

# SHIFTING LOYALTIES: THE TWELFTH CENTURY FURNIVALS

by Wout van Voornveld<sup>1</sup>

## ABSTRACT

The Fournival family is known to historians primarily for its Yorkshire baronies and their participation in the crusades. Relatively little is available in the English speaking community with regard to their twelfth century origins. This article is a first attempt to scratch the surface of a predominantly continental period.

*Foundations* (2013) 5: 81-101

© Copyright FMG and the author

## Introduction

Traditional genealogical data on the Fournival family (like those found in Dugdale,<sup>2</sup> Thoroton<sup>3</sup> and others<sup>4</sup>) start with Gerard de Fournival sr.<sup>5</sup> in the late twelfth century. He was a celebrated crusader who had the honour of accompanying Richard Lionheart on the Third Crusade as a close companion. As a reward his son was married to a rich Norman heiress through which the house of Fournival was founded in Yorkshire in the thirteenth century.

Opinions differ as to the oldest ancestor and place and origin of the Fournival family. The tracing back of ancestors to the time of William the Conqueror in the eleventh century seems to be a pastime for some genealogists with an interest in English history.

The Battle Abbey Rolls, a non-contemporary document of questionable credibility, has an entry for Fournival with an "interpolated" attribute.<sup>6</sup> This makes it even less credible perhaps than a complete absence! Contemporary documents lack the evidence to justify an early presence in England.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The author is an independent historical researcher with a keen interest in medieval genealogy and toponymy. In daily life he works as an information analyst in information technology. He is currently working on the history of the phonetically related family names (Vorenveld, Fürfeld and Furnival), provisionally called "*The Archaeology of a Name: a Phonetic Quest*."

Contact details: woutvanv@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup> William Dugdale, *The Baronage Of England* as cited by Joseph Hunter, "Letter of the Rev. Joseph Hunter, One of the Sub-Commissioners, to C.P. Cooper, Esq, the Secretary of the Record Commission" in: *Letters from eminent historical writers relating to the publications of the Board of Commissioners on the Public Records* (1836), 61-73.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Thoroton & John Throsby, *The antiquities of Nottinghamshire vol. iii* (1790), 387-392.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Hunter, *Hallamshire: the history and topography of the parish of Sheffield* (1819), 31-41; John Holland, *The history, antiquities, and description of the town and parish of Worksop* (1826), 18; Samuel Pegge, *An historical account of Beauchief abbey* (1801), 153-160.

<sup>5</sup> I will use the sr./the elder and jr./the younger suffixes throughout the document to avoid confusion between the father and the son.

<sup>6</sup> Catherine L W P Cleveland, *The Battle Abbey Roll vol.2* (1889), 60.

<sup>7</sup> Joseph Hunter, "On the (so called) Roll of Battle Abbey" in *Sussex Archaeological Collections relating to the History and Antiquities of the country vol. vi* (1853), 11.

## Stemma Fundatorum

A valuable source of information on the origin of the Fournival family is the *Stemma Fundatorum Prioratus de Wyrksope* (Pedigree of the Founders of Worksop Priory - Yorkshire) a metrical chronicle. Although not a contemporary document (it was written somewhere around 1470 presumably by an Augustinian canon by the name of 'Pigot'), the incorporated information has no equal as an indicator of the origin of the Fournival family. The relevant passage reads:

*Then by King Richard conqueror was sent  
First Furnivall Gerard, and he he<sup>8</sup> married  
That came out of Normandy straight as we rede.*

*Apud Ebrard in Neustriá, Normandia vocata est,  
tumulus in suo dominio, quod constat Fornevall,  
per rectam successionem; si patria cum Anglia  
existeret pacificata*

*Then dicest Gerard the first Fournyvall  
And beryed was in Normandy, his owne inheritance.<sup>9</sup>*

The passages in Latin are taken from a much earlier chronicle and might be considered near contemporary. Stacey identifies Ebrard (the burial place of Gerard de Fournival jr.) as a village between Dieppe and St. Valéry.<sup>10</sup> It is possible that Le Bourg-Dun near Dieppe is meant, where there is a large 11<sup>th</sup> century church, apparently the successor to an abbey founded by Ebrard or Evrard that was destroyed by the Vikings. This makes sense when related to the Lovetot origin (Luvetot is 30 miles south of Le Bourg-Dun) and the grants from King John in the area.<sup>11</sup> Notice the absence of Gerard de Fournival sr. You might expect him to be mentioned as it was his reward to give his son Maud de Lovetot as wife. As presented here the arranged marriage almost looks like a spontaneous act of benevolence on behalf of King Richard. On the other hand, Gerard de Fournival sr. was not a patron of the priory, so the omission seen from the monks' point of view is understandable. The fact remains that Gerard de Fournival jr. is qualified as 'the first' suggesting that his father was unknown or considered irrelevant.

Unequivocally, the Norman background of the Fournivals is prominently represented in the poem by no less than three entries (whereas the Norman origin of the Lovetots and the Nevills is omitted). So I will explore a possible Norman origin first.

## The Norman connection

My approach is to look for places in Normandy that could have been the home of Gerard de Fournival sr. purely based on phonetical resemblance and then look into the nobility associated with it.

<sup>8</sup> Reference to 'Molde Lovetoft' (Maud de Lovetot), mentioned earlier in the chronicle.

<sup>9</sup> W Dugdale, *Monasticon Anglicanum a History of the Abbies and other Monasteries* vol vi (1849), 122-124.

<sup>10</sup> J Stacey, "The Priory and Parish Church of Worksop and Radford" in *The Journal of the British Archeological Society*, (1874), 164.

<sup>11</sup> Conteville and Léry. See Hubert Hall, ed., *The Red Book of the Exchequer* vol. ii (1896), 491, 504, 592; Maurice Powicke, *The Loss of Normandy 1189-1204* (1960), 221, 246.

## Fourneaux

An obvious candidate for a Norman origin is the place currently known as Fourneaux-le-Val, near Falaise in the canton of Calvados. The contemporary name was Fourneaux or in Latin *Furnellis*. This could disqualify the place purely on toponymical grounds. However the historic name confusion between the Fournival and Fourneaux family justifies a brief investigation.<sup>12</sup> Fourneaux-le-Val competes with Fourneaux-sur-Vire (*arrondissement* St Lo *canton* de Tessy) for the origin of the Fourneaux family name. The genealogy of this family is extremely complex, not least because some of their members migrated to England in the eleventh century leaving hardly any traces of their French period. Among the earliest members is Eudes (Odo) de Furnels who features in the Domesday Documents<sup>13</sup> and held lands in Somerset in 1083, an Anquetil who held lands in Yorkshire and Norfolk<sup>14</sup> and a Ralf de Fourneaux who witnessed a charter in 1070 in St Evroult. Orderic Vital associated Ralph with a hamlet and lordship near Faverolles and Portes in the canton of Conches also called Fourneaux.<sup>15</sup>

Experts differ greatly as to the exact family relations. The nineteenth century namesake Rev H Furneaux drew up a pedigree for the English Somerset<sup>16</sup> and Devonshire<sup>17</sup> branch. In *The Norman People*,<sup>18</sup> Fourneaux and Furnell are separate entries both linked to Fourneaux-sur-Vire but with different family relations compared to the pedigrees of Rev H Furneaux. Reany makes the same distinction between Furneaux and Furnell but assigns them different origins: Fourneaux-sur-Vire and Fournels (*département* Lozère, *région* Languedoc-Roussillon).<sup>19</sup>

The disentangling of the Furneaux pedigree would take a separate study and is out of scope for this article. However the idea of multiple origins for different branches within a family line (either Fourneaux or Furnel) is a tempting one. For instance the Richard de Fourneaux who was in Charwellton (Devonshire) in the period 1094-1100,<sup>20</sup> is not necessarily the same as Richard, the Fourneaux monk of St Vigor at Bayeux, afterwards abbot of Préaux.<sup>21</sup> The former was a land owner, while the latter was a cleric, extremely well versed in the holy scriptures and the author of several works of authority. And how does the Richard de Furnells mentioned in relation to Welbeck Abbey in Yorkshire in 1225<sup>22</sup> relate to

<sup>12</sup> In relation to Welbeck abbey (near Worksop, Yorkshire) *VCH Nottingham* (vol. ii (1899-present) [1970 reprint], 130) names a Richard de Furnival, son of Robert, quoting Thoroton; however Thoroton clearly states "*Richard de Furnells and his kin*," Thoroton, *op.cit.* (1790), 363..

<sup>13</sup> K S B Keats-Rohan: *Domesday People, Domesday Book [DP]* (1999), 152.

<sup>14</sup> Rupert Furneaux, *Conquest 1066* (1966), 210.

<sup>15</sup> Ordericus Vitalis, *The Ecclesiastical History of England and Normandy* vol. iii (1854), 35.

<sup>16</sup> H Furneaux, "Notices of the Family of Furneaux," *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, 3<sup>rd</sup> series vol.3 (1900), 272-276.

<sup>17</sup> H Furneaux, "Notices of the Family of Furneaux" in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica* 3<sup>rd</sup> series vol. 4 (1902), 7-11.

