

# Descendants of Hughes I de Cavalcamp Seigneur de Conches

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## Generation 1

1. **HUGHES I DE CAVALCAMP SEIGNEUR<sup>1</sup> DE CONCHES** was born about 890 AD. He died about 980 AD in pr. Conches, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France.

Notes for Hughes I de Cavalcamp Seigneur de Conches:

The best source for descendants of "Hughes de Cavalcamp" in Normandy and England, with detailed charts and copious notes is, "Famille & seigneurs de Tosny" by Etienne Pattou (2012) found at: <http://racineshistoire.free.fr/LGN/PDF/Tosny.pdf>

In speaking of Hugh of Calvacamp, Guillaume of Jumièges names [his great-grandson] "Rogerius Toenites de stirpe Malahulcii qui Rollonis ducis patruus fuera. Orderic Vitalis, writing in 1113, says the same thing (see entry for Malahule), and appears correct in that Rollo is the son of Ragnavald Eysteinnsson the reported brother of Malahulc Eysteinnsson. If this source is correct, then Hugh de Calvacamp would be the first cousin of Rollo.

Wiki provides a perspective which downplays Orderic Vitalis: "The house Tosny (in England also Töny, Tonei, Toni and Tony) was a family of the Norman nobility, without actually coming from Normandy. They played on 10 to 12 Century the duchy a prominent role, without ever being honored with a Count or Viscount title.

The Normandy in the second half of the 11th Century with the most important strongholds of Tosny

The Tosny come with security from the Ile-de-France, although the top 12 of Orderic Vitalis Century reported that the family came from Malahulce.

Progenitor is Hugo de Calvacamp. 942 his son Hugo, a monk at the Abbey of Saint-Denis, to the Archbishop of Reims was appointed, probably in his wake, the family had then settled in Normandy. Shortly after Hugo's death Raoul I de Tosny was already so well established that his name 991 in a contract between Duke Richard I and the English king Æthelred input takes. His grandson Raoul II de Tosny was among the great barons in the area of William the Conqueror. It is noteworthy that among the marriages that could close the family with high-ranking nobles, also with Baldwin of Boulogne, the first king of Jerusalem.

Coming from Île-de-France, the Tosnys first based themselves in Normandy in the 10th century to collaborate with the descendants of the Vikings. They formed part of this new elite which appeared around dukes Richard I and Richard II at the turn of the 10th to 11th century. In 991, Raoul I of Tosny witnessed the first surviving international treaty in Normand history (an accord between Duke Richard I and the Anglo-Saxon king Ethelred II). As one of the top Normans, he set out to fight in southern Italy. His grandson Raoul II took part with the premier barons in the court of William the Conqueror (1035-1087). He was the Normand standard bearer in 1054.

Narratives, more or less legendary, gathered around the family: the chroniclers report the exploits of Roger I, the Moor-Eater, in Hispania. His wife, Godehildis/Gotelina, was linked to a miracle at Sainte-Foy de Conques. At the start of the 12th century, the Norman chronicler Orderic Vitalis explains that the family was descended from Malahulce, uncle of Rollo."

About Hugues I de Toeni (de Cavalcamp)

Hugh de Calvacamp; b most likely c890; of French rather than Norman extraction; had, with another elder son (Hugh, b probably by 915, monk at Abbey of St Denis, France, Archbishop Rouen, Normandy, 942, had issue (probably illegitimate), made over that part of the archiepiscopal lands consisting of the feudal territory of Toeni (modern Tosny, on the Seine southeast of Rouen) to his brother Ralph and died 10 Nov 989 or 990). [Burke's Peerage] ----- "The first known Toney ancestor ever was Ralph the son of Hugh De Calvacamp. Hugh's father was Malahulic/(Malahule)who came to the Normandy area of France from Norway on a Viking ship. He came with Rollo, or Rolph the Ganger. Hugh De Calvacamp's father Malahulic was uncle to Rollo. Rollo was the leader of the group that our ancestors came with. He and his followers( taunted/annoyed/stalked or worse) the coastlines of France until the King gave him the area that is

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now Normandy."

Hugh (jr.) gave his brother Ralph a piece of land called Tosni/Toeni, it was situated just across the River Seine from Les Andelys. The "s" in Tosni is silent therefore sounding like Toney. Ralph then became known as Raph de Toney

Hugh (Hugo) De Calvacamp was born about 890 in Dieppe.

Hugo (Hughes)'s father was Malahule Eysteinnsson and his mother was Dame Maud De Flanders. His paternal grandparents were Eystein Ivarssaon (of More/Upplands) and Ascrida (Aseda) Rognavaldsdatter. He had a brother named Richard. He was the older of the two children.

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1. MALAHULC . Orderic Vitalis (writing in [1113]) names Malahulc as an uncle of Rollo and ancestor of the Tosny family[2053]. He is not mentioned in the Sagas and no other primary source has been found which either names him or links him with the later members of the Tosny family.

See <http://www.geni.com/family-tree/index/6000000003243404114> for family tree showing how Hugh de Cavalcamp (ancestor of de Tosny family) is brother to Richard I Vicount of Cotentin (ancestor of de Beaufou family), and their father Malahuc Eysteinnsson is brother to Ragnavald Eysteinnsson (whose son Hrolf / Rollo Ragnavaldsson is the ancestor of William the Conqueror).

Stewart ("Origin and Early Generations of the de Tosny Family", 2012, p.1) states that Hugh was a, "son or grandson of MALAHULCIUS (uncle of ROLLO)". [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf)

There is evidence from archaeological sources that Hugh was a Scandinavian name. Among the coins found in the "hoard of Fecamp" is a, "coin minted in the name of Hugh the Dane, datable to the 980s, is evidence that other semi-independent Viking leaders coexisted with the Rollonid family elsewhere in Normandy" (p.19). Furthermore, other evidence comes from, "An inscription on a tombstone, reused as building material for the abbey of Ttoarn, identifies the deceased as 'Hugh, soldier of Richard, king of the Normans [Hugo Miles Ricardi Regis Normandorum], who died on 7 February in an unstated year. The tombstone is decorated with motifs which can be dated to the early eleventh century" (Elizabeth van Houts, 'The Normans in Europe', Manchester University Press, 2000, p.21).

Hughes I de Cavalcamp Seigneur de Conches had the following children:

- i. HUGH<sup>2</sup> DE TOSNY was born about 912 AD in Tosni, Louviers, Eure, Normandy, France. He died on 10 Nov 989 AD in Rouen, Seine-Maritime, Haute-Normandie, France.

Notes for Hugh de Tosny:

Monk at Saint-Denis before 942. Archbishop of Rouen 942. The Acta Archiepiscoporum Rothomagensium record that "Willelmus filius Rollonis dux Normannorum" appointed "Hugo...monachus apud sanctum Dyonisium" as archbishop of Rouen, adding that he was "prosapia clarus, sed ignobilis cunctis operibus", had "filios...quamplures", and granted "Todiniacum...in dominicatu archiepiscopi" to "fratri suo Radulfo...filio Hugonis de Calvacamp"[2471]. The dates of his appointment and death are ascertained from Orderic Vitalis who records the death of his predecessor in 942, and that Hugues held the position for 47 years[2472]. Gallia Christiana records the death "IV Id Nov" of "Hugonis archiepiscopi"[2473]. [m ---.] Hugues [& his wife] had children:

- i) children . Their existence is confirmed by the Acta Archiepiscoporum Rothomagensium which record that "Hugo...monachus apud sanctum Dyonisium" had "filios...quamplures"[2474]. Their is no indication of their number, their names

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or the identity of their mother(s). Norman Nobility:

[http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/NORMAN%20NOBILITY.htm#\\_Toc322790638](http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/NORMAN%20NOBILITY.htm#_Toc322790638)

2. ii. RALPH I SEIGNEUR DE TOSNY ET CONCHES was born between 915 AD-920 AD in pr. Conches, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He died after 01 May 991 AD in pr. Tosny, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He married UNKNOWN.

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### Generation 2

2. **RALPH I SEIGNEUR DE TOSNY ET<sup>2</sup> CONCHES** (Hughes I de Cavalcamp Seigneur<sup>1</sup> de Conches) was born between 915 AD-920 AD in pr. Conches, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He died after 01 May 991 AD in pr. Tosny, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He married **UNKNOWN**.

Notes for Ralph I Seigneur de Tosny et Conches:

Raou, I Radolph and Ralph as well as Rollo (Hrolfir) are equivalent and interchangeable names according to contemporary sources (see van Houts, "The Normans in Europe", 2000, Macmillan, p.54).

The most comprehensive study of this family, particularly their land holdings, is by Lucien Musset, in French, and can be downloaded in pdf from the following website:  
[http://francia.digitale-sammlungen.de/Blatt\\_bsb00016280,00059.html](http://francia.digitale-sammlungen.de/Blatt_bsb00016280,00059.html). More below.

Other sources and information include the following:

"In this generation the seat of the family became Conches. The present town of Conches lies on the right bank of the little stream of the Rouloir, about eleven miles south-west of Evreux. The Rouloir soon joins the Iton, which flows into the Eure at Acquigny, and the Eure into the Seine at Pont de l'Arche. But the first abode of the Toenis was a place more than a mile to the west of Conches, which is now 'Cf Caumont, Called Vieux-Conches, and there Ralph de Toeni settled himself early in the eleventh century, building a fortress of which remains still exist. Near it a church of St. Ouen was built, and round it grew a little village bearing the same name as the church. After Ralph's death, however, his son Roger removed (in about 1030?) to a spot then called Chastillon (Castellio), probably from a Roman camp in the neighbourhood, and there not only built the imposing walls, within which a central fortress of the twelfth century still in great measure defies the destructive influence of Time, but also founded the Benedictine abbey already mentioned. Chatillon is now practically included in Conches, and one of the gates is still called the Porte de Chatillon. The abbey was variously known as Coenobium SS. Petri et Pauli de Castellione, Ecclesia Castellionensis, or Castellionensis abbatia apud Conchas." (Madan, p.8).

"With its two axes, Conches-en-Ouche and Tosny (in the bend of the Seine immediately upstream of Andelys), the barony of Tosny was a two-headed one. According to the 1172 state of its fiefdoms, the "honneur" amounted to 50 or 51 knights' fiefs. The lands were mostly found in Haute-Normandie, more precisely between Risle and Iton. The vast forêt de Conches formed its centre. It also had scattered domains in the Eure valley (Fontaine-sous-Jouy, Cailly-sur-Eure, Planches, Acquigny), the Seine valley (Tosny, Villers-sur-le-Roule, Bernières-sur-Seine), in Vexin Normand (Vesly, Guerny, Villers-en-Vexin, Hacqueville, Heuqueville, Val de Pîtres), in Pays de Caux and Talou around Blainville-Crevon, Mortemer (Seine-Maritime, Mortemer-sur-Eaulne), Dieppe and Yerville. Many of these lands were let out to vassals, notably les Clères. Orderic Vitalis mentions four main castles in the barony in 1119 : Conches-en-Ouche, Tosny, Portes, Acquigny."

"Tosny is a small village on the left bank of the Seine in the canton of Gaillon and department of L'Eure, near the well-known Chateau Gaillard. The Seine at this point ' Plan in makes a horseshoe curve ', sweeping beneath the heights of Les Andelys on which the chateau stands, and which look across the river in a south-westerly direction over level, meadows enclosed by the river's bend. Within this bend a spectator from the castle would see the two villages of Bernières and Tosny, the former on the right hand, the latter a little nearer and on the left, close to the Seine. It is not without significance, as will shortly be seen, that in Cassini's large Atlas (1744) a place called Grange le

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Conches is to be found close to Tosny. The name has between Toeni (Toenium), Totteneium, Todiniacum, Thony (Thoniaum), and Toni (Toniacum), with minor (1877)- variations, but appears to be now fixed as Tosny. Toeni and its meadows belonged, as has been stated, to the arch bishopric of Rouen, until alienated by the first Toeni's brother, to give a name and place to the family in which we are interested." (Madan, p.4 - see below)

"Ralph in the tenth century possessed Castillon (Chatillon) the site of an old Roman camp close to, and indeed part of, the town of Conches: but this must be regarded at present as due to some confusion with his son Roger." (Ibid., p.5).

As indicated by Burke's Peerage in notes for Hugh de Calvacamp, Ralph received Toeni from his elder brother Hugh, Archbishop of Rouen. The Acta Archiepiscoporum Rothomagensium record that "Hugo" archbishop of Rouen granted "Todiniacum...in dominicatu archiepiscopi" to "fratri suo Radulfo...filio Hugonis de Calvacamp.

RALPH (or RODULF) DE TOENI I, son of HUGH DE CALVACAMP, was given Tosniby his brother Hugh, and is described as a most powerful man, perhaps inconsequence of that gift. He is usually confused with his son Ralph, butthere is no authority for such identification, and the dates involvedshow that there must have been two Ralphs, belonging to successivegenerations. [Complete Peerage XII/1:754, (transcribed by DaveUtzinger)][jweber.ged]

A comprehensive (primary research in charters etc.) is "The Early Origins of the Tosny Family" at: [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_fa mily.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_fa mily.pdf)

Perhaps even more thorough and detailed is Madan's "The Gresleys of Drakelow" <http://ia700305.us.archive.org/34/items/collectionsforhi01staf/collectionsforhi01staf.pdf> supporting a Scandinavian line back to the Kings of the Norse Sagas.

The name Ralph is not a Scandinavian name, however it would make a good Christian version of Hrolf which is a common Norwegian name. (DKF).

Wiki:

HOUSE OF TOSNY

Notable members:

Coming from Île-de-France, the Tosnys first based themselves in Normandy in the 10th century to collaborate with the descendants of the Vikings. They formed part of this new elite which appeared around dukes Richard I and Richard II at the turn of the 10th to 11th century. In 991, Raoul I of Tosny witnessed the first surviving international treaty in Normand history (an accord between Duke Richard I and the Anglo-Saxon king Ethelred II). As one of the top Normands, he set out to fight in southern Italy. His grandson Raoul II took part with the premier barons in the court of William the Conqueror (1035-1087). He was the Normand standard bearer in 1054.

Narratives, more or less legendary, gathered around the family: the chroniclers report the exploits of Roger I, the Moor-Eater, in Hispania. His wife, Godehildis/Gotelina, was linked to a miracle at Sainte-Foy de Conques. At the start of the 12th century, the Norman chronicler Orderic Vitalis explains that the family was descended from Malahulce, uncle of Rollo.

A model aristocratic family:

Formation of its power

As with several Norman families (such as the Beaumont), the origin of the house of Tosny's power derived from two sources : recovery of church goods. According to Lucien Musset, Hugues, archbishop of Rouen (942-989) split off lands from his cathedral's lands and gave them to his brother Raoul I of Tosny

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grants of land by the dukes of Normandy, notably Richard II

More unusually, the house of Tosny probably acquired part of its fortune from foreign adventures - Raoul I and Roger I fought in the County of Apulia and in Iberia in the first quarter of the 11th century.

The dangers in its history

Raoul II of Tosny participated in the Norman Conquest in 1066, and was rewarded with domains in England, most notably the two baronies of Flamstead (Hertfordshire) and Wrethamthorpe (Norfolk). Three other family members were also rewarded : Raoul's brother Robert de Stafford, Robert de Beauvoir and his son Béranger, belonging to a collateral branch. However, it seems that on the whole the Tosnys did not play an important role in England. In the Duchy of Normandy, they were particularly active during the troubles which followed William I's death (1087) and the subsequent conflict between Empress Mathilda and Stephen (1135-1144). Nevertheless, the 12th century gives the impression of a decline in the Tosny family fortunes in comparison to some of the neighbouring houses in eastern Normandy, such as the houses of Beaumont-Meulan, Montfort and Harcourt.

In 1204 Roger IV of Tosny lost his continental fiefdoms as a result of his support for John and thus the family had to withdraw to England to begin again. In 1309, its male line became extinct.

The management of its goods

Like all Norman barons, the Tosnys had fiefdoms scattered throughout Normandy and England. In 1077, a marriage between Raoul II and Isabelle de Montfort allowed the Tosnys to direct the châtelainie of Nogent-le-Roi, which they held onto until around 1200. The family possessions thus stretched as far as the border of the duchy of Normandy. Nevertheless, the heart of their continental lands was centred around Conches-en-Ouche. Part of their fiefdoms was let out to a small clientele of vassals.

The family made grants to abbeys, notably to those they had founded themselves (the Saint-Pierre de Castillon monastery c.1035). After 1066, as Lucien Musset remarks, the Tosnys showed themselves especially liberal to their English fiefdoms but avoided diminishing their Norman lands.

The texts give little information on the administration of these lands, though we know prévôts were installed in the main centres.

The honour of Conches and of Tosny

With its two axes, Conches-en-Ouche and Tosny (in the bend of the Seine immediately upstream of Andelys), the barony of Tosny was a two-headed one.

According to the 1172 state of its fiefdoms, the "honneur" amounted to 50 or 51 knights' fiefs. The lands were mostly found in Haute-Normandie, more precisely between Risle and Iton. The vast forêt de Conches formed its centre. It also had scattered domains in the Eure valley (Fontaine-sous-Jouy, Cailly-sur-Eure, Planches, Acquigny), the Seine valley (Tosny, Villers-sur-le-Roule, Bernières-sur-Seine), in Vexin Normand (Vesly, Guerny, Villers-en-Vexin, Hacqueville, Heuqueville, Val de Pîtres), in Pays de Caux and Talou around Blainville-Crevon, Mortemer (Seine-Maritime, Mortemer-sur-Eaulne), Dieppe and Yerville. Many of these lands were let out to vassals, notably les Clères.

