

The bishops and monks of Rochester : Documents relating to the history of the church

<This is a corrected and slightly updated version of Flight 1997, appendix 3.>

P O P E S

INNOCENTIUS II (1130-1143)

101. Authorizing Johan bishop of Sées to perform the duties of bishop in the church of Rochester.

1137×42?

Not extant, but the existence of some such letter seems to be implied by Appendix 2, no. 4. See p. 205.

102. Summoning bishop Ascelin to Rome, to answer the complaints made against him by the archdeacon.

1142×3

Not extant, but mentioned in no. 103.

CELESTINUS II (1143-1144)

103. Announcing the judgement reached in the case between bishop Ascelin and archdeacon Robert: the disputed churches are to be restored to the monks, and the archdeacon is to be dismissed from office unless he will promise to carry out his duties (Holtzmann 1936, no. 33).

Lateran, 28 November 1143

Domitian, fol. 125r; Reg. temporalium, fol. 136r; Thorpe 1769, p. 8, from Reg. temporalium; Holtzmann 1936, p. 178.

LUCIUS II (1144-1145)

104. Ordering bishop Ascelin to make restitution of all the archdeacon's possessions.

1144×5

Not extant, but mentioned in Ascelin's letter, no. 909.

EUGENIUS III (1145-1153)

105. Taking the monks of Rochester into the protection of the apostolic see; confirming all their possessions, with special mention of the synodal pennies granted to them by bishop Ernulf; ratifying the agreement made with bishop Ascelin concerning Lambeth, Cuddington, and certain other properties; confirming their various customs and liberties (Jaffé 1885-8, no. 8870).

Trastevere, 25 February 1146

Privilegia, fol. 206r, inserted quire; Vespasian, fol. 60r; Nero D ii, fol. 113v, probably from Vespasian; Wharton 1691, p. 344, from Nero; Migne 1844-64, vol. 180, col. 1113, from Wharton.

The charter of Ernulf mentioned here is of questionable authenticity, at least in the form in which it survives to us, no. 309; but that doubt need not reflect upon this letter.

ADRIANUS IV (1154-1159)

106. Taking the monks of Rochester into the protection of the apostolic see; ordaining that a congregation of monks is to remain perpetually in the cathedral church; confirming all their possessions; naming all the manors, churches, tithes, and other property covered by this confirmation; approving the grant of the synodal pennies (as in no. 105); granting them the right of electing the bishop; regulating for the exenium and for the alms offered on behalf of newly recruited monks; confirming their various customs and liberties (Holtzmann 1936, no. 88).

Saint Peter's, Rome, 8 March 1155

Vespasian, fol. 61r; Nero D ii, fol. 114v, probably from Vespasian; Wharton 1691, p. 345, from Nero; Holtzmann 1936, p. 265, from Vespasian.

ALEXANDER III (1159-1181)

107. Ordering archbishop Ricard to settle the dispute concerning Kingsey chapel.

1174×5?

Not extant, but mentioned in the archbishop's judgement, no. 229.

108. Ordering --- bishop of Winchester and Baldwin abbot of Ford to settle the dispute between bishop Walter and the monks of Rochester concerning Dartford church.

1170×80

Not extant, but mentioned in Reg. temporalium, fol. 137r (Thorpe 1769, p. 10).

109. Taking the monks of Rochester into the protection of the apostolic see, on the example of pope Adrian; ordaining that a congregation of monks is to remain perpetually in the cathedral church; confirming all their possessions ... (Holtzmann 1936, no. 197).

Velletri, 8 April 1180

Vespasian, fol. 64r (the scribe omits most of the text, noting that it is identical with no. 106); excerpt copied by a thirteenth-century scribe (DRc/T58); Nero D ii, fol. 118r, probably from Vespasian; Wharton 1691, p. 345, from Nero; Holtzmann 1936, p. 396, from Vespasian.

110. Ordering archbishop Ricard to settle the dispute concerning the tithes of Mottingham.

1174×81

Not extant, but mentioned in the archbishop's judgement, no. 232.

URBANUS III (1185-1187)

111. Ordering the abbot of Faversham, the abbot of Boxley, and the archdeacon of Rochester to settle the dispute concerning Stifford church.

1186×7

Not extant, but mentioned in the judgement which resulted, no. 406. An earlier mandate, superseded by this one, had been addressed to the abbots of Waltham, Chich, and Coggeshall.

112. Allowing the monks the right of choosing priests for any parish churches given to them by any bishop of Rochester (Holtzmann 1936, no. 242).

Verona, 17 April 1186×7

Domitian, fol. 188v, scribe D3; Holtzmann 1936, p. 435.

Surely genuine; but it seems likely that the monks chose not to divulge the existence of this letter at the time. There is no mention of it in their petition, no. 916.

CELESTINUS III (1191-1198)

113. Confirming to the monks the parish churches of Boxley, Aylesford, Dartford, and Frindsbury; also Saint Margaret's church and the altar of Saint Nicholas; approving their intention to divert the revenue from these churches into the hospitality fund, as each of them next falls vacant, apart from what is needed for the maintenance of vicars (Holtzmann 1936, no. 264).

Saint Peter's, Rome, 29 August 1191

Domitian, fol. 189r, scribe D3; Thorpe 1769, p. 49; Holtzmann 1936, p. 457.

Same comment as for no. 112.

114. Ordering the archbishop of Canterbury to ensure that his suffragans, whenever they assemble, are seated according to the order of their consecration (Holtzmann 1936, no. 288).

Lateran, 4 July 1197

Reg. temporalium, fol. 132v; Thorpe 1769, p. 51; Holtzmann 1936, p. 480.

An identical mandate was obtained two years later from Innocentius III (Cheney and Cheney 1967, no. 161).

115. Confirming the exchange of Lambeth for Darenth, as agreed between archbishop Hubert and the monks of Rochester (Holtzmann 1936, no. 289).

Lateran, 5 July 1197

Vespasian, fol. 64v (the scribe omits most of the text, noting that it agrees with the cyrograph, no. 815); Lambeth Palace, Reg. Warham, fol. 144v (cited by Cheney and John 1986, p. 42); Holtzmann 1936, p. 481, from Vespasian.

CELESTINUS III (1191-1198) or INNOCENTIUS III (1198-1216)

116. Ordering the abbot of Saint Augustine's, the prior of Canterbury, and the prior of Horton to settle the dispute between the monks of Rochester and Thomas rector of Elham concerning tithes (Cheney and Cheney 1967, no. 749).

1191×1207

Not extant, but mentioned in the agreement which resulted, no. 818.

117. Ordering the abbot of Faversham, the abbot of Boxley, and the prior of Leeds to settle the dispute between the monks of Rochester and Simon clerk of Witefeld concerning Kingsey chapel (Cheney and Cheney 1967, no. 986).

1196×1214

Not extant, but mentioned in the judgement which resulted, no. 410.

INNOCENTIUS III (1198-1216)

The letters of Innocentius III relating to English affairs have been calendared and indexed very thoroughly by Cheney and Cheney (1967), and it seems unnecessary to give a list of those which relate specifically to Rochester. One mandate not listed by Cheney and Cheney is noted below, no. 821.

A R C H B I S H O P S O F C A N T E R B U R Y

LANFRANC (1070-1089)

201. Subscribing to the charter of Willelm II (no. 506) confirming the grant of Haddenham [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 5)].

1088

Privilegia, fol. 213r, inserted leaf; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 7].

Though the charter itself seems genuine, this paragraph may be a later embellishment, modelled on Anselm's subscription, no. 206 (rather than vice versa).

202. Subscribing to the forged charter of Willelm II (no. 512) granting Haddenham and Lambeth [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 5, falsified version)].

1088

Original (British Library, Campbell Charter vii 1); Domitian, fol. 108r; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 7, from the original].

The whole document is a forgery, with the wording of this subscription derived from no. 201.

203. Restoring to Saint Andrew's church and bishop Gundulf the manor of Freckenham with Isleham [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 7)].

1087

Vespasian, fol. 123v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 17v; Faustina B v, fol. 68r (recited in no. 255); Thorpe 1769, p. 359, from Vespasian, and p. 441, from Faustina; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 9].

Obviously spurious.

204. Subscribing to the forged charter of king Ælfred (Sawyer 1968, no. 349) granting Freckenham to Rochester [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 8)].

1086

Faustina B v, fol. 68r (recited in no. 255); Thorpe 1769, p. 441;

[Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 10].
Obviously spurious.

205. To Remigius bishop (of Lincoln), Hugo de Bello campo sheriff (of Buckingham), and others: letting them know that he has granted Haddenham to Saint Andrew's church [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 6)].

1087×9

Reg. temporalium, fol. 17v; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 8].
Very unlikely to be genuine: it may be a twelfth-century forgery suppressed (but not destroyed) after the fabrication of no. 512. The Domitian compiler included this charter at first - but on second thoughts he made it disappear. See p. 92.

ANSELM (1093-1109)

206. Subscribing to the charter of Henric I (no. 516) confirming all the possessions of Saint Andrew's church, especially those which have been assigned to the monks [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 24)].

Canterbury, 6 March 1103

Original (DRc/T50); Privilegia, fol. 219r; Domitian, fol. 102r; Reg. temporalium, fol. 12r; Reg. Fisher, fol. 66r; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 26].

207. Granting Northfleet church to the monks of Rochester; remitting an increase in the rent paid by the monks for a fishery belonging to the manor of Gillingham [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 25)].

1093×1109, perhaps 1093×7

Privilegia, fol. 181v, inserted leaf; Domitian, fol. 120r; Thorpe 1769, p. 505, from Domitian; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 27].
This text has been partly rewritten in Privilegia, and the wording may have been altered.

208. Granting various rights and possessions to the bishop and monks of Rochester, including Northfleet church [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 26)].

1096×1107

Privilegia, fol. 179r, inserted quire; Domitian, fol. 119v; inspeximus of Walter bishop of Exeter and Hugo bishop of Ely, dated 1260 (DRc/T57); [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 28].
One of the Northfleet forgeries inserted into Privilegia, fols. 179r-180r. The text is a patchwork of excerpts from other charters (nos. 207, 214, 216). See p. 35.

209. Granting various rights and possessions to the bishop and monks of Rochester (as in no. 208), with special mention of Freckenham and Isleham [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 27)].

1096×1107

Original (DRc/T49); Reg. temporalium, fol. 17v; Faustina B v, fol. 72v (recited in a spurious charter of archbishop Bonifacius); Thorpe 1769, p. 359, from the original, and p. 446, from Faustina; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 29].

An obvious forgery, derived from no. 208. There is a seal attached to the original, apparently made from a cast (Oakley 1975, p. 55).

210. Granting various rights to the bishop of Rochester, with special mention of the manor of Freckenham with Isleham; reciting the text of Lanfranc's charter (no. 203) [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 28)].