<sup>18</sup> Anon., *The Norman people and their existing descendants in the British dominions and the United States of America*. (1874).

<sup>19</sup> P H Reany & R M Wilson, *Dictionary of English Surnames* 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (2005), 180.

<sup>20</sup> Charles Johnson & H A Cronne, *Regesta Regum Anglo-Normannorum 1066-1154* vol.1 (1913), 115.

<sup>21</sup> Orderic Vitalis, *op. cit.* (1854), 36.

<sup>22</sup> Thoroton, *op. cit.* (1790), 363.

the Norman, Richard de Fourneaux who witnessed Roger IV de Tosny's acts in the Conches area at the turn of the thirteenth century?<sup>23</sup>

### Formeville (Pont-Audemer)

Another candidate is Formeville near Pont-Audemer in the Eure department currently known as Fourmetot.<sup>24</sup> The village's name was also rendered as Fourmeville (15<sup>th</sup> century) and Fourneville (16<sup>th</sup> century).<sup>25</sup> Note that the 'ville' ending has a significantly different etymological context compared to the 'val' suffix. 'Ville' is based on either the Latin '*villa*' meaning settlement or the German '*weiler*' meaning abode, a single house. 'Val' from the Latin '*vallis*' refers to a land formation, a valley.<sup>26</sup> However given the fact that naming convention was still in its infancy, largely subject to a scribe's convention (or hearing capacity), a mixing up of val and ville has occurred. This is reason enough to explore the 'ville' candidates.

The oldest reference to the house of Formeville goes back to 1034 when Gozlin le Roux de Formeville was one of the witnesses to the founding charter of the Benedictine abbey of Préaux.<sup>27</sup> A Robert de Formovilla is mentioned in an additional section of the charter presumably dated 1094. This Robert could have been a kinsman of a namesake that witnessed two charters in Devizes (Wiltshire) in 1143.<sup>28</sup> The Formeville village itself is mentioned in the *Book of the Exchequer* dated 1184.<sup>29</sup> In 1201 Roger de Formeville features among other knights to pledge his alliance to city of Troarn.<sup>30</sup> Possibly Basilie de Formeville (born Basilie de Harcourt)<sup>31</sup> of the same house, whose donation in Normandy is recorded for the year 1206<sup>32</sup> equates with the Basill de Forniavill mentioned in the Rolls series for 1207,<sup>33</sup> whose name is indexed under the 'Furnevall' entry.

### Fourneville (Honfleur)/ Frénouville (Caen)

Both Fourneville (*canton* Honfleur, *arrondissement* Lisieux, *département* Calvados) and Frénouville (*canton* Bourguébus, *arrondissement* Caen, *département* Calvados) claim to have an eleventh century origin under the contemporary name of *Furnovilla*. However Frénouville has archaeological

<sup>23</sup> Daniel Power, *The Norman Frontier in the Twelfth and Early Thirteenth Centuries* (2004), 297, 298.

<sup>24</sup> Anon, *Dictionnaire général des communes de France et des principaux hameaux en dépendant* (1818), 140.

<sup>25</sup> E de Magny, *Nobiliaire de Normandie, publié par une société de généalogistes, avec le concours des principales familles nobles de la province* (1862), 62.

<sup>26</sup> Xavier de Planhol, *An Historical Geography of France, Volume 21 of Cambridge Studies in Historical Geography*. Cambridge (1994), 64.

<sup>27</sup> Arthur du Monstier, *Neustria Pia: Seu de Omnibus Et Singulis Abbatibus Et Prioratibus Totius Normanniæ* (1663), 525

<sup>28</sup> H A Cronne & R H C Davis, *Regesta Regum Anglo-Normannorum 1066-1154* volume iii (1968), 42-3.

<sup>29</sup> Anon, *Agni Rotuli Scaccarii Normanniæ sub Regibus Angliæ* (1846), 74.

<sup>30</sup> Rotuli Scaccarii, *op. cit.* (1846), 202.

<sup>31</sup> Gilles-Andre de la Rocque, *Histoire Généalogique de la Maison de Harcourt* vol. ii (1662), 1969.

<sup>32</sup> Magny, *op. cit.* (1862), 62.

<sup>33</sup> Anon, *Rotuli Litterarum Patentium in Turri Londinensi Asservati*, ed. Thomas Duffus Hardy (1835), 72.

evidence for a Roman origin dating back to the third century.<sup>34</sup> The earliest document reference dates from 1068 in the second charter of the abbey of Troarn, diocese of Bayeux.<sup>35</sup> Contrary to Fourneville, Frénoville has a twelfth century genealogy associated with it: a Saffroi de Frénoville and his sons Roger and Jean donated the church of Notre-Dame-du-Poirier to the abbey of Troarn somewhere between 1160 and 1170. Saffroi became a monk in the abbey along with his son Guillaume.<sup>36</sup> The case for Frénoville seems a strong one.

Based on the above I conclude that most of the candidate locations in Normandy have an associated genealogy (although it is far from clear which genealogy belongs to which place). Purely based on the name, the Fournival association with Normandy is explicable<sup>37</sup> and in one case probably justified (Basilie de Forneville). Notice that in none of the genealogies do we find a Gerard or a Christian name tradition linked to Gerard.

**Fig 1 Map of Normandy**



<sup>34</sup> Christian Pilet, *La Necropole de Frénoville, Étude d'une population de la fin du IIIe à la VIIIe siècle*, (1980).

<sup>35</sup> F M Vaultier, "Recherche historique sur le ancienne doyné de Vaucelles sur le diocèse de Bayeux" in *Mémoires de la Société des antiquaires de Normandie* tome xii (1841), 52-53.

<sup>36</sup> R N Sauvage, *L'abbaye de Saint-Martin de Troarn* (1911), 149-150.

<sup>37</sup> To name a few who favour the Norman origin: Hunter, *op. cit.* (1819), 30; Thoroton, *op. cit.* (1790) 387; David Hey, *Family Names and Family History* (2000), 39.

Fig 2 Map of Picardy



## The Picardy connection

As early as the nineteenth century researchers pinpointed Fournival in the Beauvais region<sup>38</sup> (above Paris) as the true place of origin.<sup>39</sup>

The twelfth century evidence for the Fournivals is centred around a region of northern France, currently known as Picardy. The Fournival village lies halfway between Amiens in the north and Paris in the south and about halfway between Rouen in the west and Rheims in the east. The oldest reference dates from 1126 and strikingly omits the characteristic 'val' ending: "Fourniville". However this is the only known rendering of the name, subsequent twelfth century entries for this place include *Furnivallis* (1135) and *Fornivallis* (1145) in its Latin version and *Furnival* (1138, 1192) and *Fornival* (1145) in the old French language.<sup>40</sup>

In the period under consideration, *seigneuries* operated in relative independence.<sup>41</sup> There were economic ties to Flanders.<sup>42</sup> Up until the conquest of the Amiens region in 1185<sup>43</sup> and Beauvais in 1191<sup>44</sup> the influence of the Royal

<sup>38</sup> Anon, *The Norman people and their existing descendants in the British dominions and the United States of America* (1874), 273; Christopher Harper-Bill & Nicolas Vincent, *Henry II: New Interpretations* (2007), 116.

<sup>39</sup> Reany identifies an alternative origin for the Fournival name, Saint-Julien-sur-Sarthe (département Orne, region *Basse-Normandie*). Fournival however is the name of a street within Saint-Julien-sur-Sarthe. I haven't been able to find any twelfth century reference to its existence. Reany & Wilson, *op.cit.* (2005), 180.

<sup>40</sup> V Leblond' *Notes pour le Nobiliaire du Beauvaisis d'après un manuscrit inédit du XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle* tome iii (1913), 1043.

<sup>41</sup> "...la seigneurie de Clermont qui se développe en plein de la constitution de la seigneurie de Beauvaisis, sans rapport avec les anciens cadres civils ni avec les circonscriptions religieuses." Olivier Guyotjeannin, *Episcopus et Comes affirmation et déclin de la seigneurie épiscopale au nord du royaume de France (Beauvais-Noyon X<sup>e</sup> – début XIII<sup>e</sup> siècle)* (1987), 24.

<sup>42</sup> M J de Gaulle, *Nouvelle histoire de Paris et ses environs* (1841), 117.

<sup>43</sup> Jim Bradbury, *Philip Augustus King of France 1180-1223* (1998), 48.

Kingdom of France however was limited to the ecclesiastical support in the royal diocese.<sup>45</sup> This remote area was a preferred location for the foundation of monasteries for the greatly expanding Cistercian movement. Ourcamp was founded in 1129,<sup>46</sup> Froidmont in 1134<sup>47</sup> and Beaupré in 1135. The Fournival family was involved with these monasteries throughout the twelfth century.