Orderic Vitalis mentions four main castles in the barony in 1119 : Conches-en-Ouche, Tosny, Portes, Acquigny."

A very accurate genealogy of the family can be found here:  
<http://www.linleyfh.com/oursecondsite-p/p850.htm#i35074>

"The Acta Archiepiscoporum Rothomagensium record that "Hugo" archbishop of Rouen granted "Todiniacum...in dominicatu archiepiscopi" to "fratri suo Radulfo...filio Hugonis de

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Calvacamp"[2467]. m ---. The name of Raoul's wife is not known. Guillaume of Jumièges names [his great-grandson] "Rogerius Toenites de stirpe Malahulcii qui Rollonis ducis patruus fuerat"[2468], which suggests that Malahulc was the ancestor of Hugues de Calvacamp, Hugues's wife, or the wife of Raoul [I] de Tosny."

<http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/NORMAN%20NOBILITY.htm#Malhulc>

Note: The full extent of the de Tosny lands by the time of Orderic Vitalis and Guillaume de Jumieges writing in the 12th Century were vast. The text and Lucien Musset, 'Aux Origines d'une class dirigeante: Les Tosnys, grand barons normand du Xem au XIIIem siecle', Francia, 1978, pp.45-80. <http://download.digitale-sammlungen.de/pdf/1361036881bsb00016280.pdf>. Note that the two primary castles were at Acquigny (where the rivers Eure and Iton meet), and at Portes near Neufbourg north of Conches.

The information on these holdings (very extensive, throughout eastern Normandy) is summarized on a detailed map on p.69, which for ease of viewing is reproduced here: <http://www.davidkfaux.org/TosnyLandsNormandy.pdf>.

Ralph I Seigneur de Tosny et Conches and Unknown had the following child:

3. i. RALPH II DE TOSNY ET<sup>3</sup> CONCHES was born about 955 AD in pr. Tosny, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He died after 1023 in pr. Tosny, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He married UNKNOWN.

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## Generation 3

3. **RALPH II DE TOSNY ET<sup>3</sup> CONCHES** (Ralph I Seigneur de Tosny et<sup>2</sup>, Hughes I de Cavalcamp Seigneur<sup>1</sup> de Conches) was born about 955 AD in pr. Tosny, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He died after 1023 in pr. Tosny, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He married **UNKNOWN**.

Notes for Ralph II de Tosny et Conches:

The early spelling of the surname was "Todeniaco", a variant that son Robert would use on the inscription on the lid of his coffin. Other branches of the family tended to use Toeni, including those of the other Robert, of Stafford (son of Roger).

"Rodulphi filii Rodulphi de Todeniaco..." subscribed the undated charter under which "Richardus...Normannorum comes" confirmed property of Lisieux. Guillaume of Jumièges records that Duke Richard appointed "Nigellum Constantinensem atque Rodulfum Toennensem et Rogerium filium eiusdem" as custodians of "castrum Tegulense" (Tillières {Verneuil, Eure}), which he had built to protect against attack by Eudes [II] Comte de Blois."

<http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/NORMAN%20NOBILITY.htm#Malhulc>

Wiki: "Coming from Île-de-France, the Tosnys first based themselves in Normandy in the 10th century to collaborate with the descendants of the Vikings. They formed part of this new elite which appeared around dukes Richard I and Richard II at the turn of the 10th to 11th century. In 991, Raoul I of Tosny witnessed the first surviving international treaty in Normand history (an accord between Duke Richard I and the Anglo-Saxon king Ethelred II). As one of the top Normands, he set out to fight in southern Italy. His grandson Raoul II took part with the premier barons in the court of William the Conqueror (1035-1087). In 1013, Roger and his father Raoul I guarded the castle at Tillières for Richard II, Duke of Normandy. A few years later, for an unknown reason, the pair were forced into exile. While his father gained a reputation for himself in Apulia." In 1015 Raoul joined a mercenary force under Henry II travelling to Italy to fight the Byzantines. It was a Norman expedition and included Gosman, Stigand, Vautier de Canisy and Hugues de Falluques. See also Pattou, <http://racineshistoire.free.fr/LGN/PDF/Tosny.pdf>.

Stewart ("Origin and early generations of the Tosny family") notes, "Acta Duc Norm 96 no 15, subscription to charter of Duke Richard II for Notre-Dame de Chartres dated at Rouen 21 Sep

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1014: S. Rodulfi de Todeniaco. Radulf II most probably visited Rome not long after this, but the dating of his participation in the siege of Salerno to the winter of 1015/16 in CP xii/l 755 is more than a year too early. Prompted by Pope Benedict VIII, the Norman exile Radulf went on to support a rebellion against the Greeks in the south. Whether or not Radulf II of Tosny was this person and one of their number, as seems likely, the Normans wintered in Campania and reached Apulia by May 1017 under command of the rebel leader Melus of Bari, Guill Apul Gesta Rob 101-102".

Wiki: " In 1017, aided by Norman mercenaries, the Lombard noble Melus of Bari lead an successful rebellion against Byzantine control of Apulia. The Byzantine Empire struck back in 1018, the Eastern Empire, under Catepan of Italy Basil Boioannes, delivered a devastating defeat to the joint Lombard-Norman force at the Battle of Cannae. Melus fled to the Papal States following the defeat. With the Byzantine successes in southern Italy, Pope Benedict VIII took an unusual step in 1020: he traveled north across the Alps into Germany to discuss the state of affairs in southern Italy with the Emperor. Meeting Henry II in Bamberg, the Pope was accompanied by a large number of Italian secular and ecclesiastical leaders, including Melus. Henry II granted Melus the empty title Duke of Apulia for his actions against the Byzantines. But Melus, just a few days later, died on April 23, 1020. After settling some controversies with the bishops of Mainz and Würzburg, the Pope convinced Henry II to return to Italy for a third campaign to counter the growing power of the Byzantine Empire.

In 1022, Henry II set out down the Adriatic coast for southern Italy commanding a large force. He sent Archbishop Pilgrim of Cologne ahead with a slightly smaller army along the Tyrrhenian littoral with the objective of subjugating the Principality of Capua. A third army, smaller still, under the command of Patriarch Poppo of Aquileia went through the Apennines to join Henry II in besieging the Byzantine fortress of Troia. Though Patriarch Pilgrim captured Pandulf IV of Capua extracted oaths of allegiance from both Capua and the Principality of Salerno, all three of Henry II's armies failed to take Troia. The Byzantine troops could not be forced into a pitched battle and Henry II was forced to turn back, his army weakened by diseases and suffering heavy losses."

Further details about Ralph's "adventures" in Italy, direct from primary sources, see Van Houts (2000), p.103, 223,231(n28),232-5.

It is likely that Ralph returned to Normandy about 1023, and died in battle in that year (see Stewart above).

Seigneur of Tosny, Hereditary Standard Bearer of Normandy,

Ralph II de Tosny et Conches and Unknown had the following children:

4. i. ROGER SEIGNEUR DE TOSNY ET CONCHES "THE<sup>4</sup> SPANIARD" was born about 990 AD in pr. Tosni, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He died on 31 May 1043 in Lands of Humphrey de Vieilles, Normandy. He married UNKNOWN FIRST WIFE. She died about 1014. He married (2) GODEHILDE about 1025. She was born about 1010 in Normandy, France.
- ii. RAOUL DE TOSNY ET CONCHES was born about 992 AD. He died in 1023 in Spain.

Notes for Raoul de Tosny et Conches:

An illegitimate son of Raoul who accompanied Roger to Spain (Stewart, p.12). Pattou gives the name of a brother of Roger as Raoul.

- iii. BERTHA DE TOSNY was born about 995 AD. She died after 1063. She married GUI DE LAVAL. He died before 14 Sep 1055.

Notes for Bertha de Tosny:

"BERTHE . Her marriage is confirmed by the charter dated [Sep/14 Oct] 1055 under which the monks of Marmoutier record the donations by "quemdam militem...Johannem pagi Cenomannensis indigenum, Widonis de Valle filium" of

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property "in Normannia, territorio Vilcassino...ecclesiam in villa...Guarniacus...juxta fluvium Eptæ" which "Wido pater eorum" accepted from "uxore sua Berta, Johannis et Haimonis matre". Her connection with the Tosny family is confirmed by the charter dated 1063 which records the consent given by "Rotbertum de Toeniaco, avunculum domni Johanni monachi nostri, filii Widonis de Valle" to the donations by the latter to Marmoutier, authorised by "Berengerius filius eius". The remaining question is the identity of her father. m ([1010/15]) as his first wife, GUY [I] Sire de Laval, son of --- (-after 1064)."

"BERTHE de Tosny, daughter of [RAOUL [II] de Tosny & his wife ---]. Her marriage is confirmed by the charter dated [Sep/14 Oct] 1055 under which the monks of Marmoutier record the donations by "quemdam militem...Johannem pagi Cenomannensis indigenum, Widonis de Valle filium" of property "in Normannia, territorio Vilcassino...ecclesiam in villa...Guarniacus...juxta fluvium Eptæ" which "Wido pater eorum" accepted from "uxore sua Berta, Johannis et Haimonis matre". Her connection with the Tosny family is confirmed by the charter dated 1063 which records the consent given by "Rotbertum de Toeniaco, avunculum domni Johanni monachi nostri, filii Widonis de Valle" to the donations by the latter to Marmoutier, authorised by "Berengerius filius eius"[388]. The remaining question is the identity of her father. The date of her marriage is estimated from the charter dated 11 Nov 1039 in which her two grandsons are named (see above). If this document is correctly dated (and this is open to doubt as discussed further above), Berthe could not have been the daughter of Roger [I] de Conches. There are two other possibilities. Either she was the daughter of Raoul [II] de Tosny or she was related to Robert de Tosny, who was Lord of Belvoir in 1086 and whose precise relationship with the main Tosny family has not been ascertained. m secondly (before [1030]) as her second husband, ROTRUDE de Château-du-Loir, widow of ---, daughter of HAMON Seigneur d'Argentré & his wife Hildeburge de Bellême (-after [1050]). The monks of Marmoutier record a donation by "Guido, castri...Vallis...in pago Cenomannensi conditorem ac possessorem", with the consent of "suorumque filiorum...Haimonis...Gervasii atque Guidonis, simulque Agnetis", by charter dated to [1050], witnessed by "...Rotrudis uxor predicti Widonis, Gualterius filius eius...". Her parentage is confirmed by a charter dated to [1100] under which the monks of Angers Saint-Aubin recall the history of "ecclesiam de Comburniaco", seized by "Fulcho comes" [Foulques III "Nerra" Comte d'Anjou] and given to "Hamelino de Castro Ledi", who granted it to "Widdoni de Valle cum filia sua in maritaggio". If this report is correct, Rotrude must have married before [1030], the estimated date of death of her father. The monks of Marmoutier record the division of Laval fair and market profits with "Guido de Valle", with the consent of "filii eius Hamon, Hildelinda, Agnes, Hildeburgis et Guido et Gervasius" by charter dated to [1050], witnessed by "...Rotrudis supradicti Guidonis uxor, Gualterius filius eius...". These charters confirm Rotrude's first marriage, from which "Gualterius filius eius" was presumably born. Guy [I] & his first wife had five children: " (Norman Nobility)

- iv. BERENGAR DE TOSNY ET ESPINAY was born about 1000. He died after 1063.

Notes for Berengar de Tosny et Espinay:

Battle Abbey Roll: - although not on the more conservative versions, only the controversial ones that seem to include Domesday Tenants in Chief.

Berengar de Teoni

BERENGER Hespina . The primary source which confirms his parentage has not yet been identified. His name suggests that he was the brother of Robert [II] de Tosny, whose son is also recorded with the name Berenger. 1050/1066. A charter of King Henry II records donations to York St Mary, including the donation of land "in Lestingeham...Spaunton, in Kyrkeby-Misperton...in Dalby...in Skaldena...in

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Lyndesey in Bek...in Bynbruc" by "Berengerius de Todeneye" m ---. The name of Berenger's wife is not known. Berenger & his wife had one child:]

a) BERENGER de Tosny . He is named in Europäische Stammtafeln. The primary source which confirms his parentage has not yet been identified. It is possible that it results from confusion with Berenger, son of Robert [I] de Tosny. A charter of King Henry II records donations to York St Mary, including the donation of land "in Finmara et...in Hunkleby et decimam suam de Dalton et juxta Chevermunt" by "Berengerius de Todenei". It is not possible to date the donations in this document. It is not therefore known whether the donation was made by Berenger, son of Robert [I], or an otherwise unrecorded Berenger who may have been the son of Berenger Hespina.]

[http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/NORMAN%20NOBILITY.htm#\\_Toc322790638](http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/NORMAN%20NOBILITY.htm#_Toc322790638)

Others have considered that Roger had a son Berengar, and evidence an affiliation with Spain, but Stewart is skeptical. "The name Berenguer is not evidence for Berenger Spina to have had Catalan ancestry, as proposed by Evans (1968) 616 making him a son of Roger I and compounded by Keats-Rohan (1993) 35 and n 107 adding as his mother Godehildis, most improbably identified with the purported wife from Barcelona. In fact the name Berenger was current in Normandy before this time". (p.21). He speculates that this Berengar (alive 1063/66) was instead a brother of Roger (p.2). Spina in documents of the time refers to a place in France.

Residing at Spineta, or Espinay in Normandy. Épinay is a commune in the Eure department in the Haute-Normandie region in north-western France.. (Wiki)

Stewart (p.41) describes what is known about Berengar from the charters of Normandy: "Acta Duc Norm 342 no 157, notice of formal confirmation in 1063 of an agreement between his brother Robert and the monks of Marmoutier: Nosse debebitis si qui eritis posteri nostri Majoris scilicet hujus habitores monasterii Sancti Martini Rotbertum de Toeniaco avunculum domni Johannis monachi nostri, filii Widonis de Valle, quicquid sibi reclamabat in possessione de Guarniaco concessisse totamque ex integro possessionem illam auctorizasse Sancto Martino et nobis, tali pacto ut si quando monachus apud nos esse voluerit et frater ejus nomine Berengerius Spina cognominatus hoc velit et concedit illi si vixerit, nec ipse refutetur a nobis; ibid 409 no 211, undated charter of Berenger for Saint-Ouen written 1055/66: Ego Berengerius Hespina ... Signum Berengarii Hespina qui hec dedit +.

'Spina' means thorn, and this might have become associated with Berenger from a personal characteristic or anecdote. Alternatively, the hamlet of Épinay near the abbey of Saint-Victor-en-Caux, close to Tosny estates north of Rouen, could have provided the name, perhaps from a thorny field and possibly the place specified as such in a charter of Rotrou, archbishop of Rouen, for the local abbey of Saint-Victor, Cartul S Vict Calet 396 no 6, confirmation dated 1175: totum pratum de Spina et terram que est inter viam qua a Petra itur ad Pencum at Haiam militarem. However, a Gunfred probably from this Épinay was identified by a different form of the name when attesting along with Berenger, Acta Duc Norm 374 no 191, witnesses to undated charter of Roger de Clères for Saint-Ouen abbey written probably aft 1050/bef 14 Oct 1066: Hujus rei testes fuerunt ... Berengerius Spina ... Gunfredus de Spineto. NB this is a different place from Épinay in the Mortemer fief, near Sainte-Beuve some 30 km to the north-east of Saint-Victor-l'Abbaye, and from the larger villages of Épinay and Épinay-Saint-Aubin south-east of Rouen, Épinay near Londinières south-east of Dieppe and Épinay-sur-Odon south-west of Caen, all of them usually called Spinetum without explicit distinction in contemporary documents."

Furthermore, "See n 1 above for Berenger Spina in 1063; he may have been living in 1066, Acta Duc Norm 374 no 191, witnesses and subscriptions to undated charter of Roger de Clères for Saint-Ouen abbey written probably aft 1050/bef 14

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Oct 1066: Hujus rei testes fuerunt, Rotbertus de Toieno et fratres mei, Osbernus de Calleii et Rogerus pincerna de Vuatnevilla, Berengerius Spina ... + Signum Willelmi ducis Normannorum. + Signum Rotberti comitis de Ou. + Signum Willelmi dapiferi filii Osberni. Signum Radulfi de Toieno. + Signum Rogerii de Clera ... + Signum Berengerii Spinê. It seems from the double appearance of Berenger Spina that the subscriptions were added on a different occasion from the attestations, presumably when ducal approval was obtained."

From Stewart, "Musset (1978) 57 (table) showed a son of Berenger Spina also named Berenger, followed in this by Schwennicke (1989) 705. However, no source was cited for the person or the relationship and it appears to be a misplacement of Berenger [son of Robert] who is otherwise omitted. A Berengarius de Spineta attested a charter for Lyre abbey at the beginning of the 12th century, see Le Prevost (1862-1869) ii 46-it is only a conjecture that this man's father might have been Berenger Spina.

The fanciful idea was put forward in the mid-19th century that 'Spina' and its variants came about from a play on the imagined origin of the name Tosny, see Senex in N&Q (1861) xi 276-277: 'That this last place [Thosny or Toëny] was named after their Norwegian name, Thorn or Thorny, descendants of Thor, is evident by the fact, that both the members of the Standard-bearer family, and also that of Robert de Todeni, of Belvoir, are known as De Spineto and De Spina, in numberless charters and other documents'. In fact the number is apparently small, just three charter occurrences of Berenger Spina or Hespina and this fourth case where an individual surnamed Spineta cannot be connected with any certainty to the Tosny family." (p.68-69)

5. v. ROBERT DE TOSNY LORD OF BELVOIR was born about 1009 in pr. Tosny, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He died on 04 Aug 1093 in Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire, England. He married ADELIZA FITZOSULF DU PLESSIS. She was born about 1025 in pr. Fresne, Normandy, France. She died before 1093 in Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire, England.

