The Genealogist.

THE ANCIENT EARLS OF LEICESTER.

By G. W. WATSON.

In this sketch of the genealogy of the Earls of Leicester of the family of Beaumont, I give extracts from, or at the least, references to, the original authorities from whom it has been compiled. An appendix contains certain charters, many of which have already been briefly referred to in the notes to the article on the Earls of Leicester in the "Complete Peerage" by G. E. C. To that article indeed the following should, in great measure, be considered as supplementary.

I. Robert, Count of Meulan in the Vexin Français, Sire de Beaumont, Pont-Audemer, Brionne, and other lands in Normandy, is generally considered to have been also Earl of Leicester. Orderic, in a well-known passage, relates how the Count, with the King's help and by his own craft, acquired the whole town of Leicester, *et inde consul in Anglia factus, omnes regni proceres divitiis et potestate præcessit.* And again, *Robertus comitatum de Mellento in pago Vilcasino . . . possedit, et in Anglia comitatum Legecestriæ.* The cartulary of St. Mary at Leicester states that, previous to 1107, *Robertus comes Mellenti, consulatum Leicestriæ adeptus,* rebuilt that collegiate church. There seems to be no doubt, therefore, that he possessed the *comitatus,* which must be held to have comprehended the dignity of earl. Yet it is equally certain that he never styled himself Earl of Leicester.[1] It is not, however, to be expected that the Count of Meulan, already a *comes,* would either have dropped his illustrious name to assume the title of Earl of Leicester, or else would have used both titles together;[2] either course would have been without a parallel, and, indeed, without a purpose; for at the commencement of the twelfth century the territorial designation was held of little account. Hence it is not surprising that we find him styled Count of Meulan only, both in charters and in chronicles.

He married firstly, according to Orderic, Godechilde, dau. of

[1] His son calls himself, in a charter to St. Evroult, Robertus comes Leicestrie, comitis Mellentini filius. (La Roque, Hist. de la Maison de Harcourt, preuves, p. 2217).

There is an inspeximus by King Edward which would settle the matter if it could be relied on. The charter as there quoted runs :—Universis . . . Robertus comes de Mellento et Leicestrie . . . dedi et concessi . . . Deo et ecclesie sanctorum apostolorum Petri et Pauli de Pratellis . . . manerium de Thoftes . . . But to me such evidence seems valueless. I remark that Henry II. confirming the said gift says, Ex dono Roberti comitis Mellenti ecclesiam . . . , et manerium de Thoftes, making no mention of Leicester.

Ralph II.,[3] Seigneur de Toeny and de Conches. From her he must have been separated by 1096, for in that year she was married, as first wife, to Baldwin of Boulogne, afterwards King of Jerusalem, accompanied her husband on the crusade, and died at Maresia (Marash) before reaching Antioch, in 1097. Her second marriage is attested by Albert of Aix and William of Tyre as well as by Orderic, but the latter is the sole authority for her marriage with Count Robert. Many writers, indeed, disbelieve his statement altogether, seeing that the continuator of William of Jumièges says that Godechilde, dau. of this Ralph de Toeny, married Robert de Neufbourg, younger son of Henry Earl of Warwick, and nephew of Count Robert.[4] But the absurdity of attributing to Robert de Neufbourg a wife from whom he must have been separated by 1096 is sufficiently apparent. For that eminent baron, who was afterwards seneschal of Normandy, did not die till 30 Aug. 1159, according to two chronicles of Bec ;[5] and his mother Margaret (du Perche) was actually living in 1156. Whether the statement by Orderic is correct or not, it is probable that Count Robert had some wife before his undoubted marriage in 1096, as he was near fifty at least by then.[6] This first marriage, if such there were, whether with Godechilde de Toeny or with another, will no doubt have been childless, though the authors of L'Art de Vérifier les Dates think that there may have been a son, viz. Robert de Meulan, who was a monk of St. Martin at Pontoise.[7]

In 1096 Count Robert sought in marriage Elizabeth or Isabel, dau. of Hugh le Grand, younger son of Henry I., King of the French, and Count of Vermandois and Valois in right of his wife Adelaide, dau. of Herbert IV., Count of Vermandois and Valois. There were difficulties in the way, for the parties were too nearly allied. Ivo of Chartres forbade the marriage.[8] A dispensation was, however, obtained from the Pope, on condition that Count Hugh should join the first crusade ; and the marriage was accordingly celebrated just before that Count's departure, which took place in April 1096. After bringing her husband three sons and five daughters, the Countess Isabel eloped with William de Warrenne, Earl of Surrey, as is known by the testimony of many writers. The Count of Meulan died 5 June 1118,[9] and was buried in

[3] L'Art de Vérifier les Dates calls him Roger by an obvious slip. Mr. Planché has, however, copied it (Conq. and his Comp., I, p. 211).

[4] Robertus de Novoburgo habuit terram quam pater habuerat in Normannia, hic Robertus fuit amator intimus et benefactor Beccensis ecclesiæ, hic accepit uxorem sororem Rogerii de Toenio filiam secundi Rodulfi, Godechildam nomine, ex qua habuit plures filios, scilicet Henricum et fratres ejus. The wife of Robert de Neufbourg is indicated in a charter of Bec :—Ego Robertus de Novoburgo, concedente matre mea Margareta comitissa, et Godelbreda uxore mea, et filiis meis Henrico et Radulpho, . . . dedi sancte Marie de Becco. . . (La Roque, preuves, p. 1395).

[5] See Appendix, no. vi.

[6] He was a novice in arms, *tiro*, as William of Poitou expresses it, at the battle of Hastings. Orderic copies the word.

[7] I question whether this individual was not rather of the family of Mello in the Beauvaisis ; they had much to do with the Church of St. Martin.

[8] See Appendix, no. i.

[9] Ord. Vital , lib. xii, c. 1 ; Chron. Rotomag. The statement that he died a monk is not confirmed by Orderic or by the Codex of Préaux, is little consonant with what Henry of Huntingdon tells us of his last moments (Ep. ad Walterum), and must be rejected.

the chapterhouse of St. Pierre at Préaux, at the feet of his uncle Robert, son of Humphrey de Vieilles.

Children. 1. Waleran, born in 1104,[10] succeeded his father as Count of Meulan. To him King Stephen, in 1136, betrothed his daughter, then aged two years only (Ord. Vital. lib. xiii, c. 22) ; but he did not marry her. He married, before 1141, Agnes, daughter of Amauri III., and sister of Amauri IV. and of Simon, all three successively Counts of Evreux.[11] She was heiress of Gournay-sur-Marne,[12] which she inherited from her mother Agnes, only daughter and heir of Anseau de Garlande, Seneschal of France. By her Count Waleran had six sons, Robert, Waleran, Amauri, Roger, Ralph, and Stephen.[13] He became a monk at Préaux, twenty-one days before his death, which taking place in April 1166, he was buried in the chapterhouse of that Abbey near his father on the 9th, being then aged 61.[14] His son Robert succeeded him.[15]

2. Robert, Earl of Leicester, twin with Waleran.[10]

3. Hugh, called the Poor, created Earl of Bedford by King Stephen (*Gesta Stephani*), who gave him in marriage the daughter of Simon de Beauchamp. (Ord. Vital., lib. xiii, c. 36). La Roque says that his wife was Alice d'Estouteville, and that he was the father of Hugh of Bedford, father by Amicia de l'Isle of Abel of Bedford. But this may be dismissed as wholly without proof.[16]

La Roque pretends there was a fourth son, Dreux, Seigneur de Boisemont. He has been followed, without inquiry, by all subsequent genealogists, but may be easily convicted of error from his own *preuves*. For this Dreux is known only by a charter of his grandson William, Seigneur de Boisemont, dated 1193. Here Dreux is positively called son of a Walter.[17]

4. Adelina : *m.* Hugh IV., Baron of Montfort-sur-Rile.[18] Their son

[10] Comes Robertus cum Willelmo Ebroicensi comite pacem fecit et Almarico nepoti ejus filiam suam, quæ tunc unius anni erat, pepigit . . . Sequenti anno geminam prolem Walerannum et Robertum Isabel uxor Mellentini comitis enixa est. (Ord. Vital., lib. xi, c. 6, ad ann. 1103).

[11] See Appendix, no. v.

