

ARCHDEACONS
in the Chester County Pleas,
CHES 29/1–22
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Adam de Stamford

28 July 1247 master Adam archdeacon of Chester witnessed, at Chester, a grant by the earl to Dieulacres abbey.

[6 February 1292 Westminster]

Charter Roll 20 Edward I m.8 [417-418]

Inspeximus and confirmation of the following charters, in favour of the abbot and convent of Deulacresse:—

1. *A charter dated at Woodstock, 28 July, 31 Henry III,⁵ giving, for the safety of the soul of king John, to the said abbot and monks all the land of Roshale, which they previously had of the bail of that king, to be held in frank almoin; witnesses, Richard earl of Cornwall, Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, John Maunsel, provost of Beverley, Warin de Monte Chanesio, Ralph son of Nicholas, Richard de Grey, John de Grey, justice of Chester, Paulinus Peyvre, Robert de Muscegros, William de Bello Monte, Robert le Norreys.*

2. *A charter, dated at Chester, 5 January, 54 Henry III,⁶ whereby the present king, in his father's lifetime, granted to the said abbot and monks all the lands and possessions given to them by Earl Ranulph their founder or acquired or to be acquired by them in any other way, to be held with all appurtenances and liberties thereto belonging; so that the manor of Lek in Staffordshire, where the said abbey is situated, shall remain free and quit, pursuant to the charter of the said earl Ranulph, of which gift the abbot and convent have the king's full confirmation; and no neighbouring sheriff or bailiff shall enter the manor of Lek or liberties of the said monks upon pain of 20l. otherwise than he was wont to do in the time of the said earl Ranulph; for all violations of which charter the justice of Chester and the sheriff of Staffordshire shall exact the aforesaid penalty; witnesses, sir Henry de Lacy, sir James de Audelegh, sir Roger de Clifford, sir Robert Walerand, sir Hamo Lestrangle, sir Roger his brother, sir Peter de Castro Novo, sir William de Leyburn, sir Thomas de Boulton, justice of Chester, sir Urian de Sancto Petro, sheriff of Staffordshire, sir Robert de Stokport, sir Simon abbot of Chester, master Adam, archdeacon of Chester.*

From 1247 to 1253 Adam witnessed a succession of charters of the bishop of Chester, Roger de Weasenham (EEA xliii nos 235, 236, 238, 239, 249, 261.)

20 December 1253 an agreement was made by arbitration about certain conflicts of jurisdiction between the archdeacon and the bishop as to Wybunbury parish church. It was decided that the bishop had jurisdiction over the clergy of the parish, and was to receive synodals and two thirds of Peter's pence. The archdeacon was to receive the other third, and exercise archidiaconal authority over the chapels and the parishioners.

⁵ Sunday 28 July 1247

⁶ Sunday 5 January 1270

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20 December 1253, Heywood

Magnum Registrum Album f. 261: EEA xlv app i 17 [407-409]

Universis sancte marie ecclesie filiis presentem paginam inspecturis vel audituris Thomas precentor Radulphus thesaurarius Lych' ecclesie et magister Radulphus de Lacok' eiusdem ecclesie canonicus salutem. Universitati vestre presentum tenorem notum facimus quod cum inter venerabilem patrem Rogerum Dei gratia Coventr' et Lych' episcopum et dominum Adam archidiaconum Cestr' super iurisdictione archidiaconali in ecclesia de Wybbenbur' suborta esset materia questionis, tandem dictus dominus episcopus et archidiaconus prefatus super iurisdictione predicte sponte nostre ordinationi se submiserunt promittentes se ratum habituros et gratum quicquid super eadem iurisdictione ordinaremus. Nos vero diligenti inquisitione prehabita tam super iure dicti domini episcopi quam domini archidiaconi in hac parte cupientes inter eosdem et eorum successores pacem perpetuam observari, deum habentes pre oculis, in hunc modum duximus ordinandum, videlicet quod episcopus quicumque fuerit habeat omnem iurisdictionem in ipsa matrici ecclesia personis vicarii et clericorum ministrantium in eadem, et sinodalia et duas partes denariorum beati Petri totius parochie imperpetuum. Et archidiaconus qui pro tempore fuerit habeat iurisdictionem archidiaconalem in omnibus capellis eiusdem parochie et omnibus parochianis totius parochie, et tertiam partem denariorum beati Petri, quam percipiet per manus capellani qui pro tempore ministraverit in capella de Copenhal', et hiis contentus amplius in predictis exigere non possit. Et debet ista ordinatio communi instantia a capitulo confirmari. Huic scripto sigilla nostra duximus apponenda. Actum apud Heywod' in vigilia sancti Thome apostoli anno Domini millesimo cc^{mo} l^o tertio in presentia dicti domini episcopi et prefati domini archidiaconi ac magistri Henrici de Wicghawe, domini Walkelini de Houton' canonicorum Lych', domini Willelmi rectoris ecclesie de Suham, domini Willelmi canonici ecclesie Sancti Iohannis Cestr', et aliorum.

