

## **Durand Plante (1180) entry in *Magni rotuli Scaccarii Normanniae sub regibus Angliae vol.1***

*Magni rotuli Scaccarii Normanniae sub regibus Angliae: contains "the Roll of 1180, the fragment of the Roll of 1184 (being all that is extant of the reign of Henry II.) and the earlier Roll of Richard I." (1195) – France. Echiquier (Normandy), with observations by Thomas Stapleton (London, 1840).*

Screenshots below are taken from

[https://play.google.com/store/books/details/France\\_Echiquier\\_Normandy\\_Magni\\_rotuli\\_Scaccarii\\_N?id=6epCAAAAcAAJ](https://play.google.com/store/books/details/France_Echiquier_Normandy_Magni_rotuli_Scaccarii_N?id=6epCAAAAcAAJ)

**Durand Plante** is mentioned in the 4<sup>th</sup> membrane for 1180 of these exchequer rolls for Normandy under the English kings. The preceding item mentions William de Ponte, who was responsible for the finances of part of the city of Coutances in Lower Normandy (on the French mainland not far from the Island of Jersey).

David Bethell (of the service The Original Record) gives the translation...

*The same [i.e. William de Ponte] renders account for ameracements and fines and promises: namely, from*

...

*From the chattels of Durand Plante, 26s 3d, because he waged a duel upon a duel.*

### **Duel upon duel**

David Bethell adds: You could wage a duel to defend yourself in court against a charge of treason, murder, &c., i.e. by offering to fight your accuser. What I don't know is whether in this case he is fined for having done this twice, or because he offered to fight a duel to defend himself against the charge of having illegally offered a duel. Probably the former. I have looked through indexes here, and not come across another text that might make it clearer.

### **Coutances under William de St John**

William de Ponte was the bailiff in 1180 over Durand Plante on behalf of the hereditary viscount, William de St John. The *ferm* of the Viscounty was 50 li, which was small considering the size of the city. This was because Coutances was divided very largely between the count of Mortain and the bishop of Coutances. In 1180, this bishopric was evidently held by the king during an apparent gap between its bishops of 1151-79 and ?1183-1202. The office of Count of Mortain was similarly vacant, apparently held direct by the king Henry II, until his newly crowned son and successor Richard I (1189-99) granted the Mortain lands to his brother, the future king John. The map and details below, relating to the region around Coutances, are mostly from Matthew Strickland, *Henry the Young King 1155-1183*, (Yale University Press, 2018).

The aforesaid William de St John appears in some extant records in the early 1170s for the itinerant court of an older brother of this Richard and John, namely Henry known as the Young King who

had been crowned in June 1170 as co-regent with his father Henry II. Also at the younger Henry's court was Walter of Coutances who appears as one of his itinerant chaplains. However, when the Young King rebelled in 1173-4, it was without the support of Walter of Coutances [page 133] or *familiars* of Henry II [p131]. This was followed by an uneasy peace and then reconciliation until the younger Henry rebelled again in 1182-3 dying of dysentery in 1183 while his father, Henry II, continued reigning from 1154 to 1189.

The hereditary viscount over Durand Plante – William de St John – was a *familiar* of king Henry II and one of the *tutores* of assistance to his son Henry the Young King [p96]. This William was for example at the Young King's court at Westminster on 5 Oct 1170 [p102] and at Winchester in early Dec 1170 [p96]. This William de St John, a leading official in Normandy, was the most frequent witness to the writs of the Young King; some of these have survived from his co-regency with his father from June 1170 to late 1172 [p110]. These included confirmations of charters that had been made earlier by his father – the beneficiaries of these charters clearly considered it worth their time and expense to obtain a new copy [p97]. Such records are extant for during the Young King's many stays in Normandy during 1171-2 [p110]. They include a gift in favour of Montebourg Abbey near the east coast of the Cotentin issued at his royal court at Bur-le-Roi [map below] and also a gift to the Abbey of St Stephen at Caen [p110]. The latter writ was made at a gathering of nobles and clergy that included the king's justices, William de St John and William de Courcy. While Henry II was away in Ireland, William de St John is known to have been one of two leading royal justices at the Young King's court at Bur-le-Roi at Christmas in 1171, at which these two Williams humorously suggested, when the hall was overcrowded with nobles and leading clergy with their retinues, that only those knights that were called William could remain in the hall – this still left 110 knights [p112]. On king Henry II's return from Ireland in May 1172, both the king and Young King were at Mont-St-Michel [map below] in its Chapter House where they confirmed a substantial grant by Abbot Robert to William de St John [p114].



## **Conflict in the nearby Avranchin**

The entry before that for Durand Plante, in the 1180 roll, was for Lingreville which is around 10 miles south of Coutances on the map above. This leaves Durand's precise location uncertain. Avranches is further south by around 15 miles. Also in the Avranchin, there is Mont-St-Michel, Ponsoron and St-James which are along the border of south-west Normandy with Brittany [map].

The aforementioned large grant in 1172 to the feudal lord over Durand Plante – William de St John – was thus made at the western end of the border of the Avranchin with Brittany. The earl of Chester held several hereditary lands around here, as well as around the north-west Midlands of England where considerable evidence has survived for a main homeland for the Plant name – it appears that Plant was a hereditary surname here dating back to the earliest surviving evidence for the Plant name near Chester, near the marches of north Wales in 1301 and perhaps earlier.

During the Young King's rebellion of 1173-4, his allies held amongst others a wedge of eight castles through the north-west Midlands of England from Chester through Tutbury to Leicester [p174]. More particularly in western Normandy [map above] young Hugh, earl of Chester was viscount of the Avranchin, the Bessin and the Val de Vire as well as lord of the honours of St Sever in the Cotentin and Briquessart near Bayeux. He also held the important castle of St James de Beuvron in the marches of Normandy with Brittany [map]. At the outbreak of hostilities at Easter in 1173, Hugh was amongst several who joined the Young King's cause, along with two of young Henry's younger brothers: to wit, the future king Richard I and Geoffrey, who was betrothed to the Duchess of Brittany. For the rebellion, Earl Hugh made his base at the south-western border of Normandy with Brittany, rather than staying in his English Midlands lands.

The young earl Hugh of Chester brought with him several vassals from the north Welsh marches, such as William of Rhuddlan [pp143-4]. When the old king Henry II received news at Rouen on 21 Aug 1173 that earl Hugh and others had taken refuge in the castle of Dol in eastern Brittany [map], he raced the nearly two hundred miles from eastern Normandy to Dol in just two days. The rebels surrendered the castle on 26 Aug, after the old king offered lenient terms, agreeing to spare life and limb. Henry II clearly regarded this seige of Dol castle, along with his capture of earl Hugh and others including 'eighty knights of great name', as crucial to his defence of his empire [pp169-70] – Normandy was the lynchpin of the Angevin Empire and the most important theatre of war – Henry II stayed in or passed through Normandy in all but four years of his 35-year reign. Hugh of Chester was released in 1174 and his lands restored in Jan 1177.

## **Resumed peace and a change to the rules of duelling**

By around 1177-82 around northern France, despite the earlier hostilities, the combative emphasis had shifted to tournaments, not least near the south eastern border of Normandy, near the French king's Ile de France. Tournaments were usually the preserve of knights but unusually the Young King himself was famed for being active in these – his father Henry II provided his blessing and funding – and the Young King was often accompanied by the great knight William Marshal. It seems that relations in the region were broadly peaceful around the time of Durand Plante's 1180 fine of 26s 3d (not an inconsiderable sum) for his duels.

