provided partly by wells within the city, like that wide and deep one in Pitney Street which had a high stone parapet from which men could draw water, and a tiled penthouse to shelter them from rain. But there were also piped supplies, brought from wells or springs outside the city by conduits through which water was taken to public cisterns and fountains. One of the first of these was that given by Robert de Berkeley, who in 12190 granted to the church of St Mary Redcliffe a pipe of water from Rugwell at Knowle from which St John's Hospital was also to have a pipe; later this supply also fed the parish of St Thomas. St Mark's Hospital had a piped supply by about 1240, brought from springs on the west side of Brandon Hill, while from springs on the east side of that hill a pipe ran to the Carmelite Friary and thence in the next century, probably by way of Pipe Lane, to St John's conduit on the town wall. The city was, in fact, largely indebted to the friars for its main supply. The Gray Friars brought water from a spring on the south-east side of Kingsdown to a conduit head in Corn Street, close to the church of All Saints, and also supplied St James's Priory and St Bartholomew's Hospital; the Austin Friars supplied the parish of Temple with water from Raven's Well, Knowle; and the Black Friars had a licence to make a conduit in 1252. 82 The Black Friars' original supply, from Pennywell, was later exchanged by agreement with the city (1593) for a feather off the Key Pipe. This Key Pipe, from which ocean-going ships must have been watered, originated from the 'Boiling Well' at Ashley; it was a civic enterprise and was noted in the fifteen century for its particularly fine (guicherire) conduit house on the key, 'sumptuously worked' in freestone. Ships docking at the Welsh Back were watered from a fine conduit house of freestone at the upper end of the Back, close to St Nicholas church. This was supplied from a spring at the corner of All Saints Lane and St Nicholas Street. The Abbey of St Augustine took its supply from springs on the west side of Brandon Hill, only a few feet from those of St Mark's Hospital. 83

Since the early twelfth century Bristol had gained as much in powers of self-government as in size and wealth. No charters granted to the town by Fizal Hannon, Earl Robert or Earl William have survived, but there can be little doubt that these feudal lords conferred on the burgesses such liberties and granted, as only the king could do, freedom of toll throughout the realm. 84

It is said that from the time of his predecessors, including the liberty when Count of Mortain, after he had acquired the lordship of Bristol, 85

This not only confirmed but specified the liberties of the burgesses as they had held them in the time of his predecessors, including the liberty to hold in free burbage and, amongst many trade privileges protecting the interests of the burgesses, the right to have 'all their reasonable

...
1275 the first customs duty was imposed on exports of wool the returns revealed London and Boston as dominating the trade, with other south- and east-coast ports participating to a lesser extent and Bristol virtually not at all. Bristol merchants did, it is true, deal in wool — indeed they could hardly have failed to do so, situated as they were in the midst of a wool-growing region — but most of the wool they handled must have been shipped elsewhere, as from Southampton, in so far as it was not used at home. 84

THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY

The fourteenth century saw no physical expansion of the city's bounds. Yet it was then that Bristol came to play a major part in England's export trade and acquired a status superior to that of any other English pro- vincial town. For it was this century that saw the spectacular growth of the English textile industry and the beginning of the transformation that was to change England from being a supplier of raw wool to the more highly developed industrial regions on the continent into being herself the leading woolen-manufacturing region of Europe. In and around Bristol, as indeed all over England, the industry had been established long before this. Woad for dyeing had been imported from Picardy in the thirteenth century, but there were probably still more of them in the suburb across the Avon; there they had their own chapel, dedicated to the weavers' saint, St Katherine, in the Temple church. There too fullers, or tuckers as they were called in the west country, abounded, particularly in Tucker Street, which at least by the thirteenth century was called the Street of the Fullers (vicus fullorum). 87

How much cloth was produced in and around Bristol in the thirteenth century there is no means of discovering, but certainly the town was not then specially celebrated for its cloth, as were Lincoln, Stamford and Beverley. The returns of the New Custom, imposed on aliens only in 1293, reveal a small trickle of alien cloth exports, but only with the im­

1279-33,221, and see above p. 6. 86 PRO E 101 26/7; see Carus-Wilson (i), 2; 134 and above n. 51; and for a Bristol merchant sending wool to Southampton, R. H. Hilton, A Medieval Society, 179. For an exceptional year, when the Italians deserted Southampton for Bristol (1339-40), see A. A. Buddock, Italian Merchants and Shipping in Southampton 1275-1600 (1951), 54.

84 Carus-Wilson and Coleman, 36 sqq. Very few Bristol merchants were among those licensed to export wool in 1271-2, and the quantities for which they were licensed were relatively small: Cal. Pat. 1286-72, 154 etc. (i), 1272-73, 14 etc. The Italians were buying much wool in Ireland as well as in England in the late-thirteenth century, but see GRB i, 97, for a complaint in 1295 that wool, hides and other goods from Ireland 'go round the land' (circunt terram) instead of coming to Bristol for export as hitherto. For Flemish merchants with wool at Bristol see e.g. Cal. Pat. 1279-83, 500 and above n. 51; and for a Bristol merchant sending wool to Southampton, R. H. Hilton, A Medieval Society, 179. For an exceptional year, when the Italians deserted Southampton for Bristol (1339-40), see A. A. Buddock, Italian Merchants and Shipping in Southampton 1275-1600 (1951), 54.

86 Carus-Wilson and Coleman, 36 sqq. Very few Bristol merchants were among those licensed to export wool in 1271-2, and the quantities for which they were licensed were relatively small: Cal. Pat. 1286-72, 154 etc. (i), 1272-73, 14 etc. The Italians were buying much wool in Ireland as well as in England in the late-thirteenth century, but see GRB i, 97, for a complaint in 1295 that wool, hides and other goods from Ireland 'go round the land' (circunt terram) instead of coming to Bristol for export as hitherto. For Flemish merchants with wool at Bristol see e.g. Cal. Pat. 1279-83, 500 and above n. 51; and for a Bristol merchant sending wool to Southampton, R. H. Hilton, A Medieval Society, 179. For an exceptional year, when the Italians deserted Southampton for Bristol (1339-40), see A. A. Buddock, Italian Merchants and Shipping in Southampton 1275-1600 (1951), 54.

BRISTOL.