

Billingbear Park.

BY J. DE C. LAFFAN.

HAVING read the article on Billingbear in the last number of this Journal I thought it might be of interest to give some early extracts from the Close Rolls. They relate mainly to the period when the diocese, after the death of the Poitevin Bishop Peter des Roches in 1238, was in the King's hands, till William of Raleigh was appointed in 1244. I can find only one other reference to Billingbear in the Close Rolls, namely, in 1339.

The Bishop Adomar, who is stated in the Hundred Rolls of 1275-6 (4 E 1) to have encroached on Billingbear, was Aymer de Valence, half brother of the King, who was forced upon the diocese by him. He was only in acolyte's orders and was never consecrated in England. He was elected November 4th, 1250, and I give the order to hand over all revenues of the diocese to him from January 16th, 1251.

He made himself so unpopular that he was driven out of the country in 1258, consecrated Bishop by the Pope at Rome in May, 1260, he died at Paris on December 4th, 1260.

The encroachment quoted on page 93 of the Journal as Sterling apparently by a clerical error appears in the 1275-6 H.R. as Sterhug ; other forms of the name are :—

1239	...	Stanrugg
1240	...	Stanrugg
1240	...	Starrug
1243	...	Stanrig
1275	...	Sterhug
1275	...	Sterhugg
1275	...	Stererugge

It appertained to the Manor of Wargrave, but I have been unable to locate it.

Wydenstrode was not in Berkshire, but in Wilts, about six miles S.S.E. from Salisbury.

The Bishop of Winchester in 1339 was Adam of Orlton.

DATE.	SOURCE.	CONTENT.
23/10/1238	Close Rolls III	Mandatum est custodibus episcopatus Wintoniensis quod canonicis de Nutl', ministrantibus in capella de Cavresham, habere faciant unam bonam quercum in bosco episcopatus Wintoniensis [vocato] le Pyllingeber' in foresta de Windl' ad quoddam batellum faciendum ad passagium perigrinorum venientium usque Caveresham.
27/10/1239	Do. 149	Mandatum est custodibus episcopatus Wintonensis quod in bosco de Pillingebir faciant habere abbati Westmonasteriensi XV bonas quercus, et in bosco de Stanrugg alias XV quercus bonas ad cindulas faciendas Teste rege apud Rading.
27/6/1240	Do. 200	Mandatum est custodibus episcopatus Wintoniensis quod faciant habere Magistro Simoni Carpentario XX quercus in Pillinber' et XX quercus in Stanrugg' ad cindulas faciendas Teste rege apud Windl'.
1240 2/6 should be 2/7	Do. 202	Mandatum est custodibus episcopatus Wintoniensis quod faciant habere W Eboracensi archiepiscopo XIIJ quercus in bosco ejusdem episcopatus de [Weregrave erased] Pillingber', de dono. Teste rege a pud Westmonasterium.
22/11/1241	Close Rolls 375	Mandatum est custodibus episcopatus Winton' quod in bosco de Peningber' faciant habere canonico custodienti capellam Beati Virginis de Caveresham IIJ bonas quercus ad cindulam faciendam ad cooperiendum eandem capellam de dono regis. Teste rege apud Sandelford.

21/2/1251 Close Rolls Mandatum est G de la Grue, custodi
 p. 416 Episcopatus Wintonie, quod Ademaro
 Wintoniensi electo, omnes exitus qui
 provenerunt de episcopatu Wintonie
 a die Lune proxima post festum
 Saneti Hillarii anno, etc., XXXV in
 antea habere faciat, retentis in manu
 regis omnibus exitibus ejusdem
 episcopatus de tempore anteriori, et de
 cetero Martinum de Sancta Cruce,
 attornatum ipsius electi, ad eundem
 episcopatum una cum eo custodiendum
 in socium admittat, et de nullo ad
 episcopatum illum spectante, ipso in
 consulto, disponat; et quod mittat
 regi c. mareas quas rex ei precepit
 mittere in garderobam regis apud
 Wind'.

Teste Peripsum regem.

20/2/1339 Close Rolls Request to the Bishop of Winchester
 p. 99 to deliver 12 oaks in the wood of
 Pillyngbere to Nicholas de la Beche,
 Constable of the Tower.