

Transcription of M.R. James's unpublished description
Cambridge, University Library, MS Dd.9.38

Title	Constitution, Provincial and others, etc.	
Secundo folio		
Language	Latin	
Material	Vellum	
Measurements	12 x 8 ins.	
Collation	1 ⁸ 2 ¹² (wants 2) 3 ¹² (wants 7-12) 4 ⁸ (wants 6-8) 5 ¹⁶ (wants 16) 6 ¹² 7 ² (+1) 8 ¹² 9 ⁶ 10 ⁸ (wants 7, 8) 11 ¹² 12 ¹² (wants 4-6) 13 ⁴ 14 ⁴ (4 canc.) 15 ¹² (wants 8-10) 16 ¹² 17 ¹² 18 ¹⁰ 19 (3 left) 20 ⁸ 21 ¹² 22 ⁸ 23 ¹² 24 ⁸ (8 canc. and replaced?) 25 ⁶ (1 canc.) 26 ¹² 27 ¹² 28 ⁸ 29 ⁸ 30 ¹² 31 (one)	
Number of leaves	ii + 266	
Columns	Double	
Lines to a page	49 to 68	
Date	XIII - XIV	
Handwriting	Many good hands, some of charter-kind. English.	
Binding	Usual [rebound 1953]	
? Moore	? Knyvett 7	Reading Abbey

Contents

The first quire is in the nature of a preliminary one: ff. 5b – 7a are blank and on 7b is a table of contents. The matter on 1 – 5a must have been added shortly after the table, which does not include it.

1	Citacio recepta xii ^o kal. maii a.d. m ^o ccc ^{mo} tricesimo octauo. To the Benedictines in chapter at Northampton. Wilkins, <i>Conc.</i> II. 585. — Datum quoad nos ... Abbatem mon. s. marie Ebor in eodem monasterio nostro decimo die mens. marcii a.d. (1337). Et quoad nos ... Abbatem mon. s. albanii predicti apud s. albanum decimo septimo die mensis eiusd. a.d. supradicto.	1
2	Letter of Edward III to the two abbots. Quia intelleximus quod uos pretexto quarundam Bullarum — grauiter capiemus. Teste me ipso ap. Turr. London. xii die maii a ^o r. n. xii.	2b
3	Data per copiam. Rogerus ... Sarum ep. ... archidiaconus Berk. etc. Auditio multociens et eciam intellecto Prescriptions as to furniture of churches etc. Dat. ap. Poterne vij Id. febr. a.d. (1329) et consecr. nostre xv. In cuius copie testimonium (sealed at Poterne 4 Id. Feb.).	3
4	Constitutio de nouo edita super quota procuracionis percipiende et quibuscunq uisitantibus ubique terrarum. Benedictus (xii) ... uas electionis Wilkins II. 578.	3b
5	Declaracio de beneficiis exilibus. Benedictus (xii) ... Ad nostrum apostolatus officium 5b – 7a blank.	5

6	Table of contents in a good hand. In isto uolumine continentur ista viz. (col. 1 of 8a blank)	7b
7	Const. Benedicti pape xii de apostatis et regularibus fugitiuis. Pastor bonus diligens	8
8	Constitt. Benedicti pape de religiosis Summi magistri dignacio f. 10 cut out Table of Rubricae	9 26
9	Another hand. Dispensation of parts of above Benedictus ... dudum pro bono et salubri statu	26b
10	Dispensation. Clemens (vi). Sacrosancta romana — Auinion. Kl. iunii pontif. n. anno primo (1342). 28b blank: a blank (?) leaf cut out.	28
11	A small fine hand. Constitt. edite in generali capitulo apud Norhampton. Wilkins II. 717 Expl. Constt. ed. in gen. Cap. aput Norhampton a.d. m ^o ccc ^{mo} xliij ^o .	29
12	Hand resembling that of 8. Constitt. Octonis. Quoniam decet — fore priuatum. Wilkins I. 645 At top of 34 is: celebratum fuit hoc conc. a.d. m ^o cc ^o xxxvij ^o	34
13	Inc.constt. d ⁿⁱ Octoboni apostolice sedis legati in angliam. Wilkins II. 1 — obseruari. Expl. Constt. de. octoboni.	36b
14	Inc. constitt. Stephani archiepiscopi in concilio Oxon. Auctoritate dei — sollempniter iterentur. Expl. const. oxonie. Lyndewode, <i>Prouinciale</i> . Hec sunt rubrice omnium constt. prouincialium. Tables of Otto, Octobonus, Oxon.	44b 48
15	Breue Regium Archiepiscopus Episcopis et ceteris uiris ecclesiasticis transmissum per quod eis datur iurisdicchio in malefactores superius nominatos. An addition. Title from colophon. Edwardus ... Cum inter cetera nobis incumbencia — iuxta canonicas sanctiones ... apud Towcestr' xvi die marcii a. r. n. octauo. Expl. etc.	48b
16	Constt. Joh. Pecham apud Lambeth Ab exordio Wilkins II. 51 with marginal additions.	49
17	Inc. Constt. Bonifacii Archiep. Uniuersis Wilkins I. 746 — duximus apponenda. De Decimis. Quoniam propter diuersas (Winchelsea [as per] Lyndewode) Expl. constt. bonifacii.	53b 56b
18	Inc. Constt. de Redyngge Dignissimum eukaristie. Wilkins II. 33 — fieri mencionem.	57
19	Constt. Robert. Cant. Archiep. Robertus ... R. Norw. Ep ^o . Frequenter exigit — seriem continentes. Dat. ap. Otteford Id. Jul. a.d. m. cc. nonag. octauo consecr. nostre quarto. Constt. Roberti Arch. Cant. in uisitacione prouinciali de sustinendis in ecclesia per	57 58

