

Original Documents.

THE following document belonging to Mr. W. Packe has been kindly brought to the notice of the Institute by the intervention of Mr. Soden Smith. It appeared to be worthy placing on record as a contribution to local topography :—

Charter of Adam, Abbot of St. James's, Northampton. 1269—1274.

“ Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Adam Abbas Sancti Jacobi de Norhamt' et conventus ejusdem loci dedimus et concessimus et hac presenti carta nostra confirmavimus Roberto Glazun et heredibus suis unam virgatam terre cum pertinenciis suis in campis de Brunt' sine ullo mesuagio in excambium unius dimidie virgate terre quam idem Robertus dedit nobis in campis de Harleston. Illam scilicet quam Henricus de Stokedal' tenuit et jacet per acras in campis eisdem. Tenendam et habendam dicto Roberto et heredibus suis vel cuicumque illam assignare voluerit quietam et solutam ab omnibus serviciis et exactionibus in perpetuum excepto forinseco servicio domini Regis. Et preterea concessimus eidem Roberto et heredibus suis vel cui assignare voluerit duas rodas terre in campis de Herleston unam scilicet desuper Foxendale et aliam super Whetehull quas Hugo de Upton aliquando tenuit. Concessimus eciam eidem Roberto et heredibus suis vel cui assignare voluerit fossuram turbarii annuatim dimidie diei et unius hominis in bruario de Herleston. Hanc autem predictam virgatam terre cum pertinciis suis et duas rodas terre predicto Roberto et heredibus suis vel cui assignare voluerit contra omnes gentes in perpetuum warrantizabimus. His testibus, David de Esseby, Hamundo de Vieleston, Johanne de Chaunceis, Willielmo de Stanton, Henrico de Bray, Petro de Tenchebray, Bartholomeo de Torp et multis aliis.”

This is a deed poll with an oval seal of white wax defaced, but with traces of a full length figure, evidently ecclesiastical. The deed is in good preservation.

The Abbey of St. James, for Black Canons, was in the suburb of the town of Northampton, and in the parish of Duston. It was founded by William Peverel, who died in 1112-13. Adam de Keylmarsh was Abbot from 1269 to 1274, within which time therefore the deed was drawn up. Brunt' is, no doubt, Brinton, in which the Abbey held lands. Herleston or Harleston is an adjacent parish. Of the persons named Hamund de Vieleston occurs in the records of Harleston; De Chaunceis, Chanceux, or Chauz, were lords of Upton, a manor of Harleston, in the reign of Henry III.; Staunton, Tenchebrai, Thorp, and Whetehill, are the names of local families; Henry de Bray was no doubt a cadet of the family of which, a few centuries later, Lord Bray was the representative.

G. T. C.