

Confirmatio

flet

Notū sit p̄sentibz q̄ futis me adū de monte begon accessisse monachū de ac̄ eccliam s̄ anaxie ma
duene de flet i p̄tā dīnā tā honorabilē q̄ unq̄ in ip̄. Coce de flet honorabilē tenuerit p̄ dei
amore i s̄ anaxie i p̄tā p̄tā mei i m̄tū mee i p̄ salute aīe mee i p̄tā mee. testante Rogo Will
ludowic i m̄tū i Rob̄ fr̄e suo i steph̄ de monte begon.

**Notū man
sa in flet**

Notū sit uniuersis tā p̄sentibz q̄ futis q̄ ego Ric̄ de flet reddidi corp̄ meū ecclie s̄ anaxie de ac̄ i mo
nach̄ ibid̄ de seruientibz cōibz catall̄. nec i ad obitū meū. Om̄em aū emendatōem q̄ iuxta p̄tā
i mansura illa q̄ de est teneo i unde cartā illoy habeo p̄tā monach̄ de rocedo i p̄ decessu meū
hūc sine aliq̄ reclamatiōe sigilli mei ap̄one ofirmo. Hecū oīa q̄ndo cartā illoy accepi sup
lucrosā uniuersū me fideiū seruatiū. Hūc. Barth̄ de de. Aūstingh. And̄ i philippo capellis.
luc̄ de uerit. God̄ dūp. Ric̄ p̄tā. Alex̄ i billes seruientibz p̄tā. Gaufr̄ de Squash. Roḡ de la hne.
Dūle i Alex̄ coc̄. i multis. aliis.

**Notū man
sa in flet**

Sciāt p̄sentēs i futū q̄ ego Rob̄ de scalis dedi i hac mea carta ofirmatiū dō i s̄ anaxie i mo
nach̄ de ac̄ i m̄tū i p̄tā dīnā Roḡ de brechlande i alantū filiū eī rōs libos q̄s ip̄ h̄m̄tū ha
bitari sūt de ip̄o. ibz. sus. l. agnec̄ i heldeuīsa. cōibz catall̄ cor̄ p̄ salute aīe mee i redun
moy i p̄tā meoy i oīū aūcessoy meoy. Hūc. Will̄ dūo de holebechs. Maḡo Will̄ de
ip̄lab. Rob̄ de blaxen. Sim̄ i p̄tā. Gaufr̄ de herpel. Michaele.

**Notū man
sa in flet**

Hec̄. ouentū nō Ric̄ de flet i dūcū dīcū de flet. l. q̄. p̄notat̄ dūm̄tū p̄tā. R̄ i oibz
oīū debent oīs q̄relas q̄s erūt eū hūc i uera q̄cordia i p̄tā p̄tā. Et R̄. p̄notat̄ dūm̄tū i
oīū p̄tā ofirmat̄ p̄notat̄. R̄ i oibz sus oīs q̄relas q̄s erūt eū hūc i uera q̄cordia i p̄tā p̄tā ecclie.
de flet p̄tā i ab̄t̄ oī reclamatiōe oīs liberos suos q̄s hūc q̄ unq̄ meli' est hūc. R̄ notat̄
om̄mū iusticia uille. uicūq̄ h̄s est uille hūc hūc debent. Hanc ouentū in affidūte p̄
notat̄ R̄. p̄tā tenendū p̄tā. R̄ i m̄tū malo ingenio ex p̄tā sua. Et d̄. ouiso affidūte hanc
eand̄ ouentūne sicut tenendū. R̄ ex p̄tā sua p̄tā i m̄tū malo ingenio. ap̄ nō h̄m̄tū. festosā
Ioh̄ q̄ iusticia regis ibi fuerit. Will̄ de uoy. Ric̄ de cam. Will̄ miolendinari. Ioh̄. clie. Ric̄
p̄tā de ad. q̄ ap̄tā fidūte. Sim̄ de dūm̄tū. i anno illo cōmuni ofilio. R̄ i d̄. lincolni
uentū q̄ cōm̄ albic̄ recepit̄. fideiūsores uice dūm̄tū i oīūm̄ h̄m̄tū lincolni. i capto s̄
oīūm̄ lincolni. R̄ istā ouentūne i tenendū. cor̄ capto i m̄tū malo ingenio affidūte. Et Rob̄ ar
chid̄. Rob̄ male tre. Ric̄ de cam subde. Paganocanon. Wiggo canon. Roḡ de derebi. Roḡ
p̄tā. Will̄ gūto. canon. Ad̄ sit t̄mer. Will̄ dūm̄tū monach̄. Huḡ de tur̄m̄h̄ Ric̄
p̄tā. Ric̄ fr̄e eī. herbeo de castling cor̄. Ioh̄ sit. Will̄. Ric̄ sit. Roḡ. Ric̄ sit. galfr̄
sit. Ric̄ fr̄e de d̄. Ric̄ p̄tā. Ric̄ archid̄ cept̄ fidei uera i q̄.