1096×1107

Faustina B v, fol. 68v (recited in no. 255); Dugdale 1655-73, vol. 3, p. 3, from a spurious inspeximus of archbishop Bonifacius; Thorpe 1769, p. 441, from Faustina; Bandinel 1813, p. 175, from Dugdale; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 30].

Another obvious forgery, derived from nos. 209 and 206. The forged inspeximus, dated 1254, was one of the Rochester documents which found their way into the Cottonian Library (Brett 1988, p. 407). It was destroyed in the fire of 1731.

211. Confirming to the church of Rochester all rights and possessions restored to it by Lanfranc or conferred upon it since by Willelm II, Henric I, and others [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 29)].

London, "in concilio prelatorum", 1101

Original (DRc/T48); Faustina B v, fol. 68v (recited in no. 255); Dugdale 1655-73, vol. 3, p. 2, from a spurious inspeximus of archbishop Bonifacius; Thorpe 1769, p. 442, from Faustina; Bandinel 1813, p. 175, from Dugdale; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 31].

An especially blatant forgery, with a witness list which is wildly anachronistic. For the spurious inspeximus see under no. 210.

212. Confirming the annual pension due to the monks of Rochester from Rotherfield church [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 30)].

1096×1107

Inspeximus in the name of archbishop Pecham (DRc/L5/1); Thorpe 1769, p. 592; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 33].

Almost certainly spurious.

RADULF (1114-1122)

213. Confirming the grant of Norton church, given to the monks of Saint Andrew's church by Hugo of Newnham [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 55)].

1114×22

Domitian, fol. 184v; Thorpe 1769, p. 507; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 56].

Suspect because it is missing from Privilegia, and because there is no mention of it in no. 222. The monks' claim to Norton church was still being challenged in the 1180s (below, no. 813).

214. Confirming Northfleet church to the monks of Rochester, as it was given to them by archbishop Anselm, and making some other donations of his own [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 53)].

1114×22

Privilegia, fol. 179v, inserted quire; Domitian, fol. 120v; inspeximus of Walter bishop of Exeter and Hugo bishop of Ely, dated 1260 (DRc/T57); [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 54]. Suspect in itself, and compromised by the company it keeps (nos. 208, 217).

215. Confirming all grants made by Lanfranc and Anselm, with special mention of Freckenham and Isleham [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 54)].

1114×22

Faustina B v, fol. 69v (recited in no. 255); Thorpe 1769, p. 442; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 55].

An obvious forgery, derived from no. 214.

WILLELM (1123-1136)

216. Granting to bishop Johan the rights which were held by Gundulf and Ernulf in those of the archbishop's manors which lie within the bishopric of Rochester [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 87)].

1126×36

Privilegia, fol. 203r, inserted quire; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 81].

Apparently unobjectionable, but I should not wish to trust it very far. A problematic text connected with this one is no. 905.

217. Confirming the grant of Northfleet church, as given by Anselm and confirmed by Radulf; also confirming the grant of Boxley church, as given by Henric I, already assigned to the monks by bishop Johan [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 88)].

1130×6?

Privilegia, fol. 197v, inserted quire; Domitian, fol. 121r; inspeximus of Walter bishop of Exeter and Hugo bishop of Ely, dated 1260 (DRc/T57); [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 82].

Not authentic in this form, though possibly derived from a genuine charter of 1126×8. See p. 35.

218. Confirming all grants made by Lanfranc, Anselm, and Radulf, with special mention of Freckenham and Isleham [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 89)].

1130×6

Faustina B v, fol. 69v (recited in no. 255); Thorpe 1769, p. 443; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 83].

An obvious forgery, derived from no. 217.

219. Giving judgement in favour of the monks of Rochester in a dispute concerning the tithes of Mottingham [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 90)].

1131

Thorpe 1769, p. 346, from the original, and p. 349, from a notarized copy dated 1316; sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 21v; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 85].

One of a group of late forgeries connected with a chronic dispute (see also no. 239). Like no. 218, this text is derived from no.

217. It refers to two of the spurious charters of Gundulf, nos. 306 and 307. Both the documents printed by Thorpe have disappeared from the archive since his time.

TEODBALD (1139-1161)

220. Confirming all grants and gifts (in exactly the same terms as nos. 516 and 527) (Saltman 1956, no. 220).

1142×8

Privilegia, fol. 204v, inserted quire; Domitian, fol. 114r; Thorpe 1769, p. 38, from Domitian; Saltman 1956, p. 444.

In Domitian only, there is a subscription by bishop Ascelin (no. 316) appended to this text. Teodbald's charter was inspected by archbishop Hubert, no. 249.

221. Summarizing the judgement given by Imarus bishop of Tusculum (no. 401), and announcing the settlement of all outstanding disputes between bishop Ascelin and the monks of Rochester (Saltman 1956, no. 223).

1145

Domitian, fol. 128r; Thorpe 1769, p. 41; Saltman 1956, p. 450.

222. Confirming the grant of Norton church, given to the monks of Rochester by Fulco of Newnham (Saltman 1956, no. 224).

1150×61

Domitian, fol. 134v; Thorpe 1769, p. 508; Saltman 1956, p. 452.

223. Instituting Willelm Turco as parson of Stourmouth church, on the presentation of the monks of Rochester (Saltman 1956, no. 226).

1154×61

Domitian, fol. 136r; Saltman 1956, p. 454.

224. Announcing the settlement of a dispute between bishop Walter and archdeacon Paris concerning the division of the proceeds from ecclesiastical causes (Saltman 1956, no. 225).

1150×61

Reg. temporalium, fol. 138r; sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 81r; Thorpe 1769, p. 58, from Reg. temporalium; Saltman 1956, p. 453, from Reg. temporalium.

It is not clear how this text was able to survive, but its belated appearance is not necessarily suspicious.

225. Reciting and confirming a charter of bishop Gundulf listing the tithes which belong to the monks of Rochester (Saltman 1956, no. 222).

Canterbury, 1 September 1145

Inspeximus of Walter bishop of Exeter and Hugo bishop of Ely, dated 1260 (DRc/T57); inspeximus of prior Thomas and the chapter of Canterbury, dated 1277 (Canterbury, Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ant. R50); Thorpe 1769, p. 87, from a copy of prior Thomas's inspeximus in Reg. Fisher, fol. 68r; Cheney 1950, p. 150, from Ch. Ant. R50; Saltman 1956, p. 447, from Ch. Ant. R50.

A thirteenth-century forgery. Gundulf's charter (no. 306) does

not appear to have existed except as part of this text. The archbishop is made to say that his confirmation is to have as much authority as the original, if it should ever happen that the latter is lost or destroyed. Prior Thomas's inspeximus was apparently still at Rochester in the sixteenth century. How it migrated to Canterbury is unknown.

226. Instituting Willelm Turco as parson of Stourmouth church (as in no. 223); confirming the pensions due to the monks of Rochester from the churches of Stourmouth, Norton, and Boxley; confirming various tithes.

Canterbury, 28 August 1145

Inspeximus of Walter bishop of Exeter and Hugo bishop of Ely, dated 1260 (DRc/T57).

An obvious forgery, derived from nos. 223 and 222, related also to nos. 225 and 227. The paragraph concerning Boxley church is quoted in a charter of archbishop Islip dated 1363 (Thorpe 1769, p. 180, and Saltman 1956, p. 443, both from Lambeth Palace, Reg. Islip, fol. 203r).

227. Confirming Northfleet church to the monks of Rochester; confirming their tithes in Northfleet and elsewhere.

1139×48

Inspeximus of Walter bishop of Exeter and Hugo bishop of Ely, dated 1260 (DRc/T57).

A late addition to the dossier of Northfleet forgeries.

228. Confirming all gifts and grants, with special mention of Freckenham and Isleham (Saltman 1956, no. 221).

1142×8

Faustina B v, fol. 70r (recited in no. 225); Thorpe 1769, p. 443; Saltman 1956, p. 445.

An obvious forgery, derived from no. 220.

THOMAS (1162-1170)

RICARD (1174-1184)

229. Reporting the settlement of a dispute between the monks of Rochester and Roger the priest concerning Kingsey chapel (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 191).

1174×5?

Domitian, fol. 175r; thirteenth-century copy (Lincoln, Dean and Chapter, Dij/73/1/31); Thorpe 1769, p. 384, from Domitian; Foster 1935, p. 24, from the Lincoln copy.

The case had been referred to the archbishop by the pope, no. 107. The copy of this text made later for the bishop of Lincoln adds the remark: *Facta est hec carta anno domini mclxxiiii*. But perhaps this was just a guess.

230. Confirming Norton church to the monks of Rochester, on the evidence of a charter of Fulco of Newnham (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 188).

1174×5

Domitian, fol. 135r; Thorpe 1769, p. 508.

231. To Paris archdeacon of Rochester, master Walter Tonitruus, and master Radulf of Frindsbury: ordering them to investigate the dispute between the monks of Rochester and Picard parson of Eltham concerning the tithes of Mottingham.

1174×81

Not extant, but mentioned in no. 232.

The case had been referred to the archbishop by the pope, no. 110.

232. Reporting the settlement of the dispute (see no. 231) concerning the tithes of Mottingham (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 192).

1174×81

Domitian, fol. 136v; Thorpe 1769, p. 347.

An inflated version of this text, perhaps preserving the original witness list, is no. 239.

233. Confirming Northfleet church to the monks of Rochester (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 189).

1174×81

Not extant: the compiler of Domitian notes its existence (fol. 121v; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 162) but does not copy the text. Presumably this is the charter referred to by archbishop Hubert, no. 252.

234. Confirming the agreement concerning tithes made between the monks of Boxley and the monks of Rochester (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 196).

1180×1

Domitian, fol. 138v; Thorpe 1769, p. 179.

The agreement in question, which survives independently (no. 811), is dated 1180.

235. Confirming the grant of the tithes of Bilsington made by prior R(icard) and the convent of Rochester to Gilbert de Perieres (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 197).

1181×2

Domitian, fol. 133r; Thorpe 1769, p. 168.

236. Reporting the settlement of a dispute between the monks of Rochester and Johan the clerk, parson of the church of Hayes (Middlesex), concerning the tithes of Alan of Yeading (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 190).

1174×82

Domitian, fol. 184r; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 162.

237. Confirming all gifts and grants (mostly in the same terms as no. 220) (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 195).

1177?

Domitian, fol. 116r; Thorpe 1769, p. 44; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 169.

Both this and the similar charter of archbishop Baldwin (no. 243) are very probably spurious. The witness list has been truncated

in Domitian, but may be preserved by no. 238.

238. Reporting the settlement of a dispute concerning tithes (as in no. 236); confirming to the monks of Rochester all their tithes, churches, and other possessions in the diocese of Canterbury (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 194).

