EDITORIAL NOTE

The use of u and v and of i and j has been normalized in both the French and Latin texts. Punctuation has been supplied where necessary, and the use of capital letters modernized. With a few exceptions noted in the text, initial letters have been extended whereever the Christian names for which they stand are known. Italics denote marginal or section titles or words underlined in the MSS. In the text square brackets denote words or letters supplied by the editor; in the headings to the writs they enclose dates supplied by the editor and the editor's identification of sender or recipient where real doubt exists about this. The initial protocol of the writs has been abbreviated when it conforms to a pattern already illustrated in full.

Except in the case of Wenlok's officials, clerks and annuitants, who are listed in the Introduction, persons mentioned in the text have been identified, where this is possible, on their first appearance; it is hoped that the index will serve thereafter instead of cross-references.

The abbot of Westminster paid most fees in instalments covering quarterly or half-yearly terms, and each term was named after a feast—usually Christmas, Easter, the nativity of St John the Baptist, or Michaelmas—which fell at or near its beginning. For the sake of brevity, in the notes to the writs and accounts in this volume the feast has been treated in every instance as the precise day on which the term began.

Unless otherwise stated, the year covered by the accounts mentioned in the Introduction and in the notes to the text is the year of account beginning at Michaelmas.

In the Introduction and cross-references, the documents printed in this volume are cited thus: I. 1 for Part 1, Writ no. 1; II. 1 for Part II, Account no. 1, and so on.