

THE ENDOWMENT OF THE CHAPEL OF SAINT
MICHAEL IN CLITHEROE CASTLE.

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AN early deed that has given rise to a crop of errors concerns the endowment of the chapel attached to Clitheroe Castle. It is a confirmation by a Pope Urban directed to Waltheof (Walthevo), the chaplain of St. Michael's in Clitheroe Castle. The Pope took under his protection and that of St. Peter the chapel justly collated to Waltheof, together with all its appurtenances. The confirmation specified in some detail what the appurtenances were. They included the tithes of the demesne carucates of Robert de Lacy, lately patron of Whalley Church, both from Calder Bottom [and] from all Blackburnshire; the tithe of all mills and fishponds of the same patron in the same shire and of the mills and fishponds of Walton; of the mills also of Bolland, and all foals, calves, cheese and butter; of the hunting of the same patron in Blackburnshire and Bolland, and of the animals in the forests themselves; and of half a carucate of land in the vill of Clitheroe. The confirmation was dated from Verona, on the Ides (15th) of March, but the year is not stated in what, judging from the handwriting, is an almost contemporary copy.¹

The Pope was evidently Pope Urban III, who was elected at Verona 25 November, 1185, and died 20 October, 1187. He spent practically the whole of his short pontificate at Verona, and in April or May, 1187, he summoned the Emperor Frederick to appear before his tribunal in

¹ P.R.O., Ancient Correspondence, vol. 42, No. 98. It is assigned to Urban V (1362-70) in the *Calendar* (P.R.O., *Lists and Indexes*, vol. 15, p. 194, No. 98).

that town.¹ The date of the confirmation therefore was 1186 or 1187. The Robert de Lacy was the second of that name, who succeeded Henry de Lacy I in 1177 and died 1194.

When, in 1296, the Cistercian monks left Stanlaw on Mersey to build a new abbey at Whalley on Calder, they had from Henry de Lacy II the gift of Whalley Church and its chapels. Lacy, however, exacted from them a renunciation of the Castle Chapel and the right of hunting in the forests. The monks of Whalley did not succeed in getting possession of St. Michael's chapel until 1334, and *c.* 1342 the abbey had no confirmation to show for its endowment, only peaceful possession by the chaplains *ab antiquo*. The abbot surmised that the chapel had been endowed a hundred years or more, beyond all time of human memory or prescription, by the assignment of the lords of Blackburnshire and Bolland, of the tithes and other ecclesiastical issues of their demesne lands there. By virtue of this assignment the clerks and chaplains collated by the deans of Whalley had peacefully enjoyed the tithes and issues in both Blackburnshire and Bolland.²

Shortly after 1342 the Whalley monks found or received a copy of Pope Urban's confirmation and transcribed it in the manuscript now British Museum, Egerton MS. 2600, ff. 33v, 34. This manuscript was a chartulary of Stanlaw Abbey, now a small volume of only three quires which probably formed part of a larger book.³ In this copy the Whalley monk misread Walthevo as Willelmo, and omitted the last few lines, including the place, day and month.

¹ *Catholic Encyclopedia*, xv, 212.

² Whitaker, *Whalley* (1872), i, 173-4.

³ It contains, besides copies of charters, a register of some deeds of the abbey (ff. 13-26), and rents received during the year (ff. 27-30). Vellum, 35 ff. Late thirteenth century with some additions of the fourteenth. Small octavo. Purchased by the British Museum 26 December, 1881, from Rev. J. C. Jackson.

In the first half of the seventeenth century, Roger Dodsworth made a note of this "Bulla Urbani pape,"¹ which he found "in tertio libro de Whalley, f. 44." In the margin he noted the dates of Urban II and Urban III and dated correctly 32 Hen. II (19 December, 1185-18 December, 1186). Dodsworth's contemporary, Christopher Towneley, made two copies of Urban's confirmation from different sources.² The first (pp. 137-8) was "from a book of Roger Dodsworth, f. 106a," but instead of Walthewo he read Mattheo. The second (p. 210) was taken from a book of Stanlaw then belonging to Thomas Walmsley of Coldcoates, a vill near Whalley. This is now the above-mentioned Egerton MS. 2600.

The next to notice the confirmation was Dr. T. D. Whitaker,³ but without reference or mention of the chaplain's name, and he assigned it to Urban IV (1261-4). Later,⁴ when observing that Calderbotham was the ancient name of Calder Vale, he called the confirmation the Bull of Pope Nicholas IV. There was such a Bull permitting the translation of the Stanlaw monks to Whalley, but as it makes no mention of Calderbotham, Whitaker must have been referring to Pope Urban's confirmation.

In 1930-1, Dr. Walther Holtzmann printed the text of Urban's confirmation from Egerton MS. 2600, f. 33v., and dated correctly 1185-7.⁵ In 1932, Canon John Wallis referred to the confirmation, which he had found in Dodsworth, but gave no reference.⁶ It is quite possible that in the 161 volumes of Dodsworth MSS. there may be more than one copy. Canon Wallis surmised the Urban was Urban II (1088-99), and Robert de Lacy the first of that name (1089-1121), and dated 1089-99, a century too early. In addition he gave the chaplain's name as Walter.

¹ Bodleian, Dodsworth MS. 159, f. 106.