[12] But not also of Rochefort in Iveline (as La Roque, Anselme, and L'Art de Ver. les Dates assert) which was retained by the Counts of Montfort.

[13] Cartul. of the Priory of Gournay-sur-Marne. (La Roque, preuves, p. 1620.)

[14] Codex S. Petri Pratellensis. (La Roque, preuves, suppl. p. 2.)

[15] Walerannus comes Mellenti factus monachus 1166 Pratelli obiit, et successit ei filius ejus Robertus natus ex sorore Simonis comitis Ebroicensis. Duxit autem idem Robertus filiam Renaldi comitis Cornubensis. (R. de Monte.)

[16] La Roque in fact concocted it (with the help of the memoirs of the Sieur de Quinkernon) by noticing in the Monasticon a charter of Geoffrey de Clinton, witnessed by Hugh of Leicester, and a charter of Robert fitz Ralph witnessed by Hugh of Bedford and by Abeis his son.

[17] Sciant . . . quod ego Willelmus de Mellento ratam volo esse eleemosynam illam quam vir felicis memorie, avus meus Drogo de Mellento, contulit ecclesie beate Marie Magdalene, scilicet dimidium modium bladii in campipartitia sua apud Boissemontem ad luminare predicte ecclesie, et hospitem unum juxta caput ecclesie dicte et vigultam Walterii patris sui. (Cartul. of Boisemont—La Roque, preuves, p. 1637.)

[18] Turstinus igitur de Bastenburc habuit duos filios Willelmum Bertrannum, et Hugonem cum barba de Monteforti ; filius autem hujus Hugonis fuit secundus Hugo qui postea fuit monachus Beccensis ; idem vero Hugo de filia Ricardi de Bellofago habuit unam filiam quam Gislebertus de Gans duxit ; ex qua genuit quartum Hugonem, qui duxit Adelinam filiam Roberti comitis Mellenti, ex qua genuit filium suum Robertum et alios. (Contin. W. Gemetic.)

Robert had the celebrated trial by battle with Henry of Essex in 1163, and died in 1178. His honour of Montfort was confiscated by Henry II. in 1161, but he retained Coquainvilliers and Orbec. He *m.* Clementia, dau. of Henry, Baron of Fougeres in Brittany, and had five children, Hugh, Ralph, William, Henry, and Aelina, a nun. (Stapleton, *Rot. Norm.*, vol. i, pp. 90, 118). Hugh seems to have held Montfort, for, adhering to King John, Philip Augustus, abt. 1204, declared the honour of Montfort, *qui fuit Hugonis de Monteforti*, to be of his domain. (De Lisle, *Cartul. Normand*, no. 113). The barony of Coquainvilliers escheated at the same time to the French crown. (*Registrum regis Philippi de feodis*, edit. Léchaudé, p. 185). Robert, son of Hugh by his wife M., appears to have obtained some restitution. He *m.* Odelina.[19] The exact relationship of Thurstan de Montfort of Warwickshire to this family has not been ascertained.

5. [Alice].[20] Auberée or Albereda (so named in the cartulary of the Abbey of St. Vincent des Bois,[21] of which her husband was the principal founder): *m.*[22] Hugh II., Seigneur de Châteauneuf in Thimerais, Brézolles, Rémalard and Sorel. Hugh II. was eldest son of a certain Gervase (living 1112), who *m.* Mabel, only dau. and hr. of Hugh I., Seigneur de Châteauneuf, etc., by Mabel de Montgomery (living 1131), dau. of Roger, Earl of Shropshire. (Ord. Vital., lib. v, c. 13; xi, c. 44; Ivo Carnot., *Epist.* 261). Gervase had also four other children, Peter, Gervase, Guasco and Mabel. (*Cartul. of St. Père at Chartres*, pp. 287, 518). Hugh I. was *nepos et hæres*[23] of Albert, Seigneur de Châteauneuf, etc., being in fact son of Waszo, Albert's brother. Albert witnessed a charter of Henry I., King of the French, *actum publice in obsidione castri, quod vocatur Timerias*, in 1058 (*Cartul. of St. Germain-des-Prés*),[24] and had, besides Waszo, two other brothers, Teudo and Guarin.[25]

[19] Ludovicus . . . Notum . . . Quod de ducentis libratis terre quas M. quondam uxor Hugonis de Monteforti, ratione dotis, de terra que fuit dicti Hugonis quam tenet et possidet, que post decessum ipsius M. per escaetam ad nos devenire debebat, Roberto de Monteforti, qui Odelinam karissime matris nostre Regine domicellam accipit in uxorem, tres partes dedimus et concessimus, etc. [mentioning that Robert was son of M.] Actum 1234, mense junii. (De Lisle, Cartul. Normand, no. 408.)

[20] The three christian names in [ ] are given by La Roque As there was no sort of evidence for them, they were very properly rejected in L'Art de V. les Dates. It is here shown, probably for the first time, that two of the three are erroneous.

[21] Du Chesne, Maison de Dreux, p. 58. He, the only authority on the subject, has there given a very sufficient account of the descendants of Hugh II. His pedigree of Hugh's ancestors I have, however, found it necessary to considerably modify. It should be observed that he does not notice Albereda's parentage.

[22] Orderic says of the three sisters of Waleran Count of Meulan:—Una data est Hugoni de Monteforti, et alia Hugoni de Novo castello filio Gervasii, tertia vero Willelmo Lupello Ascelini filio, qui post mortem Roberti Goelli fratris sui adeptus est cum toto patrimonio arcem de Ibreio. (Lib. xii, c. 34, circa 1122.)

[23] Ord. Vital., lib. iv, c. 20. The statement is quite correct. We find Hugh described as nepos viri clarissimi Alberti, in one charter, and in another we read.—Hanc cartam firmaverunt filii Waszonis, Hugo videlicet, domni Alberti heres, et Guaszo, frater ejus. (Cartul. S. Petri Carnot., edit. Guérard, pp. 134, 140.)

[24] Du Chesne, Maison de Broyes, preuves, pp. 6, 8.

[25] . . . Ego Albertus, nobilissimi Ribaldi filius, . . favente mea carissima conjuge, Adelaisa nomine, . . . æcclesiam de Bruerolensi vico, quam pater meus in honore sancti Germani episcopi construxit . . . Sancto Petro cœnobii Carnotensis concedo . . . S. Radulfi comitis S. Walterii comitis, filii Radulfi. S. Hugonis comitis. S. Alberti, qui hanc largitionem fecit. S. Teudonis, fratris Alberti. S. Guarini, fratris ejusdem. . . (Cartul. S. Petri, p. 128.)

His[26] wife's name was Adelaisa,[25] and he was son of Ribald, who is styled in the cartulary of St. Père *nobilissimus*, and *clarissimus, vir*, and who to a charter of King Robert in 1028 subscribed himself Ribaldus *Drocacensis* (de Dreux). (*Cartul. of Coulombs*).[24]

6. [Auberée]: Mahildis or Matilda (so named in the cartulary of St. Père): *m.* William Louvel[22] (Lupellus), Seigneur d'Ivry and de Breval. They had four children, Robert, Waleran, Elizabeth and Helisente.[27] In 1172 the service of this Waleran was returned at one knight for the office of Butler and three knights for the barony of Ivry, besides others.[28] William Louvel had succeeded his elder br. Robert about 1119. Of his five other brothers[29] the only one certainly known is Roger le Begue, Seigneur de Grossœuvre. They were sons of Ascelin Goel, by Isabel, illeg. dau. of William de Breteuil. Ascelin, who was *m.* about 1092, had a brother William, and was son of Robert,[30] who died a monk at Bec. (Ord. Vital., lib. v, c. 20; viii, c. 24; xii, c. 13). This Robert, *miles de castro Ebroico* (Ivry), *m.* Hildeburge, niece of Gertrude, wife of Hilduin son of Hermar.[31] Robert was son of another Robert, by Albereda.[32]

[26] Du Chesne, citing the cartulary of S. Père, gives Albert three sons, Herbert, Hervey, and Hugh. The statement is unlikely; I cannot find it in the printed edition, and conjecture he misread a charter there given on p. 132.

