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**Pychenecumbe-Abstracts of Original Documents in the Registers
of the Abbey of St. Peter's, Gloucester**

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“PYCHENECUMBE.”

ABSTRACTS OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS IN THE REGISTERS OF THE
 ABBEY OF ST. PETER, GLOUCESTER.

COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. JOHN MELLAND HALL, M.A.

THE parish of Standish, in this county, contains two portions which are completely detached and separated from its centre: these are Colthrop, consisting of 699 acres, and Pitchcombe of 240 acres or thereabouts. This latter portion is distant between three and four miles in a direct line from the parish Church of Standish. The mode of its annexation has never, so far as we are aware, been satisfactorily explained.

These lands would appear to have been in the possession of the Abbey of St. Peter, Gloucester, during the reign of Hen. III., if we may conclude that the following charter, which comes under the head of “Pychenecumbe,” has reference thereto: we think it well to give a translation of this charter in full:—

“This is the agreement made between the lord John [de Felde] Abbot and the Convent of St. Peter Gloucester and Richard le Breth of Pichenecombe—viz—that the said Abbot and Convent have granted and demised in the thirty seventh year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John (1253) to Richard of Pichenecombe and his heirs or assigns, custody of the land with appurtenances which Henry de Avenebury formerly held in the Manor of Stanedys viz., in Hersecumbe—with the marriage of the infant and heir of the said Henry, without disparagement: to have and to hold the custody of the said land as long as by the Custom of England, he ought to be under guardianship: so that they cause no waste, nor destruction, nor deterioration in the appurtenances of the same, housebote and heybote excepted. But if anything after the manner of men should happen to the said heir,

the Abbot and Convent have granted to the said Richard and his heirs custody of the said lands and appurtenances, with the marriage of another existing heir: Saving to the same the service which pertains to the said land, viz. 'Esquieria,' and suit of Court at Gloucester and at Stanedys, with their other freemen. For this concession and surrender Richard has given to the said Abbot and Convent Fifty mares Silver and one Tierce of Wine. And the said Richard and his heirs shall observe all these things under a penalty of forfeiting One hundred shillings. In testimony whereof we have affixed our seals to this writing."

If we are correct in our conjecture that this grant really applies to "Pichenecumbe"—although the reference to the "de Avenbury" family and Harescombe, with which we know from other sources they were connected, is somewhat perplexing—it is suggested, however, that by the decease of the said heirs and a subsequent grant, these lands came absolutely to Richard le Breth: in which case the fifty-five charters or other writings so carefully preserved in the Register of Abbot Froucester in the Cathedral Library (abstracts of which are given below), shew us the process of their re-acquisition by the abbey, and their connection with Standish as a portion of the manors appertaining to the Almonry of that place.

We have here a series of transactions ranging from A.D. 1294, in the reign of Edward I. to A.D. 1329—the second year of his grandson, Edward III. In the first place, Richard le Bret, of Pychenecumbe, grants to Walter his son and Nicholla his wife all his tenement there for the sum of sixty mares, which he has received of the Lord William Maunsel, father of Nicholla. With the exception of a few, the other charters relate to the dealings of Walter le Bret with this estate, and explain the mode of its gradual absorption (creditable or discreditable) into the hands of the Abbot and Convent of St. Peter's, Gloucester.

It is remarkable that very few of the names of fields or roads here given remain to this day—Piparesfiche, Eselde, Edytedich, Bitesiche, Godeshallowelle, Blakewelle, Barlichforlong, Ballynesbrink, Guelde; among the roads—Portwey, Schiringesweye,

Amphesweye, Middelweye, are altogether unknown to the oldest inhabitant; a tradition of a maple-tree as a land-mark (see No. 345) however lingers.

Among the names of witnesses which occur in the series, we have those of Sir Roger le Rous,¹ Sir John le Rous,² Thos. de Gardinis, Sheriff,³ Roger de Tewesdebury, W^m de Abbehale, Almoners of Standish; John le Boteler, Hen. de Chevringworth, Knt., Adam Mustel (or Martel), Knt.,⁴ Adam the Chaplain, Wm. de Piddesmore, Rich. de Baloun, Roger de Ravenhulle, Godfrey de Stonehouse, Wm. de Clifford, Ralph Baron, Roger de Aldewyke, Robert de Sudley, Henry de Basyng, John de Caillewe, William de Brokeworth, Henry de Brokeworth,⁵ Rich. de Compton, Clerk,⁶ John de Staunton, &c.

