

THE CHARNY GENEALOGY

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Emerging from an ancient line of restless, powerful barons, the seigneurs of Charny would have faded into oblivion had not one of their number erupted into Shroud history. Geoffroy de Charny was born in the fourth of six generations that ended with his grand-daughter, Marguerite, who left no issue. Why a Burgundian duke, in 1456, raised the barony to a short-lived county (comprising Mont-Saint-Jean, Pouilly, Arnay-le-duc, Villaines-les-Prevots, Montfort, etc.), we need not be concerned, nor how the title eventually dissipated, since the Shroud, by 1453, had found safe keeping in the House of Savoy.

Still shadowy are the forms of lords and ladies whose ghosts, one might say, crowded around the new-born son of Jean de Charny and Marguerite de Joinville, each ancestor laying upon the child some gift from which he would not escape. Our aim is to identify as many ghosts as possible, for it is the past we must explore to find the path of Geoffroy's future. Our point of departure begins in the Charny genealogy, for there we find the key names to be traced.

The information is from documentary sources researched and compiled by French historians, whose works are based on charters, wills, feudal payments, land transfers, etc. The authors in whom each item is found will be indicated by the initials given in the bibliography: i.e., (A) for Anselme, (B) for Bobin, etc., usually with the page number: (C 158).

CHARNY

Ponce de Mont-Saint-Jean, seigneur of Charny, Salmaise, Noidan (C 138), Thorey-sous-Charny in 1222 (C 586), was the third son of Hugues II de Mont-Saint-Jean and **Elisabeth de Vergy** (C). Ponce received Charny and part of Chastel-Sansoy; he contributed to the construction of the church (consecrated in 1172) of the Abbey of La Bussiere. In November 1228, his wife and son Hugues consent to his donation to St. Hypolite de Corbeton (P1). In 1257, dau. Elisabeth de Charny, dame de **Thil**, donates to the church of St. Thibaut (A, Co). Ponce married **Sybille de Noyers**, daughter of **Clerembaut**, seig. of **Noyers**, and Alix de **Brienne** (A).

Hugues de Charny, son of Ponce and Sybille, seig. of Pierrefitte,

Montbutois, Arcy, Châtel-Censoir (Chastel-Sansoy/Sensoy), Lugy (C 127), living in 1252, mar. Mabile (A). Not living in 1272.

Jean de Charny, son of Hugues and Mabile, living in 1314 (C), living in 1318 (A), mar. **Marguerite de Joinville**, dau. of Jean de Joinville, biographer of King Saint Louis, and Alix de **Reynel** (D 176). Jean accompanied the Duke of Burgundy in the wars in Flanders in 1304 (A, Pr). In 1315 he witnessed the will of Louis, Prince of Achaia and the **Morea** (P1 136). He is cited in documents of 1294, 1304, 1315, 1318 and was not living in 1323 (Pr 129). Anselme gives Jeanne de Frolois as Jean's second wife. However, now we know (*Spectrum* 32/33 p. 44) that it was Jean *films* who mar. Jeanne de Frolois. Jean and Marguerite had:

1. **Isabeau** (L), of legal age by 1319, maybe deceased by 1340. In 1328-1329, she held a fief from the king at Chastelleries d'Isles (L 408).
2. **Dreux** inherited Charny. Louis, Prince of Achaia and the **Morea**, King of Thessalonica, gave him for wife **Agnes de Vostizia**, along with her lands in the Morea, including the barony of Richolichi de Niveleto. In this passage, Dreux is referred to as "the brother of Geoffroy de Charny" (M-F). Dreux died between 1323-1325. In 1325 his two daughters, Isabelle and Guillemette, were under 7 years of age (W). The demesne passed to Guillemette. In 1344 she mar. Philibert de Jonvelle (C 127); their dau., Agnes, mar. 1) Guillaume de **Vergy** [their dau. Jeanne de Vergy, mar. Henri de Bauffremont]; 2) Philibert de Bauffremont (C 585).
3. **Jean**, in 1315 already mar. to **Jeanne de Frolois** (she d. 1342). At one time Jean and his sister Isabeau held a subfief from Regnaut de Rumilly (L 325). In 1346, he was seig. of **Maraut** (C 11), which then passed to **Guy de Jaucourt**, remaining in that family for three centuries. Jean and his wife left no known issue.
4. **Geoffroy**, seig. of Lirey, Savoisy, Montfort, etc., mar. 1) **Jeanne de Toucy**; 2) **Jeanne de Vergy**, dau. of Guillaume de Vergy, seig. of Mirabeau, and Agnes de **Durnay** (A).