15 May 1177

Original (DRc/L17); snippet cut from a thirteenth-century copy (DRc/T56); Domitian, fol. 207r, quire XI; Royal 5 A iv, fol. 197r; Thorpe 1769, p. 410, from Domitian; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 167. An obvious forgery, derived from no. 236, apparently intended to take the place of no. 237. For other forgeries belonging to the same group see nos. 244 and 252.

239. (An inflated version of no. 232) (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 193).

1176

Original (DRc/L16/1); sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 22r; Thorpe 1769, p. 347, from the original, and p. 349, from a notarized copy dated 1316; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 165. A late forgery, linked with no. 219.

BALDWIN (1185-1190)

240. Confirming the grant of land in Rochester made to the monks by Albreda daughter of Robert the moneyer, saving the service due to the manor of Darenth (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 303).

1185×90

Original (DRc/T293); Domitian, fol. 168r; Thorpe 1769, p. 527, from Domitian; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 257.

241. Reporting that the bishop and the prior and convent of Rochester have given him part of their court at Lambeth for the construction of a church and college in honour of Saint Thomas the martyr, and that he in return has given them a sheepfold in the Isle of Grain.

1189×90

Domitian, fol. 168r (incomplete); Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 212. The copyist gives only the last few lines of this text, where the wording diverged from no. 242.

242. (Another version of no. 241, with a passage at the end in which the archbishop explains that he has had this charter sealed by his fellow bishops and enrolled before the king's justices at the Exchequer) (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 244).

1189×90

Domitian, fol. 167r (with a note by the scribe saying that there were seven seals attached to this document); Thorpe 1769, p. 434; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 212.

243. Confirming all gifts and grants (in much the same terms as no. 237), excluding the land at Lambeth involved in the above exchange (nos. 241-2) (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 305).

1189×90

Domitian, fol. 185v, scribe D3; Thorpe 1769, p. 46; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 260.

Like no. 237, this is very likely to be spurious. The exclusion clause may be modelled on the one which occurs in Hubert's charter, no. 249.

244. Confirming all churches, tithes, and other possessions held by the monks of Rochester within the diocese of Canterbury (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 304).

1189×90

Domitian, fol. 208r, quire XI; Royal 5 A iv, fol. 198v; Thorpe 1769, p. 48; from Domitian; Cheney and Jones 1986, p. 258.

Like no. 238, this is sure to be a forgery, apparently intended to take the place of no. 243.

245. Announcing that he has entrusted the administration of his diocese to the bishop of Rochester, for the duration of his pilgrimage (Cheney and Jones 1986, no. 245).

1190

Reg. temporalium, fol. 138r; Thorpe 1769, p. 50; Churchill 1933, vol. 2, p. 1.

HUBERT (1193-1205)

246. Instituting bishop Gilbert and the prior and convent of Rochester to the parsonage of Norton church, with provision for the appointment of a vicar (Cheney and John 1986, no. 589).

1195×8

Original (DRC/L10/2); Thorpe 1769, p. 508; Cheney and John 1986, p. 242.

247. Announcing the terms of the agreement by which the monks of Rochester have given him the manor of Lambeth and he in return has given them the manor of Darenth (Cheney and John 1986, no. 372).

1196×7

Original (DRC/T54/1); Domitian, fol. 170r; Thorpe 1769, p. 270, from the original; Cheney and John 1986, p. 42.

The agreement in question is nos. 814-15. Hubert's charter was inspected by archbishop Robert in 1276 (Thorpe 1769, p. 272, said to be from the original).

248. Appropriating Darenth church to the monks of Rochester (Cheney and John 1986, no. 373).

1196×8

Original (DRC/T54/4); Domitian, fol. 171r; Lambeth Palace, Reg. Warham, fol. 144r (cited by Cheney and John 1986); Thorpe 1769, p. 272, from the original; Cheney and John 1986, p. 45.

Also inspected in 1276 (see under no. 247).

249. Reciting the text of a charter of archbishop Teodbald (no. 220); confirming to the church and monks of Rochester all the possessions named in Teodbald's charter, and also in charters of Anselm and Henric I; excluding from this confirmation the manor of Lambeth (Cheney and John 1986, no. 590).

1196×8

Domitian, fol. 117v; Thorpe 1769, p. 50.

250. Granting a pension of five marks from Lambeth church to be paid each year to bishop Gilbert and his successors, as compensation for certain profits lost to the bishop because of the Lambeth exchange (Cheney and John 1986, no. 368).

1196

Reg. temporalium, fol. 123r; Thorpe 1769, p. 11.

This grant was confirmed by Godefrid bishop of Winchester, no. 408. Hubert's charter was inspected by prior Nicholaus and the chapter of Canterbury in 1247 (Thorpe 1769, p. 12, from Reg. temporalium, fol. 123v, misdated 1207), and again by prior Henric and the chapter of Canterbury in 1322 (Thorpe 1769, p. 12, from Reg. temporalium, fol. 123v).

251. Granting a portion of land at Lambeth to bishop Gilbert and his successors (Cheney and John 1986, no. 369).

1196×8

Reg. temporalium, fol. 123r; Thorpe 1769, p. 11.

252. Reporting the settlement of a dispute between himself and the monks of Rochester concerning the patronage of Northfleet church; confirming their tithes in the parish of Northfleet, as listed in a charter of archbishop Ricard; confirming all their churches, tithes, and other possessions within the diocese of Canterbury (in similar terms to no. 244) (Cheney and John 1986, no. 593).

1199×1200

Original (DRc/T55); snippet cut from a thirteenth-century copy (DRc/T55A); Domitian, fol. 208v, quire XI; Royal 5 A iv, fol. 200r; sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 82r; Thorpe 1769, p. 505, from the original; Cheney and John 1986, p. 248. Like nos. 238 and 244, this is certainly spurious; but the section concerning Northfleet church may have been based on a genuine charter, in the same way that no. 238 was based on no. 236. The charter of archbishop Ricard referred to here is presumably no. 233.

253. Confirming to the monks their tithes in Northfleet and elsewhere, as given and confirmed to them by archbishops Lanfranc, Anselm, Radulf, Willelm Teodbald, Ricard, and Baldwin (Cheney and John 1986, no. 594).

1199×1200

Inspeximus of Walter bishop of Exeter and Hugo bishop of Ely, dated 1260 (DRc/T57); Cheney and John 1986, p. 250.

Obviously spurious.

254. Confirming to bishop Gilbert and his successors all manner of jurisdiction in the parishes of Freckenham and Isleham, on the evidence of charters of Lanfranc, Anselm, Radulf, Willelm, and Teodbald; a copy of Lanfranc's charter (no. 203) is appended (Cheney and John 1986, no. 591).

1195×8?

Faustina B v, fol. 70v (recited in an inspeximus of prior Robert

and the chapter of Canterbury, dated 1333); Thorpe 1769, p. 444. Obviously spurious. As pointed out by Cheney and John (1986, p. 245), the witness list appears to have been taken from one of a batch of charters issued by Hubert in favour of Strood hospital (Cheney and John 1986, nos. 624-7); and a similar connection exists for no. 255 (see below). So whoever produced these forgeries had access to the hospital's archive.

255. Reciting in full the text of seven charters concerning Freckenham and Isleham - a charter of Alvred king of the Saxons (Sawyer 1968, no. 349), with Lanfranc's subscription (no. 204); a charter of archbishop Lanfranc (no. 203); two charters of archbishop Anselm (nos. 210, 211); one charter each of archbishops Radulf (no. 215), Willelm (no. 218), and Teodbald (no. 228) - and confirming these and all other possessions to the bishop and chapter of Rochester (Cheney and John 1986, no. 592).

1196×8?

Faustina B v, fol. 67r (recited in an inspeximus of prior Robert and the chapter of Canterbury, dated 1333); Thorpe 1769, p. 441. The charters inspected here are spurious without exception, and so is the charter purporting to inspect them. As with no. 254, the witness list was apparently borrowed from a charter belonging to Strood hospital (Cheney and John 1986, no. 623).

256. Citing the mandate sent to him by pope Innocentius III (Cheney and Cheney 1967, no. 724); quoting the terms of the agreement made between bishop Gilbert and the monks of Rochester (no. 819); confirming this agreement (Cheney and John 1986, no. 595).

1203×5?

Reg. temporalium, fol. 108r, added by another hand; Thorpe 1769, p. 104.

Obviously spurious. The papal mandate cited here is a falsified version of a mandate dated 21 December 1206 (Cheney and Cheney 1967, no. 729). Here the date has been altered by a few days, but the year is left unchanged. Yet Hubert died in July 1205. Not counting the Freckenham forgeries, this document is unique (at least among those listed here) in having been forged in the interests of the bishop.

B I S H O P S O F R O C H E S T E R

GUNDULF (1077-1108)

301. To Hamo the sheriff and others: letting them know that he has fulfilled his agreement with the king by surrendering three acres of land in Borstal, in exchange for the three acres given to the church and monks of Saint Andrew by Odo bishop of Bayeux.

1088×1100

Privilegia, fol. 211v; Domitian, fol. 183r; Thorpe 1769, p. 526, from Domitian.

A charter of Willelm II, no. 508, relates to the same transaction.

302. To Rodbert bishop of Lincoln, Goisfrid the sheriff, and others: letting them know that Gislebert his clerk has given three hides of land in Haddenham to Saint Andrew's church, and that he himself has granted Haddenham church to Gislebert's son Radulf, with all the possessions pertaining to it or previously held by Gislebert, excluding these three hides.

1093×1108

Privilegia, fol. 213r, inserted leaf.

303. Subscribing to the charter of Henric I (no. 516).

Canterbury, 6 March 1103

Original (DRc/T50); Privilegia, fol. 219v; Domitian, fol. 102v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 12r; Reg. Fisher, fol. 66r.

304. Adding a further subscription to the same charter, ordering that pensions are to be paid to the monks from eight named churches.

1103×8

Original (DRc/T50); Reg. Fisher, fol. 66r.

Obviously spurious. Part of the witness list has been erased to make space for this insertion. See p. 114.

305. Granting the monks the right of presenting vicars for the churches on their manors, and for the churches which he has acquired from various benefactors; ordering that an annual gift from the monks' manors is to be delivered to the bishop on Saint Andrew's day, but only if the bishop is present in Rochester for the feast; decreeing that any property or money brought by somebody joining the convent, or given on his behalf, should be paid into the funds of the church (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 845).

1107×8

Original (DRc/T47); Domitian, fol. 100r; Nero D ii, fol. 109r; Reg. temporalium, fol. 135r; Reg. Hethe, fol. 132r; sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 38v; Thorpe 1769, p. 32, from Domitian (incomplete), and p. 6, from Reg. temporalium.

An obvious forgery. See pp. 108-15.

306. Granting the monks a long list of tithes, given to the church by various benefactors.

1091

Recited in a spurious *inspeximus*, no. 225; not attested as a separate text except by a sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 3r, where it may have been excerpted from a copy of no. 225.

