

[See Gwen Hart, *History of Cheltenham*, p.21 for half a page based on this item]

Inquiry made at Cheltenham Saturday next after feast of St Lucy the virgin in the 3rd year of king Edward son of Henry [ie Sat 15 Dec 1274] by the underwritten, namely Simon Morin, John de Alre, William le Frankelen, Walter Sturmy, Walter Kateline, Walter de Homme/Hamme, Thomas de la Forde, John de Oklea, John Wyberd, John de Kynefare, John de Newinton [ie, Naunton] and Richard de Newinton, who say upon their oath concerning the first article, viz:

1. *How many and what demesne manors the king has in his hand, etc.* No manor in his hand within the liberty of Cheltenham.
2. *What manors used to be in the hands of the kings who were the king's predecessors, etc.* They say that the manor of Cheltenham and the manor of Slaughter in co Glos, and the manor of Navenby in co Lincs used to be in the hands of the king. King Henry father of king Edward who now is gave the said manor by his deed to the abbot of Fécamp and the monks there in exchange for Winchelsea and la Rye. And the said abbot and monks now hold the said manors. And the said manors were alienated in the 31st year of the same king Henry.
3. *Concerning the lord king's fees and tenants, who holds them now from him in chief.* They say that the said abbot of Fécamp holds the said manors by the exchange of the lord king in chief, as appears above. They say also that Adam le Despenser holds in Leckhampton two carucates of land for serjeanty from the lord king in chief who holds them from the abbey of Fécamp in mesne, as appears above by exchange. They say that John Wyberd and Walter de Monmouth now hold in the same way two virgates of land in Leckhampton. They say that William le Mareschal held in the same way 12 librates of land in Charlton Kings, and Walter de Pedewortham[?] now holds them by deed of king Henry father of the king who now is, and this after the battle of Evesham [August 1265].
4. *Concerning the lands of tenants of ancient demesne of the crown, whether free sokemen or serfs, etc.* They say that Ralph Russel gave two acres of land in Alveston in free sokemanry of the fee of Gilbert of Schipton to Walter Hatholf, and the same Walter gave the said 2 acres of land to the abbot of Cirencester who holds them now and has for thirty years. They say that said abbot holds two other lands in Cheltenham of the fee of William le Frankelen, which William the father of the said William gave to him for the term of the life of said William, who died 3 years ago. They say that the said abbot holds by gift of Simon de la [?For]de 2 acres of land in Charlton for 40 years. They say that said abbot holds ½ acre of land in the field of Newinton of the fee of John de Newinton [damage] by the gift of Adam de Newinton grandfather of the said John of land, time and warrant unknown. [The same abbot] holds [damage] of land in the field of Newinton, of the fee of Richard de Newinton, time and warrant unknown. They say that the same abbot holds [damage] demesne of Cheltenhamof brother Martin ... [for the term of his life?] in the wood of Oklea which the same abbot of Cirencester ... [damage] ... all tenants in said manor who now are de[something]ed, from the time ... held by the principal bailiff [?] of the abbot of Fécamp. They say that the prior of Llanthony holds 1 assart of the fee of Gilbert of Schipton, and 2 acres of land of the fee of William le Frankelen of the gift of Walter Hat-holf of land, from what time and warrant they know not. And all the foregoing are of the sokemanry of the lord king, as in the article.
5. *Likewise inquiry concerning farms of hundreds etc.* They say that they know nothing.
6. *How many hundreds are in the hand of the lord king etc.* They say that the hundred of Cheltenham is in the hands of the said abbot of Fécamp and is worth 70s per annum, and of other hundreds they know nothing. [*inserted*: worth nothing [to the king] because in the hands of abbey of Fécamp]

7. *Of suit of ancient customs etc.* They say that prior of Llanthony used to make suit at the court of Cheltenham and his tenants used to come twice a year to the view of frankpledge to make and present their assizes with the tithingman of Alre, and to do all that is expected at a view of frankpledge; and they withdrew themselves 16 years ago. They know not by what warrant. They say that William Pyperhog and Juliana Godrich of Homme used to make suit at court of Cheltenham, who are now tenants of the said priory of Llanthony per bailiff Walter Hatholf; they withdrew 32 years ago, by what warrant they know not. They say that tenants of the abbot of Cirencester in the manor of Cheltenham used to come twice a year to view of frankpledge to do and present there as appropriate. Their tithingman used to come to view of frankpledge to do and present assizes as per custom aforesaid, and they withdrew themselves at the same time; they know not by what warrant.

8. *What other persons claim from the king to have return or estreats of writs, who hold pleas of vee de naam, or have other things which belong to the crown.* They say that the abbot of Fécamp has return and estreats of writs, and holds pleas of *vee de naam*, and he [has?] other things which pertain to the crown [*inserted*: nothing because king has writ] in the said manors, as appears above. They say that abbot of Hayles 7 years ago [verb] a gallows at Swell within the liberty of Slaughter; they know not by what warrant. [*inserted*: nothing here because in hands of [damage]]. They say that at the time when Nicholas Poinz held the manor of Swell they used to make suit of court at Slaughter either in person by attorney, from month to month, and the tenants used to come to all pleas of the crown, and they withdrew themselves by the power of the king of the Germans¹ who had that manor through the sale of the said Nicholas 15 years ago. They say that the archbishop of York at the same time and in the same way withdrew from the manor of [??]ton. They say that Adam le Despenser has assize of ale in the manor of Leckhampton, and [fruits?] in the same manor, from the time of Thurstan who was the sheriff of Gloucester.² By what warrant they know not.

9. *Those who have liberties granted to them by the kings of England etc.* They know nothing.

10. *Those with liberties granted to them which impede the king's power and common justice.* They know nothing.

11. *Those who have newly appropriated to themselves chases and warrens.* They say that Adam le Despenser has a warren at Leckhampton, from what time or by what warrant they know not.

12. *What persons, whether lords or stewards or bailiffs of any kind.* They know nothing.

13. *Of all encroachments whatsoever made upon the king or the royal dignity.* They say that Peter de aqua alba former bishop of Hereford³ appropriated to himself a certain pasture called Wynesdon upon which the lord king and all his tenants of the manor of Cheltenham used to have should have by right of common because of a [bovate] of arable land upon that pasture, and the same also leased to them the king and his attorneys. And John le Breton now bishop⁴ there held by fee of the lord king and his tenants; and this appropriation took place 20 years ago. They say that Reginald de Heydon and Hugh Mustel took to themselves a certain [bovate?] between the field of Arle and the field of Heydon which used to belong to the manor of Cheltenham, and this was done 1 year ago.

14. *Knights' fees and lands or holdings given to others.* They say none sold.

¹ ie, Richard of Cornwall, brother of Henry III and 'King of the Germans'; he held the manor of Lower Swell (VCH Gloucs vi)

² Thurstan le Despenser in this office 1234 or 1237 (TBGAS 2010)

³ Peter de Aigueblanche, elected 1240, d 1268

⁴ In office 1269-1275

Cheltenham - Hundred Roll, 1274
Translated by Cheltenham Latin Group, September 2014

15. *Sheriffs who take gifts to consent to the concealment of felonies. Nothing.*
16. *Sheriffs and bailiffs who take gifts to remove recognitors etc. They know nothing.*
17. *Sheriffs and bailiffs who have amerced for default etc. They know nothing.*

There follow similar uninformative responses to a further 15 or so articles.