Placing the progeny of Jean de Charny in this order is mere guesswork, based on a few dates. Dreux was the eldest son as he inherited Charny.

Geoffroy de Charny and **Jeanne de Vergy** had two children, Charlotte and Geoffroy II. In 1340, Charlotte mar. Bertrand de Chazans, bringing him the seigniorship of Missery, just below Mont-Saint-Jean (C 124, A 203).

Geoffroy II mar. **Marguerite de Poitiers**, dau. of Charles de Poitiers (and niece of Henri de Poitiers who, according to Pierre d'Arcis, his successor as bishop of Troyes, had discovered the artist who painted the Lirey Shroud). Their children were Marguerite and Henriette, who mar. a Lord of Clermont; and maybe Jeanne. Geoffroy II and his dau. Marguerite, who left no issue, are treated in another section.

The names to be traced are: Mont-Saint-Jean, Joinville, Vergy, Brienne, Noyers, Frolois, Toucy, Vostizia.

MONT-SAINT-JEAN

From Plancher, vol. ii, pp. 330-333, except where indicated. See also *Spectrum* 28/29, "The Castle of Mont-Saint-Jean".

The seigneurs of Mont-Saint-Jean were among the richest and most distinguished of the XIIth century. The House is said to have descended from Manasses de **Vergy** (C 110). In 924, Regnard has a fortified castle there (B); in 1000, the sires of MSJ give the fief of d'Esseingey, or les Ingé, to the priory of Bar. Rainaud de MSJ is recorded in 1076 (C 110, B).

Hugues I, his son, seig. of MSJ, living in the first years of the XIIth century. In 1098, subscribed to the foundation of Citeaux. Wife was living in 1152. Children: Hugues II, Jean, Ameline who mar. Jean de Chaudenay-le-Château, seig. of Blaisy, in 1120 (C 59); Plancher reports Ameline mar. to a seig. of Blaisy and another dau., name not known, who mar. a seig. of Chaudenay. Bobin says: Gui succeeded Hugues. Around 1117 Gui took Saumaise from Mille de **Frolois**, constable of Burgundy. He mar. Gui de Saulx; sons were Hugues II and Jean. One is tempted to suppose that Gui and Hugues I must be the same person.

Hugues II, seig. of MSJ, Charny, part of Vergy, of Chatel-Sensoy, Salmaise (C), Thoisy (B). Before 1152 mar. **Elisabeth de Vergy**, dau. of Herve de Vergy. Died in 1196. Seven children: Etienne I; Guillaume I; Ponce de Mont-Saint-Jean, founder of the Charny branch; Jean; Hugues, cantor of St. Nazaire Cathedral of Autun in 1201 (P1 331); Elisabeth; Agnes.

Etienne I, seneschal of Burgundy, succeeded his father as seig. of MSJ; mar. Giles de **Noyers**, sister of **Clerembaut**, seig. de Noyers before 1180. In 1188 with consent of his wife, parents and two brothers, Etienne donates Arcenan to church of Saint Vivant de Vergy. In 1196, with consent of persons above, he gives Ternant to church of St. Denis de Vergy, act passed at **Marigny**. He d. 25 Feb. 1198; probably buried in Cathedral of Autun. No issue (C).

Guillaume I, seig. of MSJ, Saumaise (Salmaise), part of Vergy, succeeded his brother Etienne: mar. Bure d'Ancy-le-Franc, who brought him Senan. Sons Joubert, seig. of Ancy-le-Franc; and Guillaume II. Guillaume I d. 31 March 1223 (B).

