

# Normandy

## The Dukes of Normandy

Normandy is named for the Normans (also Northmen and Norsemen) who were Viking raiders from Scandinavia. Rolf the Ganger (See Generation Five below) established himself along the Seine in the early 10th century and eventually negotiated the treaty of Saint-Clair-sur-Epte with King Charles the Simple of France that gave him and his Viking or Norman followers the northern part of France known as Normandy.

The arms of the Dukes of Normandy are described as “Gules, two lions passant guardant in pale, or” which means “a red shield with two gold lions on top of one another.”



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## Norse and Icelandic Sagas

Sagas are long narratives that appeared in Norway, Iceland and other parts of Scandinavia during the middle ages. These stories were passed down orally for many generations prior to being transcribed in the 13th century. Many sagas were written in an objective style that led some early historians to believe they were historically accurate. When later research revealed that the sagas made use of fictitious situations vaguely grounded on some remote historical reality, historians tended to reject them completely.

While the value of the sagas as accurate history must certainly be questioned, it should also be remembered that the names and spirit of the history represents the knowledge of a person many centuries closer to the truth than we are to-day. Snorri Sturluson’s *Prose Edda* is a book of ancient Scandinavian literature was compiled by Snorri Sturluson about 1222. Other sagas include the *Elder Edda* or *Codex Regius* and the *Heimskringla* which chronicles the Kings of Norway. The Eddas are invaluable sources on pre-Christian Scandinavian culture. Equally important is the *Saga of Erik the Red* and the *Greenlanders’ Saga*. One of the best known sagas is *Grettis*, which follows the adventures of Grettir, an Icelandic outlaw who battles a monster called Glamr, not unlike the Anglo-Saxon story *Beowulf*.

The following genealogy is based on the Norse and Icelandic sagas, and hence must be considered to be at least part legendary.

**(1) Radbard, King in Russia.** In the early middle ages, the land known to-day as Russia was composed of several small city states, and it is to be imagined that Radbard established himself as “king” of one of these cities. However, historical evidence indicates that Scandinavians such as Radbard journeyed to Russia circa 850, and certainly no earlier than 800. It is difficult to reconcile this fact with the concept that Radbard’s great X2 grandson is said to be the historical figure Ivar “the Boneless” Ragnarsson, who became King of Dublin in 856. However, according to legend, Radbard had a son:

- **(2) Randver Radbardsson** who had a son:
  - **(3) Sigurd Ring** who had a son:
    - **(4) Ragnar Lodbrock**, mentioned next.

**(4) Ragnar Lodbrock**, who is mentioned in Snorre’s Sturluson’s *Icelandic Landnamobok* or *Book of Settlement*. However, most historians regard much of the genealogy at this point to be

largely legendary. Ragnar is said to have married to Aslaug Sigurdsdottir, daughter of Sigurd Wolsung and they had the following children:

- Ivar “the Boneless” Ragnarsson, who became King of Dublin in 856, conquered York 866/7, slayed St. Edmund of East Anglia 869 and died in 873. *The World Book* tells us: “Vikings established Dublin in the mid-800’s, though a small settlement had previously been on the site. The Viking town was named Dublin, from the Irish words dubh, meaning black; and linn, meaning pool. The name may refer to a pool of dark water in a branch of the River Liffey. The branch is now filled in by land.” (*The World Book Millennium 2000 Deluxe Edition*, © 1999 World Book Inc., © IBM Corp.)
- Halfdan “White Shirt” Ragnarsson, who became King of Dublin in 875 and died in 877.
- **(5) Sigurd “Snake-in-Eye” Ragnarson**, mentioned next.
- Bjorn “Ironside” Ragnarson
- Ragnhildir Ragnardottir
- Alof Ragnarsdottir
- Ubbe Ragnarsson, who may have been slain in Devon during King Alfred’s second war

**(5) Sigurd “Snake-in-Eye” Ragnarson** who had the following children:

- **(6) Tora Sigurdsdottir** who married Ragnvald Gudrodssoof Agder and had a daughter:
  - **(7) Ascrida Ragnvaldsdottir** who married Eystein “the Noisy” Glumra, Jarl of the Uplanders. (See Generation Three below)
- Aslaug Sigurdsdottir
- Horda-Knut Sigurdsson, who had a son:
  - Gorm “the old” of Jutland, King of Denmark, born about 840

The genealogy shown next is from George Andrews Moriarty: *The Plantagenet Ancestry of King Edward III and Queen Philippa*, Mormon Pioneer Genealogical Society, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1985, pages 10 and 11 and is considered reliable.

## Generation One

**Halfdan the Old** had a son:

- **Ivar Oplaendinge**, mentioned next.

## Generation Two

**Ivar Oplaendinge**, Earl of the Uplands

Flourished circa 800

Ivar had a son:

- **Eystein “the Noisy” Glumra**, mentioned next.

