

Transcriptions and Translations of Various Documents Relating to Widecombe Church from the Exeter Cathedral Archive

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Transcriptions and Translations of D&C 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 2112 and 2113

Introduction

This document provides transcriptions and translations for various documents in the Exeter Cathedral archive that relate to the appropriation of the church at Widecombe-in-the-Moor. The references covered are: D&C 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 2112 and 2113.

The original documents are in Latin. Some transcriptions are from the nineteenth century and were produced by George Oliver. Modern equivalents of these and any missing transcriptions have been provided. Translations of all documents are also included.

The George Oliver transcriptions are taken from LIVES OF THE BISHOPS OF EXETER, AND A HISTORY OF THE CATHEDRAL, WITH AN ILLUSTRATIVE APPENDIX, by the rev. GEORGE OLIVER, D.D. EXETER: WILLIAM ROBERTS, BROADGATE. 1861, pages 425-429.

Sourced from the Internet Archive (Cornell University).

The Oliver text has been transcribed from the digital image to digital text by Roger Claxton. No changes should have been made in this process.

Modern transcriptions and all translations have been made by Dr John Booker.

Oliver did not include D&C 1936, 2112 or 2113 in his appendix and so the transcriptions are taken from the original document.

Acknowledgments

I am grateful for the assistance of Ellie Jones at the Exeter Cathedral Archive for all of her help obtaining images of the documents translated here, and also for the invaluable work of Dr John Booker.

Version History

Version 1 Initial Release

Version 1.1 Re-release with minor transcription changes to D&C 1934.

D&C 1934 (nd (13th century))

Catalogue description:

Roger, son of Ralph le Rus, kt, to D&C.

Grant of an acre of land and the advowson of the church of Widdecombe (*Wydecumb*) and the chapel of St Leonard at Spitchwick (*Spykwyk*).

Transcription of D&C 1934

By George Oliver

From page 425:

ECCLESIA DE WYDECOMB.

(Rous.)

Carta Magistri Rogeri le Rus de Advocacione Ecclesie de Wydecumb.

(Lythfeld.)

SCIANT presentis et futuri quod ego Rogerus le Rus, filius Radulphi le Rus militis, dedi, concessi, et hac presenti Carta mea confirmavi ac omnino pro me et heredibus meis quietum clamavi Decano et Capitulo Ecclesie beati Petri Exoniensis et successoribus suis in puram liberam et perpetuam elemosinam unam acram terre apud Wydecombe cum advocacione Ecclesie Sancti Pancracii de Wydecomb et Capelle Sancti Leonardi de Spikewyk dicte matrici ecclesie adjacentis et omnibus aliis dicte terre pertinentiis, que quidem acra terre jacet in Wodehaye prope sanctuarium ecclesie supradicte, et extendit in longitudine a predicto sanctuario ex parte occidentali usque ad regalem viam per quam itur a dicta Ecclesia de Wydecombe versus Dunsterston ex parte orientali. Tenendum et habendum dictam terram cum advocacione ecclesie et capelle prenominate et omnibus aliis pertinentiis, sibi et successoribus suis de Domino de Wydecombe, libere, quiete, bene, pacifice, et integre inperpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim dicto Domino de Wydecomb unum par cyrothecarum vel unum denarium ad Festum Sancti Michaelis pro omni servicio seculari, sicut carta Domini Radulphi filii Ricardi feofatoris mei michi inde confecta proportat et testatur. Pro hac autem mea donacione, concessione, confirmacione et quietam clamancia, concesserunt dicti Decanus et Capitulum et bona fide promiserunt se soluturos singulis annis de Scaccario ipsorum Exoniensi decem marcas argenti ad faciendam quedam divina servicia annuatim in ipsa Ecclesia Exoniensi pro anima bone memorie, Rogeri de

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Thoriz, quondam Decani Exonie, in quodam alio scripto plenius specificanda. In cuius rei testimonium hanc presentem Cartam sigilli mei munimine roboravi. Hiis testibus, Dominis Thoma de Pyn tunc vicecomite Devonie, Willielmo de Bykebyr., Rogero de Prydiaus, et Radulpbo le Rus, militibus, Egidio de Fissacre, Radulpho . . . , Willielmo de Spikewyk, Johanne de Byuile, Ricardo de Alre et aliis.

[The seal is gone and the deed has suffered from damp.]

Modern Transcription of D&C 1934

by Dr John Booker (Highlighting Differences to Oliver)

Sciunt presentes & futuri quod ego Rogerus le Rus filius Radulphi le Rus militis dedi concessi & hac presenti Carta mea confirmavi ac omnino pro me & heredibus meis quietum clamavi Decano & Capitulo ecclesie beati Petri Exoniensis & successoribus