[27] Presentibus litteris ad futurorum transeat noticiam, quod Willelmus, qui cognominatur Lupellus, Ebriaci castri dominus, dampnum illud quod nostre, sancti Petri Carnoti scilicet, ecclesie gravissimum intulerat, edificatione novorum molendinorum suorum de Esiaco, super nostros ibidem sitos, taliter emendavit. . . . Pedagii quoque de Nantilliaco decimam, a patre suo Goello donatam, nobis etiam ipse dono suo confirmavit. . . . Hec omnia, sicut supra sunt annotata, predictus Willelmus ecclesie nostre donavit, eaque omnia, tam ab uxore sua et filiis quam etiam a fratribus suis, nobis concedi fecit. . . . Sequentis vero donationis a Mahilde, uxore ejusdem Willelmi, et a filiis eorum Roberto et Galeranno, et filiabus Elysabet et Helisent, facte, testes sunt isti. . . . (Cartul. S. Petri, p. 605.) If the reference in Collins (Peerage, 1779, vol. viii, p. 167) is to be relied on, William Louvel had another son, Richard de Percival, who inherited Stowell.

[28] In 1076 (or 1071, according to the Benedictines) Roger d'Ivry, pincerna domini Willelmi regis et ducis Normannorum, founded a monastery at Ivry. (Chron. Rotomag., edit. Chéruel, p. 7; cf. Gall. Christ., tom. xi, p. 652.) The relationship which must have existed between this Roger and Ascelin is not known to me. From Orderic we learn that his wife was Adelina, dau. of Hugh de Grentemesnil. He must have been successor, if not son, of the Hugh, pincerna de Ivry, whom I find in three charters, circa 1066 (Cartul. S. Trinitatis de monte Rotomagi, edit. Deville, pp. 442, 446) together with Ralph (de Tancarville) the Chamberlain, Gerold the Seneschal, etc.

[29] Ralph (not William) Louvel, Lord of Castle-Cary in 1138 (Ord. Vital., H. Hunt.) was perhaps a son of Ascelin (and not of William, as genealogists relate). Castle-Cary and other manors belonging to Walter de Douai in 1086 he must have obtained as coheir to that Baron. Ascelin himself in 1086 held East and West Harptree, Stowell, Weston, and eight other manors co. Somer. as subtenant of the Bishop of Coutances. But William fitz John, Lord of Harptree in 1138 (H. Hunt., Gesta Stephani), could scarcely have been his grandson, as is usually supposed.

[30] By considering Goellus to be equivalent to Goello, a district in Brittany, this Robert has been identified with Robert (qualified *comes* in the cartulary of the Priory of Lehon), son of Eudes Count of Penthievre and Goello, and therefore brother of the Alans, Lords of Richmond in Yorkshire. His true parentage is here, I believe for the first time, given. A charter of Robert *pincerna*, son of Ascelin, to the Abbey of Mont S. Michel, mentioning his son Goscelin and his brother Walter (D'Anisy and Ste. Marie, Rech. sur le Domesday, p. 121), if indeed it relates to this family at all, I cannot explain.

[31] . . . Deinde, instigante diabolo, quædam neptis ejus [Gertrudis], nomine Hildeburgis, uxor scilicet Rodberti militis de castro Ebroico, vi et seculari potentia

7. Elizabeth or Isabel. She was one of King Henry I.'s mistresses, and by him she had a daughter.[33] She afterwards *m.* Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Pembroke;[34] he died in 1149. She *m.* secondly, Hervey de Montmorency. (Anselme, tom. iii, p. 567, citing William de Nangis, lib. viii, c. 37). Giraldus Cambrensis calls this Hervey, uncle of Earl Richard (Strongbow), and he has therefore been ranked by genealogists as brother of Earl Gilbert, which does not seem likely to be true. Whether step-father or uncle of Strongbow, he could not have been the Hervey de Montmorency who died a monk at Canterbury in 1205, as has been constantly stated.

8. [Vueve]: born in 1102, betrothed in 1103 to Amauri III., afterwards Count of Evreux, but she did not marry him.[10] She may, of course, be identical with one of the preceding.[35]

II. Robert II., born in 1104, who succeeded his father in the Earldom of Leicester and in nearly all the English estates, was called, according to the genealogies by the monks of Leicester, le Bossu and le Goczen, two epithets which have most probably the same signification. He married Amicia, dau.[36] of Ralph, Seigneur de Montfort and de Gael[37] in Brittany, and grand-daughter[38] (and not daughter, as the continuator of William of Jumièges,[39] and following him Dugdale, falsely state) of Earl Ralph of Norfolk. Amicia had been betrothed to Richard[36] (natural son of King Henry I.), who perished in the wreck of the White Ship in Nov. 1120. Her inheritance[36] was Breteuil, Lire and Glos, *i.e.*, all her father's possessions in Normandy, which he had obtained from King Henry I. as being maternal grandson of Earl William fitz Osbern. The monks' genealogy relates that Earl Robert *de consensu Amicie uxoris sue sumpsit in abbatia ista* [*de Pratis Leicestrie*] *habitum nostre religionis, vivens juste et sancte quindecim annis et amplius; ipsa quoque Amicia uxor sua sanctimonialis apud Eton est effecta.* This statement, that Earl Robert was a canon at Leicester from 1153 to 1168, must be received with some reservations; for we know that he was Chief Justice of all England in 1155, and in

invasit omnia quæ sancto Petro matertera ejus, pro sua contulerat anima. . . . (Cartul. S. Petri Carnot., p. 184.)

[32] Ego Bernardus miles de castro Ebroico, . . . una cum consensu senioris mei Rodberti filiique ipsius Rodberti, ex cujus beneficio est, cedo ad locum sancti Petri Carnotensis . . . quandam æcclesiam cum omni decima quæ in meo dominicatu erat. Est autem ipsa æcclesia in prospectu Ebroici castri, in villa quæ Nantilliacus vocatur. . . . Testes hujus rei sunt ii quos subscripsimus. Rodbertus miles, cum Albereda uxore, et Rodberto filio suo, et Hildeburge uxore. . . . (Cartul. S. Petri, p. 143). It is to be observed that Ebroicum castrum standing as it here does for Ivry, *not* Evreux, should be more properly Ebriacum castrum. Nantilly is close to Ivry. Cf. note 27.

[33] Quæ nata est ex Elizabeth sorore Waleranni comitis Mellenti adhuc innupta permanet. (Contin. W. Gemet.)

[34] Contin. W. Gemet, lib. viii, c. 37.

[35] The translator of Orderic has inserted in the text a christian name (Emma) for her.

[36] Ord. Vital., lib. xii, c. 25, 33.

[37] Gael at the sources of the Meu, and Montfort, on the same river, in central Brittany.

[38] Robert III. (aux blanches-mains), in a charter to St. Evroult, names William fitz Osbern as his atavus, further mentioning Hugh de Grentemesnil, the founder of St. Evroult, as proavus of his wife Petronilla. See Appendix, no. vii.

[39] For the genealogy by that writer see the Complete Peerage, vol. v, p. 41, note h.

that capacity acted as Viceroy during the absence of King Henry from England in 1158-62, and in 1165-6-7. On the other hand, a charter, presently to be quoted, makes it appear that his possessions devolved upon his son in 1153, which lends some colour to the monks' statement. He died in 1168, according to Hoveden, the Chronicle of Mailros, the Annals of Waverley, and Robert du Mont.

Children. 1. Robert, Earl of Leicester.

2. Isabel: *m.* firstly, Simon, Earl of Northampton and Huntingdon,[40] who died in Aug. 1153; and secondly, Gervase Paynell, Baron of Dudley.[41]

3. Hawise: *m.* William, Earl of Gloucester; he died 23 Nov. 1183, according to Robert du Mont and the Annals of Waverley.

4. ——: *m.* Robert de Toeny, who died in 1162.[42]

5. There appears to have been a fourth daughter, a nun at Eton (Nuneaton) in Warwickshire. For King John confirmed to this cell of Fontevrault the grants which Robert, Earl of Leicester, *dedit eis cum filia sua.*

III. Robert III., Earl of Leicester, was called aux Blanches-mains, according to the monks' pedigree. The first mention I find of him is in a charter[43] by which Henry, Duke of Normandy and Count of Anjou, being then at Bristol, made known that he had restored to Robert, son of the Earl of Leicester, all the lands of Earl Robert his father in England, as his grandfather Count Robert of Meulan had held them: and Breteuil with the whole honour, as William de Breteuil had held it. Further, he gave Pacy with the whole honour, and all the land which William de Pacy[44] had held in England and Normandy, *et dapiferatum Anglie et Normannie.*[45]

[40] Mortuo Simone comite Huntedoniæ, successit ei Simon filius ejus quem genuerat ex filia comitis Leicestriæ. (Chron. Normann.; R. de Monte.) There is a discrepancy as to the year of his death. The true date is [Aug.] 1153. (Hen. Huntingdon, lib. viii.)

