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The Acquisition of the Shroud by the House of Savoy: Documentary Evidence

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The author narrates how the Shroud – in possession of the French Countess Margaret de Charny – was illegally sold to Duke Louis I of Savoy in 1453 in exchange for annuities and castles. The legal documents connected to the sale, in Latin, are transcribed in full for the first time, from the original manuscripts kept mainly in the Royal Archives of Turin and in the departmental archives of Dijon.

It is by now an established fact that the Shroud came into the possession of the Duke of Savoy in 1453. The documents related to this acquisition have never been published, however. My aim in this article is to fill this gap in the historical record.

To understand the overall picture, it is necessary to briefly reconstruct the history of the Shroud¹. In approximately 1355 it appeared at Lirey, a village in Champagne, inside a collegiate church built with funds provided by the nobleman Geoffroi de Charny, completed in 1353 and dedicated to the Trinity and the Annunciation of Mary. According to the 1389 account by Pierre d'Arcis, the bishop of Troyes, an investigation carried out by one of his predecessors, Henri de Poitiers, revealed that

the Dean of the collegiate church of Lirey, deceitfully and wickedly, inflamed with the fire avarice and cupidity, not from devotion but for gain, arranged to have in his church a certain cloth cunningly portrayed, on which was portrayed with subtle method the double image of a single man, that is to say, the front and back, he falsely asserting and pretending that this was the actual shroud in which our Saviour Jesus Christ was enfolded in the sepulchre, and in which had remained thus impressed the whole likeness of the Saviour, with the wounds which He bore. (...) At length, after diligent efforts and from information taken, at last was discovered the fraud and how that cloth had been artificially portrayed. It was even proved by the artist who had portrayed it that it was made by human skill, and was not made or bestowed miraculously².

This investigation, therefore, reveals that the image of Christ imprinted on the cloth had been made in the middle of the century or a few years before, at the earliest (the maker was most likely still alive around 1355); the fabric, on the other hand, might have been a few decades older but did not date to earlier than 1260 (the extreme limit of the radiocarbon dating carried out in 1988³).

The fact that the Shroud was displayed in the church of Lirey in opposition to the position expressed by the bishop of Troyes gave rise to a conflict initially involving only the canons of Lirey and the bishop, but later entangling the king of France and the pope of Avignon as well. The conflict was resolved in 1390 when Pope Clement VII issued a bull in which he granted the canons of Lirey a

¹ I provided an account of the history of the Shroud in Andrea Nicolotti, *The Shroud of Turin: The History and Legends of the World's Most Famous Relic* (Waco, 2019). I would like to thank all those who helped me in various way to carry out this study: Patrizia Cancian, Daniela Cereia, Gaetano Ciccone and Valter Laudadio.

² *Memorial of Pierre d'Arcis*, ed. Ulysse Chevalier, *Étude critique sur l'origine du St. Suaire de Lirey-Chambéry-Turin* (Paris, 1900), pp. VII-VIII.

³ Paul E. Damon et al., "Radiocarbon Dating of the Shroud of Turin," *Nature* 337 (1989), 611-615.

license to display the Shroud to the faithful, with the obligation, however, that they abide by a specific rule: during the ostensions they had to announce “in a loud and intelligible voice, all fraud ceasing” that they did not intend to display the Shroud “as the true shroud of our Lord Jesus Christ, but as a figure or representation of the shroud that is said to have belonged to our Lord Jesus Christ”⁴.

The Shroud remained in the church of Lirey until 1418. That year, in the midst of the Hundred Years War, the Champagne region was devastated by conflict and civil war; fearing for the safety of their treasures, the canons of Lirey thus decided to find a secure location for their relics, including the Shroud and many other precious objects. Marguerite de Charny was the nephew and direct descendant of Geoffroi de Charny, who had built the church in 1353. She was married to Humbert de Villersexel, Count de La Roche-en-Montagne, who in a letter dated 6 July 1418 pledged to protect the treasures from possible raids, hiding them in his Montfort castle with the promise that he would return every one of the objects to the canons as soon as peace had been re-established. The Shroud was subsequently transferred from Montfort to Saint-Hippolyte, the main town of Humbert’s lordship, where it was displayed in a meadow near the Doubs river. Even during this time the Shroud was away from Lirey, therefore, the ostensions continued (as well as the collection of offers from the faithful) and it is highly unlikely that Humbert and Marguerite followed Clement VII’s instructions: the relic was presented for the veneration of the faithful as if it were authentic.

Humbert de Villersexel died on 22 August 1438 with no male heirs born of Marguerite. By his testamentary will, therefore, all of his possessions were handed down to his nephew-in-law François de la Palud, lord of Varambon⁵. In violation of the agreement signed by her deceased husband, Marguerite decided to keep the Shroud rather than returning it to the canons.

As soon as the canons understood Marguerite’s intentions, they made a report to the relevant authorities in order to force her to return the Shroud: Marguerite sought to temporise and in fact was granted three extensions (1443, 1447, 1449) by paying money to the canons “as compensation for the benefits and donations that the church of Lirey might receive by virtue of the precious jewel, the Holy Shroud”⁶. Meanwhile, she continued to move from one place to another, bringing the Shroud with her and organizing ostensions in front of crowds of devotees. Some of these have been documented, including the ostension in Chimay (Hainaut) in 1449: on that occasion, the bishop of Liège, in an effort to verify the truth of what was happening, sent two ecclesiastics to investigate the relic. After having consulted the documentation that Marguerite carried with her, they realized that that particular shroud was only a representation, not the authentic cloth of Christ⁷. Marguerite was forced to relocate elsewhere.

The final deadline for returning the relic, established as part of the last agreement reached before the Provost of Troyes, was 28 October 1452: and yet on this occasion as well, for the fourth time in a row, Marguerite failed to keep her promise, and she did not even pay what she owed to the chapter of Lirey. Having decided to break her promise and yet no longer able to defer its restitution, she was at risk of having the Shroud taken from her by force, thus losing a considerable source of income. She thus sought to entrust the relic to a person from whom the authorities could not seize it and yet who, at the same time, would ensure adequate revenues for her.

⁴ Ed. Ulysse Chevalier, *Autour des origines du suaire de Lirey* (Paris, 1903), p. 35.

⁵ In 1432 François married Jeanne de Petitpierre, the daughter of Gillette de Villersexel who was Humbert’s sister. Regarding François, see Samuel Guichenon, *Histoire de Bresse et de Bugey*, 3^e partie (Lyon, 1650), pp. 292-295 (although Guichenon mistakenly writes Marguerite instead of Jeanne, and many subsequent scholars took his lead); Jacques Paviot, “François de la Palud, seigneur de Varambon, un encombrant seigneur du XV^e siècle,” in *Hommes, cultures et sociétés à la fin du Moyen Âge*, ed. Patrick Gilli and Jacques Paviot (Paris, 2012), pp. 257-292.

⁶ Ed. Chevalier, *Étude critique*, p. XXIV.

⁷ See Andrea Nicolotti, “Le Saint Suaire de Turin en Belgique... à Liège?,” *Bulletin trimestriel du Trésor de la cathédrale de Liège* 47 (2016), 13-18

Marguerite chose Louis, the Duke of Savoy⁸. A document dated 25 February 1453 shows that she had gone to Geneva to “deal with some confidential business”. The duke was very generous with her: through his counsellor, Louis François des Allymes, he covered her food and lodging expenses and paid off the debt of 50 golden francs she had with the canons of Lirey⁹. The duke’s intervention evidently served to settle the Countess’ debt so that she might play for time and further delay the required return of the Shroud. The amount the duke paid to cover all of the noblewoman’s expenses during her entire stay in Geneva – a total of over 150 florins – suggest that he had a particular regard for Marguerite. Meanwhile, the Shroud was publicly displayed at least three times in the city of Geneva (on two occasions in the presence of Annabella of Scotland, the fiancée of Duke Louis’ son). One of these ostensions took place on 26 February, from the wall of the monastery of the Dominican Friars; another one from the 17 to the 19 of March, in this case as well by concession of Marguerite, which shows that ownership of the relic had not yet passed out of her hands at that time¹⁰.

As early as the 16th and 17th centuries, Savoy family historians were of the belief that the sale had taken place on 22 March 1453¹¹. Indeed the duke and Marguerite signed three contracts on that day. Obviously, none of these included any explicit mention of the Shroud for two reasons: Marguerite had no right to sell the relic, because it was supposed to be returned to the canons of Lirey (as had already been established by several rulings) and the sale of relics was forbidden by canonical law. Therefore, she was bound to resort to a concealed sale or exchange without leaving any written record of an illegal transfer; at any rate, it was immediately clear to all observers that the transfer was not free of charge¹².

Before focusing on a description of the documents, published here for the first time, I would like to once again address the above-mentioned François de la Palud, nephew-in-law and heir of Humbert de Villersexel. Through a contract dated 1435 he had transferred to Marguerite his Savoy fiefs of Varambon and Bouligneux along with 4,000 golden *écus* in exchange for some Burgundy fiefs that belonged to the noblewoman: Beaumont-sur-Vingeanne, Montfort, Savoisy, Thury (Côte-d’Or) and the land of Tonnerre¹³. For a certain period of time this exchange remained in effect, as evidenced by two documents from 1436 and 1440 in which François is no longer identified as “lord of Varambon,” but is instead called “François de la Palud called Varambon.”¹⁴ However, this exchange soon came to an end or was reversed, as we can infer from an event that occurred in 1446. That year, François joined a league opposing Jean de Compey, a *protégé* of Duke Louis. On 29 August, two gentlemen seriously injured Compey and, following the attack, fled to Varambon, triggering the duke’s anger towards all members of the league and François himself. This event suggests that, despite the transfer

⁸ The essential documents are described in the following sources: André Perret, “Essai sur l’histoire du Saint Suaire du XIV^e au XVI^e siècle,” *Mémoires de l’Académie des sciences, belles-lettres et arts de Savoie* 4 (1960), 82-91; Walter Zurbuchen, “Le Saint Suaire à Genève en 1453,” *Bulletin de la Société d’histoire et d’archéologie de Genève* 16 (1978), 255-284; Gian Maria Zaccone, “Le investiture feudali nei domini del duca di Savoia a favore di Marguerite de Charny contessa de la Roche (1453-1455),” *Sindon* 34 (1985), 21-41 (with the transcription of a few fragments); Eva Pibiri, “L’acquisition du Saint Suaire par la Maison de Savoie en 1453: de nouveaux textes,” *Rivista di storia della Chiesa in Italia* 57 (2003), 155-164.

⁹ Pibiri, “L’acquisition,” pp. 162-163.

¹⁰ Zurbuchen, “Le Saint Suaire,” pp. 266-273.

¹¹ Emanuele Filiberto Pingone, *Sindon evangelica* (Turin, 1581), p. 29; Samuel Guichenon, *Histoire généalogique de la royale maison de Savoye*, vol. 1 (Lyon, 1660), pp. 95 e 513.

¹² For example, I found a document from that period that clearly states that Marguerite “sold” (*vandit*) the Shroud to the duke (Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Ms. Duchesne 61, fol. 116r). In the following century the canons of Lirey likewise defined Marguerite a “cunning woman who gave and, so to speak, sold (*vendit*) the Shroud to the Duke of Savoy” (Chevalier, *Étude critique*, p. LX).

¹³ This transfer document, dated 24 November 1435, is currently awaiting publication.

¹⁴ Quoted by Paviot, “François de la Palud,” p. 273 (“François de la Palu, seigneur de Montfort et de Beaumont sur Vigenne, dit Varambon”) and p. 274 (“François de la Palud, dit Varambon, comte de la Roche et seigneur de Villerssexel”).

of 1435, the castle was in some way once again the property of François, or had in fact never been passed to Marguerite. In fact, as I will show below, François never paid the 4,000 *écus*; this is also confirmed by the fact that François was once again referred to as “lord of Varambon” in other documents from those years (from 1446, 1448, 1450 and 1451)¹⁵. This also explains why François, having initially moved his residence to the lands of the Duke of Burgundy, far from the Savoy family, had returned to Savoy (where Louis had appointed him as a knight) and on 9 May 1445 sold his Burgundy property to Jean bâtard de Vergy¹⁶.

Worried about the consequences of a possible clash between powerful members of the aristocracy, the Assembly of the Savoy States and Amadeus VIII (father of Louis and at that time Pope Felix V) sought to foster a reconciliation between those aristocrats and the duke; on 2 March 1447, Amadeus issued an ordinance of conciliation between the parties, pressing his son Louis to accept the agreement. Everything appeared to have been resolved – if not for the fact that, in reality, Louis was only waiting for the right moment to vent his anger.

Although we know that François de la Palud actually continued to use Varambon as his dwelling¹⁷, the duke considered the fiefs of Varambon and Bouligneux to be the property of Marguerite, acquired through the 1435 exchange. This was confirmed by a document signed in Turin on 11 January 1448 in which Marguerite, through a guarantor, promised the duke that she would guard the castles and lands of Varambon and Bouligneux under the rule of the Duke of Savoy and only hand them over to subjects of the duke himself. The guarantor was, uncoincidentally, Jean de Compey¹⁸. It is clear from this document that the duke considered the 1435 transfer deed to be perfectly valid.