Just before then, at a great council at Windsor on 10 April 1179, attended by both the king and young king, important reforms to the system of the general eyre, held by itinerant royal justices,

were set out following an enquiry into disquiet concerning the general conduct of royal justices. This council likely also deliberated the ‘grand assize’ which for the first time offered men involved in *seisin* of land the chance to avoid judicial duel by instead having the case decided by a jury of twelve law-worthy knights chosen by four [p261]. Perhaps Durand Plante might have lost such a case in 1180, following his earlier reliance on duels – however, the rolls give very little detail other than receipt of the sum paid.

**Preceding entries to the Durand Plante entry** in *Magni rotuli Scaccarii Normanniae sub regibus Angliae* the following two items shown below and are from the bottom of page 50...

Rex adquietavit eos vsus eūd Petrū de debito pat'is eoz.

¶ Witt de Sčo Johe r̄ ĉp. p Witt de Ponte de .l. ti. de firma vicecomit̄ de Constanč. In t̄ho .xliij. ti. In decima Abbi de Cerisiaco .c. so. In p̄doñ Fulčh Paienel .lx. so. de t̄ra sua de Brehal t̄ de Hanbia. p b̄r B. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est.

¶ Witt de Ponte r̄ ĉp. de .vij. ti. de firm<sup>a</sup> t̄re Aucupū in Lingrevill. In t̄ho lib. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est.

This last item at the bottom of page 50 (item for Will de Ponte) mentions Lingreville which is in the region of Coutances in the Department of Manche in Lower Normandy.

**Durand Plante** is then listed in the next item on lines 8-9 at the top of page 51..

¶ Id̄ r̄ ĉp. de misčdiis t̄ finibz t̄ pmissis. set de Rač de Sčo Sansone .xx. so. p hūda parte sua de hereditate pat'is sui. De Rob̄ fit Warini .xx. so. p recogñ vsus Clarenb. De Rač de Aurea Valle .x. so. p cōcord. facta sñ licencia Justič. De Gislebto nepote c̄j<sup>o</sup> .x. so. p eođ. De Adam fit Elie .x. so. p dišš. De Rob̄ de Siena .x. so. p simili. De Rob̄ Lepore .x. so. p simili. De Gaufr̄ Belin .x. so. p simili. De Rob̄ Giffart .x. so. p neğ t̄ cogñ. De catañ Durand Plante .xxvi. so. t̄ .iiij. đ. q<sup>a</sup> cepit duellū sup duellum. De Rič de Parco .x. so. p dišš. De Osbto Albo Agnello. t̄ Witt de Landel .xx. so. p simili. De Rič de Campania .xv. so. p vino supvendito. De Witt Burgūsi .xv. so. p eođ. De Godef̄r gen<sup>o</sup> Berū .x. so. p eođ. De Tustino Nigelli .x. so. p eođ. De Savarico .x. so. p eođ. De Witt de Sčo Pañno .xv. so. p eođ. De Bonifat̄io .xv. so. p eođ. De Anskitillo Herluino .xv. so. p eođ. De Rač de Portu .x. so. p falso clamore. De Gaufr̄ de Siena .x. so. p eođ. De Huğ Mode .x. so. p eođ. De Rač Gerold̄ .x. so. p dišš. De minutis misčdiis de vinağ .iiij. ti. t̄ .x. so. De Witt Wastineio .xx. so. p concord̄ sñ licētia. De Witt de Grainvill .x. so. p eođ. De Rob̄to Coquo .xx. so. p falso clañ. De Johe Agnello .xv. so. p vino supvend. De Rob̄ Lieteria .xv. so. p eođ. De Passemer .xv. so. p eođ. De Unfr̄ de Ble .xv. so. p eođ. De Rič Palefredo .x. so. p eođ. De Witt tenet t̄rā .x. so. p eođ. De Witt Sabrin .x. so. p eođ. De Anskitit̄ de Brichevill .xx. so. p falso clañ. De Witt fit Hamud̄ .xv. so. p vino. De blad̄is Lande de Wimonvill cultis sup defensum reğ .xiiij. so. t̄ .vi. đ. De blač Lande de P<sup>o</sup>stot. culte sup defnsū r̄ .xvij. so. t̄ .i. đ. Summa .xxx. ti. .vi. so. t̄ .x. so. In t̄ho lib. Et quietus est.

## Subsequent withdrawal of cross-channel forces to England

Of the three castles in the Avaranchin [map above], those at Avranches and St James de Beauvron were hereditary possessions of the earls of Chester. The castle at Pontorson was gifted outright in 1203 to Henry II's illegitimate son William Longspée (ca.1176-1226). This was shortly before king John's loss of Normandy in 1204 which was followed by ten furious years of his attempts to regain continental lands. This continuance of a policy that had begun in the early years of Henry II drained resources from England. With the loss of Normandy many withdrew more so to England.

## Other mentions of duels and felons in Stapleton's Vol.1

General Observations: from page xj: Moreover there were some disbursements which it was customary for the Sheriff to make of his own authority, according as the case might require; viz. for the maintenance of the King's prisoners, and of [such felons as turned approvers -for the expences attending trials by ordeal](#), and the execution of justice -for providing necessaries for the transport of the King's treasure —for salting the royal fish, whale and sturgeon —for the cultivation of the King's vineyards, and getting in the vintage.

1180 Membrane 3 Observations: from page lxxxv: The [values of the chattels of felons sold in his bailiwick](#), and the monies due from transgressors of the laws, ..

1180 Membrane 4 Observations: from page xciv: The title Baillia Ricardi Gifi'art is written in the first line of this membrane; then the accompt of that off'icer de misericordiis, promissis et finibus, follows; next come the separate entries of the debtors of the crown in his bailiwick, together with the bailiff's return of the issues from lands seized, and [from the chattels of felons within the jurisdisdiction](#); and in the last place, ...

[1180 Membrane 4 Observations](#): from page xcix: The same William de Ponte acted also as bailiff' for the King in the jurisdiction of the Vicomte' of [Coutances](#) in this year, and renders accompt on the Roll of the ferm of land belonging to the demesne, and of the [fines and other legal issues](#).

1180 Membrane 8 Observations: from page cxxi: For this eastern division of the diocese of Lisieux, Richard Beverel was the Bailiff of the King in this year, and made return of the profits from the demesnes and escheats, from the fines and amercements under legal process, [from the chattels of felons and usurers](#), and from the bernage.

1180 Membrane 8 Observations: from page cxxvii: An accompt of the bailiff' of the Lieuvain, Richard Beverel, being a return of the [chattels of felons sold in his jurisdiction](#), has been inserted at the foot of the membrane on this side.

1180 Membrane 9: on page cxxviii: The usual return follows of the product of the fines upon legal process; ... , and Robert de Paussy [for a duel at law waged by a bastard](#),

1195 Membrane 1 Observations: from page cxliv: The same Gillebert de Marleiz also rendered accompt of the [chattels of felons and usurers](#) in the bailiwick of Caux, and..

## CONTEXT OF DURAND PLANTE ENTRY IN STAPLETON'S ACCOUNT

Screenshots from:

<https://play.google.com/store/books/details/>

[France Echiquier Normandy Magni rotuli Scaccarii N?id=6epCAAAAcAAJ](#)

Membrane 4, for the year 1180, begins on page 41 with [\[m. 4.\] Baill Ric Giffart](#). This is followed with the reverse side of this membrane [\[m. 4. dorso.\]](#) on page 48. Mention of Durand Plante is in the item at the top of page 51. This is then followed by [\[m. 5.\]](#) on page 53.

Ranvif. de .ij<sup>o</sup>. annis. ¶ Id ē ep. de eod' debito. In tho lib. Et quieti sunt.