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### Generation 4

4. **ROGER SEIGNEUR DE TOSNY ET CONCHES "THE<sup>4</sup> SPANIARD"** (Ralph II de Tosny et<sup>3</sup> Conches, Ralph I Seigneur de Tosny et<sup>2</sup> Conches, Hughes I de Cavalcamp Seigneur<sup>1</sup> de Conches) was born about 990 AD in pr. Tosni, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He died on 31 May 1043 in Lands of Humphrey de Vieilles, Normandy. He married **UNKNOWN FIRST WIFE**. She died about 1014. He married (2) **GODEHILDE** about 1025. She was born about 1010 in Normandy, France.

Notes for Roger Seigneur de Tosny et Conches "The Spaniard":

Wiki: Roger I of Tosny or Roger of Hispania was a Norman nobleman of the House of Tosny who took part in the Reconquista of Iberia. He was the son of Raoul I of Tosny.

In 1013, Roger and his father Raoul I guarded the castle at Tillières for Richard II, Duke of Normandy. A few years later, for an unknown reason, the pair were forced into exile. While his father gained a reputation for himself in Apulia, Roger did the same in fighting the Muslims in Iberia. The small Christian states of Northern Iberia welcomed volunteers and adventurers who they could use to mount a strong force for the Reconquista. Roger was summoned by Ermesinde of Carcassonne, regent-countess of Barcelona after the death of her husband Ramon Borrell, to help her against the Muslim threat to her power. Roger rushed to help, marrying Ermesinde's daughter, terrorising the Saracens and capturing several towns and castles. Adémar de Chabannes gives an echo of the more or less legendary deeds of Roger in Iberia. He gained the

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### Generation 4 (con't)

nickname Mangeur de Maures (Moor-Eater). Adémar recounts that Roger took his captured Saracens each day and, in front of them, cut one of their number in two, boiling the first half and giving it to the other Muslims to eat, and pretending to take the other half into his own tent for him and his companions to eat. Then Roger allowed some of these prisoners to escape, to spread these horrific rumours.

Before 1024, Roger and his father gained permission from Richard II to return to Normandy, and Raoul died soon afterwards.

Roger de Tosny founded Conches-en-Ouche. He built its church of Sainte-Foy (before 1026) then the abbey of Saint-Pierre de Castillon (c. 1035) where monks from Fécamp Abbey were installed. This monastery was one of the first baronial foundations in Normandy. The foundation charter reveals that the lord of Tosny gave it a small possession around Conches and his forest.

In 1035, Robert I's death began a troubled period in the duchy of Normandy. Civil wars multiplied and Roger (whose relations with his neighbours was already argumentative) was one of the main players in them. According to the Norman chroniclers, the lord of Tosny refused to serve the new duke, the future William the Conqueror, due to his being a bastard. He especially took advantage of the weakness of the duke's power by ravaging his neighbours' lands, notably those of Humphrey of Vieilles. Humphrey sent his son Roger to face Roger of Tosny, and around 1040 the latter was killed in battle, and his two eldest sons died a few weeks later of their wounds.

Peace was re-established between the Tosny family and the neighbouring families. The widow Gotelina/Godehildis was forced to marry Richard, Count of Évreux.

More detail of Roger's activities in Spain is found in other near contemporary sources, as described by Stewart: "Roger I reportedly lost a bastard half-brother in an ambush ca 1023, when escorting the bishop of Toulouse, Ademar Cabann Chron 174." (p.23)

ROGER DE TOENI I, styled also DE CONCHES, son and heir,[brother of Robert] was born probably about 990, for as stated above he was joined with his father in the custody of the castle of Tillières in 1013 or 1014. He was a powerful and haughty man, and banner-bearer of all Normandy. In 1031 or 1032 he attested a charter of Robert I for St. Wandrille. About 1035 he founded the abbey of Chatillon or Conches. While Duke Robert was away on pilgrimage, he went to Spain and distinguished himself in fighting the infidels. When he returned to Normandy, he was furious to learn that the boy William had succeeded his father in the Duchy, declaring that a bastard ought not to rule over him and other Normans. Accordingly he rebelled and ravaged the lands of his neighbours, particularly those of Humphrey de Vieilles; whose son Roger de Beaumont marched against him, and in the battle which followed Roger de Toeni and two of his sons were slain. He was a benefactor to the abbey of l'Estrée and confirmed a gift to the abbey of Lire, and witnessed a charter for Jumièges. He married, perhaps 2ndly, Godeheut, whose parentage is unknown. He died as above, probably in 1038 or 1039, and was buried 1 May at Conches. His widow married Richard, 3rd COUNT OF EVREUX. She was a benefactor to Conches.[Complete Peerage XII/1:755-7, (transcribed by Dave Utzinger)]

#### Sources:-

Guillaume de Jumièges names "Roger du Ternois, de la mauvaise race de Hulce...oncle du duc Rollon, et se battant avec lui contre les Francs avait jadis concouru par sa valeur à la conquête de la Normandie", recording that Roger was "porte-bannière de toute la Normandie" and left for Spain when Duke Robert II left on pilgrimage to Jerusalem but refused to serve Duke Guillaume II on returning to Normandy.

The Chronici Hugonis Floriacensis names "Rotgerius filius Rodulfi comitis" when recording that he left Normandy for Spain.

The Chronico S Petri Vivi Senonensi records that "Rotgerius filius Rodulfi comitis" left Normandy for Spain with an army in 1015.

He founded the abbey of Conches in 1035.

He and his two sons "Helbert et Hélinant" were killed during his rebellion by "Roger de Beaumont". "...Rogerii filii Radulfi..." witnessed the charter dated to [1030] under which Robert II Duke of Normandy donated "in comitatu Abrincatensi villam...Sancti Johannis" to the abbey of

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Mont-Saint-Michel.

He left Normandy for Spain in [1030/35], fought against the Moors, and lived there for 15 years with his Spanish wife.

"...Rodgerii filii Rodulfi...Rogerii de Conchis" subscribed the charter dated to [1040] under which "Vuillelmus Ricardi magni ducis Normannorum filius" donated property to the abbey of Jumièges. The apparent duplication of these names is difficult to explain.

"...Nigelli vicecomitis, Tursteni vicecomitis...Willelmi Arcacensis comitis, Godefridi vicecomitis, Rodgerii filii Rodulfi, Wimundi..." witnessed the charter dated to [1040] under which Guillaume Comte de Talou donated property to Jumièges.

Henry II King of England confirmed the property of Conches abbey, including donations by "Rogeris senior de Toenio et filius eius Radulfus senex et Radulphus juvenis filius predicti Radulphi senex et Roger filius Radulphi juvenis", by charter dated 1165 or [1167/73]. While in Spain, he married, either Etienne of Barcelona or, according to later research, Adelaide of Barcelona. <http://www.geni.com/people/Roger-I-de-Tosny-Toni-Toeni/6000000001210374907>

Another source in same Geni reference says:-

[m firstly (1018 or soon after) ADELAI DA [Papia] de Barcelona, daughter of RAMÓN BORELL I Conde de Barcelona & his wife Ermesinde de Carcassonne.

The Chronicle of Adémar de Chabannes records that "Normanni duce Rotgerio", who had been fighting Saracens in Spain, asked "comitissa Barzelonensi Ermensende...vidua" for the hand of her daughter, but does not name the latter.

It is not clear that "dux Rotgerius" is Roger de Conches, particularly as it seems surprising that Adémar would have accorded him the title "dux".

It is assumed that this marriage proposal took place in 1018 or soon after: if it had taken place much later, there would have been little reason to have referred to the bride's mother as "vidua". In addition, the other events recorded by Adémar in the same paragraph, all relate to 1016/18.

The Chronici Hugonis Floriacensis records that "Rotgerius filius Rodulfi comitis" married "sororem Raymundi-Berengarii Stephaniam" in Spain, specifying that she later married "rex Hispaniæ Garsias", but this account is even more confused and clearly conflates several different individuals. The Chronico S Petri Vivi Senonensi records the same marriage using the same wording.

The primary source which confirms her name has not yet been identified.

"The old castle built by Roger or his successors is of prodigious strength, consisting of a circular donjon with massive walls, a ring of bastions and walls surrounding the keep, and a large and nearly circular area, about 300 feet in diameter, enclosed by the outer wall. The fortifications on the south-east look down a steep declivity to the stream below." (Madan, p.9).

ROGER [I] de Tosny [Conches] ([990]-killed in battle [17 Jun] [1040], bur Conches). Guillaume of Jumièges records that Duke Richard appointed "Nigellum Constantinensem atque Rodulfum Toennensem et Rogerium filium eiusdem" as custodians of "castrum Tegulense" (Tillières {Verneuil, Eure}), which he had built to protect against attack by Eudes [II] Comte de Blois. Guillaume of Jumièges records that "Rogerius Toenites de stirpe Malahulcii qui Rollonis ducis patruus fuerat" was "totius Normanniæ signifer", that he travelled "in Hispaniam" when Duke Robert II went on pilgrimage to Jerusalem, returned after the accession of Duke Guillaume II but refused to serve him because of his ignoble birth, rebelled against him, destroyed property in particular that of "Humfridi de Vetulis" who eventually killed Roger [I] along with "duobus filiis suis Helberto et Elinantio". The Chronici Hugonis Floriacensis names "Rotgerius filius Rodulfi comitis" when recording that he left Normandy for Spain. The Chronico S Petri Vivi Senonensi records that "Rotgerius filius Rodulfi comitis" left Normandy for Spain with an army in 1015. He founded the abbey of Conches in 1035. Henry I King of England confirmed the foundation of Conches by "Rogerius senior de Toenio et filius eius Radulphus senex et Radulphus juvenis filius prædicti Radulphi senis et Rogerius filius Radulphi juvenis", quoting the foundation by "Rogerius filius Radulphi Toteniensis" for the soul of "coniugis meæ Godehildis", dated to [1130]. "...Rodgerii filii Rodulfi..." witnessed the charter dated to [1030] under which Robert II Duke of Normandy donated "in comitatu Abrincatensi villam...Sancti Johannis" to the abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel[2483]. He left Normandy for Spain in [1030/35], fought against the Moors, and lived there for 15 years with his Spanish wife[2484]. "...Rodgerii filii Rodulfi...Rogerii de Conchis" subscribed the charter dated to [1040] under which "Vuillelmus Ricardi magni ducis Normannorum filius" donated property to the

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Stewart considers the evidence to be consistent with Roger having three wives - "Roger may have been married only once, or possibly three times: first to the mother of his two apparently eldest sons who were killed with him, and probably also of Waszo; secondly in or shortly after 1018 to a Catalan lady, said to be daughter of Count Ramon Borrell of Barcelona although that relationship is most probably an error or invention by Ademar; and thirdly by ca 1026/27 to the sole definitely proven wife, a Norman lady named Godehildis who was to be his widow." (p.12). After the death of Roger, Gothilde married Evreux and had three more children and hence she must have been much younger than Roger. As to the circumstances and dating of Roger's return to Normandy, and the consequences for his former wife, Stewart states, "The Sens chronicle claimed that Roger had spent fifteen years with his wife before deserting her and returning home, where he was married to a Norman lady by Aug 1027 according to the more reliable Miracles of Sainte-Foy." (p.21). Actually Stewart is skeptical of the 12th Century authors who provided the narrative for the above story, including Roger deserting his wife after 17 years, and in the process also leaving behind 20 knights and all his possessions. Stewart says, "It seems likely that the chronicler at Sens, writing in 1108/09, was elaborating on an earlier source, perhaps indirectly Ademar de Chabannes, that did not identify the alleged wife of Roger by name, and filling in the picture by fancifully identifying her with a queen of Navarre whose specific local connections are uncertain." (p.21)

"He was buried in the abbey he had founded at Conches on May 30, a day ever after kept there as the ' Depositio Domini Rogerii fundatoris istius ecclesiae'. It is recorded that his y Obit.\_

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body was laid ' dans le chapitre soubz une pierre facon de Neustria"pia marbre taillee tout simplement, et elevee de terre d'un pied sur trois liones de pierre: on ny voit aucune marque ny auscune esriture'. On May 7, 1463, his body and those of his wife and children were re-discovered and solemnly attested ". (Madan, p.7).

See also Van Houts (2000) for information from contemporary sources, and the statement about him marrying the daughter of Ermendsend of Spain (p.269-70).

Roger Seigneur de Tosny et Conches "The Spaniard" and Unknown First Wife had the following children:

- i. HEIBERT DE TOSNY ET<sup>5</sup> CONCHES was born about 1010 in Conches, Normandy, France. He died on 31 May 1043.

Notes for Heibert de Tosny et Conches:

Guillaume of Jumièges records that "Rogerius Toenites de stirpe Malahulcii qui Rollonis ducis patruus fuerat" rebelled against Duke Guillaume II and destroyed property, in particular that of "Humfridi de Vetulis" who eventually killed Roger [I] along with "duobus filiis suis Helberto et Elinantio".

- ii. HELINANT DE TOSNY ET CONCHES was born about 1012 in Conches, Normandy, France. He died on 31 May 1043.

Notes for Helinant de Tosny et Conches:

"Helinand, possibly this son of Roger I if still living at the time, attested a charter along with Duke William II at Rouen in 1043, Acta Duc Norm 258 no 101: + S. Helinandi." (Stewart, p.24)

Guillaume of Jumièges records that "Rogerius Toenites de stirpe Malahulcii qui Rollonis ducis patruus fuerat" rebelled against Duke Guillaume II and destroyed property, in particular that of "Humfridi de Vetulis" who eventually killed Roger [I] along with "duobus filiis suis Helberto et Elinantio".

- iii. VUASO DE TOSNY ET CONCHES was born about 1014 in Conches, Normandy, France.

Notes for Vuaso de Tosny et Conches:

Vuaso filius Rogerii Tothennensis..." subscribed the charter under which Guillaume Duke of Normandy donated the church of Arques to Saint-Wandrille, dated to [1035/55] (Norman Nobility).

Notes for GODEHILDE:

"Henry I King of England confirmed the foundation of Conches by "Rogerius senior de Toenio et filius eius Radulphus senex et Radulphus juvenis filius prædicti Radulphi senis et Rogerius filius Radulphi juvenis", quoting the foundation by "Rogerius filius Radulphi Toteniensis" for the soul of "coniugis meæ Godehildis", dated to [1130]. The Miracles of Sainte-Foy recount her being cured of a serious illness by miracle, when she was still married to her first husband. She married secondly Richard Comte d'Evreux. Guillaume of Jumièges records that "Richardus Ebroicensis comes filius Roberti Archiepiscopi" married "uxore Rogerii de Toenia" by whom he had "Willelmum qui nunc Ebroicensibus principatur". Henry I King of England confirmed the foundation of Conches by "Rogerius senior de Toenio et filius eius Radulphus senex et Radulphus juvenis filius prædicti Radulphi senis et Rogerius filius Radulphi juvenis", quoting the donation by "Godehildis comitissa Ebroicæ civitatis, quondam uxor Rogerii de Totteneio" with the consent of "seniore meo comite Richardo", dated to [1130] (Norman Nobility).

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#### Generation 4 (con't)

Roger Seigneur de Tosny et Conches "The Spaniard" and GODEHILDE had the following children:

- iv. RALPH DE TOSNY III was born about 1028 in Conches, Normandy, France.

Notes for Ralph de Tosny III:

That Raoul III, who inherited his father's titles, was the son of Godhilde is found in, "Cartul S Petri Conc 349-350 no 269, undated, written 1040/75: Ego, Radulphus de Thoenio, cum Godehilde, matre mea, pro anima et sepultura patris mei Rogerii-cf ibid 548 no 406 II", (Stewart, p.26)

1) RAOUL DE TOENI (Raoul and Ralph are the same names as seen in many Norman families):

RALE DE TODENI. (Munford, An Analysis of the Domesday Book of Norfolk" (London, 1858, p.31)

Ralf de Toden, or Toesny, "was probably a son, nephew, or other relation of that powerful nobleman Roger de Toesny, who was the great standard-bearer of Normandy,<sup>1</sup> and had rebelled against Duke William, in the beginning of his reign over that duchy, in the year 1036, and had been defeated and killed by Roger de Beaumont. Ralf de Toden had distinguished himself about the time of the battle of Mortemer, in the year 1054, and was the person whom Duke William sent to Henry I., King of France, to inform him that the part of his army which he had sent forward, under the command of his brother Odo, to lay waste the district called the Pais de Caux (Calcinum territorium), in Normandy, had been entirely defeated."<sup>1</sup> Upon the Survey he had about twenty lordships given him in Norfolk, with many more in other counties. All the lands of Ralf de Toden in this county, comprising many berewites and smaller portions, were valued with his great lordship of Necton, in South Greenhoe; with the exception of half a carucate and thirty acres, held by a freeman, at a place called Esterestuna (Sturston), in Grimshoe hundred. They were together valued at £60. 2\*. T. R. E., and at £60. 1\*. T. R.W. He was also found to have unlawful possession of a portion of land, valued at 12s., both T. R. E. and T. R.W.

Ralf de Toden died in 1101, and was buried with his ancestors in the abbey of Conches, in Normandy,<sup>2</sup> which his father had founded. He, with his wife Isabel, and his sons Roger and Ralf, founded the priory of West Acre, in this county. Sahani-Tony still records his name.