For a few years, Amadeus VIII kept his son under control; after his father’s death, however, Louis felt free to avenge his friend Jean de Compey and on 17 April 1451 he banned François from Savoy, seized all his property in the area and additionally ordered that the following 19 May his castle of Varambon be destroyed¹⁹. This demolition proves once again that the transfer of Varambon to Marguerite had not actually occurred or had been annulled. Bouligneux was also confiscated and given to others²⁰.

The King of France Charles VII stepped in to defend François and the other nobles of Savoy and on 27 October 1452 in Cleppé he persuaded the duke to sign a *cédule* pledging to return their goods and reinstate their offices within three months’ time. However, Louis began to do everything in his power to avoid following through on what he had promised despite protests by the nobles and repeated envoys from the king²¹.

¹⁵ *Recueil sur l'histoire de Savoie* (Paris, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, Ms. 3712, fol. 14v); Roberto Biolzi, *Avec le fer et la flamme: la guerre entre la Savoie et Fribourg (1447-1448)* (Lausanne, 2009), p. 224; Guichenon, *Histoire de Bresse et de Bugey*, 4^e partie, pp. 148-150; Étienne Pérard, *Recueil de plusieurs pièces curieuses servant à l'histoire de Bourgogne* (Paris, 1664), pp. 588-591; Paviot, “François de la Palud,” pp. 290-292. Paviot’s article lists certain denominations associated with François that sometimes appear incoherent and all of which deserve further investigation.

¹⁶ See Guichenon, *Histoire de Bresse et de Bugey*, 3^e partie, p. 293.

¹⁷ For example, in 1448 François spent a period of convalescence in Varambon: E. Pibiri, *En voyage pour Monseigneur. Ambassadeurs, officiers et messagers à la cour de Savoie* (Lausanne, 2011), p. 474.

¹⁸ ADC, B751, n° 6.

¹⁹ The order addressed to Humbert Veluet, lieutenant of the bailiff of Bresse, is located in ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, 96, fol. 101.

²⁰ ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, 96, f. 273 (18 June 1451).

²¹ A more in-depth account of the incident of François and Compey is provided in Nicolotti, *Sindone*, pp. 97-104; for additional details, see Guichenon, *Histoire de Bresse et de Bugey*, 1^e partie, pp. 79-82; Ferdinand dal Pozzo, *Essai sur les anciennes assemblées nationales de la Savoie, du Piémont, et des pays qui y sont ou furent annexés* (Paris, 1829), pp. 89-113; Joseph-Henri Costa De Beauregard, *Familles historiques de Savoie: les seigneurs de Compey* (Chambéry, 1844), pp. 43-61, 96-108; Léon Lecestre, *Le Jouvencel par Jean de Bueil*, vol. 1 (Paris, 1887), pp. clxxxi-cxciv; Gaston Du Fresne de Beaucourt, *Histoire de Charles VII* (Paris, 1881-1891), vol. 5, pp. 168-173, 178-181, 298; vol. 6, pp. 65-71; Ferdinando Gabotto, “Giovanni di Compey signore di Thorens,” *La nuova rivista* 5 (1883), 218-220, 234-236, 244-

When Marguerite and Louis met in Geneva in February 1453, therefore, they were each positioned to offer something valuable to the other: the countess hoped to sell the Shroud at a profit and the duke sought to find a way to avoid ignominiously returning the goods and fiefs to François de la Palud.

In theory at least, Varambon and Bouligneux belonged to Marguerite by virtue of the 1435 and 1448 deeds. In practice, however, she did not own them and had not received the agreed-on 4,000 *écus* from François. Many details are missing, but one thing is certain: rightly or wrongly, Louis believed that he could deal with Marguerite as the owner of those fiefs. He decided to buy them for himself, even going so far as to cover the debt of 4,000 *écus*. In so doing, he probably sought to prevent François from potentially regaining possession of them.

In summary, the duke had reluctantly promised the king of France that he would return the confiscated goods to François; and yet, if he was able to prove that some of the goods had already been sold to someone else (Marguerite), he would be relieved of the obligation to return them. He would instead be able to purchase them from the new owner, becoming the legitimate owner and definitively avoiding restoring them to their former holder. At the same time, this purchase would also allow him to harm François and avoid the humiliating act of restitution. In light of this it is easier to understand why Marguerite had transferred to the duke rights over the fief of Varambon she apparently never actually held, and why in these Savoyard documents from 1453 François de la Palud was referred to as the “former Lord of Varambon.”

The first document I would like to focus on was probably written by Marguerite’s secretary [doc. 1]. It contains a series of requests from Marguerite to Louis, made before drafting the contracts. Specifically, her requests were as follows: that the duke enfeoff the castellany and territory of Miribel to Marguerite, for her entire life; that Marguerite reserve the right to appoint the judge, castellan, cleric and other local authorities; that she reserve the right to appoint the castellan also in cases of war or danger to the territory, subject to the permission of the duke; that any new taxation on the territory that could affect the profits of Marguerite’s property be cancelled; that the duke bear all the expenses for the defence of the Miribel territory and the resolution of any territorial disputes; that, to resolve any controversy over the borders, the duke appoint his own trusted agent, without involving Marguerite’s men (a note in the margins indicates that the duke’s choice was the castellan of Montluel); that on Marguerite’s death of the estate of Miribel be returned to the duke; that the duke agree to pay Marguerite back the 4,000 golden *écus* that François de la Palud owed her (as per the 1435 contract) through an appropriate sum established in agreement with him (a note in the margin indicates that the duke proposes to pay her a lifetime annuity of 100 florins earned from the revenues of the castellany of Montluel); that Marguerite be able to collect taxes and subsidies, as was the case for the bannerets of Bresse; that Marguerite have the right to collect taxes for the ground rent of Varambon; that the accountants henceforth cease to calculate expenses for Miribel; that Marguerite transfer all rights over Varambon to the duke, including the credit of 4,000 *écus*, with the exception of taxes on the ground rent and previous debts; that Marguerite send the duke all the documents which concern Varambon from that moment onward without any obligation to handle them once they had been passed on. Marguerite added that she was “old and widowed, needing quiet rather than work.” Marguerite’s requests were all met. On 22 March Duke Louis, through a deed written by his *maître des requêtes* Jean de Lestelley in his role as secretary and notary, formalized the transfer of Miribel [doc. 2]. Seeing as Marguerite de Charny consented to assign Louis the fortress of Varambon in return for the transfer and in consideration of Marguerite’s noble qualities and generosity as well as in

245, 257-258, 267-269; Georges Delomier, “Charles VII en Forez, octobre 1452,” *Bulletin de la Diana* 43 (1973), 37-59; Alessandro Barbero, *Il ducato di Savoia* (Bari, 2002), pp. 163-183.

gratitude “for the numerous and praiseworthy services she has so far rendered us”, taking into account her state of widowhood and old age and wishing for her to live in the Savoyard territories, the duke granted her the fief of Miribel for her entire life. He listed all the rights associated with this enfeoffment in keeping with what the noblewoman had requested in the previous document and urged the officers of Bresse and Valbonne and castellan of Montluel to ensure compliance with his decisions. I would like to point out that the castellanies of Miribel and Montluel were directly linked to the figure of Louis François des Allymes who, as mentioned above, took care of Marguerite in Geneva and participated in at least one of the ostensions of the Shroud. By means of another contract [doc. 3], Louis assigned Marguerite de Charny a lifetime annuity of 100 florins *parvi ponderis*, to be taken from the revenues of the castellany of Montluel and to be paid on the feast day of St. Michael (29 September), in exchange for Marguerite having transferred to him the credit of 4,000 *écus* that François de la Palud owed her as set forth by the deed dated 24 November 1435.

A third document drawn up on the same day²² [doc. 4] was specifically focused on the transfer of Varambon fief to the duke along with the credit of 4,000 gold *écus* François de la Palud owed Marguerite²³. As established, Marguerite was to retain the right to collect ground rent taxes and previously incurred debts; she was to send the duke all documents regarding Varambon without having to deal with them herself and to renounce any claim on the property she had transferred.

Did these transactions dated 22 March also covertly include the sale of the Shroud? It is possible. Some scholars, however, date this transfer to a moment after March 25 (Palm Sunday), the day when an ostension took place in Geneva in the chapel of St. Catherine, a chapel belonging to the nobleman Jean de Rolle. If this were the case, a document I identified dating to 29 March and written once again by the ducal secretary Jean de Lestelley would acquire greater significance [doc. 5]: in this document, Louis of Savoy establishes that he will pay a lifetime annuity amounting to 1,000 florins *parvi ponderis* to Marguerite de Charny, described as a widow and elderly woman who had decided to spend the rest of her life in the Savoyard territory; the funds in question were to be drawn from the revenues of Châteauneuf-en-Valromey; The castellan was required to pay this sum annually on the feast day of St. Michael or face a fine of 50 silver marks for having failed to do so. The duke defines Marguerite “dearest kin of ours” and rewards her “for the intimate and sincere affection and the singular benevolence that she has always shown toward us” and for the “many, very distinct and appreciated services that she has so far rendered us”. The pension was in addition to another 10,000 gold *écus* which “are gifted today through our other letters patent” (not yet located). The noblewoman was thus given goods without having to provide anything in return: was this perhaps the amount paid for the Shroud? If so, the exchange was sanctioned on the 29th of March, not the 22nd.

It is important to note that the transfer of the fief of Varambon to the duke violated the 1452 Cleppé agreement. The noblemen opposed by Louis, meanwhile, continued to call on the King of France for aid²⁴. In July 1454, the king forced the duke to sign a new agreement, an agreement for which Louis did not issue the letters patent until 30 September 1454, ordering that the goods and securities – including those that had been sold to third parties in the meantime – be returned as previously agreed, and promising that 12,000 *écus* be given to François de la Palud in compensation for the destruction of his castle of Varambon, payable in three annual instalments of 4,000²⁵. All the contracts between Marguerite and Louis regarding the property of François de la Palud were therefore to be considered null and void. On 27 March 1455 in Chambéry, Jean de Compey was made to reconcile (at least

²² The same day, rather than 26 March as some scholars believed.

²³ Due to an error of interpretation on my part, in the first Italian edition of my book Nicolotti, *Sindone*, p. 99, I had mistakenly reported that Marguerite had also obtained the fief of Aiguebelle in exchange for the 4,000 *écus*.

²⁴ See BNF, Ms. Français 18983, fol. 49 (n° 41): *Supplication et requeste faite au roy par les nobles de Savoie*.

²⁵ The text of the resolutions was published by Guichenon, *Histoire de Bresse et de Bugey*, 4^e partie, pp. 28-30.

formally²⁶) with his attackers. François' did not receive his compensation immediately and it is unclear how it eventually took place given that, as late as 2 July 1455, he claimed to not have any holdings in Savoy²⁷. He died the following year.

Meanwhile, Marguerite managed her new property. A document from the beginning of October 1454 [doc. 6] informs us that Miribel and Bouligneux had been removed from her possession because she had carelessly allowed them to be seized by the Dauphin in war against the Savoy. However, the duke apparently decided to return them to her since he judged her blameless in the matter (which means that the duke's aforementioned transfer of the Bouligneux castle to third parties in 1451 was not valid or had been annulled).

On 20 November 1454 [doc. 7] Louis enfeoffed Marguerite de Charny, for life, with the fief of Clermont (at that time held by the castellan François Bonivard) to replace the fief of Miribel. The duke commanded the bailiff, judge and procurator of the Genevois to confirm and sustain Marguerite in her holdings. It seems, however, that this exchange never went into effect or was annulled, because on 11 April 1455 another agreement was issued [doc. 8] in which Louis enfeoffed Marguerite de Charny, for life, with the fief of Flumet, replacing Miribel, and once again ordered the bailiff, judge and procurator of Faucigny and the castellans of Sallanches, Beaufort and Montjoie to confirm and sustain Marguerite in her holdings²⁸.

On 13 August 1455, Louis issued three other documents that are relevant for our purposes here. First, he wrote to the judge and procurator of Bresse, the castellans of Pont-d'Ain, Pérouges and Chatillon-en-Dombes and other officials [doc. 9] stating that more than two years before (that is, in 1453) Marguerite de Charny had let out at rent the fiefs of Varambon and Bouligneux to Antoine de la Palud, lord of Escorent and brother of François, for the duration of six years at a price of six hundred florins *parvi ponderis*, which he had failed to pay despite her requests. As a result, Marguerite demanded that the contract be cancelled. Louis ordered the addressees to take action to return to Marguerite the fief of Bouligneux, where she might live honestly and quietly, or pay a penalty of a hundred florins if they failed to do so. In an effort to maintain the peace, however, it was decided that Anthoine could keep Varambon for the remaining four years "in the ways and forms he has it at this time" but would be required to pay the missing two years' rent. On the same day, Louis wrote directly to Antoine disclosing the terms of his decision [doc. 10] and ordered the officials of Bresse and Villars to make sure that Marguerite was not disturbed in her enjoyment of the assets granted to her [doc. 11].