¶ Odo fili<sup>o</sup> Vitali ē ep. de .cccc. li. t. .iiij. viij. li. de firm<sup>a</sup> pposit<sup>a</sup> de Falesia. In tho .c. li. .xliij. li. t. .xxij. d. In decima S<sup>o</sup> Wand<sup>o</sup> .xx. li. Canonici de Sagio .vij. li. de et stat. Portario castri t. gualario. t. vigili .ix. li. .ij. so. t. vi. d. de lib stat. unicuiq. .lx. so. t. x. d. In lib Riē Giffardi .cc. li. p custodia castri de Falesia. In lib Rob de Petra Fita p custodia cast<sup>i</sup> de Pomeria .xxx. li. p anū. In lib Gisleb Pipart. p custodia cast<sup>i</sup> de Oximis .lvij. li. .v. so. t. .vij. d. ad pntiend lib suā de .vij. viij. li. p anū. In roba Reg<sup>o</sup> portanda de Fat ad Andegavum .xix. so. p b f. In justic<sup>a</sup> faciend<sup>a</sup> .xxi. so. In turre de Fat repanda. t. gaiola .xi. so. t. vi. d. p b f. Et deb .ix. li. .xviij. so. t. vi. d.

¶ Id ē ep. de .c. li. t. .lx. li. de firm<sup>a</sup> motindinoz de Falesia. In tho .c. li. .xx. li. t. .xij. so. In decim<sup>a</sup> Canonici S<sup>o</sup> Johis de Fat .xij. li. t. .vij. so. Ipi Odoni .xx. li. p excābio t<sup>r</sup>e sue quā vivariū de sub turre opit. Robto Rufo t. frīb<sup>o</sup> suis .vi. li. p pta motindini sui. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est.

¶ Id ē ep. de .iiij. li. .x. so. t. .ix. d. de reñi ep<sup>i</sup> sui de verib<sup>o</sup> placitis. In tho .xij. so. Et deb .lxxvij. so. t. ix. d.

¶ Rad Tuisson deb .xx. li. p plez<sup>o</sup> Hug<sup>o</sup> de Longo Campo. ¶ Will<sup>o</sup> de Landeingsol deb .xl. so. p .dis.

¶ Rob Malduit hab .xxx. libratas t<sup>r</sup>e in Ouviff<sup>o</sup> recu<sup>p</sup> p jura. de t<sup>r</sup>a Gaufr<sup>o</sup> de Clintona. p Reg<sup>o</sup>.

¶ Heredes Will<sup>o</sup> de Curcio debūt .xxiiij. li. .xvi. so. t. .vij. d. de quib<sup>o</sup> Rex adq<sup>u</sup>etavit eos v<sup>o</sup>aus Petru de Bures. de debito pat<sup>r</sup>s eo<sup>z</sup>. Et .ix. li. .vi. so. t. .vij. d. p .iiij<sup>o</sup> mar<sup>o</sup> arg<sup>o</sup>. unde Rex adq<sup>u</sup>etavit eos v<sup>o</sup>aus end Petru de debito pat<sup>r</sup>s eo<sup>z</sup>.

¶ Will<sup>o</sup> de S<sup>o</sup> Johē ē ep. p Will<sup>o</sup> de Ponte de .l. li. de firma vicecomit<sup>is</sup> de Constan<sup>o</sup>. In tho .xlij. li. In decima Abbi de Cerisiaco .c. so. In pdoi Fulch Paienel .lx. so. de t<sup>r</sup>a sua de Brehal t. de Hanbia. p b f. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est.

¶ Will<sup>o</sup> de Ponte ē ep. de .vij. li. de firm<sup>a</sup> t<sup>r</sup>e Aucupū in Lingreviff. In tho lib. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est.

.xxx. so. p eod. ¶ Reinald Crochet deb .xv. so. p eod. ¶ Roscel Furon. deb .x. so. p landa de Wimoviff culta. ¶ Thomas Hod deb .xx. so. p dis. ¶ Odo de Muro deb .x. so. p vino. ¶ Odo fili<sup>o</sup> Warini deb .lx. so. p vino supvend. ¶ Beatrix ē ep. de .xxx. so. p vino supvend. In tho .xv. so. Et deb .xv. so.

¶ Rad Basin ē ep. de .l. so. p eod. In tho .xxv. so. Et deb .xxv. so.

¶ Petr<sup>o</sup> Prbr ē ep. de .xxx. so. p eod. In tho .xv. so. Et deb .xv. so.

¶ Osh<sup>o</sup> Comes ē ep. de .xxx. so. p eod. In tho .xv. so. Et deb .xv. so.

¶ Will<sup>o</sup> Catus ē ep. de .xl. so. p eod. In tho .xx. so. Et deb .xx. so.

¶ Postel deb .xv. so. p eod.

#### BAILLIA; ERCHENBOLDI; CUM; MITRA;

¶ Erchenbold<sup>o</sup> de Brichebec. ē ep. de .xlij. li. de reñi v<sup>o</sup>is firme de Tenechebraio de .iiij<sup>o</sup> anno. Et de .ix. li. t. .vij. so. t. .v. d. de reñi ejusd<sup>o</sup> firme de secdo anno. S<sup>o</sup> .li. li. .vij. so. t. .v. d. In tho nich. In opatiōib<sup>o</sup> castri de Tenchebraio t. in herbgagio infra t. in muro parvi castri .l. li. p b f. In lanbruscanda Capella .xxvij. so. t. .v. d. p id b f. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est.

¶ Id ē ep. de .l. li. de placitis placitatis p Gaufr<sup>o</sup> Moū. Et de .x. li. de vinag<sup>o</sup> veti. In tho nich. In coq<sup>u</sup>na facienda ext<sup>a</sup> portā castri .xxij. li. p id b f. In facienda turrica t. domo sup<sup>a</sup> eam .x. li. p id b. Pro faciend<sup>a</sup> novo motindino .c. t. .iiij. so. t. .vij. d. p id b. In conredio venatoz Reg<sup>o</sup> t. canū t. equoz eo<sup>z</sup> .vij. li. t. .x. so. p id b. In conredio Alani Fabri .β. t. vestitura ej<sup>o</sup>. t. in ferro. t. calibe t. carbone .ix. li. .iiij. so. t. .vi. d. p id b f. In fenestris t. ostiis faciend<sup>a</sup>. t. in recoopiend<sup>a</sup>. domib<sup>o</sup> infra castrū .l. so. p id b f. In faciend<sup>a</sup> nova camera .lxxi. so. t. .xi. d. p id b f. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est.

¶ Id ē ep. de .c. li. de nova firma de Tenchebraio. de ppositura. t. recuperatis p juream. In tho nich. Canonico de Moritonio .vij. li. de et stat. In lib ipsius Erchenb p custodia cas-