<sup>1</sup> We gather the following from Edgar Taylor's edition of the Roman de Eou:-" On the eve of the battle of Hastings, the duke called a serving-man, and ordered him to bring forth the gonfanon which the Pope had sent him; and he who bore it, having unfolded it, the duke took it and reared it, and called to Raol de Conches (this Ralf de Toden): 'Bear my gonfanon,' said he, 'for I would not but do you right; by right and by ancestry your line are standard-bearers of Normandy, and very good knights have they all been.' 'Many thanks to you,' said Raol, 'for acknowledging our right; but by my faith, the gonfanon shall not this day be borne by me. To-day I claim quittance of the service, for I would serve you in other guise. I will go with you into the battle, and will fight the English as long as life shall last, and know that my hand will be worth any twenty of such men.' Then the duke turned another way, and called to him Galtier Giffart. 'Do you take this gonfanon,' said he, 'and bear it in the battle.' But Galtier Giffart answered, 'Sire, for God's mercy, look at my white and bald head; my strength has fallen away, and my breath become shorter. The standard should be borne by one who can endure long labour; I shall be in the battle, and you have not any man who will serve you more truly; I will strike with my sword till it shall be dyed in your enemies' blood.' Then the duke said fiercely, 'By the splendour of God, my lord, I think you mean to betray and fail me in this great need.' 'Sire,' said Giffart, 'not so! we have done no treason, nor do I refuse from any

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### Generation 4 (con't)

felony towards you; but I have to lead a great chivalry, both soldiers and men of my fief. Never had I such good means of serving you as I now have; and if God please, I will serve you, and will give my own heart for yours." The standard was borne at the battle of Hastings by Turston Fitz-Rou, who received large estates in England.

- 1 See *Selecta Monumenta Historie Anglicane*, by Baron Maseres, 4to, p. 18ln.  
2 Taylor's *Index Monasticus*.

"The Tosny (Tony, Toeni) family was a very important one originating in France. Hugh de Tosny, archbishop of Rouen, was the source of their fortune. Roger I de Tosny fought the Muselmans in Catalogne. Robert de Toeni was on the list of companions of William the Conqueror at Hastings and was lord of Stafford with the possessions of seven earls. His brothers, Roger II and Beranger, also had considerable domains. The former (Roger II) was builder of Clifford castle (Herefordshire)." (Horace Round, "Feudal England").

- v. ALICE DE TOSNY was born about 1033 in Tosni, Louviers, Eure, Normandy, France.
- vi. ADELIZA DE TOSNY was born about 1037. She married WILLIAM FITZOSBERN EARL OF HEREFORD.

Notes for Adeliza de Tosny:

"ADELISE (-6 Oct ----, bur Abbaye de Lyre). Guillaume of Jumièges records that "Willelmus...filius Osberni, propinquus ducis Willelmi" founded "duo monasteriain honorem...Mariæ unum apud Liram...alterum apud Cormelias", adding that he buried "Adelinam filiam Rogerii de Toenio uxorem suam" at Lyre. "Willelmo filio Osberni et...Ælicia eius uxore filia Rogeri de Thoneio" founded the abbey of Lyre by charter dated 1046. Robert of Torigny's *De Immutatione Ordinis Monachorum* records that "Willermus filius Osberni Normanniæ dapifer et cognatus Willermi ducis...Ælizam uxorem suam filiam Rogeri de Toeneio" was buried in the monastery of Lyre. The necrology of Lyre monastery records the death "6 Oct" of "Adeliz uxor Willelmi hujus loci fundatoris". The necrology of the monastery of Ouche records the death "6 Oct" of "mater Willelmi Britolii Adeliza". m (before 1046) as his first wife, GUILLAUME FitzOsbern Seigneur de Breteuil, son of OSBERN de Crépon & his wife Emma d'Ivry (-killed in battle Cassel, Flanders 22 Feb 1071, bur Abbaye de Cormeilles)." (Norman Nobility).

- vii. ROBERT DE TOSNY LORD OF STAFFORD was born about 1040. He died in 1088 in Stafford, England.

Notes for Robert de Tosny Lord of Stafford:

"ROBERT [III] de Tosny (-[1088], bur [Evesham Abbey]). Domesday Book records "Robert of Stafford" holding Denchworth in Wantage Hundred in Berkshire; "Robert de Tosny" holding Miswell in Tring Hundred and Barwythe in Danish Hundred in Hertfordshire; "Robert of Stafford" holding land in Oxfordshire; Stoneton in Northamptonshire [Warwickshire]. The entries in Hertfordshire precede those which record the holdings of Raoul de Tosny in Hertfordshire, which suggests that they refer to the Robert Tosny/Stafford who was Raoul's brother. Henry I King of England confirmed donations to Conches, including the donation of "ecclesiam de Octona" made by "Robertus de Stafort filius Rogerii de Totteneio" with the consent of "filio meo Nicholao", by charter dated to [1130]. Robert's connection with the Tosny family is confirmed by the undated charter under which "Robertus de Stafford" confirmed donations to Wotton Wawen Abbey, Warwickshire by "avus meus Robertus de Toenio et pater meus Nicolaus de Stafford". No indication has been found of the identity of Robert [III]'s mother, but assuming that he was

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#### Generation 4 (con't)

legitimate the chronology suggests that he must have been born from his father's [second] marriage. Lord of Stafford." (Norman Nobility).

A similar record in the same source is: ROBERT [I], son of ROGER [I] de Tosny & his [second wife Godechildis ---] (-1088, bur [Evesham Abbey]). His parentage is confirmed by the charter dated to [1130] under which Henry I King of England confirmed donations to Conches, including the donation of "ecclesiam de Octona" made by "Robertus de Stafort filius Rogerii de Totteneio" with the consent of "filio meo Nicholao". Robert's connection with the Tosny family is confirmed by the undated charter under which "Robertus de Stafford" confirmed donations to Wotton Wawen Abbey, Warwickshire by "avus meus Robertus de Toenio et pater meus Nicolaus de Stafford". Domesday Book records "Robert of Stafford" holding Denchworth in Wantage Hundred in Berkshire; "Robert de Tosny" holding Miswell in Tring Hundred and Barwythe in Danish Hundred in Hertfordshire; "Robert of Stafford" holding land in Oxfordshire; Stoneton in Northamptonshire [Warwickshire]; numerous properties in Warwickshire; and Staffordshire. The entries in Hertfordshire precede those which record the holdings of Raoul de Tosny in Hertfordshire, which suggests that they refer to the Robert Tosny/Stafford who was Raoul's brother. "Robertus de Stafford...monachus factus in infirmitate mea" donated Wrottesley and Loynton to Evesham abbey, for "conjugue mea et filio meo Nicholao", by charter dated 1088. "Robertus de Staffordia et Robertus filius meus et hæres" confirmed donations of property to Evesham Monastery by "Rodbertus avus meus...et pater meus Nicolaus" by undated charter. m [AVICE de Clare], daughter of --- (-after 1088, bur [Stone priory]). A table (obviously of late composition because of the language), hanging in Stone priory at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, names "Avice de Clare" as the wife of Robert and records their burial at Stone. It is far from certain that this information is accurate. No person of that name has yet been identified, and the name "Clare" only appears to have been used by the descendants of Robert de Brionne from the early 12th century (see the document UNTITLED ENGLISH NOBILITY A-C).

Robert [I] & his wife had one children:

1. NICHOLAS de Stafford (-1138 or after, bur Stone Priory). "Nicholaus filius Roberti de Stafford...et Mathildi uxori mee" donated Idlicote to Kenilworth priory by charter dated to [1122/25][505]. Henry I King of England confirmed donations to Conches, including the donation of "ecclesiam de Octona" made by "Robertus de Stafort filius Rogerii de Totteneio" with the consent of "filio meo Nicholao", by charter dated to [1130][506]. The 1130 Pipe Roll records "Nicolaus fil Rob de Statford" as security for a debt in Staffordshire[507]. "Nicholaus, filius Roberti de Statford, et Robertus primogenitus et hæres mei" donated Stone priory to Kenilworth by undated charter[508]. "Robertus de Staffordia et Robertus filius meus et hæres" confirmed donations of property to Evesham Monastery by "Rodbertus avus meus...et pater meus Nicolaus" by undated charter[509]. m MATILDA, daughter of --- (-bur Stone)." (Norman Nobility).

Stewart disagrees with the above noting that 15th Century documents appear to have confused grandfather and grandson with the former being buried at Evesham and the latter with his wife Avice de Clare at Stone.

This Robert, and the Robert de Toden from the Battle Abbey and other rolls are often confused in the records, but one was Lord of Belvoir and the other Lord of Stafford. The reason why the latter is attributed to Roger via Gothilde is shown in the above charter where the Robert of Stafford is clearly identified as the son of Roger. From Stewart, "Cartul S Petri Conc 553 no 406 XIII, undated confirmation by King Henry I written ca 1130, probably in 1131 (Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 250 no 1701), reciting an earlier charter for Conches abbey: Ego, Robertus de Stafort, filius Rogerii de Totteneio" (p.27) This would appear to validate that it was Robert of Stafford not Robert of Belvoir who was the son of Roger. Furthermore, "According to CP xii/l 168 n (b), in Domesday book Robert 'held nearly 70 manors in Staffs, over 25 in Warwickshire, over 20 in Lincs, 10 in Oxon, 1 in Worcs., and 1

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in Northants, besides claims in Lincs and Suff."

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(-bur Stone)." The latter had an eldest son Robert as follows:

a) ROBERT [II] de Stafford (-[1178/84], bur Stone Priory). "Robertus de Stafford" confirmed donations to Wotton Wawen Abbey, Warwickshire by "avus meus Robertus de Toenio et pater meus Nicolaus de Stafford" by undated charter. So the de Toeni name was still being used by Neel's apparent grandson.

<http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/ENGLISH%20NOBILITY%20MEDIEVAL2.htm#RobertStafforddied1088B>

The above charter where Robert of Stafford stated "pater meus Nicholas" is clear, his father Nicholas (Neel de Toeni) who probably first held the Manor but died before the Domesday Book of 1086. Having as a first son a Nicholas also is consistent with the interpretation. Also this Robert was always known as "Robert of Stafford" which suggests that he may have been young when arriving in England and adopting the name of his father's manor. Robert de Toden, however, never used Robert of Belvoir, always staying with the name he was doubtless born with

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and grew up with (being an adult at the time he arrived in England). The weight of evidence suggests that both Ralph and Neel were younger brothers of Roger de Toden de Conches.

There has been considerable confusion between Robert de Toden Lord Belvoir who came over with the Conqueror, whose eldest son was Berengar; and one Robert de Toeni Lord Stafford, whose eldest son was Nicholas. The confusion can be peeled away by looking at the name of the first son of each Robert and relating it to earlier generations. One single copy of a charter (which could be a misprint or error of some sort) has led to this immense confusion. Here follows information on Robert of Stafford who the present author (DKF) believes is closely connected to this family since Robert of Stafford had a son of Neel, Nigel, Nicholas de Toeni. The following would appear to confirm this supposition:

Nigel de Toeni or De Stafford, a younger brother of the standard bearer's, held Drakelow, Gresley, and some other manors in Derbyshire and Staffordshire at the date of Domesday; the former "by the service of rendering a bow without a string; a quiver of Tutesbit (?) twelve fleched and one unfeathered arrow," sometimes called a buzon. [http://www.1066.co.nz/library/battle\\_abbey\\_roll3/subchap104.htm](http://www.1066.co.nz/library/battle_abbey_roll3/subchap104.htm)

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5. **ROBERT DE TOSNY LORD OF<sup>4</sup> BELVOIR** (Ralph II de Tosny et<sup>3</sup> Conches, Ralph I Seigneur de Tosny et<sup>2</sup> Conches, Hughes I de Cavalcamp Seigneur<sup>1</sup> de Conches) was born about 1009 in pr. Tosny, Eure, Evreux, Normandy, France. He died on 04 Aug 1093 in Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire, England. He married **ADELIZA FITZOSULF DU PLESSIS**. She was born about 1025 in pr. Fresne, Normandy, France. She died before 1093 in Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire, England.

Notes for Robert de Tosny Lord of Belvoir:

Robert's connection to the de Tosny family is shown in the following Priory Charter:

"Acta Duc Norm 342-343 no 157, notice of formal confirmation in 1063 of an agreement between Robert and the monks of Marmoutier regarding his domain of Guerny: Notitia de conventionem Rotberti de Toeniaco avunculi domni Johannis monachi nostri. Nosse debetis si qui eritis posterius nostri Majoris scilicet hujus habitores monasterii Sancti Martini Rotbertum de Toeniaco avunculum domni Johannis monachi nostri, filii Widonis de Valle, quicquid sibi reclamabat in possessione de Guarniaco concessisse totamque ex integro possessionem illam auctorizasse Sancto Martino et nobis, tali pacto ut si quando monachus apud nos esse voluerit et frater ejus nomine Berengerius Spina cognominatus hoc velit et concedit illi si vixerit, nec ipse refutetur a nobis ... Hanc Rotbertus conventionem primo cum aliquibus fratribus nostris coram Guillelmo Normannorum comite fecit, et postea veniens in capitulum nostrum, præsidente nobis domno abbate Alberto, anno ab Incarnatione Domini .MLXIII. apud nos confirmavit. Affuit cum illo Berengerius filius ejus qui factum patris auctorizavit."

<http://www->

[personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_fa mily.pdf](http://personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf)

Vesly and Guerny are situated immediately east of Tosny on the Epte River on the eastern border

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of Normandy. In all likelihood this land is part of Roberts patrimony. See pages 72 and 74 of Musset; and the map reproduced from page 69 of the same source and may be viewed here: <http://www.davidkfaux.org/TosnyLandsNormandy.pdf>.

In Fauroux, he states, "Berenger De Toden son of Robert de Tosny of Belvoir (was) named after his father's brother Berenger Spina, all three occur in a Marmoutier charter of 1063, when Berenger, probably still an adolescent, authorizes an agreement made by his father". (p.157). Van Houts notes that in Norman times it was common for adolescents and boys age 10 or even younger to act as witnesses to charters such as these. Their father would typically give them a slap or worse in order that they would remember the day and what was attested to (p.65). Hence it is not clear what age Berengar was in 1063.

Thus Robert is uncle to John de Laval the monk at Mamoutier son of Widow de Valle, and the sibling to Berengeris Spina and to the Widow de Valle (Bertha who married Guy LaValle) see Bertha's entry.

This cartulary evidence is the most important document in the identification of this branch of the de Tosny family. It is discussed in detail in Stewart's, *Origins and Early Generations of the Tosny Family*, beginning on page 36. [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf). Stewart's grasp of Latin allows us to learn that in other charters relating to Marmoutier the lands being granted were those in Vesly and Guerny in the Vexin area - a considerable distance south of the Tosny lands. It suggests that the younger children of Raoul II may have been given lands not tied to the main home bases at Tosny and Conches. What is more to the point though, is that the charter of 1063 above specifically notes that Robert de Toden's lands were at Guerny. Stewart assumes (without any reservations) that this Robert and Robert of Belvoir are the same person.

At this time the Marmoutier Priory was a popular religious house for donations by Norman Barons, despite its location at a distance in the Loire River Valley (see Green, 1997, p.394-5; Dugdale, *Mon. Ang.*, III, 289).

It was probably Robert de Tosny (Toeni, Toden) whose name appears on the various Battle Abbey and similar rolls of those who supplied ships, men and materials to William the Conqueror, and were awarded with land grants in England (vast holdings).

Event: Historical Companion to William I  
Event: Military 14 OCT 1066 Hastings  
Event: Political Advisor to William I (IW).

Battle Abbey Roll: A combination of all the known Battle Abbey Rolls, including Wace, Dukes, Counts, Barons, Lords who Attended William at Hastings. These were the commanders. They were the elite who HAD provided ships, horses, men and supplies for the venture. They were granted the lordships. The list does not include the estimated 12,000, standard bearers, men at arms, yeomen, freemen and other ranks, although some of these were granted smaller parcels of England, some even as small as 1/8 th of a knight's fee.  
<http://www.robertsewell.ca/battleabbey.html>

Robert de Toden  
Neel de Toeni  
Raoul de Toeni

The spelling of Toden is associated with Robert of Belvoir - this is the way his name is written on his coffin lid. The spelling of Toeni is linked to the family of Ralph, son of Roger. It is likely that at his age, Robert of Belvoir has amassed a substantial fortune which he used to support the Conqueror's need for ships and other supplies including knights.

The Dives - Sur - Mer list is taken from the plaque in the church at Dives-sur-Mer, Normandy, France, where William the Conqueror and his knights said mass before setting sail to invade England in 1066. It lists all the knights who took part in the invasion. [Note by [www.nay.org](http://www.nay.org)]

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webmaster: The following widely distributed list is reported by at least one researcher to be a fabrication. <http://www.three-peaks.net/1066.htm>. Some could have died or whatever early lists have been mistranscribed, or additions were made from the Domesday Book of 1086. It includes the following:

Berenger de Toeni  
Guillaume de Tocni  
Ilbert de Toeni  
Jumel de Toeni  
Robert de Toeni  
Raoul de Toeni

Raoul, Robert, Juhel, Ibert, Berenger, and Guillaume; but Juhel is inserted by mistake, for he was named De Toteneis, or Totness, from his Devonshire barony (see Maine). Raoul or Ralph de Toeni-called by Wace De Conches (from his barony of Conches, near Evreux). [http://www.1066.co.nz/library/battle\\_abbey\\_roll3/subchap104.htm](http://www.1066.co.nz/library/battle_abbey_roll3/subchap104.htm)

"Robert de Todenen came over with William the Conqueror (see Battle Abbey Roll), and Robert de Todenen is supposed by some to have been the standard-bearer to William I, or to have been a relation of that individual ; but this is refuted by one of the ablest known writers of Norman history, who says : " There is no question at all about the standard-bearer. Ralf de Todenen, or Toeni (now Thesny) was hereditary standard-bearer of Normandy, but declined to carry the standard at the battle of Hastings, that his hands might be freer for the fight. The authority for both statements is Wace's Roman de Roi. England, of which the caput appears to have been at Fhimstead, Herts. Robert de Todenen, the Lord of Belvoir, had nothins; to do with the standard. It can only be a blunder of some late antiquary to assert that he had. It is not even known for certain what relation he was to Ralf." (BAA, p.299-300).