As these latter documents show, at that time Varambon and Bouligneux were not managed by either the duke or Marguerite but by Antoine de la Palud, the brother of François, under concession from the owner Marguerite. What was the significance, therefore, of the sale of Varambon to the duke in 1453? Was it withdrawn or annulled as a result of the 1454 agreement with the king? Did this six-year transfer take place before or after March 1453? Additionally, in his will dated 6 November 1456, François left both Varambon and Bouligneux to his son Philibert Philippe and mentioned Montfort as a property he owned, having obtained it in exchange from Marguerite: it thus appears that the 1435

²⁶ Only three days later Jean killed a member of the league, Pierre de Menthon.

²⁷ Guichenon, *Histoire de Bresse et de Bugey*, 3rd partie, p. 294.

²⁸ According to Perret, "Essai sur l'histoire," p. 87, the transfer of Flumet also had to be annulled since Louis did not own it, the property having already been granted to Guillaume de la Fléchère. In addition, there is a deed from 27 October 1456 appointing François de Bonivard castellan of Flumet (ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, 96, fol. 133).

deed remained in effect, at least in part, or new agreements had been made²⁹. The matter is unclear, and it is also possible that other as-yet-unidentified documents might help to shed light on it.

At any rate, in 1453 the Shroud illegally passed to the Savoy. As a result of this sale, on 30 May 1457 Marguerite, who had already been excommunicated, was again condemned and excommunicated by the curia of Besançon: it was decreed that her condemnation be publicly reiterated in church every Sunday and holiday and that, if she entered a city, the divine services were to be suspended until her departure³⁰. Despite the attempts and promises of Marguerite's brother-in-law, Charles de Noyers, who sought to find a new agreement with the canons of Lirey, the noblewoman died excommunicated in 1460. The canons, for their part, tried to arrange the return of the relic or at least a cash compensation, contacting first Duke Louis (1464), then the ruling Duchess Iolanda of Valois (1473) and finally the King of France (1472-1482). In the end, however, they did not attain anything but broken promises³¹.

The collegiate church of Lirey began to fade into the sunset while the Shroud embarked on a bright new era. A religious object of inestimable value, talisman for the protection of the Savoy dynasty and tangible sign of the prince's divine blessings, the Shroud went on to eminently perform its function as an object of devotion and propaganda in the sphere of the court until the mid-20th century.

Documentary Appendix

The collation in this edition records only significant variants; slips of the pen and cancellations are normally ignored.

Doc. 1.

No date or place; *terminus ante quem* 22 March 1453

ASTo, Corte, Protocolli camerali serie nera, prot. 109, fols. 237r-238r (likely written by Marguerite de Charny's secretary).

Que petit in convencionibus et permutacionibus fiendis spectabilis domina Marguarita de Charny, comitissa Ruppis, inter illustrissimum principem dominum nostrum Sabaudie, et cetera, ducem, et eandem dominam Marguaritam.

Primo, quod illustrissimus dominus noster det, cedat, et concedat atque infeudet, transferat et remictat omni via, iure, et modo quibus fieri efficacioribus et utilioribus predicte domine Marguarite, ad eius vitam naturalem dumtaxat et non ultra, castrum, villam cum toto territorio, mandamento ac districtu eorundem Miribelli et pertinenciarum solitarum, nec non merum et mixtum imperium ac omnimodam iurisdictionem cum omnibus adiacentibus dicti castri ac mandamenti sive sint redditus, census, directa dominia, feuda et retrofeuda ad dictum castrum pertinencia, nec non homagia hominum non nobilium sive ruralium, curatas, calvacatas, angarias et perangarias, pedagia, ledas et quecumque alia tributa cuiusque generis existant, et eciam terras cultas et non cultas, nemora, pascua, stangna, aquas et aquarum decursus, molendina, baptitoria, reysias et quevis instrumenta aquatica cuiusque speciei existant; et generaliter omnia et singula quocunque ad causam dicti castri debita sub quacunque

²⁹ However, there are records reporting that Beaumont-sur-Vingeanne and Bouligneux still had not been returned in 1471. Pérard, *Recueil de plusieurs pièces*, pp. 599-600, 605.

³⁰ Chevalier, *Étude critique*, pp. XXXIII-XXXIV.

³¹ A more detailed account is available in Nicolotti, *Sindone*, pp. 102-104.

rerum specie consistent, que idem dominus noster ad causam dicti castri habet habereque posset, sui que bone et inclite memorie predecessores habuerunt et possederunt huc usque, nichil iuris, accionis, racionis vel dreyturæ sive proprietatis retinens, ymo in dictam dominam Marguaritam transferens et cetera iure tamen superioritatis, fidelitatis et resorti eidem domino nostro, salvo quod sibi retinere debeat prout super aliis suis fidelibus, bannaretis, subditis habet et utitur, reservatis eciam ipsi domino nostro fidelitatibus nobilium quas retinet ad se proprium.

On the left margin: Contentus est dominus noster reservatis fidelitatibus nobilium.

Item, quod dicta domina Marguerita possit et ei liceat in dicto loco, districtu et territorio Miribelli constituere iudicem, castellanum, clericum curie, mistrales, bannerias, precones et alios quemadmodum ceteri banneriti principis Sabaudie merum et mixtum imperium ac omnimodam iurisdicionem habentes faciunt et facere sunt soliti per quos possit merum mixtum imperium cum omnimoda iurisdicione, quando casus eveniet, exercere et exerceri facere, usque ad exequcionem inclusive iure superioritatis et resorti sive appellacionis eidem domino nostro, ut supra, reservatis; ita tamen, cum locus et castrum Miribelli sint in loco limitrofo unde tempore guerre aut alias eminens deffectu custodie periculum evenire posset, dicta domina castellanum eligendum et nominandum per propriam non eligat nisi nobilem et expertum per illustrissimum dominum nostrum confirmandum, qui onus custodie ipsius castri sub eius periculo teneatur, cum sacramento solito dari et prestari, assumere nomine domini nostri quemadmodum athenus solitum est.

Item, quod omnes assignaciones et imposiciones nove, facte super preysiis et obvencionibus, imposite dicti loci, tollantur prius et amoveantur sic et taliter quod dicta domina reddictus, census et emolumenta ad causam dicti loci debita integre et plene absque aliqua diminucione percipere debeat et valeat.

Item, quod idem dominus noster promittat ut in forma omnia suprascripta eidem domine manutenere et deffendere adversus omnes et quascumque personas, si eidem moveretur controversia, suis sumptibus et expensis.

Item, quia dictum castrum Miribelli est situm in loco limitropho et confinibus regni, quod quocienscunque debatum sive quescio confinium et limitum oriretur aut turbacio per vicinos inferri continget, quod illustrissimus dominus noster teneatur suis propriis sumptibus et expensis deffendere sive deffendi facere suis propriis officariis aut commictendis, absque eo quod ipsa domina cum sit senes et etate contracta in aliquo teneatur se iuvare nec intromictere sive aliquos sumptus ministrare. Item, quod quando premissa quescio sive discordia oriretur inter vicinos officarios de limitibus, quod illustrissimus dominus noster non mandet neque precipiat officariis dicte domine exequciones aliquas sive diffensiones fiendas, sed ballivo aut aliis officariis suis commictere debeat aut alteri secundum quod sibi placuit.

On the left margin: Contentus est quod onus et preceptum fiat castellano Montislupelli.

Item, et predicta sic petit dicta domina, eius vita naturali tantum durante et non ultra, ita quod ipsa ab hac luce sublata omnia supradicta pleno iure ad dictum dominum nostrum prout ante huiusmodi permutacionem habebat revertatur et reveniat et imposterum perpetuo remaneat.

Item, quia dominus Franciscus de Pallude, olim dominus Varambonis, virtute permutacionum inter ipsam dominam Marguaritam et dictum dominum Franciscum quitare ipsi tenetur in quatuor mille scutis auri, contra quem eadem domina cedit illustrissimo domino nostro iura et acciones, cum sit obligacio in licteris permutacionum restituendis domino nostro, quod illustrissimus dominus noster debeat sibi pro dictis quatuor mille scutis, annualiter vel pro semel, in recompensacionem aliquid dare et concedere secundum quod sibi placuerit et videbitur eque et humaniter.

On the left margin: Contentus est illustrissimus dominus noster assignare C florenos annuales, ad eius vitam dumtaxat naturalem, et non ultra, super preysiis et obvencionibus Montislupelli, et nunquam dicto tempore durante revocare.

Item quod ipsa domina Marguarita tallias et subsidia imposterum imponendas et imponenda sive concedendas exigat, solvat et recuperet prout et quemadmodum bannereti ceteri Breyssie exigunt, solvunt et recuperant.

Item quod omnia erragia debita eidem domine in loco Varambonis cuiusque fuit qualitatis, sint et remaneant eidem domine et ea exigere possit et debeat, et similiter officarii Miribelli ibidem facere possint et valeant, et eis reserventur eorum debita preterita.

Item, quod illustrissimus dominus noster mandet magistris computorum quod detrahant de computis dictum locum Miribelli et extractus recognicionum et valorum sibi tradant et expediant absque sumptu, nec non castellano quod pariter tradat et expediat papirum recupere et emolumentorum dicti loci, et clerico curie quod processus expediat et deliberet in manibus iudicis, et cetera.

Et hiis mediantibus dicta domina cedet et remictet illustrissimo domino nostro quidquid iuris, accionis, racionis vel querele sive demande et dreiture habet habereque potest, quoquo modo, causa et acione, permutacione quam alias et eidem competunt competereque possunt, in castro, districtu, iurisdicione sive mandamento Varambonis, nichil in eam retinendo sed in dictum dominum nostrum transferendo, exceptis ut supra erragiis et preteritis debitis, nec non eciam accionem dictorum quatuor mille scutorum in instrumento permutacionum supradicto comprensorum per dictum dominum Franciscum debitorem.

Item, et eidem domino nostro tradet et expediet omnia instrumenta, licteras et documenta ex nunc confecta ad causam Varambonis et iurium que habet dicta domina in dicto loco, ex nunc in futurum, vere cessionis et remissionis, sic et taliter quod illustrissimus dominus noster uti possit et valeat ad sui libitum voluntatis prout eadem domina ante permutacionem presentem utebatur; nec ultra dicta domina assignatur ad ultra manutenendum predicta per eam cessa et remissa, nisi per tradicionem ipsorum iurium et documentorum, cum sit senes et vidua, pocius quiete indigens quam labore.

Doc. 2.

22 March 1453, Geneva.

1) ADC, B8440 (account roll of Jean Guyot, castellan of Miribel, from 1454).

2) ASTo, Corte, Protocolli camerale serie nera, prot. 109, fols. 231r-234v (minute drafted by the duke's secretary, Jean de Lestelley).

De exitibus, preysiis et obvencionibus dicti castellanie officii, quadraginta duorum septimanarum et unius diei inceptarum, die vicesima sexta inclusive aprilis, anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo tercio, et finitarum die decima quinta exclusive mensis februarii anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo quarto: nichil computat, cum illustrissimus dominus noster castrum, villam, locum, burgum, districtum, castellaniam et mandamentum Miribelli, unacum mero, mixto imperio et iuridicione omnimoda alta, media et bassa, infeudavit domine Margarite de Charny, comitisse Ruppis, ad eius vitam naturalem dumtaxat, sub condicionibus, modis, pactis et reservacionibus descriptis in licteris dicte infeudacionis. Datum Gebennis die XXII^{da} marcii anno Domini M^o III^c LIII^{cio}, quarum tenor talis est³²:

Ludovicus, dux Sabaudie, Chablaysii et Auguste, sacri Romani imperii princeps vicariusque perpetuus, marchio in Ytalia, princeps Pedemoncium, Gebennensis et Baugiaci comes, baro Vuaudi et Foucigniacy, Nycieque et Vercellarum ac Friburgi etc. dominus.

Universis modernis et posteris seriem presencium inspecturis facimus manifestum quod, cum spectabilis et generosa consanguinea nostra carissima domina Margarita de Charny, comitissa Ruppis, ex sua certa sciencia suaque libera et spontanea voluntate ac pro se et suis heredibus et successoribus quibuscunque, nobis hodie cesserit, remiserit, quictaverit, donaverit, et totaliter transtulerit quidquid iuris, accionis, racionis, partis, proprietatis, domini, usagii, querele, demande,

³² All this premise is missing in the Turin document, which begins with what follows, preceded only by the title Pro domina comitissa Ruppis infeudacio Miribelli.

dreyture et reclamacionis habebat, tenebat et possidebat habereque tenere et possidere poterat et debebat ad eamque spectabat et pertinebat, tam ratione permutacionis et contractuum quorumcunque per eam hactenus quomodolibet factorum, quam alio quovis titulo, ratione sive causa in castro, loco, villagio, mandamento et districtu Varambonis illiusque iuribus, pertinenciis et appendenciis universis et singulis subque aliis modis, condicionibus et formis in publico instrumento per secretarium nostrum subscriptum die hodierna inde recepto expressis et declaratis.