[41] Omnibus . . . Gervasius Paganellus noverit et me dedisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse, consilio et assensu uxoris mee Isabelle comitisse de Northampton, Deo et ecclesie beate Marie de Neuport et b. Martino Majoris Monasterii, pro salute anime mee, et pro anima patris mei et matris mee et uxoris mee Isabelle comitisse, omnes donationes quas antecessores mei, scilicet Fulcodius Paganellus avus meus, et Radulphus Paganellus pater meus, dederunt Dei et b. Marie . . . His testibus Simone comite Northamptonie, Isabella comitissa matre ejus . . . Hec carta facta fuit . . . 1187, rege Henrico filio imperatricis regnante xxxiii.

Robertus filius Roberti comitis Legrecestrie, omnibus . . . confirmo illam donationem quam soror mea Isabel et filius suus comes Simon fecerunt predicte abbatie, videlicet duas carucatas terre in Walthum . . .

[42] Robertus de Toene moritur, relicto parvulo filio ex filia Roberti comitis Leicestriæ. (R. de Monte, ad ann. 1162.)

[43] See Appendix, no. iv.

[44] Mortuo Willelmo de Paceio absque liberis, redditum est castrum Paceii Roberto filio comitis Legecestriæ, quia pertinebat ad honorem Britolii, unde ille erat legitimus hæres ex parte matris suæ. (R. de Monte, ad ann. 1153.) William de Pacy was son of Eustace de Breteuil (who died in 1136) by Juliana, natural dau. of Henry I. That king gave all William de Breteuil's lands in Normandy to Ralph de Gael, save only Pacy which Eustace retained. Eustace was natural son of this William (eldest son of Earl William fitz Osbern) who died 12 Jan. 1102, s.p. legit., having *m.* Adelina, dau. of Hugh de Montfort (Ord. Vital.; Contin. W. Gemet.)—not of Hugh IV., as modern genealogists have wildly stated, but rather of Hugh II.

[45] In Normandy the members of the ducal household were the sole officers of state, and the dapifer—senescbal or steward—was chief justiciar. (Stapleton.) Mr.

He was one of the partizans of Prince Henry on the outbreak of the latter's rebellion in April 1173. On Sep. 29 he landed at Walton in Suffolk during King Henry's absence from England, and (Oct. 13) besieged and took the castle of Haughley. But four days afterwards his Flemish auxiliaries were routed at Fornham St. Genevieve by Richard de Luci the Viceroy, and Humphrey de Bohun the Constable, of England; and he and his countess were taken prisoners; he was sent to Normandy and imprisoned at Falaise. On the King's return in July 1174, he was brought back to England, and the same month his constables, Anketil Mallory and William de Dives, surrendered the castles of Leicester, Mount-Sorrel, and Groby. He did not however regain his liberty for some time, and it was not till Jan. 1177 that he was restored in blood and honours, at the Council of Northampton.[46]

It is said that the Earl of Leicester was on pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 1179 (*Annals of Waverley*), and he does not, so far as I am aware, occur again in England till April 1183, when he and his brother-in-law, William, Earl of Gloucester, were arrested and imprisoned. The death of the younger Henry the following June probably led to their release. In 1190 the Earl of Leicester joined the Crusade, but died on the voyage.[47] He had married Petronilla, dau. and most probably sole heiress[48] of Hugh de Grentemesnil.[49] It is said that she was heiress of Hinckley, and that to this manor was attached the Stewardship of England.[50] But though the office of High Steward may have been

Eyton, in saying that Robert Bossu was high-steward, chief-justice, seneschal, or viceroy, indicates that a similar custom held in England, and it might therefore be concluded from this grant that Blanchesmains, and not Bossu, was the Chief Justice in 1155, etc., which would render the monks' statement possible. But this cannot have been the case. (See Complete Peerage, vol. v, p. 43, note b.) The hereditary office which Robert aux blanches-mains and his son exercised was that of High Steward of the Household, distinct, as far as I can see, from any such office as that of Justiciar; and it is this office which was, I take it, the subject of the grant of 1153, being probably given (as the charter suggests) by reason of the grantee being heir to Earl William fitz Osbern, who was Steward of Normandy, and also (it is said) of England. The grant of Bossu's lands to his son seems to have been some extreme piece of artfulness, the exact reasons for which can be now only a matter for conjecture.

[46] Eyton, Itinerary of Henry II., pp. 172, 177, 179, 182, 209.

[47] Robertus comes Leicestriæ, Anandiæ, sancti Egidii obiit languore præventus in mare mediterraneo, et apud Duraz, Græciæ urbem, sepultus est. (Chron. Mailros., ad ann. 1190.)

[48] It is usually said that she had a sister and coh. Alice, *m.* to Roger Bigod, who died in 1107, i.e. the Roger of Domesday. I cannot trace this strange statement further back than Camden.

[49] Anno 1168. Obiit Robertus comes Leicestriæ relinquens filium Robertum qui accepit cum uxore sua hereditatem de Grantemesnil. (R. de Monte.) The Grentemesnil possessions in Normandy were considerable; in the Scriptum de servitiis militum que debentur duci Normannie, we read:—Comes de Leicestrie servitium 10 militum de honore de Grentemesnillio, et ad suum servitium 40 milites; idem 81 milites ad suum servitium de honore Britolii, faciet tantum, quod honor sit duci et comiti.

[50] Robertus accepit in uxorem Petronillam filiam Hugonis de Grantemesnil cum honore de Hinckelee, et aliis possessionibus ipsius Hugonis quas habuit in Anglia; et extunc primo honor de Hinckelee est conjunctus comitatui Leicestriæ. On this latter statement, by the monks of Leicester, it is sufficient to quote a charter of Robert (aux blanches-mains) confirming to the monks of Lire in Normandy omnes donationes

incident on the tenure of Hinckley, it is in the highest degree improbable that any Grentemesnil was Steward of England. For there is no evidence that I know of to shew that Hinckley ever appertained to the Grentemesnils, who probably lost all their English possessions early in the century.

Children. 1. William, called de Breteuil. He is said to have been a leper. I place him first as he precedes his brother Robert in charters.

2. Robert, Earl of Leicester.

3. Roger, Chancellor to William, King of Scots, who gave him, early in 1189, the See of St. Andrews—John, Bishop of Dunkeld, not objecting, though he had before been consecrated to St. Andrews.[51]

4. Amicia: second wife of Simon, le Chauve, Count of Evreux, whose first wife was named Mahaut. (*Cartul. of Coulombs*). Of his children, those certainly by his second marriage were: Simon, afterwards Earl of Leicester; Guy de Montfort, Seigneur de la Ferté-Alais in the Gâtinais;[52] and, most probably, Petronilla, the wife of Bartholomew de Roye.[53] Count Simon died in 1181, and Amicia is said to have subsequently married William des Barres, who by Rigord and by Geoffrey de Vinsauf is styled Count of Rochefort.[54] But I cannot give any authority for this marriage.[55]

5. Margaret: *m.* Saher de Quincy,[56] afterwards Earl of Winchester.

IV. Robert, "son of Petronilla," succeeded as Earl of Leicester on his father's death. He too was accompanying Richard I. on the Crusade, and his valour is celebrated by Geoffrey de Vinsauf.[57]

During King Richard's captivity, Philip Augustus invaded Normandy. Richard, having regained his liberty, passed into Normandy to make war on Philip, and routed him between Blois and Freteval, on the 5th July 1194. Previously however (June 15) the Earl of Leicester, who commanded the English forces, had been taken prisoner, and confined in the castle of Etampes.[58] His captor, we are told, was a knight of Picardy, Matthew de Mailly, Seigneur de Senlis near Clersay. Conven-

quas Robertus pater meus fecit eis, videlicet ecclesiam de Hinckelay. . . . Testibus, Petronille comitissa Leicestrie, Rogero electo sancti Andree et Roberto fratre ejus. . .