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suis in puram liberam & perpetuam elemosinam unam acram terre apud Wydecombe cum advocacione ecclesie sancti Pancracii de Wydecomb & capelle sancti Leonardi de Spikewyk dicte matrici ecclesie adjacentis & omnibus aliis dicte terre pertinentiis que quidem acra terre iacet in Wodehaye prope sanctuarium ecclesie supradicte & extendit in longitudine a predicto sanctuario ex parte occidentali usque ad regalem viam per quam itur a dicta ecclesia de Wydecombe versus Dunsterston ex parte orientali. Tenendum & habendum dictam terram cum advocacione ecclesie & capelle prenominate & omnibus aliis pertinentiis sibi & successoribus suis de domino de Wydecombe libere quiete bene pacifice & integre imperpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim dicto domino de Wydecomb unum par Cyrothecarum vel unum denarium ad festum sancti Michaelis pro omni servicio seculari, sicut carta domini Radulphi filii Ricardi feofatoris mei michi inde confecta proportat & testatur. Pro hac autem mea donacione concessione confirmacione & quieta clamancia concesserunt dicti Decanus & Capitulum & bona fide promiserunt se soluturos singulis annis de scaccario ipsorum Exoniensi decem Marcas argenti ad facienda quedam divina servicia annuatim in ipsa ecclesia Exoniensi pro anima bone memorie Rogeri de Thoriz quondam decani Exonie in quodam alio scripto plenius specificanda. In cuius rei testimonium hanc presentem cartam sigilli mei munimine roboravi. Hiis testibus dominis Thoma de Pyn tunc vicecomite Devonie Willelmo de Bykebyr Rogero de Prydiaus & Radulpho le Rus militibus Egidio de Fissacre Radulpho ... Willelmo de Spikewyk Johanne de Byuile Ricardo de Alre & aliis

Translation of D&C 1934

By Dr John Booker

Undated grant in frankalmoign

Let all present and future men know that I, Roger le Rus, son of Sir Ralph le Rus, have given granted and by this my present charter have confirmed and in every way for me and my heirs have quitclaimed to the Dean and Chapter of the church of the blessed Peter at Exeter and their successors, in pure, free and everlasting alms, one acre of land at Widecombe with the advowson of the church of St. Pancras at Widecombe and of the chapel of St. Leonard of Spitchwick adjoining the said mother church and everything appertaining to the said land, which acre of land lies in 'Wodehaye' near the sanctuary of the said church and extends in length from the said sanctuary on the west side as far as the king's highway leading from the said Widecombe church towards Dunstone on the east side, to hold and to have the said land with the advowson of the church and chapel afore-named and all their appurtenances, to them and their successors as of the lord [of the manor] of Widecombe, freely, quietly, well, peacefully, wholly and for ever, paying yearly for which to the said lord of Widecombe one pair of gloves or one penny at Michaelmas, for all secular services, as the charter of lord Ralph, son of Richard my feoffor, drawn up for me, explains and testifies. In return for this my grant, concession, confirmation and quitclaim, the said Dean and Chapter have conceded and in good faith have promised to pay each year from their treasury ten marks of silver to create certain divine services annually in the said church at Exeter for the soul of Roger de Thoriz, well-remembered, a former Dean of Exeter, as will be set out more fully in another document. In witness of which, I have added authority to this present document by the protection of my seal, with these witnesses, lords Thomas de Pyn, then sheriff of

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Devon, William de Bykebyr, Roger de Prydiaus and Ralph le Rus; knights Giles de Fissacre, Ralph ... , William de Spikewyke, John de Byuile, Richard de Alre, and others

D&C 1935 (1283, Saturday before Nativity of the BVM)

Catalogue description:

Ralf, son of Richard le Rus, kt, to Roger le Rous, rector of the church of "Nordhull". Obligation to pay residue of sum of 80 marks and 20 marks for an aid, following on an agreement that Ralf should sell to Roger the land and advowson above; pledge of payment the manor of Widecombe.

Note

The catalogue entry above includes 'le Rus' after 'Richard'. This is also to be found in the original catalogue entry in Stuart Moore's Calendar (see bibliography). However, the document referenced (D&C 1935) does not include these words and the justification for including them has not, so far, been identified from any other source.

Transcription of D&C 1935

By George Oliver

Obligatio Domini Randulphi filii Ricardi, super Advocacione Ecclesie de Wydecumb. (Lytchfeld.)

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quorum noticiam presentes litere pervenerint, Radulphus filius Ricardi Miles et Rogerus le Rous, Rector Ecclesie de Nordhull, Salutem in Dominum sempiternam. Noverit universitas vestra quod anno Domini millesimo ducentesimo octogesimo tercio ita convenerit inter nos quod ego dictus Radulphus vendidi et tradidi dicto Rogero le Rous unam acram terre de Dominico meo de Wydecumb cum advocacione Ecclesie Sancti Pancratii de Wydecumb et Capelle Sancti Leonardi de

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Spichwyke predicts matrici ecclesie adjacentis, pro octoginta marcis argenti, ad usum meum proprium recipiendum, et viginti marcis in auxilium filie mee maritande convertendis. De qua quidem pecunia dictus Rogerus triginta et quinque marcas mihi solvit pre manibus. Ego vero prefatus Rogerus totum residuum predictarum octoginta et viginti marcarum, videlicet sexaginta et quinque marcas teneor et bona fide promitto solvere supradicto Domino Radulpbo sive ejusdem certis assignatis terminis subscriptis sine ulteriori dilacione. Scilicet in Festo Sancti Martini anno supradicto vel ejus octavis quindecim marcas, et in Festis Purificacionis beate Marie, Pentecostes, et Sancti Michaelis proximis sequentibus, triginta marcas equis porcionibus.