The French King Philip August issued a Royal Charter of Protection for Ourcamp as late as 1195, Beaupré in 1200 and Froidmont in 1221.<sup>48</sup> Tellingly, King Henry I visited the Ourcamp abbey just before his death in 1135 and took it under his protection as a way of gaining control in the area.<sup>49</sup>

Several groups of possibly related branches bearing the Fournival family name can be identified from the remaining evidence. Starting with the oldest branch:

- Baudouin de Fournival, his wife Agnes and 4 generations of offspring;
- Gerard de Fournival the elder, representing the branch that formed the house of Furnival in England, spanning 8 generations before the line ended with Joan Furnival in 1383;
- Roger de Fournival, physician to King Philip August spanning just 2 generations;
- several dispersed members.

## The religious branch

Let us delve into the details of the oldest branch. In 1134 Baudouin and his wife Agnes made a donation of lands in Gouy-Le-Bray to the recently founded abbey of Froidmont, situated in a heavily forested area just 10 miles from Fournival.<sup>50</sup> In 1138 lands in "*Gournai et Furnivilla*" were donated to the monastery of Ourcamp (in the diocese of Noyon).<sup>51</sup> In 1143 Baudouin's daughter Ermé is the subject of a cartulary marking the entrance of both of her brothers, Lanscelin and Hubert, into the monastery of Ourcamp.<sup>52</sup> Given the fact that novices to the order were only allowed to enter from the age of sixteen,<sup>53</sup> we can deduce that Baudouin's two sons were born sometime before 1127. If the order of entry in the cartularies is something to go by, Lanscelin was the eldest. The 1154 cartulary for Breteuill further confirms this, as it was Lanscelin who donated all that he possessed in Wavigny.<sup>54</sup>

Given that the average generation span in the North of France in the twelfth century was approximately 30 years,<sup>55</sup> the birth of Baudouin would fall in the first years of the century. As a result of King Baldwin of Flanders becoming the first

---

<sup>44</sup> Bradbury, *op. cit.* (1998), 93.

<sup>45</sup> John W. Baldwin, *The Government of Philip August* (1986), 12-13.

<sup>46</sup> M. Peigné-Delacourt, *Cartulaire de l'Abbaye d'Ourcamp* (1865), v.

<sup>47</sup> R. Aubert, ed. *Dictionnaire d'Histoire et Géographie Ecclésiastiques* tome xix (1981), 150.

<sup>48</sup> Baldwin, *op. cit.* (1996) 449.

<sup>49</sup> M Peigné-Delacourt, *Histoire de l'Abbaye de Notre-Dame d'Ourcamp* (1876), 126.

<sup>50</sup> Leblond, *op. cit.* (1913), 914.

<sup>51</sup> Peigné-Delacourt, *op. cit.* (1876), 128; Peigné-Delacourt, *op. cit.* (1865), 446.

<sup>52</sup> Peigné-Delacourt, *op. cit.* (1865), 53-54.

<sup>53</sup> Martha G Newman, *The boundaries of Charity* (1995), 24.

<sup>54</sup> Leblond, *op. cit.* (1913), vol. i 293.

<sup>55</sup> Georges Duby, *The Chivalrous society* (1977), 116.

King of Jerusalem after the first crusade (1099)<sup>56</sup> the name Baudouin was very popular at that time. Baudouin is alternatively described as a monk<sup>57</sup> and a knight.<sup>58</sup> I think that both qualifications are right, but referring to different periods of his life. All cartulary evidence is from the 1134-1145 period. After that no sign of Baudouin is to be found. It is just possible that he joined Manasses de Bulles, the witness to the 1138 cartulary for Ourcamp, as a knight on the second crusade, thus starting a family tradition. Manasses and Evrard de Breteuill (from the neighbouring village of Breteuill) both died in 1148.<sup>59</sup>

A cartulary for the abbey of Beaupré in 1145 reveals Baudouin's brother by the name of Erardus de Valescourt, a clear sign that surnames were more toponymical (referring to the location of residence) than hereditary. Erardus' two sons, Galterus and Haimericus, are mentioned as well.<sup>60</sup> Mattheus de Valescourt is mentioned as the nephew of Agnes but his exact part in the pedigree is as yet unidentified.

Hubert died in 1185, after which his son, Barthélemy, made a donation to the abbey of Froidmont in memory of his father, who is described as *milites*.<sup>61</sup> Hubert, unlike his brother Lanscelin, left the monastery to become a knight, and with his wife Ermelyn<sup>62</sup> had a son called Dreux and three daughters Adélaïde, Marguerita and Mathilda.<sup>63</sup> In 1185 Barthélemy was the seneschal of Bulles (the neighbouring village). His son Dreux is mainly known as Dreux de Bulles,<sup>64</sup> which indicates that toponymical surnames probably still held sway.

## The political branch

Though Gerard de Fournival sr. was first and foremost a knight and warrior, his main contribution to history is found in his entering the courts of the Angevin and French households. His earliest appearance in written form occurs in 1181, when he witnessed a charter by Geoffrey Plantagenet, Duke of Brittany.<sup>65</sup> According to J A Everard, Gerard de Fournival sr. was already a courtier at the Brittany court.<sup>66</sup> In 1184 he was given the manor of Munden in Richmond (Yorkshire), in a place that is currently known as Munden Furnival<sup>67</sup> and witnessed one of Geoffrey's English charters at Winchester.<sup>68</sup> This clearly suggests that Gerard de

<sup>56</sup> Chantal Tanet & Tristan Hordé, *Dictionnaire des prénoms* (2009), 69.

<sup>57</sup> E de Lepinois, "Recherche historiques et critiques sur l'ancien Comté et les Comtes de Clermont et Beauvoisis, Chapitre V: Chatellenies de Bulles, de Conty et de Milly" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome ix (1874), 376.

<sup>58</sup> L E Deladreau, "Notice sur l'Abbaye de Froidmont" in *Mémoires de la Société Académique d'Archéologie, Sciences et Arts du Département de Oise* tome vii (1868), 477.

<sup>59</sup> V G Berry, ed., *De protectione ludovici in Orientem* (1948), 53,123.

<sup>60</sup> Leblond, *op. cit.* (1913) tome i 292-293; tome iii 792.

<sup>61</sup> Leblond, *op. cit.* (1913) tome ii 605.

<sup>62</sup> Lepinois, *op. cit.* (1874), tome i 383.

<sup>63</sup> L E Deladreau, "Notice sur l'Abbaye de Froidmont, Revenus et Propriétés du monastère" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome viii (1871), 39.

<sup>64</sup> Deladreau, *op. cit.* (1871) 35.

<sup>65</sup> J A Everard & M C E Jones, eds., *The Charters of Duchess Constance of Brittany and her Family 1171-1221* (1999), 11.

<sup>66</sup> J A Everard, *Brittany and the Angevins* (2004), 96.

<sup>67</sup> Everard, *op. cit.* (1999), 20.

<sup>68</sup> Everard, *op. cit.* (1999), 16, 17.

Fournival sr. was part of Geoffrey's household. This is compatible with a Norman knight devoted to the Angevin cause. However Frenchmen were often seen in the court in Brittany as "the promotion of outsiders in Normandy was a practice as old as the duchy itself." <sup>69</sup> Geoffrey developed a friendly relationship with Philip August in 1186. During one of his visits he was named "Seneschal of France." <sup>70</sup> Gerard de Fournival sr. witnessed a ducal charter issued by Geoffrey in Paris among mostly Capetian witnesses. <sup>71</sup> Shortly after, while still in Paris, Geoffrey died under mysterious circumstances. After his death a secret alliance between Geoffrey and Philip August was revealed: at the coronation of Philip in 1179 Geoffrey had paid homage to the Capetian King. With Geoffrey's secret loyalty it is impossible to determine on whose side Gerard de Fournival sr. was in this period: a Norman knight devoted to the Angevin cause, or a French knight who conveniently had access to the French court.

The period after Geoffrey's death until the embarking of the third crusade in 1190 marks a period where Gerard de Fournival sr. was uniquely associated with the Capetian king, Philip August. He accompanied the English king's messengers on their trip to Normandy, the mission being the neutrality of Normandy in the conflict between the Count of Poitier and Saint-Gilles. <sup>72</sup> In the same year he was sent by Philip August to King Henry II with the intention of insulting the Angevin king by sending a mere knight instead of showing up himself. <sup>73</sup> Gerard de Fournival sr. however was treated respectfully by King Henry II. In 1187 Gerard de Fournival sr. attested a charter by the Frenchman Robert de Dreux in Eure-et-Loire region still supporting the French side. <sup>74</sup>

In the wake of the Gisor conference in late August 1188, the Angevins under Richard Plantagenet were involved in a skirmish near Mantes with some French knights, among which was Richard's old enemy William des Barres. <sup>75</sup> On the French side the courageous achievements of Gerard de Fournival the elder, his brother Baudouin II and Dreux de Mello received an explicit mention in the *Philippide*, a French historic poem written by William the Britton. It expands on Gerard de Fournival sr. and Baudouin II's brutal and violent actions in this period, where they are said to be constantly fighting the Normans and English at the side of Philip August <sup>76</sup>: Gerard de Fournival sr. knocked down the Norman Peter de Préaux and his brother Baudouin II, <sup>77</sup> Raoul, the Earl of Chester <sup>78</sup> (these

<sup>69</sup> Harper-Bill, *op. cit.* (2007), 116.