Hinc est quod nos, actentis et pensatis cessione et remissione predictis per ipsam consanguineam nostram nobis, ut premittitur, liberaliter factis, considerantesque generis nobilitatem viteque et morum honestatem et alia virtutum ornamenta clarissima, quibus personam ipsius domine Margarite comprobatae novimus, non postponentes etiam multa et laudabilia obsequia per eam nobis hactenus impensa, cupientes itaque eidem consanguinee nostre, in statu viduali et etate grandeva constitute, liberalitatis nostre partes exhibere, et maxime desiderantes in patria et dicione nostra eidem de honesta et statui suo conveniente mansione providere et alias eam condignis munificenciis et favoribus prosequi, aliis quoque laudedignis moti causis et respectibus, informati itaque fideli relatu de valore annuo et pro semel castri, burgi, loci, castellanie, districtus et totius mandamenti nostri Miribelli omniumque et singulorum iurium et pertinenciarum eiusdem, ex nostra certa sciencia pro nobisque et nostris heredibus et successoribus universis, prefate domine Margarite presenti, ac pro se et ad eius vitam naturalem duntaxat stipullanti et recipienti, in recompensationem supradictorum castri et loci Varambonis et iurium per eam nobis ut supra cessorum et remissorum et alias premissorum consideracione, et quia sic nobis placet, harum serie infeudamus ac in feudum nobile, ligium, antiquum, paternum et avitum quodque vim, naturam, efficaciam feudi nobilis et ligii, paterni et aviti sapiat et importet subque homagio et fidelitate nobilibus et ligiis per eam nobis prestandis, damus, donamus, tradimus, cedimus, concedimus, transferimus, remictimus totaliter et quictavimus, eis modo et forma quibus melius et securius ad utilitatem ipsius domine Margarite fieri potest et exprimi, videlicet supradictum castrum, villam, locum, burgum, districtum, castellaniam et mandamentum Miribelli unacum mero mixtoque imperio et iuridicione omnimoda, alta, media et bassa, illorumque exercitiis iuribusque, commoditatibus et emolumentis universis, una etiam cum feudis, retrofeudis, homagiis, ruralibus hominibusque, feudatariis, emphiteotis, censeriis, tenementariis, iusticialibus, subdictis, canonibus, censibus, serviciis, tailliis, redditibus, usagiis, laudibus, vendis, commissionibus, excheutis, successionibus, gardis, excubiis, custodiis, corvatis, angariis, perangariis, bampnis, clamis, multis, condempnacionibus, obvencionibus, pedagiis, leydis, decimis, stagnis, calciatis, pasqueragiis, piscacionibus, venacionibus et aliis quibuscunque proventibus et tributis necnon nemoribus, pratis, vineis, terris cultis et incultis, montibus, planis et aliis finibus et territoriis, aquis, aquagiis, aquarum decursibus, furnis, molendinis, reissiis, folonis, baptitoriis et aliis artificiois domibusque, grangiis et aliis quibuscunque edificiiis et indominaturis, necnon fondis, ingressibus, egressibus, pertinenciis et appendenciis universis et singulis cumque plena et omnimoda potestate ibidem iudicem, castellanum, servientes et alios officarios ponendi, constituendi, tenendi et auferendi necnon erigendi, plantandi et manutenendi furchas, plotos, pilonos aliaque patibula et suppliciorum artificia ad exercitium et executionem huiusmodi meri mixtique imperii et omnimode iuridicionis necessaria et opportuna, et generaliter quicquid iuris, partis, proprietatis, domini, usagii, accionis, rationis et dreyture habemus, tenemus et possidemus habereque tenere et possidere possumus nobisque spectat et pertinet in predictis castro, burgo, loco, castellania et mandamento Miribelli ac pertinenciis et appendenciis eorumdem quovis titulo ratione sive causa.

Ita etiam quod quecunque assignaciones et impositiones in et super preysis et obvencionibus dicti castri et castellanie Miribelli quibuscunque personis et sub quacunque verborum forma per nos hactenus facte, ecclesiarum perpetuis, si que sint, duntaxat exceptis, tollentur et remaneantur et alibi transmutentur et quas ex nunc tollimus et removemus; non obstantibus quibuscunque liciter nostris per nos hactenus concessis quibus, quoadlibet penitus et ex certa sciencia derogamus ad habendum, tenendum, mandandum, utendum, fruendum et possidendum predicta per nos infeudata per dictam dominam Margaritam, ad eius vitam naturalem et non ultra; salvis etiam in premissis ac

nobis et nostris per pactum expressum solempni stipulacione vallatum, reservatis que sequuntur et primo iure feudi, fidelitatis, homagii, directi feudi, domini, superioritatis et ressorti ac causis appellacionum et iuribus regalibus cum alterius racione; item, salvis et per pactum expressum nobis et nostris predictis reservatis et retentis homagiis et fidelitatibus nobilibus omnium et singulorum hominum nobilium infra dictam castellaniam et mandamentum Miribelli ubilibet consistencium, aut alias infra ipsam castellaniam et confines eiusdem aliqua bona de feudo et homagio nostro nobili tenencium et possidencium; item, salvis in premissis ac nobis ut supra reservatis omnibus et singulis subsidiis, regaliis, tailliis et aliis impositionibus et donis gratuitis ex nunc imposterum per nos generaliter imponendis aut eciam nobis concendendis.

Hoc tamen in favorem ipsius domine Margarite acto et concesso, ex dum et quotienscunque huiusmodi subsidia et dona gratuita per nos ut supra imponentur aut eciam concedentur, ipsa domina Margarita aut deputandi ab ea possint et debeant sibique liceat illa exigere et recuperare ac de illis nobiscum componere, prout et quemadmodum facient et facere soliti sunt alii bannereti nostri ipsius patrie et baillivatus nostri Breysse et Vallisbone.

Item, quia huiusmodi castrum Miribelli in loco limitropho constitutum est et in quo de solerti ac nobis et patrie fideli custodia opus est. Eapropter teneatur et debeat ipsa domina Margarita eligere, nominare et deputare in castellanum dicti castri et loci hominem nobilem, probum et expertum fidelemque et subdictum nostrum ac per nos ante alliqualem dicti castri et castellanie officii, possessionis, adeptionis confirmandum; qui eciam teneatur in nostris manibus de huiusmodi castro fideliter custodiendo ipsoque officio legaliter exercendo cum ceteris clausullis opportunis debitum et solitum prestare iuramentum.

Hoc tamen in favorem ipsius domine Margarite acto et concesso, quod quotienscunque imposterum debata, questiones et controversias ad causam predicti castri et loci Miribelli confiniumque et limitum eiusdem cum vicinis dominiis et officariis aut aliis quibuslibet sustineri et moneri contingerit, aut aliam turbacionem eidem domine Margarite predictoque castellano et aliis officariis suis propterea inferri, eo casu teneamur et debeamus per nos aut officarios nostros nostrisque propriis sumptibus et expensis illa deffendere, tueri, experiri et prosequi prout faciebamus et facere debebamus ante infeudacionem presentem, absque eo quod ipsa domina Margarita de illis se intromictere teneatur aut ad aliquos labores sumptus et expensas proinde sustinendos quovismodo astricta intellegatur. Quinymo dum et quociens huiusmodi contenciones et debata moveri contingeret, teneamur et debeamus execuciones et alia expleta necessaria et opportuna per officarios et presertim per castellanum nostrum Montislupelli presentem et futurum, quem ad hoc ex nunc deputamus fieri et compleri facere, nostris ut supra sumptibus et expensis; item, salvis ac nobis et nostris per expressum reservatis omnibus et singulis arreragiis, remanenciis et aliis creditis quibuscunque nobis in ipso loco et tota castellania Miribelli pro toto tempore predito usque ad diem presentem quomodolibet debitis et que arreragia, remanencie et credita exigi et recuperari possint et debeant per officarios nostros ad quos spectabit, qui eciam de illis nobis computare habebunt; item, salvo ac in omnibus et per omnia nobis et nostris predictis reservato, quod premissa omnia et singula per nos infeudata, cessa et remissa, intelligantur ad ipsius domine Margarite vitam naturalem dumtaxat et non alias neque ultra; ita eciam quod, ipsa domina Margarita de medio sublata, huiusmodi castrum et alia ut supra infeudata ad nos et nostros illico deveniant et revertantur pertineantque pleno iure et perpetuo remaneant.

Quibus salvis et mediantibus, ipsam dominam Margaritam de premissis castro iuribusque et pertinenciis eiusdem investimus et in possessionem corporalem vel quasi ponimus et inducimus concessione presencium, nichil alterius iuris, partis, proprietatis, domini aut reclamacionis in eisdem preterquam supra per nos reservata retinendo, sed ea omnia in ipsam dominam Margaritam ad eius ut supra vitam naturalem dumtaxat transferendo, quictando et totaliter remictendo. Promictentes propterea bona fide nostra in verbo principis, pro nobis et nostris et sub nostrorum omnium expressa obligacione bonorum, huiusmodi infeudacionem, cessionem, remissionem aliaque omnia et singula in his liceter nostris contenta ratas, gratas, firmas et vallidas rataque grata, firma et vallida habere et tenere, in nulloque contra facere, dicere vel venire; quinymo ipsa omnia per nos ut supra infeudata, cessa et remissa eidem domine Margarite quamdiu, ut premictitur, vita pocietur humana manutenere,

deffendere, desbrigare et legitime garentire ab omnibus et contra omnes, in iudicio et extra, nostris propriis sumptibus et expensis, onus et evictionis periculum in nos et nostros penitus assumendo sub omni eciam alia solemnitare iurisque et facti renunciacione ad hec necessaria pariter et cautela. Mandantes propterea et actente commictentes baillivo, iudici et procuratori Breyssie et Vallisbone castellanoque et clerico curie Montisluppelli ac ceteris officiariis nostris ad quos spectabit, modernis et posteris ipsorumque locatenentibus et cuilibet eorundem quatenus huiusmodi infeudacionem, cessionem, remissionem et licteras nostras prefate domine Margarite, quamdiu, ut premictitur, vita consistet humana, in omnibus et per omnia teneant, actendant et observent, tenerique actendi et per quoscumque observari faciant illesas, in nulloque contraveniant quomodolibet vel opponant, quinimo ipsam dominam Margaritam seu eius legitimum procuratorem in possessionem realem, actualem et corporalem predictorum castri, loci et castellanie Miribelli omniumque et singulorum iurium et pertinenciarum eorundem per nos ut supra infeudatorum, cessorum et remissorum, visis presentibus omnique excepcione post habita, ponant et inducant positamque manuteneant, tueantur et deffendant adversus quoscumque eidemque domine Margarite, quamdiu, ut premictitur, vita pocietur humana, de redditibus, censis, serviciis, tributis et aliis omnibus et singulis sibi ut supra per nos infeudatis solvi, responderi, pareri et obediri; et in omnibus ipsorum infeudatorum plena percepcione uti, frui et gaudere faciant et permictant dictique castellanus et clericus curie registra et papireus recupere necnon processus et alia ipsius curie documenta eidem domine Margarite tradant et sine difficultate expediant.

Mandantes eciam et actente precipientes omnibus et singulis hominibus, emphiteotis, censeris, tenementariis et subdictis dicti castri et castellanie Miribelli presentibus et futuris quod eidem domine Margarite a modo quamdiu, ut premictitur, aget in humanis pareant, obediant, homagient, recognoscant, solvant, respondeant et assistant prout et quoadmodum erga nos faciebant, et facere tenebantur ante infeudacionem presentem, homagiis tamen et fidelitatibus nobilibus nobis ut supra reservatis.

Dantes propterea in mandatis presidenti et magistris computorum nostrorum quod huiusmodi infeudacionem et licteras nostras eidem domine Margarite, ad eius vitam naturalem, ut supra, teneant et inviolabiliter observent ipsumque castrum et locum pro eo tempore de computis et demanio nostris detrahant, extractusque recognicionum et valorum eiusdem eidem domine Margarite libere et sine costu tradant et expediant, regulis et constitutionibus ipsius Camere Computorum et aliis forte in contrarium edictis et concessis non obstantibus quibuscumque, quibus eciamque ad hec ex eadem certa sciencia derogamus. In quorum premissorum omnium et singulorum robur et testimonium has licteras nostras, sigilli nostri maioris appensione vallidatas, eidem domine Margarite duximus concedendas.

Datas Gebennis, die vicesima secunda marcii, anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo tercio.

Lestelley.

Loys³³.

Per dominum presentibus dominis Georgio episcopo Lausannensi, Iacobo ex comitibus Vallispergie cancelario Sabaudie, Anthonio Procheti cantore Gebennensi, Iohanne de Saxo domino de Bannens, Philiberto de Monthoux, Iacobo Richardi advocato generali, Iohanne Championis, Iacobo Meynerii generali et Iohanne Maleti thesaurario³⁴.

Lestelley.

Quamquidem licteram domini superius insertam ostendit sigillo domini eques cira viridi impendente sigillatam et manu Lestelley eius secretarii signatam, et fuit restituta Iohanni de Vernousa, nuncio dicte domine Margarite, pro iuribus datis conservandis.