It will be observed that the name of the family principally concerned in these transactions occurs in various forms, some doubtless errors on the part of the abbey scribes: thus we have "Bres," "Breth," "Brut," "Bruht," used almost indiscriminately. The origin of the name must be looked for in the domicile, for they appear to have sprung from Brittany, hence known as Bretons. In "Parliamentary Writs" we have Le Bret—Le Brut—Le Breton, as surnames derived from the same root, and often applied as equivalent to each other. The name is still common, especially in Gloucestershire, though some transposition of letters has taken place, but the various stages are plain, first—Bret, then Bryt, lastly Birt. This is evident from the distinguishing name given to Weston,⁷ in the Hundred of Longtree,

¹ Sheriff of Gloucester in 1278. Knight of the Shire, 1283. Died 1294.

² Knight of the Shire—Glouc., 1314-5; Hereford, 1330-43.

³ Sheriff of Gloucester in 1298 and 1303

⁴ Adam Martel held lands at Stowell, 15th Edw. II.

⁵ Benefactor to Lanthony Priory.—*Vide* Rev. S. E. Bartleet's "Manor and Advowson of Broekworth."—*Trans.*, VII., 159.

⁶ Name occurs as witness to Broekworth Charters.—*Trans.*, VII., 152.

⁷ See "Glouc. Aid for making Edward the Black Prince a Knight."—*Trans.* Bristol & Glouc. Arch. Soc., X., 283.

"De heredibus Radulphi de Wylyngton et Thomæ de Bercele pro tercia parte unius feodi Militis in Weston' quam heredes Johannis le Bret quondam tenerunt ibidem . . . marca."

Cheirograph'. Walt le Bret. 336, fol.

Walter le Bret, son of Rich. le Bret, of Pychenecumbe, with the consent of Nicholla his wife, grants to Robt. le Knyte, Agnes his wife, and John and Walter their sons, Two Messuages and Two Curtilages, with one garden and its appurtenances in Pychenecumbe, of which Eva le Bret held in dower One Messuage and One Curtilage, which John Segrin¹ had, and Two acres of arable land in the same ville with appurtenances, of which one acre extends from the land of John Dru as far as the said Garden, one Acre lies below Ballvynesbrynk, and the other in Barlichforlange, adjoining the land of Matilda Baunse. To be held at an annual rent of Sixpence at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist; for which Robert and Agnes have given him twenty-five shillings.

In testimony of which to the present writing in two portions, we have affixed our seals. Witnesses: Roger de Ai....., W^m de Redin, John de Rodeberwe and others.

Carta Walt. de Bret ad Wm. Ythenard. 337, fol.

Walter le Bret, of Pychenecumbe, grants to William Ythenard and Emma his wife, all his croft adjoining that of Matilda ate Henefeld for half a mark of silver which they have paid to him. This croft, with all appurtenances they may give, devise, sell, or assign at their will, rendering to him and his heirs Two shillings yearly; and vjs iv^d at the Feast of Saint Andrew; vjs iv^d at the Feast of the Annunciation; vjs iv^d at the Feast of Saint John the Baptist, for all services. The said William and Emma to have their plough cattle with twenty sheep, in the common pasture.

Witnesses: Sir Roger le Rus, Knight,² Henry Ythenard, and others.

¹ “Segrin,” an old Saxon name, still survives as a designation of houses in the adjoining Parish of Painswick. John and Alice Segrym paid subsidy there in 1327 (1st Edw. III.)

² The date of this cannot be later than 1294 (22nd Edward I.), in which year Sir Roger le Rous, lord of Harescombe, died.

338.

Walter le Bret of Pychenecumbe grants to William de Baloun, for twenty shillings silver, Two shillings of annual rent issuing from a certain tenement which William Ythenard and Emma his wife hold of him for the term of their life.

Witnesses : Adam Spylemon, Stephen Massyndon and others.

339.

Walter le Bret gives to John de Yaneworth for his services all his wood which lies between the road which leads to Waynswey on the north and Stoneywey on the south, and which extends to Middlewey on the east, and the way which is called Portwey on the west ; to hold to the said John during life, to cut as he will, to sell or give, without waste, rendering One Rose at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, for all services and secular demands.

Witnesses : Simon de Fromylode, Roger de Ravenhulle, and others. Given at Pychenecumbe on the Feast of St. Clement the Martyr, in the 25th year of King Edward, son of Henry King of England [1297].

340.

Walter le Bret grants to William de Balon (de Baloniis), for twenty five marcs, all that his land lying between Culturehulle and Godschalneswelle in breadth, with the pasture, and Edytedich, and the Pasture which is called Oxeleswe with appurtenances ; and the whole land lying between Pyparescroft and the said pasture in length, and Holdesichwere and Maynardesendyng in breadth, and all that toft between Catweye and Schynngeswey, and between Portwey, . . . and Four Groves, which are called Odgrove.

Witnesses : John de Gloucester, Adam Spylemon, and others. Given at Pychenecumbe, on the morrow of Saint Laurence the Martyr, in the 29th year of King Edward, son of King Henry (1301).

