

= William de Braose , 2nd Baron Braose =

William de Braose , (sometimes William de Briouze , William de Breuse , William de Brewes or William de Brewose ; c . 1260 ? 1326) was the second Baron Braose , as well as Lord of Gower and Lord of Bramber . He was held as a hostage after being captured in 1264 during the Second Barons ' War and records of some of his childhood expenses survive from his time as a hostage . He first entered royal service in 1286 and , in 1291 , he succeeded his father as baron . He continued in royal military service , serving in Scotland as well as in Wales . Protracted disputes over his lands embroiled him throughout his life and at the end of his life helped spark a revolt against King Edward II of England 's favourites , the Despencers . He married twice , and his heirs were his daughter Aline and his grandson John de Bohun .

= = Family and early life = =

Braose was the son of William de Braose , 1st Baron Braose and his first wife , Aline , daughter of Thomas de Multon . He was likely born around 1260 , as his age was given as about 46 in 1307 . Other events prove that he was born prior to 1264 , as he was captured in that year . This came about during the Second Barons ' War (1264 ? 1267) during the reign of King Henry III of England , as the elder Braose had sided with the king during Simon de Montfort 's rebellion . The younger Braose was a hostage in the custody of Montfort 's wife , Eleanor . Her household accounts include expenses related to the younger William 's care .

Sometime around 1285 , Braose confirmed grants of land by his ancestors to the religious house of Sele Priory . In 1286 Braose was in the king 's service , for unspecified duties overseas . It is possible that these included accompanying the king , Edward I , to Paris where Edward performed homage to the new French king , Philip IV , for Edward 's French lands . Braose played a significant role in King Edward 's Welsh wars . In the winter of 1287 ? 8 he commanded the force blockading Emlyn castle . His men also provided the escort for the transport of a huge siege engine from Dryslwyn to Emlyn . The arrival of the engine , with 480 great stones as ammunition , persuaded the defenders of the castle to surrender peaceably .

= = Marcher Baron = =

The younger Braose succeeded his father before 1 March 1291 , when he did homage for his father 's lands . He received custody of his father 's lands on 2 March 1291 , which had been placed into the custody of Robert de Tibetot on 12 January 1291 . He was summoned a number of times to Parliament from 1291 until 1322 as Baron Braose . He was the second Baron Braose , as well as Lord of Gower and Lord of Bramber .

After his father 's death , Braose continued to serve Edward . He contributed both money and personal military service in Edward 's wars in Wales , Scotland , and France . He saw service in Gascony in 1294 . In 1297 he took part in a military campaign in Flanders . As a reward for his service in Flanders , he received the wardship of John de Mowbray , who Braose eventually married to his daughter Aline . From 1298 to 1306 he was involved in the Scottish wars , and was at the Battle of Falkirk on 22 July 1298 . Besides the military service , he served the king in 1301 by signing a letter from the leading barons of England to Pope Boniface VIII in which the barons decried papal interference in the royal rights of England .

Braose captured the Welsh rebel William Cragh in 1290 , whose miraculous resurrection after being hanged was attributed to Thomas de Cantilupe . This led in 1307 to Braose giving testimony to papal commissioners inquiring into the events surrounding Cragh 's hanging and whether or not it would support the canonisation of Cantilupe .

It was most likely Braose who commissioned a condensed copy of Domesday Book , now Public Record Office manuscript E164 / 1 . This copy has a marginal notation of " Br " next to the estates owned by Braose 's ancestor , the first William de Braose .

Braose was embroiled in a dispute over his lordship of Gower in 1299 when the Bishop of Llandaff ,

John de Monmouth , brought a case against Braose to the king . Although the case was adjudicated in 1302 , the resulting decision was overturned . In 1304 Braose secured King Edward 's confirmation of earlier grants and charters granting Braose special rights and liberties in Gower . He managed this because he was serving the king in Scotland at the time , and thus had easy access to the king . In 1305 , however , Braose miscalculated and insulted a royal judge , using " gross and contumelious words " to describe the royal official . This episode caused the case of Gower to be reopened in 1306 , and Braose was only able to settle the issue again by the grant of rights to his men in Swansea and Gower .

In 1320 King Edward II of England confiscated the lordship of Gower on the grounds that Braose had given it to his son @-@ in @-@ law Mowbray without royal permission . Over the preceding years Braose had promised Gower to a number of persons , including Humphrey de Bohun , the Earl of Hereford , Hugh Despenser the Younger , and Roger Mortimer of Wigmore . Mowbray then in late 1319 took custody of Gower to protect his rights . Despenser persuaded the king in 1320 to take Gower into royal hands in October , and was appointed keeper of the honour in November . The other lords in the Welsh Marches resented this seizure , feeling that the king 's excuse for it was not applicable . The seizure was one of the precipitating causes of the baronial rebellion that led to the exile of the Despensers in 1321 . In 1322 Gower was given to the younger Despenser again , who then traded it for the honours of Usk and Caerleon . Braose was then induced to sue the new holder of Gower for the return of the barony in April 1324 , which action succeeded in June 1324 . Braose then promptly gave Gower to the elder Despenser , returning the property to the Despenser family once more . The lordship of Gower eventually ended up in the hands of the Beauchamp family , but it was not until the 1350s that the issue was decided .

= = Marriage , death , and legacy = =

The name of Braose 's first wife was Agnes , but her family is not known . His second wife was Elizabeth , the daughter and heiress of Raymund de Sully . He had two daughters with his first wife , but no children with his second wife , who outlived him . It appears that there was a son named William , who was the subject of a military summons from King Edward in 1311 , but nothing further is mentioned of him after 1315 . In 1316 a settlement of William the father 's estates made no mention of this son making it likely that the son died before this date .

Braose died not long before 1 May 1326 and his heirs were his daughter Aline and his grandson John de Bohun . Aline , the elder daughter , married John de Mowbray and Richard de Peschale . The second daughter , Joan , married James de Bohun and Richard Foliot , son of Jordan Foliot . Mowbray received the lands of Gower and Bramber before Braose 's death .

Braose was known as a man often in debt and as being unable to manage his cash flow well . Thomas Walsingham stated in his chronicle that Braose was " very rich by descent but a dissipater of the property left to him " .