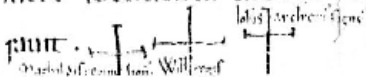


A Charter of Gift and Grant of the Land and Church of Saint Mary in Caen, Bury St Edmond, France by William the Conqueror, Queen Matilda and by a monk of John, Archbishop with their “marks of signature” for the Abbot to oversee and fulfill the terms. Charter and translation sent to me from Alan Warren of Tarrant Keyneston, Dorset, UK.

Ego Walerahdys p̄salute dñi mei Willielm̄ regis anglor̄ & ducis normannor̄
& p̄salute ac p̄deptione anime mee atq; p̄animabus tā patris & matris mee quā
uxoris ac filior̄ meor̄. trado ecclesie di que in honore beatissimi stephani cadomi sita.
ecclesiam sc̄e marie que michi indusi est & omnia que ad eā p̄tinent. id est t̄ra dua
p̄carucaru. molendinu unū. & totā aquā que ibidem est sicut usq; n̄ in meo
domino habere solitus sū. Ea quoq; que in vicinia ibidem sunt pascua. omib; eidem
loci animalib; cōmuna eē p̄mitto. Licentia ducentis porcis ubiq; mei fuerint sin
gulis annis pascua concedo. Ecclesiam autē eo tenore trado. ut sicadomensis abbas
eiusdem locū ad dī seruitū aptū p̄uideat. & ubi monachi honeste & regularit̄ ut
ueq; ualeant congruū iudicauerit. ibidem monachos constituat. In cui p̄udentia
cōmitto quicquid ei de eadem ecclesia melius & conuenientius sc̄dm dñm statuere
placuerit. Trado etiā om̄em decimā t̄rarū ac t̄rū mearū tā mammalib; quā in
ceteris rebus. meorū u' hominū tantū in legibus. Om̄s quoq; presbiteros cū suis
ecclesiis eccliarūq; beneficiis & qual̄ a me retinent terris. & domū quandā nun
dome sicut habere solitus sū p̄pria uoluntate concedo. Ut autē hoc in p̄pectuū
firmū habeat. mei p̄cedis dōm̄s rex p̄pria manu firmavit. & ut in supradī
cto monasterio consistentes monachi ad omnia q̄b; indiguerint ligna in meo ne
more succidendi licentia habeant. mea postulatione p̄pria annotatione robo
rauit. 

Grant of Church and Lands of St Mary, Bury St Edmunds

I, WATERAND, for the health of my Lord WILLIAM, KING of the English and Duke of the Normans, and for the health and redemption of my soul, and for the souls both of my father and mother, and of my wife and sons,

Hand over to the church of our Lord which is in honour of the most blessed STEPHEN, sited in Caen, the church of Saint MARY in Bury, which is mine, and all those things which pertain to it,

That is, land of two carucates, one mill, and all the water which is in the same place, just as I have until now been accustomed to have in my demesne.

I also allow those pasture rights which are mine in the same neighbourhood to be common for all animals in the same places. Moreover I grant pasture rights for two hundred pigs, wherever they may be belonging to me, every year.

I hand over the church or its substance so that if the Abbot of Caen should provide a suitable divine service in the same place, and when he shall judge it convenient, and worthwhile for monks to live there honestly and regularly, he may constitute monks in the same place.

In anticipation of which I commit to him all things concerning the same church, according as it is better and more convenient whilst it pleases him to arrange it.

I also hand over all my tithes of lands and other things, both in animals and in other things; indeed so many of my men [as may be needed] in harvest times.

Also of my own will I grant all priests, with their churches and benefices of churches and lands which they hold of me, and a certain market house, just as I am accustomed to have.

In order that this may be had in perpetuity as firm as before, my Lord the King has, at my entreaty, confirmed it with his own hand.

And in order that the monks being in the abovesaid monastery, who will have need of all things for this purpose, may have licence to cut down timbers in my wood, he has, at my request, strengthened it with his own annotation.

†
the mark of
Queen Matilda

†
the mark of William
King of the English

the mark of John, Archbishop.
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