## Generation Three

**Eystein “the Noisy” Glumra**, Earl of the Uplands

Born in 788

Eystein married to Ascrida Ragnvaldsdottir. (See Norse Sagas above)

Eystein and Ascrida had the following children:

- **Ragnvald I “the Wise” Eysteinnsson**, mentioned next.
- Sigurd I Riki “the Powerful” Eysteinnsson, Earl of Orkney, died in 982
- Swanhilda Eysteinsdottir who married King Harald I Haarfayer (circa 848/852 - 936) Harald was King of Norway in 883 and he was deposed or abdicated in 932.

## Generation Four

**Ragnvald I “the Wise” Eysteinnsson**, Earl of More

Died about 894

Ragnvald married first to Groa and they had the following children:

- Hallad Ragnvaldsson, Earl of Orkney in 983
- Turf-Einar Ragnvaldsson, Earl of Orkney
- Hrollaug Ragnvaldsson

Ragnvald married second to Hiltrude (Ragnhild) Hrolfsdottir and they had the following children:

- Ivar Ragnvaldsson
- **Rolf Ragnvaldsson**, mentioned next.
- Thori “the Silent” Ragnvaldsson, Earl of More

## Generation Five

**Rolf Ragnvaldsson**, also known as Rolf the Ganger, Rolf Wend-a-Foot, Rolf the Viking and Rollo of Norway. He was baptized as “Robert” and became the 1st Duke of Normandy.

Born circa 846/860

Died in 932

*Encyclopaedia Britannica* states that Rolf was a “Scandinavian rover who founded the duchy of Normandy. Making himself independent of King Harald I of Norway, Rolf sailed off to raid Scotland, England, Flanders, and France on pirating expeditions and, about 911, established himself in an area along the Seine River. Charles III the Simple of France held off his siege of Paris, battled him near Chartres, and negotiated the treaty of Saint-Clair-sur-Epte, giving him the part of Neustria that came to be called Normandy; Rolf in return agreed to end his brigandage. He gave his son, William (I) Longsword, governance of the dukedom (927) before his death. Rolf was baptized as ‘Robert’ in 912 but is said to have died a pagan.”

Laying siege to Paris appears to have been a popular pastime in the late 9th and early 10th century. Asser wrote in his *Life of King Alfred*: “In the year of our Lord’s incarnation, 886, which was the thirty- eighth since the birth of Alfred, the (Viking) army . . . directing their ships to the river called the Seine, and sailed up it as far as the city of Paris, and there they wintered and measured out their camp. They besieged that city a whole year, as far as the bridge, that they might prevent the inhabitants from making use of it; for the city is situated on a small island in the middle of the river; but by the merciful favour of God, and the brave defence of citizens, the army could not force their way inside the walls.”

Rolf married first in 886 to Poppa de Valois, a granddaughter of Seigneur Pépin of Peronne who was a great grandson of Charlemagne. (See *Charlemagne*, Generation Sixteen)

Rolf and Poppa had the following children:

- **William Longsword**, mentioned next.
- Gerloc or Adela of Normandy (died after January 14, 962). Adele married in 935 to William (I) “Tête d’ Etoupes”, Count of Poitou (born circa 915, died April 3, 963). Adela and William had the following children:
  - William (II) “Fier de Bras”, Count of Poitou (born circa 937, died February 3, 995) whose great grandson was William “The Troubadour” of Poitou and Aquitaine, the first known troubadour, or lyric poet, employing the Romance vernacular called Provençal and grandfather of Eleanor of Aquitaine. (See *Byzantium*, Generations Ten and Twelve)
  - Adelaide of Poitou (born circa 945 - 950, died circa 1004) who married Hugh Capet, King of France. (See *Capet*, Generation Eleven)

Rolf is said to have had other wives and many more children.

## Generation Six

### William Longsword, 2nd Duke of Normandy

Died (murdered) on December 17, 942

William Longsword was involved in a war in the late 930’s against Arnolph I “the Great”, Count of Flanders. (See *Flanders*, Generation Five) Some sources state that a peace conference was held in December 942, and that Arnolph arranged for the murder of William Longsword at that time. Other sources state that “Arnolph waged war against William of Normandy, whom he defeated and slew”.

William married first to Sprota (Adela), a daughter of Hubert (I), Count of Senlis and Vermandois who was a great great grandson of Charlemagne. (See *Charlemagne*, Generation Seventeen) William and Sprota had a son:

- **Richard (I) “the Fearless” of Normandy**, mentioned next.

William married secondly in 935 to Luitgarda of Vermandois, a niece of his first wife Sprota.

## Generation Seven

### Richard (I) “the Fearless”, 3rd Duke of Normandy

Born in 933 at Fecamp, France

Acceded in 942

Died on November 20, 996 at Fecamp, France

Richard married first in 960 to Emma of Paris (died 962), a daughter of Hugh “the Great” Capet. (See *Capet*, Generation Ten)

Richard married secondly to Gunnor of Crêpon. It is quite probable that Richard and Gunnor had some of their children prior to Richard’s marriage to Emma of Paris (960 - 962). Richard and Gunnor married after Emma’s death, thereby legitimizing all the children.

