

ART. V.—*A Charter of Gilbert, son of Roger fitz Reinfrid, granting Lambrigg to Lambert de Bussey, circa 1216-1220.* By J. F. CURWEN, F.S.A.

Read at Penrith, September 18th, 1930.

THE Northamptonshire Record Society, founded in 1920, has just published as its fourth volume, *Facsimilies of Early Charters from Northamptonshire Collections*. And among those dealt with there is one by Gilbert, son of Roger fitz Reinfrid, granting Lambrigg to Lambert de Bussey. It would appear that this Westmorland charter, of so much interest to us, was discovered last year (1929) in the muniment room of Deene Park, near Peterborough, the seat of George Brudenell, esquire, but how it came to its present resting place is not known.

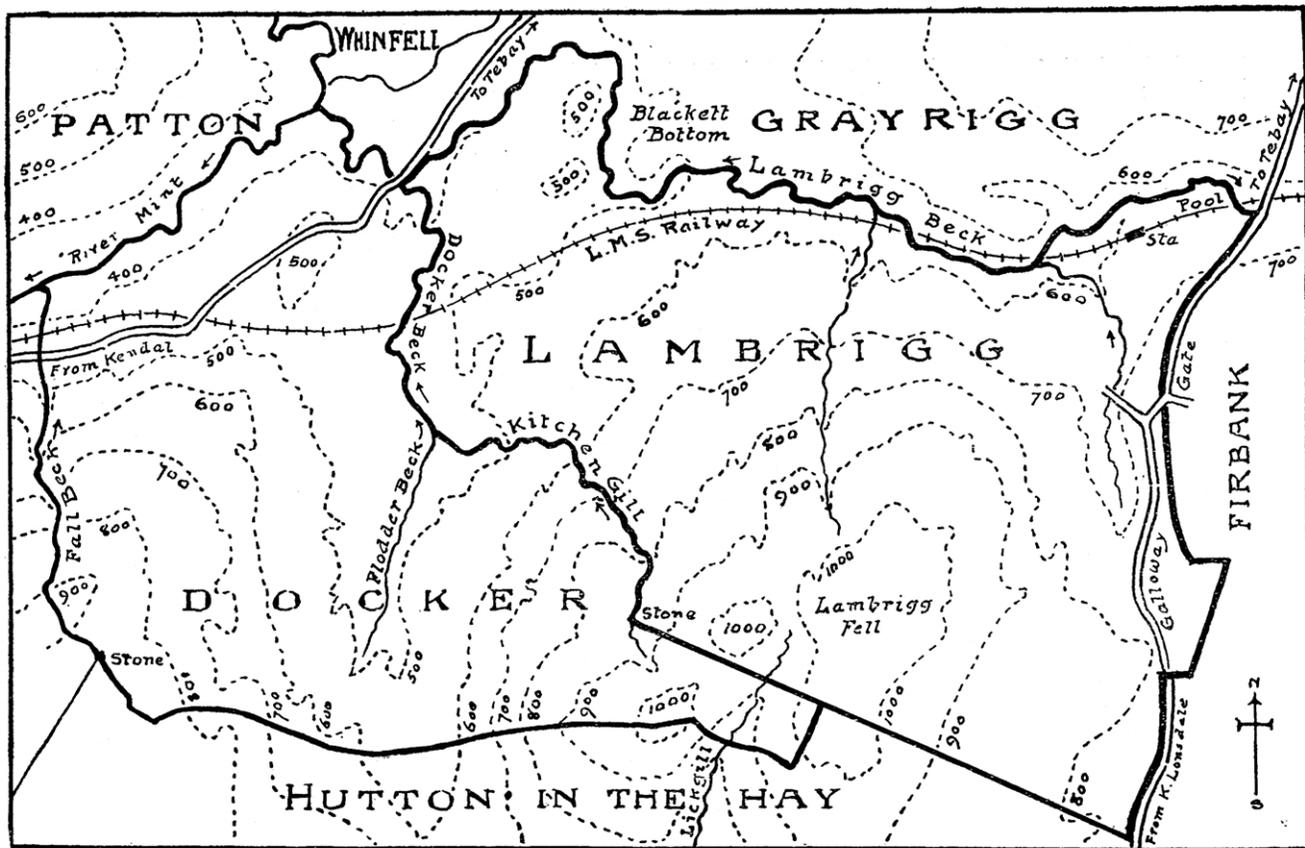
Lambert de Bussey granted the territory to Thomas de Chenaye before 11 Edward I (1283) and Prof. James Tait suggests that it might have come through this family, although he knows not of any evidence connecting the Chenayes of Lambrigg with the Northamptonshire family of that name.

