

SOME EARLY INSTRUMENTS OF TICKFORD
PRIORY.

BY G. HERBERT FOWLER.

Through the kindness of Miss Dorothy L. Powell, who transcribed for me the original instruments from the Archives of the Department of Indre et Loire at Tours¹, are printed these five interesting documents dealing with the Priory of Tickford, by Newport Pagnell, all of which date from the twelfth century. None of them are found in Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglicanum*, but very brief abstracts of the first two are given in Talbot's notes from a lost Cartulary of the Priory².

The little Priory of Tickford, dedicated to St. Mary, was an "alien" priory, that is, a daughter cell of a great French Abbey, in this case of Marmoutier or *Maius Monasterium* at Tours. Some of these alien priories were not really full monastic establishments, but merely the residence of one or two monks, who looked after the parent Abbey's English properties: the neighbouring "priory" of Newton Longville is an instance of this sort³. At Tickford was a small but complete monastic foundation, with hall cloister dortour and church, founded by Fulk Paynell early in the twelfth century. General charters granted in confirmation of the endowments of the priory have been already published: one⁴ by Robert de Chesney, Bishop of Lincoln 1148-1167, and one⁵ by Gervase Paynell, the grandson of the founder; but these five original specific grants have not yet seen the light.

¹ Series H: Liasse 362.

² Harleian MS. 2168, fo. 125.

³ *Newington Longueville Charters*: Oxford Record Soc., iii., 1921.

⁴ Abstracted by Dr Round in *Cal. Doc. France*, i., 444; translated by Stapleton in *Holy Trinity Priory, York*, p. 30.

⁵ Dugdale, *Mon. Anglie.*, v. 203.

No. 1.

Geruasius Paganellus omnibus hominibus suis et amicis tam presentibus quam futuris salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse domum et mesuagium quam Baldwinus Bernerius tenuit in Neuport petitione et assensu Hugonis Lincolniensis episcopi et uxoris mee Isabelle Comitisse deo et ecclesie beate Marie de Neuport et monachis maioris monasterii ibidem deo seruientibus pro salute anime mee et pro animabus patris mei et matris mee et uxoris mee Isabelle Comitisse et omnium filiorum et antecessorum meorum in puram et perpetuam elemosinam solutam et quietam ab omni consuetudine et seruiicio in dotem ecclesie beati petri apostoli et ad lumen inueniendum in Capitulo sancte Marie de Neuport ante corpora antecessorum meorum. Hiis testibus

Isabel Comitissa uxore mea	Willelmo filio Widonis
Radulfo de Sumeri	Alano day' [? dapifero]
Henrico de Noun [?]	Willelmo de Louen[te]
Fulcone Paganello	et aliis pluribus
Willelmo fratre eius	

[endorsed] Noticia Geruasii Paganelli de domo de Neuport.

TRANSLATION.

Gervase Paynel to all his men and friends both present and to come, greeting. Know that I have given and by this my present charter have confirmed the house and messuage which Baldwin Berner held in Newport, at the petition and with the assent of Hugh bishop of Lincoln and of my wife the Countess Isabel, to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Newport and to the Monks of Marmoutier there serving God, for the salvation of my soul and for the souls of my father and mother and of my wife the Countess Isabel and of all my children and antecessors, as a pure and perpetual alms free and quit of every custom and service, for dower of the church of the Blessed Peter the Apostle and to find a lamp in the Chapterhouse of St. Mary of Newport before the bodies of my antecessors. These being witnesses

Isabel the Countess my wife	William son of Guy
Ralf de Sumeri	Alan day' [? the steward]
Henry de ? Noun	William de Loveate
Fulk Paynel	and many others.
William his brother	

[endorsed] Notification of Gervase Paynell concerning a house at Newport.

NOTES.

No. 1 (circa 1186-1187).

This was granted subsequently to the consecration of Bishop Hugh of Lincoln (21 Sept., 1186), but is not mentioned in Gervase Paynell's confirmation charter of 1187; it therefore probably belongs to one of those two years. The family of Paynell (Paganellus, Painellus, etc.), Barons of Dudley, co.

Worces., who left their name on Newport Pagnell, has been discussed in some detail in the recently issued extra volume⁶ of the Records of Buckinghamshire, and need not be described further here. The first witness, Countess Isabel, the wife of Gervase Paynell, was the widow of Simon de St. Liz (Senlis, de sancto Licio), 5th Earl of Huntingdon (d. 1153); and daughter of Robert de Beaumont, 2nd Earl of Leicester (d. 1168). Ralf de Sumeri (Somery) was nephew of Gervase Paynell, and eventually heir of his Barony. Henry de Noun⁷ probably stands for Henry de Nonant, or Nonnant, lord of the Honour of Totness, in Devon, who acquired a temporary interest in Bucks on his marriage with Isabel, one of the heiresses of the Bolebec family. Fulk and William Paynell were apparently cousins of Gervase, and belonged to the Somerset line of this family, which held the Honour of Bampton. William, son of Guy, appears⁷ as one of the Knights of Gervase Paynell in 1166, holding three fees in Ellesborough. William de Lovente, also a local Knight, seems to have drawn his name from the little river now called the Lovat or Ousel.