In 1256 a case between the abbot of Dieulacres and Adam as archdeacon of Chester, as to Sandbach church, was settled by arbitration. The decision was that the church and the advowson belonged to the abbey, but that Adam was to receive 40 marks [£26 13s 4d] per annum from the revenues for life.

25 January 1256, London

Lichfield Register Harley 3868 ff. 31-33: EEA xlv app i 12 [397-402]

Universis presentes litteras inspecturis vel audituris magistri Hugo de Mortuo Mari officialis Curie Cant', Radulphus de Chadesdene thesaurarius Lich', Henricus de Wyshawe officialis domini Coventr' et Lich' episcopi salutem in vero salutari. Ad universitatem vestre notitiam volumus pervenire quod cum inter abbatem et conventum de Deulacr' ordinis Cisterciensis petentes ex una parte et magistrum Adam de Stanford' archidiaconum Cestr' defendentem ex altera super ecclesia de Sandbach' causa mota fuisset, tandem partes simpliciter absolute et pure, tam super causa quam super ecclesia et omni iure quod alterutri partium competiit vel competere potuit super dicta ecclesia, ordinationi nostre et arbitrationi se submiserunt. Unde partibus coram nobis constitutis dictus abbas pro se et pro conventu suo tam in animam suam pro se quam in animas omnium de conventu et dictus archidiaconus in animam suam inspectis et tactis sacrosanctis ewangeliiis iuraverunt, promittentes in virtute iuramenti et sub ypoteca omnium rerum suarum quas habunt et quas habebunt tam

