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Ebbworth Manor

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EBBWORTH MANOR

by St. Clair Baddeley

By the courtesy of the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester the writer was able to print in *Transactions*, xli, 90–2, the strangely missing evidences from the *Historia et Cartularium Monasterii Sancti Petri Gloucestriae* (ed. W. H. Hart, *Rolls series*, 1863, 3v.), showing how, and by whose grant, that abbey became possessed of their once extensive property at Ebbworth in the Manor of Painswick. He had discovered them while searching Abbot Frocester's cartulary for quite another purpose, finding two leaves accidently attached together, which, upon their being separated, proved to contain the following *cartae*, or grants and confirmations, made by Cecilia FitzJohn, countess of Hereford and her de Monchensi heirs: first (before 1175) to Walter of Bayeux (possibly a near kinsman) and next by him to the abbot and convent after her decease, *c.* 1205.

The estate (Cecilia mentions it) had been previously tenanted by Osbert, an important official (*herbergiator*) in the service of Pain FitzJohn (d. 1137), lord of the manor, (and of his wife, Sybil de Laci), the powerful favourite of Henry I and sheriff of the counties of Salop and Staffordshire. It, thereafter, became sub-infeudated to Walter, the above Norman, with all the special feudal Aids to the overlord attached to it. These conditions, later still, were transmitted and undertaken by the successive abbots of Gloucester. Ebbworth, therefore, appears in the later manorial deeds (even as late as 1636) as *manerium de Ebbworth*, long after the abbey of St. Peter's itself had been dissolved. Sir Robert Atkyns regarded it as such, without perhaps knowing these actual evidences but by some rumour or repute.

1. Grant of Cecilia Fitzjohn to Walter of Bayeux. Register b, f. 159.

Ebbesworth.[1]

392. Sciant tam presentes quam futuri quod ego *Cecilia* (before 1175) Cometissa de Hereford' filia *Pagani filii Johannis* dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmaui *Waltero de Baius*[2] nutrito meo terram meam de Ebbesworth' pro seruicio suo et homagio suo integre et plenarie et honorifice scilicet illam terram quam tenuit *Osbertus* qui fuit herbergiator[3] patris mei *Pagani filii Johannis* eo die et anno quo predictus *Osbertus* fuit vivus et mortuus tenendam de me et de heredibus meis in feodo et hereditate ille et heredes sui imperpetuum liberam et quietam ab omni seruicio et consuetudine, scilicet in bosco in plano in viis in semitis in pasturis et in molendinis in stagnis in ripis in pratis in intraturis et exitibus et in omnibus libertatibus et aisiamentis ita quod predictus *Walterus de Baius* reddet mihi annuatim et heredibus meis ij solidos ipse scilicet et heredes sui ad iiij terminos scilicet ad festum Sancti Michaelis vj denarios et ad Natale Domini vj denarios et ad Pascham vj denarios et ad Natiuitatem sancti Johannis vj denarios ad introitum vero huius concessionis et donacionis dedit mihi predictus *Walterus*[4] centum solidos de sterlinks quod quia ratum[5] et inconvulsum super hoc fieri volo cartam meam sigilli mei impressione munitam predicto *Waltero* et heredibus suis confirmaui. Hiis testibus *Willelmo filio Johannis*[6] *Ricardo de Saham Willelmo de Eggesworth'* et aliis.

[1] Today, Ebbworth or Ebworth: the 's' is excrescent and not a true possessive here.

[2] He may have been a grandson of Bishop *Odo*, or even a near relation of Cecilia Fitz John. '*Nutrito meo*' may mean foster-brother, as well as 'tutor', or 'governor'.

[3] Provisioner, or taverner, or major-domo.

[4] Walter paid her 100*s.* sterling.

[5] Valid, certain.

[6] Youngest brother of Pain Fitz John. He died 1175.