Another obvious forgery. The witness list, derived from no. 305, is incompatible with the given date.

307. (A wildly inflated version of no. 305, with mention of the monks' control over the appointment of their servants.)

Rochester, 20 September 1089

Original (British Library, Cotton Charter viii 10); Dugdale 1655-73, vol. 3, p. 1; Bandinel 1813, p. 175, from Dugdale.

An obvious - not to say ludicrous - forgery, derived from no. 305,

but with much additional material. The anathema comes from no. 303. On the evidence of another late forgery, no. 219, authenticated by a notary in 1316, this charter was in existence by that time. The original was damaged in the fire of 1731, but is still legible (Brett 1988, p. 405).

A letter from Gundulf to the monks of Bec is no. 903.

RADULF (1108-1114)

ERNULF (1115-1124)

308. Granting Haddenham church to the church of Saint Andrew of Rochester. After his death, on his anniversary each year, the sacrist is to give 20 shillings' worth of bread to the poor and 20 shillings to the monks' refectory.

1115×24

Privilegia, fol. 196v; Domitian, fol. 108v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 135v; Thorpe 1769, p. 383, from Domitian, and p. 7, from Reg. temporalium.

Confirmed later by Hugo I bishop of Lincoln, no. 407.

309. Ordering that the pennies paid by parish priests when they receive chrism or attend a synod are to be used for building and maintaining the offices of the monks.

1115×24

Privilegia, fol. 197r, inserted leaf; Reg. temporalium, fol. 135v; Thorpe 1769, p. 7, from Reg. temporalium.

Not obviously objectionable; but the replacement of this leaf in Privilegia suggests that some dishonesty was afoot, and Ernulf's charter seems the likeliest target, because the most important. The papal privileges (nos. 105-6) cite this charter, or some version of it; but they summarize it in a way which might suggest that only the synodal pennies - not the fees for chrism - had been granted to the monks. The absence of this charter from Domitian can probably be taken to mean that the monks had abandoned their claim to this money by then. [But I rather suspect that synodal pennies is just another name for chrism pennies.]

JOHAN (1125-1137)

310. Announcing the terms of the agreement made by the monks of Rochester with the wife of Robert Latimar, concerning land at Frindsbury.

1125×37

Domitian, fol. 122v; Thorpe 1769, p. 370.

The agreement in question is no. 806; but that text has been tampered with, and this charter could possibly be an attempt to lend the falsified text an appearance of episcopal authority.

311. Granting the monks the church of Boxley, as given by king Henric to Saint Andrew's church, on the occasion of its dedication.

1130×7

Domitian, fol. 122r; Thorpe 1769, p. 177.

The king's charter, which seems authentic, is no. 522; but the confirmation by archbishop Willelm, no. 217, is spurious as it stands, and some suspicion has to fall on the bishop's charter too. If genuine, it ought to have been produced as evidence during the monks' dispute with Robert Pullen.

312. Granting to Saint Andrew's church the church of Frindsbury and the chapel of Strood, with all their lands and tithes. After his death, on his anniversary each year, the sacrist is to give one mark so that bread can be bought for the poor.

1125×37

Domitian, fol. 122r; Reg. temporalium, fol. 135v; sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 81r; Thorpe 1769, p. 8, from Reg. temporalium.

Open to some suspicion. It is not necessarily alarming that the wording agrees with, and was presumably copied from, a charter of bishop Ernulf, no. 308; but the agreement extends into the witness list (given in full only by the sixteenth-century transcript), and that seems a worrying fact, to say the least.

According to the monks (no. 917), the chapel in question here was not the chapel of Saint Nicholas - i.e. the chapel which later became the parish church (Appendix 2, no. 31) - but a chapel dedicated to Saint Martin. This may have been situated at the top of Strood Hill. See p. 212.

313. Announcing that he has restored to the monks two of their manors - Haddenham and Stoke - which he was leasing from them, and also the rents of Lambeth.

1125×37

Domitian, fol. 123r; Saltman 1951, p. 73.

Open to some suspicion. If genuine, it ought to have been produced as evidence during the monks' dispute with bishop Ascelin. See pp. 43-4.

ASCELIN (1142-1148)

314. Announcing that he has restored to the monks, by order of pope Celestinus, the churches of Boxley, Aylesford, and Southfleet, and also the altar of Saint Nicholas with the dependent church of Saint Margaret.

1143×4

Original (DRc/L1); Domitian, fol. 125v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 136r; Thorpe 1769, p. 40, from Domitian, and p. 8, from Reg. temporalium.

The papal letter is no. 103.

315. Announcing that he has restored the church of Southfleet to the monks of Rochester and to Johan their vicar, by order of the late pope Celestinus. After his death, on his anniversary each year, the sacrist is to give twenty shillings from the rents of this church, ten for the monks, and ten to be distributed as alms.

1144×6

Domitian, fol. 126r; Reg. temporalium, fol. 137r; Thorpe 1769, p.

40, from Domitian, and p. 10, from Reg. temporalium.

316. Subscribing to the general confirmation of archbishop Teodbald (no. 220).

1142×8

Domitian, fol. 115r; Thorpe 1769, p. 39.

Despite the omission of this paragraph from the copy of Teodbald's charter given in Privilegia , I see no reason to doubt its authenticity.

317. Granting the monks 1 1/2 hides of land in Haddenham which used to be Radulf the clerk's.

1142×8

Domitian, fol. 126v; Thorpe 1769, p. 384.

318. Confirming to the monks the land in Borstal given to them by Radulf the clerk.

1142×8

Domitian, fol. 126r.

319. Granting the monks his share of the jurisdiction in London which used to be countess Goda's.

1142×8

Domitian, fol. 126v; Thorpe 1769, p. 41.

320. Remitting the rest of the debt owed to him by the monks, for his going back to Rome on the church's business.

1145×8

Domitian, fol. 129r; Thorpe 1769, p. 40.

This seems to imply that Ascelin made a second visit to Rome.

A letter from Ascelin to pope Eugenius III is no. 909.

WALTER (1148-1182)

321. Confirming to the monks the church of Boxley, the altar of Saint Nicholas with the church of Saint Margaret, the churches of Frindsbury, Haddenham, and Barkingchurch in London, a payment of 16 shillings from Kingsdown chapel, and the tithe of Bertreia.

1148×82

Domitian, fol. 130r; Reg. temporalium, fol. 137v; Thorpe 1769, p. 43, from Domitian, and p. 10, from Reg. temporalium.

Suspicious.

322. Confirming to the monks the altar of Saint Nicholas with the dependent church of Saint Margaret, after inspecting a charter of bishop Gundulf.

1148×82

Domitian, fol. 130r; Thorpe 1769, p. 42.

Seemingly genuine; but why does Walter's charter not refer back to Ascelin's, no. 314, and why does Ascelin's omit to mention the existence of Gundulf's, no. 305? It seems likely that Walter's charter has been falsified, and that Gundulf's name has been substituted for Ascelin's.

An inflated version of no. 322, perhaps preserving the original witness list (truncated in Domitian), is no. 326.

323. Confirming to the monks all their manors, possessions, rents, and tithes, after inspecting charters of archbishops Lanfranc, Anselm, and Teodbald, of bishops Gundulf and Ascelin, and of kings Willelm and Henric; also confirming their right of presenting vicars for all the churches on their own manors and for all the churches mentioned by name in a charter of bishop Gundulf.

1161×82?

Domitian, fol. 129v; Thorpe 1769, p. 42.

Suspicious.

324. Confirming the grant of two portions of land (at Halling) given to the monks of Rochester by Willelm son of Adam.

1148×82

Domitian, fol. 156v; Thorpe 1769, p. 392.

325. Granting the monks some land he has bought in Borstal, the rent to be used for the poor on Maundy Thursday.

1148×82

Domitian, fol. 157r; sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 81v.

The witness list, cut short by Domitian, is given in full by the transcript.

326. Confirming to the monks the altar of Saint Nicholas with the dependent church of Saint Margaret, after inspecting a charter of bishop Gundulf (as in no. 322); confirming all the tithes they possess in the diocese of Rochester and listing them by name.

1148×82

Royal 5 A iv, fol. 204r; excerpt quoted in a spurious inspeximus of archbishop Pecham (DRC/L19); Reg. Hethe, fol. 30r; Thorpe 1769, p. 528, clearly from Reg. Hethe.

A thirteenth-century forgery, belonging to a group which also includes no. 335. There is no mention here of Gundulf's charter, no. 306, so apparently that forgery has to be later than these.

WALERAN (1182-1184)

GILBERT (1185-1214)

327. Confirming to the monks the land in Haddenham given to them by bishop Ascelin, whose charter he has inspected (Moule 1954, no. 2).

1185×92?

Domitian, fol. 173r; Thorpe 1769, p. 385.

Ascelin's charter is no. 315.

328. Approving the customary arrangement whereby a reeve is appointed by the bishop, on the presentation of the monks' chamberer, to collect certain payments from the bishop's men dwelling within the city (Moule 1954, no. 18).

1185×93

Domitian, fol. 173r; sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 36r; Thorpe 1769, p. 47, from Domitian.

329. Granting the monks the following pensions: 8 1/2 marks from Boxley church, payable by the parson, 2 marks from Aylesford church, and 1/2 mark from Saint Margaret's church, both payable by the master of Strood hospital; confirming the pension of 40 shillings paid to the monks by the priest ministering at the altar of Saint Nicholas (Moule 1954, no. 10).

1185×93

Domitian, fol. 173v; Thorpe 1769, p. 178.

330. Ordering that a fixed share of the pensions which he has assigned to the monks is to be spent each year in buying them new coverlets: whenever a monk receives a new coverlet, his old one is to be given to the master of Strood hospital (Moule 1954, no. 9).

1185×93

Domitian, fol. 174r; Thorpe 1769, p. 147.

331. Assenting to the exchange of the manor of Lambeth for the manor of Darenth, on the terms agreed between archbishop Hubert and the prior and convent of Rochester (Moule 1954, no. 15).

1196×7

Moule 1954, p. 231, from the thirteenth-century register, Lambeth Palace 1212, fol. 220r.*

* Miss Blount informs me that the original is extant [(Lambeth Palace, Cartae misc. XI 18). To search the online catalogue, the string to use is "CM XI/18"].

332. Announcing the settlement of a dispute between Willelm de Sancto Lupo and the monks of Rochester, concerning the tithe of Wickham (Moule 1954, no. 38).

1190×1214

Domitian, fol. 174v; Thorpe 1769, p. 686.

333. Confirming to the monks all their manors, possessions, and rents (in almost the same terms as no. 323, but adding the names of archbishops Ricard and Hubert, bishop Walter, and king Henric II); confirming also the tithes they own within the diocese of Rochester, and listing them all by name (Moule 1954, no. 34).