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ecclesiasticas quam mundanas, et quicquid ordinaremus super premissis et super securitate hinc inde prestanda illud absque dolo ut fraude et omni machinatione inviolabiliter observabunt, renuntiantes hinc inde omnibus instrumentis privilegiis, et specialiter restitutioni in integrum, et omnibus impetratis et impetrandis necnon et omni iuris beneficio canonici vel civilis, et maxime omni beneficio et privilegio et statuto vel consuetudinibus que competant vel competere poterunt dictis abbati et conventui generaliter vel specialiter ratione ordinis Cisterciensis vel monasterii de Deulacr', per qua ordinatio nostra in toto vel in aliqua parte sui impediri vel infirmari possit seu infringi. Nos igitur postmodum auditis et intellectis quod partes proponere voluerunt coram nobis, pro bono pacis et utilitatis utriusque partis ita inter ipsas provida deliberatione ordinamus et tanquam amicabiles propositores arbitramur, cuius ordinationis tenor talis est: In nomine patris et filii et spiritus sancti amen. Nos Hugo de Mortuo Mari officialis Curie Cant' a partibus electus, Radulphus de Cheddesden' thesaurarius Lich' et Henricus de Wyshawe officialis domini Coventr' et Lich' episcopum dati, in quem fuit a partibus ut ordinaret consensum per ipsum vel per alios quibus ipse communiter vices suas, inter religiosos viros abbatem et conventum de Deulacr' ordinis Cisterciensis petentes ex una parte et magistrum Adam archidiaconum Cestr' supradictum defendentem ex altera super dictis causa et ecclesia de Sandbach' et omni iure quod alterutri partium competit vel competere potuit super dicta ecclesia, sic ordinamus et tanquam amicabiles compositores arbitramur quod salvis dicto magistro Adam fructibus collectis et aliis proventibus necnon et omnibus aliis rebus que solo non adherent, abbas et conventus de Deulacr' supradicti habeant et teneant ecclesiam de Sandbach' in proprios usus in perpetuum, salva competenti vicaria per episcopum loci diocesis secundum formam iuris taxanda et ordinanda, et salvo eis iure presentandi dicto episcopo ydoneum clericum quotienscumque vacaverit ad eandem, et quod dicti abbas et conventus qui pro tempore fuerint solvent de camera ipsorum predicto magistro Ada singulis annis quamdiu vixerit, pure et absolute et absque omni conditione, pro bono pacis et divino caritatis intuitu, quadraginta marcas argenti nove monete et legalis ad duos anni terminos, scilicet ad purificationem beate Marie virginis viginti marcas et die nativitatis beati Iohannis baptiste viginti marcas Fiet autem hec solutio singulis annis et terminis dicto magistro Ada vel certo nuntio suo quamdiu vixerit in prebendali ecclesia Sancti Iohannis Cestr', et incipiet prima solutio in festo purificationis beate virginis anno Domini m^o cc^o quinquagesimo sexto et sic deinceps ut superius est expressum. Adicimus etiam et statuimus in ordinatione nostra quod dicti abbas et conventus conficiant predicto magistro Ada litteras ratihabitionis conventus, in quibus exprimatur quod conventus memoratus de Deulacr' habeat ratam ordinationem nostram in omni sui parte, sigillo communi abbatis et conventus de Deulacr' communi consensu ipsorum consignatas, et quicquid tam circa premissa quam circa prestationem annuam quadraginta marcarum, dicto magistro Ada singulis annis ut predictum est persolvendam, ratum habebunt et firmum in suo perpetuo. Adicimus etiam et precipimus in predicta ordinatione quod dictus archidiaconus a possessione non recedat quousque tam per litteras ratihabitionis conventus, ut dictum est, quam super securitate prefate prestationis ei de camera ipsorum faciendo rationabiliter fuerit tantum et prescriptum, et quousque procuraverit quod habeant litteras patentes domini Iohannis Mansel prepositi Deulac' in quibus confiteatur se ratum habere ordinationem nostram super premissis. Si autem aliquo termino solutionem plenarie dicti abbas et conventus non fecerint, liceat diocesano loci compellere eos per sequestrationem et distractionem fructuum et proventuum dicte ecclesie, et aliorum bonorum ipsorum ubicumque inventa fuerint in episcopatu Coventr' et Lich', sine omni strepitu iudicali usque ad plenam solutionem unacum expensis omnibus dampnis et

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interesse que sustinuerit occasione prestationis predictae suis terminis vel termino non solute, etiam si dicti abbas et conventus dictam ecclesiam de Sandbach' amittant per potentiam alicuius vel alio quocumque modo a possessione predictae ecclesie cadant, dum tamen per dolum et fraudem dicti magistri Ade hoc non fuerit procuratum. Et si a quacumque curia, Romana scilicet vel alia, alieque littere fuerint impetratae per alterutram partium, per quas hec ordinatio nostra in toto vel in parte possit impediri, irritae sint et vacuae et viribus careant, et pars que contra dictam ordinationem venerit teneatur parti illam volenti observare nichilominus ad expensa et omnia dampna sua et interesse beneficio in integrum restitutionis, speciali ratione monasterii seu generali ratione totius ordinis Cisterciensis impetratae seu etiam impetrande non obstante. Cum autem dictus magister Adam plenam habuit securitatem prestationis predictae sibi singulis annis faciende et litteras ratihabitionis ordinationis nostre, ut superius est expressum, dicti abbas et conventus per loci diocesanum inducentur in corporalem possessionem dicte ecclesie de Sandbach', salvis episcopalibus et archidiaconalibus consuetudinibus in predicta ecclesia et parochia de Sandbach' et Lich' et Coventr' ecclesiarum dignitate. Retinuimus etiam nobis de consensu utriusque partis coercendi partes ad observationem supradicte ordinationis et ad emendandum et corrigendum et ad maiorem securitatem providendum usque ad annum integrum plenariam potestatem. Ut autem omnia supradicta robur perpetue firmitatis optineant, nos magistri Hugo de Mortuo mari officialis Curie Cant', Radulphus thesaurarius Lich' et Henricus de Wyshawe officialis domini Coventr' et Lich' episcopi presenti pagine sigilla nostra duximus apponenda. Dat' Lond' anno Domini m^o cc^o quinquagesimo quinto die conversionis beati Pauli apostoli.