Et infra finem anni proximo subsequentis illas predictas viginti marcas predicto Domino Radulpbo ad filiam suam maritandam promissas et debitas. Ad quam quidem pecuniam dictis terminis fideliter solvendam oblige me et omnia bona mea mobilia et im-mobilia habita et habenda ubicunque in vita vel in morte in-venta dicto domino Radulpbo et ejus assignatis subjiciens in premissis me res redditus et omnes possessiones meas cohercioni officialis Domini Exoniensis Episcopi qui pro tempore fuerit, volens et concedens quod quociens in solucione predicta suis terminis facienda defecero, quod idem officialis me per suspen-cionis, excommunicacionis, et interdicti sentencias, appellacione remota strepituque judiciali omnino cessante, ad hoc compellat. Volo eciam et concedo quod si dicta pecunia nondum persoluta in fata decessero, nulla bonorum meorum utpote ad predictam solucionem specialiter obligatorum fiat administracio donec pre-fato Domino Radulpbo vel suis certis assignatis fuerit in hac parte satisfactum. Et ego siquidem prenominatus Radulphus bona fide et sacramento corporaliter prestito pro me et heredibus meis et assignatis promitto, quod predictam acram terre cum advocacione antedicta et aliis pertinentiis suis dicto Rogero et quibuscumque dictam terram et advocacionem appropriare, sive assignare voluerit warentizabo imperpetuum. Ita quod si ipse heredes sui vel assignati vel eciam hii quibus dicta ad-vo-cacio imposterum fuerit appropriata per me vel heredes meos vel eciam ad quorumcunque manus dictum manerium meum de Wydecumb processu temporis pervenerit impeditus seu impediti fuerit vel fuerint quominus de Ecclesia predicta cum Capella sive ad eas cum vacaverint presentando, sive ipsas in proprios usus retinendo ordinare et ad voluntatem suam disponere possint, dabimus eidem Rogero, sive illis qui predicto modo fuerint per nos vel hujusmodi successores nostros impediti, ducentas marcas argenti tam de dicto manerio meo de Wydecumb, quam de aliis terris meis ubicunque in Devonia existentibus per vicecomitem Devonie qui pro tempore fuerit cujus districtioni omnes dictas terras meas in hac parte subijcio levandas, et prefato Rogero sive

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cuicumque dictum impedimentum passo vel passis solvendas. Et si contingat dictum vicecomitem ea occasione aliquam dis-trictionem in dictis terris meis facere, quociens eam fecerit tociens de bonis meis vel dictas terras tenencium habeat quadraginta solidos pro labore suo in proprios usus convertendos. Et ad pre-dictas ducentas marcas in casu memorato solvendas omnes pre-dictas terras meas tenore presentis scripti oblige et assigno. Et ut fides in omnibus premissis utrobique observetur tarn ego pre-fatus Radulphus quam ego Rogerus de predicta convencione fideliter tenenda affidavimus, et ad majorem securitatem huic presenti scripto indentato et inter nos bipartito et deciso sigilla nostra alternatim apposuimus. Hiis testibus, Dominis Thoma

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Pyn vicecomite Devonie, Willielmo de Byckebury, Rogero de Prediaus militibus, Randulpho de Dodscumb, Egidio de Fys-sacre, Johanne de Bouyle, Ricardo de Aure, Thoma Peytewyn, et aliis. Datum Exonie die Sabbati proxima ante Festum Nativitatis beate Marie, anno regni Eegis Edwardi undecimo.
[The seal has disappeared.]

' 1283

Modern Transcription of D&C 1935

By Dr John Booker (Highlighting Differences to Oliver)

Omnibus christi fidelibus ad quorum Noticiam presentes Littere pervenerint Radulphus filius Ricardi Miles & Rogerus le Rous Rector Ecclesie de Nordhull salutem in domino sempiternam. Noverit universitas vestra Quod Anno domini Millesimo Ducentesimo Octogesimo tercio Ita Convenerit inter Nos Quod Ego dictus Radulphus vendidi & tradidi dicto Rogero le Rous unam acram terre de Dominico meo de Wydecumb cum advocacione Ecclesie sancti Pancratii de Wydecumb & Capelle sancti Leonardi de Spichwyke predictae matrici Ecclesie adjacentis pro Octoginta Marcis argenti ad usum meum proprium recipiendum. Et viginti Marcis in auxilium filie Maritande convertendis. De qua quidem pecunia dictus Rogerus Triginta & quinque Marcas mihi solvit premanibus. Ego vero prefatus Rogerus totum residuum predictarum Octoginta & Viginti Marcarum, Videlicet sexaginta & quinque Marcas teneor & bona fide promitto solvere supradicto domino Radulpho sive ejusdem certis assignatis terminis subscriptis sine ulteriori dilacione scilicet in festo sancti Martini Anno supradicto vel ejus octabis quindecim Marcas & in festis Purificacionis Beate Marie Pentecostes & sancti Michaelis proximis sequentibus triginta Marcas equis porcionibus. Et infra finem Anni proximo subsequentis illas predictas viginti Marcas predicto domino Radulpho ad filiam suam Maritandam promissas & debitas. Ad quam quidem pecuniam dictis terminis fideliter solvendam obligo me & omnia bona mea Mobilia & immobilia habita & habenda ubicumque in Vita vel in Morte inventa dicto domino Radulpho & eius assignatis subiciens in premissis me Res Redditus & omnes possessiones meas coercioni Officialis Domini Exoniensis Episcopi qui pro tempore fuerit. Volens & concedens quod quociens in solucione predicta suis terminis facienda defecero quod idem Officialis me per suspencionis excommunicacionis & interdicti sentencias appellacione remota strepituque Judiciali omnino cessante ad hoc compellat. Volo etiam & concedo quod si dicta pecunia nondum persoluta in fata decessero nulla bonorum meorum utpote ad predicatm solucionem specialiter obligatorum fiat administracio donec prefato domino Radulpho vel suis certis assignatis fuerit in hac parte satisfactum. Et ego siquidem prenominatus Radulphus bona fide & sacramento corporaliter prestito pro me & heredibus meis & assignatis promitto quod predictam acram terre cum advocacione antedicta & aliis pertinentiis suis dicto Rogero & quibuscumque dictam terram & advocacionem appropriare sive assignare voluerit Warentizabo imperpetuum. Ita quod si ipse heredes sui vel assignati vel etiam Hii quibus dicta advocacio antedicta imposterum fuerit appropriata per me vel heredes meos vel etiam ad quorumcunque manus dictum Manerium meum de Wydecumb processu temporis pervenerit impeditus seu impediti fuerit vel fuerint quominus de Ecclesia predicta cum Capella sive ad eas cum vacaverint presentando sive ipsas in proprios usus