341.

Walter le Bret grants to William de Baloun, for one hundred shillings, which he has received of him, One Messuage with curtilage and appurtenances, and all the land which Thomas de Holecumbe his son formerly held in Pychenecumbe, to have and to hold of the chief lords of that fee by due service and in manner accustomed (Sealed).

Witnesses: Adam the Chaplain, Stephen de Masynton de Pychenecumbe, Tuesday next after the Feast of Easter, 20th Edw. I. (1302).

342.

Walter le Bret grants to William de Baloun, his heirs and assigns for ever, all that pasture called Combe lying between le Wingforlong and Godeshallewelle with the pasture called Oxeleswe, for which concession he has received One hundred shillings.

Witnesses: Adam Spilemon, Thomas de Rodeberwe, &c., Pychenecumbe, Thursday next before the Feast of St. John the Baptist (1302).

343.

Walter le Bret de Pychenecumbe gives to William de Baloun, for Twelve pounds sterling all his land lying in Piparescrofte, and between his Garden and a certain place called Fiswere, and all his land in the field called Combe between Colishulle and Taylesoline in breadth and between..... and Bitesiche in length, with hedges and appurtenances.

Witnesses: Will. de Piddesmore, Nich. de Seymour, &c, Pychenecumbe, Monday next before the Feast of the Annunciation of B.V.M., 30 Edw. I. (1302).

344.

William de Baloun “de Algrinton”¹ has remitted and quit-claimed to Gilbert de Masynton, for one hundred shillings Silver, all his right in his lands and tenements in Pychenecumbe with all appurtenances, and Two shillings of annual rent issuing from the tenement which William Ythenard and Emma his wife hold in Pychenecumbe for the term of their lives, with the reversion of the same.

¹ Algrinton, now Alkerton, in the parish of Eastington.

Witnesses : Stephen de Masynton, Rich. de Baloun, &c.

Dated Gloucester, on Tuesday the morrow of the Feast of St. John "ante Portam Latinam" in 31st year of King Edward, son of King Henry (1303).

345.

Walter le Bret gives to John "dicto de Stanedis," for Twenty mares Silver, all his Toft lying between Stonewey and the stream called Pychenescombesbroc, and between Middleweye and the land of Hamon "atte Guelde," with all the pasture adjacent, and appurtenances : also, the arable land stretching from Pychenescombeshevede to Pychenescombesyate between the said toft and the brook, with all that pasture called the Moor, and all that land extending to the said stream and lying between Longeleys, Nether End, and a certain tree called "La Mapele,"¹ in the field called Pichenecombesfeld and "culturam meam," with all appurtenances in the field called Brintesbarlichsforlong.

Witnesses : Roger de Ravenhulle, Steph de Masynton, Godfrey de Stonehouse, &c.

Given at Pychenecumbe in the Octave of St. Mathew the Apostle, 25th year Edw. I. (1297).

346.

Walter le Bret confirms to John de Stanedis, Clerk, for Twelve pounds Silver all his land lying in the field called Geuelde with a meadow adjacent, and a Grove called Medesweyne, with all appurtenances.

Given at Pychenecumbe on the Morrow of the Beheading of St. John Baptist in the 25th year of King Edward the son of King Henry (1297).

347.

Walter de Bret gives to John called "de Stanedis" Clerk, for Ten mares Silver, all his land lying between Pychenescombeshevede and Pychenescombesyate in length, and the

¹ Subsidy Roll, 1327, "John atte Mapele" vj^d, Minchinhampton. Also in Hants, "Mapuldur-ham" = the ham at the Maple Tree. —Trans. Bristol and Glouc. Arch. Soc., Vol. VIII., p. 50.

stream called Pychenescombesbroc in breadth, with portions extending above the said stream and with the Moors, pasture, &c., and all his Toft between Portwey, Middelweye in length, and the way called Waynwey and the way leading to Pagenhulle in breadth for ever, rendering thence the capital rent to the lords of fee with all services and secular demands.

Witnesses : Stephen de Masynton, Henr. Ydenard and others.

348

Walter le Bret grants to John de Stanedis, for £10 Silver paid to him, all his land lying in the field of Pychenecombe between the message of John atte Guelde and the place called Stourokul.

Witnesses: Roger de Ravenhulle, Godfrey de Stonehouse, &c.

349.

The same gives to John called "de Stanedis" Cleric, for one hundred shillings Silver, "*cameram meam ultra portam meam orientalem et stabulum meum juxta p'dictam portam,*" also two granges in the Court, all his pasture between the gate aforesaid and Taylesthine in length and the said Granges and the way called Ampheysweye in width with a garden in the same pasture, also free pasture with all his cattle in the field called Combe and in Oxeleswe, and in the Toft wherever his plough cattle may happen to be, with free ingress and egress as regards all pastures, stable, granges, court, &c.