1205×14

Domitian, fol. 185r, scribe D3; Thorpe 1769, p. 47.

Almost certainly spurious, but superseded fairly soon by a more ambitious forgery, no. 335.

334. Remitting the debt which is owed to him by the monks, in the matter of their treasury (Moule 1954, no. 31).

1185×1214

Domitian, fol. 188r, scribe D3; Thorpe 1769, p. 538.

Probably spurious. Some of the wording agrees with, and was presumably copied from, a similar charter of Ascelin, no. 320.

335. Confirming to the monks all the tithes they own within the

diocese of Rochester, after inspecting a charter of bishop Walter; confirming also all the pensions due to them from churches (Moule 1954, no. 13).

1190×1214

Royal 5 A iv, fol. 205v; excerpt quoted in a spurious inspeximus of archbishop Pecham (DRc/L19); Reg. Hethe, fol. 30r; sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 73r; Thorpe 1769, p. 529, clearly from Reg. Hethe.

A blatant forgery.

[336.] Reporting an agreement previously made between archdeacon Willelm, rector of Frindsbury church, and the prior and convent of Rochester concerning tithes; clarifying the terms of this agreement (Moule 1954, no. 20).

1198×1214

Royal 5 A iv, fol. 208r.

Very unlikely to be genuine in this form. The agreement referred to is not extant, but may quite possibly have been genuine (no. 820). The papal mandate implied by Gilbert's charter is Cheney and Cheney 1967, no. 965.

337. Summarizing the points at issue in the dispute between himself and the monks of Rochester; explaining in detail the settlement which he has imposed (Moule 1954, no. 17).

1205×6

Reg. temporalium, fol. 129r; Canterbury, Dean and Chapter, Reg. I, fol. 420v (cited by Moule 1954, p. 249); Thorpe 1769, p. 52, from Reg. temporalium.

Four letters written by Gilbert are listed below (nos. 913-15, 918).

O T H E R E C C L E S I A S T I C A L P E R S O N S

IMARUS bishop of Tusculum (1145-1153)

401. Delivering judgement in the case brought against bishop Ascelin by the monks of Rochester (Holtzmann 1936, no. 45).

1145

Privilegia, fol. 203v, inserted quire; Domitian, fol. 127r; Thorpe 1769, p. 41, from Domitian; Holtzmann 1936, p. 194; Brett and Brooke 1981, p. 812, from Privilegia.

GILEBERT bishop of London (1163-1187)

402. Putting it in writing that the patronage of Stifford church belongs to Gilebert Malet, not to Roger of Stifford (Morey and Brooke 1967, no. 431).

[1170×7]

Domitian, fol. 150r; Morey and Brooke 1967, p. 469. [Gilebert's father, Willelm Malet, died in 1170.]

403. Instituting Radulf son of Roger of Stifford as parson of

Stifford church (Morey and Brooke 1967, no. 432).

[1170×7]

Original (St Paul's, Dean and Chapter, A28/284); Domitian, fol. 150v; Morey and Brooke 1967, p. 469, from the original.

Copies of nos. 402-3 presumably came into the monks' hands in consequence of the following transaction.

404. Instituting the prior and monks of Rochester as parsons of Stifford church, on the presentation of Gilebert Malet, following the resignation of Radulf of Stifford (Morey and Brooke 1967, no. 433).

[1174×86]

Domitian, fol. 150v; Morey and Brooke 1967, p. 470.

405. Clarifying the terms on which the prior and monks of Rochester may proceed to convert Stifford church to their own uses, after the death or resignation of their vicar, Radulf of Stifford (Morey and Brooke 1967, no. 434).

[1174×86]

Domitian, fol. 151v; Morey and Brooke 1967, p. 470.

For what actually happened when Radulf did finally die, see [no. 912 and] Curia regis rolls, vol. 7, pp. 322-5.

GUERRIC abbot of Faversham
--- abbot of Boxley
PARIS archdeacon of Rochester

406. Annuling the judgement delivered by the abbots of Waltham, Chich, and Coggeshall in the dispute concerning Stifford church, the case having been taken out of their hands by a subsequent papal mandate.

1186×7

Domitian, fol. 153r.

The papal mandate is no. 111.

HUGO I bishop of Lincoln (1186-1200)

407. Confirming Haddenham church with Cuddington chapel to the church and monks of Rochester, on the evidence of a charter of bishop Ernulf (Smith 1986, no. 161).

1189×1200

Domitian, fol. 109r; Thorpe 1769, p. 385.

In Domitian this text has been tampered with: the words *W. rege Anglorum* are written by a different hand, apparently over an erasure (above, p. 94). Ernulf's charter is no. 308. From what is known about the careers of the two witnesses (Greenway 1977; Smith 1986, p. 107), the likeliest dating for Hugo's charter is 1193×4.

GODEFRID bishop of Winchester (1189-1204)

408. Reporting that he has instituted Gilbert bishop of Rochester as parson of Lambeth church, on the presentation of archbishop Hubert; confirming that a pension of 5 marks is to be paid each

year to him and his successors [(Franklin 1993, no. 235)].

Southwark, 17 May 1197

Reg. temporalium, fol. 124r; Thorpe 1769, p. 13.

The archbishop's charter is no. 250. Bishop Godefrid's charter was inspected by Willelm bishop of Winchester on 16 April 1245; bishop Willelm's charter was inspected by prior Walter and the convent of Saint Swithun's two days later (Thorpe 1769, p. 13, from Reg. temporalium, fol. 124r).

SEFFRID II bishop of Chichester (1180-1204)

409. Confirming Rotherfield church to Herebert the clerk, instituted by his predecessor bishop Johan (of Greenford) on the presentation of prior Ernulf and the convent of Rochester.

1180×1204

Domitian, fol. 140v; spurious inspeximus of archbishop Pecham (DRC/L5/1); Thorpe 1769, p. 592, from the inspeximus.

Not listed by Mayr-Harting (1964).

AILGAR abbot of Faversham

ROBERT abbot of Boxley

FULCO prior of Leeds

410. Delivering their judgement in the case delegated to them by the pope concerning Kingsey chapel.

1196×1214

Domitian, fol. 175v; Thorpe 1769, p. 384.

The papal mandate is no. 118.

HERBERT bishop of Salisbury

WALTER) prior of Merton

AMICIUS archdeacon of Surrey

411. Citing the mandate sent to them by pope Innocentius III; quoting the terms of the agreement made between bishop Gilbert and the monks of Rochester; confirming this agreement.

1207

Reg. temporalium, fol. 132r.

The papal mandate is Cheney and Cheney 1967, no. 729; the agreement is no. 819.

K I N G S

WILLELM I (1066-1087)

501. To Hamo the steward and all his thegns in the bishopric of Rochester: ordering that Saint Andrew's church is to have the same customs it had in the time of king Eadward (Davis 1913, no. 248; [Bates 1998, no. 227]).

1066×87

Privilegia, fol. 175r; Domitian, fol. 110r; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 194); Reg. temporalium, fol. 17r; Thorpe 1769, p. 27, said to be from the

original, collated with Privilegia and Domitian.
It is probably true that Thorpe saw the original.

502. To Erfast bishop (of Thetford), Baldewine abbot (of Bury), Picot sheriff (of Cambridge), Rodbert Malet sheriff (of Suffolk), and others: letting them know that he has given archbishop Lanfranc the manor of Freckenham (Davis 1913, no. 47; [Bates 1998, no. 226]).

1070×82

Privilegia, fol. 170v (Latin and English); Domitian, fol. 110v (Latin only); Thorpe 1769, p. 359, from Domitian.

503. To Odo bishop of Bayeux: ordering him to see to it that archbishop Lanfranc is put in possession of the manor of Fawkham.

1070×82

Not extant, but mentioned in Privilegia, fol. 173r.

504. Allowing the gift of Dartford church made to the church of Saint Andrew by Hamo the steward (Davis 1913, no. 451).

1080×7?

Privilegia, fol. 181v, inserted leaf; Domitian, fol. 110v; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Reg. temporalium, fol. 17r.

Listed by Davis as a writ of Willelm II, but the gift was made before Domesday. [I ought to have thought harder about this. It is true that Dartford church had been given to Rochester before 1086; but only the king could have made the gift. Hamo was never in any position to make it. I take it that the text of this document was falsified, and that the nature of Hamo's gift is misrepresented. Probably Davis was right to attribute the writ to Willelm II; if so, it dates from 1087×8.]

505. To bishop Erfast and others (as in no. 502): letting them know that he has given archbishop Lanfranc the manor of Freckenham, including the churches of Freckenham and Isleham (Davis 1913, no. 47, inflated version; [Bates 1998, no. 226, inflated version]).

London, January 1071

Vespasian, fol. 123v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 15r; Faustina B v, fol. 72r (recited in a spurious charter of archbishop Bonifacius, itself recited in an inspeximus of prior Robert and the chapter of Canterbury, dated 1333); Thorpe 1769, p. 359, from Vespasian, and p. 445, from Faustina.

An obvious forgery, derived from no. 502.

WILLELM II (1087-1100)

506. Allowing the gift of the manor of Haddenham made by archbishop Lanfranc to the church of Saint Andrew, for the sustenance of the monks.

1088

Privilegia, fol. 212r.

The witness list continues onto an inserted leaf, where it is followed by Lanfranc's subscription, no. 201, very probably

spurious. The Domitian compiler included this charter at first - but on second thoughts replaced it with a copy of the forgery, no. 512. See p. 92.

507. Granting Saint Andrew's church the church of Saint Mary of Lambeth, in compensation for the damage he caused when defeating his enemies at Rochester (Davis 1913, no. 302).

1088×94

Privilegia, fol. 211r; Domitian, fol. 109v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 17r; Thorpe 1769, p. 459, from Domitian.

508. To Hamo the sheriff and others: granting the monks of Rochester some land belonging to the reeveship of Chatham, given to them by Odo bishop of Bayeux, on condition that bishop Gundulf gives up some other land of equal value (Davis 1913, no. 355).

Brigstock, 1088×94

Privilegia, fol. 211v; Domitian, fol. 183r; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 194); Thorpe 1769, p. 209, from Domitian.

Gundulf completed his side of the bargain with no. 301.

509. To the bishop of Suffolk, the sheriff, and others: allowing the gift of the church of Saint Felix of Walton made to the church of Saint Andrew by Roger Bigot (Davis 1913, no. 452).

Winchester, 1087×1100

Privilegia, fol. 182r; Domitian, fol. 110v; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Reg. temporalium, fol. 17r.

510. To the bishop of Sussex, the sheriff, and others: allowing the gift of Rotherfield church made to the church of Saint Andrew by Gislebert of Tonbridge (Davis 1913, no. 450).

