

MEDIEVAL LANDS - LOOSE ENDS

by Charles Cawley¹

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Since its launch last year, the Medieval Lands dataset on the FMG website has evoked considerable interest. Charles Cawley, the author, always intended that it should be a collaborative effort and has welcomed comments, corrections and new information. Here he provides a list of specific queries to which readers are encouraged to respond if they have information. Please send replies to the address in footnote 1.

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During the course of extracting information from primary sources, I have collected many "loose ends" which I have so far been unable to connect to the families which I have included in the Medieval Lands project. Here is a taster. If any-one has any ideas about who these individuals are, or how the sources which name them may be better interpreted (errors in the sources can never be excluded), I would be very interested to hear from you.¹ Depending on the response to this request, I hope that this could become a regular feature in *Foundations*, and encourage everyone to bring forward their own difficult cases for others to consider.

1. Count ROBERT living in 1147, husband of "S---", son of Count ATTO (died before 1147). "*Robertus comes filius Actonis comitis*" confirmed a donation by his father to the church of Mount Thabor (in the kingdom of Jerusalem) with the consent of "*uxoris S comitissæ*" by charter dated 1147.² The compilation gives no details of the property in question. It cites "*Paoli I, p. 203 no. 159, cf p. 537*", but I have not traced this work. None of the other references to "Robert" and "Atto" in the compilation of charters has been linked to these individuals. The name "*Acto*" could refer to "Aton" (see Vicomtes de Béziers), "Atto" (various northern Italian noble families) or "Hatto" (a name found in earlier German nobility). There are no counts of this name found in the local counties in the Levant. My guess is that Robert arrived in 1147 as part of the crusading armies of Louis VII King of France or Konrad III King of Germany, and took the opportunity to confirm a donation made by his (late?) father on a previous visit east. My suspicion is that he may have been Italian, as I am reasonably sure that I have identified most French and German counts at that time.
2. ADALBERT Count of Aosta, living in [913]. Chevalier (1875) cites a charter dated to [913] which confirms toll rights belonging to the bishop of Aosta which had been challenged by Adalbert Count of Aosta, referencing "*Besson, Mém. pour l'hist. ecclés.*" (a work which I have not yet identified) for the full text.³ Was this the same person as Adalberto Conte e Marchese di Ivrea (who died in [923/24]) or another count whom I have not yet identified?
3. ALBITIUS "*Comte de Vares*", living in 932, husband of ODA. Chevalier also cites a charter dated 932 under which "*Albitius comte de Vares et Ode sa femme*" made a donation to the monastery of Nantua, referencing Guichenon, *Histoire de*

¹ Email address for responses: medlands@fmg.ac

² Röhricht (1893). 248, p. 62.

³ Chevalier (1875). XXXIV, p. 7.