³³ Both signatures are missing in the Turin document.

³⁴ All that follows is missing in the Turin document.

Doc. 3.

22 March 1453, Geneva.

1) ADC, B8621 (account roll of Louis François, castellan of Montluel, from 1453-1454).

2) ASTo, Corte, Protocolli camerale serie nera, prot. 109, fols. 235r-236r (minute drafted by the duke's secretary, Jean de Lestelley).

Deducuntur sibi quos solvit et libravit spectabili domine Margarite de Charny, comitisse Ruppis, consanguinee domini. Quequidem domina Margarita ex eius certa sciencia liberaque et spontanea voluntate pro se et suis heredibus et successoribus universis omne ius omnemque accionem, racionem et dreyturam, querelam, deman<dam>, partem, proprietatem et reclamacionem eidem domine Margarite spectantes et pertinentes ac spectare et pertinere debentes quovis titulo, racione seu causa in summa quatuor millium scutorum auri eidem domine Margarite per dominum Franciscum de Pallude, militem, olim dominum Varambonis, debitorum, racione et ad causam permutacionum et excambiorum inter ipsam dominam Margaritam et predictum dominum Franciscum de Pallude factorum de castris et locis Varambonis et Boligniaci necnon Bellimontis, Montisfortis, Savoisy, Turiaci et terre Tonerrensium dudum contractorum, constante publico instrumento per Nycolaum Rossul et Thomam Leydier notarios publicos sub anno Domini millesimo IIII^c trigesimo quinto et die vicesima quarta mensis novembris recepto et signato, prefato domino nostro Sabaudie duci die presenti cesserit, remiserit, dederit, donaverit, transtulerit et perpetuo quictaverit sub modis, condicionibus et formis in instrumento publico per Iohannem Lestelley secretarium domini subscriptum recepto laciis declaratis. Ipseque dominus noster, huiusmodi cessione et remissione actentis consideratisque generis nobilitatem viteque et morum honestate ac alia virtutum ornamenta clarissima, quibus ipse dominus noster personam ipsius domine Margarite novit comprobatum, cupiens itaque ipse dominus noster eidem consanguinee sue in statu viduali et etate iam senili constitute aliisque laudabilibus motus respectibus, ex eiusdem domini nostri certa sciencia pro se et suis heredibus et successoribus universis in recompensacionem predictorum quatuor millium scutorum auri, per ipsam dominam Margaritam eidem domino nostro ut supra cessorum et remissorum, et alias premissorum consideracione eidem domine Margarite presenti ut pro se et ad eius vitam naturalem dumtaxat recipienti harum serie assignavit deditque, donavit et largitus fuit ipse dominus noster, donacione perpetua et irrevocabili que fit et dicitur inter vivos, videlicet centum florenos parvi ponderis annuales, ex nunc in posterum singulis annis in quolibet festo beati Michaelis, quamdiu tenere, ut premittitur, vita pocietur humana, levandos et percipiendos de et super quibuscumque preysiis et obvencionibus castellanie ipsius domini nostri Montisfortis; quasquidem preysias et obvenciones eidem domine Margarite propter hec specialiter et expresse obligavit et ypothecavit, non obstantibus quibuscumque aliis assignacionibus ibidem actenus factis et imposterum forte faciendis, quibus omnibus ipse dominus hanc presentem voluit mandavitque propterea castellano dicti loci seu eius locumtenenti, et sub pena XXV marcharum argenti per eam, si non paruerit, committenda et prefato domino nostro applicanda ei tueri predictos centum florenorum parvi ponderis annuales de et super huiusmodi preysiis et obvencionibus dicte castellanie, ex nunc singulis annis termino predicto eidem domine Margarite aut deputandis ab ea, quamdiu, ut supra, fuerit in humanis, solvat, tradat et realiter expediat vice ipsius domini nostri recipiendo ab eadem domina Margarita in prima solucione cum copia lictere dominicalis vestram de confessione et receptu in aliis autem sequentibus solucionibus licteram dumtaxat de quictacione opportuna. Voluit ipse dominus noster et mandavit ipsos centum florenos quos ipse castellanus sic solverit in suis primo et sequentibus computis singula singulis debite refferendo per presidentem et magistros computorum suorum indifficiliter allocari, ut per licteram domini de testimonio premissorum. Datum Gebennis,

die XXII mensis marcii, anno domini M III^c LIII, sigillo domini sigillatam et manu Iohannis Lestelley ducalis secretarii signatam. Cuius tenor talis est³⁵:

Ludovicus dux Sabaudie, Chablaysii et Auguste, sacri Romani imperii princeps vicariusque perpetuus, marchio in Ytalia, princeps Pedemoncium, Gebennensis et Baugiaci comes, baro Vuaudi et Foucignaci, Nycieque, Vercellarum ac Friburgi etcetera dominus.

Universis serie presencium facimus manifestum quod cum spectabilis et generosa consanguinea nostra carissima domina Margarita de Charny, comitissa Ruppis, ex sua certa sciencia liberaque et spontanea voluntate, ac pro se et suis heredibus et successoribus universis omne ius omnemque accionem³⁶, racionem et dreyturam, querelam, demandam, partem, proprietatem et reclamacionem sibi spectantes et pertinentes ac spectare et pertinere volentes quovis titulo, racione sive causa in summa quatuor millium scutorum auri, eidem domine Margarite per dominum Franciscum de Pallude, militem et olim dominum Varambonis, debitorum racione et ad causam permutacionum et excambiorum inter ipsam dominam Margaritam et predictum dominum Franciscum de Pallude de castris et locis Varambonis et Boligniacy necnon Bellimontis, Montisfortis, Savoisy, Turriacy³⁷ et terre Tonerrensis dudum contractorum, constante publico instrumento per Nycolaum Rossel et Thomam Leydier notarios publicos sub anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo trigesimo quinto et die vicesima quarta mensis novembris recepto et signato, nobis hodie cesserit, remiserit, dederit, donaverit, transtulerit et perpetuo quictaverit sub modis, condicionibus et formis in instrumento publico per secretarium nostrum subscriptum inde recepto lacius expressis et declaratis.

Hinc est quod nos, huiusmodi cessione et remissione actentis considerantesque generis nobilitatem viteque et morum honestatem et alia virtutum ornamenta clarissima, quibus personam ipsius domine Margarite comprobata novimus, cupientes itaque eidem consanguinee nostre, in statu viduali et etate iam senili constitute, liberalitatis nostre partes exhibere, aliisque laudabilibus moti causis et respectibus, ex nostra certa sciencia ac pro nobis et nostris heredibus et successoribus universis, in recompensacionem predictorum quatuor millium scutorum auri, per ipsam dominam Margaritam nobis ut supra cessorum et remissorum, et alias premissorum consideracione, eidem domine Margarite presenti ac pro se et ad eius vitam naturalem dumtaxat recipienti, harum serie assignamus damusque, donamus et largimur, donacione perpetua et irrevocabili, que dicitur, inter vivos, videlicet centum florenos parvi ponderis annuales ex nunc imposterum singulis annis in festo beati Michaelis quamdiu tamen, ut premittitur, vita pocietur humana, levandos et percipiendos de et super quibuscumque preysiis et obvencionibus castellanie nostre Montisluppelli; et quasquidem preysias et obvenciones eidem domine Margarite propter hoc specialiter et expresse obligamus et ypothecamus; non obstantibus eciam quibuscumque aliis assignacionibus ibidem hactenus factis et imposterum forte in adversum faciendis, quibus omnibus haut preferri volumus et eis per eam derogamus, mandantes propterea castellano nostro Montisluppelli presenti et futuro seu eius locumtenenti et sub pena viginti quinque marcharum argenti per eum, si non paruerit, comictenda et nobis applicanda; quos predictos centum florenos annuales de et super huiusmodi preysiis et obvencionibus dicte castellanie nostre Montisluppelli, ex nunc singulis annis termino predicto, eidem domine Margarite aut deputandis ab ea, quamdiu, ut supra, in humanis aget, tradat, solvat et realiter expediat vice nostra recipiendo ab eadem seu deputando in prima solucione cum copia presencium licterarum de confessione et receptu in aliis autem sequentibus solucionibus licteram dumtaxat de quictacione opportunam.

Et nos ipsos centum florenos annuales, quos ipse castellanus sic solverit, eidem in suis primo et sequentibus computis per presidentem et magistros computorum nostrorum precipimus indifficiliter allocari, non obstantibus quibuscumque assignacionum interrupcionibus forte hactenus factis et eciam imposterum generaliter vel specialiter faciendis aliisque in contrarium faciendis vel

³⁵ *All this premise is missing in the Turin document, which begins with what follows, preceded only by the title Pro domina comitissa Ruppis assignacio centum florenorum annualium.*

³⁶ *Dijon*: omnem iusque actionem.

³⁷ *Turin*: Turiacy.

concedendis quibus quo ad hec ex eadem certa sciencia derogamus et derogatum esse volumus per presentes³⁸.

Datum Gebennis die vicesima secunda mensis marcii anno Domini M IIII^c LIII^{ti}o.

Loys.

Per dominum presentibus dominis G(eorgio) episcopo Lausannensi, Ia(cobo) ex comitibus Vallispergie cancellario Sabaudie, Anthonio Procheti cantore Gebennensi, Iohanne de Saxo domino de Bannens, Philiberto de Monthou, Iacobo Richardi advocato generali, Iohanne Championis, Ia(cobo) Meynerii generali et Iohanne Malleti thesaurario.

Iohannes Lestelley.

Quamquidem licteram dominicalem superius insertam exhibet in presenti computo et penes se retinet pro ipsa dicte domine Margarite restituenda, et allocantur sibi predicti et subscripti centum floreni per dictum locumtenentem soluti et librati, vigore dicte lictere dominicalis superius designate; necnon et per licteram publicam discreti viri Francisci Puparti procuratoris, ut asserit, et procuratorio nomine prelibate domine Margarite de confessione et recepta predictorum centum florenorum per ipsum propterea habitorum et realiter receptorum ab eodem locumtenente Petro de Putheo, datam die XVII mensis iunii anno Domini millesimo IIII^c LIII^{ti}o, quam reddit in quodam dimidio folio papirii scriptam et manu Iohannis Gebennensis notarii signatam, necnon de mandato et ex ordinatione supradictorum domini presidentis et magistrorum computorum domini, videlicet.

Doc. 4.

22 March 1453, Geneva.

ASTo, Corte, Protocolli camerale serie nera, prot. 109, fols. 256r-259r (drafted by the duke's secretary, Jean de Lestelley, in his function as notary).

Remissio actionum ad opus illustrissimi domini nostri.

In nomine Domini. Amen.

Per hoc publicum instrumentum cunctis modernis et posteris fiat manifestum quod cum illustrissimus princeps et excelsus dominus dominus noster Ludovicus dux Sabaudie, per suas patentes licteras hodie datas et per me notarium eius secretarium subscriptum confectas et signatas, spectabili et genere domine Margarite de Charny comitisse Ruppis pro se et ad eius vitam naturalem dumtaxat infeudaverit, tradiderit, dederit, concesserit, remiserit et transtulerit castrum, locum, castellaniam et mandamentum Miribelli, cum mero, mixto imperio et iuridicione omnimoda redditibusque, census, serviciis, tributis aliisque omnibus et singulis iuribus et pertinentiis eorumdem subque aliis modis, condicionibus, formis et reservationibus in eisdem licteris laciis expressis et declaratis; item insuper dederit et donaverit, donacione irrevocabili et inter vivos, eidem domine Margarite ad eius, ut supra, vitam naturalem dumtaxat, centum florenos annuales super preysiis et obvencionibus castellanie Montisluppelli assignatos, constantibus eciam aliis ipsius illustrissimi domini nostri ducis licteris hodie datis et per me iandictum notarium secretarium suum confectis et signatis.