<sup>70</sup> Bradbury, *op. cit.* (1998), 64.

<sup>71</sup> Everard, *op. cit.* (1999) 32; Gerard appears as follows: "*Gerardo de Furnivallo et Rag' frater eius*". J A Everard suggests that Rag represents Roger de Fournival, but I doubt it. Rag could also be short for Reginald (Botere) whose name appears in the Anger charter of 1181 immediately before Gyraudus de Fornival (Everard, *op. cit.* (1999), 13). I also have my doubts about Roger and Gerard de Fournival sr. being brothers. See discussion later in this article.

<sup>72</sup> J Depoin ed., *Cartulaire de l'abbaye de Saint-Martin de Pontoise*. 4-5 (1904), 438; Rudolphi di Diceto. "De imaginibus historiarum" in *Recueil des historiens des Gaules et de la France*, tome xvii (1878), 628.

<sup>73</sup> Baldwin, *op. cit.* (1996) 34.

<sup>74</sup> Everard, *op. cit.* (2004), 140 note 75.

<sup>75</sup> John Gillingham, *Richard the Lionheart* (1978), 117, 118.

<sup>76</sup> "*Mais le plus illustres de ces seigneurs furent les frères Baudouin II et Girard de Fournival, qui combattirent intrépidement les Anglais après la destruction de l'Ormel de Gisors (1188), et dont Guillaume Le Breton rapporte les hauts fait dans sa Philippide*". Lepinois, *op. cit.* (1874), 377.

<sup>77</sup> Baudouin II had a brother by the name of Hubert. The settlement of a quarrel between the two brothers is recorded in the year 1190. Lepinois, *op. cit.* (1874), 378.

passages clearly recall the description of George Duby's analysis of the "juveniles" in his book *The Chivalrous Society*<sup>79</sup>). The most important conclusion to draw is that Gerard de Fournival sr. opposed the Angevin army in battle.

Treason ran in the family<sup>80</sup> as Richard Plantagenet turned his back on his father in November 1188 and joined Philip August in what can be described as "*one of the more startling moves in English history.*"<sup>81</sup> Until the death of his father in July 1189 he fought on the same side as Gerard de Fournival sr. (maybe even alongside). After the death of King Henry in July 1189, both King Richard and Philip August were busy preparing for the crusade. Gerard de Fournival sr. was still on the French side as can be proven by his witnessing an Act in Paris (by royal consent) in 1190.<sup>82</sup>

Probably in the late eighties of the twelfth century Gerard de Fournival sr. joined the Knights Templars as a temporary member.<sup>83</sup> The Beauvais area was particularly associated with the templar cause. Archaeological finds suggest a Templar mansion once existed in Mesnil-sur-Bulles, some 3 miles from Fournival.<sup>84</sup> In Milly-sur-Thérain, 20 miles east of Fournival, the Order also had a house (c.1147).<sup>85</sup> Long before Gerard de Fournival the elder's time, it is known that Manasses de Bulles (the Fournival's neighbours)<sup>86</sup> joined the second crusade. It is possible that Baudouin de Fournival I (not to be confused with Gerard de Fournival the elder's brother) also joined, though no written evidence remains. Hugh de Gournay (from Gournay-en-Bray some 35 miles east of Fournival) was possibly part of the first crusade.<sup>87</sup>

The third crusade was pivotal in creating a personal bond between Gerard de Fournival sr. and King Richard and for once a clear identification with the Angevin cause is forged. Gerard de Fournival sr. was often seen riding alongside King Richard and he was singled out for special operations.<sup>88</sup> As a reward for his services during the crusade Richard gave Gerard's son Gerard de Fournival jr. a rich Norman heiress, Maud de Lovetot, as wife.<sup>89</sup> After the crusade Gerard de

---

<sup>78</sup> Guillelmi Britonis Armorici, "Phillipidos," in *Recueil des historiens des Gaules et de la France* tome xvii (1878), 156.

Lepinois states that Raoul was killed by Baudouin II. However if Raoul can be identified as Ranulf de Blondeville, 6th Earl of Chester (c.1172–1232) he did survive the combat. Lepinois, *op. cit.* (1874) 377.

<sup>79</sup> *Fighting knights travelling all over the country, playing tournaments, on the outlook for rich marriageable women.* Duby, *op. cit.* (1977), 112-114.

<sup>80</sup> Bradbury, *op. cit.* (1998), 62-63.

<sup>81</sup> John D Hosler, *Henry II, A Medieval Soldier at War* (2007), 98.

<sup>82</sup> Rose, *Cartulaire du chapitre de la cathédrale d'Amiens* tome i (1905), 103.

<sup>83</sup> Helen Nicholson, *The Knights Templar a new history* (2002), 130.

<sup>84</sup> Gaulle, *op. cit.* (1841), 117.

<sup>85</sup> Oscar de Poli, *Inventaire des titres de la maison de Milly* (1888) 67 note 1.

<sup>86</sup> Berry, *op. cit.* (1948), 53, 123.

<sup>87</sup> Daniel Gurney, *The Records of the House of Gournay* (1845), 67.

<sup>88</sup> Ambroise Marianne Ailes & Malcolm Barber, *The History of the Holy War: Ambroise's Estoire De La Guerre Sainte, Volume 1* (2003), 182; Helen J. Nicholson ed., *Chronicle of the Third Crusade: a translation of the Itinerarium peregrinorum et gesta Regis Ricardi* (1996), 361, 374.

<sup>89</sup> In his book *The Annals of Nottinghamshire*, Thomas Bailey takes a most singular view of the topic: "*Gerard de Furnival, who had taken Matilda de Luvetot to wife, had a son Gerard, whom he married to his said wife's daughter, who likewise named Matilda.*"

So, according to Bailey, Gerard's stepmother became his mother-in-law as well. There is no doubt about Bailey's statement, since he consistently calls the father Girard and the son Gerard. However

Fournival sr. was active in Poitou in the 1196-1198 period.<sup>90</sup> In June or July 1197 Gerard de Fournival sr. was one of the witnesses to the alliance signed in Les Andelys between Baldwin, the Count of Flanders and Richard I.<sup>91</sup> Gerard de Fournival sr. was also part of the army that fought at Chalus-Chabrol in March 1199 where Richard was fatally wounded. Gerard de Fournival sr. was one of four privileged men who were present at Richard's deathbed.<sup>92</sup> After Richard's death Gerard de Fournival sr. remained loyal to the Angevins as supporter of King John.

For information regarding Gerard de Fournival the elder's wife we have to turn to Beauchief Abbey in Yorkshire. Gerard de Fournival jr. with his wife Maud/Mathilda were among the benefactors as is shown by the commemorative entry for 1<sup>st</sup> July for this abbey:

*Co. D'ne Matildis Lovetot, uxoris D'ni Gerardi Furnivall primi, D'ne  
Halumshire, que dedit nobis unam marcam de annuo redd' ad  
pietanciam de molendino suo in Sheffield...*<sup>93</sup>

It is remarkable that Gerard de Fournival jr. is here referenced as '*Gerardi Furnivall primi*'. It suggests that his father Gerard de Fournival sr. was not known very well in the Yorkshire area, which is a reasonable assumption given the fact that cartulary evidence places him in Normandy<sup>94</sup> until the last recorded entry in the acts of John in 1203.<sup>95</sup>

A further commemoration in the Beauchief Abbey archives listed for 20 January reads:

*Comm' Andeluge Matris D'ni Gerardi de Furniva*<sup>96</sup>

This is the only known reference to Gerard de Fournival the elder's wife Andeluga. Neither Thoroton nor Dugdale mention her. Notice that she is only referenced as the mother of Gerard de Fournival jr. not as the wife of Gerard de Fournival the elder.<sup>97</sup> Gerard de Fournival sr. figures in the obituaries for the

we only have Bailey's word for it. There is no other evidence to support his case. Thomas Bailey, *The Annals of Nottinghamshire* vol. i. (1853), 31.

<sup>90</sup> Alfred Richard, *Histoire des comtes de Poitou, 778-1204* tome ii (1903), 302, 303, 305-307, 310, 312.

<sup>91</sup> W Prevenier, *De oorkonden der Graven van Vlaanderen 1191 – aanvang 1206* (1964), 148. Prevenier erroneously identifies Gerard de Fournival sr. as his grandson with the same name who married Christian de Ledet.

<sup>92</sup> The others were William le Braose, Thomas Basset and Peter of Stoke. Ralph V Turner, *King John* (1994), 55.

<sup>93</sup> Pegge, *op. cit.* (1801), 153. This passage is translated in Addy as: "*Commemoration of the lady Matilda Lovetot, wife of Sir Gerard Furnivall, first Lord of Hallamshire, who gave us one mark of yearly rent for a pittance, from her mill in Sheffield*". I think the translation should have read "Sir Gerard Furnivall the first, Lord of Hallamshire". Sidney Oldall Addy, *Historical Memorials of Beauchief Abbey* (1878), 42.

<sup>94</sup> *Rotuli Litterarum*, *op. cit.* (1835), 13 (Caen), 28 (S. Ebrulf) 29 (Molinel).