² Manchester Central Library, Towneley MS. 6, pp. 137-8, 210.

³ *History of Whalley*, i, 257.

⁴ *Ibid.*, ii, 1 n.

⁵ *Papsturkunden in England*, i, (Berlin, 1930-1), p. 528, No. 239.

⁶ *Church in Blackburnshire*, pp. 63-4.

Walthe[o]ff, chaplain of Clitheroe, appears in the *Sallay Chartulary*¹ as witness to a confirmation of Sunderland Holm by Peter de Arches. The gift of Sunderland Grange by Ailsa son of Hugh is recorded in Pope Alexander III's confirmation of 1172.² Although in the *Sallay Chartulary* I have assigned the same date to the confirmation by Peter de Arches, there is no reason why it may not have been later. In another deed made before 1184, Walter, chaplain of Clitheroe, appears as a witness.³ It is quite possible that Towneley misread Walthevo as Waltero, when copying a deed nearly 500 years old. Lastly, a "Waldevius presbiter" occurs in the *Pipe Rolls* for Lancashire from 1182-3 to 1185-6.⁴

TEXT.

- A. Public Record Office, Ancient Correspondence, vol. 42, No. 98.
 E. British Museum, Egerton MS. 2600, ff. 33v, 34.
 T(D). Manchester Central Library, Towneley MS. 6, pp. 137-8,
 from Bodleian, Dodsworth MS. (159), f. 106.
 T(E). *Ibid.*, p. 210, from Egerton MS. 2600.
 H. Holtzmann, *Papsturkunden in England*, i (Berlin, 1930-1),
 p. 528, from Egerton MS. 2600.

[15 March, 1186 or 7]

Urbanus episcopus servus servorum Dei⁵ dilecto filio Walthevo⁶ capellano sancti Michaelis in castello⁷ de Cliderhou⁸ salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Justis petencium desideriis facilem nos convenit prebere consensum, et vota que a rationis tramite non discordant effectu prosequente complere. Eapropter, dilecte in domino fili, tuis justis⁹ postulacionibus grato concurrentes¹⁰ assensu, capellam sancti Michaelis de Cliderhou tibi juste collatam cum omnibus¹¹ pertinentiis suis sub beati Petri et nostra protectione suscipimus¹²; specialiter autem decimaciones domini-carum carucarum¹³ nobilis viri Roberti de¹⁴ Lacy quondam

¹ *Yorks. Record Series*, vols. 87 and 90, i, No. 227. ² *Ibid.*, i, p. 63.

³ *Ibid.*, ii, p. 141, on the authority of Towneley MS. 6, pp. 689, 704-5.

⁴ *Pipe Roll Society*, vol. 32, p. 61; vol. 33, p. 101; vol. 34, p. 3; vol. 36, p. 143. *Lancs. Pipe Rolls and Early Charters*, pp. 50-2, 54, 59.

⁵ E T(E) omits. ⁶ E T(E) H Willelmo; T(D) Mattheo.

⁷ E T(E) H omits in castello. ⁸ T(D) omits in castello de Cliderhou.

⁹ T(D) omits. ¹⁰ T(D) concurrentibus.

¹¹ A omits. ¹² E T(D) T(E) suscepimus. ¹³ A et. ¹⁴ T(D) omits.

advocati ecclesie ¹ de Whallay ² et de ³ Caldr bothum ⁴ [et] de tota Blakeburneshira ⁵; decimacionem ⁶ omnium molendinorum et piscariarum ejusdem advocati in eadem shira ⁷ et molendinorum et piscariarum de Waltona, molend[inorum] eciam de Boulandia, et omnium pullorum vitulorum casei et butiri et venacionum ⁸ predicti advocati in prenominitis Blakeburneshira et Boulandia, pariter et animalium que in ipsis forestis habentur, et dimidiam ⁹ carucatam terre in villa ¹⁰ de Clydirhou, ¹¹ sicut predicta omnia a prelibata capella juste et pacifice possidentur, eidem ¹² capelle auctoritate predicta confirmamus et presentis scripti patrocinio communimus. ¹³ Statuentes ut nulli ¹⁴ omnino hominum ¹⁵ liceat hanc paginam nostre confirmacionis infringere vel ei ausu ¹⁶ temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignacionem Dei omnipotentis, [et] beatorum Petri et Pauli apostolorum ejus se noverit incursum. Datum Verone idibus Marcii etc.

¹ A T(D) T(E) H *omit* quondam advocati ecclesie.

² E T(D) T(E) H Whalley.

³ T(D) in.

⁴ E H Kalder bothum; T(D) Calder botham; T(E) Kaldarbothum.

⁵ T(D) de toto Blakburnshire.

⁶ E T(D) T(E) decimas eciam.

⁷ E schiria; T(D) sheria.

⁸ T(D) venacionem; T(E) decimacionem.

⁹ A dominicam; T(D) dimidium carucate.

¹⁰ A *omits* in villa.

¹¹ E T(D) Cliderhou; T(E) Cliderhow.

¹² E H eciam.

¹³ T(D) *ends*.

¹⁴ A non ulli; T(E) nullo.

¹⁵ T(E) hujusmodi; E T(E) H *end*.

¹⁶ A assensu.