"He was rewarded by the Conqueror for his services with grants of many lordships ; and his great barony, as entered in Domesday, included lands in thirteen counties, comprising eighty manors altogether ; the chief of which lay on the borders of Lincoln and Leicester, in six of which Osulf (the reputed father of his wife Adeliza, in right of whom Robert held the lordship of Belvoir) is recorded as having previously held them." (BAA, p.299). In his otherwise excellent work, Pottou has included a Robert, father to Robert, whose existence cannot be proven. What is clear is that Robert de Todenen whose son Berengar authorized his father's gift to the monks of Marmoutier Abbey had a sister the widow Valle and a brother Berengar Spina noted in the document (see below). Thus Robert must have been older than most authors would allow (since his nephew was born 1025), and the most parsimonious interpretation is that there was only one Robert with an eldest son Berengar. We will soon see how confusing this family is when considering that Robert de Toeni Lord of Stafford was buried about the same time as Robert above and has in some cases it has been assumed that the two are the same (although Robert de Stafford is stated to be a son of Roger (Toeni) of Conches in a charter. So with this in mind, here follows a biographical sketch of the Robert de Todenen who is presently buried in the Castle at Belvoir which he built beginning in 1066.

' Robertus de Belvedeir', founder of Belvoir priory with his wife, ca. 1085 [Mon. Angl. III:288-9, Num. III.

'Robertus de Todenen', major tenant in chief at Domesday Book, 1086.

For a list of the many manors (most in the Leistershire regions) in the possession of Robert de Tosny see <http://domesdaymap.co.uk/name/453250/robert-of-tosny/>

"Belvoir Castle was begun by Robert de Todenen, who served as William the Conqueror's Standard Bearer during the Battle of Hastings. Probably, a motte castle was built at Belvoir no later than the 1080's, a structure that would have been quite typical of its day.

Robert de Todenen was also responsible for the construction of a priory adjacent to the castle, and was buried inside the chapel in 1088. Having been unearthed in the 18th century, Robert now rests

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#### Generation 4 (con't)

inside the castle (still in his coffin!)" (Seipp tree at Genealogy.com). Actually this is a dating problem, and it is certain the Robert was buried in 1093 and his wife before this,

There appears to be a confusion of Ralf and Robert in many documents - although this appears to relate to Ralph, nephew to Robert of Belvoir.

Geni:

ROBERT [I] de Tosny (-1088). Europäische Stammtafeln shows Robert de Tosny unaffiliated with the other members of this family. Although his ancestry is unknown, it is likely that he was a member of this family. He founded Marmoutier in 1063[1926]. Lord of Belvoir 1086. "Robertum de Belvedeir---et A[dela]. uxor eius" founded Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire by charter dated to [1076][1927]. After the death of his wife Adela, Robert de Belvoir donated "land in Sapertune" to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire, with the consent of "his sons William and Geoffrey"[1928]. m ADELAIS, daughter of --- (-before 1088). "Robertum de Belvedeir---et A[dela]. uxor eius" founded Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire by charter dated to [1076][1929]. "Agnes de Toteneio" confirmed the donation to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire by "pater meus Robertus de Toteneio et mater mea Adelais", by undated charter[1930]. Robert & his wife had [six] children:

a) GUILLAUME (-[1130]). After the death of his wife Adela, Robert de Belvoir donated "land in Sapertune" to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire, with the consent of "his sons William and Geoffrey"[1931]. Lord of Belvoir.

b) GEOFFREY . After the death of his wife Adela, Robert de Belvoir donated "land in Sapertune" to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire, with the consent of "his sons William and Geoffrey"[1932].

c) [ROBERT de Tosny . "Robertus de Toteneia" donated property to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire, confirmed by "Willielmus de Albeneio frater meus et dominus", by undated charter, witnessed by "...Rogerus Bigot"[1933]. The identity of this Robert de Tosny is uncertain. The document cannot be contemporary as William de Albini was heir of Belvoir through his maternal grandmother Alice, who was the sister of this supposed Robert, so could not have been Robert de Tosny's brother.]

d) ALICE . Her parentage is indicated by the 1130 Pipe Roll which records "Adeliz uxor Rogi Big...tra patris sui de Belueder" in Lincolnshire[1934]. It is also indicated by the charter dated 23 Apr [1430] under which her descendant "Thomas dominus de Ros, de Hamelake, de Trussebout et de Beavoir" confirmed the possessions of Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire made by "antecessores nostros...Robertum de Toteneio, Willielmum de Toteneyo filium suum, Agnetem de Toteneio filiam dicti Roberti de Toteneyo, Henricum de Rya filium Huberto de Rya, Agnetem de Toteneyo, Willielmum de Albeneio primum, Willielmum de Albeneio secundum, Willielmum de Albeneio tertium, Willielmum de Albeneio quartum, Ywynum de Albeneyo, Heliam de Albeneyo et uxores eorundem, Isabellam filiam domini Willielmi de Albeneio quæ fuit uxor domini de Ros, domini de Beauvoire et de Hamelake"[1935], the connection between Robert de Tosny Lord of Belvoir, father of Alice, being established through the marriage of her daughter Cecilia to William de Albini Brito. "Rogerius Bigot...et uxoris mee Adalicie" donated the church of Thetford to Cluny dated [1100][1936]. "Rogerus Bygot" founded Thetford Priory, with the advice of "...uxoris meæ Adelicæ", by undated charter dated to the reign of King Henry I[1937]. Living in 1136[1938]. m (before [1100]) as his second wife, ROGER Bigod, son of ROGER Bigod & his wife --- (-8 or 15 Sep 1107, bur Thetford[1939]).

e) AGNES de Tosny (-before 1127). "Agnes de Toteneio" confirmed the donation to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire by "pater meus Robertus de Toteneio et mater mea Adelais", by undated charter[1940]. Henry I King of England confirmed the donation of "decimas de Hokeringhe, de Swanetuna, de Depham, de Bukestuna, de Mercheshale" by "Hubertus de Ria...Agnes de Belfo uxor eius...cum Ricardo filio suo" to Holy Trinity, Norwich, at the request of "Henrici filii et heredis ipsorum", by charter dated to [1127][1941]. Her second marriage is confirmed by the undated charter under which her son "Henricus de Rya" confirmed the donations to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire by "Roberti avi mei et Agnetis matris meæ"[1942]. m firstly RALPH de Belfou, son of ---. m secondly HUBERT de Rie, son of HUBERT de Rie & his wife --- (-before 1127).

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### Generation 4 (con't)

f) [ALBREDE . "H comes Norfulc" confirmed property to the monks of Kirkstall, for the soul of "Albrede de Insula amite mee", by charter dated to [1154/76][1943]. If amita is translated strictly in this document, Albrede was the sister of Earl Hugh's mother. However, it cannot be excluded that she was in fact his paternal aunt. m --- de l'Isle, son of ---.]"

"ROBERT,1 lord of Belvoir,2 d ca 1093,3 bur Belvoir priory4 = ADELAIS,5 d bef ca 1093,6 bur Belvoir priory,

5.5 Berenger,1 b ca 1045/50,2 d 29 Jun bef 11153 = Albreda4

5.6 William,1 lord of Belvoir,2 d aft 11003

5.7 Geoffrey1

5.8 Albreda,1 lady of Belvoir,2 d aft 1115/bef autumn 11263 = Robert de Insula, lord of Belvoir (by right of his wife),4 d aft 1129/305

5.9 ADELIZA,1 lady of Belvoir bef autumn 1126,2 d aft 11363 = (2) ROGER Bigod,4 b ca 1045,5 vavator in Les Loges & Savenay,6 lord of Framlingham ca 1101,7 sheriff of Suffolk 1072-1075/81, 1086 & 1101/07, sheriff of Norfolk 1086 & 1100-1107,8 a royal steward,9 d Earsham, Suffolk 8 or 10 Sep 1107,10 bur Norwich cathedral11

5.10 AGNES,1 d aft Sep 1130,2 (1) = Radulf de Belfou, lord of Hockering,3 d aft 1100/bef ca 1105;4 (2) = (2) HUBERT de Ryes,5 d bef 11276". (Stewart, 2012, p.2)

Belvoir: The Heirs of Robert and Berengar de Tosny

K.S.B. Keats-Rohan

"Succession to the fee of Belvoir has been discussed as a problem several times over the years, but perhaps the issue is actually straightforward once one has identified the key players. Domesday's Robert de Tosny of Belvoir was a collateral of his contemporaries Ralph and Roger. By c. 1050+ he had a first-born son Berengar who could expect to succeed his father in Normandy. Around the time of Domesday Book, a few years before his death, Robert founded Belvoir priory with his wife Adelais. Early charters of Belvoir mention their sons William and Geoffrey and their daughter Agnes. At his death, Robert's lands were divided between Berengar, his eldest son and Norman heir - co-incidentally an English tenant-in-chief in his own right - and his next son and English heir, William. Presumably some provision was made for the third son Geoffrey. As it happened, all three sons were to die without issue, which meant that rights of succession passed to Robert's daughters.

Initially, the sole right of succession passed to Robert's eldest daughter Albreda, who inherited the tenancies-in-chief of both her eldest brother Berengar and her younger brother William before the date of the Lindsey Survey, which shows her husband Robert de Insula in charge of both honours. It has always been assumed that Albreda was the widow of Berengar who took his land to a second husband, but the idea is clearly untenable once the full story of the Belvoir succession unfolds. The references in confirmation charters of the Lincolnshire abbey of Newhouse to 'the fee of Albreda de Tosny' is an indication that the wife of Robert de Insula was a blood relative and heiress of Berengar, rather than his widow. This view is confirmed by the necrology of Belvoir priory, where the anniversaries of Berengar and Albreda uxor eius, deo sancta (a phrase always referring to a religious in this document) were kept on 29 June. All doubt is removed by a charter of c. 1147/52 in which Hugh Bigod made a grant to Kirkstall abbey for the soul of Albrede de Insula amite mee, a phrase that can only mean that Albreda was his mother's sister. The phrase also usefully confirms that Albreda de Tosny and Albreda (wife of Robert) de Insula were the same.

Robert de Tosny had two other daughters, of whom the youngest was Agnes. She confirmed her father's grant of land at Aslackby, Lincolnshire, to Belvoir priory as being part of her marriage portion on her first marriage to Ralph de Beaufour of Hockering (fl. 1086/1100). Widowed in the early twelfth century, she married secondly Hubert I de Ryes, castellan of Norwich, to whom the tenancy-in-chief of Hockering was given by Henry I. She occurs in the 1129/30 Pipe Roll (p. 93) charged with a debt of 35 silver marks because her son was with the count of Flanders. At a similar date she attested the charter which William de Albini pincerna gave for Wymondham priory on the day his wife Matilda Bigod, Agnes's niece, died. Agnes follows her sister Adelisa Bigod in the witness list, where she was accompanied by her daughter Almud and a niece or granddaughter (nepta) Muriel. Her dower lands at Aslackby and at Seaton, Northamptonshire (then in Rutland), were held in 1166 by her son or grandson Ralph de Beaufour from her grandson Hubert II de Ryes.

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## Generation 4 (con't)

The elder of Robert de Tosny's younger daughters was Adelisa, wife of Roger Bigod at his death in 1107. It is probable that Roger was married only once, although he is usually credited with two wives of the same name on the inconclusive evidence of a pro anima clause in a charter of his son William. Roger and his wife Adelisa gave charter for Rochester priory which referred to their sons and daughters and was attested by their children William, Humphrey, Gunnor and Matilda. This charter tellingly refers to King Henry, making it highly unlikely that Roger acquired a second wife and second family before his death in 1107. It is likely that Rogers' children were born from the late 1090s onwards, and that the youngest of them were Hugh and Cecilia. Roger's daughters Gunnor and Matilda were married soon after 1107. Gunnor's marriage to Robert fitz Swein of Essex had perhaps been arranged by her father. Matilda was married to William de Albini pincerna by Henry I who bestowed 10 Bigod fees on her as a marriage portion. The marriages certainly took place before Adelisa de Tosny became the heiress to Belvoir on the death without issue of her eldest sister Albreda, some time between 1115/18 and 1129, when Adelisa, as widow of Roger Bigod, accounted for her father's land of Belvoir.

In 1129 the sole surviving issue of Robert de Tosny were his younger daughters Adelisa Bigod and Agnes de Beauvoir, who was then already married to Hubert de Ryes. At that date his Bigod granddaughter Matilda de Albini was probably already dead and her sister Gunnor not long removed from her second marriage to Haimo de St Clair. Of their siblings, only Hugh Bigod and Cecilia, then wife of William de Albini Brito, survived. The Carta returned by Hugh Bigod in 1166 shows him holding the fee of his aunt Albreda de Insula. At the same date William de Albini Brito II held the fee of Belvoir. The conclusion from this must be that Adelisa succeeded Albreda in the fees of both Berengar and Robert de Tosny as next surviving sister. When she in her turn died she left issue of both sexes. Her sole surviving son Hugh succeeded his aunt Albreda - and by extension, her eldest brother Berengar - as heir both to Berengar's tenancy-in-chief in Lincolnshire and the Norman lands of Robert de Tosny of Belvoir. His tenancy of Robert's Norman lands is shown in a Norman record of 1172 where he is named as holding land of the fee of Conches and Tosny. More important in terms of size in England, the lordship of Belvoir was nonetheless the lesser of the two Tosny lordships because it as not associated with their Norman heritage. As the inheritance of a woman married to an important tenant-in-chief it could be expected to pass to one of her younger children and not her husband's principal male heir. Since she had no surviving younger sons after 1120, the devolution of Belvoir to one of her daughters was inevitable. Gunnor and Matilda had long since been provided for from their father's inheritance by the time, after c. 1115/1118, that Adelisa succeeded to Belvoir. Consequently it was the youngest daughter Cecilia - quite probably a mere infant at her father's death in 1107 - who became her mother's heiress. She was, of course, an heiress whose marriage could advantageously be used to reward one of the king's loyal new men. Cecilia's marriage to William de Albini Brito has been said to have occurred as early as 1107 on the basis of a Belvoir charter given by Ralph de Raines and attested by Roger Bigod, but it certainly took place much later. The Belvoir charter just mentioned probably begins to the early 1140s. It was attested by William de Albini senior and his wife Cecilia, their son William junior, Roger Bigod, Robert de Toteneio, Ralph de Albeneio and others. Since William, Robert and Ralph were certainly sons of William and Cecilia it is clear that Roger Bigod was also, as is confirmed by the order of their sons William, Robert, Roger, listed in the Thorney Liber vitae (BL Add, 40,000, fol. 2r) " <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~prosop/prosopon/issue9-1.pdf>

In Stewart's monumental work (p.69) on the Robert de Tosny Lord of Belvoir family he states, "The fanciful idea was put forward in the mid-19th century that 'Spina' and its variants came about from a play on the imagined origin of the name Tosny, see Senex in N&Q (1861) xi 276-277: 'That this last place [Thosny or Toëny] was named after their Norwegian name, Thorn or Thorny, descendants of Thor, is evident by the fact, that both the members of the Standard-bearer family, and also that of Robert de Toden, of Belvoir, are known as De Spineto and De Spina, in numberless charters and other documents'. In fact the number is apparently small, just three charter occurrences of Berenger Spina or Hespina 4.9 and this fourth case where an individual surnamed Spineta cannot be connected with any certainty to the Tosny family." The present author (DKF) is convinced that this name is a variant of today's Epinsay, close to the other manors." Stewart also details how Robert's death was in 1093, not 1088 as is often assumed. [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf) (p.40). Robert was buried in the Priory, and this coffin lid reads, ROBERT DE

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## Generation 4 (con't)

TODENEI LE FV̄DEV̄R inscribed on one side of the lid, see Monast Angl iii 287 n i.

Rootsweb:

"2.Author: K.S.B Keats-Rohan

Title: Domesday Descendants- A Prosopography of Persons Occuring in English Documents 1066-1166

Publication: Date: 2002;

Repository: Name: Susan Johanson's

library Note:

Source Medium: Book

Text: Robert de Tosny of Belvoir married to Adelais who was the mother of his sons William and Geoffrey. Adelais predeceased Robert. Both were dead by 1093. Robert also had the following children (whether also by Adelais or another wife DD doesn't specify) 1.Berenger (eldest son) (no issue) 2.Albreda (eldest daughter) married Robert de Insula (no issue) Adelia (middle daughter) married Roger Bigod, they had Cecilia wife of William de Albin Brito (died c.1148), William, Humphrey, Gunnor and Matilda 3.Agnes (youngest daughter) married first to Ralph de Beaufour, secondly to Hubert de Rye

3.Title: Burke's Dormant, Abeyant, Forfeited and Extinct Peerages 1866 Page: 160

Text: Robert de Todeni, a nobleman from Normandy 'amongst the most distinguished companions in arms of the Conqueror.' He was granted land in Lincoln upon the borders of Leicestershire. Here de Todeni erected a stately castle and from the fair view it commanded, gave it the designation of Belvoir Castle. He married an Adela and died in 1088. As children are given William who is known as 'the Briton' (Brito) and took the surname de Albin, also Lord of Belvoir, then there were Berenger, Geoffrey, Robert and Agnes who married Hubert de Rye.