A relative of Gunnor named Osbern was a powerful Steward or Dapifer of Normandy during the minority of William the Conqueror. Osbern was murdered in 1040 during an attempt on the life of the young Duke William that occurred right in William’s bedroom. Osbern was almost certainly Gunnor’s nephew, a son of her brother Herfast; although some sources claim Osbern was Gunnor’s brother. (See *Osbern*)

Richard and Gunnor had the following children:

- Richard II “the Good” of Normandy, mentioned next.
- Mauger, Earl of Corbeil
- Robert, Count of Évreux and Archbishop of Rouen (died on March 16, 1037) who supported his young nephew Robert “the Devil” and later his son Duke William. Despite being an Archbishop, Robert had a wife and the following sons:
  - Richard, Count of Évreux
  - Ralph of Gacé who is said to have arranged the murder in 1040 of his cousin Gilbert “Crispin”, Count of Brionne, who was chief tutor of Duke William at the time.
  - William
- Matilda
- Emma of Normandy, born circa 986, died on March 14, 1052. Emma married first on April 5, 1002 to King Æthelred II “the Unrede” of England, and they had a son:
  - St. Edward the Confessor, King of England 1042 - 1066. (See *England*, Generation Eighteen)
 Emma married second on July 2, 1012 to Canute II, King of England and Denmark, and they had a son:
  - Hardicanute, King of England 1040 - 1042
- Hedwig (Hawise) who married Geoffrey, Duke of Brittany. Their son:
  - Alan (III), Count of Brittany who was a guardian of the young Duke William and is said to have “died suddenly”, probably murdered, in October 1040.
- Beatrix of Normandy
- Godfrey of Brionne & Eu. (See *De Clare*, Generation One) His son,
  - Gilbert “Crispin”, Count of Brionne, chief tutor of Duke William for a brief period in 1040. He is said to have been murdered on the orders of his cousin Ralph of Gacé.
- William of Hiesmes, Count of Eu

## Generation Eight

### Richard (II) “the Good”, 4th Duke of Normandy

Acceded in 996

Died on August 28, 1026

Richard married first about 1000 to Judith of Brittany, daughter of Conan the Crooked, Duke of Brittany (See *Charlemagne*, Generation Nineteen)

Richard and Judith had the following children:

- Richard (III), 5th Duke of Normandy who is said to have been poisoned and died on August 6, 1028. Richard married in January 1027 to Princess Adela (Alix) Capet, daughter of King Robert II “the Pious” Capet, King of France. After Richard’s death in 1028, Princess Adela re-married in 1028 to Baldwin V “the Pious”, Count of Flanders. Their daughter Mathilda married William the Conqueror. (See *Flanders*, Generation Nine) Richard and Adela had a son:
  - Nicholas who following his father’s death was relegated to a monastery (first to Fécamp and then Saint Ouen in Rouen) and Robert “the Devil” took over as 5th Duke of Normandy. In later life, Nicholas was a loyal supporter of his cousin

William the Conqueror. About 1042, Nicholas became Abbot of the monastery of Saint Ouen.

Richard (III), 5th Duke of Normandy had by an unknown mistress:

- Alice of Normandy who married Ranulph (I), Vicomte of the Bessin. Their great grandson Ranulph de Gernon, Earl of Chester married Maud of Gloucester. (See Generation Twelve below) Ranulph and Maud were 4th cousins, their common ancestor being Richard (II) “the Good”, 4th Duke of Normandy.
- **Robert (I) “the Devil” of Normandy**, mentioned next.
- Alice (Adelaide) who married Rainald, Count of Burgundy; their sons:
  - Guy, Count of Burgundy who attempted to seize control of Normandy in 1047.
  - William (I), Count of Burgundy (died in 1087) who married Stephanie de Longwy, daughter of Adalbert (III), Count de Longwy. Their daughter:
    - Matilda (or Maud) who married Eudes (I), Duke of Burgundy. (See *Capet*, Generation Thirteen)
- Eleanora (Judith) of Normandy who married Baldwin IV, Count of Flanders as his second wife. (See *Flanders*, Generation Eight)

Richard married second in 1017 to Estrith (Margaret) of Denmark, daughter of Sweyn Forkbeard, King of Denmark and Sigrid “the Haughty”; and they had a divorce circa 1017/18. (Estrith married Richard’s son Robert “the Devil” in 1031, and they had a divorce after a year or so as well.)

Richard married third about 1024 to Papia of Envermeu and they had the following children:

- Mauger, Archbishop of Rouen
- William, Count of Arques
- Papia

## Generation Nine

### **Robert (I) “the Devil”, 6th Duke of Normandy**

Born circa 1008

Acceded on August 6, 1027

Died between July 1 and 3, 1035 at Nicaea in Bithynia while returning from a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Ancient Nicaea was located about 65 miles south east of Constantinople. Often referred to as Robert “the Devil” he is also known as Robert “the Magnificent”.

