Anne of Cleves: portrait, plan for Henry and Anne to meet, writing frame

Miniature portrait of Anne of Cleves by Hans Holbein, c.1539 (V&A: P.153–1910)
An order taken howe the Kinges Mythisz shall ride at the meetinge of the <i>Sadar Anno Crew</i> of Clewe &c.

First it is ordered, that all the Marshalls, Stewards, shall appear on horsebacke, that is to meane on both sydes the way towarde to the part of Clewe, with as much noise as the Kings Majestie and his Traine may passe through them. And the Sheriffs from his house on both sydes so large.

Next unto them, to be ilke as place, all the Gentlemens of officers beinge signd with the Distergs of London, thaldermen, and Sheriffs not beinge Knights.

Next unto them all the knights as well they of London as other every 1 son in their degree and honors.

Next unto them the feate of gentlemen encombe.

Next unto them the Kings Chaplain.

Next unto them the lordes.

Next unto them, the Kings learned Counsell with other his Counsellors at their saige of other Officers in the Chaplains of the Augmentations the Kings Surveyor, the Treasurers of the Augmentations and tithes and fould fruits of the Alarack of the Kings camp, the Masters of the sauce house and Master Stousby.

Next after them the Gentlemen of the Kings bretre Chamb.

Next after them the Barons in their degnities.

Next after them Earls and Dukes.
Next after them Chambellado together.
Next after the that shall be the sword.
Then gentlemens huyshors to be placed in their
places.
Master Hemynge also to have his place.
Then the Kings Matric
St the Sedgesmen at Armes to bee well orderd
on both sides befor his higheynest.
It next after the King the Master of the horse
leading the horse of estate.
Stew after him the children of hon.
It after howe the Captaine of the garde in all the
garde solonynig in good order and away.
When the Kings Matric and the Queene shall
meet then shall the straitning of the gentylmen
and the same gentylmen in hym, and also the
Captaine of the garde and the Garde with
hym in dray, and return to the vorto to be
place liste.

Announcement on the meeting of Henry VIII with Anne of Cleves, 2 January 1540
(The National Archives: SP 1/157 f1)
Simple Transcript [with explanations]

An order taken how the King's Highness shall ride at the meeting of the lady Anne's Grace of Cleve

First it is ordered that all the merchant strangers be placed on horseback on both sides of the way to Greenwich Park, so that the King and his train may pass through them.

Next to them the gentlemen and esquires, with the citizens of London, aldermen, and sheriffs...

Next to them all the knights...
      fifty gentlemen pensioners
      the King's chaplains
      the trumpets
      the King's wise council with certain household and other officers, and Mr Wriothesley
      the gentlemen of the Privy Chamber
      the Barons...
      the Bishops
      the Earls and Dukes
      the Chamberladies together...
      Master Hennege also to have his place
      Then the King
      The Serjeants at Arms to be well ordered on both sides before his highness
      Next after the king the Master of the horse...
      Then after him the children of honor
      the Captain of the Guard with all the guard following in good order...

When the King and Queen meet, the Lieutenant of the 50 gentlemen and the gentlemen with him and also the captain of the Guard, each with his company, shall withdraw, and return to the Court...

[Merchant strangers were foreign businessmen or traders.
The "King and his train" means the King and the people following him.
Esquires, aldermen and sheriffs were all men with important jobs.
The King's chaplains took care of his religious services.
Thomas Wriothesley served Henry for many years and became very important, helping to rule England.
The Privy Chamber was Henry's private room. The gentlemen who served him there were the sons of rich and powerful lords and knights.
Chamber ladies were ladies at court, not cleaning ladies!]

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