No. 2.

Geruasius Paganellus omnibus hominibus suis et amicis tam presentibus quam futuris salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse totum terram meam de chicheleia cum omnibus pertinenciis suis terram illam videlicet quam Willelmus Pasanellus de me tenuit in Chicheleia assensu et voluntate uxoris mee Ysabel Comitisse deo et ecclesie beate Marie de Neuport et monachis de maiori monasterio ibidem deo seruiantibus pro salute anime mee et pro animabus patris mei et matris mee et uxoris mee Isabel Comitisse et omnium antecessorum meorum in puram et perpetuam elemosinam Liberam et quietam ab omni exactione seculari et seruitio. Ego autem et heredes mei terram istam et elemosinam apud omnes homines et per totum Warantizabimus. Et si Warantizare non poterimus predictis monachis excambias valentes dabimus. Hiis testibus

Ysabel Comitissa uxorē meā	Michaelē filio Osberti
Fulcodio Paganello	Simone capellano
Willelmo fratre eius	Willelmo capellano
Willelmo filio Widonis	Henrico clerico de Estona
Alano de Withacre	Waltero clerico
Pagano de Embertona	Willelmo de Louente
Rogero de Hageleia	Willelmo de stabulo
Godwino dapifero	et multis aliis
Petro filio Ade	

[endorsed] Noticia Geruasii paganelli si per terram de chichele quem [sic] fuit Willelmi paganelli.

⁶ Pipe Rolls, Bucks and Beds, 1189-1199: pp. 199-202.—Aylesbury, 8vo., 1923.

⁷ Liber Rubeus, 269.

TRANSLATION.

Gervase Paynel to all his men and friends both present and to come, greeting. Know that I have given and granted and by this my present charter have confirmed all my land at Chicheley with all its appurtenances, that land namely which William Paynel held from me in Chicheley, by the consent and wish of my wife the Countess Isabel, to God and to the Church of the Blessed Mary of Newport and to the monks of Marmoutier there serving God, for the salvation of my soul and for the souls of my father and mother and of my wife the Countess Isabel and of all my antecessors, as a pure and perpetual alms free and quit of all temporal demand and service. But I and my heirs will warrant that land and alms against all men and completely, and if we shall not be able to warrant, we will give to the monks aforesaid equivalent exchange. These being witnesses

Isabel the Countess my wife	Peter son of Adam
Fulk Paynel	Michael son of Osbert
William his brother	Simon the chaplain
William son of Guy	Henry the clerk of Aston
Alan de Withacre	Walter the clerk
Payn de Emberton	William de Lovente
Roger de Hageleia	William of the stable
Godwin the steward	and many others.

[the endorsement is unintelligible.]

NOTES.

No. 2 (circa 1187).

This charter, being mentioned in the general confirmation, was granted in or before 1187; several of the witnesses occur also in No. 1, but in this are more local folk. Thus Payn de Emberton⁸ held a knight's fee from Gervase Paynell at Emberton in 1166; Michael, son of Osbert, and William de Lovente held in Petsoe, Bradwell, and Caldecote by Newport; but there are too many Astons in Bucks to allow the "clerk of Eston" to be identified.

No. 3.

Willelmus filius Randulfi omnibus hominibus et amicis suis Francis et Anglis tam presentibus quam futuris salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et hac carta mea confirmasse Monachis de Niweport ecclesiam de Sirenton' cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in perpetuam elemosinam liberam et quietam ab omni seruicio secularii et consuetudine. Et predicti monachi concesserunt Geruasio filio meo predictam ecclesiam de Sirenton' tenendam tota uita sua de predictis monachis reddendo eis inde xx solidos annuatim. Et prefati monachi recipiunt modo dimidiam hidam terre que pertinet ad prefatam ecclesiam. Et predicto Geruasio remanet masura etcrofta cum domibus cum ecclesia

⁸ Liber Rubeus, 269, but miswritten as Cumbertone.

tota uita sua. Hanc donationem feci coram Rege Henrico filio Regis Henrici et Baronibus suis apud Wudstokam. Testibus

Richardo Pictauensi archi- diacono	Geruasio Painello
Comite Willelmo de Mandeville	Willelmo filio Aldelini
Comite Simone	Fulki Painello
Comite Willelmo de Ferrariis	Thoma de Almari
Willelmo de sancto Johanne	Godwino clerico de Niwport
	Willelmo de Blossesville

[endorsed] Noticia Willelmi de Srinton' de Neuport.