Winchester, 1087×1100

Privilegia, fol. 182v; Domitian, fol. 111r; confirmation of Henric III, dated 1265 (DRC/T60); confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 193); spurious inspeximus of archbishop Pecham (DRC/L5/1); Reg. temporalium, fol. 15r; Thorpe 1769, p. 592, from the inspeximus.

511. To Walter the sheriff (of Gloucester) and others: granting Saint Andrew's church and bishop Gundulf the manor of Aston (Subedge) (Davis 1913, no. 400).

1094×7

Privilegia, fol. 181r, inserted leaf; Reg. temporalium, fol. 17r. In Reg. temporalium only, this text concludes with a subscription by Henric I, no. 525. With or without this appendage, it is not to be relied on. The mutilation inflicted later on this section of Privilegia suggests that the monks were having some difficulty in making good their claim to Aston Subedge; and the absence of this charter from Domitian suggests that the claim had been abandoned by then. [Wrong. The manor was successfully acquired. It ceased to be of any interest to the monks because it was granted out to one of the bishop's knights.]

512. Granting Saint Andrew's church the manor of Haddenham, for the sustenance of the monks; granting also the church and whole manor of Lambeth, in compensation for the damage he caused when defeating his enemies at Rochester; confirming all other manors and possessions, with the same liberties and customs as Christ Church (Davis 1913, no. 301; Pelteret 1990, no. 42; [Bates 1998, no. 228]).

1088

Original (British Library, Campbell Charter vii 1; facsimile, Sanders 1865-8, vol. 1, no. 4); Domitian, fol. 107r, inserted leaf; excerpt copied by a thirteenth-century scribe (DRc/T58) [(printed by Bates 1998, p. 719)]; confirmation of Henric III, dated 1265 (DRc/T60); confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 194, which prints this text in full); Reg. temporalium, fol. 11v; unsealed confirmation of Edward IV, dated 1475 (DRc/T65); Thorpe 1769, p. 382, said to be from an original "penes Decanum et Capitulum", but with the witness list truncated as in Domitian.

An obvious forgery, mostly concocted from nos. 506 and 507, with the customs derived from an earlier forgery, no. 524. A subscription by Lanfranc is no. 202.

513. Confirming to Saint Andrew's church and to bishop Gundulf all the lands and liberties reclaimed and restored to the church by archbishop Lanfranc.

1087×91

Reg. temporalium, fol. 17v.

An obvious forgery. The witnesses have been coopted from no. 504.

HENRIC I (1100-1135)

514. To archbishop Anselm, Hamo the sheriff, and others: granting bishop Gundulf and the monks of Rochester the churches of Dartford and Aylesford; granting also the tithe of whales captured within the bishopric (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 516).

Rochester, 12 March 1101

Privilegia, fol. 186v; Domitian, fol. 105r; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Thorpe 1769, p. 147, from Domitian.

515. To archbishop Anselm, Hamo the sheriff, and others: allowing the gift of half of Little Wrotham made to the church of Saint Andrew by Gausfrid Talebot (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 647).

1100×3

Privilegia, fol. 187r; Reg. temporalium, fol. 10v.

This gift appears to have lapsed. [Wrong again. Like Aston Subedge (no. 511), Little Wrotham was granted out to one of the bishop's knights and so ceased to interest the monks. More often than not, the manor in question was called Trottiscliffe (e.g. Thorpe 1769, p. 660, from Reg. temporalium, fol. 31r), but the name Little Wrotham continued to be used as well (e.g. Thorpe 1769, p. 696, from Reg. temporalium, fol. 30v).]

516. Confirming all gifts and grants of manors, lands, churches,

and tithes made to the church of Saint Andrew; confirming especially the manors and lands assigned by bishop Gundulf for the sustenance of the monks, with all the customs that the bishop himself has had (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 636; Bishop 1961, no. 658).

Canterbury, 6 March 1103
Original (DRC/T50); Privilegia, fol. 218r; Domitian, fol. 101r; Reg. temporalium, fol. 12r; Reg. Fisher, fol. 65v; Thorpe 1769, p. 36, from the original, and p. 33, from Domitian. The original was written by a Rochester or Christ Church scribe (Bishop 1961, p. 68), but the seals seem perfectly genuine. Anselm's subscription is no. 206, Gundulf's is no. 303. Part of the witness list has been erased from the original, to make space for a spurious addition by Gundulf, no. 304. Brett (1988, p. 409) points out that the only copy to include this interpolation is the one in Reg. Fisher.

517. To Hamo the steward and Hugo of Buckland: ordering that fishermen are not to fish in the Thames in front of the fishery called New Weir belonging to the (bishop?) of Rochester (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 776).

Westminster, 1103×6
Privilegia, fol. 187r; Domitian, fol. 107r, inserted leaf; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Thorpe 1769, p. 34, from Domitian. Slightly falsified. There is an erasure in Privilegia at the point where Domitian reads monachorum, 'of the monks'. Perhaps the original reading was episcopi.

518. To archbishop Anselm, Hamo the sheriff, and others: granting to the church of Saint Andrew and Saint Paulinus, to bishop Gundulf and to the monks of Rochester, a two-day fair in honour of Saint Paulinus (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 868).

1100×7
Privilegia, fol. 187v; Domitian, fol. 106v; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195, which prints this text in full); Reg. temporalium, fol. 12v; Thorpe 1769, p. 527, from Domitian.

519. To archbishop Anselm, Hamo the steward, and others: granting to Saint Andrew's church and to bishop Gundulf the churches of Aylesford, Sutton, and Woolwich; also half his tithe of crops from Dartford, and the whole of his tithe from Strood and Chalk (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 517).

Rochester, 1100×8
Privilegia, fol. 186v; Domitian, fol. 104v; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Thorpe 1769, p. 146, from Domitian.

520. To archbishop Anselm, Hamo the steward, and others: allowing the gift of land, tithes, and woodland made to the church of Rochester by Willelm of Aubigny (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 901).

Winchester, 1102×8

Privilegia, fol. 188r; Domitian, fol. 132v; confirmation of Henric III, dated 1265 (DRC/T60); confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195, which prints this text in full); Thorpe 1769, p. 343, from Domitian.

521. To the sheriffs of all the counties where bishop Gundulf held lands: ordering that the lands of the bishopric are not to be assessed for more than in the time of his father and brother (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 882).

Westminster, 24 May 1108

Domitian, fol. 183v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 16v, and again fol. 17r; Thorpe 1769, p. 34, from Domitian.

The writ is dated in Pentecoste: clearly it dates from 1108, soon after Gundulf's death. Because of its ephemeral character, and because it did not affect the monks, its absence from Privilegia need not arouse suspicion.

522. To Ansfrid the sheriff and others: granting Boxley church to the church of Saint Andrew of Rochester, having himself been present at its dedication (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 1728).

London, 1131×3

Domitian, fol. 105v; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Lambeth Palace, Reg. Warham, fol. 145v; * Thorpe 1769, p. 177, from Domitian; Bandinel 1813, p. 178, from Domitian.

The dedication took place on 8 May 1130, but this writ apparently has to be slightly later. I am not entirely sure that it is genuine.

* I owe this reference to Dr Martin Brett.

523. Granting to Saint Andrew's church the same customs which Christ Church had in the time of his father and brother and archbishop Lanfranc; granting also a quarter share of certain tolls and of all the profits belonging to the reeveship of the city (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 936).

London, 1100×23?

Copy enrolled at the Exchequer (printed by Landon 1939, p. 96); Domitian, fol. 104r; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Reg. temporalium, fol. 12v; Thorpe 1769, p. 34, from Domitian.

The enrolment of this charter, probably in the 1190s, is a sign of the special importance which attached to it; so its absence from Privilegia is virtual proof that it cannot be authentic. The witness list is linked with no. 525. See pp. 107-8.

524. Confirming to the monks of Saint Andrew's church all the lands and possessions they had in the time of his father and brother, with the customs which Christ Church had in the time of archbishop Lanfranc; confirming various other gifts and grants (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 1867; Bishop 1961, no. 659; Pelteret 1990, no. 49).

London, 1131×3

Original (DRC/T51); Domitian, fol. 103r; confirmation of Henric

III, dated 1265 (DRc/T60); confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Reg. temporalium, fol. 13r; unsealed confirmation of Edward IV, dated 1475 (DRc/T65); Thorpe 1769, p. 34, from the original.

A forgery based on Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 840, a Christ Church document of which the Rochester monks had somehow acquired a copy. The forger incorporates excerpts from nos. 514, 518, 519, 522, from the earlier forgery no. 523, and from no. 526. See pp. 106-8.

525. Adding a subscription to the charter of Willelm II (no. 511) granting Aston Subedge.

1100×23?

Reg. temporalium, fol. 17r.

Sure to be spurious. The witnesses occur in no. 523 as well. See p. 108. [Though I am less distrustful than I was of no. 511, I still have my doubts about this.]

526. To Hamo the steward and others: the warrens of all the archbishop's manors are under his protection, and nobody is to hunt there except by permission of the archbishop, Gundulf bishop of Rochester, and Willelm son of Radulf.

1100×8

Reg. temporalium, fol. 17r; Brett 1975a, p. 165.

Nothing to do with the monks of Rochester; but the document survived somehow, and was still in existence in the 1320s. It was put to use by the forger of no. 524.

In their library, not in their archive, the monks had a copy of the king's coronation charter (Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 488) - more precisely, a copy of an edited version of this text (Liebermann 1894). It is included in the compilation called *Quaedam instituta de legibus regum Anglorum*, fols. 96r-97v, having probably been copied as it stood from a borrowed exemplar. A writ of Henric I granting the right of warren on the manor of Malling to bishop Radulf and abbess Avicia is Johnson and Cronne 1956, no. 943. This went into the archive of Malling abbey, so I have not listed it here.

STEPHAN (1135-1154)

527. Confirming all gifts and grants (in exactly the same terms as no. 516) (Bishop 1961, no. 660; Cronne and Davis 1968, no. 718).

1137×40

Original (DRc/T52); Domitian, fol. 111r; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Reg. temporalium, fol. 13r; Thorpe 1769, p. 37, from Domitian; Cronne and Davis 1968, p. 264.

As with no. 516, the original was written by a Rochester or Christ Church scribe, not by one of the scribes who worked regularly for the king (Bishop 1961, p. 68). This document was thought to be a forgery by Cronne and Davis (1968) and by Brett (1988), but it seems authentic to me. See pp. 115-16. [The seal attached to the original is a specimen of the "forged first" seal, as Cronne and

Davis (1968) described it. The "forged first" seal was admitted to be possibly genuine by Cronne, *The reign of Stephen* (1970), pp. 215-16, accepted as genuine by Davis, *King Stephen*, 3rd ed. (1990), pp. 85-6.]

528. Ordering that the bishop of Rochester is to hold his land at Marlow as freely as he ever did (Cronne and Davis 1968, no. 719).