4.Title: The Descent of Belvoir by Judith A. Green-- The Queen's University of Belfast,

UK Note:

Source Medium: Newspaper"

More information about Robert (with a pedigree chart clearing up many misconceptions perpetuated over the years), in relation to his ownership of Belvoir and Priory can be found in the catulatory evidence in the possession of the Duke of Rutland (a direct descendant), and found here: <http://archive.org/details/cu31924032311023>. For example it includes an undated document showing the lands given by Robert to the Priory: "Notification by William de Albin[ei]o brito addressed to Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury and legate, that Eobert de Toteny gave to Belvoir Priory two thirds of the tithes from his demesnes in Bradelei, Jokesford, Selem and Mella. Of these tithes the monks were seised, in his time, for many days and years. He and his older barons are prepared to affirm this before the archbishop, where they can come to him, saving their bodies." (p.159)

### About Belvoir Castle and Priory

In the chapel you can see the tomb of Robert de Todini who way back in the mists of time built the first Belvoir Castle. He was originally buried in the chapel of the Benedictine Priory he had built in neighbouring Lincolnshire. When the priory fell into disrepair in the 18th-century, his Norman coffin lid and entire stone tomb was discovered and taken back to the Outer Chapel at Belvoir, where it rests in the north-west corner. (PicturesofEngland.com)

For details of the Priory and Castle and artifacts related to Robert de Tosny

see: [www.davidkfaux.org/MundefordVisuals.pdf](http://www.davidkfaux.org/MundefordVisuals.pdf)

A well researched biography includes, "ROBERT DE TODENI, or Toeny, is the earliest known ancestor of this Surety. He was a Norman baron, and accompanied Duke William in his expedition against England, and was one of his standard bearers. For his distinguished services at Hastings, the victorious duke and monarch rewarded him with the eighty lordships he possessed in twelve English counties at the time of the first general survey of England. On one of his estates in Lincolnshire, and on the border of Leicestershire, he erected a castle which he named Belvoir, from

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### Generation 4 (con't)

its commanding position, and this became his chief seat. "Of this Robert", wrote Dugdale, "I have not seen any other memorial than that the coucher book of Belvoir recordeth that bearing a venerable esteem to our sometime much celebrated protomartyr, Saint Alban, he founded, near his castle, a priory for monks, and annexed it as a cell to that great abbey in Hert-fGrdshire, formerly erected by the devout King Offa, in honour of that most holy man".

Robert de Todei, or Todenei, the first feudal lord, or baron by tenure, of Belvoir Castle, died in 1088, leaving issue by his wife Adela, five children, of whom the eldest son and heir was Succession to the fee of Belvoir has been discussed as a problem several times over the years, but perhaps the issue is actually straightforward once one has identified the key players.[1] Domesday's Robert de Tosny of Belvoir was a collateral of his contemporaries Ralph and Roger. By c. 1050+ he had a first-born son Berengar who could expect to succeed his father in Normandy.[2] Around the time of Domesday Book, a few years before his death, Robert founded Belvoir priory with his wife Adelais. Early charters of Belvoir mention their sons William and Geoffrey and their daughter Agnes.[3] At his death, Robert's lands were divided between Berengar, his eldest son and Norman heir - co-incidentally an English tenant-in-chief in his own right - and his next son and English heir, William. Presumably some provision was made for the Third son Geoffrey. As it happened, all three sons were to die without issue, which meant that rights of succession passed to Robert's daughters. Initially, the sole right of succession passed to Robert's eldest daughter Albreda, who inherited the tenancies-in-chief of both her eldest brother Berengar and her younger brother William before the date of the Lindsey Survey, which shows her husband Robert de Insula in charge of both honours.[4] It has always been assumed that Albreda was the widow of Berengar who took his land to a second husband, but the idea is clearly untenable once the full story of the Belvoir succession unfolds. The references in confirmation charters of the Lincolnshire abbey of Newhouse to 'the fee of Albreda de Tosny' is an indication that the wife of Robert de Insula was a blood relative and heiress of Berengar, rather than his widow.[5] This view is confirmed by the necrology of Belvoir priory, where the anniversaries of Berengar and Albreda uxoreius, deo sancta (a phrase always referring to a religious in this document) were kept on 29 June.[6] All doubt is removed by a charter of c. 1147/52 in which Hugh Bigod made a grant to Kirkstall abbey for the soul of Albrede de Insula amite mee, a phrase that can only mean that Albreda was his mother's sister.[7] The phrase also usefully confirms that Albreda de Tosny and Albreda (wife of Robert) de Insula were the same." <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/b/r/u/Elmer-Gene-Bruner/GENE4-0271.html>

Notes for Adeliza FitzOsulf du Plessis:

Hypothesis 1:

"The Norman earls and knights who first settled in England, though very powerful, had many difficulties to contend with. They were hated by the English to the third generation, and it was not safe during that period to go about without a strong military escort ; their dwellings also needed to be carefully guarded, no Norman being safe from ambuscade, and their families needed constant protection. It is said that no Norman family retained possession of any lordship for three generations, unless one of their chiefs married an English wife. Robert de Todei married Adela, daughter of Osulf fil. Franc, who was lord of Belvoir in the time of Edward the Confessor." <http://archive.org/details/journalofbritishns07brit>

There was "antessorial succession" to the lands owned before 1066 by various English aristocracy who almost all lost their holdings. The best they could typically do was marry the Norman who was given their lands. Here we see recorded that "Robert de Tosny to Oswulf son of Fran" - in other words Robert took over Oswulf's lands in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, and Northamptonshire (Green, "The Aristocracy of Norman England", Cambridge University

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### Generation 4 (con't)

Press, 1997, p.79). It seems that at some point someone added that Adelezia's father was FitzOsulf du Plessis and Frayne - which is highly unlikely and an apparent interpretation of an English name.

However, looking at the entry for her father Osulf, it would appear that the latter was Norman.

Hypothesis 2:

Geni: "About Adélaïs Adeliza FitzOsulf du Plessis, Héritière de Belvoir

The daughter of Osulf le Freyne du Plessis and sister of Grimault du Plessis, Adeliza married first,

[See "The Early Lords of Belvoir" by WA Carrington, Esq (1900) printed in The Journal of the British Archaeological Association, Volume 7, available online on Google Books: p. 299]

Summary: Belvoir was held before Domesday by William de Albin, son of Niel of St Saveur (Vicomte of Cotentin, Lord of the Isles of La Marche), by right of his wife Adeliza, dau of Osulf son of Fane in the time of Edward the Confessor. [Note: This was most likely Osulf II who was High Reeve or Ealdorman of Bamburgh in Northumberland until 1041 when Northumberland was reunified and who died in 1067]

Her second marriage was to Robert de Todei who built the Castle of Belvoir and the St. Mary's Priory (1077) there. By Domesday, de Todei held 80 manors in 13 counties, most of them in Lincoln and Leicester, and six of which had been held by Osulf (his father in law).

Adeliza died before Robert, who died in 1088 and was buried at St. Mary's Priory in Belvoir.

According to Dugdale, Robert and Adeliza de Todei had four sons: William, Berenger, Geoffrey and Robert, and a dau Agnes who married Hubert de Rye. Another source says they had a daughter Adeliza who married Roger Bigod.

Robert de Todei was succeeded by his second son William as Lord of Belvoir. Then, interestingly, it was passed to William de Albin Brito, son of Adeliza by her first marriage .

It was afterwards held by Adeliza de Toeni wife of Roger Bigod. It appears from the Pipe Roll in the time of Henry I that Adeliza de Todei/Bigod paid Henry I 200 marks for the Lordship of Belvoir (the inheritance of the Albinis).

Then, to add to the soap opera, Cecilia Bigod (daughter of Adeliza de Todei and Roger Bigod) married William de Albin son of Roger son of William de Albin Brito (Adeliza I's son by her first marriage). Thus Belvoir stayed in the family either way."

<http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/ENGLISHNOBILITYMEDIEVAL3.htm>"

There is a huge confusion over the Adezelias, and the two William d'Aubignys (one of whom married one of Robert and Adezela Senior's daughters, and the other a granddaughter). This is explained here: " The early Belvoir families: The first Lord of Belvoir ... was Robert de Todei or Tosny (ob. 1088). There are doubts concerning his place in the Tosny family, but it is probable that he was the brother' of Roger 1 de Tosny (ob.c. 1039), truly the Hereditary Standard Bearer of Normandy whose eldest son, Ralph III de Tosny, Lord of Conches and Seigneur d'Acquigny (ob. 1102), was founder of the great Tony line of Anglo-Norman barons. There is no doubt, however, that Robert was grandfather of Cecily of Belvoir, who carried the great Belvoir fee to her husband, William d'Aubigne (Brito) and their progeny 2 . From this marriage came the Breton Lords of Belvoir, the Earls and Dukes of Rutland, and also the Lords of Daubeney of South Petherton and the Earls of Bridgwater'. Robert's other grand-daughter, Cecily's sister Maud, married William d'Aubigny (now St. Martin d'Aubigny) known as Pincerna, distinguishing him from his sister-in-law's husband Brito; the issue of this marriage became the Albin or Aubigny Earls of Arundel & Sussex'. Much confusion in the early history of Belvoir arose from the identical naming of Robert's son, William, second Lord of Belvoir, and the Breton Williams who succeeded after Adeliza, Robert's daughter. A perhaps greater confusion, however, followed from the unusual coincidence of the two grand-daughters marrying men from towns with similar names but of different regions. Even the

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## Generation 4 (con't)

Victorian County History of Bedfordshire gave Joan d'Albini of Cainhoe (ob. 13 10) the escutcheon of the Daubeney of South Petherton, originating from the Montsorel arms of the Breton Aubigne family, even though she is now clearly seen to be of the Contentin family of Aubigny'.

The first definitive account of the family and pedigree of Robert of Belvoir, correcting the flawed attempts of Dugdale, Nichols, Burke and others, was that of the eminent scholar and genealogist, J. H. Round'. In 1914 Dr Farrer expanded Round's pedigree 6 but neither Round nor Farrer included both daughters of Adeliza de Tosny and Roger Bigod in their family tree charts. It was left to the late Sir Anthony Wagner, Garter King of Arms, to present clearly the link of the Aubignys of the Contentin with the Aubignes of Brittany through the two Bigod grand-daughters of Robert of Belvoir'." <http://www.linleyfh.com/oursecondsite-p/p851.htm#i14257>

Geni: Geni: [http://www.freewebs.com/stanhopefamily/THE\\_FAMILY\\_OF\\_FRESNE](http://www.freewebs.com/stanhopefamily/THE_FAMILY_OF_FRESNE)

Adeliza du Plessis was the sister of Grimoult du Plessis, who lost his estates, situated mainly in Coutances, after siding against William the Bastard at Val des Dunes. The name Plessis was of topographical origin, signifying [O.F] a pallsade, and [Lat.] an enclosure, referring to the castle held by the family at Plessis-Grimoult. [The Priory of Plessis-Grimoult was endowed by the Beaumont/Harcourt family; almost invariably a sign that there was a familial connection between them and the founder's family - Mem. Soc. Ant. Norm., vol ii., 23, no. 238.] The original name of the family was Fresne, or, more anciently, Freyne, signifying an ash tree, a derivative of which is the surname Frame. [ G. F. Black, Surnames of Scotland; Their Origin, Meaning, and History, p. 278, 1946.] The father of Adeliza and Grimoult was titled Osulf le Fresne. Their holdings in Coutances abutted those of the family of the wife of the aforementioned Onfroi de Vieilles, who, as said, was of the family of Haye/Haie; of Haye-du-Puits, Manche, arr. Coutances. [The lord of this barony, at the date of the conquest, was Raoul, sénéchal of the Earl of Mortaigne, and father of Robert de la Haie, a contemporary of Henry I. Raoul seems to have been the son of Hubert de Rye, to whom was entrusted the governorship of the castle and county of Nottingham, and who is frequently mentioned in Domesday Book.] In the Battle of Beaumont-le-Roger, in 1036, Onfroi de Vieilles fought against Roger de Toeni, and his close ally, Osulf du Fresne. Such military and political alliance usually stemmed from familial and consequent topographical connections. Later acts of the Abbey of Conches support this notion, with this Fresne family being noted as feudatories of the Anglo-Norman Toeni family, holding of them land centred around Mesnil-Hardray, canton Conches. In the same regard, Grimoult du Plessis was lord of le Freyne,"

Hypothesis 3:

There are those who believe that Robert de Tosny married Adeliza de Savona. Here is a typical reference:

Rootsweb:

"•ID: I46724

•Name: Adeliza de

SAVONA •Sex: F

•Birth: 1035 in St Sauveur, Normandy,

France •Death: ABT 1075

Father: Manfredo de SAVONA b: ABT 1010 in Savona, Italy

Marriage 1 Robert de TOENI Baron of Belvoir b: ABT 1025 in Tosni, Louviers, Eure, Normandy, France". Here the dates are out of sync, however.

Robert de Tosny Lord of Belvoir and Adeliza FitzOsulf du Plessis had the following children:

- i. BERENGAR<sup>5</sup> DE TOSNY was born about 1050 in pr. Tosny, Eure, Normandy, France. He died before 29 Jun 1115. He married ALBREDA.

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#### Generation 4 (con't)

Notes for Berengar de Tosny:

From Stewart (2012): "Acta Duc Norm 342-343 no 157, notice of formal confirmation in 1063 of an agreement between his father Robert and the monks of Marmoutier: *Rotbertus [de Toeniaco] ... veniens in capitulum nostrum ... apud nos confirmavit. Affuit cum illo Berengerius filius ejus qui factum patris auctorizavit*, Carte Belv 289 no 1, undated foundation record of Belvoir priory: *Beringerius domini Roberti filius*; Carte Spald 216 no 5, attestation to charter of Ivo Tailebois dated 1085: *Beringario de Thorneio*; *ibid* 217 no 7, attestation to undated charter of Ivo Tailebois written aft 9 Sep 1087/bef 2 May 1092: *Berengarius de Thoeneye*; Cartul Eborac ix 219 no 133, attestation to undated charter of Hugh son of Baldric for St Mary's abbey, York, written ca 1085/93: *Berengario de Thoneia*; *ibid* 265 no 350, confirmation of earlier donations to St Mary's abbey ostensibly granted by William II but 'either a forgery or grossly interpolated' according to Reg Regum Anglo-Norm i 81 no 313: *Berengerus de Todenai dedit in Lestingham unam carrucatam terre, in Spantona sex, in Mispertona Kirkeby viij carrucas et dimidiam, in Dalby iij, in Scakelden sex bovatas, in Lindeshai unam carrucatam terre et in Binne broke ecclesiam et iijxx acras*. The first and last of these donations were probably made by 1088/89, parts by 1085 (see *ibid* 266), and are to some extent ratified in an undated charter of Henry II from the same abbey's cartulary, written 1156/57 if authentic, *ibid* i 271-276 no 354: *Berengerus de Todenai in Lestingham j carucatam terre, in Spantona vj, in Kirkabimispertun viij et dimidiam, in Dalebi iij, in Scacheldena vj bovatas terre, in Lindesi in Bec j caracutam terre, in Binnebroke quater xx acras terre ... Berengerus de Todenai ix acras terre et dimidiam in Finmara et iij carucas terre in Hunchilebi et decimam suam de Daltona et juxta Cheremunt dimidiam carucatam terre ... Berengerus de Todenai ecclesiam de Binnebroc*.

Berenger's age is estimated at ca 13/18 in 1063 when he participated in the agreement at Marmoutier with his father, see n 1 above, but he may have been a little older or possibly younger than this.

Keats-Rohan (1999) 164 stated, 'That his successor was not his remarried widow is shown by an entry in the necrology of Belvoir priory, where the anniversaries of Berengar and his 'Albreda uxor eius, deo sancta', i.e. Albreda became a nun, were kept on 29 June (BL Add. 4936, fol. 27) [nv]. He was evidently dead before the Lindsey survey, conducted in the summer or autumn of 1115, when some of his Domesday lands were held by Robert de Insula, husband of Berenger's sister Albreda °5.8, see Green (1999) 1; consequently if he died on a 29 Jun this must have been in or more probably before that year.' [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf) (p.59-60)

- ii. WILLIAM DE TOSNY was born after 1050.

Notes for William de Tosny:

From Stewart (2012): Carte Belv 289 no 1, undated foundation record of Belvoir priory: *Mortuâ verò A. uxore Roberti, concessit Robertus ecclesiæ sanctæ Mariæ, pro anima uxoris suæ unam carucatam terræ in Sapertuna ... consensu et voluntate filiorum suorum Willielmi et Galfridi*; Rotul Cart iv 293, early 14th-century copy of undated notification by Henry I confirming Belvoir priory as a cell of St Albans (Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 161 no 1277, 'Spurious, at all events in form'), the original probably written Apr/May 1121 if authentic: *Rodbertus de Thodeneio et Willielmus filius ejus*.

Carte Belv 289 no 1, undated foundation record of Belvoir priory: *Defuncto ... Roberto, Willielmus filius ejus, et hæres Honoris renovavit apud sanctum Albanum, in capitulo fratrum conventionem patris et matris suæ*.