¶ Id ē ep. de miscdiis t. finib<sup>o</sup> t. pmissis. set de Rad de S<sup>o</sup> Sansone .xx. so. p hūda parte sua de hereditate pat<sup>r</sup>s sui. De Rob fit Warini .xx. so. p recogū v<sup>o</sup>aus Clarenb. De Rad de Aurea Valle .x. so. p cōcord. facta sū licencia Justic<sup>o</sup>. De Gislebto nepote ej<sup>o</sup> .x. so. p eod. De Adam fil Elie .x. so. p dis. De Rob de Siena .x. so. p simili. De Rob Lepore .x. so. p simili. De Gaufr<sup>o</sup> Belin .x. so. p simili. De Rob Giffart .x. so. p neg<sup>o</sup> t. cogū. De catall Durand Plante .xxvi. so. t. .iiij. d. q<sup>a</sup> cepit duellū sup duellma. De Riē de Parco .x. so. p dis. De Ostbo Albo Aguello. t. Will<sup>o</sup> de Landel .xx. so. p simili. De Riē de Campania .xv. so. p vino supvendito. De Witt Burgūsi .xv. so. p eod. De Godef<sup>o</sup> gen<sup>o</sup> Berū .x. so. p eod. De Tustino Nigelli .x. so. p eod. De Savaario .x. so. p eod. De Will<sup>o</sup> de S<sup>o</sup> Pafno .xv. so. p eod. De Bonefatio .xv. so. p eod. De Anskitillo Herluino .xv. so. p eod. De Rad de Portu .x. so. p falso clamore. De Gaufr<sup>o</sup> de Siena .x. so. p eod. De Hug<sup>o</sup> Mode .x. so. p eod. De Rad Gerold .x. so. p dis. De minutis miscdiis de vinag<sup>o</sup> .iiij. li. t. .x. so. De Witt Was-tineio .xx. so. p concord<sup>a</sup> sū licētia. De Witt de Grainviff .x. so. p eod. De Robto Coquo .xx. so. p falso cla<sup>u</sup>. De Johē Agnello .xv. so. p vino supvend. De Rob Lieteria .xv. so. p eod. De Passemer .xv. so. p eod. De Unfr<sup>o</sup> de Ble .xv. so. p eod. De Riē Palefredo .x. so. p eod. De Witt tenet t<sup>r</sup>a .x. so. p eod. De Will<sup>o</sup> Sabrin .x. so. p eod. De Anskitill de Briche-viff .xx. so. p falso cla<sup>u</sup>. De Witt fit Hamū .xv. so. p vino. De blad<sup>o</sup> Lande de Wimoviff cultis sup defensum reg<sup>o</sup> .xij. so. t. .vi. d. De blad<sup>o</sup> Lande de P<sup>o</sup>stot. culte sup defnsū t. .xvij. so. t. .i. d. Summa .xxx. li. .vi. so. t. .x. so. In tho lib.

Et quietus est. ¶ Petrus de Estrees ē ep. de .c. so. quia noluit face<sup>re</sup> pcep<sup>t</sup> Justice. In tho .l. so. Et deb .l. so.

¶ Philip<sup>o</sup> filius deb .iiij. bisan<sup>o</sup>. p recogū v<sup>o</sup>aus Will<sup>o</sup> de Musca. ¶ Will<sup>o</sup> Bafart deb .xxx. so. p vino supvend. ¶ Herb Prbr deb .xv. so. p eod. ¶ Ostbus de Campania ē ep. de .xxx. so. p vino supvendito. In tho .xv. so. Et deb .xv. so.

¶ Ernard<sup>o</sup> Rufus deb .xv. so. p eod. ¶ Reinald Botūg deb

tri .l. li. In faciend<sup>a</sup> alta cam<sup>a</sup> sup<sup>a</sup> Rocham .iiij. li. .vij. so. t. .i. d. p b f. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est. Et hab supplus .xi. li. .vij. so. t. .i. d.

¶ Id ē ep. de .vi. li. t. .xij. so. de regard<sup>a</sup> foreste de Tenchebraio. In tho lib. Et quietus est.

Odo filius Vital. Will<sup>o</sup> de S<sup>o</sup> Johē. Will<sup>o</sup> de Ponte. ¶ Erchenbold.

[m. b.]

¶ Riē filius Hūf ē ep. de .xlij. li. de exitu Aquagii de Cadomo. p<sup>o</sup> .iiij. mil harūgoz q<sup>o</sup> p<sup>o</sup>bdarii hūit de et stat. In tho .xxiiij. li. Monialib<sup>o</sup> de fonte S<sup>o</sup> Martini .xx. li. de et stat. Et quiet<sup>o</sup> est.

¶ Id ē ep. de .vi. li. t. .xv. so. de exitu batelloz t. kidelloz. t. folesreiz. t. de .xxvij. so. t. .xi. d. de census t. regard<sup>a</sup> t<sup>r</sup>e q<sup>o</sup> d<sup>r</sup> Pditoz. Et de .xxiiij. so. de domo q<sup>o</sup> fuit Hūf de Hostona. Et de .ix. so. t. .vi. d. de domo Fergant. Et de .xxij. d. p .i. libra pipis de Rob de Maricis in Colevleta. Et de .iii. so. t. .vij. d. p .ij. li. pipis de Riē fit Philipi ibid. Et de .xxij. d. p .i. li. pipis de domo Reg<sup>o</sup> Cointise in Cadoñ. Et de .xv. li. t. .ij. so. t. .ij. d. de exitu t<sup>r</sup>e Johis filii Wa<sup>o</sup> in Cadoñ. Et de .iiij. li. t. .xij. so. de exitu vadii ejusd<sup>o</sup> in Lovigneio. Et de .vi. li. .ix. so. t. .vi. d. de exitu t<sup>r</sup>e gaiole in Aniseio. t. Cadomo. S<sup>o</sup> .xxxv. li. .xix. so. .v. d. Et quietus est.

¶ Riē Parvus ē ep. de .cc. piris de S<sup>o</sup> Reglo p masura Bernarioz t. p<sup>o</sup>to corū. q<sup>o</sup> Rex dedit ei t. hedib<sup>o</sup> suis p cartā suam. Baronib<sup>o</sup> scaccari reddidit. Et quietus est.

¶ Riē filius Hūf ē ep. de .xi. li. de exitu stallos ad panē t. ad pisces in Cadomo. In tho .lx. so. Gaufrido Aurifabro .vij. li. p cartā Reg<sup>o</sup>. Et quietus est.

¶ Id Gaufr<sup>o</sup> hab domū in Darnestal de feodo Adam Tanetin. p .xl. so. de dono Reg<sup>o</sup> p cam<sup>a</sup> cartā.

bably ceased to be regarded as a parish, its ministry being embraced in that of Pont Orson. In 1180, William du Hommet, constable of Normandy, had the custody of the castle, and Micael de Taisseio was the fermor of the *propositura*. Taisseio, by which name the parish of Taisie was more usually distinguished in early times, had been given to the abbey of Mont-St.-Michel by Comte Robert, named above as a devastator of the property of the abbey, by the hands of Duke Richard, and of Robert the Archbishop, and of their mother Gunnora; and in his deed of gift he makes mention of his wife Bileidis, then deceased, and of Ascelina, his wife, then living, and of his sons William, Robert, and Richard. The latter apparently succeeded to his father, and had the title of Comte of Mortain; at least, Duke William, afterwards King of England, in his charter of privileges in favour of the Cathedral of Coutances, cites among his possessions, which he confirms, *terra Haya cum ecclesia Sancti Andree et molendino, quem Richardus Moritonicus Comes Sancte Marie pro anima sua contulit*. In him the issue of Robert probably became extinct, when the Comte of Mortain was for a time held by William Warlene, son of Comte Mauger of Corbeil; after his expulsion, it became the appanage of the uterine brother of the Conqueror, son of Herluin of Conteville.

The Earl of Chester inherited the fief of the *Vicomte* of the Bessin, in virtue of his descent from Ansquetil, on whom it had been bestowed by Duke Richard II. and who yet had it in his own demesne when he gave to the abbey of Jumièges *decimas theloni et vicecomitatus de civitate Baiocorum*. This fief was also held of the Earl by sub-infeudation; and the family in whose favour the grant of the office had been made bore hereditarily the surname of *Le Vicomte*. The land of the Templars at Vassy, and the land of the Earl of Gloucester, were, it appears, exempt from the customary impost levied by the *Vicomte*.

Membrane 4, recto et verso.

Ricardus Giffart pro ballia de Oximino.

Odo filius Vitalis pro propositura de Falaise.

Willelmus de Sancto Johanne per Willelmum de Ponte pro Vicecomitatu de Constancia.

Willelmus de Ponte pro ballia de Constancia.

Erechenboldus-cum-Mitra pro propositura de Tenerchebrais.