Guillaume II, son of Guillaume I, is seig. of MSJ. A treaty in 1202; in 1222, donated all his rights over **Fixin** to church of Langres. Plancher says he mar. a Desbarres, dau. of Guillaume Desbarres, seig. of Ferté-Alais. Bobin says Marie des Barres. In

1224, Guillaume II in litigation with Gamier de Sombernon. Treaty in 1239 with Hugues IV, Duke of Burgundy (B).

Children of Guil. II & Mahe des Barres were Guillaume III and Etienne II.

Guillaume III mar. Marguerite de Bourgogne, dau. of Duke Hugues IV, no issue (C 156). Perhaps Guil. III was member of seventh crusade in 1248, standard bearer of the duke; perhaps it was he who brought back relics of Ste. Pélagie and others preserved at MSJ. He died circa 1256.

Etienne II succeeded his bro. Guillaume III. Seig. of MSJ, Saumaise, Ferté-Alais (from his mother), etc. 1258, sold Vevres to Hugues IV. Acts of 1224, 1228, 1239. Died 1300. Married Mahaut. Bobin says Mahaut de **Frolois**. Plancher mentions a daughter of Etienne II. In 1259, sells Ferté to King St. Louis.

Etienne III, seig. of MSJ, Saumaise, etc., son of Etienne II and Mahaut; a treaty in 1283. Wife, Mahaut de Boulogne. Died 1333. Plancher inserts Etienne IV as son of Etienne III, but cites his testament of 1333 giving Saumaise to Robert of Burgundy, son of Duke Robert II (and brother of Prince Louis of the Morea). His sons were Hugues and Barthelemi who made a census (1333) of MSJ, Saumaise, Thoisy, Marey. They were the last of the House of Mont-Saint-Jean (C 156).

Bobin says Hugues III died about 1370 (C. says 1358), leaving a dau., Jeanne de Mont-Saint-Jean, by whose mar. to Pierre de **Thil** the "immense wealth of this family passed to the House of Thil".

The barons of Mont-Saint-Jean had possessed vast lands and some 40 fiefs: MSJ, Saumaise, Thoisy, Thoire, part of Vergy, Charny, Chatellenot, Charency, Arconcy, Auvillers, Faugy, Organs, Maraut, Missery....

JOINVILLE

On 24 December 1306, Jean de Joinville donated a certain sum to the canons of the chapel of St. Laurent for the anniversary of his deceased daughter, Marguerite, dame de Charny (D 708). When his mother died, Geoffroy must have been a small boy. Antoine Legrand (*Le Linceul de Turin*, 1980 p. 35) hazards that he was born "about 1305". Marguerite's marriage to Jean de Charny could not have been before 1290, for about that time her father was still seig. of Lirey (L 194), eventually a part of Marguerite's dowry. What an extensive search would have to be undertaken to locate Geoffroy's baptismal record, if such did still exist! For we do not know where he was born. Charny? Joinville? A town house in Saulieu or Dijon? Barons always had a manor in town and residential castles as well as castle-fortresses.

Geoffroy's biography reflects more of Joinville than Mont-SaintJean, even more than Charny; there .is much to be said about this,

for another time. The following sketch of the extensive Joinville genealogy is taken from Delabord except where indicated.

Etienne, knight, from Vaux-sur-Saint-Urbain, commensal of Englebert, founded the lineage in the first years of XIth century. He married N., sister of Engelbert of **Brienne**, his companion in arms; the two families were in close relations throughout their history. Anselme (vi, 127) says it was Engilbert II who gave N., countess of Joigny, his sister-in-law, in mar. to Etienne; but see also A vi, 692.

Geoffroy I, son of Etienne, was the second seig. of Joinville. He married Blanche; children were Houdouin, Geoffroy II, (Renard), Roger and Etienne (abbot of Bèze).