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retinendo ordinare & ad Voluntatem suam disponere possint dabimus eidem Rogero sive illis qui predicto modo fuerint per nos vel huiusmodi successores nostros impediti ducentas Marcas argenti tam de dicto Manerio de Wydecumb quam de aliis terris meis ubicumque in Devoniam existentibus per Vicecomitem Devonie qui pro tempore fuerit cuius districtioni omnes dictas terras meas in hac parte subicio levandas & prefato Rogero sive cuicumque dictum impedimentum passo vel passis solvendas. Et si contingat dictum Vicecomitem ea occasione aliquam districtionem in dictis terris meis facere quociens eam fecerit tociens de bonis meis vel dictas terras tenencium habeat quadraginta solidos pro labore suo in proprios usus convertendos. Et ad predictas Ducentas Marcas In casu memorato solvendas omnes predictas terras meas tenore presentis scripti obligo & assigno. Et ut fides in omnibus premissis utrobique observetur tam ego prefatus Radulphus quam ego Rogerus de predicta convencione fideliter tenenda affidavimus & ad Maiorem securitatem huic presenti scripto indentato & inter nos bipartito & deciso sigilla nostra alternatim apposimus. Hiis testibus Dominis Thoma Pyn Vicecomite Devonie Willelmo de Byckebury Rogero de Prediaus militibus Randulpho de Dodscumb Egidio de Fyssacre Johanne de Bouyle Ricardo de Aure Thoma Peytewyn & aliis. Datum Exonie die sabbati proxima ante festum Nativitatis Beate Marie Anno Regni Regis Edwardi Undecimo

Translation of D&C 1935

By Dr John Booker

Acknowledgement of debt:

To all the faithful of Christ to whose attention these present letters shall come, Ralph son of Richard, knight, and Roger le Rous, rector of the church of Nordhull, send greetings in the Lord everlasting. May you all know that in the year of God one thousand two hundred and eighty three following an agreement between us, I, the said Ralph, sold and surrendered to the said Roger le Rous one acre of land from my lordship of Widecombe with the advowson of the church of St. Pancras of Widecombe and of the chapel of St. Leonard of Spitchwick adjoining the said mother church, for eighty marks of silver for my own benefit and twenty marks to be used as a marriage portion for my daughter. Of this money, the said Roger paid me thirty-five marks in hand. I, the said Roger, am obliged and in good faith undertake to pay what remains of the said eighty and twenty marks, that is to say sixty-five marks, to the said Ralph or his appointed assigns at the intervals which follow, and without further delay: that is to say, at the feast of St. Martin in the year above mentioned (or within a week of it) fifteen marks, and at the feasts of the purification of the Blessed Mary, Pentecost and St. Michael next ensuing, thirty marks in equal instalments. And before the end of the year next following, [I will pay] the said twenty marks promised and owing to the said lord Ralph for his daughter's marriage portion. I bind myself and all my estate, movable and immovable, which I have or will have anywhere during my life or at my death, with the payment of the said money faithfully at the said times to the said lord Ralph and his heirs, placing myself, my affairs, rents and all my possessions under the control of the office of the lord bishop of Exeter for the time being, desiring and conceding that, to whatever extent I fail to make the payments at the right times, I may be forced to pay the same by the judicial sentences of suspension, excommunication and interdiction, without recourse to the formality and

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clamour of ecclesiastical law. I also ordain and stipulate that if the said monies remain unpaid when I die, there will be no administration of my goods in as far as they are specifically committed to the said payment, until satisfaction has been given to the said lord Ralph or his appointed assigns. And for my part, I the above-mentioned Ralph promise in good faith and by a sacred corporal oath binding myself and my heirs, that I shall guarantee for ever the title to the said acre of land with the said advowson and all their appurtenances, to the said Roger and to whomsoever he may wish to appropriate or assign them. So if he [the said Roger] or his heirs and assigns or indeed those to whom the said advowson might be later appropriated, should be obstructed by me or my heirs or by anyone to whom my manor of Widecombe descends over the course of time, either in making a presentment to the said church and chapel at a vacancy or retaining them to make a disposition when they may wish, then we shall give to the said Roger, or to those who will be obstructed by ourselves or our heirs in the said way, two hundred marks of silver either from my said manor of Widecombe or from my other lands wherever they may be in Devon, the county sheriff for the time being empowered to distrain on my said lands and to compensate the said Roger or anyone else who has suffered in this way. And should it happen that the said sheriff has to distrain on that occasion on my said lands, so in proportion to the extent that he is called upon he may be reimbursed for his efforts with forty shillings from my goods or tenancies to be employed for his own uses. And for the paying of the said two hundred marks in the event envisaged, I bind and commit all my said lands by virtue of these presents. And so that both sides may have confidence in what has been written, both I the said Ralph and I the said Roger declare that we are firmly bound by the agreement and for strengthening the import of this present indented writing we have applied our seals alternately for the sake of each other. With these witnesses: lords Thomas Pyn, sheriff of Devon, William de Byckebury, [and] Roger de Prediaus; knights Ralph de Dodscumb, Giles de Fyssacre, John de Bouyle, Richard de Aure, Thomas Petewyn, and others. Given at Exeter on the Saturday next before the feast of the nativity of the blessed Mary in the eleventh year of the reign of King Edward [4 September 1283]

D&C 1936 (1283)

Catalogue description:

Bond by D&C to pay ten marks yearly towards the stipend of a chaplain celebrating at the altar of SS Richard and Radegund in the church of Exeter, where the body of Roger de Toriz, former dean, is buried, by whose executor, Roger le Rus, the church of Widecombe has been given for the performance of the obit of the said Roger.