[51] Eyton, citing Benedictus.

[52] A mandamus of King John calls him *nepos* of the Earl of Leicester. (Rot. de contra brevibus, de anno secundo, m. 6.)

[53] I do not add Bertrade (wife of Hugh, Earl of Chester) who was aged 29 (at least) in 1185-6. (Rot. de dominabus, edit. S. Grimaldi, p. 8.) For Amicia (whose marriage, there is reason to suppose, took place about 1166-9) could not have been married in 1156. Bertrade's cousinship with King Henry II. is to be explained, not by any descent from the Beaumonts, which indeed would yield nothing of the sort, but from the fact that her grandfather's sister was the notorious Bertrade de Montfort, wife of Fulk le Rechin, Count of Anjou, and ancestress of King Henry.

[54] Rochefort in Iveline being then of the domain of the Counts of Montfort, the ascription of this title to William des Barres affords some presumption for his marriage with the Countess of Montfort.

[55] La Roque gives Amicia (without proof) yet another husband, Alberic I., Count of Dammartin.

[56] Cuinchy, between Béthune and la Bassée, on the frontier of Artois and Flanders. This can be shewn with some degree of probability.

[57] See the Chronicle which passes under that name, Itinerarium Regis Anglorum Ricardi. . . . lib. iv, c. 30, 33; v, c. 39; vi, c. 22.

[58] Anno Domini 1194, 17 kal. julii, Willelmus [Robertus] comes Lecestriæ, vir fortis et magnanimus, a rege Philippo captus est, et Stampis in carcere positus. (Rigordus de gestis Philippi Augusti.)

tions of peace between the two monarchs were agreed upon between Issoudun and Charroux on the vigil of St. Nicholas (Dec. 5) 1195, and ratified at Louviers in the following January. Philip acquired, on the Norman frontier, Gisors, Neaufle and the Vexin Normand, Neufmarché, Vernon, Gaillon, Pacy, Ivry and Nonancourt. Pacy, indeed, was the price of the liberation of the Earl of Leicester, who, when yet in captivity, ceded that castle to Philip Augustus,[59] and by a letter yet extant in the archives of France, prayed King Richard to ratify the cession.[60] Wherefore, in the letter[61] by which Richard engaged to observe the peace, it is recited that *quitationem illam quam comes Lecestrie domino nostro Philippo, regi Francie, fecit de castello Paciaci, tam in feodo quam in dominio, cum castellaria sua et pertinentiis ipsius, ratam habemus et firmam ;* finally he stipulated that *hiis omnibus peractis, comes Lecestrie et omnes prisones et ostagii prisonum, prout divisum est, hinc inde liberabuntur.* The cession of Pacy was confirmed by Roger Bishop of St. Andrews, Amicia Countess of Montfort, and Simon Seigneur de Montfort.[60] The same Simon rendered himself surety for his uncle Robert Earl of Leicester, and with him were Gervase *de Castello* (Châteauneuf in Thimerais) and Roger de Meulan (Vicomte d'Evreux).[60]

The Earl of Leicester married Lauretta, daughter of William de Braose or Briouze, Lord of Bramber, Brecknock and Gower. With her was given in frank marriage Couvert in the Bessin, and also the manor of Tawstoke, co. Devon, parcel of the honour of Barnstaple possessed by her ancestor Judicael, son of Alured. In 1208 Philip Augustus confirmed to the monks of Lire all that *Laureta quondam comitissa Leycestrie* had given *de libero maritagio suo de Covert in Normannia*.[62] It appears therefore that the Countess Lauretta was dead in 1208, and the statement in the Chronicle of St. Evroult, that the noble Countess of Leicester died in 1212, refers perhaps to Amicia, sister and principal heir of the last Earl. For in 1204, as Amicia Countess of Leicester, she ceded to Philip Augustus her castle of Breteuil, and all that her brother had possessed over sea, in exchange for the castle of St. Léger in Iveline.[63] By charter, *actum Parisius anno Domini MCCIIII, regni nostri anno XXV*,[64] King Philip gave to Aubert de Hangest *in perpetuum villam que dicetur Pons S^ti^ Petri, cum pertinentiis suis ad usus et consuetudines Normannie, sicut R. quondam comes Leicestrie illam tenebat eo termino quo eadem villa in manum nostram devenit*.[65] In 1203, King

[59] See Appendix, no. xi. Cf. Hoveden :—Eodem anno 1196, Robertus comes Leicestriæ, datis Philippo Francorum regi duabus millibus marcis argenti, et quieto clamato e castello suo de Pasci, liberatus est a captione illius.

[60] See Appendix, nos. xii-xvi. Gervase Seigneur de Châteauneuf was son of Hugh III., and grandson of Hugh II. by Albereda de Meulan. Roger de Meulan was a yr. son of Count Waleran.

[61] The original of this letter is at the Trésor des Chartes, *Angleterre* I, no. 2, carton J. 628. It has often been printed:—by Du Chesne, Scriptores Normann., p. 1053; Dumont, Corps Diplom., tom. i, pt. 1, p. 119; Brussel, Usage des Fiefs, tom. ii, p. xiii; Historiens de France, tom. xvii, p. 43; De Lisle, Cartul. Normand, no. 1057.

[62] See Appendix, no. xix.

[63] See Appendix, nos. xvii, xviii.

[64] The regnal years of Philip Augustus being variously reckoned from three different dates, 1 Nov. 1179, 29 May 1180, and 18 Sep. 1180, this particular does not enable us to limit the date of the charter to any portion of the year 1204.

[65] Carta pro Alberto de Angesto, at the Tr. des Chartes, Ms. 8408, 2, 2, B,

John being at Dol, a letter of *commisimus* (dated 19 Sep.) made known to Geoffrey fitz Peter that We have committed *dilecto et fideli nostro R.* Earl of Leicester the whole of Richmondshire, as the Count of Brittany[66] had held it, excepting the castles of Richmond and of Bowes.[67] In 1204, 24 March, a writ issued to the sheriff of Northampton bidding him make the Earl of Leicester have without delay Fermingho and Siresham, which the grandfather of the said Earl had given to the Bishop of Lincoln in exchange for Cnihteton;[67] and, on May 7 following, the treasurer was ordered to compute with G. fitz Peter for 29*l.* 3*s* 4*d.* which the said G. had paid to the Earl of Leicester by the King's command.[67]

From the foregoing it is evident that the two dates hitherto advanced for the death of the Earl of Leicester, viz. 6 Jan. 1204 and 20 Oct. 1206, are alike erroneous, and that his decease must have occurred on some day between April 1204 and the close of the same year according to the ancient style of reckoning. He died childless, and was the last Earl of Leicester of the house of Beaumont.

APPENDIX.

I.

Ivo Dei gratia Carnotensis episcopus, clericis Mellentinis et omnibus in Pixiacensi archidiaconatu, salutem. Perlatum est ad aures nostras quod Mellentinus comes ducere velit in uxorem filiam Hugonis Crispeiensis comitis, quod fieri non sinit concors decretorum et canonum sanctio, dicens : Conjunctiones consanguineorum fieri prohibemus. Horum autem consanguinitas nec ignota est nec remota, sicut testantur et probare parati sunt præclari viri de eadem sati prosapia. Dicunt enim quia Walterius albus genuit matrem Waleranni comitis, qui genuit matrem Roberti comitis. Item supradictus Walterius genuit Radulphum patrem alterius Radulphi qui genuit Vermandensem comitissam, ex qua nata est uxor comitis Hugonis, cujus filiam nunc ducere vult Mellentinus comes. Si autem prædicta genealogia ita sibi cohæret, legitimum esse non poterit conjugium, sed incestum contubernium, nec filios poterunt habere legitimos, sed spurios ; unde vobis ex apostolica et canonica authoritate præcipimus, ut tam calumniosum conjugium in ecclesiis nostri episcopatus, nec ipsi consecretis, nec ab aliquo quantum in vobis est, consecrari permittatis, nisi primum in præsentia nostra, consanguinitas hæc septimum gradum excessisse legitime fuerit comprobata. Valete, et has literas Mellentino comiti transmittite. (Ivo Carnot. Op., pars altera, epist. 45.)

