

Original Documents.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHARTERS.

SINCE the printing of the two charters previously given (vol. xxviii., pp. 159-60), four other documents have been discovered among Dr. Carne's muniments, three of which are closely connected with the two preceding, and refer those rather to Gloucestershire than to Herefordshire, though the names of some of the persons mentioned belong to both counties.

The first, by Robert Ruphus of Brochampton, gives to Radulf le Frances, of the same place, lands in Wittewell, and is without date. William Long is mentioned as a former holder, and the witnesses are Guy, Lord of Clopell', Ralf Musard, William Liber of Brochampton, John son of Andrew, Robert of Gloucester, and Geoffrey Stoke. The deed is in excellent preservation, clearly and finely written, in good black ink. In appearance it is of the reign of Edward I. There is nothing in this deed to indicate with certainty its County. There is in Gloucestershire, Brockhampton, a hamlet of Bishops Cleeve, and a Brockhampton near Sevenhampton. Near the latter is Whitall farm, which may be a corruption of Whitewell. No Clopple or Cloppeley appears in Gloucester or Hereford. There is a parish so called in Bedfordshire, once a seat of the Albinis'. Ruphus is not found; but in Essex, temp. Hen. III., was Dominus W. de Rufpha. Ralph is a common name in the Musard family between Hen. III. and Edw. I., in the Counties of Berks, Derby, and Gloucester. The castle called "La Musardere" was in the latter County.

The second charter, dated at Cloppeley on the Sunday next before the translation of St. Martin, 19 Edw. II., is by Nicholas le Frense, evidently the same with Nicholas le Franceis of the charter already printed, and is granted to William his brother. Here Cloppeley is described as near Sevenhampton, and therefore in Gloucestershire, which also fixes Brockhampton. Of names of persons, we have Robert the Hatter, Robert Brid or Bird, and Henry Reynor, and of places, Brochampton, Cloppeley where the charter is dated, Sevenhampton, Woldene, and Helewelade. The witnesses are Robert Solers, a Hereford name, John Olive, a name preserved in the adjacent Shipton-Olive, Robert Oudebi (Owdeswell is a place near), Luke de Monte, Nicholas de Annesforde, John de Walleye, and John le Heir or Eyre.

The third charter is without date, but evidently of the same period, and probably a little later than that by Dionysia Herbert, which included

Geoffrey David of Cloppell', whereas this mentions William his son. But the dates cannot differ much, since Nicholas le Ffrense or Frances again appears, as does Nicholas le Heyr. Onneford is no doubt Annecford, and may be the adjacent Andoverford on the Colne. This charter is in excellent order, and remarkably legible, though the ink is pale.

The fourth charter also relates to Gloucestershire, but does not appear to have any connection with the preceding. Amenev, or Ampney-Crucis, is a parish two miles N. E. of Cirencester. The name,¹ Peter infra Portam, among the witnesses, needs explanation. This charter is a very perfect and remarkable specimen of floriated writing. Many of the large and longer letters have their extremities flowered with great grace and minuteness: a species of decoration almost unknown in a mere private conveyance.

Carta Roberti Ruphi.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Robertus Ruphus de Brochamton, dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Radulfo le Frances de Brochamton et heredibus suis, pro servicio suo unum mesuagium cum dimidia virgata terre arabilis, cum pratis et cum bosco et cum aliis pertinentiis suis, in villa de Wittewell et extra, illud scilicet quod Willielmus Longus quondam tenuit in eadem villa, Habendum et tenendum de me et heredibus meis, sibi et heredibus suis, vel suis assignatis, libere quiete bene et in pace, in jure hereditario et in feudo, in boscis planis in viis et in omnibus aliis pasturis congruis ville pertinentibus, Et licebit eidem Radulfo predictum mesuagium cum predicta terra et cum omnibus pertinentiis suis dare vendere ligare tam in egritudine quam in sanitate et assignare cuicumque voluerit. Reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis, ipse et heredes sui vel sui assignati, tres solidos ad quatuor anni terminos, videlicet ad festum Sancti Michaelis novem denarios, ad festum Sancti Andree novem denarios, ad festum beate Marie in Marcio³ novem denarios, et ad festum beate Johannis Baptiste novem denarios, pro omni servicio seculari exactione et demanda, salvo servicio domini Regis, ad tantum tenementum pertinente. Et ego vero Robertus et heredes mei predictum mesuagium cum predicta dimidia virgata terre et cum omnibus pertinentiis predicto Radulfo et heredibus suis vel suis assignatis, contra omnes homines et feminas in perpetuum warantizabimus acquietabimus et pro predicto reddito defendemus. Pro hac autem donacione concessione et carte mee warantacione, dedit michi predictus Radulfus ad magnum negocium meum, quatuor marcas et dimidiam sterlingorum pre manibus. Et ut hec mea donacio concessio et carte mea confirmacio rata et stabilis in perpetuum permaneat, hoc presens scriptum sigilli mei impressione roboravi. Hiis testibus Guyone domino de Cloppell', Radulfo Musard, Willielmo Libero de Brochamton, Johanne filio Andree, Roberto de Glouveria, Galfrido Stoke et aliis.