Modern Transcription of D&C 1936

By Dr John Booker (not included in Oliver)

Univ[er]sis p[re]sentes litt[er]as inspectur[is] Decanus et Capit[u]lum Exon[iensis] et[er]nam In chr[ist]o sal[ute]m. Nov[er]it univ[er]sitas v[est]ra q[uo]d nos i[n] recompensac[i]o[n]em bono[rum] multipliciu[m] nob[is] a celebr[is] memorie Rog[er]i de Toriz q[uo]ndam Decani Exon[iensis] & maxi[m]e p[ro] illo recolendo beneficio de quada[m] t[er]ra apud Wydecumb' cu[m] advocac[i]o[n]e ecc[lesi]e loci

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eiusde[m] nob[is] p[er] mag[ist]r[u]m Rog[er]um le Rus executore ip[s]ius nobis collate ten[er]i & tenore p[re]senciu[m] f[ir]mit[er] obligari p[ro] nob[is] & successorib[us] n[ost]ris ad solvendum sing[ul]is annis i[n] p[er]petuu[m] de sc^ac[ar]io n[ost]ro Exon[iense] p[ro] anima d[ic]t[i] defuncti decem marcas argenti, videl[ic]et ad stipendiu[m] uni[us] Capellani p[ro] anima eiusde[m] ad Altare s[an]c[t]or[um] Ric[ard]i & Radegund[i] in ecc[les]ia Exonien[se] ubi corp[us] dicti defuncti iacet humatu[m] diurna i[n] p[er]petuum celebrat[ur]i sex marcas. Ad obitu[m] ip[s]ius in eadem ecc[lesi]a sollempnit[er] annuati[m] celebrandum T[ri]nginta Solid[os]. Ad obitu[m] & sup[er] d[ic]t[i] mag[ist]ri Rog[er]i le Rus p[ost] morte[m] ip[s]ius sing[ul]is annis faciend[um] decem solid[os]. Et ad f[est]u[m] de corp[or]e & sang[ui]ne ib[ide]m chr[ist]i p[er] d[ic]t[u]m defunctu[m] in ip[s]a Exonien[se] ecc[lesi]a ad honore[m] dei initiatu[m] fut[ur]is comp[ar]ib[us] instar festi Assu[m]pc[i]onis beate marie dupplicand[um] una[m] marca[m] argenti. Quor[um] o[mn]i[u]m soluc[i]onis onus a p[ro]ximo fut[ur]o festo s[an]c[t]i mich[ael]is i[n] antea nos & successores n[ost]ros suscipimus. Sub hac tam[en] condicio[n]e & forma q[uo]d si q[uo]d absit contingat fut[ur]is temp[or]ib[us] absq[ue] culpa negligentia & def[e]c[t]u n[ost]ro t[er]ram anted[ic]t[am] cum advocac[i]o[n]e nob[is] auferri vel quoq[ue] modo evinci nolum[us] extu[n]c ad d[ic]t[a] onera supportanda aliquo modo ten[er]i. Ad hoc. libros et vestim[en]ta dicto Capellano ad celeb[r]and[um] nec[ess]a[ri]a hiis que i[n] p[re]senciar[um] h[ab]entur vetustate deficientib[us] su[m]ptib[us] n[ost]ris i[n]ventem[us]. In quor[um] o[mn]i[u]m testi[m]o[n]iu[m] Sigillu[m] n[ost]r[u]m p[re]sentib[us] est appensu[m]. Dat[um] Exon' Die mart[is] p[ro]xim^a post f[est]u[m] S[an]c[t]i Hillar[is]. Anno d[omi]ni. m^o. cc^o. lxxx^o. t[er]cio

Translation of D&C 1936

By Dr John Booker

To all who will inspect these present letters, the Dean and Chapter of Exeter send everlasting greetings in Christ. May you all know that we, in return for the manifold good deeds of Roger de Toriz of famous memory, and very mindful in that respect of the benefit of certain land at Widecombe with the advowson of the church there given to us by his executor Master Roger le Rus, we are fully obliged and committed by this deed, for ourselves and our successors, to paying annually out of our exchequer at Exeter for ever, for the soul of the said deceased, ten marks of silver, that is to say six marks as a stipend for one chaplain to celebrate daily and permanently at the altar of saints Richard and Radegund in the church in Exeter where his body lies buried; 30 shillings for an anniversary service to be conducted for him every year in the same church; and one mark of silver to be distributed annually at the feast of the body and blood of Christ introduced into this church by the said deceased to the honour of God, as happens at the feast of the assumption of the Blessed Mary. We commit ourselves and our successors to the responsibility of these payments to begin next Michaelmas and thereafter, but we make the condition and stipulation that if (may it not occur) it happens that the said land and the advowson are taken from us or removed by legal action through no blame, negligence or fault of our own, we will not wish to be bound to continue these responsibilities in any way. However, we will provide, at our expense the essential books and vestments for the celebrations of the said chaplain as they are now worn out with use. In witness of all which, our seal is attached to these

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presents. Given at Exeter on the Tuesday next after the feast of Saint Hilary [20 January] in the year of our Lord 1283

D&C 1937 (1283)

Catalogue description:

Peter Quinil, bishop of Exeter, to the D&C.