Hinc est quod hodie, in presencia mei iandicti notarii secretariiique subscripti et testium inferius nominatorum, personaliter constituta prefata domina Margarita de Charny sciens, prudens et sponte mota et non vi, non dolo, non metu ad hec inducta, aut alia fraudis machinacione circumventa, ymo pocius de suis factis et iuribus plene in hac parte, ut asserit, informata et certificata; actentis maxime et consideratis liberalibus et largifluis infeudacione donacioneque, cessione et remissione supra narratis, eidem domine Margarite per ipsum illustrissimum dominum nostrum ducem, ut premictitur,

³⁸ Turin: follows Datum ut predictus and finishes.

factis; consideratis eciam aliis pluribus favoribus, auxiliis et beneficiis que ab eodem illustrissimo domino nostro, ut asserit, hactenus suscepit, et de quibus immemor et ingrata remanere nolens, aliis quoque laudedignis causis et respectibus, ut asserit, mota, ex eius certa sciencia et voluntate, sponte ac pro se et suis heredibus et successoribus universis et causam habituris ab eadem in predictorum castris et loci Miribelli nec non centum florenorum annualium, aliorum omnium et singulorum, per prefatum illustrissimum dominum nostrum ducem et eidem domine Margarithe ad eius vitam naturalem, ut premittitur, infeudatorum donatorumque, cessorum et remissorum recompensationem et alias premissorum consideratione et quia se sibi placet, prenominato illustrissimo domino nostro duci presenti ac pro se et suis heredibus et successoribus quibuscumque stipulanti et recipienti cedit, concedit, dat et donat donacione pura, perpetua et irrevocabili, contra dicitur, inter vivos, tradit, transfert, quicquid totaliter et remittit eis modo, via et forma quibus melius et securius fieri potest et exprimi, ad utilitatem prefati illustrissimi domini nostri ducis et suorum predictorum, videlicet omnia et singula iura omnesque et singulas acciones, raciones, partes, proprietates, dreyturas, petitiones, querelas, demandas et reclamaciones que et quas ipsa domina Margaritha habet, tenet et possidet habereque tenere et possidere potest et debet sibi que spectant et pertinent, tam racione et ad causam excambiorum et permutacionum inter ipsam dominam Margaritham et dominum Franciscum de Palude, olim dominum Varambonis, de castris et locis Varambonis et Boligniacci eidem domine Margarithe per dictum dominum Franciscum in excambium tradictis, necnon de castris et locis Bellimontis, Montisfortis et aliis per ipsam dominam Margaritham eidem domino Francisco eciam in excambium tradictis dudum contractarum, constante publico instrumento per Nycolaum Rossel et Thomam Leidyer notarios publicos, sub anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo trigesimo quinto et die vicesima quarta novembris, ut in eo legitime recepto et signato quam alias quovis titulo, racione sive causa videlicet, in et super predicto castro, burgo, loco, castellania et toto mandamento Varambonis illiusque feudis, retrofeudis hominibus, homagiis, redditibus, censis, serviciis, tributis necnon mero, mixto imperio et iurisdictione omnimoda aliisque iuribus, pertinentiis et appendenciis universis, necnon in somma quatuor millium scutorum auri per dictum dominum Franciscum de Palude eidem domine Margarithe, ut asserit, debitorum et in predicto permutacionum instrumento comprehensorum ad habendum, iuvandum, tenendum, gaudendum, utendum, fruendum et possidendum per prefatum illustrissimum dominum nostrum ducem et suos predictos huiusmodi castrum, locum et pertinencias Varambonis accionesque et iura eidem domino nostro per dictam dominam Margaritham ut supra cessa, donata et remissa et quicquid de illis eisdem deinceps placuerit faciendum et disponendum, salvis tamen ac per pactum expressum solenni stipulacione vallatum eidem domine Margarithe reservato que sequuntur.

Et primo omnibus et singulis arreragiis, remanenciis et aliis creditis quibuscumque eidem domine Margarithe in ipso loco, castellania et toto mandamento Varambonis, pro toto tempore preterito usque ad diem presentem, quavis racione sive causa debitis, et que arreragia, remanencias et credita ipsa domina Margaritha, vel deputandus ab ea, exigere et recuperare possint et valeant, prout et quemadmodum id facere poterant ante cessionem presentem.

Item, quod predicta domina Margaritha per premissa non sit nec astricta vel alias obligata intelligatur ad huiusmodi acciones et iura per eam ut supra cessa, donata et remissa manumtenendum vel alias de evictione teneatur, nisi ut dumtaxat per tradicionem et expedicionem in ipsius illustrissimi domini nostri vel deputandorum ab eo manibus faciendum supra designati permutacionis instrumenti omnique et singulorum aliorum instrumentorum, titulorum, documentorum, licterarum et informacionum ipsa iura et acciones concernencium et penes ipsam dominam Margaritham et in sui potestate consistencium et eciam in futurum ad manus suas deveniendorum et que instrumenta, titulos, informaciones et documenta ipsa domina Margaritha eidem illustrissimo domino nostro duci me iamdicto notario secretario que ut supra stipulanti tradere et expedire convenit et promittit huius publici instrumenti tenore.

Quibus salvis et mediantibus, prefata domina Margaritha pro se et suis predictis de huius castro, loco, castellania et pertinentiis Varambonis aliisque omnibus et singulis iuribus et accionibus, racionibus querelis, petitionibus et reclamacionibus in eisdem necnon in predictis quatuor milibus scutis auri

eidem spectantibus et pertinentibus spectareque et pertinere valentibus et per eam ut supra cassis, donatis et remissis se devestit, et prefatum illustrissimum dominum nostrum ducem ut supra stipulantem concessione huius publici instrumenti investit, et in possessionem corporalem vel quasi ponit et inducit, constituens eciam se illa tenere et possidere vice et precario nomine prefati illustrissimi domini nostri ducis et suorum predictorum donec et quousque illorum corporalem possessionem fuerit assequuti ad quam apprehendendam et sibi retinendam dat eis facultatem omnimodam nichil alterius iuris, partis, proprietatis, domini, usagii aut cuiuslibet reclamacionibus in eisdem castro, loco et castellania Varambonis aliisque iuribus et accionibus supra cassis, donatis et remissis retinendo sed ea omnia in ipsum illustrissimum dominum nostrum ut supra stipulantem totaliter transferendo ipsum eciam illustrissimum dominum nostrum ducem in locum suum tanquam verum dominum huiusmodi iurium et accionum ponendo, constituendo et subrogando ita eciam quod eidem illustrissimo domino nostro duci et suis predictis liceat a modo huiusmodi iura et acciones prosequi et experiri adversus quoscumque, in iudicio et extra, prout et quemadmodum ipsa domina Margarita id facere poterat et debebat ante cessionem et remissionem presentem.

Promictens propterea ipsa domina Margarita pro se et suis predictis iuramento suo, evangeliis Dei corporaliter tactis, et sub expressa obligacione et ypotheca omnium et singulorum bonorum suorum, mobilium et immobilium, presencium et futurorum, quorumcunque huiusmodi cessionem, remissionem, donacionem aliaque omnia et singula in hoc publico instrumento contenta, ratas, gratas, firmas et vallidas rataque grata, firma et vallida habere perpetue et tenere in nulloque contra facere, dicere vel venire, clam vel palam, tacite vel expresse, per se vel alium, directe vel indirecte, quovis quesito colore, quinyimo supradicta instrumenta, titulos, licteras, informaciones et documenta huiusmodi iura et acciones concernencia eidem illustrissimo domino nostro duci vel suis predictis illico, ut premictitur, tradere et expedire.

Renuncians in hoc facto ipsa domina Margarita pro se et suis predictis et sub vinculo iuramenti sui iam prestiti omni accioni et excepcioni, doli, mali, vis, metus et in factis, condicioni sive cause ob causam vel ex iniusta causa iuri per quod deceptis in suis contractibus subvenitur iuridicenti donacionem propter merita factam non valere nisi de meritis doceatur iuridicenti donacionem quingentos aureos excedentem sine iudicis insinuacione factam non valere beneficio Veleyani et legi Iulie de feudo dotali non allienando omnique iuri et privilegio in favorem mulierum introductis aliisque omnibus et singulis iuribus canonicis, civilibus et municipalibus, patrie et locorum consuetudinibus quibus ad veniendum contra premissa aut eorum aliqua se iuvare posset aut in aliquo tueri et signanter iuridicenti generalem renunciacionem non valere nisi precesserit specialis.

De quibus premissis omnibus et singulis prefata domina Margarita voluit et requisivit a me, iamdicto notario secretario subscripto, ad opus prefati illustrissimi domini nostri ducis et eciam ipsius domine Margarite, unum et plura tenoris eiusdem publica instrumenta dictamen sapientum dictanda et corrigenda si opus sit facti tamen substancia in aliquo non mutata.

Acta et data fuerunt premissa Gebennis, in domo conventus fratrum Minorum, videlicet in camera cubiculari prefati illustrissimi domini nostri, presentibus illustri Petro de Borbonio necnon spectabilibus et egregiis dominis Ludovico Francisci domino Heremorum milite et Iacobo Richardi legum doctore advocato Sabaudie, presentibus testibus ad premissa vocatis et rogatis, die vicesima secunda marcii, anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo tercio, prime indicionis.

Doc. 5.

22 March 1453, Geneva

ADC, B7511, 29-30 (drafted by the duke's secretary, Jean de Lestelley, in an account roll of Jean de Saix, castellan of Châteauneuf-en-Valromey, from 1454-1456).

On the left margin: Assignacio facta domine Margarite de Charny, comitisse Ruppis.

Libravit spectabili domine Margarite de Charny, comitisse Ruppis, quos dudum sibi ex eius certa sciencia et voluntate spontanea pro se, et sive ad vitam dicte domine Margarite dumtaxat, donavit pensionem annuam mille florenorum parvi ponderis levandam per eam et percipiendam, quamdiu domina, ut premictitur, vita pocietur humana, de et super quibuscunque preysiis et obvencionibus castellanie Castrinovi, quas eidem domine Margarite propter hoc specialiter et expresse obligavit et ypothecavit, non obstantibus quibuscunque assignacionibus ibidem acthenus factis et in posterum faciendis, quibus hanc preferri voluit et eis per eam voluit, ut per licteram domini de testimonio premissorum cum mandato solvendi et habita confessione de recepta allocandi dicto castellano directam, datam Gebennis, die vicesima nona mensis marcii, anno Domini millesimo IIII^c quinquagesimo tercio, cuius tenor talis est:

Ludovicus dux Sabaudie, Chablaysii et Auguste, sacri Romani imperii princeps vicariusque perpetuus, marchio in Ytalia, princeps Pedemoncium, Gebennensis <et> Baugiaci comes, baro Vuaudi et Foucignaci, Nycieque Vercellarum ac Friburgi et cetera dominus.

Universis serie presentis facimus manifestum quod nos, considerantes generis nobilitatem viteque et morum honestatem et alia virtutum ornamenta celeberrima, quibus spectabilem et generosam dominam Margaritam de Charney, comitissam Ruppis et dominam de Villeseysse, consanguineam nostram carissimam comprobata, nos, actendentes eciam intimam et sinceram affectionem et benevolenciam singularem quam erga nos semper gesserit, et insuper considerantes nonnulla clarissima et gratissima obsequia per eam nobis hactenus impensa, desiderantes itaque et omnino volentes, eidem domine Margarite in statu viduali et etatem iam grandecia, constituteque eciam, prout nobis exposuit, apud nos et patriam nostram reliquam etatem agere preposuit, pro meritis respondere liberalitatisque nostre partes exhibere, ut inde statum persone sue congruentem honestius sustinere possit. Ex nostra igitur certa sciencia et voluntate spontanea, ac pro nobis et heredibus et successoribus universis, prefate domine Margarite de Charnyo presenti, et cum graciaram accione acceptanti, ac pro se, et ad eius vitam naturalem dumtaxat, stipulanti et recipienti, huiusmodi virtutum et meritorum suorum intuitu et alias premissorum consideracione, et quia sic nobis placet, et hoc ultra decem millia scutorum auri, pro semel per nos eidem aliis litteris nostris patentibus hodie donatorum, harum serie largimus, donamus constituimusque et assignamus pensionem annuam mille florenorum parvi ponderis, levandam per eam et percipiendam quamdiu, ut premictitur, vita posietur humanis, de et super quibuscunque preysiis et obvencionibus castellanie nostre Castrinovi.

Quas eidem domine Margarite propter hec specialiter et expresse obligamus et ypothecamus, non obstantibus eciam quibuscunque aliis assignacionibus ibidem hactenus factis et in posterum forte faciendis, quibus omnibus hanc presentem voluimus et eis per eam derogamus, promictentes hoc ideo bona fide in verbo principis ac iuramento nostro ac sancta Dei evvangellia corporaliter prestito, et sub nostrorum omnium bonorum expressa obligacione huiusmodi annue pensionis assignacionem et licteras nostras eidem domine Margarite quamdiu, ut premictitur, vita pocietur humana, tenere et observare in nulloque contra facere quomodolibet vel venire sub omni eciam alia solemnitate iurisque et facti renunciacione ad necessaria pariter et cauthela.

Mandantes propterea, actente precipientes, castellano nostro Castrinovi presenti et futuro eiusque locumtenenti, et sub pena quinquaginta marcharum argenti per eum quociens non paruerit, commictenda et nobis applicanda quatenus quociens ex nunc singulis annis in festo beati Michaelis predictos mille florenos annuales de et super redditibus, preciiis victualium et aliis quibuscunque preysiis et obvencionibus dicte castellanie nostre Castrinovi prefate domine Margarite de Charneyo, seu eius legitimo procuratori ad hec constituto, quamdiu tamen ipsa, ut premictitur, aget in humanis et non ultra, libret et solvat et realiter expediat vice nostre recipiendo ab eadem, seu eius predicto procuratore, in prima solucione cum copia presencium licterarum opportunam de confessione et recepta, in sequentibus autem solucionibus licteram dumtaxat de quictacione opportunam.