The title *Ballia Ricardi Giffart* is written in the first line of this

membrane; then the account of that officer *de misericorditis, promissis et finibus*, follows; next come the separate entries of the debtors of the crown in his bailiwick, together with the bailiff's return of the issues from lands seized, and from the chattels of felons within the jurisdiction; and in the last place, William son of Bove, and Richard de Longval, render account conjointly of what was owing *de veteri computo* for the measures of oats due from the land of William du Hommet, Constable of Normandy, *de bernagio*, and likewise of the whole value of the Bernage of the Oximin for this year: which sum they paid into the Exchequer, save 37s. 6d. the price of ten *setiers* of oats, then remaining upon the land of William du Hommet in *Ranvilla* by this second year's account. Ranville is a parish situate on the banks of the Orne, not far from the coast, and of which the church and tythe had been confirmed to the abbey of Aunay in the Bessin, as being of his fief, by Richard du Hommet, the father of William here named. The mention on the roll of this and of other localities in the *Cinglais*,<sup>1</sup> and in the *pages du Houtain*, sufficiently indicate that the limits of the ancient *comté* of the Oximin were also those of the bailiwick, if we except therefrom such portions as had been erected into a *comté* in favour of the house of Bellême, indifferently entitled of *Aleçon* and of *Sérez*, or such as had been either included in the inheritance of *comte Rotro* of *Mortagne-en-Perche*, or annexed to the peculiar jurisdictions of the royal castles. The residence of the bailiff of the Oximin was at Falaise, of which castle he had the custody; and hence the description *Ballia de Falaise* is used interchangeably with *Ballia de Oximino* to denote the same district. In 1180, the heirs of William de Carceio owed 73li. 17s. 6d. the debt of their father, and 200li. *de Inzulis*, i. e. Jersey and Guernsey, where Robert de Agneux had acted as the fermor of the said William; and for certain measures of corn brought from the islands, according to *Caen* measure, and for others of *Bernagio de Oximino* during the three years expired since his death, and one *setier* remaining due upon his own account of *Bernages*. *Courcy*, in the *pages*

<sup>1</sup> Duke Richard II. gave in dower to his wife Judith, in vicarious *Congressness*, these villa, viz. Cingal, Virenius (*Ureille*), Franston (*Promis-de-Vie*), Brestevillan (*Bresteville-sur-Lain*), Onget (*St. Germain Le-Grand*), Meuzil-Catlet, Manuil Robert, Avancie (*Avancieville*), Marai (*Malay*), Petra-foa (*Pierre-foa*), Mesnil-Angot (*Angotville*), Tli (*Le Thuit*), Pica-darilla, Longam-masalle, Novavilla (*Neuville*), Cortelais (*Quertel*), Cortelais, Sanctus Antonianus (*St. Omer*), Villa Petiel, Borblancourt, Novam-masam, Ascon (*Esau*), Brual (*Breuil*), Tori (*Thury-Harcourt*), Donal (*Doway*), Donaliam (*Petit Doway*), Villare (*Villiers*), Marolre, Coubrai (*Cumbray*), Longavilla, Piacet (*Plecy*): in these villa were sixteen churches.

*d'Auge*, was the *caput* of an extensive barony, to which belonged eight knight's fees in this bailiwick; and we learn from Robert du Mont, that William de Carceio, *Dapifer Regis Anglia*, had died in 1177, leaving, by the daughter of *Richerius de Aquila*, an eldest son of the same name in tender years, and other children. The list of debtors in this bailiwick will be found to run to great length, by reason of those who had become bound in sums of various amount for Osbert de *Maisoncelles* having been compelled to redeem his default. In like manner, Richard Giffart, the Bailiff, had to account himself for 20 li. required from him *pro pleyio Vicecomitis Rothomagi*, but which he had procured to be remitted *per breve Regis*; and Robert Marmion was a debtor on the same score in 100 li. This mode of giving surety was also the practice in England; and in the rolls of *Oblatis et finibus* of the time of King John, long lists of mainperors occur, with the specific sums in which they stood bound attached to each name.

Odo son of Vitalis was in this year fermor of the *propositura* of Falaise, assessed at 480li., in which sum were comprised certain issues of the *comté* of the Oximin received at Falaise, of which the tythe had been given to the abbey of *St. Wandrille* by Duke Robert, *decimas, viz. mundinarum totiusque comitatus Oximensis et omnium mercationum*. The amount of tythe so paid was 20 li.; the canons of Sées had 7 li. in alms; and 3 li. and 10d. were paid to the porter, goaler, and warder of the castle, to each the same wages. Richard Giffart had 200 li. for the custody of the castle of Falaise, Robert de Pierrette 30 li. annually for the custody of the castle of Pommeraye in *Le Cinglais*,<sup>2</sup> and Gislebert Pipart 57li. 5s. 8d. in contribution towards his livery of 140 li. a year for the custody of the castles of Exmes, *de Oximis*: 21s. were the costs of the execution of justice, and there was a small outlay for the transport of the King's robe from Falaise to Angers, and in repairing the tower of Falaise and the gaol. The *Propositus* also rendered account of the ferm of the mills of Falaise; the tythe of which, *decimas molendinorum nostrorum qui sunt sub turri Falaise*, Henry II. had given to God and the church of St. John Baptist of the Hospital of Falaise, and to the canons serving God in it according to the rule of Blessed Augustin. The same religious house had of the gift of Richard Giffart, at *Vilers le Coleis*, the fief of Hamelin de Commeaux and the land of Mordant de Nécy; and of the gift of Odo son of Vitalis two gerbs of the tythe of St. Martin

<sup>2</sup> The ruins of this castle are pointed out in the commune of *La Pommeraye*, between the chapel of *St. Clair* and *Le Bourg*, now a hamlet; local tradition, as usual, attaches to them the name of the traitor of romance, the warrior *Gouelin* or *Gawain*.

*du-Bu*, which he held of Robert de St. Martin, who confirmed the grant. Gervase, son of Odo, in later times gave 2s. money of Tours, to the poor of the hospital of St. Michael de Guibray, which his nephews, Richard Le Roux and Michael Carabillon, sons of Richard de Carabillon, a fief in the parish of Corday, contiguous to *St. Martin-du-Bu*, confirmed. At the foot of the account of Odo are *memoranda* of the debt of Ralph Teason, Baron of *Thury-en-Cinglais*, as surety of Hugh de Longchamp,—of the grant by the King to Robert Mauduit of twenty librates of land, of the land of Geoffrey de Clinton in Osville, and which had been recovered by inquest as parcel of the *comté* of the Oximin, probably on the ground that the river Dive had here changed its course,—and of certain obligations of the heirs of William de Courcy to the King for acquittance of the debt their father owed to Peter de Bures. A notice of the debt of William de Landigou, *Landa Ingulf*, has been struck out by reason of the sum being previously entered in the account of the bailiff of the Oximin, and it is thus shewn incidentally that these entries have been made in continuance of that account.

William de Sancto Johanne, of whom we have had mention in the bailiwick of the Avranchin as being indebted on an account of twenty years' ministry for the *Vicomte* of Coutances, also made return of the ferm of the same *Vicomte* in this year through William de Ponte, *Du Pont*. This *Vicomte*, and that of *Gavray*, had existed separate from that of the *Clintons* prior to the Conquest of England, William, Duke of the Normans, having given to the abbey at *Cerisy* founded in honour of St. Vigor, by way of increase to the endowment of his father, *decimas Vicecomitatus Constantini, et decimas Vicecomitatus Constanciarum, et decimas Vicecomitatus Waverri, in molendinis, in iure, et in omnibus redditibus suis*. The tythe so given will be found abated from the ferm in the present account, and 60s. beside, which were remitted to Fulk *Paucel* of *terra sua de Brehal et de Hambia*, by the King's writ. In 1220 another Fulco *Paganellus* held Brehal and Hambie, *de quibus*, notes the register of Philip Augustus of that date, *non debet nisi graveriam*, which term is thus shewn to denote the impost commonly called *Auxilium Vicecomitis*. It is here important to observe that the *comté* of the city of Coutances was no other than the appanage already spoken of under the title of *Comté* of Mortain. In speaking of *comte* William, son of King Stephen, Robert du Mont expressly says that he was *Comes civitatis Constantiarum, id est, Moritoni*; in fact, the city of Coutances was, it appears, divided in moieties between the *Comte* of Mortain and