Witness : Adam Spylemon, Roger de Ravenhulle, Steph. de Masynton and others. (No date.)

350.

The same quitclaims to John de Stanedis all his right in land lying near Pitchcombes' Head and Pitchcombes' Gate, and between the Toft and Brook ; and the Toft between Portwey, Middleweye, Waynweye, and the toft of Pagenhulle, with all appurtenances.

Witnesses : Steph. de Masynton, Henry Ythenard.

Given at Stanedis, Feast of St. Andrew, 30 Edw. I. (1302).

351.

The same grants to John de Stanedis for One hundred shillings silver all his wood between Schiringesweye and Maynardes Grove in breadth and between La Romidegne and a certain place called Leodo in length, and also all his wood between Catweye and Taylescline in breadth, and the Stonewey and field called Combe.

Witnesses : Stephen de Masynon, Will de Pyddesmore, &c., Pychenecumbe, Wednesday next before Feast of SS. Peter and Paul, 30 Edw. I. (1302).

353.

Walter le Bret gives to John de Stanedis for one hundred shillings silver all his wood between Massieshale and the Well called Godeshalneswelle, and the way called Portwey, and a certain place called Otegrove in breadth, extending in length from the said Well as far as a certain way called Schirengesweye and the said Wood.

Witnesses : Roger de Ravenhulle, Godfrey de Stonehouse, &c.

354.

Walter le Bret de Pychenecumbe grants to John called 'de Stanedis,' clerk, for £10 Silver all his land lying between Godeshalneswelle and Blakewell in breadth, and between Editedich and Oxeleswe in length with ——— and all appurtenances : And all his land lying between Piparescrofte and the aforesaid pasture in length and Olde fischwere and Maynardestudyns in breadth, and also all the wood between Catweye and Schiringesweye in length, and Portwey and the field called Combe in breadth with all appurtenances, And Four Groves called Odgroves.

Witnesses : Adam Spilemon, Roger de Ravenhulle and others.

355.

Walter le Bret gives to same for £10 Silver his land lying in the field called Combe between and Blakewelle in breadth, and Barlichforlong and Olde Fischeswere, in length, with pasture and all appurtenances : And, all his Arable land

lying between Oxeleswe pasture and Waynweye near Godeshalswelle, and all his wood between Catweye and Taylesoline. Witnesses : Roger de Ravenhulle, Stephen de Masynton.

355 (ii.)

Walter le Bret de Pychenecombe remits and quitclaims for self and heirs all right in lands and tenements with appurtenances in Pychenecumbe in which John de Stanedis by divers charters has been enfeoffed.

Witnesses : Will. de Clifford, Stephen de Masynton and others. Pychenecumbe, Friday next before the Feast of Easter, 33 Edw. I. (1305.)

356.

John de Stanedis remits and quitclaims to Gilbert de Masynton all the right which he had in all lands and tenements with woods meadows pastures and appurtenances in Pychenecumbe by the grant of Walter le Bret by means of various conditional writings.

Witnesses : Adam Spilemon, Stephen de Masynton and others. Dated on the Lord's Day in the Octave of the Holy Trinity, 31 Edw. son of King Henry (1303).

357.

John de Stanedis cleric remits and quitclaims to the lord John Abbot and the Convent of St. Peter, Gloucester, and their successors, all his right in lands tenements &c. in Pychenecumbe.

Witnesses : Adam Spilemon, Stephen de Masynton. Dated on the Morrow of the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, 31 Edw. 1. (1303.)

358.

Walter le Brut (*sic*) and Nicholla his wife grant to Benedict de Holtleye and his heirs for £3 of lawful money Six acres of land with appurtenances, viz. three acres lying "in the field called Pychenecumbe" and three acres called Guelde. To hold of the said Walter and his heirs, rendering to the said Walter and Nicholla and their heirs, One Rose at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, and that rose at the house of the said Benedict.

Witnesses : Henry Ythenard, Will. . . . Will. de Pyddesmore and others.

359.

Walter de Brut and Nicholla his wife grant to Benedict de Holtleye and his heirs, for Four Marcs of lawful money paid to them, Four Acres in Pychenecumbe Field near Gueldesacre extending to Pychenecumbe Broc, and Two Acres and a half in the Field called Gueld with all appurtenances between the Mill and Onesdescrofte, rendering Onc Rose (as above.)

Witnesses : Ythenard (*sic*) Will. Hind, Will. de Sae, and others.

360.

Agreement made between Walter le Bret and Nicholla his wife of the first part, and Benedict de Holtleye of the second part : Walter and Nicholla confirm to Benedict for Eight marcs of lawful money Ten acres Arable mentioned in Charter and Feoffment formerly given for Sixty shillings [No. 358], and for Four Acres, four marcs, and Ten acres Eight marcs and a half, &c., &c.