<sup>95</sup> *Rotuli Litterarum*, *op. cit.* (1835), 29.

<sup>96</sup> Pegge, *op. cit.* (1801), 154. Addy's translation reads "*Commemoration of Ludeluya, mother of Sir Gerard de Furnival, and of Walter our convert and brother*." It is not clear whether Ludeluya is also the mother of Walter (in which case perhaps Galfridi/Geoffrey is meant) or just a brother whose commemoration is on the same day. Addy, *op. cit.* (1878), 24.

<sup>97</sup> Maybe I'm reading too much in the absence of Gerard de Fournival sr. in both the *Stemma Fundatorum* and the Beauchief archives, but it almost looks as though Gerard de Fournival jr. deliberately wanted to evoke the image of a Norman origin by obfuscating the role and background of his father. (I fully realize I am entering the realm of speculation in this interpretation). Gerard de Fournival jr. having made a fresh start in Yorkshire might not have wanted his loyalty to King John questioned by a French family history. Tellingly his loyalty to King John in the Civil War was

Saint-Pierre cathedral in Beauvais (Picardy) with a commemorative entry on 28 October.<sup>98</sup>

### The intellectual branch

Although this branch had a definite entry in the ecclesiastical domain, it is in the field of science that the family made its mark. Roger de Fournival was a mathematician, astrologer and, most important of all, physician to the French kings, Philip August, Louis VII and Louis le Bel.<sup>99</sup> Roger married Elisabeth de la Pierre (also known as Elisabeth de Paix), a widow with a son called Arnolph. Arnolph grew up to become the bishop of Amiens (1236-1246).<sup>100</sup> His cousin (the son of his mother's brother) Thilbault d'Amiens was the bishop of Rouen.<sup>101</sup> While living in Amiens Thibault<sup>102</sup> was known as Thibault de Boullancourt (or Billancourt) and was reputedly related to the d'Heilly family.<sup>103</sup> Thibault d'Heilly (Bishop of Amien) was King Philip August's uncle.<sup>104</sup> Both Arnolph and Thibault are qualified as "*natif d'Amiens*."<sup>105</sup>

In 1201 Roger and Elisabeth had a son, Richart. He was given a formal education, studying arts and medicine at the University in Paris, eventually becoming a physician like his father and with the Pope's license to perform surgery. He was an avid book collector and author of the book "*La bestiaire de l'amour*" which is viewed as one of the highlights of medieval prose. He started his ecclesiastical career as canon, went on to become deacon and eventually Chancellor of the Cathedral Chapter of Amiens. His sister Marie was married to Henri le Sorchi, also called Greffin<sup>106</sup>. They had a son called Thomas, who was canon in Amiens.

---

continued up until 1216, even though most of these fellow barons by then had joined the rebels. J C Holt, *The Normans* (1961), 29-30.

<sup>98</sup> M de Marcy, "Obituaire et Livre des distribution de l'eglise cathédrale de Beauvais" in *Memoires de Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de l'Oise* tome xii. (1883), 137, 185.

<sup>99</sup> Power, *op. cit* (2007), 116.

<sup>100</sup> Pierre Desportes & Hélène Millet, *Fasti Ecclesiae Gallicanae* tome 1 Diocèse d'Amiens (1996), 93.

<sup>101</sup> Jean-Baptiste-Maurice de Sacy, *Histoire des évêques d'Amiens* (1770), 132; Vincent Tabbagh, *Fasti Ecclesiae Gallicanae* tome ii Diocèse d'Rouen (1996), 80-82.

<sup>102</sup> Thilbault d'Amiens is not to be confused with the knight Thilbault d'Amiens, "*seigneur de Canaples*", as is described in: J. Noulens, *Maison d'Amiens, Histoire généalogique*, (1888), 144-154.

<sup>103</sup> Desportes, *op. cit.* (1996), 211.

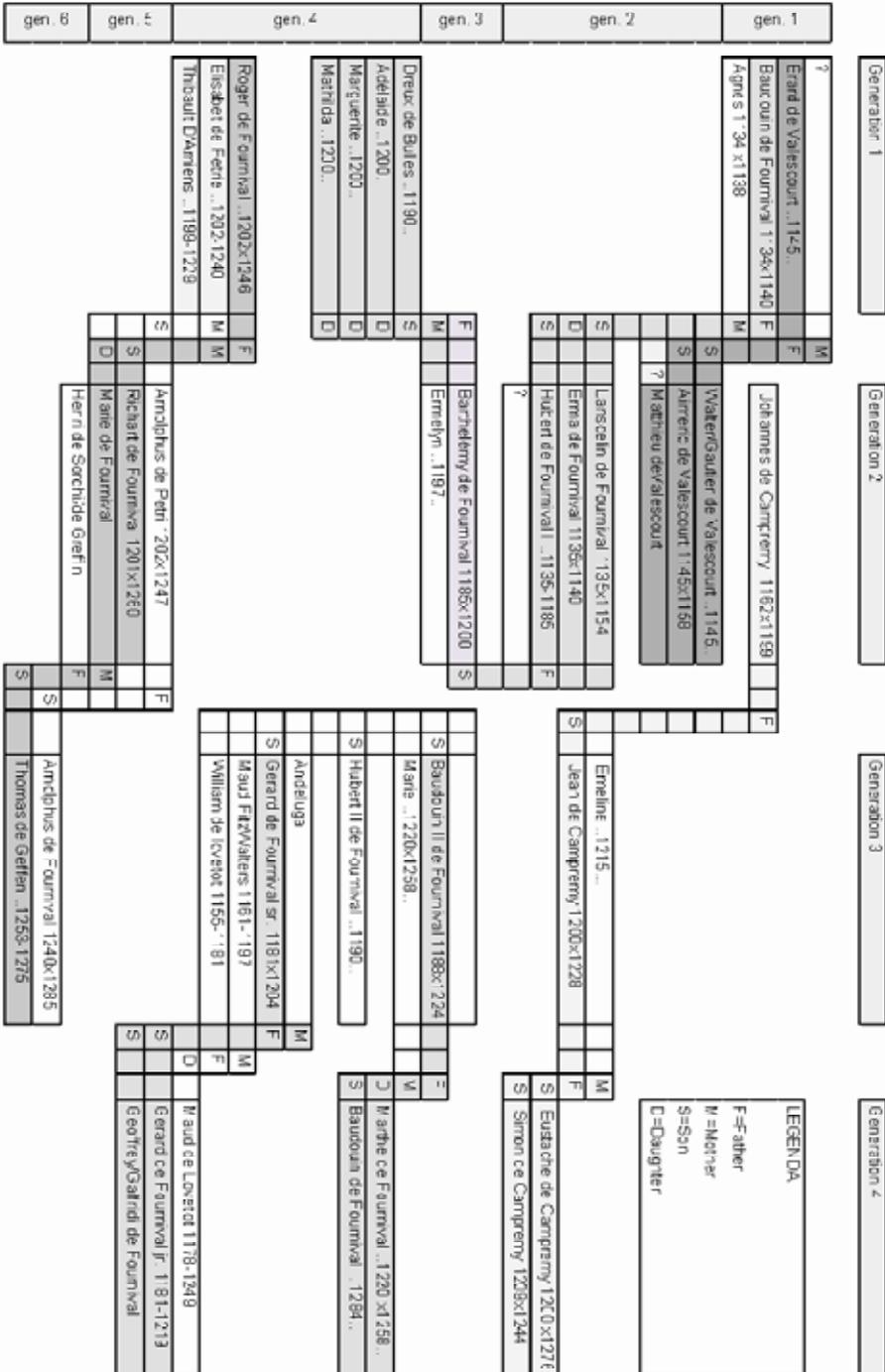
<sup>104</sup> Sacy, *op. cit.* (1770), 116.

<sup>105</sup> Sacy, *op. cit.* (1770), 132.

<sup>106</sup> Desportes & Millet, *op. cit.* (1996), 214.

**Fig 3 The Fournival Pedigree**

(top left: 'the religious branch', bottom left: 'the intellectual branch', middle top: Campremy family, middle right: 'the political branch')



## Attempt at synthesis

Let us try positioning the three branches in terms of generations (Fig 3).<sup>107</sup> The oldest references to the branches are 1134 (Baudouin), 1181 (Gerard de Fournival sr.) and Roger (1202). We can assume that these three members were approximately in their thirties or forties: Baudouin had three children by then; Gerard de Fournival sr. was a renowned warrior, was married and most likely had his first son and had made his entry into a court in Brittany; Roger was old enough to be *magister* and build a reputation as physician, good enough to be the private physician of King Philip. It is clear that these three did not belong to the same generation. We must move forward a generation in the Baudouin branch. When Lanscelin entered the Cistercian monastery he must have been at least sixteen years old and assuming his brother Hubert was younger, then Lanscelin's birth can be pinpointed to the middle of the 20s of the twelfth century. Gerard de Fournival the elder's timeframe is a little more difficult to establish. He was last known to be alive in 1203,<sup>108</sup> he was capable of fierce and brutal fighting during the crusade, so my guess would be that his birth must have been somewhere in the 40s of the twelfth century. The 15 years difference between him and Lanscelin can be bridged knowing that women were marriageable at the age of 13 and commonly had one or more children before reaching the age of 20.<sup>109</sup> Thus large families with substantial age differences between siblings existed. The generation gap between Lanscelin and Roger is almost impossible to bridge. Lanscelin's last cartulary entrance is for 1154, Hubert his brother died in 1185 and Roger's death is commonly given as 1246. So either Gerard de Fournival sr. or Lanscelin belong to the second generation or Gerard de Fournival sr. is a third generation member. In any way Roger belongs to the fourth generation.