Robert had a girlfriend named Herleva. Both were under twenty, possibly as young as seventeen, when Herleva became pregnant with their first child who was to become William the Conqueror. Herleva’s father was Fulbert, who was probably a tanner. Fulbert has been described as “polinctor” which translates more readily as “embalmer”, or one who prepares corpses for burial, but the tradition is strong that he was a tanner; and Falaise, Normandy was famous for its tanneries. Apparently, there were no hard feelings with regard to Robert and Herleva having a child without undergoing the formality of a church ceremony. Fulbert was given a subordinate office at the ducal court, and Herleva’s brothers, Osbert and Walter, appear as witnesses to various charters. As well, while Walter was never an official tutor or guardian of the young Duke William, he watched over William during his perilous childhood; and on occasion saved his life by snatching the boy from his cot and carrying him for safety to spend the rest of the night in the cottage of a poor family.

It would appear that Robert and Herleva “broke up”, but once again, there do not seem to have been any hard feelings. Herleva married to Herluin, Vicomte of Contreville, and they had two sons: Odo, Bishop of Bayeux and Earl of Kent; and Robert, Count of Mortain; both of whom were very close to their half brother, William the Conqueror; and both of whom were most certainly present at the Battle of Hastings.

In late 1034, curiosity (or perhaps devotion) induced Robert (I) “the Devil”, 6th Duke of Normandy, to undertake a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, where the fatigues of the journey and the heat of the climate so impaired his constitution he died at Nicaea (in the area of Iznik in modern Turkey) on his way home.

Robert and Herleva had the following children:

- **William the Conqueror**, mentioned next.
- **Adeliza (Adelaide) of Normandy**, (1029 - 1080/85) who married perhaps two or three times: first to Enguerrand (III) d’Aûmale, Count of Ponthieu; secondly (maybe) to Lambert (II) von Boulogne, Count of Lens; and thirdly to Eudes (Odo), Count of Champagne. Adeliza had several children, one of whom was most likely by her first husband, Enguerrand (III) d’Aûmale, Count of Ponthieu:
  - **Judith of Normandy**, born about 1054 who married Waltheof, 1st Earl of Huntingdon. Their daughter:
    - **Matilda (Maud) of Huntingdon**, born circa 1072 - 1074 who married first in 1090 to Simon de Saint Liz, Earl of Huntingdon and Northampton (died in 1111) Their daughter **Maud de Saint Liz** married **Saher de Quincy I** (See *DeQuincy*, Generation One) Matilda of Huntingdon secondly in 1113 to **King David (I) the Saint of Scotland**. (See *Scotland*, Generation Twenty-two)

Robert married in 1031 to Estrith, daughter of Sweyn Forkbeard, King of Denmark. They had a divorce in 1032. Estrith had been previously married to Robert’s father, Richard “the Good” and they had a divorce after a year or so as well. We are left to wonder if Estrith, whose mother was known as “Sigrid the Haughty”, was difficult to get along with.

## Generation Ten

### William the Conqueror, King of England

Born in 1028, probably in the autumn, at Falaise, Normandy, France.

Duke of Normandy 1035-1087 and King of England 1066-1087.

Died early in the morning on Thursday, September 9, 1087 at Hermentrube, Near Rouen, France.

Interred at the Monastery of St. Stephen, Caen, Normandy which he had founded.

William invaded England, defeated and killed his rival Harold at the Battle of Hastings, and became King. William was noted for his efficient if harsh rule.

### William’s Childhood

As mentioned above, William’s father died in early July 1035 at Nicaea in Asia Minor, while on a pilgrimage. William was left a six (nearly seven) year old illegitimate child in a cruel mediæval world. Fortunately for William, his father had named him heir to the Dukedom of Normandy prior to the ill advised pilgrimmage. William’s guardians were:

- Robert, Count of Évreux and Archbishop of Rouen (died on March 16, 937), William's great uncle.
- Alan (III), Count of Brittany, William's father's cousin.
- Gilbert "Crispin", Count of Brionne, also William's father's cousin.
- Osbern, Steward or Dapifer of Normandy, William's great grandmother's nephew. (See *Osbern*, Generation Two)
- Turchetil (Turolde), a respected official whose exact function is not understood.
- Walter, William's uncle (his mother's brother), who was never named as an official "tutor" but nonetheless saved William from assassins and murderers on several occasions.

Things went in a fairly smooth manner until the death of William's Great Uncle Robert on March 16, 1037. The situation then deteriorated rapidly. In the autumn of 1040, Turchetil, Alan, Gilbert and Osbern were murdered in rapid succession. Osbern was murdered during an attempt on William's life that occurred right in his bedroom. William's Uncle Walter then took to sleeping in the company of the boy, and they were sometimes forced to flee for safety and hide in the cottage of a poor family.