TRANSLATION.

William son of Randulf to all his men and friends, French and English, both present and to come, greeting. Know ye that I have given and by this my charter have confirmed to the monks of Newport the church of Sherington with all its appurtenances, for a perpetual alms free and quit of all worldly service and custom. And the said monks have granted the aforesaid church of Sherington to Gervase my son, to be held during his whole life from the said monks, by rendering to them therefor twenty shillings yearly. And the said monks now receive a half hide of arable land which belongs to the said church; and to Gervase aforesaid remains the house and croft with buildings for his whole life. This gift have I made in the presence of King Henry son of King Henry, and his Barons, at Woodstock. Witnesses

Richard Archdeacon of Poitou	Gervase Paynell
Earl William de Mandeville	William son of Aldelin
Earl Simon	Fulk Paynel
Earl William de Ferrars	Thomas de Almari
William de St. John	Godwin the clerk of Newport
	William de Blossomville

[endorsed] Notification of William de Sherington concerning Newport.

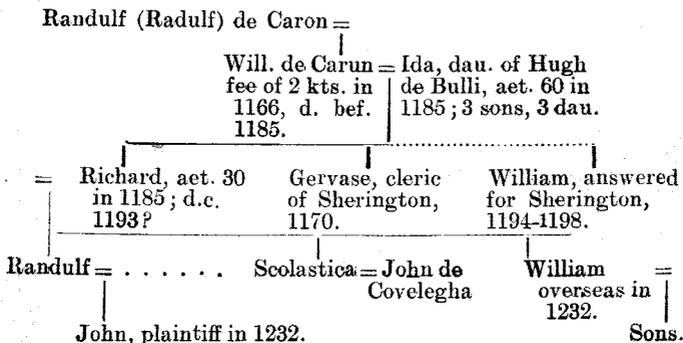
NOTES.

No. 3 (circa 1170-1).

The outside dates for this instrument are between 14 June, 1170, when Prince Henry fitz Henry was crowned in his father's lifetime, and 1 May, 1173, when the Archdeacon of Poitou was elected Bishop of Winchester. But it was almost certainly given in December, 1170, when the younger King is recorded⁹ to have been at Woodstock; for Archbishop Thomas Beket, murdered within the month, tried to see him there. This and the following charter are most useful as throwing light on the somewhat obscure movements of the younger Henry and on the composition of his Court.

⁹ Ralf de Diceto (Rolls Ser., 68), i., 342; Eyton, Itin. Henry II., 152; Round, Feudal England, 505/6.

William, son of Ranulf or Randulf, William de Sherington, and William de Caron, appear to be identical; the first a patronymic, the second derived from his home manor, the third his family name and probably taken from Cairon in Normandy. It is likely that the Carons of Sherington were a branch of the pre-Conquest Caron family of Clifton, co. Beds, but it has not yet been possible to trace the connection; they were not so important as to leave clear evidence on the Rolls. The following sketch pedigree amplifies the note in the Pipe Roll volume recently published¹⁰ by this Society, and is based on a plea Roll¹¹ of 1232.



No. 4.

Willelmus filius Radulfi omnibus hominibus et amicis suis Francis et Anglis tam presentibus quam futuris salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et hac karta mea confirmasse deo et ecclesie beate Marie de Tikeford et monachis maioris monasterii ibidem deo seruientibus ecclesiam de Siringtune cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in puram et perpetuam elemosinam liberam et quietam ab omni seculari seruicio et consuetudine pro salute anime mee et pro animabus antecessorum meorum. Et predicti monachi concesserunt Geruasio filio meo predictam ecclesiam de Siringtune tenendam tota uita sua de predictis monachis reddendo eis inde xx solidos annuatim. Tunc prefati monachi receperunt duas uirgatas terre que pertinent ad prefatam ecclesiam unam uirgatam uidelicet solutam et quietam ab omni seruicio seculari et consuetudine aliam uero liberam et quietam ab omni terreno seruicio et exactione quantum ad me pertinet salvo regis seruicio. Predicto autem Geruasio remansit masura et crofta cum domibus et cum ecclesia tota uita sua. Hanc donationem feci coram Rege Henrico filio Regis Henrici et baronibus suis apud Wudestoche.

[endorsed] Noticia Willelmi de Srinton' de Tykeford vel de Neuport.

[Testes sicut in carta precedenti.]

¹⁰ Pipe Rolls, Bucks and Beds, 1189-1199, p.p. 178/9.

¹¹ Curia Regis Roll, 110, mem. 7.

TRANSLATION.