Were the branches interrelated? The strongest link is to be found between the religious and the political branch. Looking at the first names of the latter branch (Gerard de Fournival sr. and Baudouin II) either Erard de Valescourt or Baudouin de Fournival could have been their parents. Now it starts getting interesting: Baudouin II's brother Hubert cannot have been the second generation Hubert because as stated previously he died in 1185 and this Hubert was alive in 1190. So Hubert II, Baudouin and Gerard de Fournival sr. belong to the third generation linked to Baudouin I and Agnes (as grandparents) or to the Valescourt branch.

Linking Roger to either of the other branches is quite a challenge. The Christian names in this branch (Roger, Richart, Marie, Thomas) are totally unconnected to Christian names in other branches. The educational aspect is also completely absent in the other branches. The Cistercian order (and the Knights Templars whose rules were based on the Cistercian Order) did not encourage reading.<sup>110</sup> If they could read, it was probably restricted to the vernacular (old French dialect) and not Latin. Moreover, attending university was a huge financial commitment.<sup>111</sup> One would need a sponsor prepared to invest a substantial

<sup>107</sup> I have presented the family lines in a Trellis Chart instead of a traditional pedigree representation. The advantage is that it saves substantial space by the diagonal layout structure, thus enabling the representation of the three internally related family lines against a generation-based timeline.

<sup>108</sup> *Rotuli Litterarum*, *op. cit.*(1835), 29.

<sup>109</sup> David Henlihy, *Medieval Households* (1985), 103-107.

<sup>110</sup> Nicholson, *op. cit.* (2002), 3, 23, 150, 212.

<sup>111</sup> R W Southern, *Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages* (1970), 278.

amount of money. The other branches belonged to the lesser nobility,<sup>112</sup> so there would have been little hope to find a financier in that area. Finally, geographically, the activities of the Fournivals of the religious and political branch were concentrated around the diocese of Beauvais (Bulles, Valescourt, Froidmont were all within a 10 mile radius of Fournival, Ourscamp being an exception belonging to the diocese of Noyon, some 15 miles thence). Roger and Richart's domain was first and foremost Amiens. No trace of their presence has been recorded in the Beauvais area.

So where does this leave us? A possible answer could be that Roger de Fournival's residence was near Saint Just-en-Chaussée (some 30 miles from Amiens) where there was another village called Fournival. In 1726 it was located at "*5 l. S.S.O. de Montdidier et 4. E.N.E de Beauvais*", whereas the other Fournival was "*une lieue & demi N.N.O. de Clermond & trois & quart de Beauvais*."<sup>113</sup> The Fournival near Saint Just-en-Chaussée was substantially smaller (161 inhabitants versus 314 for the Clermont village), but significantly was part of the Amiens diocese, where Richart's ecclesiastic career took place. I did not succeed in finding any contemporary evidence of its whereabouts in the twelfth century, but it would go some way to explain the origins of the intellectual branch.

## Kinship

Relatives may shed light on the Normandy versus Picardy discussion. The exact relation between Basillie de Furnovatt (Furnival in the Rolls series) is still unclear. Her father, Robert de Harcourt, witnessed King John's release of the lands of William de Lovetot to Gerard de Fournival jr. and Maud his wife in 1203 in France.<sup>114</sup> If the bloodline can be established between Basillie and the Fournival family, the case for a Normandy origin is further supported.

Another important kinship is represented by the brothers Simon and Eustache de Campremy (*Campo Remigii* in Latin). As early as 1203 they were mentioned as nephews or kinsmen of Gerard de Furnival sr.<sup>115</sup> They held land in Cheshunt (Hertfordshire in the Honour of Brittany) for the service of castle guard at Richmond at the same time Gerard de Fournival jr. held Great Munden (Munden Furnival) in the same county.<sup>116</sup> Knowing their origin may give a clue as to the Fournival origin.

Campremy is a small village in Picardy in the *canton* Froissy, *arrondissement* Amiens, *election* Montdidier. Its oldest reference dates from 1156 when it was called *Camremi*, later it changed to *Campremi* (1197) in French and *Campus Remigii* (1171) in Latin. In a Bull issued by Pope Innocenti III dated 1203 both the Campremy and Furnival villages are listed among the places that donated lands to the abbey of Froidmont.<sup>117</sup>

<sup>112</sup> Renet, "Le chatelains de Milly" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome xiv (1889), 244 where Girard and Baudouin are listed among the vassals.

<sup>113</sup> Louis Alexandre Expilly *Dictionnaire géographique, historique et politique des Gaules et de la France* (1776), 332.

<sup>114</sup> *Rotuli Litterarum*, *op. cit.* (1835), 29.

<sup>115</sup> Anon, *Rotuli Normanniae in Turri Londinensi Asservati* (1835), vol. i 94.

<sup>116</sup> Hall, *op. cit.* (1896), 504.

<sup>117</sup> Deladreue, *op. cit.* (1871), 76.

A donation links Gregorius de Campremy in 1154 to Froidmont and the city of Breteuil (Oise). His son Johannes was seneschal of that city at the end of the twelfth century. Johannes witnessed various charters: in 1161 and 1199 a charter for the abbey of Beaupré and in 1197 in Amiens and 1201 in Wariville. His uncle Gautier Paillart<sup>118</sup> (named after a city 8 miles North of Campremy) was also a native from Picardy. Jean de Campremy held the viscount of Le Quesnoy, an area North of Montdidier in the time of Philip August. He was married to Emeline<sup>119</sup> (a name not unrelated to the Fournival naming tradition). Eustache and Simon were sons of Jean.<sup>120</sup>

Jean de Campremy and Baudouin de Fournival are listed alongside in an inventory of the fiefs in the parish of Montdidier based on the charters of Philip August.<sup>121</sup> This document gives an interesting insight into the feudal relationships. Jean de Campremy is listed as vassal with lands in Quesnoy, Baudouin de Fournival as "*hommes lige*" with his possessions in Fournival and Valescourt and Jean de Roye for lands in Monchy-Humières. Baudouin is marked as half noble ("*demi pair*") whereas Jean de Roye is noble ("*pair*"). Jean de Campremy had the duty of *exercitus* or *l'Ost* in French (*ie* either to bear personal arms or have armed men ready for the service of the Lord) and the duty of *equitatus* or *Chevauchée* in French (*ie* either to participate on horse or have cavalries ready).<sup>122</sup> Only Baudouin de Fournival and Jean de Roye had the obligation of *l'Estage*, which is the duty of remaining at the Lord's castle for a determined period of time.

Simon and Eustache were part of the royal Household of King John<sup>123</sup> and took part in the battles during the Irish Campaign in 1210.<sup>124</sup> Eustache held a manor in Clotall during several years in the civil war (1215-1216)<sup>125</sup> and lands in Cheshunt.<sup>126</sup> As many rebels, the brothers did not turn up in the household of young King Henry III after the death of King John, thereby closing their English period.

Simon de Campremy is again heard of in 1219 in France when he married Petronella du Fay (from Fay-les-Étangs, Oise) and subsequently settled as Lord of Amblainville (Oise, South of Beauvais). Eustache, as knight (*miles* in Latin) by 1243 held the title of Lord of Campremy in a series of charters for Froidmont and Breteuil.<sup>127</sup> He had one daughter Marie.<sup>128</sup>

<sup>118</sup> Leblond, *op. cit.* (1913), tome ii 563.

<sup>119</sup> J. Crepin, "Monographie de la commune de Cambronne-lès-Clermont (Oise)" in *Bulletin de la Société d'études historiques et scientifiques de l'Oise* tome iii (1927), 225.

<sup>120</sup> Anon, *Dictionnaire historique et archéologique de la Picardie. Cantons de Montdidier, Ailly-sur-Noye et Moreuil IV, arrondissement de Montdidier* (1927), 436.

<sup>121</sup> M. Taillair, "La Féodalité en Picardie Fragment d'un Cartulaire de Philippe Auguste" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome ii (1868), 509.

<sup>122</sup> Taillair, *op. cit.* (1868), 464.

<sup>123</sup> Peter R. Coss, *Thirteenth Century England: Proceedings of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne conference 1991* (1992), 153.

<sup>124</sup> T. Duffus Hardy, *Rotuli De Liberate Ac De Misis Et Praestitis, Regnante Johanne* (1844), 212.

<sup>125</sup> Anon, *Rotuli Litterarum Clausarum in Turri Londinensi Asservati* (1833), vol i 251.

<sup>126</sup> W. Farrer, *Early Yorkshire Charters* vol. iii (1916), 22.