Et nos hoc ideo damus expressius expressive in mandatis presidenti et magistris computorum nostrorum quod huiusmodi assignacionem et licteras nostras utique observent illosque mille florenos annuales, quos ipse castellanus presens et futurus sic solverit, eidem in mense primo sequentibus dicte castellanie computis singula singulis debite refferendo, intrent et allocent sine difficultate quacumque nullo alio a nobis super hoc expectato mandato.

Datum Gebennis die vicesima nona mensis marcii, anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo tercio.

Loys.

Per dominum presentibus illustri eius consanguineo Petro de Borbonio necnon dominis Ia(cobo) ex comitibus Vallispergie cancellario Sabaudie, Ia(cobo) comite Montismaioris, Ludovico de Cabilone, L(udovico) domino Heremorum et Ludovico Bonivardi baillivo Sabaudie.

Lestelley.

Cuiusquidem lictere superius inserte copiam reddit manu in hanc copiam posita, notario signatam. Et solvit sibi dictus vice castellanus in excuracionem dictorum mille florenorum parvi ponderis subscriptos octiescentum florenos et decem denarios grossorum parvi ponderis. Et hoc pro anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo tercio, ut per confessionem Francisci Prepositi nomine dicte Margarite factam de subscripta quantitate per dictum vicecastellanum ut supra soluta. Data fuerunt die sexta mensis augusti, anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo quarto. Quam reddit in quadam cedula papiri scriptam, et manu dicti Francisci signatam. Reddit et eciam quandam notam instrumenti, per quam dicta domina Margarita predictam confessionem sive quitacionem omniaque et singula superius contenta et descripta ac in dicta confessione mencionata laudavit, ratificavit et approbavit eaque omnia ac singula per dictum Franciscum Prepositi nomine eiusdem domine Margarite facta et gesta, rata, grata, firma et vallida habere voluit perpetuo et tenere tanquam si per eam facta forent et gesta, receptam sub anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo sexto et die vicesima secunda mensis novembris, manu Nycollini Boniluca notarii signatam. Quibus actentis, sibi hic allocatur dicta et subscripta quantitas necnon de mandato nobilium et potentis domini Guiliemi de Vixiaco presidenti, Maffredi Buczonis, Stephani Rosseti, Iacobi Maynerii et Iohannis Malleti, ex magistris computorum domini. Facto die vicesima mensis decembris, anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo sexto.

Summa librate. VIII^c florenos X denarios grossorum parvi ponderis.

Doc. 6.

Early October 1454

ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, mazzo 84, fol. 216v (drafted by the notary Jean Duclos).

Mutilated document.

Remissio castri Boloniaci pro domina Margarita de Charny.

On the left margin: Signavit Clauso.

Ludovicus, et cetera. Universis serie, et cetera. Quod cum fortalicia locaque Miribelli et Buluniaci ex improvida custodia deffectuque pro vigillis advisus horum quibus commissa aderant in novissima guerra, per quosdam nobis et patrie nostre adversantes a Dalphinali patria prodeuntes ad manus ipsorum tunc adversariorum et hostium devenerint, quamquam per nos ex post, immensis cum expensis supradictis recuperata, quequidem improvida custodia magnifice consanguinee nostre carissime domine Margarite de Charny, Ruppis comitisse, seu sui parte deputatis abstulentur et varii

alii deffectus inde impingebantur, propter que nostri fiscali ex parte pretendebatur ipsam magnificam dominam Margaritam ab omni iure sibi in dictis fortaliciis et locis quoquomodo competente cecidisse, quod inde illa plene ad nos devoluta esse; ad que parte ipsius magnifice domine Margarite exponendo in sue vim deffensionis responderetur quod quicquid contigit in dictis fortaliciis atque locis, hoc non fuit sui culpa vel deffectus, nec unquam comperietur ipsam dolum circa hoc commissum.

Cum verissimiliter hoc cedat in sui proprium detrimentum, nec credibile est vel extimandum quem piam sui ipsius dispendii querere causam supplicando nichil nobis humilime ut pium ita hec dignaremur vergere intuitum cuius supplicacionem pridem tamen de merito negari huiusmodi fidedigno relatu cerciorati, pie annuentes potissime actento quod mulier est et indolis, cui tanta quam si foret vir non est inferenda culpa. Quo fit ut eam mite tractare volentes [...]

Doc. 7.

20 November 1454, Rumilly en Albanais

ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, mazzo 90, fols. 76r-77v (drafted by the notary Jean Duclos).

On the left margin: Signavit Clauso.

Ludovicus, dux Sabaudie, Chablaysii, etc. Universis seriem presencium perlecturis notum facimus atque manifestum quod cum pridem, nostris aliis patentibus litteris, datis Gebennis die vicesima secunda mensis marcii, anno millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo tercio, sigilloque nostro maiori sigillatis, presentibus annexis, infeudaverimus ac in feudum nobile, ligium, antiquum, paternum et avitum dederimus et concesserimus spectabili et magnifice consanguinee nostre domine Margarite de Charny, comitisse Ruppis, ad eius vitam dumtaxat naturalem et non ultra, videlicet castrum, villam, locum, burgum, districtum, castellaniam et mandamentum nostrum Miribelli, unacum omnibus et singulis iuribus et pertinenciis eiusdem, necnon mero, mixto imperio et iuridicione omnimoda alta, media et bassa, illarumque exerciciis, iuribus, commoditatibus et emolumentis universis, ac aliis in ipsius infeudacionis hiis annexis litteris peramplius expressis et declaratis, ex postque certis ex causis eandem dominam Margaritam ab ipsis infeudatis duxerimus semovendam; volentesque illi condignam de predictis infeudatis facere compensacionem, ex nostra certa sciencia pro nobisque et nostris eidem domine Margarite pro se, et ad eius vitam dumtaxat naturalem, in recompensacionem dictorum primitus ut supra infeudatorum, harum serie infeudamus ac in feudum nobile, ligium, antiquum, paternum et avitum quodque vim, naturam, condicionem et efficaciam feudi nobilis, ligii, antiqui, paterni et aviti, prorsus sapiat et importet, subque homagio et fidelitate nobilibus et ligiis per eam nobis prestandis, damus, donamus, cedimus penitus et remittimus, videlicet sepe dictum castrum, locum, districtum, castellaniam et mandamentum Clarimontis, unacum mero, mixto imperio et iuridicione omnimoda, alta, media et bassa, ac illorum exerciciis, iuribus, commoditatibus, emolumentis universis, necnon feudis, retrofeudis, homagiis, ruralibus hominibusque, feudatariis, emphiteotis, censeris, tenementariis, iusticialibus, canonibus, censibus, serviciis, tailliis, redditibus, usagiis, laudibus, vendis, commissionibus, excheutis, successionibus, gardis, excubiis, custodiis, corvatis, angariis, perangariis, bampnis, clamis, mulctis, condempnacionibus, obvencionibus, pedagiis, leydis, decimis, pascuis, venacionibus et aliis quibuscumque proventibus, tributis et obvencionibus ac eciam nemoribus, pratis, vineis, terris cultis et incultis, montibus, planis et aliis finibus et territoriis, aquis, aquagiis, aquarum decursibus, furnis, molendinis, rayssiis, follonis, baptitoriis et aliis artificiis domibusque, grangiis, edificiis et indominaturis necnon fondis, ingressibus, egressibus, pertinenciis et appendenciis universis.

Cumque plena et omnimoda potestate ibidem iudicem, servientem et alios officarios ponendi, constituendi, tenendi et destituendi, necnon erigendi, plantandi, manutenendi furchas, plotos,

pillones, pilloria aliaque patibula et suppliciorum artificia ad exercitium et executionem huiusmodi meri, mixti imperii et omnimode iurisdictionis necessaria et opportuna, et generaliter quicquid iuris, actionis, rationis, partis, proprietatis, usagii, domini ac dreiture habemus, tenemus, et possidemus habereque, tenere et possidere possumus, nobisque spectat et pertinet in predictis castro, loco, castellania et mandamento Clarimontis ac pertinentiis et appendenciis eorumdem quovis titulo, ratione sive causa, sub condicionibus tamen modo, forma, reservationibus et aliis adiectionibus consimilibus in litteris infeudacionis pridem facte dicte domine Margarite de castro, loco, villa, castellania et mandamento Miribelli annotatis, quas hic pro replicatis haberi volumus. Specialiter et pro expressis adiecto et insuper, quod dilectus fidelis scutifer noster Franciscus Bonivardi, qui castellanus modernus in dicto loco, castellania et mandamento Clarimontis per nos extitit constitutus, a castellanie officio infeudacionis presentis vigore nequamquam per ipsam dominam Margaritam destitui debeat vel possit, verum ipse Franciscus in eodem castellanie officio suum constituere lucumtenentem debeat unum, nobisque gratum fidelemque et expertum, quem ipsa domina Margarita duxerit eligendum, quique de redditibus, exitibus, proventibus, emolumentis et aliis annuis valoribus castri, loci, mandamenti et castellanie predictorum eidem domine Margarite respondere teneatur, et legitimum computum ac debitam rationem reddere.

Eandem dominam Margaritam de premissis castro, loco et mandamento iuribusque et pertinentiis eorumdem propterea investientes, ac in possessionem realem, actualem et corporalem vel quasi ponentes et inducentes, harum nostrarum concessione litterarum promittentes, propterea bona fide nostra in verbo principis subque nostrorum omnium et singulorum expressa obligacione bonorum huiusmodi infeudacionem, cessionem, remissionem omniaque et singula, in hiis litteris nostris contenta, ratas, gratas, firmas et validas rataque, grata, firma, et valida habere perpetuo atque tenere, in nulloque contra facere, dicere quomodolibet vel venire, quonymo ipsa omnia per nos ut supra infeudata et in recompensacionem tradita eidem domine Margarite quamdiu, ut supra, vixerit, in humanis manutenere, deffendere et preservare ab omnibus et contra omnes, in iudicio et extra, nostris propriis sumptibus et expensis, eciam sub omni alia solemnitate iurisque et facti renunciacione ad hec necessaria pariter et cautela.

Mandantes eapropter baillivo, iudici et procuratori Gebennesii ac ceteris officariis nostris modernis et posteris ipsorumque loca tenentibus, et cuilibet eorumdem quatenus huiusmodi infeudacionem, cessionem, remissionem et litteras nostras prefate domine Margarite, quamdiu comes humane vite fuerit, in omnibus et per omnia teneant et inconcusse observent ac per quoscumque teneri, actendi et illibate observari faciant, illesas in nulloque contrafaciant quomodolibet vel opponant quonymo ipsam dominam Margaritam, seu eius legitimum procuratorem, in possessionem corporalem, realem et actualem predictorum castri, loci, castellanie et mandamenti Clarimontis iurumque et pertinentiarum eorumdem per nos, ut supra, infeudatorum, et in recompensacionem traditorum, visis presentibus, ponant et inducant positamque et inductam in eadem manuteneant, tueantur et deffendant adversus quoscumque, sic quod plena percepcione eorumdem infeudatorum et in recompensacionem, ut supra, traditorum frui valeat eadem domina Margarita, quoad vixerit, et gaudere.

Dantes preterea presentibus in mandatis presidenti et magistris computorum nostrorum quod huiusmodi infeudacionem et litteras nostras eidem domine Margarite, ad eius vitam naturalem, ut supra, teneant et inviolabiliter observent, ipsumque castrum et locum, pro eo tempore, de computis et demanio nostris detrahant, regulis et constitutionibus ipsorum computorum et aliis forte in contrarium edictis et concessis, non obstantibus quibuscumque quibus derogamus, eciam quoad hec ex eadem certa sciencia nulloque alio a nobis super hoc expectato mandato. De quibus premissis has litteras nostras, sigilli nostri munimine roboratas, in testimonium duximus concedendas.

Datas Rumilliaci in Albanesio, die vicesima novembris, anno Domini M IIII^c LIII^{to}.

Per dominum presentibus dominis Ia(cobo) comite Mont(ismaio)ris, Martino Le Franc, Francisco de Thomatis, Io(hanne) Championis, Laurencio de Fragiis, Mermeto de Iuria, Iacobo Meynerii.

Doc. 8.

11 April 1455, Chambéry

ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, mazzo 90, fols. 167v-168v (drafted by the notary Jean Duclos).