the bishop, for whose see it had been purchased of William the Conqueror by the opulent prelate, Geoffrey de Montbray. The donations of a *comte* of Mortain of the first race to the church of Coutances have been noticed above, and in the contemporary biography of the bishop just named we read that *terram parci contra comitem Moritonensem in parte exgravavit*. In 1269 King Lewis of France writes to his bailiff of Coutances, *Ballivus Constantiensis*, prescribing obedience to an ordinance made with the assent of the bishop of Coutances, that *ballivus noster Constantini, qui pro tempore fuerit, ratione comitatus nostri Moritonii*, shall make oath upon his first being appointed that he will observe fealty to the church of Coutances. The family of St. John was one of the most powerful in the Anglo-Norman baronage, and three brothers of the name, Thomas, Roger, and John, were conspicuous in the reign of Henry I, the eldest of whom was the builder of the castle on his demesne in the Avranchin, which had from him the affix of *St. Jean-le-Thomas*. Roger married Cecilia, daughter of Robert de Haia, *Haye-du-puits*, and had with her the honour of Halnecker in Sussex, parcel of the Honour of Arundel; their son was this William de *Sancto Johanne*, who had the barony of his uncle in Normandy, of his father's share of that inheritance, at the same time that the lands in England fell to the other brother, John. He married first Oliva, daughter of *comite* Stephen of Brittany, Earl of Suffolk and Lord of the Honour of Richmond in England, and widow of Henry, Baron of Fougères in Brittany; the lineage of his second wife Godeheldis is unknown. By neither had he any issue, and, dying at an advanced age, was buried in the abbey of his foundation, *La Lucerne*, in the diocese of Avranches.

The same William de Ponte acted also as bailiff for the King in the jurisdiction of the *Vicomté* of Coutances in this year, and renders account on the Roll of the ferm of land belonging to the demesne, and of the fines and other legal issues. The *terra Aucupum* in Lingreville, *la terre des Oiseleurs*, had afterwards the name of *mesnilum de Oiseleuria*, and was not granted out from the crown till the reign of King John, who bestowed it on his Fool, William Picol.

The Châtellenie de Tenerebrais, *Tinchebray*, was this year in the custody of Erchenbold de Briquebec, who, from the peculiarity of his helmet or cap, had also the *soubriquet* of *cum-mitra*. The accounts extend back for three years, and during the period considerable improvements appear to have been made in the works of the castle; its proximity to the great forest of *La Lande pourrie*, of which that of *Tinchebray* was part, probably caused it to be selected as a favourable

site for the monarch to indulge in the pleasures of the chace. The new ferm of the *prepositura* and purprestures was assessed at 100*li.*; out of this sum 8*li.* were paid in alms to the canon of the collegiate church of St. Evroul at *Mortain*, holding the prebend of *Nôtre Dame de Tinchebray*, and the other charges so far exceeded the amount, that the surplus was 11*li.* 8*s.* 6*d.*: this appears by the computation and is acknowledged on the roll.

## Membrane 5.

Ricardus filius Henrici pro ballia de Cadomo.

The capital town of Caen, like the other royal bourgs, had attached to it both a *prepositura* and a *Vicomtal* jurisdiction, in which the King's Bailiff collected the revenues. The name of this officer in 1180 was Richard, son of Henry, whose son of the same name gave ten librates of rent in the town of Caen *de acquisitione Willelmi de Sancto Martino* to the *Hôtel-Dieu* of Caen; he was, it seems, brother of Henry Fitz-henry, Lord of *Fauvelles*, a suburb of Caen, in the *pays d'Hyfmes*. The first account rendered is of the *Aquagium* or *Evagium*\* of Caen, i. e. of the value of the baskets of fish which the fishermen were bound by custom to render to the lord of the fief, save 3000 herrings, which the King's prebendaries had of accustomed alms. Out of the gross sum, 20*li.* were also abated *de elemosina statuta* to the nuns of the fountain of St. Martin. The historians of the place nowhere make mention of this religious establishment, nor has the name been preserved to the locality; but it may be that the *Fontaine des Quinze Livres* near the river, in the parish of St. Jean, acquired such name from this payment made to the nuns in its vicinity out of the proceeds of the fishermen. The boats, salmon-weirs, and fulling-mills also yielded a tax to the King, and divers sums were furnished from the demesnes of the *Vicomté* of Caen; the *terra Perditorum* and *terra Gaiele* long subsisted under the appellations of *fief Pend-larron*, and *fief de la Gelée*. A render in kind of pears of St. Regulus, the apostle of Senlis, is of no unfrequent occurrence in charters of the time, relating to grants of land in Caen and elsewhere; this fruit seems to have been anciently propagated for the purpose of extracting a beverage like eyder, and the best species may have

\* The Abbé de la Rue in his *Essai sur la Ville de Caen* has mistaken *Evagium Cadomi* into *Oragium Cadomi*; and made the word synonymous with *Vallagium*, i. e. the valley of the ford, in Norman French *Le Vampneur*, the name of a locality in Caen.

## Further extracts from Vol. 1 (imperfect copies)

INTRODUCTORY ADVERTISEMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS by Thomas Stapleton (1840)

MAGNI ROTULI SCACCARII NORMANNIZE SUB REGIBUS ANGLIE. OPERA THOMÆ STAPLETON. TOMUS I. L O N D I N I Z SUMPTIBUS SOC. ANTIQ. LONDINENSIS. MDCCCXL.

Taken from:

[https://play.google.com/store/books/details/France\\_Echiquier\\_Normandy\\_Magni\\_rotuli\\_Scaccarii\\_N?id=6epCAAAAcAAJ](https://play.google.com/store/books/details/France_Echiquier_Normandy_Magni_rotuli_Scaccarii_N?id=6epCAAAAcAAJ)

ADVERTISEMENTS p. vii

<snip>

..The publication of these Records is intended to be comprised in two volumes; the one now upon the table contains the Roll of 1180, the fragment of the Roll of 1184, (being all that is extant of the reign of Henry II.), and the earlier Roll of Richard I.: to this volume will also be found annexed a “*Tabula Normanniae sub Regibus Angliæ*,” which I have compiled and delineated expressly for this work. The later Roll of the same King and the detached membranes of the time of King John will, with the Indexes of Persons and Places, form the second volume, which I hope to be able to present to your Lordship and the Society at no very distant period. I have the honour to be, my Lord, your most obedient humble servant, THOMAS STAPLETON. 13, Wilton Place, Nov. 1840.

Starting p. ix

## OBSERVATIONS By Thomas Stapleton

THE Great Rolls of the Exchequer of Normandy resemble in form the Great Rolls of the English Exchequer of the same date, known as the Pipe Rolls. The membranes which compose them are from nine to fifteen in number, about eleven inches broad, and usually consist of 'two skins of parchment, joined endwise ; but they are of unequal lengths, as sometimes a single skin only is used, and sometimes three or four skins. In the roll of the year 1180, they average thirty-eight inches, but in those of the time of Richard I. the membranes are not unfrequently more than eight feet long. They are pinned or stitched together along the head, and rolled up, the extremity of the longest membrane forming the outer wrapper for all. On this, the year of the Lord in which the roll was made at Caen is indorsed, with sometimes the name of the Seneschal of Normandy. The accompts are written in a stately hand, more or less on both sides of the skin; and at the bottom of the membrane on either side are titles denoting the divisions of accompt, or else, containing the names of the aecomptants, for purposes of reference.