Wallingford, 1136×54

Domitian, fol. 182v; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195, which prints this text in full); Cronne and Davis 1968, p. 265.

529. To Radulf son of the [count (of Guînes)], the sheriff of Kent, and others: the church and monks of Saint Andrew are to hold all their lands and possessions as freely as they did in the time of king Henric (Cronne and Davis 1968, no. 720).

Rochester, 1140×54

Domitian, fol. 183v; confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 195); Reg. temporalium, fol. 16v; Thorpe 1769, p. 37, from Domitian; Cronne and Davis 1968, p. 265.

530. Granting to bishop Johan all the lands and dignities held by him or his predecessors in the time of king Willelm and king Henric.

Guildford, 1135×7

Reg. temporalium, fol. 16v.

Despite its belated appearance, there is no reason for doubting the authenticity of this writ.* It seems likely to postdate the death of archbishop Willelm.

* Five writs issued in favour of Saint Augustine's, also dated at Guildford, have nearly the same list of witnesses (Cronne and Davis 1968, nos. 152-6).

HENRIC II (1154-1189)

As duke of Normandy

531. Confirming the grant of Boxley church made to the church of Saint Andrew by his grandfather (Cronne and Davis 1968, no. 721).

1153×4

Domitian, fol. 105v; Thorpe 1769, p. 177 (incorrect); Cronne and Davis 1968, p. 265.

The charter of Henric I is no. 522.

As king of England

532. Allowing the bishop of Rochester and his church to have the right of warren on all their manors as fully as in the time of Henric I (Delisle and Berger 1916-27, no. 127).

Auvillar, 1159

Copy enrolled at the Exchequer (printed by Delisle and Berger 1916-27, vol. 1, p. 233, and by Landon 1939, p. 95); Domitian,

fol. 106r; Thorpe 1769, p. 43, from Domitian.

533. Allowing the bishop and monks of Rochester to continue transporting goods intended for their own consumption.

Oswestry, 1165

Domitian, fol. 106v; Thorpe 1769, p. 43.

534. Granting to the church and monks of Rochester, in all their lands and possessions, the same liberties as Christ Church (in similar terms to no. 523); ordering that the monks are to have free transit across the bridge, and the right of buying their food in the city before anyone else, except for himself and his servants (Pelteret 1990, no. 52).

Westminster?, 1154×72?

Domitian, fol. 108v, inserted leaf; thirteenth-century copy (DRC/T53); confirmation of Henric III, dated 1265 (DRC/T60); confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 196); Reg. temporalium, fol. 12v, and again fol. 14r; unsealed confirmation of Edward IV, dated 1475 (DRC/T65); Thorpe 1769, p. 35, said to be from the original collated with the copy, and p. 43, from Domitian.

This is a problematic text, in need of thorough scrutiny, but very unlikely to be genuine. It does seem to be true that Thorpe saw the original. There is a message written on the back of the copy (DRC/T65) which implies that it was folded into an envelope containing the original: Hic est tenor carte intus clausa, de verbo ad verbum, quam nullus aperiat propter fracturas sigilli, quod tenerimum est. The dating clause, Teste meipso, apud Westmonasterium, is found in the copy, but according to Thorpe was absent from the original.

535. Taking the church and monks of Rochester under his protection, because of the recent fire.

1179

Domitian, fol. 106r; Thorpe 1769, p. 37.

536. Ordering the prior of Rochester to be at Westminster with twelve of his monks on 1 December, ready to elect a bishop for their church.

Westminster, September × November 1184

Royal 5 E i, fol. 142v; Lambeth Palace, Reg. Islip, fol. 224r; Wharton 1691, p. 384, from Reg. Islip; Richardson 1943, p. lxxii, from Reg. Islip.

For this and the following letter, see pp. 215-16.

537. Congratulating the prior and convent on the outcome of the election, and urging them to show due obedience to their new bishop.

Domfront, December 1185

Royal 5 E i, fol. 142v; Lambeth Palace, Reg. Islip, fol. 224r; Wharton 1691, p. 384, from Reg. Islip.

538. Confirming all gifts and grants (in similar terms to no. 516); confirming in particular the gifts and grants made by Henric

I (in similar terms to no. 524); confirming several churches and chapels; confirming all tithes, lands, and rents (Bishop 1961, no. 347; Holt and Mortimer 1986, no. 248; Pelteret 1990, no. 55).

Nottingham, 1173×88

Original (British Library, Cotton Charter vii 7); Domitian, fol. 112r; excerpt copied by a thirteenth-century scribe (DRc/T58); confirmation of Henric III, dated 1265 (DRc/T60); confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 196); Reg. temporalium, fol. 13v; unsealed confirmation of Edward IV, dated 1475 (DRc/T65); sixteenth-century transcript, DRb/Ar1/17, fol. 82v; Dugdale 1655-73, vol. 3, p. 3, from the original; Thorpe 1769, p. 45, from Domitian; Bandinel 1813, p. 176, from Dugdale. Spurious.

RICARD I (1189-1199)

539. Confirming the exchange of a portion of land at Lambeth for a sheepfold in the Isle of Grain, as agreed between archbishop Baldwin and the prior and monks of Rochester (Landon 1935, no. 235).

Rouen, 20 March 1190

Copy enrolled at the Exchequer (printed by Davies 1960, p. 96). The text does not appear to survive in any Rochester source. It was the canons of Lambeth, not the prior and convent, who had this charter enrolled. Baldwin's charter is no. 241.

540. Allowing the exchange of Lambeth for Darenth, as agreed between archbishop Hubert and the monks of Rochester (Landon 1935, no. 463; Holt and Mortimer 1986, no. 376).

Les Andelys, 7 April 1196

Original (DRc/T54/3); copy enrolled at the Exchequer (printed by Landon 1939, p. 51); Domitian, fol. 171v; confirmation of Henric III, dated 1265 (DRc/T60); Reg. temporalium, fol. 125r; Thorpe 1769, p. 271, said to be from the original, but with the witness list truncated as in Domitian.

This charter seems to have been obtained and kept by the monks; a second charter, dated six days later, went into the archbishop's archive (Cheney and John 1986, p. 40). Both charters had to be renewed in the following year (Holt and Mortimer 1986, nos. 377-8).

The agreement between the archbishop and the monks was eventually put into writing as no. 814.

541. Confirming to the church and monks of Rochester all the properties which they hold from the king in the city; giving permission for the monks' reeve to cross the king's land, whenever he needs to do so; ordering that nobody is to buy food in the city before the monks, except his own servants (Landon 1935, no. 384).

Speyer, 16 August 1193

Domitian, fol. 187r, scribe D3; confirmation of Henric III, dated 1265 (DRc/T60); confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 196); Reg. temporalium, fol. 14v; unsealed confirmation of Edward IV, dated 1475 (DRc/T65); Thorpe 1769, p. 49, from Domitian.

Unlikely to be genuine.

542. Confirming to the church and monks of Saint Andrew all their customs and liberties, and all other things confirmed to them in a charter of Henric II (Landon 1935, no. 385).

Worms, 30 August 1193

Domitian, fol. 187v, scribe D3; confirmation of Henric III, dated 1265 (DRc/T60); confirmation of Edward I, dated 1275 (Calendar of charter rolls, vol. 2, p. 196); Reg. temporalium, fol. 14r; unsealed confirmation of Edward IV, dated 1475 (DRc/T65); Thorpe 1769, p. 49, from Domitian.

Unlikely to be genuine. The wording is mostly derived from no. 538.

JOHAN (1199-1216)

From Johan's accession onwards, royal documents relating to Rochester survive most reliably as copies retained in the records of central government - in the close rolls, patent rolls, and charter rolls, all of which are available in print (ed. Hardy 1833, 1835, 1837). The single item I list below is the exception to this rule, a letter known only from a copy in a Rochester manuscript.

543. Requesting the prior and convent to give their church of Dartford to his clerk Petrus de Rupibus, regardless of their dispute with the bishop.

Ludgershall, 12 September 1204

Royal 5 E i, fol. 142v.

This letter dates from between 1199 and 1205 (when Petrus became bishop of Winchester). Within that interval 1204 is the only year when Johan was at Ludgershall in September.

A G R E E M E N T S

801. An agreement made in the presence of archbishop Lanfranc between bishop Gundulf and Gislebert of Tonbridge, concerning the land held by Gislebert which belongs to Saint Andrew's church [(Brett and Gribbin 2004, no. 9)].

1086×8

Privilegia, fol. 175r; [Brett and Gribbin 2004, p. 11].

802. An agreement made between bishop Gundulf and Eadmer the cripple of London, concerning ...

1077×1108

Privilegia, fol. 210v.

The rubric is original, but the rest of the page has been erased and rewritten. An innocent motive is unlikely: the fishery mentioned in the rewritten text was often a source of trouble.

803. An agreement made in the presence of archbishop Anselm between Haimo son of Vitalis and bishop Gundulf, concerning Stourmouth church.

1093×1108
Privilegia, fol. 185v.

804. An agreement made by Coc with bishop Ernulf and the monks, concerning land in Rochester.

1115×24
Privilegia, fol. 192v.

805. A settlement agreed between Herebert of Delce and the monks of Rochester, concerning the land given to the monks by Herebert's father.

1108×24?
Privilegia, fol. 195r.

806. An agreement made by the monks of Rochester with the wife of Rodbert Latimar, concerning land in Frindsbury.

1108×24?
Privilegia, fol. 200v.
One passage has been erased, for reasons which cannot be guessed at, but are not likely to have been innocent. A version of this agreement is embodied in a charter of bishop Johan, no. 310.

807. An agreement made between G[o]sfrid Pitit and the monks, concerning land in Rochester.

Later than 1115?
Privilegia, fol. 193r, added.

808. An agreement made by G[e]ld[e]wine the moneyer with bishop Ernulf and the monks, concerning land in Rochester.

1115×24
Privilegia, fol. 193r, added.

809. An agreement made between the reeve of Frindsbury and the citizens of Rochester, commuting the customary payment of malt and meal for a rent of six pence from each property.

Later than 1115?
Privilegia, fol. 193v, added; Vespasian, fol. 81r; Custumale, fol. 66r, probably from Vespasian; Thorpe 1788, p. 35, from Custumale. The citizens concerned were those who owned properties in Rochester belonging to the manor of Frindsbury. According to the version in Vespasian, this agreement was made "tempore Radulfi episcopi et Ordwini tunc prioris"; but this may have been just a guess.

810. An agreement made between the monks of Rochester and the parson of Hayes (Middlesex), concerning tithes.

Earlier than 1182
Not extant, but mentioned in no. 236.