Sciant tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Gilbertus filius Rogeri filii Reinfridi dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmaui Lamberto de Busse et heredibus suis terram de Lamberig per has diuisas. scilicet. per ductum qui est diuisa inter Grarig, et Lamberig. usque ad Blakethweites. et ita per fossatum qui est extransuerso de Blakethweites. usque ad lacum qui est uersus orientem de Blakethweites. et ita per ductum qui cadit de lacu illo. usque ad Galewethegate. et ita per Galewethegate. usque ad sti. Coleman. et ita per sti. Coleman. usque ad

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proximum aceruum lapidum qui est uersum le norht subtus capud de Langescaghe. et ita in ascendendo extra Langescaghe. usque ad paruam vallem que est proxima superiori capiti de Lickegile. et ita extranuerso supra capud de Lickegile per medietatem more que est inter Lickegile et Sneuerlid [? Suenerlid]. usque ad capud de Merebec. et ita per Merebec. in descendendo usque ad magnam uiam que protenditur a Westmeriland. usque ad Hotton' et ita per uiam illam. usque ad Bladub. et ita per Bladub. in descendendo usque in Dochergebec. et ita per Dochergebec. usque ad predictum ductum qui est diuisa inter Lamberig et Grarig. Dedi etiam et concessi predicto Lamberto de Bussee et heredibus suis totam terram que fuit Willelmi filii Stainfini inter Mimmet et Kient per easdem diuisas per quas idem Willelmus eas tenuit. Has autem terras predictas per prenominate diuisas concessi predicto Lamberto de Bussee et heredibus suis tenendas de me et heredibus meis per seruicium vicesime partis feodi unius militis pro omni seruicio quod ad me uel ad heredes meos pertinet. libere. et quiete. in bosco. et plano. in pratis pascuis et pasturis in viis. et semitis. in aquis et stagnis cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad predictam terram pertinentibus. saluis mihi et heredibus meis moltura et venacione. Concessi tamen predicto Lamberto de Bussee et heredibus suis quod de propria domo sua sint quieti de multura. et quod infra predictas diuisas libere possint essartare et quod habeant communem pasturam cum vicinis suis. Testibus hiis. Gilberto de Loncastr' tunc temporis senescallo meo. Geruassio de Aencurt. Anxelmo de Furnes'. Ricardo de Chartrai. Radulfo de Bethum. Adam Gernet. Gamello forestario. Adam filio Rogeri. Radulfo de Aencurt. Adam filio Gamelli et multis aliis.

Endorsed, Lambrygge juxta ffyneley in comitatu Ebor.'
Know ye that I Gilbert son of Roger son of