The method of entry corresponds in great measure to the rules observed at the English Exchequer, and will be best understood by adverting to what was there practised. In England, the several Shires or Counties were charged annually with a certain fixed sum, equal to the calculated product from rents assessed upon the lands which were of the ancient demesne of the Crown, and from the fines and other issues of the County and Hundred Courts. This sum was called the Firma Comitatus, and was exacted in each year from the vicecomes, or Sheriff, whence the Breve de firmis, the record in which these farms were enrolled at the Exchequer, was called the Rotulus Ewactorius; and it was an established rule of the Court, that though a farm might be encreased, it could not be diminished. So that when, in the course of time, the King granted away to his followers any of the lands yielding the assessed rents which went to make up the farm of the County, it was incumbent upon the person thus favoured, to produce the King's charter at the Exchequer on the day the farm was exacted of the Sheriff; upon view whereof, the latter was entitled to have the quota, contributed by the lands named in the grant, subtracted from the sum total of the farm. An entry of the amount of this reduction was put upon the Great Roll of that year, under the heading Terrae date, and the like sum continued to be ever after remitted to each succeeding Sheriff, upon its thus appearing in evidence on the roll of the year before. The lands were then said to be extra firmam, or extra comitatum. The King was also accustomed to charge the farm with certain annual payments, as of a specified sum by way of alms, or in lieu of tithes, to religious communities or persons—for the wages of the keepers of his castles, and other officers—for pensions to his menials, or as a pittance to a pauper; and these elemosynary grants and liveries, when once admitted to proof, continued to be customarily...

Footnote on p. x.

' The Latin vicecomes, though constantly used as equivalent, does not properly express the meaning of our English word sheriff. The latter, compounded of scilicet, a district, and gener, a provost or receiver, simply denotes a person holding office in the shire, whence its application to the representative of the King in the district; but vicecomes implies that the officer was the person acting in the room of a Count, a distinction only applicable in the province of Normandy, or wherever the title of sovereignty was anciently comes. With equal incorrectness is Mire rendered comitatus, as if it were the Honour of 11 Count, a name which had in its origin been given to the magistrates who assisted the Emperor in the administration of affairs, his companions, as it were ; and by whom it was in turn made use of to designate their own followers and advisers, when they modelled their petty courts. The title was from the first one of dignity, either personal or hereditary, and comitatus properly denotes the extent of territory placed under the jurisdiction of a Count ;

whereas shire has reference solely to locality. It is true, that by the Anglo Saxon institutions a noble of the King's court (cymnses eglbnpman) was, with the bishop, to be assistant to the sheriff' in holding the shire-mote, and was entitled by reason of this deputation to a third of the cus tomary issues ; but such jurisdiction, or earl-dom, was not, any more than a bishop's diocese, necessarily limited to a particular shire, though the grant of the third pcnyin the issues of a shire came in the end to be looked upon as creating the dignity, of which its receipt had been hitherto only a token. Of the impropriety of language thus generated, one example will suffice. Comes Palricius, who in the reign of Henry II. had the third penny of the county of Wiltshire, and was at the same time sheriff', is made to appear on the Pipe Rolls as the vicecomes of his own camitaluv. Vide Mag. Rot. 4 Hon. II. rat. 2 a. as cited by Madox, note cc, Dialogue (In Scnccario, lib. i. Art-ii.

P. xi

...borne upon each succeeding roll, under the heading Elemosinw et de cimze et liberationes statute. Moreover there were some disbursements which it was customary for the Sheriff to make of his own authority, according as the case might require; viz. for the maintenance of the King's prisoners, and of [such felons as turned approvers-for the expences attending trials by ordeal](#), and the execution of justice—for providing necessaries for the transport of the King's treasure—for salting the royal fish, whale and sturgeon—for the cultivation of the King's vineyards, and getting in the vintage. These the Court of Exchequer were wont to allow the Sheriff' in abatement of the ferm, upon the faith of his averment of the fact of the expense having been incurred. For every other outlay the Sheriff was bound to produce the King's precept, as a voucher, and in case the legal expenditure exceeded the sum total of the ferm, the surplus had to be made good to the accomptant.

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Pp. xciv to xcix.

1980 MEMBRANE concerning DURAND PLANTE  
Membrane 4, recto et dorso.

Ricardus Gifl'art pro ballia de Om'mino.

Odo filius Vitalis pro prapositura de Falesia.

Willelmus de Sancto Johanne per VVillelmum de Ponte pro Vicecomi tatu de Constanciis.

Willelmus de Ponte pro ballia de Constanciis.

Erchenboldus-cum-Mitra pro prazpositura de Tenerchebraio.

The title Baillia Ricardi Gifi'art is written in the first line of this membrane; then the accompt of that off'icer de misericordiis, promissis et finibus, follows; next come the separate entries of the debtors of the crown in his bailiwick, together with the bailiff's return of the issues from lands seized, and [from the chattels of felons within the jurisdiction](#); and in the last place, William son of Bove, and Richard de Langval, render accompt conjointly of what was owing de veteri compoto for the measures of oats due from the land of \Villiam du Hommet, Constable of Normandy, de bemagio, and likewise of the whole value ' of the Bernage of the Oximin for this year: which sum they paid into the Exchequer, save 37s. 6d. the price of ten seliers of oats, then remaining upon the land of William du Hommet in Ranvz'lla by this second year's accompt. Ranville is a parish situate on the banks of the Orne, not far from the coast, and of which the church and tythe had been confirmed to the abbey of Aunay in the Bessin, as being of his fief, by Richard du Hommet, the father of William here named. The mention on the roll of this and of other localities in the Cinglais,t and in the pays du Houlme, sufficiently indicate that the limits of the ancient comté of the Oximin were also those

of the bailiwick, if we except therefrom such portions as had been erected into a comlé in favour of the house of Bellême, indiff'erently entitled of Alengon and of Sééz, or such as had been either included in the inheritance of comte Rotro of Morlagne-en-Perche, or annexed to the peculiar jurisdictions of the royal castles. The residence of the bailiff of the Oximin was at Falaise, of which castle he had the custody; and hence the description Baillia de Falesia is used interchangeably with Baillia de Oximino to denote the same district. In 1180, the heirs of William de Curceio owed 731i. 1'] s. 6d. the debt of their father, and 2001i. de .Insulis, i. e. Jersey and Guernesey, where Robert de Agneaux had acted as the fermor of the said William ; and for certain measures of corn brought from the islands, according to Caen measure, and for others de Bernagio de Oxi mino during the three years expired since his death, and one setier remaining ,due upon his own accompt of Bernages. Caurcy, in the pays ...

Footnote on page xcv.

' Duke Richard II. gave in dower to his wife Judith, in vicariam Cingalensem, these villis, viz. Cingal, Urtulum (Ur-ville), Frasnatum (Frenai-le-Viel), Bretevillam (BreHeville-sur Laize), Osgot (St. Germain L'Angot), Masnil-Coibei, Masnil Robert, Avavilla (Acqueville), Merlai (Meslay), Petra-flea (Pierre-fit"), Mesnil-Ansgot (Angoville), Til (Le Thuil), Pela davilla, Longumanasnile, Novavilla (Neuville), Corteleins (Courleil), Corteletcs, Sanctus Audomarus (St. Omer), Villa Petitel, Bosblancart, Novum-mansum, Ascon (Elma), Bruol (Breuil), Torei (Thury-Harcourt), Donai (Donny), Donaiolum (Petit Douay), Villare (VII (0;), Matroles, Combrai (Combray), Longavilla, Placei (Placy) ; in these villis were sixteen churches.