II. GRANT OF WALTER OF BAYEUX TO THE ABBOT OF GLOUCESTER

393. Sciant tam presentes quam futuri quod ego *Walterus de Baius* dedi et concessi et quietamclamaui de me et de heredibus meis imperpetuum Abbati[7] et Conuentui et elemosinarie Glouc' totam terram meam de *Ebbesworth'* cum omnibus pertinenciis libertatibus et aisiamentis tam in boscis quam in aliis rebus scilicet quicquid ibi habui vel habere potui in villa et extra villam sine aliquo retinemento[8] de dono *Cecilie*[9] *Cometisse Hereford'* tenendam eis in augmentum elemosine sue de capitalibus dominis illius feodi Reddendo eis ij solidos annuatim ad quatuor terminos anni scilicet ad festum Sancti Michaelis vj denarios et ad Natale Domini vj denarios et ad Pascha vj denarios et ad Natiuitatem Sancti Johannis Baptiste vj denarios pro omni seruicio et consuetudine et omnibus demandis, et ne ego vel heredes mei in predicta terra vel pertinenciis aliquid iuris vnquam versus predictos monachos vendicare possimus presentem cartam sigillo meo munitam dictis Abbati et conuentui in capitulo suo de Glouc' tradidi et hanc quietamclamacionem et concessionem me obseruaturum pro me et pro heredibus meis imperpetuum fide bona iuraui. Hiis testibus domino *Hel' Giffard*[10] domino *Martino de Pattheshull'*[11] Magistro *Ricardo de Brakel'*[12], Roger, persona de Wyck (Painswick) et aliis.

[7] Henry Blount, abbot of Gloucester, 1205–23.

[8] With-holding.

[9] Cecilia was probably lately deceased when this donation was made by Walter to the abbey of St. Peter.

[10] Elie, or Helias III, lord of Brimsfield, early 13th century.

[11] M. de Pateshill, living 1220.

[12] Richard de Brackeley, at Gloucester, 1212.

III. GRANT OF WALTER OF BAYEUX TO THE ABBOT OF GLOUCESTER

394. Sciant tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Walterus de Bayus dedi et concessi et hac carta mea confirmaui Deo et Sancto Petro et *Henrico*[13] Abbati et Conuentui et Elemosinarie Sancti Petri Glouc' pro anima mea et pro animabus omnium antecessorum meorum in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam totam terram meam de *Ebbeworth'* cum omnibus pertinenciis suis libertatibus et aisiamentis tam in boscis quam in aliis rebus omnibus scilicet quicquid ibi habui vel habere potui in villa et extra villam sine aliquo retenemento tenendam imperpetuum de me et de heredibus meis liberam et quietam ab omni seruicio et omnibus demandis Reddendo mihi et heredibus meis annuatim vnam libram cimini[14] vel duos denarios ad festum Sancti Michaelis et preterea reddendo duos solidos (*shillings*) annuatim vnde acquietabunt me et heredes meos imperpetuum versus capitales dominos illius feodi ad quatuor terminos anni, scilicet ad festum Sancti Michaelis sex denarios et ad Natale Domini sex denarios et ad Pascha sex denarios et ad Natiuitatem Sancti Johannis Baptiste vj denarios pro omni seruicio et exactione et omnibus demandis. Hanc autem donacionem et concessionem ego et heredes mei versus omnes homines warantizabimus. In cuius rei testimonium vt hec mea donacio perpetua et (*sic*) stabilis permaneat presentem cartam sigillo meo et eam in capitulo[15] monachorum Glouc' predictis Abbati et Conuentui propria manu mea tradidi. Hiis testibus Domino *Helia Giffard*, Domino *Martino de Patteshull*, Magistro *Ricardo de Brackelegh'*, *Rogero*[16] *persona de Wyke* et aliis

[13] Henry Blount, 1205–23.
[14] 1 lb. of cummin.
[15] In the chapter-house.
[16] A Norman parson of Painswick.