<sup>127</sup> Leblond, *op. cit.* (1913), vol. i 150.

<sup>128</sup> Dictionnaire Historique, *op. cit.* (1927), 436.

Furthermore it is interesting to note that the arms of Campremy, *d'or à la bande de gueules accompagnie des merlettes de meme*,<sup>129</sup> closely resemble the Fournival coat-of-arms, *Argent a bend between six martlets gules*.<sup>130</sup>

## Dispersed members

We have not dealt with all the Fournival members in this period. In 1171 a certain Manasses de Fournival – a canon – witnessed a cartulary of the St Pierre in Beauvais (1178) and is also mentioned in the Froidmont cartularies (1184).<sup>131</sup> There is also a Guillaume, abbot of Lannoy, Lord of Bulles (alive in 1164 and 1185). He had a brother by the name of Renaud.<sup>132</sup> In addition we can identify a Raoul, who in 1202 was sent from Poitou to Rome by King John along with Jean D'Alençon.<sup>133</sup> Finally Gregory Furnivatt, nephew of Gerard de Furnival jr.<sup>134</sup> was mentioned in the Patent Rolls of King John. The exact relationship to the aforementioned Fournivals is subject to further investigation.

## Concluding remarks

The Fournivals were, at the beginning of the twelfth century, part of the lesser nobility. They lived in a remote area that saw the foundation of the Cistercians abbeys of Froidmont and Ourcamp. The Fournivals clearly supported the new movement. Their loyalty was sealed with donations and entrance to the order. They might never have reached the annals of history were it not for Gerard de Fournival the elder, who as an aggressive warrior managed to enter the courts of both the Angevin and the French. His affiliation was more connected to the Cistercian-inspired Templars, of which he apparently became a temporary member while he was on the crusade. He started (or continued) a crusading tradition that extended over many generations. In 1191 he joined King Richard in the third crusade and remained loyal to him until his death in 1199. He was rewarded with a marriage that brought lands and estates in Yorkshire, Essex and Hertfordshire. But even so, the ties with the French were not completely severed. In 1247 Gerard de Fournival the younger's son, also called Gerard, returned to Amiens and witnessed a charter.

The origins of Roger de Fournival are still unclear. This branch was a firm supporter of the French royal kingdom in the diocese of Amiens and Rouen. Roger de Fournival could be connected to Richard de Fourneaux, the abbot of Préaux. They had a common social background, religious preoccupation, intellectual level and share a first-name tradition. The name confusion between the Furneaux family and the Fournival family specifically targets Richart de Fournival (Roger's son) whose name is often rendered as 'Furnivaux'.<sup>135</sup> Further research is necessary to link the two families together, but a possible Norman origin for the intellectual branch is a likely option.

<sup>129</sup> J B Riestrap, *Armorial Général* tome i deuxième edition (1950), 363.

<sup>130</sup> Bernard Burke, *General Armoury* (1884), 371.

<sup>131</sup> Leblond, *op. cit.* (1913) vol.1 293; Lepinois, *op. cit.* (1874), 377.

<sup>132</sup> Lepinois, *op. cit.* (1874), 377.

<sup>133</sup> Alfred Richard, *Histoire des comte de Poitou, 778 – 1204* tome ii (1903), 394; Peigné-Delacourt, *op. cit.* (1876), 143.

<sup>134</sup> *Rotuli Litterarum, op. cit.* (1835), 16.

<sup>135</sup> Ménard et Desenne, *Dictionnaire Historique, Critique et Bibliographic* vol. xi (1822), 115.

A Norman origin for Gerard de Fournival sr. is seriously in need of supporting evidence. The historic association with the Angevins could have been a strong argument, were it not for the intrinsic duality of their alliances, which prevents an identification with Normandy. The *Stemma Fundatorum* as a near contemporary document cannot be ignored. However it is important to note that it deals primarily with Gerard de Fournival jr. According to *CP* he was underage in 1201, and did not receive his father's land until 1203, which presumes him being born around 1181.<sup>136</sup> This is exactly the period when Gerard de Fournival the elder was in the service of Geoffrey Plantagenet. If we interpret Neustria as mentioned in the *Stemma Fundatorum* as that part of western France immediately east of Brittany, we have a Norman origin for the son, but not necessarily the father.

The evidence for a Picardian origin is seriously mounting up, although it might seem circumstantial. Its strongest case is the toponymical argument. The 'val' ending is only found in the history of names of the Fournival village in Picardy and is missing in all Norman alternatives. Additional arguments are the genealogical presence of the family name in the area, the given name tradition found, the occurrence in the Beauvais cathedral obituary, the common religious Cistercian affiliations, the Campremy kinship and heraldic similarities. In my opinion, tipping the balance to a Norman origin would take a considerable amount of new evidence.

## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my partner Ria for drawing the maps, the helpful staff at the library of the University of Groningen, the local library at Delfzijl for dealing with all my special requests. I am grateful to members of the FMG editorial review panel for helpful and constructive comments and last but certainly not least the review team: Stanley Bishop, Jolanda Maat, Alan Staples, Clare Thomson and Jan van Til.

## Bibliography

- Addy, Sidney Oldall. *Historical Memorials of Beauchief Abbey*. Sheffield: Leader & Sons, 1878.
- Ailes, Ambroise Marianne & Malcolm Barber. *The History of the Holy War: Ambroise's Estoire De La Guerre Sainte* vol. i. Woodbridge: Boydell press, 2003.
- Anon. *Agni Rotuli Scaccarii Normanniae sub Regibus Angliae*. Paris: Léchaudé-d'Anisy, 1845.
- Anon. *Dictionnaire général des communes de France et des principaux hameaux en dépendant*. Paris: Smith, 1818.
- Anon. *Dictionnaire historique et archéologique de la Picardie. cantons de Montdidier, Ailly-sur-Noye et Moreuil IV, arrondissement de Montdidier*. Paris: A. Picard, 1927.
- Anon. *Rotuli De Liberat Ac De Misis Et Praestitis, Regnante Johanne*. London: Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1844.
- Anon, *Rotuli Litterarum Clausarum in Turri Londinensi Asservati*. Ed. Hardy, Thomas Duffus. London: Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1833.
- Anon, *Rotuli Litterarum Patentium in Turri Londinensi Asservati*. Ed. Hardy, Thomas Duffus. London: Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1835.
- Anon, *Rotuli Normanniae in Turri Londinensi Asservati*. Ed. Hardy, Thomas Duffus. London: Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1835.
- Anon. *The Norman people and their existing descendants in the British dominions and the United States of America*. London: Henry S. King & Co., 1874.
- Anon. *The Victoria History of the Counties of England [VCH], Nottinghamshire* vol. ii. Woodbridge: Boydell & Brewer, 1899-present [London: Dawsons of Pall mall, 1970 reprint].

<sup>136</sup> *CP* V, 580.