	parochianos. Ut autem parochiam — ymaginibus et fenestris. Item constt. per eundem R. Arch. de Generali excommunicatione quater in anno promulganda. In communi conuocacione — in lingua uulgari.	58
20	Constitt. edite in concilio prouinciali celebrato in ecclesia S. Pauli london mens. Januar. a.d. m. ccc. xxvij per d. Symonem Archiep. Cantuar. Zelari oportet Wilkins II. 552 — arbitrio moderandum etc. Table of Rubrics to Pecham. Boniface. Reding.	58b 59b
21	Addition. Inc. sententia lata super cartas a.d. mill. cc ^{mo} liiij tercio Id. maii in maiori aula Westin — duximus apponenda.	59b
22	Inc. Constt. Ioh. de Stratford Archiep. Cant. List of rubrics. Sponsam christi Wilkins II. 702 In another hand — foueat et confirmet. Expl. Constitt.	59b
23	The hand of 16 etc. Regula S. Benedicti Inc. admonicio s. Benedicti abbatis. Asculata o fili — esse consortes. Capitula (76). Text. De generalis uel uita monachorum. Quatuor esse With many marginalia. One on 74b is the form of profession at Reading: Ego frater ille promitto etc. coram deo et sanctis eius in hoc monasterio Radyng quod est constructum in honore sancte dei genitricis Marie et ss. apostolorum Iohannis et Iacobi in presencia dompni N. abbatis. The Rule ends: protegente peruenies. Amen. Finito libro reddatus gratia xpisto.	64
24	Added. Carta Regis Henrici primi de fundacione Radyng' ecclesie et libertatibus et de donatione ipsius Radyng Cheals' et Leomenistre etc. Henricus etc. Sciatis quod tres Abbathie <i>Monast.</i> IV. 40 This is the first of a number of Reading charters royal and other, viz.: Carta eiusdem gestatoria de libertatibus ecclesie. Henricus ... Sciatis me pro salute anime mee Coates, <i>Hist. & Ant. of Reading</i> , 1802, App. I. Edwardus ... Inspeximus — ap. Westm. tertio die Julii anno regni nostri octauo. Nicholaus ... Decor apostolici culminis Reace vi. kal. sept. pontif. [<i>MS adds nostri</i>] anno primo. Alexander ... Virtutum merita Viterbii vj Id. Nou. pontif. [<i>MS adds nostri</i>] anno tercio. Added: Confirmatio Alexandri pape tercii super possessionibus etc. Alexander ... Ideo sumus licet immeriti ... Ferentini per manum Graciani ... x. Kal. Jul. ... a.d. m ^o c ^o lxxv ^o ... anno sextodecimo. Confirmatio Honorii pape secundi Honorius ... Adhoc uniuersalis Laterani per manum Americi ... Id. apr. ... a.d. m ^o c ^o xxv ^o ... anno primo. Littera super procuracionibus ordinariorum moderatis per Alex. p. quartum. Alexander ... Ne in exhibendis ... Lateran v kal. mar. ... anno tercio. Confirmatio H(ugonis) ep. Hereford et capituli de manerio et ecclesia Leomenistrie. <i>Mon.</i> IV. 56, no. viii. Confirmatio Episcopi et Capituli Hereford. ecclesie per Honorium p. iiii de libertate amouendi fratres de Leom. Honorius ... Cum a nobis ... Reate. viij Id. Jul. ... anno tercio. Edwardus ... Inspeximus ... Walton. 19 June ... 12 th year. The conclusion is written in the lower margin. Another hand: Dimissio Arch. Cant. in uisitacione sua.	75 75b 75b 77 77 77 77 77 77b 78 78 78b 78b 79