Most, if not all, youngsters fear that something will "get" them in the night. For William, this fear was a reality. He was only ten or twelve years of age, and this period of his life must have been a very traumatic experience.

### **William's Early Reign**

In 1046/47, Duke William's cousin Guy of Burgundy (son of William's Aunt Alice and Rainald, Count of Burgundy) tried to seize control of Normandy with the help of rebellious Norman lords, but Duke William defeated them with the assistance of King Henry (I) of France.

William then extended his influence throughout northern France and achieved a Flemish alliance with his marriage to Mathilda, a daughter of Baldwin (V), Count of Flanders. (See *Flanders*, Generation Ten)

### **The Succession Issue**

St. Edward the Confessor, King of England, died without children on January 5, 1066. Many sources indicate that St. Edward was Duke William's uncle, but this is not so. Their common ancestor was Richard (I) "the Fearless", 3rd Duke of Normandy (933 - 996). St. Edward was Richard's grandson and William was Richard's great grandson; thus St. Edward and William were first cousins once removed. However, St. Edward had lived in exile in Normandy during the reign of King Canute, he was older than William, and he doubtless seemed sort of like an "uncle" to the young William.

St. Edward had named William as his successor should either of them ever be able to claim the throne of England. When back on the throne, St. Edward married Eadgyth (Edith), a daughter of Godwine, Earl of Wessex. Godwin's son, Harold Godwinson, felt that as St. Edward's brother-in-law and as a person of Saxon-Danish ancestry that he should have the throne. However, he had sworn to support Duke William's claim during a visit to Normandy in 1064. Despite his promise, Harold Godwinson arranged to have himself crowned King of England on January 6, the day after St. Edward's death.



To further complicate the issue, King Harold Hardraada of Norway felt that he should be King of England due to his relationship with Sweyn Forkbeard and Canute. Another of Godwine's sons, Tostig Godwineson, supported him.

There was only one thing for William to do – invade England.

### **1066 and All That Stuff**

There has been lots written about the events of 1066, the Battle of Hastings, and all that stuff. For full details, try a history book or encyclopædia. Here is what happened in brief :

- Early September: Harold Hardraada, supported by Tostig, invaded northern England.
- September 25: Battle of Stamford Bridge. Harold Godwineson defeated Hardraada and Tostig.
- September 28: Duke William landed at Pevensey.
- October 6: Harold Godwineson returned to London.
- October 14: Battle of Hastings. William defeated and killed Harold Godwineson.

### **The Battle of Hastings: Who Was There?**

After nearly a thousand years, it is difficult to say with exact certainty who was present at the Battle of Hastings. Scholars of History seem able to agree on only about twenty-five or so persons as having been at Hastings for sure. However, it is widely accepted that between five thousand and twelve thousand persons accompanied Duke William, and almost all would have been at Hastings on October 14, 1066. A small number were likely left behind to guard other critical positions in England, and some highly trustworthy persons were left at various strongholds in Normandy.

Throughout these pages, I have identified various ancestors as having “accompanied William the Conqueror” or having been “present at the Battle of Hastings”. In all cases, I have found this mentioned in some reliable source such as The Battle Abbey Roll, The Falaise Roll or The Dives-sur-Mer List.

Others of our ancestors are among those who were most certainly present at the Battle of Hastings on October 14, 1066 as mentioned in the following article from *The American Genealogist*, October 1944 V. 21 No. 2 Pages 111 – 113.

THE COMPANIONS OF THE CONQUEROR  
By G. ANDREWS MORIARTY, AM., LL.B., F.A.S.G., F.S.A.,  
of Ogunquit, Maine

In his review of “The Falaise Roll” in *The AMERICAN GENEALOGIST*, July 1939 (pp. 56-63), this writer pointed out that a list of the tenants who can actually be proved to have been present at the Battle of Hastings is a very small one and must be based upon the named figures in the Bayeux Tapestry and upon William of Poitiers and Guy of Amiens, and the naming of certain persons by Orderic Vitalis, about whom he may be presumed to have had special knowledge. He further stated that the names recorded in the Roman de Rou of Robert Wace, the Battle Abbey Roll and its derivatives, the Dives Roll and the Falaise Roll cannot be accepted as proof of a man's presence at the battle. He further pointed out that from certain other evidence a second list might be compiled of persons who were most probably present and expressed the hope that such lists would be compiled at some future date.

It is very gratifying to be able to state that two such lists have at last been compiled by Prof. David Douglas and have been printed in an English Periodical called "History" for September 1943 (pp. 129-147) and it is a matter of satisfaction to note that Prof. Douglas has, quite independently, worked along the lines suggested in the review. The first list of those whose presence at the battle is assured, and which is in all probability final, consists of twenty-seven names. The second list of those who were probably present is based upon charter evidence, i.e., those who attested Duke William's charters under circumstances which renders it most probable that they took part in the expedition. This writer was pleased to note that among these names Prof. Douglas lists Pons and suggests that he may be the progenitor of the Cliffords, as was suggested in the aforementioned review and still earlier in a note in the Genealogical Department of the "Boston Transcript". Prof. Douglas points out that his second list will probably be enlarged after an intensive and critical study has been made of the Norman charters, a thing which has not yet been done.