An oval seal of green wax. In the centre a fancy cross. Legend, 'S: Roberti Ruphi.'

¹ May not "Petro clerico Petro (i?) infra Portam" mean one person, "Peter, clergyman of St. Peter within the Gate?"

² An unusual phrase in a licence to alienate. The statement of the expenses of conveyance inserted on this charter,

"debet mihi dictus Radulphus ad magnum negocium meum quatuor marcas," is also not common.

³ This word is written "Mrcio," with contractions over the "r" and "c."

Carta Nicholai le Ffrense. 19 Edw. II.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Nicholaus le Ffrense de Brochamton, dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Willielmo le Ffrense fratri meo, unum mesuagium et unam acram terre cum pertinenciis suis in Cloppeleye juxta Sevenhamton, quod dictum messuagium iacet inter mesuagia Roberti le Hattere, et dicta acra terre iacet divisa, unde dimidia acra jacet apud Woldene iuxta terram Roberti Brid ex parte una et terram Henrici Reyner ex altera, et alia dimidia acra terre jacet in Helewelslade iuxta terram dicti Roberti Brid ex parte una et terram domini Episcopi Herefordensis ex altera, Habendum et tenendum dicto Willielmo et heredibus suis et assignatis suis dictum mesuagium et dictam acram terre cum pertinenciis suis, libere quiete integre et in pace de capitali domino feodi illius, per servicia inde debita et consueta. Et ego vero dictus Nicholaus et heredes mei dictum mesuagium et dictam acram terre cum pertinenciis suis predicto Willielmo et heredibus suis et assignatis suis, contra omnes mortales warantizabimus in perpetuum et defendemus. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti carte sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus, Roberto Soleres, Johanne Olive, Roberto Oudebi, Luca de Monte, Nicholao de Annesforde, Johanne de Walleye, Johanne le [H]eir et multis aliis. Data apud Cloppeleye die dominica proxima post festum translacionis Sancti Martini anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi nonodecimo.

The seal is wanting.

Carta Willielmi filii Galfridi David. Sine dato.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Willielmus filius Galfridi David de Cloppeleye, dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Stephano de Cranebroc, duas acras terre mee jacentes in campis de Cloppeleye, quarum una dimidia acra jacet in Cloppeleye inter terram Episcopi et terram Thome Capal, et una dimidia acra jacet ad capud predictae acre et dimidia inter terram Roberti Andreu et terram Willielmi de Calecumbe, et una dimidia acra jacet in Lindene juxta terram Episcopi et est capitalis, et una dimidia acra jacet in Elevelles slade juxta terram Episcopi, pro quadam summa pecunie quam mihi dedit pre manibus. Habendum et tenendum predictas acras terre cum omnibus suis pertinenciis de me et heredibus meis vel meis assignatis, predicto Stephano et heredibus suis vel assignatis suis libere et quiete bene et pacifice in perpetuum. Reddendo domino feodi unum quadrantem inde per annum ad festum Sancti Michaelis pro omnibus serviciis secularibus querelis et demandis. Et ego vero Willielmus et heredes mei vel mei assignati predicto Stephano et heredibus suis vel suis assignatis, predictas acras terre cum omnibus suis pertinenciis contra omnes homines et feminas warantizabimus acquietabimus et defendemus in perpetuum. Et ut hec mea donacio concessio et carta mea confirmacio sit rata et stabilis in perpetuum, hanc presentem cartam meam sigilli mei impressione roboravi. Hiis testibus, Willielmo de Templo, Johanne de Onneford, Roberto Andreu de Cloppeleye, Nicholao le Ffrense de Brochamton, Nicholao le Heyr de eadem, Willielmo le Heyward de eadem, Roberto de Witinton clerico, et multis aliis.