In 1272 Adam assumed the burden, on behalf of the prebend of Bolton, from the dean and chapter of Lichfield, of premises in Bacon Street, Lichfield, that had belonged to Thomas de Bradford, late canon of Lichfield, paying the dean and chapter at 4 marks (£2 13s 4d) per annum, and providing a priest to pray for Bradford's soul.

1 January 1272, Chester

Magnum Registrum Album ff 113-1114: EEA xlv 233-4

Universis Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Adam de Stanford' archidiaconus Cestr' et canonicus ecclesie Lich' ratione prebende consistentis in ecclesia de Boulton' salutem in Domino sempiternam/ Noverit vestra universitas nos nomine nostro et successorum nostrorum archidiaconorum Cestr' et canonicorum prebende predictae suscepisse a discretis viris decano et capitulo ecclesie Lich' aream cum edificiis que Thomas de Bradford quondam canonicus eiusdem ecclesie olim habuit in suburbio Lich', in vico qui dicitur Baconstrete inter publicam stratam tendentem versus Stafford et vivarium episcopi ecclesie predictae, unacum sex acris terre arabilis quas idem Thomas tenuit prope Lich', cum octo solidatis annui redditus quadam parte prati apud Tymmor, et cum redditu spectante ad predictam aream in supradicto suburbio, subscriptis conditionibus, videlicet quod nos et successores nostri archidiaconi Cestr' et canonici prefate prebende de Boulton' reddemus annuatim in perpetuum eisdem decano et capitulo Lich' quatuor marcas argenti ad terminos subscriptos, scilicet medietatem in festo Pasche et aliam medietatem in festo beati Michaelis ad sustentationem fabrice eiusdem ecclesie pro area, edificiis, terra, prato, redditu, assiso

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cum pertinentiis suis antedictis, et sustinebimus inperpetuum vicarium presbiterum in eadem ecclesia Lich' in officio vicarii deservientem et missam cum officio mortuorum celebrantem pro anima dicti Thome defuncti et animabus fidelium defunctorum, cui singulis annis ministrationis triginta solidos argenti pro stipendiis suis preter communam vicariis deputatam in eadem ecclesia, sub pena canonice districtione nobis per memoratos decanos et capitulum vel dominum episcopum aut eius officialem infligenda si in aliquo predictorum terminorum in solutione cessaverimus. Et memorata edificia sustinebimus et reficiemus quotiens fuerit necesse, et volumus et concedimus pro nobis et successoribus nostris quod decanus prefate ecclesie Lich', dominus episcopus, aut eius officialis qui pro tempore fuerint monitione competenti premissa possint nos compellere ad solvendam peccuniam predictam et ad alia onera sustinenda per quamcumque cohercionem ecclesiasticam quam procurator sive custos fabrice ecclesie Lich' antedecte elegerit absque omni strepitu iudicali. Et in premissorum omnium testimonium presenti scripto sigillum nostrum apposuiamus, et quia volumus successores nostros ad predicta omnia observanda inperpetuum obligari, promissimus bona fide quatenus poterimus unacum antedictis Dominis decano et capitulo Lich' ecclesie procurare sigillum venerabilis in Christo patris Rogeri Dei gratia Coventr' et Lich' episcopi eidem scriptum apponi. Dat' Cestr' die circumcisionis Domini anno grate m^{mo} ducentesimo septuagesimo primo

In 1280 arbitrators ordained that a composition made by papal authority concerning tithes, by master Adam de Stafford, sometime archdeacon of Chester, and brother Walter, sometime warden of the Friars Minors of Leicester, the judges appointed by the pope, should be respected inviolably for the future.