William son of *Ralf* to all his men and friends, French and English, both present and to come, greeting. Know ye that I have given and by this my charter have confirmed to *God and the church of the Blessed Mary of Tickford and to the monks of Marmoutier there serving God*, the church of Sherington with all its appurtenances for a *pure and perpetual* alms free and quit of all worldly service and custom, *for the salvation of my soul and for the souls of my antecessors*. And the said monks have granted the aforesaid church of Sherington to Gervase my son, to be held during his whole life from the said monks by rendering to them therefor twenty shillings yearly. And the said monks then received two virgates of land arable which belong to the said church, namely one virgate free and quit of every worldly service and custom, but the other virgate free and quit of every earthly service and exaction so far as to me belongs, saving service to the King. But to Gervase aforesaid remained the house and croft with buildings for his whole life. This gift have I made in the presence of King Henry son of King Henry and his Barons, at Woodstock.

[witnesses as in the previous charter.]

[endorsed] Notification of William de Sherington concerning Tickford or Newport.

NOTES.

No. 4 (circa 1170).

This charter was probably executed immediately after the last, the witnesses being the same in both cases. Alterations in the phrasing are shown by italics; the style of the recipients was probably varied in order to prevent any weakness of title. Several of the witnesses were distinguished men of their time, and the list is interesting as showing the composition of the younger King's Court. For Richard of Ilchester, Archdeacon of Poitou, 1162-1173, Bishop of Winchester, 1173-1188, a distinguished financier, and for William de Mandeville, 3rd Earl of Essex, 1166-1189, the Dictionary of National Biography¹² may be consulted. Simon de St. Liz, 8th Earl of Huntingdon, but 3rd and last Earl of his name, does not appear to have left much mark on his age. William de Ferrars, 3rd Earl of Derby, joined the younger King's rebellion against his father in 1173, seizing and burning Nottingham in the campaign; he was forced to surrender, and imprisoned at Caen by Henry II., dying on Crusade at the siege of Acre in 1190. William de St. John¹³, of St. John le Thomas, lord of the Honour of Halmaker, was a great landowner in Sussex and Oxon. William, son of Adhelin, the King's Steward, was Governor of Ireland¹⁴, 1176-1178, in succession to Strongbow. The last two, or perhaps three, witnesses appear to be local men; William de Blossesville came of the family which left its name on Newton "Blossomville."

¹² D.N.B., xlvi., 194; xxxvi., 29.

¹³ Genealogist, xvi. (n.s.), 1.

¹⁴ D.N.B., xix., 103.

No. 5.

Hee conuencio facta est inter monachos maioris monasterii apud Nuport commorantes et Geruasium filium Willelmi de Srintune Scilicet quod prefatus Geruasius tenebit ecclesiam de Srintune de supradictis monachis dum in seculari habitu uixerit Reddendo eisdem monachis annuatim xx solidos de firma Set predicti monachi habuerunt [? rectius habebunt] tres investituras ecclesie cum omnibus pertinentiis tribus annis scilicet a proximo pascha post mortem Thome cantuariensis archiepiscopi dimidia hida terra ecclesie eis in perpetuum remanente. Quod si forte quod absit pro supradicta ecclesia contigerit prefatos monachos alibi quam in officio archidiaconi de Bukingeham placitare providebunt in commune monachi et Geruasius impensas de rebus iamdicte ecclesie Huius conventionis Testes sunt

Radulfus presbiter de
Linford
Magister Galfridus
Jordanus del Estocheiz
Willelmus Doreng
Godwinus clericus

Hermannus
Johannes camerarius
Willelmus Brito
Willelmus fil. Ansculf
Hugo cirographi scriptor

et multis aliis.

[endorsed] Noticia Geruasii de Srintune.

TRANSLATION.

This agreement was made between the monks of Marmoutier dwelling at Newport and Gervase son of William de Sherington, namely that the said Gervase shall hold the church of Sherington from the monks above said, so long as he shall live in the dress of a secular clerk, by rendering to the same monks yearly twenty shillings from the farm. But the said monks [shall have] three crops of the church [land] with all appurtenances, namely, in the three years from Easter next after the death of Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury, and a half hide of the church land shall remain to them for ever. But if perchance (may it not be so!) it shall happen that the said monks bring a plea for the aforesaid church elsewhere than in the Court of the Archdeacon of Buckingham, the monks and Gervase shall jointly find the costs out of the estate of the said church. The witnesses to this agreement are

Ralf priest of Linford
Master Geoffrey
Jordan de [? Stokes]
William Doreng
Godwin clerk

Herman
John Chamberlain
William Brito
William, son of Ansculf
Hugh, the writer of the
agreement

and many others.

[endorsed] Notification of Gervase de Sherington.

NOTES.

No. 5 (1171).

This agreement seems to have been made less than a year after the murder of Archbishop Thomas Beket (29 December, 1170), and therefore some time in 1171. All the witnesses appear to be local men.