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### Generation 4 (con't)

William succeeded his father, who probably died ca 1093, as lord of Belvoir-see preceding n. He disappears from the record after this occurrence and there is no proof of when he died. According to Keats-Rohan (1999) 741 this was 'some time after 1100' but no authority is given for the statement." [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf) (p.59)

- iii. GEOFFREY DE TOSNY was born after 1050.

Notes for Geoffrey de Tosny:

Other than the following from Stewart (2012), there is almost no information on Geoffry: "Carte Belv 289 no 1, undated foundation record of Belvoir priory: *Mortuâ verò A. uxore Roberti, concessit Robertus ecclesiæ sanctæ Mariæ, pro anima uxoris suæ unam carucatam terræ in Sapertuna ... consensu et voluntate filiorum suorum Willielmi et Galfridi .*" [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf) (p.59)

- iv. ALBREDA DE TOSNY was born before 1055. She married ROBERT DE INSULA.

Notes for Albreda de Tosny:

Initially, the sole right of succession passed to Robert's eldest daughter Albreda, who inherited the tenancies-in-chief of both her eldest brother Berengar and her younger brother William before the date of the Lindsey Survey, which shows her husband Robert de Insula in charge of both honours.<sup>4</sup> It has always been assumed that Albreda was the widow of Berengar who took his land to a second husband, but the idea is clearly untenable once the full story of the Belvoir succession unfolds. The references in confirmation charters of the Lincolnshire abbey of Newhouse to 'the fee of Albreda de Tosny' is an indication that the wife of Robert de Insula was a blood relative and heiress of Berengar, rather than his widow.<sup>5</sup> This view is confirmed by the necrology of Belvoir priory, where the anniversaries of Berengar and Albreda uxor eius, deo sancta (a phrase always referring to a religious in this document) were kept on 29 June.<sup>6</sup> All doubt is removed by a charter of c. 1147/52 in which Hugh Bigod made a grant to Kirkstall abbey for the soul of Albrede de Insula amite mee, a phrase that can only mean that Albreda was his mother's sister. The phrase also usefully confirms that Albreda de Tosny and Albreda (wife of Robert) de Insula were the same.

Albreda was a woman of some stature. Van Houts discusses Norman law and justice and, "the exceptional position as part of the legal process". The first written Norman law code was in 1199 recognizing 'good women and legal matrons' appointed by the Duke in matters involving, for example, contested births. One such case was sometime in the late 1060s to early 1080s where the only woman noted as a witness in the charter recorded at Jumieges, other than Matilda, the Conqueror's wife, was "Alberada, wife of Robert Insule" (2000, p.64; 76).

Albreda,<sup>1</sup> lady of Belvoir,<sup>2</sup> d aft 1115/bef autumn 11263 = Robert de Insula, lord of Belvoir (by right of his wife),<sup>4</sup> d aft 1129/305 (Stewart, p.2). More from Stewart: "Cartul Kirkest 188 no 266, undated charter of Albreda's nephew Hugo Bigod, 1st earl of Norfolk, donating Barnoldswick to Kirkstall abbey: *Ego H. Comes Norfulc', pro salute anime mee et Albrede de Insula, amite mee.*

<sup>2</sup> Albreda's tenure as lady of Belvoir was noted in the return of her nephew Hugo Bigod, earl of Norfolk, to the survey of 1166, Lib Rub Scacc i 397: *De feodo Albrede de Insula*-details of this were listed at the end of his carta, with his new enfeoffments of the 1140s.

See °5.9 n 2 below for the succession of Albreda's sister Adeliza as lady of Belvoir

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#### Generation 4 (con't)

by the autumn of 1126.

Cartul Eborac i 272 no 354, undated confirmation by Henry II of earlier donations to St Mary's abbey, York, written 1156/57: *Robertus de Insula et uxor ejus Albreda in eadem villa [Scamestun] alias xij bovatas terre.*

Robert was living at the time of the Leicestershire survey completed in 1130, see Round (1895) 202-203: *H[undredum] de Herdebia ... In Stacthirm Willelmus de Alben[ei]o viij. car. et dim. ... Robertus de Insula j. car. et dim. H[undredum] de Botlesford.-In eadem villa et Moston et Normanton[e] Willelmus de Alben[ei]o xxxij. car. ... In Mostone Robertus de Insula j. car. et dim.* This survey was placed by Round in 1124/29 and probably closer to the end of that range, *ibid* 197, but it is now usually ascribed to 1130 following *The Leicestershire Survey A.D. 1130*, ed Cecil Slade, Department of English Local History Occasional Papers no 7 (Leicester, 1956) [nv]." [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf) (p.60-61)

- v. ADELISA DE TOSNY was born before 1075. She married ROBER BIGOT.

Notes for Adelisa de Tosny:

"ADELIZA,1 lady of Belvoir bef autumn 1126,2 d aft 11363 = (2) ROGER Bigod,4 b ca 1045,5 vavasor in Les Loges & Savenay,6 lord of Framlingham ca 1101,7 sheriff of Suffolk 1072-1075/81, 1086 & 1101/07, sheriff of Norfolk 1086 & 1100-1107,8 a royal steward,9 d Earsham, Suffolk 8 or 10 Sep 1107,10 bur Norwich cathedral<sup>11</sup>". (Stewart, p.2). More from Stewart (2012): "Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 199 no 1458 (Cartul Duc Rutland 158), writ of Henry I sent from Rockingham probably in the autumn of 1126: 'Precept by Henry I to Alice wife of Roger Bigod: To cause the monks of Belvoir to have their lands and tithes and all their substance ... as her father Robert de Tosny (*Todeneio*), gave them'.

Rotul Scacc Henr I 114 (printed in the scribal shorthand, expanded here): *Adeliz vxor Rogerii bigoti debet .c. et quater viginti et .xviiij. libras pro terra patris sui de Belueder*; Reg Regum Anglo-Norm iii 32 no 82, undated writ of King Stephen issued 1136/40: *Steph(anu)s rex Angl(orum) Adelicie Bigote salutem. Precipio tibi quod reddas monachis de Be(llo)v(isu) decimam suam de Bradeleya ita bene et in pace et juste et plenarie in omnibus rebus et de omnibus maneriis sicut umquam eam melius et plenarius habuerant.* This repeats the terms of two earlier writs addressed to Adeliza by Henry I, Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 199 no 1458 probably sent in the autumn of 1126 and *ibid* 207 no 1495 probably sent Aug 1127. Farrer (1919) 538 no 527 dated the first of these to 1126/29; the narrower timeframe in 1126 is explained under Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 200 no 1459, one of four charters issued at Rockingham that were witnessed by Thurstan, archbishop of York, who travelled south in the autumn of that year on his way to Rome; another of these, *ibid* no 1461, was the notification of a gift that was confirmed in Cartul Eborac iii 129-133 no 1428 attested by Thurstan along with other Rockingham witnesses Everard, bishop of Norwich, Eustace fitz John, Payn fitz John and Walter Espec, as well as by Richard, bishop of Hereford, who died on 15 Aug 1127. Green (1999) 1 considered that, after the Lindsey survey of summer or autumn 1115, 'The next reference to Belvoir seems to be that in the 1130 Pipe Roll', overlooking these earlier writs that are paraphrased in Cartul Duc Rutland 158 & 157, from the priory's cartulary (copied in reverse order), with no dates proposed by Round except for his statement *ibid* 106 that Adeliza 'obtained Belvoir in or before 1129'.

Adeliza was living after Stephen became king at the end of 1135, as shown by two of his undated writs, the first addressed to her issued at Oxford 1136/40, Reg Regum Anglo-Norm iii 32 no 82: *Steph(anu)s rex Angl(orum) Adelicie Bigote salutem. Precipio tibi quod reddas monachis de Be(llo)v(isu) decimam suam de*

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*Bradeleya*; the second issued at Stamford around the same time addressed to the bishop of Norwich, relating to the same matter, *ibid* iii 32 no 83: *Mando tibi et precipio quod plene et juste facias reddi monachis de Bellovisu decimam suam de Bradeleya quam Adel(icia) Big(ot) eis injuste detinet.*

Carte Thetford 148 no 1, undated charter giving to Cluny the priory at Thetford that he had begun constructing a few years before, granted in the presence of Henry I and three bishops on Sunday 1 Sep 1107 (see n 10 below, Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 70 no 834 ascribed it to `1107, before Sept. 15' based on an error of Le Prevost): *EGO Rogerus Bygot consilio domini mei Henrici illustrissimi regis ... et uxoris meæ Adeliciaæ ... Ego itaque Rogerus Bygot dono imprimis, et reddo meipsum et uxorem meam Adelyciam et omnes liberos meos, &c. Deo et ecclesiae beatæ Mariæ de Thetford sicut fratres, et benefactores, et advocatores sepeliendos in fine ... dum rex moram fecit apud Thetfordiam, ubi et hoc ✕ signum sanctæ crucis, et sigillum suum in testimonium apposuit* ; Cartul Clun v 102 no 3748, the same charter from a 13th-century copy omitting the witnesses: *ego Rogerius Bigot de communi consilio domini mei et voluntate Henrici, illustrissimi Anglorum regis ... et uxoris meę Adalicie ... Ego itaque Rogerius Bigot dono in primis et reddo me ipsum et uxorem meam Adaliciam, et omnes liberos meos, cum omni posteritate eorum, Deo et sancte Marie in prenomina ipsius ecclesia Theffordensi, sicut fratres et benefactores et advocatos sepeliendos in finem.*

Keats-Rohan (1999) 396 considered that she was probably the only wife of Roger Bigod, stating, `Although he is usually credited with two wives, it is fairly clear that he was married only once, to Adelisa ... daughter and eventual heiress of Robert de Tosny of Belvoir who is traditionally viewed as mother of Hugh, his eventual heir, Cecilia (Adelisa's eventual heir) and (another) Matilda', adding `The evidence is very limited, but it may be noted that charters for Thetford-founded by Roger and Adelisa de Tosny-by William and Gunnor Bigod mention their father, mother, brothers and sisters with no reference to stepmother or half-blood'. However, William Bigod's undated charter for Thetford written bef Nov 1120 suggests that he was not the son of Adeliza de Tosny, since he died before her and yet in this document he includes his parents together as if they were both already dead, while the rest of his family are acknowledged separately, Carte Thetford 148 no 2: *ego Willielmus Bigot, dapifer regis Anglorum, pro remedio animarum patris mei Rogerii Bigoti et matris meæ Adelidis, et pro salute mea, et fratris mei Hugonis, et sororum mearum, et omnium parentum meorum, vivorum et defunctorum*-as noted by Keats-Rohan (1998) 2, this evidence is inconclusive. Although charters frequently name the principal and living relatives in the `pro anima' clause, the distinction between wishing for the souls of his parents to be healed and for those of others including himself to be hale implies that William's mother had died before his father, and that Roger had then remarried to her namesake Adeliza de Tosny, as proposed in CP ix 577, having more children from the second marriage.

Roger was perhaps born ca 1045-he was presumably not at Hastings, since his son was certainly known to Wace who could only say that Hugo's ancestor, not father, had been at the battle (see following n). If this was Roger's father, he was dead by 1086 and probably by mid-Apr 1070 before when Roger himself held Earsham in Suffolk (where he was to die) under Archbishop Stigand, whose estates were confiscated at that time, see CP ix 575 (wrongly placing this `in or before 1071' from Stigand's death in Feb 1072) and *ibid* n (c) quoting from Domesday book vol ii folio 139: *R. Bigot ideo addidit quando tenbeat manerium hersam tempore stigandi.*

Navel (1934) 18, from the Bayeux inquest of 1133: *Feodum Hugonis Bigoti in Logis et in Savenayo, vavassoria, sed servit pro milite dimidio* ; Lib Rub Scacc ii 646, later transcript of the same inquest: *Feodum Bigotti in Loges et Savenai, dimidium militem.* Hugo Bigod (later 1st earl of Norfolk) held these vavasories in Les Loges and Savenay from the bishopric, presumably inherited from his father Roger who was a tenant of Bishop Odo in twenty manors at the time of Domesday, see Loyd

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(1951) 15 and Wace ii 370:

*L'ancestre Hue le Bigot,*

*Qui aueit terre a Maletot*

*E as Loges et a Chanon.*

There is no independent evidence for Bigod estates at Maltot and Canon; it appears that the main holding associated with the family was at Les Loges, since this was the designation given to another Bigod subscribing along with Roger the pancarte of St Werburgh's abbey at Chester, represented as the foundation charter ostensibly written in 1093 (when these men may have witnessed the original document) but probably compiled ca 1150/60 in its current form, Cartul Com Cestr II 7 no 3: + *Signum Rogeri Bigod ... + Signum Bigod de Loges.*

Roger's successors were lords of Framlingham, but definite evidence is lacking that this was the caput of his barony from 1101, as often stated. At the time of Domesday Hugo of Avranches, earl of Chester, was tenant-in-chief for most of Framlingham and Roger held the largest part from him, see the main entry in Lib Domesd xxxiv (Suffolk) 4,42. This was 9 carucates (that had for some unknown reason increased in value from £16 in 1066 to £36 twenty years later), out of 14 in total. The entire holding of Earl Hugo in Framlingham and outlying estates apparently passed into the royal demesne before his death in Jul 1101, but there is no record clarifying why this occurred or when. Henry I is supposed to have granted it to Roger, and on this basis Sanders (1960) 46-47 named him as the first baron, but again proof is lacking. This probably happened after the fall of Robert Malet, who had held other parts of Framlingham at Domesday, following the attempt by Henry's brother to take the crown-this traditional view was given in VCH Suffolk ii 165, 'The turbulent reigns of William II and Henry I saw the gradual growth of the power of the Bigods, whose influence became almost paramount after the expedition of Robert of Normandy in 1101 to claim his brother's throne. On the suppression of the rebellion Robert Malet suffered the confiscation of his vast properties, and in consequence the castle and honour of Eye fell into the royal hands. Roger Bigod was staunch for Henry and received the castle of Framlingham as his reward.'

However, it is not known who built the original castle at Framlingham, that was demolished in the early 1170s. Presumably this was not Roger himself as the under-tenant of Hugo and sheriff of Suffolk at Domesday (when no castle is mentioned), so it was probably another of the sheriffs between 1086 and ca 1100 when he allegedly received an existing fortification from Henry.

The carta of his son Hugo in 1166 is unhelpfully vague in this regard: he recorded a total of 125 knights' fees held under the tenancy-in-chief of his father during Henry I's reign, Lib Rub Scacc i 395-396: *Hoc est scriptum Comitis Hugonis de militibus quos tenet in capite de Rege de veteri feffamento, quos Rogerus Bigod, pater suus, feffavit ...*

*Summa-c et xxv milites.* But it is most improbable that no changes occurred in these enfeoffments, under his elder brother William and himself, between Roger's death in Sep 1107 and Henry I's in Dec 1135.

8 There is some uncertainty as to the periods of Roger's shrievalty in both counties, see Green (1990) 60-61 for Norfolk and 76 for Suffolk. In one case, or perhaps both, Green has left out an occurrence in a writ of William the Conqueror confirming the verdict in favour of the abbot of Bury St Edmunds against the bishop of Thetford's plea, recorded on 31 May 1081 and likely to be of the same date, Acta Guill I 210 no 40: *Willelmus rex Anglorum Rogerio Bigoto ceterisque omnibus fidelibus suis salutem.*

Cartul S Petri Bath 44, subscription to charter of Henry I dated 3 Sep 1101 (Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 12 no 544): *Ego Rogerus Bigod dapifer+.*

According to Keats-Rohan (1999) 396, Roger may have been related to a Robert Bigot whom she stated to be 'son of Norman, lord of Pirou and Cerisy in the Cotentin'; the COEL database (Nov 2007) develops this into suggesting that Roger

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### Generation 4 (con't)

himself may have been son of a seigneur of Pirou-unpublished sources are cited, but it appears to rely mainly on common use of the not-uncommon name Bigot/Bigod, and in part on the conjecture that Roger was a royal steward by shared inheritance with William of Pirou. Both men subscribed a charter of William II for Bath priory, along with three others who held the same office, Cartul S Petri Bath 41-42, dated 27 Jan 1090 (but written in 1091, Reg Regum Anglo-Norm i 81 no 315): *Ego Eudo dapifer.+ Ego Ivo dapifer.+ Ego Hamo dapifer.+ Ego Rogerus dapifer.+ Ego Willelmus dapifer.+*

There is no direct evidence adduced in the COEL database for such a family connection, although the office may well have been hereditary in each case. Roger's son William was serving with three of the same men twenty-five years later, Matth Paris Chron vi 37 Additamenta no 22, witnesses to charter of Henry I dated 28 Dec 1116 (but written in 1115, Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 127 no 1102): *Eudo dapifer, Haimo daipifer [sic], Willelmus Bigot daipifer [sic], Willelmus de Piron alius dapifer*. Wace stated that the ancestor of Roger's son Hugo had served Duke William II as steward by tenure in fee, Wace ii 370:

*L'ancestre Hue le Bigot ...  
Le duc soleit en sa maison  
Seruir d'une seneschaucie ...  
En fieu esteit sis seneschals.*

**8 Sep**-Carte Thetford 153 no 9, fragment of the history of Thetford priory written early in the 15th century: *Hæc omnia facta sunt octavo die ante Nativitatem beatæ Mariæ, fundamentum scilicet inceptum ... Nam præfatus Rogerus [Bigotus] octavo die a fundamento incepto vitam terminavit apud Erksam, novo nunc castro nominato*-this refers to the subjection of the priory to Cluny on Sunday 1 Sep 1107, see n 4 above, originally as a dependency of Lewes; Roger died on the octave (or eighth day inclusive) of his charter, 8 Sep, the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the tradition on this important point, when nothing is made of the coincidence between Roger's death and the dedicatee's liturgical birthday. It is unlikely that the ceremonial occasion with the king and three bishops present at Thetford took place not on a Sunday but on the following Tuesday, 3 Sep, as results from ascribing Roger's death on the octave to **10 Sep**. Ord Vit Hist vi 144-146, after reporting the death of Maurice, bishop of London, in Sep 1107: *Tunc optimates Angliæ Ricardus de Raduariis et Rogerius cognomento Bigotus mortui sunt ... Super Rogerium Cluniacenses alonaxdi tale scripserunt epitaphium:  
Clauderis exiguo Rogere Bigote sepulchro  
Et rerum cedit portio parua tibi ...  
Soli nubebat uirgo ter noctibus octo  
Cum solis morti debita morte tua.*

Chibnall noted, *ibid* 147 n 4, 'the epitaph implies 10 September, since the sun entered Virgo on 18 August according to the table used in western Europe at this date'. However, *ter noctibus octo* here more probably meant an overlapping series of three liturgical octaves from Sunday to Sunday (18-25 Aug, 25 Aug-1 Sep, 1-8 Sep) rather than the twenty-fourth consecutive night of the astrological episode, so that 8 Sep is indicated-of a mid-12th century occurrence of the same phrase, in the speech of a physician trying to persuade a monk to lend his fur coat for the sake of an ailing king, Nivard Ysengr 338:

*Dixeris hec contra quicquam, ter noctibus octo  
Non repetes punctum commoditatis idem!*

These lines were translated by the editor, *ibid* 339, 'Say what you like against this, you won't find such a degree of complaisance for a month to come!'-but a calendar month had no more relevance to a monk's life than the number twenty-four, and it appears instead to be a poetic way of saying three octaves of nightly prayer (when the coat would be especially needed), fitting metrically as the literal 'tribus hebdomadibus noctium' does not.