II.

Notum sit omnibus fidelibus, duci Normannie et archiepiscopo Rothomagensi, episcopis, et baronibus terre mee, quod ego Robertus comes Mellenti et Elisabeth uxor mea et filii nostri Valerannus, Robertus atque Hugo, concedimus donum et quietudinem quam fecit Rogerius de Bellomonte pater meus Deo et ecclesie sancte Marie Becci in villa que dicitur Pons-Audomari de teloneo et passagio et moltura et de omni consuetudine que pertinet ad victum et vestitum et calceaturam et ad omnes dominicas res predicte ecclesie Becci et omnium monachorum ejusdem ecclesie. Hoc idem ego Robertus comes Mellenti et Elisabeth uxor mea et predicti filii nostri Valerannus, Robertus et Hugo, concedimus prefate ecclesie Becci in villa que dicitur Villebona. Hoc ipsum etiam concedimus supra memorate ecclesie Becci

f. XI^xx^ IIII, R°; printed by Martène, Ampl. Coll., tom. I., c. 1049; also transcribed in the MS. de Rosny, a manuscript of the 14th century, p. 159 of Léchaudé d'Anisy's edition.

[66] This was Guy de Thouars, Count of Brittany j. ux. He was now with the enemies of King John, who was therefore disposing of his lands, and also of those appertaining to the honour of Brittany.

[67] Rot. de Liberate, edit. T. D. Hardy, pp. 63, 85, 99.

et omnibus monachis ejusdem ecclesie in omni terra mea in Normannia. Signum Roberti comitis de Mellento. Signum comitisse Elisabeth. Signum Roberti filii comitis. Signum Valeranni filii comitis. Signum Willelmi constabularii. Signum Morini de Pinu. Signum Willelmi de Stutevilla. Signum Roberti de Valle. Signum Herluini. Signum Fulconis medici. Signum Gaufridi de Berou. Signum Gaufridi de Turvilla.

(Registres de la Chambre des Comptes, and Cartulary of Bec.—Printed by La Roque, preuves, pp. 1335, 1619, and suppl. p. 4.)

III.

Ego Robertus comes Legrecestrie concedo ecclesie sancti Leodegarii villam Sturie, liberam et quietam sicut Rogerius de Bellomonte avus meus et pater meus Robertus comes de Mellento concessit predicte ecclesie, et hoc concessu et confirmatione Willelmi regis expugnatoris Anglorum et Willelmi II. regis filii ejus. Do etiam et concedo eidem ecclesie in Stracfort octo libratas et in Herdrebaga quadraginta solidatas per annum, et ad scaccarium meum octo libras et sex solidos per annum, sicut pater meus ei dedit et concessit, et hoc pro anima Willelmi regis expugnatoris, ejusque uxoris Mathildis regine, et eorum filii Willelmi II. regis, atque pro anima Henrici regis et ejus uxoris Adelize tertie regine, et pro anima Mathildis II. Anglorum regine et filii ejus Willelmi, et pro anima avi mei Rogerii de Bellomonte et ejus uxoris Adeline, et pro anima patris mei Roberti comitis de Mellento. Ego Henricus rex Anglorum has donationes predictas eidem ecclesie sancti Leodegarii concedo, et propria manu confirmo hoc signo. Signum Adelize regine Anglorum. Signum Valeranni comitis de Mellento. Signum Roberti comitis Legrecestrie, etc.

(Cartul. of the Abbey of St. Léger at Préaux.—Printed by La Roque, preuves, suppl., p. 3.)

IV.

H. dux Normannie et comes Andegavie omnibus archiepiscopis, episcopis, comitibus, baronibus, vicecomitibus, et omnibus fidelibus et amicis suis Normannie et Anglie, salutem. Sciatis me reddidisse et concessisse in feudo et hereditate Rodberto filio comitis Legrecestrie et heredibus suis totam terram Rodberti comitis patris sui de Anglia, sicut comes Rodbertus de Mellend, avus suus, die qua fuit vivus et mortuus, eam melius et liberius tenuit; insuper reddidi et concessi Britolium cum toto honore et cum omnibus pertinentiis, sicut Willelmus de Britolio melius et liberius et quietius tenuit, die qua fuit vivus et mortuus. Preterea dedi et concessi in feudo et hereditate Pasci cum toto honore et totam terram quam Willelmus de Pasci in Anglia et in Normannia tenuit in feudo de me et de quocumque eam tenuisset, et dapiferatum Anglie et Normannie. Quare volo et precipio quod predictus Rodbertus et heredes sui omnia ista predicta de me et de heredibus meis teneant, ita bene et libere et quiete et honorifice, cum omnibus libertatibus et consuetudinibus in terris, in aquis, in bosco, in plano, in pratis, in pascuis, in viis, in semitis, et in omnibus aliis rebus, sicut antecessores sui de antecessoribus meis unquam melius tenuerunt. Testibus: Willelmo comite Gloecestrie, R. comite Cornubie, R. de Humez, Philippo de Columbers, R. de Dunstanvilla, Willelmo filio Johannis, R. de Govitio, Waltero de Herefort, Guarino filio Geroldi, Henrico suo fratre, Maneser Biseth dapifero, Willelmo filio Hamundi et Willelmo Patricio, Willelmo de Crevecor, Willelmo de Angervilla, Galfrido de Briencurd, Rogero de Gratepance, Rodberto de Watervilla, Raginaldo de Bordinneio, Gaufrido abbate. Apud Bristou.

(Original, sealed, at the Trésor des Chartes, *Conches et Breteuil*, no. 1, carton J. 219.[1]—Printed by M. Delisle, *Cartulaire Normand*, no. 7.)

V.

Hugoni Dei gratia Rothomagensi archiepiscopo, et omnibus fidelibus sancte ecclesie, tam presentibus quam futuris, Walerannus comes Mellenti salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse abbatie Sancte Marie de Voto, de ordine Cisterciensi, que sita est in valle que est inter Lislebonam et Bolebec, pro anima patris mei et matris mee et antecessorum meorum, et pro salute mea et Agnetis comitisse uxoris mee et Roberti filii mei et aliorum liberorum et amicorum vivorum et mortuorum, in perpetuam eleemosynam, Haiam de Lintot cum omnibus appenditiis

[1] For these and similar particulars I am indebted to the remarks of M. Delisle.

suis, sicut comes Ebroicensis cum sorore sua Agnete comitissa mihi donaverat, quando eam in matrimonium duxi, cum omnimoda libertate, nihili in ea sui juris retinens; et quia Bernaium monasterium in his partibus agros affines in capella sancti Marcelli possidebat, sine quibus abbatia prefata non posset ordinate fundari, donavi Richardo abbati de Bernaio et fratribus ejus in excambium septem acras terre arabilis in eodem territorio et triginta solidos probate et usualis monete in assignatis terris ac hominibus annuatim persolvendos, et quinque asinos ad Mortuum-boscum absque omni consuetudine reddenda in foresta de Floreneio; per manum predicti archiepiscopi, in presentia Arnulphi Lexoviensis episcopi, et Ade abbatis Mortuimaris, et aliorum plurimorum religiosorum in perpetuum. Testes; Philippus episcopus Baiocensis et Rotrodus Ebroicensis, Robertus filius comitis, et alii; eadem confirmavit ipsa Agnes filia Almarici comitis Ebroicensis iisdem testibus presentibus.

(Cartul. of the Abbey of Valasse. Printed by La Roque, preuves, suppl., p. 6.)

VI.

Anno Domini 1159, kalendis augusti, Robertus de Novoburgo vicedominus totius Normanniæ, vir magnæ prudentiæ et bonitatis, multatus infirmitate factus est monachus Beccensis ecclesiæ, sua omnia propria quæ magna erant, prius pauperibus largiter distribuens. Obiit autem tertio kalendas septembris, qui quinque fere hebdomadis monachus existens suæ abstinentiæ et admirandæ religionis, virtutum etiam omnium in brevi Dei virtute ditatus, auspicio omnibus ecclesiæ majoribus bene vivendi reliquit exemplum? Cum antea dives, nunc quidem pauperrimus secutus est Christum. (Chron. Becci, apud La Roque.)

