

A BRIEF
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

WITH REFERENCES

RELATING TO

HAMO DE MASCI

First Baron of Dunham Massey

(CIRC. 1047-1100)

CHESHIRE

[By G. Massey?]

[1908]

C55
M416m1

at 10:30

to Allarday, Feb. 14, 1920

Dear Mr.

C55
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ROLLO—First Duke of Normandy, appears first in the year 876, in November; baptized thirty years after and named Robert; reigned thirty years. *Roger de Hoveden, Vol. 1, pp. 49 and 563. Wm. of Malmesbury, p. 126. Roger of Wendover, pp. 232 and 239.*

“ was of noble lineage though obsolete from its extreme antiquity. *Wm. of Malmesbury, p. 125.*

“ died 917. *Florence of Worcester, p. 92.* Others say 927 to 933, and these are correct, as he abdicated in 927 and died in 933.

HAMON AUX DENTS—was Lord of Torigny, Mezi (*Maisny*) and Creulli. *Le Roman de Rou, pp. 25 and 24, Taylor's translation. Le Roman de Rou, p. 37. Pluquet's French version.*

HAMON AUX DENTS—Lord of Creulli and Torigny, killed at Valesdunes in 1047, left two sons: Hamon (*steward of King William*), and Robert who appears to have died without children before the Domesday book was compiled. Hamon the steward was Viscount of Kent, and one of the judges in the cause between Lanfranc and Odo, bishop of Bayeux. He had two sons, the eldest of whom was this Robert Fitz Hamon, and the second son was named Hamon, like his father and grandfather. *Ord. Vit., Vol. 2, p. 250.*

HAMON AUX DENTS—during the minority of William, seigneur de Torigny, was one of the principal barons who revolted against this young prince. He was killed at the battle of Valesdunes. William of Malmesbury says he was the grand-sire of Robert de Caen, Count of Gloucester; which is exact, because he married the granddaughter of Hamon aux Dents; and that Robert Fitz Hamon lost no time in reentering the graces of Duke William who rendered him the goods of his father, and among others the barony of Torigny. To divide his immense succession he had only daughters, and at the pressing sollicita-

tions of King Henry I. one of them married his son Robert, Count of Gloucester, and among other great possessions she carried to him in marriage were the baronies of Torigny and Creulli, in the diocese of Bayeux. *M. de Gerville, Soc. des Antiq. de la Normandie, Vol. 5, pp. 220-1-2.*

HAIMO DENTATUS—grandfather of Robert. *Wm. of Malmesbury, p. 260.*

FITZ HAMON—lord of Creully in Normandy and Tewkesbury in Gloucester. *Ord. Vit., Vol. 2, p. 195.*

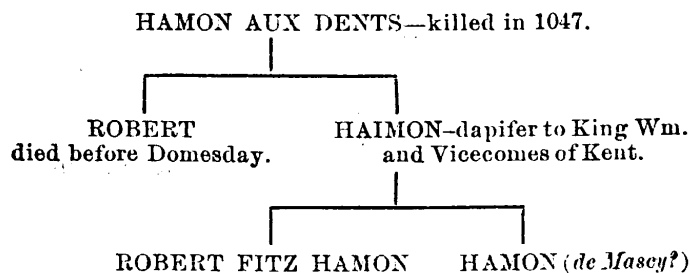
“ at the instance of his wife Sybil and Gerald d’Avranches, abbot of Cranbourne, rebuilt Tewkesbury in 1102. *Ord. Vit., Vol. 2, p. 250.*

“ grandson of Hamon aux Dents, lord of Torigny, Creulli and other vast domains, who was killed at Valesdunes. Fitz Hamon married Sybil de Montgomery. *Ord. Vit., Vol. 2, p. 359.*

ROBERT FITZ HAMON—this Robert being a young man, came into England with William, being of the blood of Duke Rollo and nephew to him. *Dugdale’s Baronage.*