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#### Generation 4 (con't)

The calculation of 15 Sep from this epitaph, given by Le Prevost in his edition of Orderic and repeated in CP ix 578, is mistaken.

11 Ord Vit Hist vi 144-146: *Ricardus de Raduariis et Rogerius cognomento Bigotus mortui sunt, et in monasteriis monachorum sepulti sunt quæ in propriis possessionibus ipsi condiderunt. Rogerius enim apud Tetfordum in Anglia*-this is incorrect, as a dispute over Roger's burial place between the Cluniac monks of Thetford and the bishop of Norwich was won by the latter when the former withdrew their claim, Cartul Norwic i 12 no 18, undated charter of Henry I written Sep 1107/May 1108 (omitted in Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii): *H. rex Angl' omnibus fidelibus suis Francis et Anglis de Northfolc' et de Suthfolc salutem. Notum sit omnibus vobis et hiis qui vobis successuri sunt quod Herbertus episcopus Norwicensis disratiocinavit corpus Rogeri Bigoti et uxoris sue et filiorum suorum et baronum suorum contra monachos Cluniacenses de Tedfort hoc modo. Monachi fecerunt clamorem de episcopo quod sepelisset episcopus predictus corpus Rogeri Bigoti apud Norwicum, dicentes quod Rogerus Bigot se dedisset et uxorem suam et filios suos in Teodfortensi monasterio. Contra episcopus respondit testimonio multorum suorum parrochianorum quod priusquam monachi venissent Teodfort, Rogerus Bigot se dedisset cum uxore [sua] et filiis et baronibus suis in ecclesia Norwicensi. Inde factum iudicium est, sed antequam redderetur iudicium cognoverunt monachi injusticiam suam et quesiverunt veniam quod episcopum injuste fatigassent et clamaverunt Rogerum quietum et uxorem suam et filios et barones suos; cf the unresolved account in Carte Thetford 153 no 9, fragment of the history of Thetford priory written early in the 15th century: *Rogerus octavo die a fundamento incepto vitam terminavit apud Erksam ... Et ipse episcopus Norwycensis manebat in ejusdem villæ confinio, est enim ipsa villa Norwyco contiguo miliaria quasi denario: venerabilis episcopus non Origin and early generations of the Tosny family caritative faciens, noctu corpus rapuit, et Norwycum ad sepeliendum transportavit, contradicentibus uxore et hominibus ejus ibidem tunc astantibus. Ideo autem dixi episcopum non fecisse caritative, quod constat eundem Rogerum se uxorem et omnes suos in præsentia episcopi ejusdem priori dedisse, viz. ad sepeliendum corpora eorum Thetfordiæ in cimiterio monasterii beatæ Virginis Mariæ. Quod cum patri nostro nunciatum esset, apud Thetfordiam tunc constituto, pluribus novelli operis rebus intento, cum quatuor fratribus Norwycum festinanter perrexit, corpus super feretrum in medio positum invenit; et cum uxore Bigoti et pluribus amicis episcopum precando et supplicando requisivit, ut corpus redderet sepeliendum in cimiterio beatæ Mariæ ubi se et suos reddiderat in vita sua, ipso episcopo hoc audiente et annuente. Quod episcopus valde acriter tenuit; et prius precando et blandiendo, et plurima promittendo priorem et eos qui cum ipso erant, requisivit ut permitteret corpus sepelire in pace et bona voluntate ad Norwycum, remota penitus omni calumpnia in perpetuum. Quam rem pater noster nullo modo concedere voluit. Et tam ipse, quam fratres qui cum ipso erant, et plures alii, sicut est consuetudo religionis monachorum, prostraverunt se ad pedes episcopi, ut prædictam rem concederet eis, corpus viri jam dicti defuncti quod episcopus cum ira magna se facere negavit. Tunc prior ex parte Domini et beatæ Mariæ \* \* \* \* \***

- vi. AGNES DE TOSNY was born about 1075 in pr. Belvoir, Leistershire, England. She died after 29 Sep 1130. She married (1) HUBERT DE RYE II, son of Hubert De Rye after 1102. He was born about 1045 in Ryes, Calvados near Bayeux, Normandy, France. She married RALPH DE BEAUFOU. He was born about 1040 in Bellofago (Beaufour), Pont-l'Eveque, Calvados, Normandie, France. He died about 1101 in pr. Hockering, Norfolk, England.

Notes for Agnes de Tosny:

In order to fully understand the circumstances in relation to Agnes' inheritance from her husband Ralph de Beaufou, as well as her dower rights, as well as lands she would have been entitled to from her father since there was no issue from any of her three brothers (pp.264-266), and the guardianship or wardship of her young sons,

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upon her husband's death and her re-marriage (p.330, 339, 372) to Hubert de Rye, by another family (in this case the King), and age disparities in marriage at this time (p.337). All of these factors influence what is seen in relation to not only Angles, but in commonly seen in the lives of other women in Medieval England (Judith A. Green, 'The Aristocracy of Norman England', Cambridge University Press, 1997).

The exact birthdate of Agnes is not know, although she seems to be the youngest child of Robert and Adeliza. Hence it is not known at present whether she was born in Normandy or England.

"AGNES, d aft Sep 1130, (1) = Radulf de Belfou, lord of Hockering, d aft 1100 (2) = (2) HUBERT de Ryes, d bef 1127" (Stewart, p.2)

"The full name of the mother of this family is provided by Agnes, Only the initial letter of her name is given in Carte Belv 288-289 no 1, record of the foundation of Belvoir priory by her husband: Robertus inceperat ecclesiam sanctæ Mariæ juxta castellum suum ... Robertus et A. ejus uxor ... Robertus, concedente A. uxore sua ... Mortuâ verò A. uxore Roberti; the full name was given in an undated charter of her daughter Agnes, ibid 290 no 7: ego Agnes de Toteneio confirmo donationem elemosinarum quas pater meus Robertus de Toteneio, et mater mea Adelais dederunt ecclesiæ sanctæ Mariæ de Belvoir.

Agnes occurs in the 1129/30 Pipe Roll (p. 93) charged with a debt of 35 silver marks because her son was with the count of Flanders. At a similar date she attested the charter which William de Albin pincerna gave for Wymondham priory on the day his wife Matilda Bigod, Agnes's niece, died. Agnes follows her sister Adelisa Bigod in the witness list, where she was accompanied by her daughter Almud and a niece or granddaughter (nepta) Muriel. Her dower lands at Aslackby and at Seaton, Northamptonshire (then in Rutland), were held in 1166 by her son or grandson Ralph de Beaufour." (Keats-Rohan, 1998, p.1)  
<http://users.ox.ac.uk/~prosop/prosopon/issue9-1.pdf>

Similarly, Keats-Rohan reports, "Robert de Tosny had two other daughters, of whom the youngest was Agnes. She confirmed her father's grant of land at Aslackby, Lincolnshire, to Belvoir priory as being part of her marriage portion on her first marriage to Ralph de Beaufour of Hockering (fl. 1086/1100). Widowed in the early twelfth century, she married secondly Hubert I de Ryes, castellan of Norwich, to whom the tenancy-in-chief of Hockering was given by Henry I. She occurs in the 1129/30 Pipe Roll (p. 93) charged with a debt of 35 silver marks because her son was with the count of Flanders. At a similar date she attested the charter which William de Albin pincerna gave for Wymondham priory on the day his wife Matilda Bigod, Agnes's niece, died. Agnes follows her sister Adelisa Bigod in the witness list, where she was accompanied by her daughter Almud and a niece or granddaughter (nepta) Muriel. Her dower lands at Aslackby and at Seaton, Northamptonshire (then in Rutland), were held in 1166 by her son or grandson Ralph de Beaufour from her grandson Hubert II de Ryes. Prosopon

Presumably this means that on her marriage to Ralph Beaufou, Robert de Toden (Tosny) gave his daughter Agnes the manors of Acklesby in Lincolnshire and Seaton in Rutland (now Northamptonshire), and if she became a widow would be entitled to this land as her dower rights. Apparently they ultimately descended to her son Ralph de Beaufou." (p.1)  
<http://users.ox.ac.uk/~prosop/prosopon/issue9-1.pdf>. Documents related to both manors will provide key information showing the continuity and descent across generations.

Stewart (2012) provides the following information: "Carte Belv 290 no 7, undated charter: *ego Agnes de Toteneio confirmo donationem elemosinarum quas pater meus Robertus de Toteneio, et mater mea Adelais dederunt ecclesiæ sanctæ*

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*Mariæ de Belvoir ... et confirmo donationem de una bovata terræ in Asclakheby, et duabus partibus decimæ de dominio ... Hoc autem specialiter confirmo quia sit de matrimonio meo.*

Agnes was probably living on 29 Sep 1130, or at any rate within the year beforehand, as she occurs in the pipe roll for 1129/30 completed by Michaelmas, Rotul Scacc Henr I 93 (expanded): *Agnes de belfago reddit compotum de .xxxv. marcis argenti quia filius suus porrexit ad comitum Flandrensis.*

Agnes was the mother of Radulf's son Richard before she married Hubert de Ryes, Reg Regum Anglo-Norm ii 356-357 Appendix no 189, undated charter of Henry I for Holy Trinity, Norwich, probably written 13/16 May 1127: *Notum vobis facio quod ego concedo donum quod fecit Hubertus de Ria de decimis suis monachis ecclesie sancte Trinitatis de Norwico ... Concedo eciam eidem ecclesie ecclesiam sancte Marie de Aldebi, quam Agnes de Belfo uxor ejus donavit cum Ricardo filio suo.* [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf) (p.66)

AGNES de Tosny (-before 1127). "Agnes de Toteneio" confirmed the donation to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire by "pater meus Robertus de Toteneio et mater mea Adelais", by undated charter. Henry I King of England confirmed the donation of "decimas de Hokinghe, de Swanetuna, de Depham, de Bukestuna, de Mercheshale" by "Hubertus de Ria...Agnes de Belfo uxor eius...cum Ricardo filio suo" to Holy Trinity, Norwich, at the request of "Henrici filii et heredis ipsorum", by charter dated to [1127]. Her second marriage is confirmed by the undated charter under which her son "Henricus de Rya" confirmed the donations to Belvoir priory, Lincolnshire by "Roberti avi mei et Agnetis matris meæ". m firstly RALPH de Belfou, son of ---. m secondly HUBERT de Rie, son of HUBERT de Rie & his wife --- (-before 1127). Note that some of the manors of her first husband came into possession of her second husband and subsequently their children.

Some random (and sometimes repeated) facts with sources include the following:

- her share of her father's lands seems to have been limited to a marriage portion at Aslackby, where she gave land to Belvoir Priory, later confirmed by her son Henry de Ryes [Ref: Green Belvoir p1]
- confirmed her father's grant of land at Aslackby, Lincolnshire, to Belvoir priory as being part of her marriage portion of her first marriage [Ref: Keats-Rohan DD p739]
- her Belvoir dower remained with her Belfou descendants. For reasons unknown the lordship of Hocking was given to Agnes's second husband Hubert de Ria [Ref: Keats-Rohan Baronies++ p2]
- widowed in early twelfth century [Ref: Keats-Rohan DD p739]
- witnessed the charter by which William d'Aubigny the butler, son-in-law of Adeliza Bigod, gave the manor of Happsburgh to Wymondham priory on the day of his wife's burial [Ref: Green Belvoir p1]
- a confirmation by Henry I to Norwich Cathedral priory referred to Agnes wife of Hubert de Rye's grant of Aldeby, which was subsequently confirmed in a papal bull as the grant of Agnes de Tony [Ref: Keats-Rohan DD p739]
- 1129/30: occurs in Pipe Roll p93, charged with a debt of 35 silver marks because her son was with the count of Flanders. [Ref: Keats-Rohan Belvoir p2, Keats-Rohan DD p739]
- attested the charter which William de Albin pincerna gave for Wymondham priory

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on the day his wife Matilda Bigod, Agnes' niece, died. Agnes follows her sister Adelicia Bigod, the principal heir of their father, in the witness list [Ref: Keats-Rohan DD p739]

"According to Keats-Rohan (1999) 330, Hubert de Ryes 'took over the tenancy-in-chief of Hockering, despite the fact that Ralph and Agnes had surviving male issue'. However, no evidence was cited for Agnes as mother of the younger Radulf de Belfou (see below) or for his survival and that of her son Richard when Hockering passed to her second husband. The elder Radulf occurs by early 1083, Acta Guill I 422 no 119, undated letter to Geoffrey, bishop of Coutances and Robert, count of Mortain regarding St Ethelreda's abbey, Ely, written 1081/83: Et ad istum placitum submonete ... Radulfum de Belfo ... et alios quos abbas vobis nominabit. It is not clear when he died and a namesake, possibly his son, occurs instead: Keats-Rohan (1999) 330 suggested that the husband of Agnes was 'probably the same as Ralph de Bellofago sheriff of Norfolk c.1108-1111/15, possibly of Suffolk c.1091-1102'. The former is implausible because Agnes remarried in time to have a son Henry de Ryes who was no longer a minor in 1127, see n 6 below." [http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin\\_and\\_early\\_generations\\_of\\_the\\_Tosny\\_family.pdf](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bobwolfe/gentxt/Origin_and_early_generations_of_the_Tosny_family.pdf) (Stewart, 2010, p.67)

"\*AGNES DE TOSNI: 'Agnes de Toteneio' confirmed the gift of her mother and father of a bovate of land in 'Asclakheby' to Belvoir priory [Mon. Angl. III: 290, Num. VII., 3]. As Agnes de Beaupre, she gave the church and manor of Aldeby to the monks of Norwich [William Page, ed., "Victoria County History of Norfolk, Vol. II, p. 328, 1906]. 'Hubert de Ria assigned the tithe of his estates at Hockering, Swanton, Deopham, Buxton and Markshall, and Agnes de Bellofago, his wife, gave the church and manor of Aldeby' [Dodwell, Charters of Norwich Cathedral Priory, vol. i, no. xx.]. She had married, firstly, Ralph de Beaufou. Her father was 'Robertus de Belvedeir', founder of Belvoir priory with his wife, ca. 1085 [Mon. Angl. III: 288-9, vol. i., no. iii.]. Her mother was Adelaïse [K.S.B. Keats-Rohan, 'Belvoir: The Heirs of Robert and Berengar de Tosny,' Prosopon, no. xix., July 1998]. Agnes had two sisters: Alberada (<1129), m. Robert de Insula, and Adeliza (>1135), m. Roger le Bigod, who possessed Framlingham as a result [Regesta, ii, no. 1495; Rutland MSS, iv, p. 144]." <http://www.freewebs.com/stanhopefamily/>

A summary biography includes the following, "Robert de Tosny had two other daughters, of whom the youngest was Agnes. She confirmed her father's grant of land at Aslackby, Lincolnshire, to Belvoir priory as being part of her marriage portion on her first marriage to Ralph de Beaufour of Hockering (fl. 1086/1100).[8] Widowed in the early twelfth century, she married secondly Hubert I de Ryes, castellan of Norwich, to whom the tenancy-in-chief of Hockering was given by Henry I. She occurs in the 1129/30 Pipe Roll (p. 93) charged with a debt of 35 silver marks because her son was with the count of Flanders. At a similar date she attested the charter which William de Albini pincerna gave for Wymondham priory on the day his wife Matilda Bigod, Agnes's niece, died. Agnes follows her sister Adelisa Bigod in the witness list, where she was accompanied by her daughter Almud and a niece or granddaughter (nepta) Muriel.[9] Her dower lands at Aslackby and at Seaton, Northamptonshire (then in Rutland), were held in 1166 by her son or grandson Ralph de Beaufour from her grandson Hubert II de Ryes.[10] " <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/b/r/u/Elmer-Gene-Bruner/GENE4-0271.html>