Reinfrid have given and granted and by this my present charter confirmed to Lambert de Bussey and his heirs the land of Lambrigg by these bounds, that is to say [*starting on the northern boundary and working eastward up the stream Lambrigg Beck*] by the water course which is the division between Grayrigg and Lambrigg as far as Blakethweites [*Blackett Bottom*] and so by the same stream which runs across Blakethweites as far as [*the point where Lambrigg Beck turns southward and then to*] the pool [*now drained by the modern railway*] which is towards the east of Blakethweites and so by the dike which falls out of the pool [*toward Beck Foot and the Lune*] as far as Galewethegate [*Galloway Gate now Scotch Lane*] and so through Galewethegate as far as the path of Coleman and so by the path of Coleman as far as the nearest heap of stones which is toward the north under the head of Langescaghe [*Firbank Fell on the east forms a long scar*] and so ascending beyond [*away from*] Langescaghe [*over the shoulder of Lambrigg Fell*] as far as the little valley which is next the upper head of Lickegile [*Lickgill, the source of St. Sunday's Beck*] and then crossing the upper head of Lickegile by the middle of the moor which is between Lickegile and Suenerlid [*swine slope*] to the head of Merebec [*the boundary beck now Kitchengill at the head of which is a Mere stone*] and so through Merebec descending towards the great way which runs from Westmorland [*i.e. North Westmorland as distinguished from the Barony of Kendale*] to Hutton [*the Hay of Kendal, now New Hutton*] and so by that way to Bladub and so descending through Bladub to Docker beck and so through Docker beck to the aforesaid stream which is the division between Lambrigg and Grayrigg.

I have also given and granted to the aforesaid Lambert de Bussey and his heirs all the land which belonged to William son of Stainfin between the Mimmet and the Kient [*perhaps the oldest manuscript authority for the names*

of the rivers Mint and Kent] with the same bounds as William had them and those aforesaid lands with the aforesaid bounds I have granted to the said Lambert de Bussey and his heirs to be held of me and my heirs by the 20th part of a knight's fee for all service belonging to me or my heirs, freely and in peace in wood and plain in meadow and pasture in roads and paths in waters and pools with all the liberties and free custom pertaining to the said land reserving unto myself and heirs multure and hunting rights. I have granted nevertheless to the said Lambert de Bussey and his heirs that with respect to their own house they may be quit of multure and that within the said bounds they may be at liberty to make assart [*to bring forest land into cultivation*] and that they may have common pasture with their neighbours.

The chief interest of this charter lies in the early forms of stream and fell names by which the boundaries of the estate were marked. It is difficult to identify the path of Coleman and it may be that the bounds do not follow exactly the boundary of the present parish. Many were the disputes concerning bounds of lands held in early days, as for instance the same Gilbert granted all the land on the other side of Galloway gate as far as the Lune, i.e. Frithbank or the modern Firbank, to William de Arundel for his homage and service but there is a suit extant, 14 Henry III (1230) between William de Lancaster III, the son of Gilbert, and William de Arundel respecting the settlement of the bounds between Frithbank and the Hay of Kendal, adjoining the south-east corner of Lamb-rigg.

Gilbert fitz Reinfrid married the infant heiress of William de Lancaster II and became in her right lord of Kendal from 1184 to the time of his death in 1220. Lambert de Bussey, or de Boiset, was a knight under Gilbert and was captured by K. John at the fall of Rochester castle in 1216. He was living in 1235 when it

was found that he held the aforesaid 20th part of a knight's fee.

The reference to 'Galewethegate,' Scotch Lane, is interesting as it leads direct north to Galloway and was used by the Scots in the time of Stephen and Edward II as a driving road for cattle. Indeed until quite recently it has been known as the 'Drover's Road' and used for the peaceful passage of sheep, cattle and ponies from the north. The stage between Low Borrow Bridge and Three Mile House in Killington was Lambrigg Park where, at the Inn, there exists still the open space in which the animals were impounded for the night.

'Sti Coleman' is the old Norse *stigr*, path, placed before instead of after the old Irish personal name of Colemán, and it appears to signify the settlement of a Norse immigrant from Ireland. Our President writes that the position of 'sti' before the name is paralleled by several place names in our two north-western counties, all dating from about the 10th and 11th centuries and all probably pointing to Irish-Norse influence. In contradistinction he quotes 'Thorhinsty.'

The witnesses are all well known local men, but the word 'ffyneley' in the endorsement is puzzling unless it can be taken as a clerk's ignorant blunder for Frithbank.