Witnesses : Henry Ythenard, William Hind, and others.

361.

William Benet son and heir of Benedict de Holtleye remits and quitclaims to Gilbert Masynton and his heirs all his right in lands &c. in Pychenecumbe.

Witnesses : Adam Spileman, Steph. de Masynton, &c.

Dated Feast of St. Barnabas Apostle 31 Edw. I. (1303).

362.

The same remits and quitclaims to the Abbot and Convent of Gloucester and their successors, his right in lands and tenements in Pychenecumbe.

Witnesses : Adam Spilemon, Steph. de Masynton and many others. In Octave of St. Barnabas Ap. 31 Edw. I.

363.

Juliana, daughter of Walter le Bret, of Pychenecumbe, remits and quitclaims to John [Gamage] Abbot of the Convent of

St. Peter of Gloucester &c. for one hundred shillings silver paid to her, all her right &c. in lands and tenements which the said Walter her father had *in villa de Pychenecumbe*. (Seals).

Witnesses : Adam Spilemon, Ralph Baron, Roger de Ravenhulle and others.

364.

Juliana daughter of Walter “called le Bret de Pychenecumbe” quitclaims to John the Abbot and the Convent &c. for one hundred shillings Silver all her right in lands which her father had in Pychenecumbe.

Witnesses : Thomas de Rodberwe, Roger de Aldewyke. Standish, the Lord’s Day in the Vigil of the Epiphany of Our Lord, A^o Edw. 32 (1304).

365.

Walter le Bret gives to Thomas de Holcombe his son for his service, and for Five mares, a Messuage with Curtilage which Robt Hynder formerly held of his ancestors in Pychenecumbe. Has given to the said Thomas all his land in Bishopesendyng extending from “la prestres acre” [Query, the Priest’s acre]¹ to the curtilage ; and Two acres Arable lying outside Piparesfiche, and Two acres and a half, one of which lies in Eselde under Balldynesbrynk, and the other at Pychenecumbe under Braddegrove and is called Shiplondheved.

Witnesses : John le Rous, Adam Spilemon and others.

366.

Thomas le Bret quitclaims to John called “de Stanedis” cleric, for Sixty shillings silver sterling, all the right that he has in a messuage of the gift of his father, and in land “in the field of Byshopesendyng,” Pychenecumbe’s felde and Efelde &c.

Witnesses : Steph. de Masynton, Wm. de Pyddesmorc.

¹ Probably a portion of the ancient Glebe belonging to the Church of Pitchcombe, lying near the field called Lower Witcombe, behind the Great House ; and lately exchanged for other land (1878).

367.

Thomas le Bret son of Walter le Bret grants to John de Stanedis, for Sixty shillings sterling, one messuage &c. and lands as above ("Gefelde" for "Efelde.")

Witnesses : Walter le Bret, Steph. de Masynton, Will. de Pyddesmore and others.

368.

Alicia "who was the wife of Thos. le Bret" in pure and lawful widowhood and power remits and quitclaims to John [Thoky] by Divine Permission, Abbot of St. Peter's Gloucester and the Convent of the same and their successors for Twenty shillings Silver, all her right, by reason of dower, in lands in Pychenecumbe formerly appertaining to Thomas le Bret her husband.

Witnesses : Will. de Clifford, Steph. de Masynton and others. Given at Standish on the Saturday next before the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, in the fourth year of Edward, son of King Edward [1311].

369.

John de Caillewe quitclaims to "the religious men" and the Convent of St Peter Gloucester his right in all those lands and tenements which Walter le Bret his uncle formerly held in Pychenecumbe,—Messuages, Gardens, lands arable, pastures, meadows, &c.

Witnesses : Will. de Brokeworth, Henry de Brokeworth and others.

Stanedis, Monday next after the Feast of St. Dionysius the Martyr, 2 Edw. III. (1329).

370.

William le Brut (*sic*) acknowledges himself indebted to John of Yaneworth, Cleric, by a letter of obligation given the 23rd year of King Edward son of King Henry, for Fifteen pounds Silver to be paid at a certain term to the said John, as Attorney for the Church of Stanedis : rendering at the Feast of St. Martin, Two quarters Wheat, Four quarters Beans, Four quarters Barley, Two quarters Oats ; and at the Feast

of St. Michael, Six oxen of the value of 40s. or 40s.—and at the Feast of the Annunciation B.M.V. Six oxen of the value of 60s., or 60s., &c., &c.

371.

Walter le Bret is indebted to John Stanedis in the sum of £10 sterling, as appears by the acknowledgment of the said Walter made at Bristol before the judges of the Lord the King in 24 Edward I. To be paid by instalments: viz., 40s. at the Manor of Stanedis at the Feast of the Annunciation, 40s. at Feast of the Nativity of St. John &c.