Robertus de Novoburgo, totius Normanniæ vicecomes aut vicedominus, id est dapifer, innumeris divitiis pauperes inter et ecclesias divisis, in monasterio Becci religionis habitum, anno 1159 kalendis augusti induit. Eodem mense, tertio videlicet kalendas septembris, ad superiores auras evolavit. (Chron. Becci, apud Neustriam Piam.)

Anno 1160, mense Julio, Robertus de Novoburgo, dapifer et justitiarius totius Normanniæ, adversa valetudine coactus gibbum cameli deposuit, videlicet innumeras divitias ecclesiis et monasteriis et pauperibus dividens, et ad ultimum in monasterio Becci, quod præ omnibus diligebat, habitum monachi sumens per unum mensem. Ibi pœnitentiam fructuosam egit et tertio kalendas septembris hominem exuit sepultus in capitulo Becci quod ipse propriis sumptibus mirifice ædificaverat. (Chron. Normanniæ.)

VII.

In nomine sancte et individue Trinitatis. Ego Robertus comes Leicestrie, omnibus hominibus et baronibus et amicis et fidelibus meis, ballivis atque ministris, salutem et pacem. Noverit universitas vestra, me ad preces et ad monitionem charissime uxoris mee Petronille comitisse Leicestrie et filiorum Willelmi videlicet Roberti atque Rogeri, et Amicie comitisse Montisfortis, filie mee, donasse, concessisse, et presenti carta mea confirmasse monasterio beati Ebrulfi, et abbati et monachis ejusdem loci, quicquid habent in tota terra mea in liberam et ab omni terreno servitio et consuetudine puram et quietam elemosinam; ita quod nihil preter dominium terrenum servitium aliquod facere teneantur, vel auxilium seu etiam talliam vel relevamentum vel gardam, nec homines in terris ipsorum manentes in Normannia videlicet et in Anglia, tam de donis illustris viri Hugonis de Grantemenil proavi memorate comitisse, et jam dicti monasterii fundatoris, et meis et fidelium suorum atque meorum, quam de donis Willelmi filii Osberni atavi mei, et meis aliorumque antecessorum meorum, et fidelium suorum atque meorum, in quibus hec propriis necessarium duxi exprimendum vocabulis; ecclesiam videlicet de Mireto . . . In Anglia vero apud Leicestriam plenam decimam de omni dominio meo, de prepositura videlicet de pontibus de Belegate; decimam quoque dominicarum terrarum mearum in eadem villa; ecclesiam sancti Sepulcri, que est extra civitatem, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis; ecclesiam de Belgrave, . . . Testibus, Petronilla comitissa Leicestrie uxore mea, et Willelmo et Roberto et Rogero filiis meis, et Amicia filia mea, comitissa Montisfortis, Simone de Grantemenil et aliis.

(La Roque, preuves, p. 2218.)

VIII.

Robertus comes Legercestrie. Omnibus hominibus . . . sciatis me concessisse . . . pro salute anime mee, et Petronille comitisse uxoris mee, et Roberti comitis Leger-

cestrie patris mei, et Amicie comitisse matris mee, et aliorum predecessorum meorum et successorum, omnes donationes quas Willelmus filius Osberti et Robertus comes Legercestrie pater meus et alii predecessores mei Deo et ecclesie beate Marie de Lira . . . Testibus, Petronilla comitissa uxore mea, Willelmo et Roberto filiis meis, Roberto de Bosco capellano meo, Willelmo de Albania, Gilberto Louvel, Willelmo de Campaniis, Ernaldo de Turvilla, Simone fratre suo, Simone clerico.

(La Roque, preuves, p. 2222.)

IX.

Universis sancte matris ecclesie filiis . . . Petronilla comitissa Legrecestrie salutem . . . Noverit . . . me dedisse . . . Deo et sancte Marie de Lira . . . xls. in molendinis meis de Britolio annuatim persolvendos . . . ad faciendum anniversarium Willielmi de Britolio filii mei . . . testibus Willielmo Buffeio, etc.

(La Roque, preuves, p. 2222.)

X.

Sciant . . . quod ego Amicia domina Montisfortis, dedi . . . Deo et beate Marie et monachis Lirensibus, sexaginta solidos andegavenses, vel quindecim sterlingos annuatim de maritagio meo pro anima fratris mei Willielmi de Britolio, in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam . . . His testibus fratre meo Rogero sancti Andree electo, Willielmo sacerdote de Britolio, etc.

(La Roque, preuves, p. 2223.)

XI.

Ego Robertus comes Leicestrie, notum facio universis ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit, quod ego feci pacem cum domino rege Francorum Philippo, et per pacem illam ei et heredibus suis in perpetuum quittavi pro me et pro universis de parentela mea castellum Paciaci cum tota castellania tam in feodo quam in dominio, et cum omnibus suis pertinentiis ; et hanc quittationem juravi ; juravi etiam et obsides dedi de duobus millibus marcis argenti, ad pondus trecense, quod occasione feodi et dominii que eidem regi Francorum per hanc pacem dimitto, neque per me, neque per alium, domino regi Francorum, neque terre sue, vel hominibus ejus, guerram aut malum faciam, et quod nunquam de cetero domino regi Francorum aut suis guerram movebo, neque ipsum aut suos inquietabo, nisi in guerra publica inter ipsum et regem Anglie. Quod ut perpetuum robur obtineat, presens scriptum sigillo meo confirmo. Actum anno ab incarnatione Domini MC nonagesimo quinto.

(Original, sealed, at the Trésor des Chartes, *Evreux*, no. 1, carton J. 216. Copied in the Register xxxi, f. lxix R°, no. xxxii.—Printed by La Roque, preuves, p. 125 ; Brussel, *Usage des fiefs*, tom. i, p. 437, note b ; *Historiens de France*, tom. xvii, p. 43, note c.)

XII.

Excellentissimo domino suo Ricardo, Dei gratia illustrissimo regi Anglie, duci Normannie, Aquitanie, comiti Andegavie, Robertus comes Leicestrie suus per omnia fidelis et devotus salutem et cum debita devotione paratum obsequium. Serenitati vestre donationem presentem, quanto possum affectu, porrigo, ut quittationem illam, quam domino Philippo regi Francorum et heredibus suis feci et juravi de castello Paciaci, tam feodo quam dominio, cum castellania et omnibus pertinentiis ejus, domino regi Francorum in perpetuum confirmetis, et pacem quam cum eo feci. Actum anno ab incarnatione Domini MC nonagesimo quinto.

(Original, seal lost, at the Tr. des Chartes, *Evreux*, no. 2. Copied in the Reg. xxxi, f. lxix, R°, no. xxxiii.—Printed by La Roque, preuves, p. 126 ; Brussel, tom. i, p. 437, note b.)

XIII.

Ego Amitia, comitissa Montisfortis, notum facio universis, presentibus pariter et futuris, quod Robertus, comes Lecestrie, frater meus, cum domino rege Francorum Philippo pacem fecit, et per pacem illam ipsi et heredibus suis in perpetuum quittavit et abjuravit castellum Paciaci cum tota castellania, tam in feodo quam in dominio, et cum omnibus suis pertinentiis. Ego vero, quantum ad me pertinet, idipsum quittavi, et quittationem juramento firmavi. Quod ut ratum sit, sigillo meo presens scriptum confirmo. Actum anno Domini MC nonagesimo quinto.

(Original, seal lost, at the Tr. des Chartes, *Evreux*, no. 1, *bis*. Copied in the Reg. xxxi, f. iiii^{xxi}, V°, c. 2, no. cxxiii.—Printed in the *Cartulaire Normand*, p. 278.)

XIV.

Ego Rogerus, Dei gratia ecclesie sancti Andree de Scocia archiepiscopus,[1] notum . . . quod Robertus, comes Lecestrie, frater meus, cum domino rege Francorum pacem fecit, . . .[2]

(Original, sealed, at the Tr. des Chartes, *Evreux*, no. 3. Copied in the Reg. xxxi, f. lxix, R°, no. xxxv.—Printed by La Roque, preuves, p. 127.)

XV.

Ego Simon, dominus Montisfortis, notum . . . quod Robertus, comes Lecestrie, avunculus meus, cum domino rege Francorum Philippo pacem fecit, . . .[2]

(Original, sealed, at the Tr. des Chartes, *Evreux*, no. 4. Copied in the Reg. xxxi, f. lxix, R°, no. xxxiv.—Printed by La Roque, preuves, p. 126 ; *Historiens de France*, tom. xvii, p. 43, note c.)