Geoffroy II, Count of Joigny, 3rd seig. of J. Anselme errs (vi, 692) when he says that Geof. II married Hodierne, dau. of Josselin I de Courtenay. Instead, he mar. Hodierne, dau. of the count of Joigny, in 1080. There were no children and Geoff. II was succeeded by his brother,

Roger, who mar. Audiard de Vignory. Their children: Geoffroy III, Gui (bishop), Robert, Beatrix, Guillemette (abbess). Roger was living in 1137; he was succeeded by his son,

Geoffroy III, who mar. Félicité de **Brienne** (A), widow of Simon de Broyes. Geoffroy III, seneschal of Champagne, d. in 1184. He had one daughter, Gertrude, wife of a count of Vaudémont (A), and one son,

Geoffroy IV, who mar. Héloïse de Dampierre (or Helvide, A). A numerous progeny: Geoffroy V, Robert, Guillaume (archbishop of Reims), Simon, Gui, Andre (Templar), Félicité, Yoland, (A. adds Alix). He was living in 1189.

Geoffroy V was 7th seig. of Joinville after his father. A crusader in Palestine, he was killed at Krak des Hospitalliers end of 1203 or first of 1204. He was succeeded by his brother,

Simon, seig. of Sully. He mar. Ermengard de Montclair, by whom he had Geoffroy, Isabelle (or Elisabeth), Beatrix. By his second wife, Béatrix d'Auxerre, dau. of count of Burgundy, Simon had Jean, Geoffroy, Simon, Guillaume (dean of Besançon), Marie, called Simonette (mar. Jean de **Thil-Châtel**), and Héloïse. He d. before 1239 (A 694).

Jean, son of Simon, became 9th seig. of Joinville. By his first wife, Alix de Grandpré, (A. says Ordile or Adelaide) he had Geoffroy (d. before 1290) and Jean (b. 1248). By his second wife, **Alix de Reynel** (Risnel), he had Marguerite who mar. **Jean de Charny** (But A. says Marguerite was dau. of Alix de Grandpré.); Jean, seig. de Reynel; Anseau; Gautier, seig. de Beaupre; Andre, seig. de Bonney, then Beaupre; and Alix, who mar. first, **Jean d'Arcis et de Chacenay** in 1300 (A), then Jean de Lancastre, seig. de **Beaufort** (Fr III 77).

Jean's first son, Geoffroy, was seig. de Briquenay, founder of the

Briquenay and the Joinville of Naples. He mar. Mabilie de Villehardouin, dame de Nanteuil. Note 1 on p. 269 of Wilson's *The Turin Shroud* (1978) says: "A television writer, Henry Lincoln, has produced a genealogy showing a Geoffrey de Joinville, de Charnay, de Briquenay as a brother of Margaret de Joinville..." This evidently inspired by the hypothesis that Geoffroy de Charnay, Templar, was an uncle of our Geoffroy, to whom he sent the Shroud. No source was given for adding "de Charnay" and I have been unable to verify this attribution. In any case, the only Geoffroy de Joinville, sire of Briquenay who was indeed an uncle of our Geoffroy de Charnay, was not a Templar and he died before 1290 (D 176). Philip IV's Arrestation of the Templars fell upon 13 October 1307.

Jean de Joinville lived to be 93 years old and was active to the last. He was succeeded by

Anseau, seneschal of Champagne, then Marshal of France with **Raoul d'Eu** (A). His first wife, Laure de Sarrebrück, gave him one dau. who mar. Jean de **Noyers**. By his second, Marguerite de Vaudémont, he had Jeanne, Henri, Isabelle who mar. Jean de **Vergy**, seig. de Mirebeau, bro.-in-law of Geoffroy de Charnay. Their son, Guillaume de Vergy (d. 1374) mar. Agnes, dau. of Guillemette de Charny and Philibert de Jonvelle. Anseau had also Marguerite and another daughter. Anselme names Henri, Anseau, Geoffroy, Isabeau, wife of Jean de Vergy.

Henri, seig. of Joinville, count of Vaudémont, mar. Marie de Luxembourg. His sons Anseau and Henri died before him. His dau., Marguerite, dame de Joinville, countess of Vaudemont, mar. Jean de Bourgogne then **Pierre, count of Genève**. Widowed a second time, Marguerite mar. Ferry de Lorraine, seig. of Rumigny, outliving also him, and dying without issue. Henri had another dau., Alix, dame de Neufchatel.

Names to be traced: Courtenay, Thil, Reynel, Arcis, Beaufort, Genève.

Charny! Charny!

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