As these lists of Prof. Douglas are based upon evidence, which, to this writer, seems conclusive it seems well to place them before the American genealogical public, as ones upon which there may be complete reliance.

List of those who were certainly at Hastings: (\* indicates those from whom descent can be traced with further references for our ancestors.)

- \* Eustace Count of Boulogne.
  - \* **Robert Count of Mortain.** (See *Byzantium*, Generation Nine)
  - \* William, son of Count Richard of Evreux.
  - \* Geoffrey, son of Rotrou, Count of Mortagne anti Perche.
  - Odo, Bishop of Bayeux.
  - Geoffrey, Bishop of Coutances.
  - \* **William fitz Osbern.** (See *Osbern*, Generation Three)
  - \* **Aimeri, Vicomte de Thouars, the Poictivin.** (See *Byzantium*, Generation Eleven)
  - \* **Walter Giffard.** (See *De Clare*, Generation Three)
  - \* Ralf de Toeni.
  - \* Hugh de Montfort.
  - \* **Hugh de Grantmesnil.** (See *Grandmesnil*)
  - \* **William de Warenne.** (See *Warren*, Generation Three)
  - \* **Robert, son of Roger de Beaumont.** (See *Beaumont*, Generation Four)
  - \* William Malet.
  - Gulbert d'Affray.
  - Robert de Vitot.
  - \* Engenulf de l'Aigle.
  - Gerelmus de Panileuse.
  - (\*?) Robert fitz Ernis.
  - Roger, son of Turoid.
  - Turstin, son of Rou.
  - Erchembald, son of Erchembald the Vicomte.
  - Vitalis.
  - \* Wadard.
  - Taillefer.
- A member of the house of Ponthieu ("Pontivi nobilis haeres"). Perhaps Count Gui I.

List of those witnessing Norman charters under circumstances which render it most probable that they accompanied time expedition:

- \* Gerald the Seneschal (grandfather of William de Roumare).
- \* Rodulf the Chamberlain (? de Tancarville).
- Hugh d'Ivry, the Pincerna.
- \* **Richard fitz Gilbert (de Clare)**. (See *De Clare*, Generation Three)
- \* Pons (? ancestor of the Cliffords).

In addition to these the following, who witnessed Duke William's charter made at Caen on 17 June 1066 (Gall. Christ. XI, Instr. col. 59), were, I think, most probably at Hastings:

- \* Richard the Vicomte of the Avranchin (father of Hugh Lupus).
- \* Ranulf the Vicomte of the Bessin.
- \* Ralf Tesson.
- \* Fulk d'Aunou.
- \* Those from whom descent can be traced.

### William's Family

William married in 1053 at the Cathedral of Notre Dame d'Eu, Normandy to Mathilda of Flanders. (See *Flanders*, Generation Ten) William and Mathilda had the following children:

- Robert (II) Curthose, Duke of Normandy (1054 - 1134)
- Richard, Duke of Bernay (1055 - 1075, died without issue)
- Cecilia, Abbess of Holy Trinity, Caen (1056 - 1127)
- Adeliza, who became a nun (born 1055)
- William (II) Rufus, King of England from 1087 to 1100 born 1056/60
- Constance, (1066 - 1090) who married Alan IV, Count of Brittany
- Adela, (1067 - 1137) who married Stephen, Count of Blois, their son:
  - Stephen, King of England 1135 - 1154
- Agatha (born about 1064)
- Matilda who was said by Sir Bernard Burke and possibly others as well to be the same as Gundred who married William de Warenne, 1st Earl of Surrey (See *Warren*, Generation Three) but this has since been disproved. (See Burke: *Dormant and Extinct Peerages*, 1866, pages 568 and 569; C.T. Clay: *Early Yorkshire Charters* and H. Prentout *Études sur Quelques Points de l'Histoire de Guillaume le Conquérant* as described under *Surrey* in *The Complete Peerage*.)
- **Henry (I) Beauclerc**, mentioned next.

### Generation Eleven

#### Henry I Beauclerc, King of England

Born about September 1068 at Selby, Yorkshire, England

Died on December 1, 1135 at St. Denis-le-Fermont, Near Gisors

Henry reigned as King of England from 1100 until his death in 1135. In 1106 he captured his brother Robert and took over as Duke of Normandy from 1106 to 1135. Henry was nicknamed "Beauclerc" (fine scholar) for his above average education. During his reign, the differences between English and Norman society began to slowly evaporate. His reign is notable for important legal and administrative reforms, and he proved to be a hard but just ruler. He is

reputed to have died from over consumption of lampreys, but there is a good possibility that the excess of lampreys only gave him a bad case of indigestion and that a carelessly dispensed dose of purgative was in fact the cause of his demise.