811. An agreement made between the monks of Boxley and the monks of Rochester, concerning tithes due to Boxley church.

1180
Domitian, fol. 137v; Thorpe 1769, p. 178.
The text is recited in no. 234.

812. A settlement made in the king's court by prior Ricard and the convent of Rochester with Willelm son of Radulf, concerning land at Elham.

Westminster, 1 May 1182

One portion of the original (British Library, Cotton Charter ii 3; facsimile, Warner and Ellis 1903, plate XL), calendared by Churchill 1939-56, p. 1.

813. A settlement made in the king's court by the prior and monks of Rochester with Juliana daughter of Fulco and her son Robert de Champaines, concerning Norton church.

Westminster, 30 October 1183

Domitian, fol. 184v; Reg. temporalium, fol. [47v]; [Madox 1711, p. 144, from Reg. temporalium;] Thorpe 1769, p. 508, from [Reg. temporalium].

814. An agreement made between archbishop Hubert and the convent of Rochester, concerning the exchange of the monks' manor of Lambeth for the archbishop's manor of Darenth (Cheney and John 1986, no. 370).

1197

The archbishop's original (Lambeth Palace, Cartae misc. XI 19); Cheney and John 1986, p. 38.

815. (Another version of no. 814, sealed by bishops, earls, and barons) (Cheney and John 1986, no. 371).

1197

The archbishop's original (Lambeth Palace, Cartae misc. XI 17); the monks' original (DRc/T54/2); copy enrolled at the Exchequer (printed by Landon 1939, p. 53); Domitian, fol. 168v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 124v; Dugdale 1655-73, vol. 3, p. 4, from the archbishop's original; Thorpe 1769, p. 459, from Domitian; Bandinel 1813, p. 177, from Dugdale.

The text was incorporated into a papal privilege, no. 115, and into a charter of archbishop Hubert, no. 247. A charter of bishop Gilbert is no. 331. For the king's charters approving the exchange see under no. 540.

816. An agreement made by prior Radulf and the convent with four of their men in Cliffe, concerning the sheepfold acquired by the monks in consequence of the exchange of Lambeth and Darenth.

1196×8?

Domitian, fol. 176v; Thorpe 1769, p. 228.

817. A settlement made in the king's court between Alan son of Henric and Radulf prior of Rochester, concerning land in Elham.

Bermondsey, 4 October 1202

One portion of the original (Public Record Office, feet of fines, 95.4.48), calendared by Churchill 1939-56, p. 24; Larking 1860, p. 272.

818. An agreement made by prior Radulf and the convent of Rochester with Thomas rector of Elham, concerning tithes.

1191×1207

Domitian, fol. 180r; Thorpe 1769, p. 343; Bandinel 1813, p. 179.
Drawn up in the presence of the judges delegate appointed by no.
116.

819. An agreement made between bishop Gilbert and the monks of
Rochester, clarifying the terms of the bishop's charter.

20 July 1207

Copy authenticated by Ricardus cardinal deacon of Sant'Angelo,
dated 1250 (DRc/L3); Reg. temporalium, fol. 131r; Thorpe 1769, p.
69, from the copy.

Gilbert's charter is no. [337]. The text of this agreement is
incorporated into no. 411, and also into no. 256. The copy is
dated Lyon, 29 July 1250, 8th indiction (misread by Thorpe as
1258).

820. An agreement made by the prior and convent with Willelm
archdeacon of Rochester, rector of Frindsbury, concerning tithes.

1198×1214

Not extant, but mentioned in no. [336].

The agreement was made in the presence of the judges delegate
appointed by a mandate of Innocentius III (Cheney and Cheney 1967,
no. 965).

821. An agreement made by prior E(lias) and the convent with
archdeacon Willelm, concerning land in Frindsbury.

1 November 1214

The monks' portion of the original (DRc/T193/1).

On the same matter there also survives a charter of archdeacon
Willelm, not dated, but with exactly the same witnesses (DRc/
T193/2). According to this, the archdeacon had obtained a mandate
- not listed by Cheney and Cheney (1967) - referring the case to
the prior of Ely, the prior of Barnwell, and the archdeacon of
Ely.

822. An agreement made by prior Elias and the convent with Lucas
de Hores, concerning an exchange of land in Frindsbury.

1207×18

Domitian, fol. 177v; Thorpe 1769, p. 373.

L E T T E R S

901. Anselm prior of Bec to Ernst bishop of Rochester, regretting
to hear that he suffers from frequent bouts of illness and
offering consolation.

1076

Schmitt 1946-51, vol. 3, p. 167.

902. Anselm prior of Bec to Gundulf bishop of Rochester,
congratulating him on his promotion.

1077

Schmitt 1946-51, vol. 3, p. 200.

There are many other letters from Anselm to Gundulf, some earlier, some later than this. All can be found in Schmitt's edition, so I have not listed them here.

903. Gundulf bishop of Rochester to the monks of Bec, telling them that the king has given the archbishopric to abbot Anselm, and urging them to consent without delay.

1093

Schmitt 1946-51, vol. 4, p. 11.

This letter is included in the Bec collection of Anselm's correspondence, as represented by manuscripts V and C.

904. Raginald monk of Saint Augustine's to Baldwin precentor of Rochester, lending him the manuscript of 'Malchus', and sending greetings to all his friends in Rochester.

1107 or slightly later

Lind 1942, p. 37, from Bodleian, Laud misc. 40, fol. 2r.

'Malchus' is Raginald's poem, edited from this and other manuscripts by Lind (1942). His letter to Baldwin, sancti Andreae primicerio, is only to be found in this particular manuscript, which carries a Rochester inscription of the usual kind. See p. 199.

905. Fulco prior of Saint Osyth's to --- bishop of Rochester, stating that he was present when archbishop Willelm granted to bishop Johan the same rights which Gundulf and Ernulf had been given by Lanfranc and Anselm.

1137×61?

Reg. temporalium, fol. 139r; Thorpe 1769, p. 62.

A bad copy of a very dubious text. As it stands, the letter purports to have been written to bishop L--- by F--- 'priest of Saint Osyth's'. Presumably F--- is the prior Fulco who witnessed the charter of archbishop Willelm, no. [216]; but in that case 'L---' must be wrong. However much allowance is made for copying errors, it still seems very unlikely that this letter was authentic. [Certainly 'L---' is wrong, but otherwise the text seems unobjectionable. Looking at it again, I would take it to be a testimonial solicited from prior Fulco by bishop Ascelin.]

906. Bernard abbot of Clairvaux to Ascelin bishop of Rochester, asking him to give permission for archdeacon Robert to continue teaching in Paris.

1143

Not extant, but the gist is clear from a subsequent letter, no. 908.

907. Ascelin bishop of Rochester to Bernard abbot of Clairvaux, complaining that the abbot is encouraging the archdeacon's insubordination.

1143

Not extant, but the gist is clear from abbot Bernard's reply, no. 908.

908. Bernard abbot of Clairvaux to Ascelin bishop of Rochester,

repeating his request for archdeacon Robert to be allowed to stay in Paris; thanking the bishop for taking care of the monks whom he has sent to Ireland.

1143

Leclercq and Rochais 1977, p. 64.

909. Ascelin bishop of Rochester to pope Eugenius III, summarizing the history of the dispute between the monks and master Robert, formerly archdeacon, and asking for the case to be reopened (Holtzmann 1936, no. 46).

1145×6

Domitian, fol. 123v; Reg. temporalium, fol. 136v; Thorpe 1769, p. 39, said to be from a single-sheet copy but with the last sentence truncated as in Domitian, and p. 9, from Reg. temporalium; Holtzmann 1936, p. 195.

910. Johan of Salisbury to Walter bishop of Rochester, reproaching him for not having given archbishop Thomas any financial help (Millor and Brooke 1979, no. 257).

1164×70

Millor and Brooke 1979, p. 518.

911. Petrus of Blois to Walter bishop of Rochester, rebuking him for his addiction to hunting, and warning him that he risks dismissal from office by a papal legate.

1178?

Migne 1844-64, vol. 207, col. 169.

From the circumstances mentioned, it is clear that this letter purports to have been written soon after Petrus's departure from Rome in April 1178. Whether it was really written then, or whether it is a later imaginatio of a letter which Petrus wished that he had written, we do not know. But since this item was included in the earliest edition of Petrus's collected letters, compiled in about 1184 (Southern 1970, p. 131), on either view it has to be given some credence.

Two private letters from king Henric II to the prior and convent, datable to 1184 and 1185 respectively, are nos. 536 and 537.

912. Gilebert bishop of London to pope Urbanus III, vindicating the right of the prior and convent of Rochester to the parsonage of Stifford church (Holtzmann 1936, no. 239; Morey and Brooke 1967, no. 435).

1186

Domitian, fol. 210r, inserted leaf, and fol. 152r; Holtzmann 1936, p. 432; Morey and Brooke 1967, p. 471.

913. Gilbert bishop of Rochester to prior O(sbert) and the convent of Canterbury, letting them know that he has sent messengers to meet the bishop elect of Worcester, to warn him that he ought not to seek consecration anywhere but at Canterbury, nor from anyone but the bishop of Rochester (Moule 1954, no. 3).

1191

Stubbs 1864-5, vol. 2, p. 325, from a thirteenth-century register,

Lambeth Palace 415, fol. 85v.

914. Gilbert bishop of Rochester to pope Innocentius III, expressing his support for the canonization of Gilbert of Sempringham.

1201

Foreville and Keir 1987, p. 220,* from a thirteenth-century manuscript, British Library, Cotton Cleopatra B i, fol. 122r.

* I owe this reference to Miss Margaret Blount.

A private letter from king Johan to the prior and convent, datable to 1204, is no. 543.

915. Gilbert bishop of Rochester to Hubert archbishop of Canterbury, Willelm bishop of London, S--- bishop of Chichester, Gaufrid prior of Canterbury, and master Simon de Sywell treasurer of Lichfield, agreeing to arbitration by them in his dispute with the monks of Rochester.

1203×5

Adams and Donahue 1981, p. 40, from Canterbury, Dean and Chapter, Sede vacante scrapbook III, no. 448.

It is doubtful whether the bishop of Chichester involved here is Seffrid (1180-1204) or Simon (1204-1208).

916. Prior Radulf and the convent of Rochester to Hubert archbishop of Canterbury, the bishops of London and Chichester, the prior of Canterbury and master Simon de Sywell, stating their complaints against bishop Gilbert.

1203×5

Adams and Donahue 1981, p. 41, from Canterbury, Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ant. R70a.

917. A memorandum drawn up by the monks of Rochester, summarizing their complaints against bishop Gilbert.

1203×5

Adams and Donahue 1981, p. 47, from Canterbury, Dean and Chapter, Ch. Ant. R70b.

918. Gilbert bishop of Rochester to pope Innocentius III, asking for permission to resign because of old age.

1205×6

Not extant, but the pope's reply, refusing permission, is Cheney and Cheney 1967, no. 679, dated 1 February 1206.

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