372.

Octave of St. Matthew the Apostle 25 Edw. I. Walter le Bret acknowledges £20 received from John de Stanedis on security of lands, woods, &c. £10 to be repaid on Feast of St. Michael, and the balance within a fortnight after the said Feast.

Dated at Pychenecumbe, the eve of the Nativity of B.M.V.

373.

Walter le Brut has granted to John de Stanedis for £10 certain lands in Colnurahulle and Godeshalneswelle (in margin, Oxeleswe and Piparesfiche).

Pychenecumbe, Tuesday, Vigil of Purification, 27 Edw. I. [1297].

374.

Walter le Brut having granted to John de Stanedis lands lying between Colnurahulle and Blakewelle in Pychenecumbe Field with pastures &c. and Arable land between the pasture called Oxeleswe and Waynway near Godeshalneswelle and also woods between Catweye and Taylesclyve; John de Stanedis of his special grace concedes that if said Walter on the Day of the Assumption of B.M.V. or next after completion of these presents, pay to him or his heirs in the Cemetery of St. Nicholas of Standish, Twelve marcs sterling, all the said tenements shall remain to the use of the said Walter &c. Pychenecumbe, Monday next before the Feast of St. George. 28 Edw. [1300].

375.

William de Baloun "de Algerinthon" quitclaims to the Abbot &c. all right in lands tenements &c. formerly held by him in the said Ville.

Witnesses: Adam Spilemon, Steph. de Masynton. Octave of SS. Peter and Paul Ap. 31 Edw. I. [1303].

376.

Walter le Bret appoints John called 'de Stanedis' his attorney to give seisin of all lands &c. which he formerly held in Pychencumbe to Gilbert de Masynton. Gloucester, Feast of St. 31 Edw.

377.

Same grants to Gilbert de Masynton for £50 silver all his land lying in the Field called Combe and between Combesbrok and Maynardesendyng and Bysshopesrudying, and Wood between Schiringesweye and Catweye in length and Portwey and "Combe" in breadth; four groves called Odgroves, and Oxeleswe pasture, with appurtenances; Also a messuage with curtilage, and all the land *which Thomas his son formerly held*, and two shillings of rent issuing from the tenement which Wm. Ythenard and Emma his wife held for the term of their life, with reversion of same.

Witnesses: Adam Spilemon, Thomas de Rodeberwe and others. Pychencumbe, Friday, the morrow of the Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist 30 Edw. I.

378.

Walter le Bret grants to Gilbert de Masynton for 100s. silver all his lands and tenements in Pychencumbe with all appurtenances saving his Manse (Manor House) and his garden.

Witnesses: Wm. de Clifford, Steph. de Masynton. Pychencumbe, Wednesday next before the Feast of St. George the Martyr 31 Edw. I.

379.

The same quitclaims to same all lands &c.

Witnesses: Wm. de Clifford, Steph. de Masynton. Pychencumbe Friday next before the Feast of Easter 31 Edw. I.

380.

Walter le Bret grants to Gilbert de Masynton his messuage and garden in Pychenecumbe and all other tenements which remained to him in the same ville at the completion of these presents.

Witnesses: Adam Spilemon, Steph. de Masynton.

Dated Monday the morrow after the Feast of the Holy Trinity.

381.

Agreement by John, Abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester, for one marc silver, to be paid at Feasts of the Annunciation and St. Michael, in commutation of services due in connexion with Tenement at Pychenecumbe which Richard le Bret and his ancestors held of the said Monastery: *Esquieriam nomine serjancii, viz., cum aliquis monachus eccl'ie n're pro negotiis... cum uno runcino, &c.*¹

Witnesses: Sir Henry de Cheveringworth, Adam Mastel, Knights, Rich. de Compton, Clerk, and many others.

382.

John de Elbeston, on the Feast of St. Luke Evang. 16 Edw. II. in the presence of Abbot John, John de Staunton, John de Boteler, Wm. de Brocworth. Hen. de Basyng, John de Stan-dish and others, received from Sir William de Abbehale, Almoner of St. Peter's, Four Charters and two quitclaims of the muniments of Pychenecumbe, with the Charter of the lord the King concerning the said Tenements. Gloucester.

383.

King's Writ addressed to Sheriff of Gloucestershire to make Inquisition if it would be to the injury of the King to grant permission to Gilbert de Masynton to assign a Messuage and Carucate of land with appurtenances in Pychenecumbe to the Abbot and Convent of St. Peter's, Gloucester. 31 Edw. (1304].