“ “Gilbert, descended of Robert, Earl of Gloucester, sonne to King Henry I., and of his wife the lady Maud, daughter and heir to Robert Fitz Hamon, lord of Astrouville in Normandy, coosin to the Conqueror, knight of the privy chamber to Wm. Rufus and lord of Glamorgan in Wales.” *See Hollinshed’s Chronicles. John Hooker’s dedication to Sir Walter Raleigh, Oct. 12, 1586.*

It is likely that at the time of the battle of Valesdunes the three generations were then living, and that two generations came to England with the Conqueror. *Dugdale’s Monast., Vol. 2, p. 53, as to Fitz Hamon.*



These are found as witnesses to various documents at various times up to 1107, as follows:

- Haimo dapifer and sons of said Haimo, Robert and Haimo. *Mon. Ang., Vol. 1, p. 164.*
- Haimo vicecomitis. *Mon. Ang., Vol. 1, p. 164.*
- Robert, son of Hamon. *Mon. Ang., Vol. 2, p. 267.*
- Hamon dapifer and Robert, son of Hamon; year 1088, under Wm. II. *Mon. Ang. Vol. 2, p. 266.*
- Hugh earl, Robert de Beleme, Robert, son of Haimon and his brother Haimon; year 1100. *Mon. Ang., Vol. 2, p. 65.*
- Robert, son of Hamon. *Mon. Ang., Vol. 1, p. 241.*
- Hamonis vicecomites de Cantuaria and Robert, son of Hamon; year 1090. *Mon. Ang., Vol. 8, p. 1271.*
- Hamone dapifer. *Mon. Ang., Vol. 8, p. 1271.*
- Haimo king's dapifer and Robert, brother of Haimo; year 1069. *Mon. Ang., Vol. 4, p. 665.*
- Hamound. *Battle Abbey Roll.*
- Hamo vicecomes Kančia, Kent, Surr. *Will. Gemmet, p. 1278, Magnata, anno 20 (1086), Regis Will. Conq.*
- Haimo dapifer, Hamo vicecomes. *Domesday Book, anno 1086.*
- Hamo. *Domesday Book, anno 1086.*

Twenty-ninth Annual Report—Deputy Keeper Public Records.

William I.

- Haimo the sewer. *p. 32-3-40.*
- Haimo the sheriff. *p. 33.*
- Robert Fitz Hamo. *p. 33-4-7.*
- Hugh the Earl, Hamo the King's sewer. *p. 38, year 1067.*

William II.

- Robert Fitz Haimo. *p. 48.*
- Haimo the sheriff. *p. 45.*
- Hamo the sewer. *p. 48 bis.*
- Hugh, Earl of Chester, Robert Fitz Hamo, Hamo the sheriff of Cant. *p. 48.*

Thirtieth Annual Report.

Henry I.

- Haimo the sewer. *p. 198-9-200-3-4, year 1107; p. 206, year 1111; p. 208 bis. 211.*
- Robert Fitz Hamo, Hamo the steward. *p. 206, year 1101.*
- Hugh the Earl, Robert de Beleme, Robert Fitz Hamo and Haimo, his brother. *p. 203.*
- Robert Fitz Hamo. *p. 202.*

In *Will. Gemmet*, 8th book, chap. 29, pp. 898-9, we read :

“of whom the first born was Robert, Count of Gloucester, who received the *inheritance* of Robert, son of Haimon, with his daughter” (that is, the latter’s daughter)
“the same King had six sons and seven daughters,
moreover to the firstborn of these, Robert, his father united in marriage a damsel of very noble birth and parts, by name Sybil, daughter of Robert, son of Haimon, and granddaughter and niece of the family of Mabel and Roger de Montgomery, the father to wit, of Robert de Beleme; granting to him a very great inheritance, not only in Normandy but in England as well, which by right of inheritance fell to the aforementioned damsel; now of the inheritance which Robert acquired with the said damsel the capital is Thorigny, situated in the borders of Bayeux and Cotentin, about two miles distant from the river Vire, which separates the two counties The King also gave him the land of Haimon dapifer who is the ~~paternal~~ maternal uncle of his (the king’s) wife.”