...d'Auge, was the caput of an extensive barony, to which belonged eight" knight's fees in this bailiwick ; and we learn from Robert du Mont, that William de Curceio, Dapifer Regis Angliw, had died in 117 7, leaving, by the daughter of Richerius de Aquila, an eldest son of the same name in tender years, and other children. The list of debtors in this bailiwick will be found to run to great length, by reason of those who had become bound in sums of various amount for Osbert de Maisoncelles having been compelled to redeem his default. In like manner, Richard Gifi'art, the Bailiff, had to accompt himself for 201i. required from him pro plegio V icecomitissce Rothomagi, but which he had procured to be remitted per breve Regis ; and Robert Marmion was a debtor on the same score in 1001i. This mode of giving surety was also the practice in England; and in the rolls de Oblatis et finibus of the time of King John, long lists of m'ainpernors occur, with the specific sums in which they stood bound attached to each name.

Odo son of Vitalis was in this year fermor of the praepositura of Falaise, assessed at 4801i., in which sum were comprised certain issues of the comté of the Oximin received at Falaise, of which the tythe had been given to the abbey of St. Wandrille by Duke Robert, decimam, viz. nundinarum totiusque comitalzis Om'mensis et omnium mercationuln. The amount of tythe so paid was 201i.; the canons of Séés had 7 li. in alms; and 3 li. and 10d. were paid to the porter, gaoler, and warder of the castle, to each the same wages. Richard Gifi'art had 2001i. for the custody of the castle of Falaise, Robert de Pierrefitte 301i. annually for the cus tody of the castle of Pommeraye in Le Cinglais," and Gislebert Pipart 571i. 5s. 8d. in contribution towards his livery of 1401i. a year for the custody of the castles of Exmes, de Oximis; 21s. were the costs of the execution of justice, and there was a small outlay for the transport of the King's robe from Falaise to Angers, and in repairing the tower of Falaise and the gaol. The Prcpositus also rendered accompt of the ferm of the mills of Falaise ; the tythe of which, decimam molendinorum nostrorum qui sunt sub turre Falesim, Henry II. had given to God and the church of St. John Baptist of the Hospital of Falaise, and to the canons serving God in it according to the rule of Blessed Augustin. The same religious house had of the gift of Richard Gifiart, at Vilers le Calais, the fief of Hamelin de Commeaux and the land of Mordant de Nécy; and of the gift of Odo son of Vitalis two gerbs of the tythe of St. Martin...

Footnote on page xcvi.

' u The ruins Of this "ii-18 are pointed out in the commune of La Pommeraye, between the chapel of St. Clair and Le bourg, now a hamlet; local tradition, as usual, attaches to them the name of the traitor of romance, the warrior Guelon or Game.

...du-Bu, which he held of Robert de St. Martin, who confirmed the grant. Gervase, son of Odo, in later times gave 2s. money of Tours, to the poor of the hospital of St. Michael de Guibray, which his nephews, Richard Le Roux and Michael Carabillon, sons of Richard de Carabilon, a fief in the parish of Corday, contiguous to St. Martin-du-Bu, confirmed. At the foot of the accmpt of Odo are memoranda of the debt of Ralph Tesson, Baron of Thury-en-Cinglais, as surety of Hugh de Longchamp, — of the grant by the King to Robert Mauduit of twenty 'librates of land, of the land of Geoffrey de Clinton in Ouville, and which had been recovered by inquest as parcel of the comté of the Oximin, probably on the ground that the river Dive had here changed its course,— and of certain obligations of the heirs of William de Courcy to the King for acquittance of the debt their father owed to Peter de Bures. A notice of the debt of William de Landigou, I Landa Ingulfi, has been struck out by reason of the sum being previously entered in the accmpt of the bailiff of the Oximin, and it is thus shewn incidentally that these entries have been made in continuance of that accmpt.

William de Sancto Johanne, of whom we have had mention in the bailiwick of the Avranchin as being indebted on an accmpt of twenty years' ministry for the Vicomté of Coutances, also made return of the ferm of the same Vicomté in this year through William de Ponte, Du Ponl. This Vicomte', and that of Gavray, had existed separate from that of the Cotentin prior to the Conquest of England, William, Duke of the Normans, having given to the abbey at Cerisy founded in honour of St. Vigor, by way of increase to the endowment of his father, *decimam Vicecomitatds Constantim', et decimam Vicecomitaltis Constanciarum, et decimam Vicecomitatzis W auretii, in molendinis, in luco, et in omnibus redditibus meis.* The tythe so given will be found abated from the ferm in the present accmpt, and 60s. beside, which were remitted to Fulk Paienel de lerra sua de Brehal et de Hanbia, by the King's writ. In 1220 another Fulco Paganellus held Brehal and Hambie, de quibus, notes the register of Philip Augustus of that date, *non debet nisi graveriam*, which term is thus shewn to denote the impost commonly called *Aua'ilium Vicecomih's*. It is here important to observe that the comté of the city of Coutances was no other than the appanage already spoken of under the title of Comté of Mortain. In speaking of comte 'Villiam, son of King Stephen, Robert du Mont expressly says that he was *Comes civitatis Constantiarum, id est, Morilom'i*; in fact, the city of Coutances was, it appears, divided in moieties between the Comte of Mortain and the bishop, for whose see it had been purchased of William the Conqueror by the opulent prelate, Geoffrey de Montbray. The donations of a comte of Mortain of the first race to the church of Coutances have been noticed above, and in the contemporary biography of the bishop just named we read that *terrain parci contra comitem Moritoniensem in parte eapugnavit.* In 1269 King Lewis of France writes to his bailiff' of Coutances, *Ballivo Conslantiensi*, prescribing obedience to an ordinance made with the assent of the bishop of Coutances, that *ballivus noster Constantim', qui pro tempore fuev'it, ratione cbmilatais nostri Moritonii*, shall make oath upon his first being appointed that he will observe fealty to the church of Coutances.

The family of St. John was one of the most powerful in the Anglo-Norman baronage, and three brothers of the name, Thomas, Roger, and John, were conspicuous in the reign of Henry I, the eldest of whom was the builder of the castle on his demesne in the Avranchin, which had from him the affix of St. Jean-le-Thomas. Roger married Cecilia, daughter of Robert de Haia, Haye-du-puits, and had with her the honour of Halnecker in Sussex, parcel of the Honour of Arundel; their son was this William de Sancto Johanne, who had the barony of his uncle in Normandy, of his father's share of that inheritance, at the same time that the lands in England fell to the other brother, John. He married first Oliva, daughter of comte Stephen of Brittany, Earl of Suffolk and Lord of the Honour

of Richmond in England, and widow of Henry, Baron of Fougères in Brittany; the lineage of his second wife Godeheldis is unknown. By neither had he any issue, and, dying at an advanced age, was buried in the abbey of his foundation, La I/ucerne, in the diocese of Avranches.

*The same William de Ponte acted also as bailif' for the King in the jurisdiction of the Vicomte' of Coutances in this year, and renders accompt on the Roll of the ferm of land belonging to the demesne, and of the fines and other legal issues. The term Aucupu in Lingreville, la terre des Oiseleurs, had afterwards the name of mesnillu de Oiseleria, and was not granted out from the crown till the reign of King John, who 7 bestowed it on his Fool, William Picol.*

The Chatellenie de Tenerchebraio, Tinchebray, was this year in the custody of Erchenbold de Briquebec, who, from the peculiarity of his helmet or cap, had also the soubriquet of cum-mit-ra. The accompts extend back for three years, and during the period considerable im provements appear to have been made in the works of the castle; its proximity to the great forest of La Lande pourrie, of which that of -Tinchebray was part, probably caused it to be selected as a favourable site for the monarch to indulge in the pleasures of the chace. The new ferm of the prwpositura and purprestures was assessed at 1001i. ; out of this sum 8 li. were paid in alms to the canon of the collegiate church of St. Evroul at Mortain, holding the prebend of Ndtre Dame de Tinchebray, and the other charges so far exceeded the amount, that the surplus was llli. 8s. 6d.: this appears by the computation and is acknowledged on the roll.