

## Notice of a Deed

IN THE POSSESSION OF THE CORPORATION OF LYNN.

COMMUNICATED BY

WILLIAM HENRY HART, ESQ., F.S.A.,

&c., &c., &c.

---

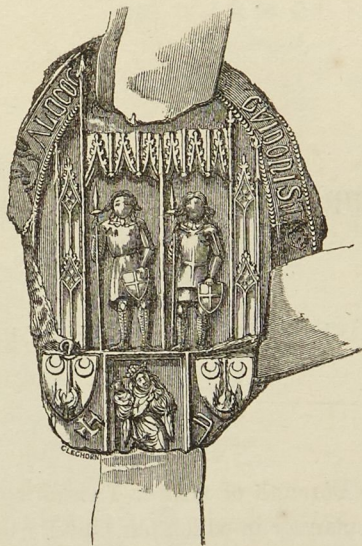
HAVING been favoured by A. H. Swatman, Esq., with access to the records of the Corporation of Lynn, I beg to call attention to a very interesting document which, though not at all relating to Norfolk Archæology, yet, as being preserved among the muniments of one of its chief towns, demands a passing notice at the hands of the Society. It is an instrument dated in the year 1390, by which the Abbot of the Monastery of SS. Sergius and Baccus, near Angiers in France, appoints John Tournedon to be Prior of Swavesey Priory, Cambridgeshire, in these words:—

“Guydo miseracione divina Abbas humilis monasterii sanctorum Sergii et Bachi prope Andeḡ ordinis Sancti Benedċi Nobili ac potenti viro nobis in Xpo dileccione caritatis ⁊ devocionis amplectand̄ domino de la Souche Helieñ dioceš in Regno Anglie salutem in domino cum debitis Reverencia ⁊ honore. Cum ab antiquis temporib; Eleccio ⁊ nominaċō persone ydonee de gremio dċi nři monasterii assumende ad prioratum nřm curatum de Suavezaye Helieñ dioceš in dċo

Regno Anglie membꝛ a dco nro monasterio dependeñ quociens ipm Prioratum vacare contingit ad Abbatem dci monasterii pro tempore de antiqua consuetudine eciam a fundacione dci prioratus ad vosq; dñm prefatum et predecessores vros successive pntacio seu jus patronatus ad nominacionem ⁊ eleccioñ pred̄ pertinũint ⁊ pertinere noscantur. Huic est q̄ nos ad pred̄m prioratum de Suavezaye nunc vacantem obtinendum Religiosum ⁊ honestum virum nobis in Xpo dilectum fratrem Johannem Tournedon pbr̄m dci monasterii monachum expresse professum sciencia vita ⁊ moribus approbatum ad Regimen q; dci prioratus habilem ⁊ ydoneum prout novimus ab experto et adfi per nos in dco nro monasterio can<sup>co</sup> ut est moris electum vobis domino de la Souche prefato et aliis quoꝝ inñest ⁊ interesse potest ⁊ poterit tam de consuetudine quam de jure Tenore pntium nominamus et ad vos transmittimus electũ et nominatum canonice ad dcm prioratum per vos illi vñ illis ad quem vel ad quos dicti prioratus collacio ⁊ institucio pertinet pntandum Vobis tenore pñcium supplicañ ac Rogantes quatinus pd̄m fratrem Joñem per nos ut p̄mittitur electum et nominatum ad dcm prioratum obtinendum cum suis juribus ⁊ pertineñ illi vñ illis ad quem vel ad quos pertinet de jure vel consuetudine dci prioratus collacio et Institucio more solito pntetis ⁊ faciatis institui can<sup>co</sup> in eodem ceterumque compleatis ⁊ fieri faciatis que tuta hec necessaria fuerint et quomodol; opportuna. Datum ⁊ actum in monasterio nro die veneris in festo nativitat̄is beati Johannis Baptiste Anno domini milio ccc<sup>mo</sup> nonagesimo.”

Attached to this instrument is the seal of the monastery, in tolerably good preservation, as shewn in the accompanying cut.

I have obtained from the Imperial Archives of Paris a cast of a seal of this monastery, attributed to the year 1232: it is unfortunately much damaged, but enough is left to show that its design is very different from the specimen now



before me. It is about the same size, but would appear not to have had such elaborate tabernacle work; indeed I am inclined to assign to it an earlier date than that of 1232, for it seems to me to possess the characteristics of twelfth-century art.

I have also another cast of a seal from Paris: it is that of Philip, Abbot of the same monastery, and is attributed to the same year; it is in good condition, and is an interesting specimen.

This abbey was founded about 654 by Clovis II., King of France.

I have not been able to discover any other instance of this abbey seal; and if it should happen that the one now before me is an unique specimen, it will doubtless be very interesting to the Norfolk Antiquaries to know that they have in their care so excellent a specimen of French Archæology.