Appropriation of the church of Widecombe with the ordination of the obit of Roger de Toriz, as above.

Transcription of D&C 1937

By George Oliver

Appropriacio Ecclesie de Wydecumb.

Universis sancte matris Ecclesie filiis presencium litterarum seriem inspecturis Petrus miseracione Divina Exoniensis Episcopus, Salutem in Domino sempiternam. Nobis Ecclesie nostre Exoniensis, quam utpote sponsam nostram debito caritatis amplexu perstringimus, statum retractantibus, velut inconueniens occurrit quod inter omnes Cathedralis Ecclesias vicinas moribus et honestate, dono Dei, ditissima, omnibus sit ipsa pauperior rerum substantialium facultate. Ejus igitur possessionum exilitatem considerantes, et memoriam pie recordacionis Magistri Rogeri de Toriz quondam Decani Ecclesie memorate recolentes, ad dilecti filii nostri Magistri Rogeri le Rus et coexecutorum suorum testamenti dicti defuncti importunam instanciam et supplicacionem assiduam, Ecclesiam de Wydecumb nostre diocesis Decano et Capitulo Ecclesie nostre supradicte veris ejusdem patronis cum Capella de Spykewyk et omnibus aliis pertinenciis suis, concedimus, confirmamus et tenore presencium appropriamus. Ita quod cedente vel decedente Johanne filio Ricardi nunc Rectore dicte Ecclesie de Wydecumb, liceat prefatis Decano et Capitulo, possessionem ejusdem cum pertinenciis auctoritate presencium irrequisito nostro vel successorum consensu, ingredi et eam sibi et successoribus suis habere et pleno jure tenere et possidere imperpetuum. Salva vicariis ibidem pro tempore existentibus per nos et successores nostros ad presentacionem supradictorum Decani et Capituli instituendis quibus ipsius Ecclesie cura animarum incumbet, vicaria sua per nos vel successores nostros taxanda. Salvis eciam decem marcis sterlingorum singulis annis inperpetuum de Scaccario eorundem solvendis et per subscriptas particulas in supradicta Ecclesia Exoniensi annuatim distribuendis, videlicet, cuidam idoneo et honesto capellano per dictos Decanum et Capitulum deputando, et non sine justa et rationabili causa dum vixerit amovendo, pro anima dicti defuncti ad altare Sanctorum Ricardi et Radegundis in eadem Ecclesia nostra, ubi corpus dicti defuncti jacet huma-

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tum, successive celebranti nomine stipendii sex marcis, cui nichilominus capellano pro tempore existenti dicti Decanus et

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Capitulum in libris vestimentis et aliis ad celebrandum necessariis, hiis que ad presens in predicto altari habentur vetustate deficientibus, de scaccario suo providebunt et ea invenient. Ad obitum vero ipsius defuncti singulis annis faciendum singulos triginta solidos, ita scilicet quod quibus canonicus ipsius Ecclesie qui ipso die obitus presens fuerit in Missa pro prefato defuncto celebranda duodecim denarios inde percipiat, quilibet vicarius sex denarios, quilibet clericus de secunda forma duos denarios, et quilibet puer de choro unum denarium : absentibus autem cujuscunque gradus existant nichil omnino solvatur. Et si quid de predictis triginta solidis ultra hoc remanserit inter capellanos et clericos chori et civitatis per dispositionem senescallorum dicti capituli fideliter distribuatur. Ad obitum etiam prenominati Magistri Rogeri le Rus postquam de medio sublatus fuerit, die anniversarii sui in eadem Ecclesia nostra Exoniensi in forma communi celebrandum singulis annis singulos decem solidos. Et ad Festum de Corpore et Sanguine Jhesu Christi per prefatum defunctum in dicta Ecclesia primitus introductum in cera et cotidiana distribucione ac aliis circumstanciis instar Festi Assumptionis beate Marie Virginis duplicandi unam marcam. Quicquid autem de proventibus dicte Ecclesie cum pertinenciis residuum fuerit deductis vicaria et decem marcis predictis et supradictis capellano ad celebrandum necessariis in augmentum cotidianarum distribucionum canonicorum ejusdem capituli nostri qui in majore refeccione diei in civitate presente fuerint, volumus et statuimus converti. In quorum omnium testimonium et perpetuam firmitatem, sigillum nostrum una cum sigillo predicti Capituli nostri presentibus est appensum. Datum Exonie, in crastino Purificacionis beate Marie, anno Domini, M.°C.°C., octogesimo tercio, et consecracionis nostre anno quarto.'

[Little remains of the two seals of Bishop Quivil and of the Chapter.]

' 3 Feb. 1283-4.