The seal is wanting.

Carta Ricardi de Ruyhale. Sine dato.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Ricardus de Ruyhale frater Ewgenie uxoris Philippi de Matesdone relaxavi et omnino quietum clamavi pro me et heredibus meis vel assignatis meis, Philippo de Matesdone de Ameneye Sancte Crucis, et heredibus suis vel assignatis suis in perpetuum, totum jus et clamium quod habui vel aliquo modo habere potui, tota medietate illius virgate terre quam dictus Philippus de Matesdone mihi dedit in villa de Ameneye Sancte Crucis, cum omnimodis suis ubique pertinenciis et cum medietate mesuagii sui juxta mesuagium Willielmi le May in perpetuum. Ita quod nec ego nec heredes mei vel assignati mei in tota predicta dimidia virgata terre cum medietate mesuagii predicti et cum omnimodis suis ubique pertinenciis decetero aliquid juris vel clamii exigere poterimus nec debemus. Pro hac autem relaxatione et quieta clamancia dedit michi predictus Philippus viginti solidos sterlingorum pre manibus. In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus, Johanne de Mareys, Johanne de Campedene, Willielmo de Sancto Georgio, Nicholao de la Hyde, Willielmo de Ameneye clerico, Johanne filio Stephani, Willielmo Caufel, Petro clerico, Petro infra portam, Galfrido le Paumer, Waltero le May et aliis.

The seal is wanting.

Carta Henrici Prat.

[8 Mar. 10 E. III. 1336.]

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Henricus Prat de la Newelonde dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Henrico Henthlan de eadem et Juliane uxori sue, tres pecias terre arabilis jacentes in villa de la Newelonde cum suis pertinenciis, quarum una que dicitur Cadelesakar jacet in Grenewey, videlicet in latitudine et in longitudine inter terras Johannis de Bykenor, Johannis le Cartare, Hugonis le Moul, et Nicholai Achard, altera vero pecia que vocatur Chynchymelond jacet apud la Heyenassche, scilicet in latitudine et in longitudine inter terram meam ac terras Rogeri Ely, Willielmi Kedeford, et viam regiam ducentem de la Heyenassche versus le Whytekyvestreet. Tercia quidem pecia vocata le Mantelput jacet apud la Heyenasscheglate in latitudine et in longitudine inter terras Johanne Ely, Willielmi Kedeford, et Willielmi Borrych. Habendum et tenendum dictas tres pecias terre cum omnibus suis pertinenciis prefatis Henrico Henthlan et Juliane uxori sue, ac heredibus vel assignatis suis, de capitalibus dominis feodorum illorum, bene et in pace in feodo et hereditate in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim capitalibus dominis predictis quatuordecim denarios argenti in festo Sancti Michaelis, scilicet pro terra que dicitur Cadelesaker sex denarios, et pro aliis duabus peciis predictis octo denarios, pro omni servicio seculari consuetudine et exactione. Et ego vero predictus Henricus Prat et heredes mei prenomatas tres pecias terre cum suis pertinenciis prefato Henrico Henthlan et Juliane uxori sue ac heredibus vel assignatis suis contra omnes mortales warantzabimus et defendemus in perpetuum. In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti carte sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus, Johanne le Palmere, Willielmo ate Clyve, Willielmo ate Court, Roberto de Bykenore, Nicholao Roffyn et aliis.

Data apud la Newelonde, quinto calendarum Aprilis, anno regni Regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum decimo.

A small lump seal of reddish wax, device indistinct.

The Newland here mentioned seems to be the parish and town of that name situate in the western part of Gloucestershire, near the border of Monmouth.

G. T. C.