	Two documents of Abp. Simon, Scheftebury, 4 July 1331, relating to a number of livings etc. in possession of the abbey.	
	Later: letters patent of Richard II. Westm., 25 May, 21 st year.	79b
	Note: Irrotulatur breuia directa Baronibus de termino Trinitatis a ^o xxi ^o Regis Ric. secundi. Rotulo uidel. secundo.	
	Two leaves in a similar hand: single columns.	
	Allocacio Abbat' Radyng' in scaccario domini Regis.	80
	In magno rotulo de A ^o xx ^o Regis Ric. secundi in Hereford	
	Hec sunt ecclesie et uicar' nostri patronatus et nobis pensionar'.	81b
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	Allocacio libertatum abbatis de Redyng' fact' in diuersis annis et in temporibus diuersorum Regum Angl' in scaccario.	82
	Grants are recited in full.	
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	Royal letter to Escheator of Oxon and Berks, and note of like briefs sent to other counties, relating to the temporalities in the vacancy caused by the death of Abbot Nicholas.	85
	Edward: confirmation of election of Thomas de Appolford to the Abbacy, 21 Mar., 16 th year.	85
	Another hand:	
	Processus contra Iudeos super tribus scriptis oblig' sigillis configuratis sigillatis.	85b
	The Inquisicio is dated apud turrim London. die lune prox. post fest. s. Luce euuang. anno r. r. Edwardi xviii ^o .	
	Added:	
	Brief of Henry (V) to limit the payment of tenths and fifteenths by the abbey, 10 Jan., 6 th year.	87
	87b blank: two leaves (blank?) cut out.	
20	A new section in the hand of 16 etc.	
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	Ad cognicionem dictaminis accedere cupientes	
	The preface deals with the cursus.	
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	Commissio ad tenend' placita Leom'	
	Litera decani	
	Monicio generalis contra uiolantes ecclesiasticas libertates, 1340. Euidencie decimarum Procuratorum 1335. Comissio [<i>MS</i> admissio] attornati. Constitutio attornati, 9 Ed. III.	100
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	Rex taxatoribus	
	Certificate of true copy 1341	
	Licence to recapture swans 101 Pass for a barge.	
	Receipt of Constable of Odiham Castle for victuals etc., 15 Ed. II.	
	Agreement 12 Ed. III about beeches at Egleswode.	101
	More of the former hands; further formulae with more additions in several hands. 103b, 103* blank.	
	Edward III to the College of Cardinals on his French claims.	103b
	Amabilium deo patrum. Rymer II, 1086 (1821). Andewerp, 13 [<i>MS</i> 16] Jul., 13 th year.	
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	Edward III to the Peers, Prelates and Commons of France: E. par la grace ... Pur ce [<i>MS</i> ceo] qe notoire chose est Rymer II. iiiii. 8 Feb., 14 th year.	107
	Edward III to the Sheriffs of Oxon and Berks: Del bon port qe nons auoms trouez,	107b

	relating to aids. 1 Dec., 14 th year.	
	Quia datum est nobis intelligere quod diuersa oppressiones	10 Dec., 14 th year. 108
	John Abp. of Canterbury to Robert Bp. of Sarum. Cum animosa guerrarum pericule;	109
	'not to allow his clergy to suffer from any exaction of tenths beyond what they had agreed to'. 4 Kal. Feb., 1340. Wilkins II., 659.	
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[28]	Cum sit necessaria in curia	
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	Inc. excepciones ad cassand' breuia	163
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[29]	Edwardus ... balliuis suis de Notyngham. Ends 205a: Expl. Reg. Cancellar'	
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	Inc. officium balliui	250
	Inc. officium prepositi	251
	Ci comence le office des acoutours	252
	— de nule rien que touche la counte.	
28	Ceo est le ordeinement de hosobonderie en totes maneres et de estor et de mesuu	252
[33]	guieer. Le pierre seit en sa veilesce e dit a sun fiz. Beau fiz viuez sagement — si il ne gayne rien ne perd. Expl.	
	Extenta manerii. Inquirendum est de Castris	257
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29	Cirurgia equorum	259
[34]	Forma color uires mos gestus [<i>MS has etas</i>] gressus equorum, etc. Forma uero bone dispositionis equi Ends 266b: et eciam fistulas equorum sanat si superponatur sepe. Expl. Chirurgia Equorum. Qui scripsit carmen sit benedictus. amen This was followed originally by: Consuetudines usitate et approbate in episcopatu sarum.	

This is a volume of the kind that must have been kept in an office of the abbey; it contained material for reference in legal matters ecclesiastical and civil, and also for drawing up necessary documents. Formulae and important deeds were added to it from time to time on blank pages.

The principal extant Register of the abbey properly so called must be Harley 1708, which contains much of the matter entered here concerning the abbey. There are of course other cartularies.

It may probably be Knyvett 7: Liber continens Acta publica ad abbates et priores spectantia cum aliis Instrumentis Legalibus.