¹ When lands were held by this service, the tenant was required to find a squire and horse to follow any monk dispatched on the business of the monastery on his journey, to serve him and to carry upon his own horse the furniture of the monk's bed, also a book, cresset, candles, two loaves, and half a sextary of wine or beer.—*Hist. et Cart. Mon. St. Peter, Glouc., Vol. III. p. civ.*

384.

Inquisition taken at Gloucester on the Sunday next before the Feast of St. Valentine 31 Edw., before Thomas de Gardinis, Sheriff of Gloucester, Robert Mort de freyt, Robert de Sudley and others, who say that it would not be to the King's prejudice to permit Gilbert de Masynton to assign the said Messuage and Carucate to the said Abbot and Convent: that the messuage is held of the abbot by a rent of 17s. 4d. and suit at the Court every three weeks: that there remain to the said Gilbert (besides this assignment) lands and tenements to do custom and service and to meet other charges, as in suits, vigils, views, views of frankpledge, talliages, fines, redemptions, amerciements and whatsoever other charges had to be sustained: and that the said Gilbert may be put on assize and juries, as before he has been put and that the land shall not be aggrieved more than has been usual.

Another inquisition taken at Gloucester on Sunday Nov 25, Feast of St. Katharine, finds that Walter le Bret holds in the ville of Pychenecumbe a Carucate of land of the Abbot—a Messuage with garden, worth yearly xii^d; in demesne 80 acres arable, each acre worth four pence by the year, sum 26^s 8^d; a certain pasture in severalty, xij^d: eight acres Wood, iij^d, sum 2^s: Total of Extent, xxx^s viij^d. For which the said Walter renders xvij^s iij^d to the Abbot: and that it will not be to the prejudice of the lord the King to permit Walter le Bret to give and assign the said lands and tenements to the Abbot and his successors.

385.

License of King Edward for Grant of Messuage and Carucate to Abbot and Convent. Mel. 18 31 Edw. I.

In the same year "Originalia Roll" states that the Abbot of St Peter's Gloucester made a fine with the King in a hundred shillings for permission to enter on a lay tenement in Pychenecumbe.

386.

Gilbert de Masynton grants to the Church of St Peter Gloucester, and to the monks there serving God, in pure and perpetual Alms for the augmentation of the Almery of “*Stanedis*,” One Messuage and one Carucate of land, with meadows, woods, grazings, pastures, ways, paths, fisheries, and all other appurtenances, which he has in Pychenecumbe, Also One Messuage with Curtilage, and all land and appurtenances which Thomas son of Walter le Bruht formerly held in Pychenecumbe and Two shillings and sixpence, rent issuing out of the tenements of Will. Ythenard and Robt le Knyght in the same ville, with the reversion of the same.

Witnesses: Wm. de Clifford, Adam Spilmon, Steph. de Masynton and others.

Given on the Day of the Nativity of St. John Baptist 31 Edward, son of King Henry [1303].

387.

The Same for self and heirs quitclaims to Abbot &c. all right which he has in any way in lands &c. in Pychenecumbe.

Witnesses: Wm. de Clifford, Steph. de Masynton.

Octave of S. J. Baptist 31 Edw. I. [1301].

388.

Gilbert de Masynton has given to God and the Church of St. Peter, Gloucester and the monks there serving God, *for the augmentation of the Almonry of Standish*, a Messuage and Carucate; and a Messuage with Curtilage, late of Thomas le Bret son of Walter—and 2s. 6d. rent &c. as before; Also Ten acres land which William Benet son of Benedict de Holtleye formerley held in the said Ville.

Witnesses: Will. de Clifford, Adam Spilnon, Steph. de Masynton.

389.

John [de Gamage] Abbot of St Peter's Gloucester appoints Philip de Longford, Cleric, his Attorney, to receive seisin of land

and tenements which Gilbert de Masynton has given to the Abbey in pure and perpetual Alms in Pychencumbe.

Dated Gloucester, Thursday next before Feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle A° 31 Edw.

390.

Walter le Bruht (*sic*) quitclaims to Abbot and Convent of Gloucester and successors, in Augmentation of the Almonry of "Stanedis," all the right he had in the ville of Pychencumbe in One Messuage, One Carucate of land, one hundred acres Wood, with appurtenances; for which quitclaim &c. the Abbot and Convent have given him £40 silver.

Witnesses: Will. de Gardinis, Adam Spilmon, Ralph Baron. Dated on the day of the Apostles Peter and Paul, 31 Edw. [1303].

391.

"Scriptum Walteri le Brut ad Abbatem."

[TRANSLATION IN FULL.]