Henry married first on November 11, 1100 to **Matilda (Edith) of Scotland**, a sister of King David “the Saint” of Scotland. (See *Scotland*, Generation Twenty-two) Henry and Matilda had the following children:

- Euphania, born July 1101, died young.
- **Matilda (or Maud) of England**, (1103/04 - 1167) who married first Henry V of Franconia, Emperor of the West (Also referred to as Emperor of Almain and Emperor of Germany; he d.s.p. May 22 or 23, 1125.) Because of her first marriage, Matilda is sometimes referred to as “Matilda the Empress”, but more frequently as “Lady of the English” or “Heiress of England”, or sometimes “Queen of the English”. Matilda married secondly in 1127 **Geoffrey “the Fair” Plantagenet**, Count of Anjou and Maine. (See *Plantagenet*, Generation Five) Matilda and Geoffrey had a son:
  - **Henry (II) Curtmantle**, King of England was born on March 25, 1133. The first of the Plantagenet or Angevin Kings of England, he married **Eleanor of Aquitaine** (See Byzantium, Generation Twelve) and became one of the most powerful mediæval English kings and European monarchs. (See *Angevin Kings*) Their sons included:
    - King Richard (I) “the Lion-Hearted”
    - **King John** who, under considerable pressure, granted the Magna Charta and then attempted to welsh on the deal. (See *Angevin Kings*, Generation Two)
- William the Aetheling, born before August 5, 1103 and drowned in the sinking of the White Ship on November 25, 1120. When the white ship was wrecked on the deadly rock a boat was launched and William, the King’s only legitimate son, was rowed to safety. The cries of his half-sister Maud, Countess of Perche, induced him to return to the wreck where they sank together. This was considered by some to be punishment for Henry’s sins of lust in having so many illegitimate offspring. William was married to Isabella or Matilda, (See *Plantagenet*, Generation Four) but they didn’t have any children. After her husband drowned she became a Nun, and was elected abbess of Fontevrault.
- Richard. Some sources say he drowned in the sinking of the White Ship on November 25, 1120. Other sources say he died in infancy, and the Richard who drowned on the White Ship was one of Henry’s vast brood of illegitimate children. Regardless, he predeceased his father.

Henry married secondly on January 29, 1122, to Adeliza of Louvain. They don’t appear to have had children.

Kings Henry I and Charles II were the only Kings of England to beget really large broods of illegitimate offspring. Charles, credited with 8 sons and 6 daughters, is clearly outdone by Henry with a known illegitimate offspring list consisting of 9 sons and between 12 and 15 daughters. There may be more, too. The name of the mother is known with varying degrees of certainty for 12 of the children. Perhaps King Henry had so many girlfriends and children that he forgot who belonged to whom! The following list of King Henry’s many lady friends and natural (i.e., illegitimate) children is taken from Geoffrey H. White: *The Complete Peerage*, Appendix D, Volume XI, 1949.

Edith by whom he had:

- Maud, Countess of Perche (1090 - 1120)

Sybilla Corbet by whom he had:

- Sybilla, born circa 1092
- Rainald de Dunstanville, Earl of Cornwall, born about 1112
- William, born before 1105
- Gundred
- Rohese

Ansfride by whom he had:

- Richard of Lincoln, born before 1101
- Fulk, a monk at Abingdon, born before 1100
- Juliane, who married Eustance de Pacy and later became a nun at Fontevrault.

Nest, Princess of Deheubarth by whom he had:

- Henry fitzHenry, born about 1103

Isabel (Elizabeth) de Beaumont (See *Beaumont*, Generation Four and *Capet*, Generation Fifteen) by whom he had:

- Isabel, born about 1120

Edith Sigulfson by whom he had:

- Robert FitzEdith, Baron of Okenhampton

Additional girl friends by whom he had:

- **Robert de Caen**, mentioned next. Robert was born circa 1090 and said to be Henry Beauclerc's eldest son. Although the identity of his mother is uncertain, some sources name Sybilla Corbet.
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constance</li> <li>• Matilda (Maud)</li> <li>• Gilbert, born about 1130</li> <li>• William de Tracy</li> <li>• Eustacie</li> <li>• Alice (Aline)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a daughter</li> <li>• Joan (Elizabeth)</li> <li>• Emma</li> <li>• another daughter</li> <li>• Sybillia of Falaise</li> <li>• Maud, Abbess of Montivilliers</li> </ul> |
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## Generation Twelve

### Robert de Caen, Earl of Gloucester

Born circa 1090 at Caen, France

Died on October 31, 1147 at Bristol

On more than one occasion, Henry Beauclerc had extracted from his barons an oath of alligiance to his daughter Matilda who had married in 1127 to Geoffrey "the Fair" Plantagenet, Count of Anjou and Maine. However, on Henry's death in 1135, many barons balked at the concept of a female sovereign with an Angevin husband and backed Stephen, a grandson of William the

Conqueror. (See Generation Ten above) Robert de Caen, called “the Consul”, made his submission to Stephen in 1136; but within a year he was in Normandy plotting with Matilda.