- Bugey*, pr. p.213 (a work to which I have not yet had access) for the full text.⁴ He was presumably another northern Italian count but I have not yet been able to identify any Italian county from the French "*Vares*".
4. Count BOSON, living in [995], husband of ADELAIS (sister of HUMBERT and mother of Count HUMBERT). Chevalier also cites a charter dated [995] under which "*Humbert et Adelaide sa sœur, femme du comte Boson et mère du comte Humbert*" donated property to Cluny.⁵ He refers to "*Cluny B*, p.58, no.311", but this charter is not in Volume III of Alexandre Bruel's compilation of Cluny charters. I have found a reference to Comte Amedée [de Belley] and his son Comte Humbert in [976],⁶ but I have not been able to track the original charter. Could this be the same count Humbert? I am assuming that the reference is too early to identify him with Humbert, first known ancestor of the counts of Savoy (who died in [1047/51]). In any case, I have not been able to identify this count Boson.
 5. William of Tyre names several individuals who accompanied Bohémond Prince of Apulia (later Bohémond I Prince of Antioch) on the First Crusade. They are presumably all Apulian noblemen and should be identifiable, but I have not yet been able to identify them: "*Robertus de Anxa...Robertus de Surda Valle, Robertus filius Tristani, Hunfredus filius Rodulfi...comes de Rosinolo cum fratribus suis...Alberedus de Cagnano*".⁷ Tueboëuf records that "*Alberadus de Cagnano*" died in 1097.⁸
 6. BARTHOLOME (Bartolomeo?) living Feb 1186, son of Count GISELBERT (presumably also living Feb 1186). Bohémond III Prince of Antioch granted property to "*Joscelino, filio Joscelini, Edessani comitis, homino suo ligio*" by charter dated 5 Feb 1178, subscribed by "*Rainaldus de Margat, Bartholomæus, filius comitis, Guillelmus, marescalcus Antiochiæ...*"⁹ His parentage is clarified by the charter of Bohémond III Prince of Antioch, dated Feb 1179, relating to disputes between the Knights Templars and the Knights Hospitallers, subscribed by "*Rainaldus de...connestabulus Antiochiæ, Bartholomæus, filius comitis Gislaberti...*"¹⁰ "*...Bartholomæus filius comitis...*" subscribed the charter dated Feb 1186 under which "*Raimundus de Biblio, filius Guillelmi Ebriaci, Biblii quondam domini*" donated property to the Knights Hospitallers.¹¹ There are no counts of this name found in the local counties in the Levant. Although the name Giselbert is found in Lotharingia, France, Germany and Italy, Bartholomé/Bartolomeo is mainly associated with France and Italy. I believe that it is more likely that Giselbert was Italian, as I am reasonably sure that I have identified most French counts at that time.
 7. The *Annalista Saxo* refers to a group of Italian nobles, whom I have not yet identified, relating that "*Thomam et Matheum marchioness cum domno eorum*

⁴ Chevalier (1875). XLVII, p.10.

⁵ Chevalier (1875). CVIII, p.22.

⁶ Prévité-Horton (1912). p.30.

⁷ William of Tyre, Volume I, p.90.

⁸ Tudebodus Abbreviatus, Volume III, p.107.

⁹ Röhricht (1893). 555, p.147.

¹⁰ Röhricht (1893). 574, p.152.

¹¹ Röhricht (1893). 648, p.171.

Willehelmo palatino" died while crossing the river "*Truntam*" when returning from Apulia in 1137.¹²

8. Count ARCHAMBAUD, living in Jul 995, father of ARCHAMBAUD (also living in Jul 995), and relative of Hugues "Capet" King of France. Hugues King of France confirmed a donation of property "*in terra Archimbaldi comitis cum Maliis*" to "*monasterii Silviniacensis*", at the request of "*Archimbaldo comite et Archimbaldo filio suo...consanguineis nostris, et Burchardo comite*", by charter dated Jul 995.¹³ I have not been able to identify "*monasterii Silviciensis*" so have little idea where Archambaud's county was in France. Archambaud is, of course, a name associated mainly with the Sires de Bourbon and the Vicomtes de Comborn, Turenne and Ventadour, but I have not identified a French county with which it was associated in the late 10th century. The relationship with King Hugues "Capet" is also unknown, but there are so many blanks in his ancestry that it is difficult to speculate sensibly on this. "*Burchardo comite*" may have been Bouchard [IV] Comte de Vendôme, who died in 1007.
9. Count EUDES, living in 1007, and his brother LANDRY (also living in 1007). Robert II King of France confirmed the foundation of "*Bellimontis monasterii...in pago Turonico*", with the consent of "*Odonis comitis et fratris sui Landrici*", by charter dated 27 Sep 1007.¹³ Assuming that "*Turonico*" is Tours, the most likely candidate for "*Odonis comitis*" is Eudes II Comte de Blois et de Tours, who succeeded his brother as count in [1004] and died in 1037. However, no other record has been found of his having a brother named Landry, a name associated mainly with the family of the comtes de Nevers at that time.
10. Count KUNO, killed in 1103. The *Annales Sancti Disibodi* record that "*Cuono comes*" was killed in 1103, without giving any further details of the circumstances. I have so far been unable to identify him, although he is presumably a Franconian count as this monastery is located near Mainz.

References

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 William of Tyre, II, XIII, *Recueil des Historiens des Croisades, Historiens occidentaux*, Volume I.

¹² Annalista Saxo 1137.

¹³ Delisle (1874). Tome 10 (Paris), XV, p. 565.