Modern Transcription of D&C 1937

By Dr John Booker (Highlighting Differences to Oliver)

Universis sancte **M**atris **e**ccliesie filiiis presencium litterarum seriem inspecturis Petrus miseracione **d**ivina Exoniensis **e**piscopus **s**alutem in **d**omino sempiternam. Nobis **e**ccliesie nostre Exoniensis quam utpote sponsam nostram debito caritatis amplexu perstringimus statum retractantibus velut inconveniens occurrit quod inter omnes **c**athedrales **e**ccliesias vicinas moribus **&** honestate dono **d**e*i* ditissima omnibus sit ipsa pauperior rerum substantialium facultate. **E**i*u*s igitur possessionum exilitatem considerantes **&** memoriam pie recordacionis Magistri Rogeri de Toriz quondam

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Decani ecclesie memorate recolentes ad dilecti filii nostri Magistri Rogeri le Rus & coexecutorum suorum testamenti dicti defuncti importunam instanciam & supplicacionem assiduum ecclesiam de Wydecumb nostre Diocesis Decano & Capitulo ecclesie nostre supradicte veris eiusdem patronis cum capella de Spykewyk & omnibus aliis pertinenciis suis concedimus confirmamus & tenore presencium appropriamus. Ita quod cedente vel decedente Johanne filio Ricardi nunc rectore dicte ecclesie de Wydecumb liceat prefatis Decano & Capitulo possessionem eiusdem cum pertinenciis auctoritate presencium irrequisito nostro vel successorum consensu ingredi & eam sibi & successoribus suis habere & pleno Jure tenere & possidere imperpetuum. Salva vicariis ibidem pro tempore existentibus per nos & successores nostros ad presentacionem supradictorum Decani & Capituli instituendis quibus ipsius ecclesie cura animarum incumbet vicaria sua per nos vel successores taxanda. Salvis etiam decem Marcis sterlingorum singulis annis inperpetuum de scaccario eorundem solvendis & per subscriptas particulas in supradicta ecclesia Exoniensi annuatim distribuendis, videlicet cuidam idoneo & honesto capellano per dictos Decanum & Capitulum deputando & non sine justa & rationabili causa dum vixerit amovendo pro anima dicti defuncti ad altare sanctorum Ricardi & Radegundi in eadem ecclesia nostra ubi corpus dicti defuncti jacet humatum successive celebranti nomine stipendii sex Marcis Cui nichilominus Capellano pro tempore existenti dicti Decanus & Capitulum in libris vestimentis & aliis ad celebrandum necessariis hiis que ad presens in predicto altari habentur vetustate deficientibus de scaccario suo providebunt & ea invenient. Ad obitum vero ipsius defuncti singulis annis faciendum singulos triginta solidos Ita scilicet quod quibus canonicus ipsius ecclesie qui ipso die obitus presens fuerit in missa pro prefato defuncto celebranda duodecim denarios inde percipiat Quilibet vicarius sex denarios Quilibet clericus de secunda forma duos denarios Et quilibet puer de choro unum denarium. Absentibus autem cuiuscunque gradus existant nichil omnino solvatur. Et si quid de predictis triginta solidis ultra hoc remanserit inter capellanos & clericos chori & Civitatis per dispositionem senescallorum dicti Capituli fideliter distribuatur. Ad obitum etiam prenominati Magistri Rogeri le Rus postquam de medio sublatus fuerit die anniversarii sui in eadem ecclesia nostra exoniensi in forma communi celebrandum singulis annis singulos decem solidos. Et ad festum de corpore & sanguine ihesu christi per prefatum in dicta ecclesia primitus introductum in cera & cotidiana distribucione ac aliis circumstanciis instar festi Assumpcionis Beate Marie virginis duplicandi unam Marcam. Quicquid autem de proventibus dicte ecclesie cum pertinenciis residuum fuerit deductis vicaria & decem Marcis predictis & supradictis capellano ad celebrandum necessariis in augmentum cotidinarum distribucionum canonicorum eiusdem Capituli nostri qui in majore refeccione diei in Civitate presentes fuerint volumus & statuimus converti. In quorum omnium testimonium & perpetuam firmitatem sigillum nostrum una cum sigillo predicti Capituli nostri presentibus est appensum. Datum Exonie In crastino Purificacionis Beate Marie Anno domini. M^o.CC^o. Octogesimo tercio Et consecracionis nostre anno quarto

Translation of D&C 1937

By Dr John Booker

Appropriation:

Transcriptions and Translations of D&C 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 2112 and 2113

To all those sons of the mother church who will inspect the series of present letters, Peter, by divine mercy Bishop of Exeter, sends greetings in the Lord everlasting. We being mindful of the status of our church of Exeter, inasmuch as we treat it like our bride with the necessary embrace of affection, and finding it improper that among the community of our cathedral churches the God-given riches of morality and virtue should rank lower than the stock of worldly goods; mindful, therefore, of the insignificance of material possessions, and reflecting on the memory of the pious legacy of Master Roger de Toriz one time Dean of the church, we have granted, confirmed and by the intention of these present writings have appropriated the church of Widecombe in our diocese, at the instigation, entreaty and earnest request of our well-beloved son Master Roger le Rus and his co-executors of the will of the deceased [Dean], to the Dean and Chapter, the true patrons of our said church with the chapel of Spitchwick and all its appurtenances, in such a way that, at the retirement or death of John, son of Richard, the present rector of the said church of Widecombe, it may be lawful for the said Dean and Chapter to enter into possession of the same with its appurtenances on the authority of these presents, by the automatic agreement of ourselves or our successors, and to hold and possess them for themselves and their successors with full title, saving for the incumbents from time to time instituted by us and our successors at the presentation of the said Dean and Chapter, the revenues of office necessary for the cure of souls of the said church, these revenues to be assessed by us and our successors; saving also ten marks sterling to be paid every year for always from their exchequer to be distributed in a particular way in the said church at Exeter, that is to say six marks in the name of a stipend to a certain suitable and virtuous chaplain to be appointed by the said Dean and Chapter (and not to be removed from office in his lifetime without a right and proper reason), celebrating successively at the altar of Saints Richard and Radegund in the same church where the body of the deceased lies buried; to which chaplain for the time being, the said Dean and Chapter, notwithstanding, will provide and furnish from their exchequer the books, vestments and other material necessary for celebration, because what is to be had currently at the said altars is worn out. For the service on the anniversary of the said deceased, thirty shillings are to be paid annually, out of which the canon of the church who will conduct the mass will receive on each occasion twelve pence, each vicar six pence, each lower grade priest two pence, and each choir boy one penny, and nothing is to be paid to anyone at any grade who is an absentee. If anything is left over from the said thirty shillings, it is to be responsibly distributed by the stewards of the said Chapter among the chaplains and clergy of the choir and city. Another ten shillings [is to be provided] each year for an anniversary mass in common form for the afore-named Master Roger le Rus to be celebrated in our said church in Exeter when he is taken from our midst. And at the feast of the body and blood of Jesus Christ, introduced into this church by the said deceased, one mark is to be spent on the distribution of wax and other everyday necessities as is done at the feast of the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Moreover, if anything is left over from the proceeds of the said church and its appurtenances, having deducted parish dues and the said ten marks and the above-mentioned requirements for the chaplain to officiate, we wish and ordain that it be used to supplement the everyday distributions by the canons of our said Chapter who are engaged in the provision of a daily main meal in the city. In witness of which, and to add lasting authority, our seal is added to these presents, together with the seal of our said Chapter. Given at Exeter on the day after [the feast of] the purification of the