Here and there in England and Normandy, individual barons rose in revolt and Stephen’s efforts to restore order were of no avail – when one rebel was crushed several more appeared. Robert de Caen was the most powerful baron in the realm; and his arrival with his half sister Matilda in England in September 1139 was the signal for the outbreak of civil war. The situation was chaotic as Stephen hurried distractedly from castle to castle. Stephen was defeated at the battle of Lincoln on February 2, 1141 and was captured by Robert de Caen who imprisoned him in Bristol Castle. Later the same year, Robert fell into the hands of the Stephen’s friend William de Warren, and the two captives were exchanged. Both parties were back where they had been prior to the battle of Lincoln and England was doomed to continued civil war. When Robert died in 1147, Matilda retired from England. The cause was taken up by her son Henry of Anjou, later King Henry II, whose marriage with Eleanor of Aquitaine gave him ample resources.

Robert married to Mabel (Maud) Fitz Hamon, daughter and heiress of Robert Fitz Hamon, Lord of Glamorgan and his wife Sibyl who was a daughter of Roger de Montgomery, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury. Roger de Montgomery is shown on the Battle Abbey Roll and the Dives-sur-Mer List as having accompanied William the Conqueror in 1066. Robert and Mabel had the following children who used the surnames “Fitz Robert”, “de Caen” and “of Gloucester”:

- **William Fitz Robert**, mentioned next.
- Roger, Bishop of Worcester
- Hamon
- Philip
- Richard, Lord of Creully
- Maud who married Ranulph de Gernon, Earl of Chester. (See Generation Eight) Maud and Ranulph were 4th cousins, their common ancestor being Richard (II) “the Good”, 4th Duke of Normandy.
- Mabel
- Richard
- Robert

## Generation Thirteen

### **William Fitz Robert, Earl of Gloucester**

Died on November 23, 1183

William married circa 1150 to **Hawise de Beaumont**, daughter of Robert de Beaumont, 2nd Earl of Leicester (See *Beaumont*, Generation Five) and his wife **Amice de Montfort**. (See *Osbern*, Generation Six)

William and Hawise had the following children:

- Mabel
- **Amicia, Countess of Gloucester**, mentioned next.
- Isabel of Gloucester who married in 1189 to King John who divorced Isabel in 1199 and then kept her a prisoner of state until 1214. They didn’t have any children. (See *Angevin Kings*, Generation Two)
- Robert Fitz William (died in 1166)

## Generation Fourteen

### Amicia, Countess of Gloucester

Died in 1225

Amicia married circa 1180 to **Richard de Clare**, Earl of Hertford and Clare who was one of the 25 Sureties of the Magna Charta. (See *De Clare*, Generation Seven) Richard and Amica had the following children:

- **Gilbert de Clare**, mentioned next
- Richard (Roger) de Clare
- Matilda (Maud) de Clare; married William de Braiose who was murdered by King John (starved to death) in 1210 at Corfe or Windsor Castle. (See Weis, *Ancestral Roots*, 7th Ed. 1999, Lines 29A-28 and 63A-28)
- Rose (Joan) de Clare

## Generation Fifteen

### Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, Earl of Hertford and Clare

Born circa 1180

Died on October 25, 1230 at Penros, Brittany

Gilbert de Clare was one of the 25 Sureties of the Magna Charta. (See *Magna Charta* and *De Clare*, Generation Seven)

Gilbert married on October 9, 1217 at Tewkesbury Abbey, Gloucester to **Lady Isabella Marshal**, daughter of William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke and Isabel de Clare. (See *Marshal*, Generation Three) Gilbert and Isabella had the following children:

- Amicia de Clare who married in 1226 to Baldwin de Reviers, Earl of Devon
- Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, born on August 4, 1222, died on July 15, 1262, and married Maud de Lacy who was a daughter of Magna Charta Surety John de Lacy and Margaret de Quincy (See *De Quincy*, Generation Two)
- **Isabel de Clare**, mentioned next.
- Sir William de Clare born on May 18, 1228 and poisoned while eating breakfast in 1258.
- Gilbert de Clare, a Priest, born on September 12, 1229
- Agnes de Clare

## Generation Sixteen

### Isabel de Clare

Born on November 8, 1226

Died in 1254, after July 10

Isabel married on May 12, 1240 to **Robert de Bruce**, Lord of Annandale and they had a son:

- **Robert Bruce, Earl of Carrick** (See *Scotland*, Generation Twenty-seven)

For the continuation of this line See *Scotland*, Generation Twenty-seven

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