In *Roman de Rou—Pluquet’s French version*, we read :

“Robert having *inherited* these domains, (Thorigny, Creulli and other baronies).”

It has generally been stated that Hamo de Mascy of Cheshire was the Hamound of Battle Abbey Roll, but it seems more probable that it was Hamo dapifer and vicecomes, holder after the conquest, of many lands in various counties; and that at the conquest his sons Robert and Hamon were quite young men. The existence and relationship to each other of the two generations, (sons and grandsons), springing from Hamon aux Dents from the time of the conquest up to and beyond the year 1100 is abundantly proved above. Was not this Hamon the son of Hamon dapifer and brother of Robert Fitz Hamon identical with Hamo de Mascy, Baron of Dunham Massey, one of Earl Hugh’s barons?

We are not aware of the exact date when Robert Fitz Hamon received the baronies of Thorigny, Creulli, etc., etc., but it certainly was not prior to Domesday, and was probably after 1090. In that great book we find Hamo dapifer and vicecomes as the holder of lands in several counties, and Hamo, (whom we know to be Hamo de Mascy), as hold-

ing lands in Cheshire; and we know that these lands were given him by Earl Hugh: but it was not until 1093 that we know him by his surname, in which year he signed as Hamo de Mascy, as one of the witnesses to the Charter of St. Werburg. It would seem as though William Rufus, about or after the year 1090, restored the possessions of Hamon aux Dents to his two grandsons; Robert Fitz Hamon taking Thorigny, Creulli, etc., etc., and Hamon taking Mezi, or Maissy, from whence came the surname used in 1093 and after. It may have been, however, that they first went to Hamon dapifer, and from him to his sons. He was evidently a man of great importance, being often found in the charters of William I. and William II., and in those of the early part of Henry I., and in any case the restoration if made direct to the sons would have been largely on account of his services.

The references we have made show that Hamo dapifer and Robert, his son, were frequently used as witnesses, and that in some cases, or cases where the right of property was involved, Hamo the *brother* of Robert was made a party. In several cases Earl Hugh and Robert de Beleme joined as witnesses; the former probably as the superior Lord of Hamo, the brother of Robert, and Robert de Beleme as the brother-in-law of the latter.

We think there can be no doubt whatever that Hamo de Mascy was the brother of Robert Fitz Hamon; they being the sons of Hamo dapifer, the son of Hamon aux Dents, and related to the Conqueror and of the blood of Rollo, and that on the appointment of Earl Hugh as Earl of Chester he took with him Hamo, while Robert remained with his father near the King, taking service later with the Conqueror and his sons William II. and Henry I. This assumption is further strengthened by corroborative facts such as the continued use of the names Hamo and Robert by the first three Barons of Dunham Massey; by the fact that when in 1102 Robert Fitz Hamon rebuilt Tewkesbury he went to Chester and associated himself with Gerald d'Avranches, Chaplain to Earl Hugh, in this rebuilding and making him Abbot of the rebuilt Abbey. Did he not go to his brother and their friend and superior comrade? The military duties of Earl Hugh, Hamo de Masci and Robert Fitz Hamo further show them as natural associates and connexions. This is further shown by the fact that in 1350 the Earl of Caen transferred lands to the Abbaye

d'Ardennes, being to carry out donations made by Richard Massey in 1295. Robert, Earl of Gloucester, who married Fitz Hamon's daughter, having been Earl of Caen, his successors evidently continued the family relations. All through we see natural relations of Robert Fitz Hamon with Cheshire, and later on his granddaughter married Ranulph II., Earl of Chester.

G. M.

NEW YORK, 15 JUNE, 1908.