"I, Walter called le Bruht of Pychencumbe have received of John [de Gamage] Abbot of Saint Peter Gloucester and the Convent of the same place, by the hands of brother Roger de Tewesdebury, Almoner of Standish, Twenty seven marcs Silver for all contracts remissions &c. made to the said Abbot and to Gilbert de Masynton concerning lands and tenements at Pychencumbe: I have also received from the said Abbot, through brother Roger, Fifty shillings Silver for wrought stone sold to the said Abbot & Convent at Pychencumbe, and for all moveables found there on Saturday in the Vigil of the Holy Trinity, Anno Edw. 31. [1303].

Witnesses, Roger de Aldewyke, Adam Spilmon, W^m de Clifford & others.

Dated at Payneswyk, on the Lord's Day next after the Feast of St Valerian the Martyr.

"Finis Cartarum de Pychencumbe."

(Registrum B.

Froucest' Abb^{tia})

As to the subsequent history of these lands we have but little information. However, in the Register of Abbot Braunch, 16th Henry VII. (1501) 4th January,¹ we find a lease of the Abbey's Manor de la Pychenecumbe, “with all buildings, lands, meadows, pastures, and part of the Demesne, together with Tythes and all and singular the rights thereto appertaining, (lately held by Richard Gardyner) granted to William Gardiner senior, William Gardiner his son, Agnes his wife, and John Gardyner brother of William Gardyner senior, for the term of Seventy years or so long as all or any one of them shall live,—rendering thence to the Abbot and Convent by the hands of the Almoner for the time being, 64s. 4d. per annum, at the four feasts: of the Annunciation of the B.V. M.; Nativity of St. John Baptist; St. Michael; and the Nativity of our Lord, in equal portions: with suit of Court at Standyshe, and payment to the lord of Payneswik of all due and accustomed rents: housebote and heybote at the discretion of the woodward: Heriot, the best beast or one marc silver, at the option of the Almoner.”

In Abbot Parker's Register, Vol. II.,² we also find grants of the Reversion of the site of the Manor of Pychenecumbe, viz: to Robert Wye, in 1528,³ and to Richard Gardiner, in 1531, the manor at that date being in the tenure of William Gardiner father of the said Richard.

Some of these lands, being parcel of the possessions of the late Monastery of St. Peter, Gloucester, and lately in the tenure of William Gardiner and others, were granted by Letters Patent, dated 15th July, 35th Henry VIII. (1544) to Richard Andrews and Nicholas Temple, their heirs and assigns, and the heirs of the said Richard Andrews for ever, rendering at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel viij^d. Also “the scite and Capital Mesuage of the Manor of Pichenecumbe, lately in the hands of the Monastery of St. Peter, and in the tenure of William Gardiner senior, Johanna his wife, and William and John Gardiner sons of the said William,” with Pychenecombe Wood, containing by estimation 47 acres, and certain Tythes—to be held *in capite* by the service of the 20th part of one knight's fee, rendering yearly at the Feast of St. Michael, 6s. 5½d.

¹ Reg. Braunch, fol. 5

² No. 86.

By the Standish Tythe Apportionment dated Nov. 21st, 1839, John Page, gent., is named as the Impropiator of the Tithes of Corn, Grain and Hay, which are thereby commuted at £54 10s.; but an amended award in 1844 declares that "it has been represented to the Tithe Commissioners that John Page is erroneously stated in the Original Award to be Impropiator of Tithe of Corn, Grain and Hay accruing upon all lands in the third Schedule (Oxlinch Tything) whereas in fact, 69 acs. and 3 perches situate in the Manor of Pitchcombe, and well known by metes and bounds, are by prescription and other lawful means, exempt from the render of all tythes; and, as to the remaining 157 acs. 3 r. 37 p. John Page is Impropiator not only of tythe of corn, grain, and hay, but of all tythes whatsoever. Of this, 88 acres or thereabouts, consisted of woodland; and the whole tythe was commuted at £13 6s. 6d.

Skeletons were discovered a few years ago in the neighbourhood of "the Manor Farm House;" and an old fishpond, paved with stone, perhaps "Olde Fischwere," (see No. 354) was filled up previously to 1874. The inhabitants of this portion of Standish have for many centuries been dependent upon Pitchcombe for their religious privileges, by reason of distance from their own parish church.

Under the "Divided Parishes Act," these lands have become part of the civil parish of Pitchcombe; though in an ecclesiastical point of view, they nominally remain subject to the jurisdiction of the vicar of Standish.

It is a remarkable fact, and one which, so far, we are not able to explain—that whilst the Rectory of Standish, with the great tythe, formed a portion of the endowment of the new Bishopric of Gloucester, the tythes from certain lands situated at Pitchcombe, and apparently as much in the possession of the Monastery of St. Peter, did not pass with the grant of the rest, but became an Impropiation, and thus lost of the church.

In concluding these notes, we tender our thanks to the Very Rev. the Dean of Gloucester for the opportunity of making these Extracts from the Abbey Registers preserved in the Library.