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Blessed Mary [3 February], in the year of our Lord 1283 and in the fourth year of our consecration

D&C 2112 & 2113 (1285, 6 Jun)

Catalogue description:

King Edward 1 to Serlo de Lanladron, Roger de Rous and Peter (Quivil), bishop of Exeter.

Two copies of royal licence in mortmain to assign churches to the D&C of Exeter; to Serlo to assign the church of St Constantine, to Roger that of Widecombe, to Bishop Peter that of Hembury.

D&C 2112 has portion of Great Seal on silk strings.

D&C 2113 has almost complete Great Seal.

Transcription of D&C 2112

By Dr John Booker

Letters Patent

Edwardus dei gra[cia] Rex Angl[ie] Dominus Hib[er]n[ie] & Dux Aquitann[ie] omnibus ballivis et fidelib[us] suis ad quos presentes littere pervenerint sal[u]t[e]m. Licet de com[m]uni consilio regni n[ost]ri p[ro]viderimus q[uo]d non liceat viris religiosis seu aliis ingredi feodum alicuius ita q[uo]d ad manum mortuam deveniat sine licencia nostra & capitalis domini de quo res illa immediate tenetur, Volentes tamen dil[e]c[t]o nobis Serlone de Lanladron gratiam facere specialem dedimus et licentiam q[uo]d ip[s]e dare possit & assignare dil[e]c[t]is nobis in chr[ist]o Decano & Capitulo eccl[es]ie beati Petri Exon' eccl[es]iam ville sancti Constantini & dil[e]c[t]o nobis mag[ist]ro Rogero le Rous q[uo]d ip[s]e possit dare & assignare eisdem Decano & Capitulo eccl[es]iam de Wydecumbe & venerabili patri P Exon[iensi] q[uo]d ip[s]e possit dare & assignare eisdem Decano & Capitulo ecclesiam de Hembury Tenendas & habendas sibi & successorib[us] suis imp[er]petuum & eisdem Decano & Capit[u]lo q[uo]d ecclesias illas a prefatis Serlone Rog[er]o & Ep[iscop]o recipere possint tenore presenciu[m] similit[er] licenciam concedimus specialem. Nolentes q[uo]d ijdem Serlo Rogerus vel Ep[iscopu]s seu prefati Decanus & Capitulum v[e]l eor[um] successores racione statuti p[re]d[i]c[t]i per nos v[e]l heredes n[ost]ros occasionentur in aliquo v[e]l graventur. Salvis tamen capitalib[us] dominis feodi illius serviciis inde debitis & consuetis. In cuius rei testimoniu[m] has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste me ip[s]o apud Westmonasteriu[m] sexto die Junii anno regni n[ost]ri Tercidecimo

Translation of D&C 2112

by Dr John Booker

Edward by the grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland and Duke of Aquitaine sends greetings to all his bailiffs and faithful subjects to whom these present letters shall come. While recognising that we have stipulated through the common council of

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our kingdom that it will be unlawful for men engaged in religion to hold an estate in fee simple (in order for it not to devolve into a mortmain tenure), except by a licence from ourselves and the chief lord of the fee, wishing nevertheless to make a special indulgence for Serle of Lanladron, we have granted him permission, in as far as we can, to give and assign to our beloved Dean and Chapter of the church of the blessed Peter at Exeter, the church of the town of St. Constantine; and to our beloved master Roger le Rous permission to give and assign to the same Dean and Chapter the church of Widecombe; and to the reverend father P[eter], Bishop of Exeter, permission to give and assign to the said Dean and Chapter the church of Hembury, to hold and to have to them and their successors for ever; and we similarly give our permission to the said Dean and Chapter, by the authority of these presents, to receive these churches from the said Serle, Roger, and the Bishop. We do not wish that the said Serle, Roger, or the Bishop, or their successors, should be in any way harassed or persecuted by us or our heirs by reason of the statute [of mortmain] aforesaid. The usual services are to be supplied to the chief lords of the fee. In witness of which we have made these letters to be issued open. With myself as witness, given at Westminster on the 6th of June in the 13th year of our reign [1285]

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