- Aubert, R, ed. *Dictionnaire d'Histoire et Géographie Ecclésiastiques* tome xix. Paris: Letouzey et Ané, 1981.
- Bailey, Thomas. *The Annals of Nottinghamshire* vol. i. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., 1853.
- Baldwin, John W. *The Government of Philip August*. California: University of California Press, 1986.
- Berry, V G, ed. *De Profectione Ludovici VII in Orientem*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1948.
- Bradbury, Jim. *Philip Augustus King of France 1180-1223*. Harlow: Addison Wesley Longman, 1998.
- Britonis Armorici, Guillelmi. "Phillipidos" in *Recueil des historiens des Gaules et de la France* tome xvii, 116-287. Poitiers: H. Oudin, 1878.
- Burke, Bernard. *General Armory*. London: Harrison, 1884.
- Cleveland, Catherine L W P. *The Battle Abbey Roll* vol. ii. London: John Murray, 1889.
- Cockayne, G E *et al.*, eds. *Complete Peerage* 2nd edn [CP] vol.5. London: St Catherine Press, 1926.
- Coss, Peter R. *Thirteenth Century England: Proceedings of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne conference 1991*. Woodbridge, Suffolk: Boydell, 1992.
- Crepin, J. "Monographie de commune de Cambronne-lès-Clermont (Oise)" in *Bulletin de la Société d'études historiques et scientifiques de l'Oise* tome iii, 191-238, 1907.
- Cronne H A & R H C Davis, eds. *Regesta Regum Anglo-Normannorum 1066-1154* vol. iii Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1968.
- Dodsworth, Roger. *Monasticon Anglicarum sum Pandectae coenobiorum Benedictinorum, Cluniacensium, Cistercentium, Chartusianorum*. London: Richardi Hodgkinsonne, 1655.
- Deladreau, L.E. "Notice sur l'Abbaye de Froidmont" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome vii, 469 – 624. Beauvais: D Pere, 1868.
- Deladreau, L.E. "Notice sur l'Abbaye de Froidmont" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome viii, 11 – 78. Beauvais: D. Pere, 1871.
- Depoin, J, ed. *Cartulaire de l'abbaye de Saint-Martin de Pontoise*. Montdidier: J. Bellin, 1904.
- Desportes, Pierre & Héléne Millet. *Fasti Ecclessiae Gallicanae* tome 1 Diocèse d'Amiens. Orléans: Brepols, 1996.
- Diceto, Rudolphi di. "De imaginibus historiarum" in *Recueil des historiens des Gaules et de la France* tome xvii, 645-660. Poitiers: H. Oudin, 1878.
- Dugdale, William. *Monasticon Anglicanum a History of the Abbies and other Monasteries* vol vi. London: T G March, 1849.
- Duby, Georges. *The Chivalrous society*. California: Edward Arnold, 1977.
- Everard, J A & M C E Jones, eds. *The Charters of Duchess Constance of Brittany and Her Family 1171-1221*. Woodbridge: Boydell & Brewer, 1999.
- Everard, J A. *Brittany and the Angevins*. Cambridge: Cambridge Press, 2004.
- Expilly, Louis Alexandre. *Dictionnaire géographique, historique et politique des Gaules et de la France* tome xiii. Paris: 1776.
- Farrer, W. *Early Yorkshire Charters* vol. 3. Edinburgh: Ballantyne, Hanson & Co., 1916.
- Furneaux, H. "Notices of the Family of Furneaux" in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica* vol. iii third series. London: Mitchell & Hughes, 1900.
- Furneaux, H. "Notices of the Family of Furneaux" in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica* vol. iv third series. London: Mitchell & Hughes, 1902.
- Furneaux, Rupert. *Conquest 1066*. London: Martin Secker & Warburg, 1966.
- Gaulle, M J de. *Nouvelle histoire de Paris et ses environs*. Paris: Pourrat, 1841.
- Gillingham, John. *Richard the Lionheart*. London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1978.
- Guyotjeannin, Olivier. *Episcopus et Comes affirmation et déclin de la seigneurie épiscopale au nord du royaume de France (Beauvais-Noyon X<sup>e</sup> – début XIII<sup>e</sup> siècle)*. Genève: Librairie Droz, 1987.
- Gurney, Daniel. *The records of the house of Gournay*. London: Joseph John Gurney, 1848.
- Hall, Hubert, ed. *The Red Book of the Exchequer* vol. 2. London: Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1896.
- Harper-Bill, Christopher & Nicolas Vincent. *Henry II: New Interpretations*. Woodbridge: The Boydell Press, 2007.
- Henlihy, David. *Medieval Households*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1985.
- Hey, David. *Family Names and Family History*. London: Hambledon and London, 2000.

- Holland, John. *The history, antiquities, and description of the town and parish of Worksop*. Sheffield: J. Blackwell, 1826.
- Holt, J.C. *The Northerners*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1961.
- Hosler, John D. *Henry II, A Medieval Soldier at War*. Leiden: Brill, 2007.
- Hunter, Joseph. *Hallamshire: the history and topography of the parish of Sheffield*. London: Lackington, Hughes, Harding, Mayor and Jones, 1819.
- Hunter, Joseph. "On the (so called) Roll of Battle Abbey" in *Sussex Archaeological Collections relating to the History and Antiquities of the country* vol. vi. London: John Russell Smith, 1853.
- Hunter, Joseph. "Letter of the Rev. Joseph Hunter, One of the Sub-Commissioners, to C P Cooper, Esq, the Secretary of the Record Commission" in: *Letters from eminent historical writers relating to the publications of the Board of Commissioners on the Public Records*, 61-72. London: George Eyre & Andrew Spottiswoode, 1836.
- Johnson, Charles & H A Cronne, eds. *Regesta Regum Anglo-Normannorum 1066-1154* vol. i Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1913.
- Keats-Rohan, K S B. *Domesday People, Domesday Book [DP]*. Woodbrige: Boydell & Brewer Inc, 1999.
- Leblond, V. *Notes pour le Nobiliaire du Beauvaisis d'après un manuscrit inédit du XVIIe siècle*, tome i-iii. Paris: E. Champion, 1910-1913.
- Lepinois, E de. "Recherche historiques et critiques sur l'ancien Comté et les Comtes de Clermont et Beauvoisis, Chapitre V: Chatellenies de Bulles, de Conty et de Milly" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome ix, 277-388. Beauvais: D Pere, 1874.
- Lepinois, E de. "Recherche historiques et critiques sur l'ancien Comté et les Comtes de Clermont et Beauvoisis, Chapitre X: Comtse de Clermond de la première race" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome x 11-214. Beauvais: D Pere, 1877.
- Magny, E de. *Nobiliaire de Normandie, publié par une société de généalogistes, avec le concours des principales familles nobles de la province*. Paris: August Aubry, 1862.
- Marcy, M de. "Obituaire et Livre des distribution de l'église cathédrale de Beauvais, Publié d'après un manuscrit des Archives de l'Etat à Mons" in *Mémoires de Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de l'Oise* tome xii. Beauvais: D Pere 135-191, 1883.
- Ménard et Desenne. *Dictionnaire Historique, Critique et Bibliographique* vol. xi. Paris: Ménard et Desenne, 1822.
- Monstier, Arthur du. *Neustria Pia: Seu de Omnibus Et Singulis Abbatibus Et Prioratibus Totius Normanniæ*. Paris: Fredericum Leonard, 1663.
- Newman, Martha G. *The boundaries of Charity Cistercian Culture and Ecclesiastical Reform, 1098-1180*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1995.
- Nicholson, Helen, ed. *Chronicle of the Third Crusade: a translation of the Itinerarium peregrinorum et gesta Regis Ricardi*. Aldershot: Ashgate, 1997.
- Nicholson, Helen. *The Knights Templar a new history*. Stroud: Sutton Publishing, 2002 reprint.
- Noulens, J Maison d'Amiens, *Histoire généalogique*. Paris: Picard, 1888.
- Pegge, Samuel. *An historical account of Beauchief Abbey*. London: John Nichols and son, 1801.
- Peigné-Delacourt, M. *Histoire de l'Abbaye de Notre-Dame d'Ourcamp*. Amiens: A. Douillet et Co., 1876.
- Peigné-Delacourt, M. *Cartulaire de l'Abbaye d'Ourcamp*. Amiens: Lemer, 1865.
- Pilet, Christian. *La Necropole de Frénouville, Étude d'une population de la fin du IIIe à la VIIe siècle*. Oxford: British Archeological Reports (B.A.R.), 1980.
- Planhol, Xavier de. *An Historical Geography of France*, Volume 21 of Cambridge Studies in Historical Geography. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994.
- Poli, Oscar de. *Inventaire des titres de la maison de Milly*. Paris: conseil héraldique de France, 1888.
- Power, Daniel. *The Norman Frontier in the Twelfth and Early Thirteenth Centuries*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.
- Powicke, Maurice. *The Loss of Normandy 1189-1204*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1960.
- Prevenier, W. *De oorkonden der Graven van Vlaanderen 1191 – aanvang 1206*. Brussels: Paleis der Academiën, 1964.

- Reany P H & R M Wilson. *Dictionary of English Surnames*. Oxford: Oxford university Press, 2005.
- Renet, "Le chatelains de Milly", *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* Tome 14 219-287. Beauvais: D Pere, 1889.
- Richard, Alfred. *Histoire des comtes de Poitou, 778-1204* tome ii. Paris: Alfons Picard, 1903.
- Riestrap, J B. *Armorial Général* tome i deuxième édition, Gouda: G B van Goor, 1950.
- Rocque Gilles-Andre de la. *Histoire Généalogique de la Maison de Harcourt* vol ii. Paris: Sebastian Cramoisy, 1662.
- Rose. *Cartulaire du chapitre de la cathédrale d'Amiens* tome i. Amiens : Yvert & Tellier, 1905.
- Sachy, Jean-Baptiste-Maurice de. *Histoire des évêques d'Amiens*. Paris: 1770.
- Sauvage, R N. *L'abbaye de Saint-Martin de Troarn*. Caen: Henri Delesques, 1911.
- Southern, R W. *Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1970.
- Stacye, J. "The Priory and Parish Church of Worksop and Radford" in *The Journal of the British Archeological Society 156-170*. London: British Archeological Society, 1874.
- Tabbagh, Vincent. *Fasti Ecclesiae Gallicanae* tome ii Diocèse d'Rouen. Orléans: Brepols, 1996.
- Tanet, Chantal & Tristan Hordé. *Dictionnaire des prénoms*. Paris: Larousse, 2009.
- Taillair, M. "La Féodalité en Picardie Fragment d'un Cartulaire de Philippe Auguste" in *Mémoires de la Société académique d'archéologie, sciences et arts du département de Oise* tome ii 437-560. Paris: J B Dumoulin, 1868.
- Thoroton, Robert & John Throsby. *The antiquities of Nottinghamshire* vol. 3. Nottingham: J. Throsby, 1790.
- Turner, Ralph V. *King John*. London: Longman, 1994.
- Vaultier, F M. "Recherche historique sur le ancienne doyenonné de Vaucelles sur le diocèse de Bayeux." In *Mémoires de la Société des antiquaris de Normandie* Tome 12 1-87. Paris: Derage, 1841.
- Vitalis, Ordericus. *The Ecclesiastical History of England and Normandy*. London: Henry G Bohn, 1854.