AN EARLY JEDBURGH ABBEY CHARTER.

Arnoldus, Dei gratia Episcopus Sancte Andree, omnibus fidelibus presentibus et futuris. Salutem. Sciant me concessisse et hac carta mea confirmasse Ecclesie Sancte Marie de Geddeword et Abbati canonicisque ibidem Deo servientibus donationem quam Rex. Malcolmus eidem fecit Ecclesie—videlicet Rostinoth cum terris et aquis et bosco et plano et decimationibus ac omnibus ad eam pertinentibus sicut carta ejusdem Malcolmi Regis testat in perpetuam elemosinam. Quare volo et precipio ut hanc elemosinam ita libere et quiete possidant sic aliqua ecclesia per totam diocesim meam liberius ac quietius aliquam elemosinam possidet. His testibus, Willelmo Episcopo Murievensis, Herberto Episcopo Glasguense, Willelmo Abbate Mailros, Gaufrid Abbate Dunfermeline, Johane Abbate Calco, Willelmo Abbate Edinburgh, A . . . Abbate Scone Waltero Priore Sancte Andree, Gualtero Cancellario Regis, Matheo Archidiacono de Sancto Andree, Toroldo Archidiacono Laudonie, Engelramo Archidiacono Theuiethdale, Nicolo Regis Camerario, Magistro Andrea, Magistro Herberto, Roberto clerico, Waltero dapifero, Richardo conestabulo, Gilberto de Umfraville, Davide Olifard, Hugone Ridel, Ricardo Cumin, Philippo de Colevilla, Radulpho filio Dunegal.

The above Charter is a confirmation by Arnold, Bishop of St. Andrews, of a Charter by Malcolm, King of Scotland, of the Priory of Restenneth, in Forfarshire, to the Canons of Jedburgh. Jeddeword was the old name of that great Abbey, whose ruins are still one of the glories of the Borders. The date of the deed must be about 1162, as Walter, one of the witnesses, was appointed Prior of St. Andrews in that year, and Arnold, the granter, appears to have died shortly after that year. I have extended the names of all the witnesses, with one exception, that of the Abbot of Scone. A . . , the Abbot of Scone, unless this is a *lapsus calami* of the scribe for R . . , appears to be unknown, as no list of the Abbots of Scone contains the name of anyone with the initial A about this date. Restenneth was founded, or, perhaps, refounded on a more ancient establishment, during the reign of David the First, King of Scots. It was dedicated to St. Peter, and the brethren followed the rules of St. Augustine, and were governed by a Prior. Malcolm, King of Scots, the grandson of David, attached it to Jedburgh. The above Charter is a confirmation of this grant.

The Charter, which is preserved in a private charter chest, consists of seven and a-half lines of writing, the parchment still shewing the lines ruled or scored as a guide to enable the scribe to keep his lines of writing parallel. The Charter is a very fine example of twelfth century writing, but unfortunately lacks the seal.

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