XVI.

Ego Simon comes Montifortis *(sic)*, notum facio presentibus et futuris, quod ego obligavi me fidejussorem et totam terram meam domino Philippo, Francorum regi, super quadam conventione que facta est inter regem et karissimum avunculum meum Robertum, comitem Leucestrie, videlicet quod, postquam de captivitate sua liberatus esset, nunquam de cetero regi vel hominibus suis vel terre sue, per se vel per alium, aut alius pro eo, guerram aut malum faceret, nisi forte inter dominum regem Francorum et regem Anglie guerra publice esset. Si vero predictus comes, per se vel per alium, aut alius pro eo, regi vel suis vel terre sue guerram deinceps aut malum faceret, nisi in publica guerra regis Anglie, rex Francorum continuo totam terram meam pro quingentis marcis argenti sine forifacto sessiret, et in ea poneret, si vellet, duos servientes suos, qui ad opus ipsius regis redditus totius terre mee percipe-rent usque ad persolutionem illarum quingentarum marcarum, et ipsi servientes interim de meo viverent, rationabilem facientes expensam. Si vero diceretur domino regi quod prefatus comes, per se aut per alium, vel alius pro eo, regi vel suis vel terre sue malum aliquod aut guerram fecisset, rex significaret illud michi apud Montifortem aut Rupifortem vel ballivo meo ibidem manenti, et, si forte comes infra quadraginta dies a significatione facta michi vel ballivo meo si comes esset citra mare, vel infra sexaginta si esset in Anglia, non veniret in curiam regis in persona propria, facturus inde ad arbitrium curie regis, et ita quod prosequeretur infra eundem terminum quod curia regis foret arbitrata, rex incontinenti totam terram meam sine forifacto posset sessire pro quingentis marcis supra memoratis, et eas inde recipere. Hanc autem conventionem presentis scripti memorie commendavi, et sigilli mei munimine roboravi. Actum anno Incarnati Verbi MCLXXXXV, mense januario.

(Original, sealed, at the Tr. des Chartes, *Securitates*, no. 1, carton J. 394. Printed in the *Cartulaire Normand*, p. 278.—Nos. 2 and 2 *bis* are like engagements by "Gervasius de Castello" and "Rogerus de Meulent," the perfidy of the Earl to be signified to them "apud Brucelias" (Brézolles) and "apud Caudam vel Gornaicum" (la Queue or Gournay-sur-Marne), respectively.)

XVII.

In nomine sancte et individue Trinitatis, amen. Philippus, Dei gratia Francorum rex. Noverint universi, presentes pariter et futuri, quod Amicia, soror quondam comitis Leicestrie, quittavit nobis et heredibus nostris in perpetuum Britolium cum pertinentiis suis et quicquid comes Leicestrie habebat citra mare Anglie et quicquid de excasura ipsius comitis ad eam jure hereditario devenit et poterat devenire citra mare Anglie ; propter hoc autem nos eidem A. et heredibus suis damus in perpetuum castrum Sancti Leodegarii in Aquilina et totam Aquilinam et quicquid pertinet ad preposituram ipsius castri in feodo et dominico, excepto feodo Willelmi de Garlanda et feodo Johannis de Roboreto. Damus etiam eidem A. et heredibus suis feodum Bordarum et de Folleso, et quicquid habemus in venditione nemorum de Gaseran. Quod ut ratum sit, sigilli nostri auctoritate et regii nominis karactere inferius annotato, salvo servitio nostro, presentem paginam confirmamus. Actum Parisius anno Incarnati Verbi MCC quarto, regni nostri anno vicesimo sexto, astantibus in

[1] *Sic*, in La Roque.

[2] The rest of this charter as in no. xiii, identically.

palatio nostro quorum nomina supposita sunt et signa. Dapifero nullo. Signum Guidonis buticularii. Signum Mathei camerarii. Signum Droconis constabularii. Data, vacante cancellaria, per manum fratris Garini.

(*Registre de Philippe-Auguste*, at the Tr. des Chartes, Ms. 8408, 2. 2, B, f. viii^{xx}xvii, V°.—Printed by La Roque, preuves, p. 2174; Martène, *Amplissima Collectio*, tom. i, c. 1048; Brussel, tom. i, p. 7, note a, from the *Cartulaire de Montfort*.)

XVIII.

Ego Amicia comitissa Leicestrie, notum . . . quod ego quitto in perpetuum domino meo Philippo regi Francorum illustrissimo et heredibus suis castrum Britolii integre cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et quicquid comes Leicestrie habebat citra mare Anglie et quicquid de excasura ipsius comitis quondam fratris mei jure hereditario poteram reclamare citra mare Anglie; insuper ego juravi domino Philippo Francorum regi ut si forte soror mea uxor Seheri de Quenceio de excasura fratris mei aliquid reclamavit, ego ad laudem ipsius regis de terra mea de Anglia eidem sorore mee partem suam assignabo. Propterea autem dominus rex mihi et heredibus meis donat in perpetuum castrum Sancti Leodegarii in Aquilina et totam Aquilinam et quicquid pertinet ad preposituram ipsius castri in feodo et dominico, excepto feodo Willelmi de Garlanda et feodo Johannis de Roboreto. Dat etiam mihi et heredibus meis feodum Bordarum et de Follesso, et quicquid ipse rex habet in venditione nemorum de Gaseran. Datum Parisius anno Domini MCC quarto.

(Original, no seal, at the Tr. des Chartes, *Conches*, no. 2, carton J. 219.[1] Copied in the Ms. 8408, 2. 2, B, f. viii^{xx}xvii.—Printed by La Roque, preuves, p. 2174.)

XIX.

In nomine sancte et individue Trinitatis, amen. Philippus, Dei gratia Francorum rex. Noverint universi, presentes pariter et futuri, quod Laureta, quondam comitissa Leycestrie, dedit et concessit in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam, pro anima mariti sui Roberti, quondam comitis Leycestrie, et pro salute anime sue, et pro animabus antecessorum suorum, Deo et beate Marie de Lyra et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus de libero maritagio suo de Covert in Normannia xl acras terre de dominico suo ibidem. Dedit etiam eis similiter de dominico suo ibidem duas acras ad faciendum ibi herbergagium suum. Preterea dedit dictis monachis duos homines in ipso manerio de Covert, scilicet Radulphum filium Odonis et Murielam [Maurielum] de Sancto Vigore cum terris et tenementis suis et omnibus servitiis que inde debent, excepta solummodo secta quam debent ad molendinum de Covert. Concessit etiam monachis predictis decimam de furno suo et decimam molendini sui de Covert, tam in blado quam in denariis et aliis redditibus et consuetudinibus ad ipsum molendinum pertinentibus. Concessit quoque eis ut habeant communam pasture sue in ipso manerio, et marnam de marneriis suis liberam et quietam ad marnandas terras suas, et omnia alia casiamenta ejusdem ville libere et quiete. Et ipsa et quicumque post ipsam predictum manerium tenebunt et habebunt, garantizabunt eisdem monachis predictam elemosinam, et acquietabunt eam erga nos et erga omnes homines de omnibus exactionibus et omnibus terrenis servitiis. Dedit etiam predictis monachis predictam elemosinam ita liberam et quietam ab omni exactione seculari et ab omni terreno servitio, sicut aliqua elemosina liberius et melius potest dari et possideri, excepta, sicut predictum est, sexta [*sic*, *l.* secta] molendini quam duo prenominati homines debent. Quod ut perpetuum robur obtineat, pro salute anime nostre et antecessorum nostrorum, predictam elemosinam ratam habemus, et presentem paginam sigilli nostri auctoritate et regii nominis karactere inferius annotato confirmamus. Actum apud Medontam anno Incarnati Verbi MCC octavo, regni vero nostri anno xxviii.

(*Cartul. de Normandie*, in the Bibliothèque de Rouen, f. xii. R°, and f. xxxix. V°.—Printed in the *Cartulaire Normand*, no. 1093.)

[1] No. 3 is the charter, dated 1206, by which Simon de Montfort approved the exchange. It is copied in the Reg. xxvi, f. lxix. V°, and printed by Brussel, tom. ii, p. 214.