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Fleet church in the Castle Acre cartulary

Fo.76v Grant (=confirmation) by Josce (or Jocelin) of Fleet.

Josce son of Fulk of Fleet confirms the original grant of the church of St Mary Magdalene to the monks of CA, with all its possessions, by his father.

In another charter, Josce himself says he is granting the church, with its priest and all its possessions.

In a third, separate charter, Josce grants 5 marks p.a. to the monks, to be taken for now from the revenue (censu) of Geoffrey the monk, until he makes a final arrangement for this payment to CA when he returns from Jerusalem, or if he doesn't, his wife and heirs shall make arrangements for the exchange to permanent source for this grant.

Josce's grant is confirmed by Adam de Montbegon, his lord, on fo.77v. For the Montbegon family, tenants of Warenne, see *Early Yorks Charters* iii, 318; *VCH Lancashire* i, 319ff; Lloyd and Stenton, eds., *Sir Christopher Hatton's Book of Seals*, no 149. Adam first occurs 1154-58, was still alive at Michaelmas 1171 but dead by Michaelmas 1172.

The grant of the church is also confirmed by Bishop Robert de Chesney of Lincoln, fo.122r=pd in *English Episcopal Acta* I, no 94; date=19 Dec.1148-18 Apr.1161; also confirmed by Archbishop Theobald, fo.119v=pd in A Saltman, *Theobald Archbishop of Canterbury*, no.65, dated c1150-1161.

So, the church has definitely been granted to CA by 1161; but the original grant by Josce's father is surely quite a bit earlier. As for Josce's pilgrimage to Jerusalem, it must be possible (but by no means certain) that this was on the Second Crusade preached 1146, departure 1147. Must be conjecture, but dates fit.

TROUBLE breaks out after Josce's death and comes to attention of both ecclesiastical and royal courts. There is a dispute between CA and Josce's son Richard. For Richard son of Josce, see *Sir Christopher Hatton's Book of Seals* no 185; he first appears as a witness in a Sixle priory charter 1153-62; occurs in a Pipe Roll in 1170, again in 1175-7; in 1195 he paid 100 marks, which he had owed for some years, so that his daughter might be delivered from Ralph de Chandos, who claimed that he had espoused her. At some time before 1185 he gave 50 acres at Fleet to the Templars (and this is pure conjecture, but this, added to the fact that his hospital ends up in the hands of the Hospitallers, may mean that as a young man he preferred the military orders to the Cluniacs – although in the end he wishes to be buried at CA – see below).

The dispute: fo.122r=pd.*EEA* i no 95. Notification by Bishop Robert of Lincoln that in his presence, by judgement of the diocesan synod, Prior Jordan of CA had established his right to the church of Fleet against Richard son of Josce 3 June 1162-October 1164.

That he initially was not happy with this decision is indicated by a writ of Henry II, same date limits, directed to him, ordering that monks of CA are to have Fleet church (fo.112v)

We now have the **charters of Richard son of Josce.**

fo.76v

i. Confirmation to monks of CA for their own maintenance of the church of Fleet, with all its appurtenances as on the day when Walter the clerk was alive and dead. He has also granted to them himself ten acres in the marsh by "Satdudigh" (?reading), in free and perpetual alms.

This obviously precedes the charter of Walter of Coutances, bishop of Lincoln, (datable 3 July 1183-3 March 1185) on fo.122r-v=pd.EEA i no 300 – having inspected the charters of Josce and Richard of Fleet, he has confirmed to CA the church of Fleet at their presentation and by the grant of bishop Robert his predecessor. He grants that they should in perpetuity have the church *in proprios usus* (i.e. appropriated) with all its fruits and offerings and appurtenances.

ii. Grant to CA of a plot of two acres next to the plot of Josce the carpenter, given for the soul of Juliana his wife and of his kindred. The salt which is produced there is to be put to the use of the monks' kitchen.

iii. He grants to CA 5 acres in the furlong of "Westneuelan" (?reading) adjoining the chapel of St Thomas to the west (so after 1173 when Becket canonised); he does this that the monks and the church of Fleet should incur no loss or damage because they have conceded that he may have a chapel in his house. It is agreed that the chaplain who shall minister there shall take an oath to the monks and the church of Fleet that he will retain for himself or the household chapel nothing which pertains to the mother church of the parish, except the offerings of Richard's household; and indeed, if Richard, his wife or any of his household make any offering to the parish church, it shall remain there without the chaplain objecting to this.

fo.77r

Grant by Hugh prior of CA and the convent to the lord Richard of Fleet and Juliana his wife and their heirs that they may have a chapel and chaplain at the hospital of St John the Baptist which they have built at Fleet, and may have divine office celebrated there. He grants that those dwelling in the hospital may in perpetuity have the offerings made there, saving the parochial rights of the church of Fleet; that is to say, the residents shall have nothing of the tithes or offerings of the parish church, but rather the tithes of the lands which they cultivate in the parish and of assarts (*incrementis*) shall go to the parish church. (Prior Hugh's dates are July 1182-1200) [handwritten note: ref to hospital in DM Owen, *Church & Society in Medieval Lincs* pp10-11]

Richard of Fleet grants to the church of St Mary Magdalene of Fleet and Walter the parson twenty acres of his land in free alms, free from all secular service, for the souls of his father and mother, his ancestors, himself and his wife, in the land of Baldwin of Gedney between "Brimbledic" and the new embankment, in exchange for the hermitage (I think – the photo is blurred) of "Cukedis" (that this grant is to Fleet church rather than monks, I suspect, means it is early 1160s, before CA's right established).

