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SUMMARY:

DOCCOMBE 28 August 1331

A new prior reciting an old order* relating to the manor of Doccombe, and not knowing if it has been executed, directs the bailiff to see it completely carried out. *Letter 219 / L 157 b of 1327

LANGUAGE: French

TRANSLATION

'To his very dear and well-beloved in God H[enry] de Lappeflode, deputy of our Seneschal in the County of Devon, or to his deputy, Richard Prior of the Church of Canterbury [sends] greeting.

Know that we have found in the register of our predecessor, that he has sent word to you before the present time by his letters, that he wished that all our lands which our bondmen held at will from us at Doccombe should always remain in the hands and under the care of some of our own bondmen, to be held at our will, according as you might see was best to be done for our profit; and that our lands should not be delivered to any freeman, nor to any bondman belonging to any lordship other than ours, even although he might offer more than one of our own bondmen.

And also he sent you word that you should not deliver our land at Doccombe to anyone who demanded it as by right, or by inheritance through descent; and also he desired that as to our bondmen at Doccombe (who may be taxed according to our mere will, and who have not been so taxed for a long time) that you should cause all the chattels and moveable goods that they possess to be assessed and appraised, and that you should cause twelve pence to be taken for every mark

of their goods and chattels, for our use, under the name of talliage, in order to keep alive the right of our Church

**"and let us have this talliage and the rent of our lands at Doccombe as soon as ever you can, and (we desire) that you cause to be written in a roll all the names of all our men and of our tenants at Doccombe who are alive at this time, and let this roll be sent as soon as you can."*

And because we are not informed with certainty if all the aforesaid things have been done or not, we desire that, as to the talliage of our bondmen, if they have not already been talliated they may talliated now, in the form above mentioned, and that this talliage shall be carried into effect between now and next Michaelmas ; and that you send to us the names of all our men and of our tenants at Doccombe who are now alive.

And as for the rent and profits of the last two years, let us have them as early as you can after the said feast of St. Michael.

And let us know by the bearer of these what you propose to do about these and other things, unless you can come yourself. Adieu etc.'

**Quotes from Eastry Letter 219 / L 157 b of 1327*