IV. Grant of Walter of Bayeux to the Abbot of Gloucester

397. Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit H.[17] Dei gratia Abbas et conuentus Sancti Petri Glouc' salutem in Domino. Nouerit vniuersitas vestra quod *Walterus de Bayus* dedit et concessit et quietam clamauit de se et de heredibus suis nobis et elemosinarie nostre[18] totam terram suam de *Ebbeworth'* cum omnibus pertinenciis tenendam nobis imperpetuum de capitalibus dominis illius feodi Reddendo eis duos solidos annuatim ad quatuor terminos anni[19] scilicet ad festum Sancti Michaelis vj denarios et ad Natale Domini vj denarios et ad Pascha vj denarios et ad Natiuitatem Sancti Johannis Baptiste vj denarios pro omni consuetudine et seruicio et omnibus demandis. Nos vero pro hac concessione et quieta clamacione concessimus eidem *Waltero*[20] tantum in vita sua viginti solidos et tres decim cronucos frumenti per liberacionem elemosinarii nostri qui pro tempore fuerit de manerio nostro de *Standich'*[21] annuatim percipiendos ad duos terminos anni videlicet ad Pascha x solidos et sex cronucos et ad festum Sancti Michaelis x solidos et septem cronucos ita quidem quod quamdiu dictus W*alterus*[22] predictam terram nobis warantizauerit dictos xx solidos et tresdecim crannocos frumenti plene et sine difficultate terminis predictis eidem *Waltero* persoluemus sicut predictum est. Et si predictam terram nobis warantizare non possit non

[17] Henry, abbot, 1205–23.
[18] Our almonry.
[19] Render of 2*s*. yearly at 4 terms.
[20] Walter to have for life 20*s*. and 13 cronocks (4 bushels each) of corn.
[21] From the almoner in their manor of Standish.
[22] The arrangement to last so long as Walter guarantees them the use of the land. If however, he cannot so guarantee he shall not be paid this sum and the corn, and 'after his decease we shall be free from obligation to his heirs for such payments'.

soluemus ei predictos viginti solidos nec predictos xiij cronucos frumenti, post decessum autem predicto, *Walteri* quieti erimus ab heredibus ipsius imperpetuum de soluendis predictis xx solidis et xiij cronnucis. In cuius rei testimonium presens scriptum sigillo ecclesie nostre munitum diuiso inter nos cirographo predict', Waltero tradidimus. Hiis testibus domino Helia Giffard, domino Martino de Patteshull', Magistro Ricardo de Brackel' et aliis.

V GRANT OF WARIN DE MUNCHENSI, (LORD OF PAINSWICK, 1212–55) TO THE ABBOT OF GLOUCESTER

395. Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego *Warinus de Munchanesi* concessi et presenti carta mea confirmaui Deo et Abbati Sancti Petri de Glouc' et conuentui ibidem Deo seruienti totam terram que fuit *Walteri de Bayeus* in villa[23] de *Wyka*, scilicet *Ebbesworth'* cum omnibus pertinenciis libertatibus aisiamentis ad predictam terram pertinentibus integre et sine vllo retenemento sicut carta predicti *Walteri* quam predictus conuentus inde habet protestatur. Prefatus autem conuentus faciet mihi et heredibus meis omnia seruicia que idem *Walterus* michi et successoribus meis facere consueuit sicut continetur in cirographo facto inter me et conuentum prenominatum. Pro hac autem concessione et carta mee confirmacione dedit mihi conuentus sepedictus sexdecim marcas argenti[24] (16 marks). In huius autem rei testimonium presentem cartam sigilli mei munimine corroboraui. Hiis testibus *Willelmo de Francheuill' Willelmo de Bannb*(*yria*)[25] *Willelmo de Creppinge Hugone de Bannb*(*yria*) et aliis.

[23] *Villa* here stands (as often it did) for the whole manor, not for the village.

[24] The aforesaid monastery shall render to me and my heirs all the services formerly rendered by *Walter*, as is set forth in the cyrograph made between myself and the above monastery ; and for the grant and concession and confirmation it has given me sixteen marks of silver.

[25] Banbury.

