

Gervase le Vulre and his wife Joan, 21 January 1441 (C 66/450, m. 21; *CPR 1436-41*, p. 555).

The king to all to whom [these letters shall come], etc, greetings. Know that, in consideration of the gracious service that our blessed and faithful secretary, Master Gervase de Vulre, has hitherto given to our most beloved lord and progenitor, and also to us, and which we hope he will do in the future, we, of our especial grace, for us and our successors, have given and do give by these present [letters] to the same Master Gervase and to Joan his spouse, both originally deriving from our realm of France, that they and each of them shall henceforth be natives in our realm of England, and shall in all things be considered, treated, held and reputed as our true lieges of our said realm of England, and that Gervase himself should be a suitable person to have and hold offices and administrations given and collated to him by us or by any prelates or other persons of our realm of England or elsewhere, or to which he has been or will be given or collated, possessing it or them without impediment in perpetuity or for as long as seems good to him. And also that Gervase and Joan his wife, and either of them, may be able to demand, purchase, buy and receive, sell, grant, give, enjoy, inherit, succeed to and possess lands, tenements, rents, revenues, services, advowsons, reversions and other possessions whatsoever freely in all things, just as our other true lieges born in our said realm of England do and are able to do, having and holding the abovesaid lands, tenements, rents, revenues, services, advowsons, reversions and other possessions to them, their heirs and assigns, without reason from them or either of them, in perpetuity and otherwise. And that the aforementioned Gervase and Joan his wife, and their heirs, shall be able to move and plead all manner of actions and complaints, both real and personal or mixed, in any of our courts and elsewhere, in the same manner as our other lieges, and to be impleaded by others, freely and wholly without interference or impediment from us or our heirs, or from our ministers or any others whatsoever. And that notwithstanding that the aforesaid Gervase and Joan did and do originate from outside our same realm of England. Provided that the same Gervase and Joan should perform liege homage to us, and contribute lot and scot in the same manner as our other lieges. In [witness] of which etc. Witnessed by the King at Westminster, the 21st day of January.

By the king himself and of the date aforesaid, with the authority of parliament.

Gervase le Vulre and his wife Joan, January 1441

The king knows all about the gracious service that his loyal servant Master Gervase de Vulre has given him. The king hopes Gervase will continue to provide this service both to himself and to his successors. The king wants everyone to know that from now on Gervase and his wife, who came originally from France, should now be considered to be natives of this realm of England, and shall be treated as true English. Gervase is a suitable person to have jobs given by me the king or by other important people. Gervase, his wife and their heirs can own land and property, just like any true born English person for ever. Gervase and his wife and his heirs can seek justice in the courts of this country, like other English born and and woman , provided that Gervase and Joan his wife are loyal and pay homage to us and contribute taxes and other things just like every other native born English man and woman

Witnessed this day in Westminster the 21st day of January.