2 January 1280

Close Roll 8 Edward I m. 11d [42-43]

Enrolment of agreement between the prior and convent of Lenton, diocese of York, of the order of Cluny, and the dean and chapter of Lichfield, witnessing that whereas disputes had arisen between them concerning tithes in the parish of Bathekewell, Hope, and Tydeswell, in the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, and concerning the spoliation of the tithes by armed force by the dean and chapter or their servants, as the prior and convent asserted to the king, and concerning the observance of a composition between the dean and chapter and the prior and convent relating to the tithes made long before; in the king's court at Winchester on the morrow of St. Thomas of Canterbury, the third (sic) kalend of January, 1279,⁷ the parties being present in court, to wit the prior in person and Humfrey his fellow-monk, with procuratory power for the prior and convent, the prior protesting and promising that the power of the said monk and proctor could not be weakened by his presence, and master Adam de Waleton, chancellor of Lichfield, and master Jordan, archdeacon of Chester, with procuratory power for the dean and chapter, the king, the patron of the church of Lichfield and of that of Lenton, appointed as arbitrators between the parties by their consent sir Anthony Bek, archdeacon of Durham, and master Thomas Bek, archdeacon of Dorset, brethren and fellow-canons of Lichfield. The arbitrators ordained that the composition made by papal authority concerning the tithes by master Adam de Stafford, sometime archdeacon of Chester, and brother Walter, sometime warden of the Friars Minors of Leicester, the

⁷ Saturday 30 December 1279

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judges appointed by the pope, shall be observed inviolably for the future, the arbitrators adjudging the tithes to the prior and convent and that the latter shall pay to the dean and chapter before St Chad's, 1279, in the cathedral church of Lichfield 75 marks due to them by the composition aforesaid, which composition, now deposited with the abbot of Derb[eye], shall be rendered to the prior and convent together with the letter made to them for the assignment of the tithes for the exchange (permutacione) of the tithes of Tydeswell, and that the prior and convent shall pay to the dean and chapter, in order to have peace concerning the tithes for ever, 250 marks to be paid in the cathedral church of Lichfield by 40 marks yearly from Michaelmas 1280, 13s. 4d. to be counted to the mark. They also ordain that the prior and convent shall give, assign and warrant by their letters patent to the dean and chapter the right of patronage of a moiety of the church of Honesworth, and shall cause this grant to be confirmed by a final concord in the king's court and by sufficient security. If the prior and convent fail to make the aforesaid payments, grant, and security, they shall be bound to the dean and chapter in 1000 marks to be paid in the name of interest, for payment of which 1000 marks the prior and proctor of the prior and convent bound themselves, submitting themselves and all their goods in the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield to the distraint of the bishop, renouncing all exceptions and privileges, and they also promised that they would do all that they could to procure the approval of the premises by their abbot of Cluny and also by his letters patent. Similarly the dean and chapter will confirm (emologabunt) and approve the presents by their letters patent, and their proctors promised to do all that they could to obtain the bishop's confirmation. Concerning confirmation by the archbishop of Canterbury and the pope, it is agreed that the parties shall appoint a proctor, who shall obtain at the expense of the prior and convent confirmation of the premises and of the said composition. The parties promise to observe the premises under pain of 100l. with damages, expenses and interest, and submit themselves to the jurisdiction of the bishop of Coventry in this matter.

The letter of procuration of the dean and chapter under their great seal shall remain in possession of the prior and convent, and that of the latter in possession of the dean and chapter. Sealed by the arbitrators and proctors, the arbitrators decreeing that the authentic seals of the parties shall be added. Done at Winchester, on the morrow of the Circumcision, 1279 [-80].⁸

⁸ Tuesday 2 January 1280