VI. Grant of Warin de Munchensi (1213–55). The feudal Responsibilities agreed to by the Abbey of St. Peter

398. Omnibus Sancte Matris ecclesie filiis ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit H.[26] Diuina permissione Abbas et Conuentus Sancti Petri Glouc' salutem. Nouerit vniuersitas vestra nos de concessione et confirmacione Domini *Garini de Munchanesi* suscepisse totam terram cum omnibus pertinenciis que fuit *Walteri de Bayus* in villa[27] de *Wyka*, terram scilicet que vocatur *Ebbeworth'* per seruicium duorum solidorum eidem Garino et heredibus suis sicut carta ipsius *Walteri de Bayus* protestatur quam de eius donacione habemus annuatim soluendorum ad quatuor terminos scilicet ad festum Sancti Michaelis vj denarios et ad Natale vj denarios et ad Pascha vj denarios et ad festum Sancti Johannis Baptiste vj denarios pro omnibus seruiciis consuetudinibus et secularibus exaccionibus et demandis saluo racionabili auxilio predicto *Garino* et heredibus suis faciendo, scilicet cum ipse vel heredes ipsius primogenitum filium suum[28] militem fieri fecerint et cum primogenitam filiam suam maritauerit et ad corpus suum redimendum si forte (quod Deus auertat) imprisonetur. Hoc autem racionabile auxilium fiet iuxta quantitatem tenementi quod videlicet(?) [' vt '] ratum[29] et inconuulsum imposterum permaneat presenti scripto confirmatum est diuiso inter nos cirographo cuius alteram partem sigillo ecclesie nostre munitam prefato *Garino* tradidimus alteram vero partem sigillo ipsius *Garini* roboratam penes nos

[26] Henry Blount, d. 1223.

[27] *i.e.*, the manor, (not the village), of Wyke.

[28] Recital of *The Feudal Aids*. When his eldest son shall be made a Knight: when his eldest daughter shall be married: and for redeeming his body; if (God forbid) he shall be taken prisoner.

[29] It would appear that some words have been omitted here.

retinuimus. Hiis testibus *Waltero de francheuille, Willelmo de Banbyria*[30] *Willelmo de Crepynge, Hugone de Banb(yria)* et aliis

VII. WILLIAM DE MONCHENSI, (S. OF WARIN, 1255–87) TO THE ABBOT OF GLOUCESTER

Quit-claim of suit of court at Painswick to the abbot and Council for any tenements held by them at Ebbworth.

396. Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego *Willelmus de Monchensey* filius quondam *Warini de Monchensey* pro me et heredibus et successoribus meis quietos clamaui et remisi *Johanni*[31] Dei gratia Abbati et Conuentui Sancti Petri Glouc' et successoribus eorum imperpetuum sectam curie nostre de Wyka si qua per se vel per attornatum suum vmquam debuerunt nomine tenementi eorum de *Ebbeworth'* quod tenent de feodo meo. Ita quod nec ego nec heredes vel successores mei racione illius secto nomine tenementi eorum de *Ebbesworth'* ab eisdem vel successoribus vel hominibus suis quocumque modo clamare vel habere possumus aliquid nec ipsos racione illius secte aliquo modo fatigare saluis tamen periculis contentis in cirographo inter dictum patrem meum et ipsos confecto. Pro hac autem remissione et quietaclamancia dederunt mihi predicti Abbas et Conuentus viginti libras argenti premanibus.[32] Et vt mea remissio et clamancia quieta perpetuitatis robur obtineant hoc presens scriptum sigilli mei impressione communiui. Hiis testibus *Domino Henrico le Rus*[33] *Milite, Willelmo de Lessebur*[34] tunc vicecomite Glouc', et aliis

[30] Banbury.
[31] John de Felda, 1243–55.
[32] St. Peter's abbey pays down £20 in silver for the quit-claim.
[33] Lord Henry of Le Rous, of Harescombe manor.
[34] William of Lasborough (sheriff of Gloucestershire then, this points to c. 1261–3 as the date of this grant).