Ludovicus, dux Sabaudie, Chablaysii, etc. Universis seriem presencium perlecturis notum facimus atque manifestum quod cum pridem, nostris aliis patentibus litteris, datis Gebennis die vicesima secunda mensis marcii, anno millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo tercio, sigilloque nostro maiori sigillatis, presentibus annexis, infeudaverimus ac in feudum nobile, ligium, antiquum, paternum et avitum dederimus et concesserimus spectabili et magnifice consanguinee nostre carissime domine Margarite de Charny, comitisse Ruppis, ad eius vitam dumtaxat naturalem et non ultra, videlicet castrum, villam, locum, burgum, districtum, castellaniam et mandamentum nostrum Miribelli, unacum omnibus et singulis iuribus et pertinenciis eiusdem, necnon mero, mixto imperio et iuridicione omnimoda alta, media et bassa, illarumque exerciciis, iuribus, commoditatibus et emolumentis universis, ac aliis in ipsius infeudacionis hiis annexis litteris peramplius expressis et declaratis, ex postque certis ex causis eandem dominam Margaritam ab ipsis infeudatis duxerimus destituendam; volentesque illi condignam de predictis infeudatis facere compensacionem, ex nostra certa sciencia pro nobisque et nostris eidem domine Margarite pro se, et ad eius vitam dumtaxat naturalem, loco et in recompensacionem dictorum primitus, ut supra, infeudatorum, harum serie infeudamus ac in feudum nobile, ligium, antiquum, paternum et avitum quodque vim, naturam, conditionem et efficaciam feudi nobilis, ligii, antiqui, paterni et aviti, prorsus sapiat et importet, subque homagio et fidelitate nobilibus et ligiis per eam nobis prestandis, damus, donamus, cedimus penitus et remittimus, videlicet castrum, locum, districtum, castellaniam et mandamentum Flumeti, unacum mero, mixto imperio et iuridicione omnimoda alta, media et bassa, ac illorum exerciciis, iuribus, commoditatibus et emolumentis universis, necnon feudis, retrofeudis, homagiis, ruralibus hominibusque, feudatariis, emphiteotis, censeris, tenementariis, iusticialibus, canonibus, censibus, serviciis, tailliis, redditibus, usagiis, laudibus, vendis, commissionibus, excheutis, successionibus, gardis, excubiis, custodiis, corvatis, angariis, perangariis, bampnis, clamis, mulctis, condemnationibus, obventionibus, pedagogiis, leydis, decimis, pascuis, venacionibus et aliis quibuscumque proventibus, tributis et obventionibus ac eciam nemoribus, pratis, vineis, terris cultis et incultis, montibus, planis, et aliis finibus et territoriis, aquis, aquagiis, aquarum decursibus, furnis, molendinis, rayssiis, follonis, baptitoriis et aliis artificiis domibusque, grangiis, edificiis et indominaturis necnon fondis, ingressibus, egressibus, pertinenciis et appendenciis universis.

Cumque plena et omnimoda potestate ibidem iudicem, castellanum, servientem et alios officarios ponendi, constituendi, tenendi et destituendi, necnon erigendi, plantandi, manutenendi furchas, plotos, pillones, pilloria aliaque patibula et suppliciorum artificia ad exercicium et exequucionem huiusmodi meri, mixti imperii et omnimode iuridicionis necessaria et opportuna, et generaliter quitquid iuris, accionis, racionis, partis, proprietatis, usagii, domini ac dreytur habemus, tenemus et possidemus habereque tenere et possidere possumus, nobisque spectat et pertinet in predictis castro, loco, castellania et mandamento Flumeti ac pertinenciis et appendenciis eorumdem quovis titulo, racione seu causa, sub conditionibus tamen modo, forma et reservacionibus adiectionibusque aliis consimilibus in dictis annexis litteris infeudacionis pridem facte dicte domine Margarite de castro, loco, villa, castellania et mandamento Miribelli annotatis, quas hic pro replicatis haberi volumus.

Specialiter et pro expressis adicientes quod quem pro castellano illa duxerit eligendum, nobis ante aliqualem officii castellanie ipsius loci Flumeti possessionis adheptionem significare teneatur, ut si acceptus fuerit illum confirmare valeamus. Eandem dominam Margaritam de premissis castro, loco et mandamento Flumeti iuribusque et pertinenciis eorumdem propterea investientes, ac in possessionem realem, actualem et corporalem vel quasi ponentes et inducentes, harum nostrarum concessione litterarum promittentes, propterea bona fide nostra in verbo principis subque nostrorum omnium et singulorum expressa obligacione bonorum huiusmodi infeudacionem, cessionem,

remissionem omniaque et singula, in hiis litteris nostris contenta, ratas, gratas, firmas et validas rataque, grata, firma et valida habere perpetuo atque tenere, in nulloque contra facere, dicere quomodolibet vel venire, quinymo ipsa omnia per nos ut supra infeudata et in recompensationem tradita eidem domine Margarite quamdiu, ut supra, vixerit, in humanis manutenere, deffendere et preservare ab omnibus et contra omnes, in iudicio et extra, nostris propriis sumptibus et expensis, eciam sub omni alia solemnitate iurisque et facti renunciacione ad hec necessaria pariter et cautela.

Mandantes eapropter baillivo, iudici et procuratori Foucigniati necnon castellanis Salanchie, Bellifortis et Montisgadii ac ceteris officariis nostris modernis et posteris ipsorumque loca tenentibus, et cuilibet eorumdem quatenus huiusmodi infeudacionem et recompensationem ac litteras nostras eidem domine Margarite, quamdiu comes humane vite fuerit, in omnibus et per omnia teneant, actendant et inconcussa observent ac per quoscumque teneri, actendi et illibate observari faciant, illesas in nulloque contrafaciant quomodolibet vel opponant quinymo ipsam dominam Margaritam, seu eius legitimum procuratorem, in possessionem corporalem, realem et actuaalem predictorum castri, loci, castellanie et mandamenti Flumeti iuriumque et pertinenciarum eorumdem per nos, ut supra, infeudatorum, et in recompensationem traditorum, visis presentibus, ponant et inducant positamque et inductam in eadem manuteneant, teneantur et deffendant adversus quoscumque, sicque plena percepcione eorumdem infeudatorum et in recompensationem, ut supra, traditorum frui valeat eadem domina Margarita, quoad vixerit, et gaudere.

Dantes preterea presentibus in mandatis presidenti et magistris computorum nostrorumque huiusmodi infeudacionem, recompensationem et litteras nostras eidem domine Margarite, ad eius vitam naturalem, ut supra, teneant et inviolabiliter observent, ipsumque castrum, locum et mandamentum, pro eo tempore vite dumtaxat naturalis, dicte domine Margarite de computis et demanio nostris detrahant, regulis et constitutionibus ipsorum computorum et aliis forte in contrarium edictis et concessis, non obstantibus quibuscunque quibus derogamus, eciam quoad hec ex eadem certa sciencia nullo alio a nobis super hoc expectato mandato. De quibus premissis has litteras nostras, sigilli nostri munimine roboratas, in testimonium duximus concedendas.

Datas Chamberiaci, die undecima aprilis, anno Domini millesimo quatercentesimo quinquagesimo quinto.

Per dominum presentibus dominis Iacobo ex comitibus Vallispergie cancellario, Ludovico de Sabaudia marescallo dominoque Raconixii, Iohanne domino Choutagnie, Martino Le Franc preposito Lausanensi, Ludovico Soscares conservatore generali etc., Francisco de Thomatis presidente Gebennesii, Humberto Velueti, Laurencio de Fragiis iudice generali etc., Balthesare Arnaudi advocato fiscali etc., Iacobo Meynerii ex magistris computorum.

Doc. 9.

13 August 1455, Chambéry

ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, mazzo 105, fols. 34r-34v (drafted by the notary Jean Duclos).

Pro domina comitissa Ruppis.

Ludovicus, et cetera, dilectis baillivo, iudici et procuratori Breyssie necnon castellanis Pontis Yndis, Perogiarum, Castellionis Dombarum ac ceteris officariis nobis tam auctoritate quam iuramento submissis quibus presentes pervenerint, seu ipsorum vicesgerentes, salutem.

Gravi cum querela nobis exposuit magna consanguinea nostra carissima domina Marguerita de Charny, comitissa Ruppis, quod licet actenus ad censam seu firmam tradiderit dilecto fideli nostro Antonio de Palude, domino de Covent, castra sua Varambonis et Boligniaci spacio sex annorum sub

firma cuiuslibet ipsorum sex centum florenorum parvi ponderis solvendorum certis annis inter eos conventis, quorum sex annorum iam lapsi sunt duo et ultra.

Tamen ab eodem Anthonio, quamvis fuerit debite interpellatus et cothidie interpellatur, per eum conventa obtinere non potest, sed in ea pervalde remanet frustrata; ob quod nobis humiliter supplicari fecit, ut eidem super premissis de remedio provideri dignemur opportuno, mandando premissis actentis dicta castra Varambonis et Boligniacci sibi restitui accensamento, et aliis inter eos conventis non obstantibus. Cuius supplicacioni favore benivolo inclinati, potissime ut ipsa domina Marguerita in toto non maneat frustrata utque locum habeat in dicione nostra, in quo honeste possit residere, et certis aliis bonis et iustis de causis, volumus vobisque et vestrum cuilibet in solidum harum serie districte iniungendo mandamus, et sub pena centum librarum forcium per vestrum quemlibet qui non paruerit commictenda et nobis irremissibiliter applicanda, quatenus, visis presentibus, locum predictum Boligniacci memorate domine Marguerite restituitis et expediatis restituique et expediri cum plenaria fructuum percepcione faciatis, et eam in possessione illius et pertinenciarum eiusdem manuteneatis iubeamus, et deffendatis ab omnibus vi, violencia et aliis quibuscumque illicitis adversus quoscumque; inhibendo, magnis sub penis, prefato Anthonio ne in dicto castro de fructuum et emolumentorum ipsius quorumcumque percepcione eandem neque suos aliquo pacto impediat; neque impediri presumat, directe vel indirecte, quin ymo eandem et suos predictos in premissis quietam teneat, et pacifficam absque molestia eidem in premissis quomodolibet inferenda. Insuper, ne ipsi Anthonio aliqua iusta subsit conquerendi occasio, ut bonus amor et bona pax sic maneat inter partes, volumus et harum serie decernimus ut, durantibus dictis quatuor annis restantibus, teneat dictum castrum Varambonis, modis et formis quo ipsum presencialiter tenet absque alicuius computi reddicione ipsi domine Marguerite seu cuique alteri de preisiis vel emolumentis dicti loci Varambonis fienda. Salva dumtaxat firma seu censa duorum annorum iam preteritorum, quam eidem domine Marguerita realiter solvere tenebatur sive prothelatur quantum forniverat commoditate dictarum preisiarum Varambonis privari.

Nos enim omnia et singula suprascripta fieri et adimpleri iubemus, pactis, convencionibus, licteris et mandatis, eciam opposicionibus et aliis quibuscumque incontrarium facientibus non obstantibus et reiectis, nulloque alio a nobis expectato mandato.

Datum Chambariacci, die XIII augusti, M III^c LV, presentibus omnibus, et cetera.

Doc. 10.

13 August 1455, Chambéry

ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, mazzo 105, fol. 35r (drafted by the notary Jean Duclos).

A nostre bien amé et feal estimé Anthoine de la Pallu, seigneur d'Escorent.

Le duc de Savoye. Nous vous saluons. Dame Marguerite de Charny, contesse de la Roche, nous a expousé, fait dire et remonstrer qu'elle n'a aucunes rentes desquelles puisse vivre ne aultrement substenir son estat, maison ne habitation en nostre paix où bonnement puisse fere sa residence que à Varambon ou à Bulignyeu. Si avons advist, pour contenter et vous et elle, que d'ores en avant vous luy doyés bailler et relaxer le chastel dudit Bolignyeu et les appertenances, et l'en laisser jouir et user pleinement et paisiblement sans de ce ne des prinses vous mesler en aucune maniere. Et en oultre que prennés, tenés et levés, durant les quatre ans qui sont encores à venir de vostre terme, ledit lieu de Varambon, ensemble les prinses et aultres quelxcunques drois et appartenances, franchement et quictement, sans en rendre compte de elle ny de aultre, excepté des deux prinses passéz, desquelles seres tenuz luy randre compte et fere playn payement. Et ainsi par noz aultres lettres patentes l'avons mandé a estre fait, et pour ce qu'il nous semble que c'est vostre avantaige et prouffit nous voulons et

vous mandons que ne vennés aucunement au contraire, en tant que desirés nous complaire. Et de Dieu soyés. Escript ut supra.

Doc. 11.

13 August 1455, Chambéry

ASTo, Corte, Protocolli ducali serie rossa, mazzo 105, fol. 34v

Pro castellano Boligniaci.

Ludovicus, dilectis baillivo, iudici et procuratori Breissie et de Villariis ceterisque nostris et ipsius loci et comitatus eiusdem commissariis et officiariis, quibus spectabit et presentes pervenerint, seu ipsorum vicesgerentibus, salutem.

Visa supplicatione presenti annexa et consideratis contentis in ea, affectantes magnifice consanguinee nostre carissime domine Marguerite de Charney comitisse Ruppis supradictis in cunctis possibilibus complacere, vobis et vestrum cuilibet harum serie inhibemus sub pena dugentum quinquaginta marcharum argenti [per] vestrum et cetera³⁹, ne [omnia] ipsius supplicantis hominesque pro quibus supplicat supplicationum occasione in personis sive bonis de cetero inquietetis seu inquietari per quemquam pactiamini vel permictatis, omnia actenus tentata contra eosdem ad pristinum statum reducat⁴⁰. Nos enim sic fieri volumus et iubemus, quibuscumque lictis in contrarium facientibus reiectis et non obstantibus nulloque alio a nobis expectato mandato. Datum ut supra.

³⁹ sub... cetera *added in left margin and marked for insertion*

⁴⁰ omnia... reducat⁴⁰ *added in lower margin and marked for insertion*