

## THE THIRD GREAT CHARTER OF KING HENRY III.

GRANTED FEBRUARY 11TH, 1224, IN THE NINTH YEAR OF  
HIS REIGN.

**H**ENRY by the Grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and Earl of Anjou, to the Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Sheriffs, Governors, Officers, and all Bailiffs, and his faithful subjects, who see this present charter greeting.

Know ye, that in the presence of God, and for the salvation of our own soul, and of the souls of our ancestors, and of our successors, to the exaltation of the Holy Church, and the amendment of our kingdom, that we *Spontaneously, and of our own free will, do give and grant to the Archbishops, the Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, and all of our kingdom,* these under-written liberties to be held in our realm of England for ever.

(From here on down to the end of the 45th chapter there is no difference between this charter and the second one granted by Henry, immediately preceding. The reading from here is word for word an exact copy of the same, conse-

quently I have not thought it necessary to set it out in full. The change in the introduction to this charter, is that portion of it in italics, which states that the king spontaneously and of his own free will made this grant, and not upon the advice of Gualo, the Archbishops, Bishops and Earl Pembroke.

From the end of the 45th section of the second charter this one differs, and instead of stating that which is contained in the 46th and 47th chapters it concludes as follows:—)

And for this our grant and gift of these liberties, and of the others contained in our Charter of Liberties of our Forest, the Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Knights, Free Tenants, and all others of our kingdom have given unto us the fifteenth part of all their moveables.

And we have granted to them for us and our heirs, that neither we, nor our heirs shall procure or do anything, whereby the Liberties in this charter contained shall be infringed or broken: and if anything shall be procured by any person contrary to the premises, it shall be had of no force nor effect. These being witnesses: (here follow the names of seventy witnesses composed of the Archbishop of Canterbury, many Bishops, and Abbots and Nobles.)