Grant by Richard of Fleet to CA of Roger of Brechlond with all his holding in the vill of Fleet, paying a rent of 6s p.a. in exchange for 5s which his father granted them from Geoffrey the monk in the same vill.

Richard of Fleet, hoping to earn pardon for his sins by the increase of alms, grants to all the widows of Fleet, present and future, by the entreaty and counsel of Juliana his wife, for their souls and those of their kindred, relaxation of that relief, called in English, "erethed" which used to be paid to him by them on the death of their husbands. He has conceded also to the widows that they may hold, well and in peace, their lands and houses after the deaths of their husbands, as long as they can discharge the customs and services relating to these lands and houses. Ends with a **very old fashioned anathema** (more like 1080s than 1180s): any infringers of this concession shall suffer perpetual anathema, and with Judas the traitor and the devil and his ministers shall be condemned to the torture of eternal death. **(THIS IS A FASCINATING CHARTER)**

fo.77v

Confirmation of Adam de Montbegon, as above.

Richard of Fleet has left his body at his death to CA, together with all his chattels. He grants to them all improvements which he may have made in the tenement which he holds of them, without any contradiction after his death; this he did when he received their charter. (Witnessed by Bartholomew dean of Walsingham, who occurs in 1190s; I think Richard feels death coming on here).

Grant by Robert de Scales to CA of Roger de Brechlande and Alan his son and all legitimate children of their wives, Agnes and Helewise, with their chattels (see grant by Richard above – presumably Robert de Scales is his lord in respect of this grant).

Agreement between Richard of Fleet and Walter clerk of Fleet, whereby Walter has remitted to Richard and his heirs all debts and all claims which he has against him, by this concord and perpetual peace; and Richard has likewise remitted to Walter all claims which he has against him; and Richard surrenders to the church of Fleet all liberties which he had, as well as he ever had them, specifically in the common pasture of the vill wherever the men of the vill have it. They swore to observe this at Northampton, on the feast of St John when the king's justices were there, and in the same year when by common consent they came to Lincoln when Earl Aubrey received the oaths of the sheriff and the other (royal) officers of Lincolnshire in the cathedral chapter.

(Probably the visit of the justices following the assize of Clarendon, so 1166-67; which would fit with a resolution of matters left over from Richard's recognition of the rights of CA to Fleet church a few years earlier).

See also

Fo 119r (*EEA* ii, no 98) The archbishop of Canterbury, Richard of Dover, issues notification that Richard son of Josce of Fleet has confirmed in the archbishop's presence his father's gift of the church of Fleet to monks of CA, and presented one of the monks to the archbishop to receive perpetual possession. May 1177-Sept 1181.

Fo.122v=pd.*Acta of Hugh de Welles* no 187 The bishop grants to CA all the tithe of sheaves (the great tithe) and of vegetables of the whole parish, except of sheaves from the demesne land of the church itself and of grain and vegetables from the gardens within the parish, and on that account six measures of salt which of old they have been accustomed to receive from the parson, with the manse sited to the west of the church, as a perpetual benefice *in proprios usus*. The remainder, that is the altarage, with all the land pertaining to the church and the tithe thereof, rents, tithe of hay and salt, and in general all other revenues of the church, with an appropriate manse, they shall grant for the use of the parson of the church for the time being, to be presented by the monks and admitted by the bishop. The parson shall bear all the ordinary burdens of the church, and each party shall contribute to extraordinary burdens in proportion to their share of the revenues; saving in all things the dignity and rights of the church of Lincoln. 15 August 1222.

On fo.76r there is a grant which is not part of this sequence, but is interesting:

Grant by Thomas son of Lambert of Moulton to CA, for salvation of his soul and those of his successors, of six acres of land in his marsh at Fleet, on which to build a barn in which their tithe of sheaves from Fleet may be stored, with right of free entry and exit for their carts and ploughs, and without there being any common right of pasture there. They may not sell or alienate this land to anyone, religious or secular. (Presumably the Thomas of Moulton who was sheriff of Lincs 1205-7 and a royal justice under Henry III till death in 1240)

Refs also in *A Terrier of Fleet* (ed. N Neilson Brit. Acad. 1920) pp lxxiv, 42, 75, 80, 96, 117 lands of CA.