

Westminster Abbey Muniments 1851

Westminster Abbey Muniments Book 11: 'The Westminster Domesday', fo. 173B

Ordinance of the vicarage of Morden by the lord bishop of Winchester

[12/8/1331]

Be it known to all by these presents that we, John, by divine permission bishop of Winchester, duly visiting the archdeaconry of Surrey of our diocese recently, have caused to ordain for the perpetual memory of the matter the vicarage of the parish church of Morden of our aforesaid diocese – [which said church] is appropriated to the religious men, the abbot and convent of Westminster, concerning which the ordinance of the vicarage was not clear, as was fitting – with the consent of the aforesaid religious men and Sir William, the vicar of the aforesaid church, with all and singular [the things] which are lawfully required in this behalf concurring, in this manner: namely, that the vicar for the time being of the parish church of Morden, aforesaid, will have a mansion house with a curtilage and garden, adjacent to the same church, which the priest of the parish was accustomed to live in from ancient times, freely pertaining to his vicarage forever, and until he shall have that mansion house, or a more suitable one or at least one of equal value, assigned to him by the said monks for his habitation in perpetuity, the same monks are to pay the procuration to the archdeacon of the place, as often as the same archdeacon shall happen to visit the said church. Likewise, the vicar of the said church for the time being is to have the tithes of the water-mill and all obventions of the altar and all kinds of oblations howsoever accruing to the aforesaid church, which are made or offered in masses or in confessions or otherwise in whatsoever manner, and all those things which are bequeathed to him in last wills, and all the small tithes in whatever manner accruing to the above-said church. Likewise, he is to have 13 acres of arable land and half an acre of meadow and the whole tithe of hay from the aforesaid parish and one quarter of wheat and one quarter of beans from the aforesaid monks, and he is to undertake all ordinary charges incumbent upon the aforesaid church, after provision is made to him about this dwelling house. Saving to us, nevertheless, the special power of assigning other portions of the things accruing to the aforesaid church from this vicarage, when it will seem expedient to us. Approving which same ordinance which has been made as is aforesaid, we wish and decree that the same is firmly observed in every part of it forever. In testimony of which matter, we have caused our seal to be affixed to these. Dated at Farnham the 12th kalend of September A D 1331, and in the 9th year of our consecration the 9th year.

WAM 1851: *Green seal, broken – oval*
5 figures under canopies:
Virgin Mary & child top;
below SS Peter & Paul;
below again 2 figures now broken away.

[A 16th-century copy is in Surrey History Centre K85/3/28 p.21]