

William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury

This is “the” William Longespée named in the preamble to the Magna Charta as an advisor to King John. His arms of are described as “azure six lions rampant, 3, 2, and 1, or” which means a blue shield with 6 gold lions arranged 3, 2, and 1. He is not to be confused with other William Longespées or Longswords:

- His great X6 grandfather William Longsword, Duke of Normandy (See *Normandy*, Generation Six)
- His uncle, William Longespée (also William Fitz Empress), Vicomte of Dieppe (See *Plantagenet*, Generation Five)
- His son, Sir William Longespée (see below)



William Longespée was born circa 1175-80, a son of King Henry II Curtmantle and Ida de Tosny (See *Angevin Kings*, Generation One) who later became the wife of Magna Charta Surety Roger Bigod, 2nd Earl of Norfolk. (See *Bigod*, Generation Four) Ida was very likely a daughter of Ralph V de Tony (died 1162) and his wife Margaret (born circa 1125 and living in 1185), a daughter of Robert de Beaumont, 2nd Earl of Leicester. King Henry II and Ida de Tosny weren't married because Henry was already married to Eleanor of Aquitaine at the time.

Although it has now been shown with certainty that William's mother was Ida de Tosny, it was accepted for years that she was Rosamond Clifford; Richard Thomson wrote in 1829 of William: “He was the natural son of King Henry II by Rosamond Clifford, usually called Fair Rosamond; and he derived his surname Longespée from a massive sword he usually wore.” However, in 1887 William Hunt debunked the notion that Rosamund Clifford was the mother of William Longespée in his article on Rosamund Clifford in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, showing that the legend was invented in the early 1600s during a legal dispute over the Clifford family estates.

(Richardson: p. 2 & 456 – 457 Morris: p. 2 Thomson: p. 65, 313 & 319)

Generation One

William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury

Born circa 1175-80

Died on March 7, 1225/26 at Salisbury Castle

William Longespée married before September 1197 to **Ela of Salisbury**, Countess of Salisbury, daughter and heiress of William Fitz Patrick, 2nd Earl of Salisbury and his wife Eleanor de Vitré. (See *Capet*, Generation Thirteen)

William and Ela had the following children:

- Sir William Longespée (born circa 1208, slain fighting the Saracens at the Battle of Mansourah on the Nile in Egypt on February 7, 1249/50) who married Idoine de Camville.
- **Sir Stephen Longespée**, mentioned next.
- Richard Longespée, Clerk, Canon of Salisbury.
- Nicholas Longespée, Clerk, Bishop of Salisbury.
- Ida Longespée who married Sir William de Beauchamp

- Mary Longespée
- Isabel Longespée who married Sir William de Vescey
- Ela Longespée
- Ida (again) Longespée who married Sir Walter Fitz Robert, son and heir of Magna Charta Surety Sir Robert Fitz Walter. (See *Fitz Walter*, Generation Four)
- Pernel Longespée

(Richardson: p.456-459 Roberts: p.452 & 454 Weis, Ancestral: 31-26 Weis, Magna Charta: 142-1)

Generation Two

Sir Stephen Longespée of King's Sutton, Northamptonshire

Died shortly before June 25, 1260

Sir Stephen Longespée married circa 1242 - 1244 to Emeline de Ridelisford, widow of Hugh de Lacy, Earl of Ulster, and they had the following children:

- **Ela Longespée**, mentioned next.
- Emeline Longespée who married Maurice Fitz Maurice

(Richardson: p.803 Roberts p.452&454 Weis, Ancestral: 31-27 Weis, Magna Charta: 144-2)

Generation Three

Ela Longespée

Died before July 19, 1276

Ela married before 1267 to **Sir Roger la Zouche**, Knight, of Ashby de la Zouche, Leicestershire, and Brackley Northamptonshire. Roger was son and heir of Alan la Zouche and Ellen de Quincy, daughter of Roger de Quincy, 2nd Earl of Winchester. (See *De Quincy*, Generation Four)

Ela and Roger had one son:

- **Sir Alan la Zouche**, mentioned next.

(Richardson: p.803-804 Roberts p.452&454 Weis, Ancestral: 31-28 Weis, Magna Charta: 144-3)

Generation Four

Sir Alan la Zouche of Ashby de la Zouche, Leicestershire, etc.

Born at North Molton, Devon, on October 9, 1267.

Died shortly before March 25, 1313/14

Sir Alan married Eleanor de Segrave, daughter of Sir Nicholas de Segrave, Knight, of Segrave, Leicestershire, Lord Segrave. Alan and Eleanor had the following daughters:

- Ellen la Zouche who married first Nicholas de Saint Maur and secondly Alan de Charlton
- **Maud la Zouche**, mentioned next.
- Elizabeth la Zouche who was a nun at Brewood.

(Richardson: p.804 Roberts p.452&454 Weis, Ancestral: 31-29 Weis, Magna Charta: 90-5)

Generation Five

Maud la Zouche

Born about 1290

Died on May 31, 1349

Maud married Sir Robert de Holand, 1st Lord Holland, of Upholland and Orrell, Wigan, etc. Robert was born about 1283, son and heir of Robert de Holand of Upholland and Elizabeth de Samlesbury, daughter and co-heiress of William de Samlesbury. In 1298, Robert attended Thomas, Earl of Lancaster on the Falkirk campaign. He became a chief councillor to Earl Thomas and was among those who were responsible for the beheading (without a trial) of King Edward II's friend Peter (Piers) Gaveston in 1312 for which he was pardoned in 1313. During Earl Thomas' final rising in February and March 1321/22 Robert was said to have played a cowardly or treacherous part. On October 7, 1328, he was captured by some adherents of Earl Thomas who beheaded him for his treachery.

Maud and Robert had the following children:

- Robert de Holand, 2nd Lord Holland, who married Elizabeth, perhaps a daughter of Guillaume III, Count of Hainault.
- Thomas de Holand, K.G., Earl of Kent who married Joan of Kent.
- Otes de Holand, K.G.
- Alan de Holand
- Isabel de Holand who married John de Warenne, 8th Earl of Salisbury.
- Margaret de Holand who married John la Warre of Wickwar, Gloucestershire.
- **Maud de Holand**, mentioned next.
- Elizabeth de Holand who married Henry Fitz Roger of Chewton, Somerset.
- Eleanor de Holand who married John Darcy, 2nd Lord Darcy of Knaith.

(Richardson: p.398-399 Roberts p.452&454 Weis, Ancestral: 32-30 Weis, Magna Charta: 90-6)

Generation Six

Maud de Holand

Born before February 1321/22

Died after 1364/65

As a child, Maud was affianced to marry John de Mowbray, 3rd Lord Mowbray. However, this marriage did not take place and she married to Thomas de Swinnerton, 3rd Lord Swinnerton of Swinnerton sometime after 1331. Thomas was at the Battle of Crécy in 1346 and the siege of Calais in 1347. In 1357 he was a prisoner in Scotland and the King gave £100 towards his ransom. Thomas is said to have died in December 1361.

Maud and Thomas had the following sons:

- **Robert de Swinnerton**, mentioned next.
- William de Swinnerton
- Roger de Swinnerton

(Richardson: p.637 Roberts p.452&454 Weis, Ancestral: 32-31 Weis, Magna Charta: 96-7)

Generation Seven

Robert de Swinnerton, 4th Lord Swinnerton

Died before April 7, 1387

Robert de Swinnerton married first about 1356 to Elizabeth de Beke (or Beek), daughter and co-heiress of Nicholas de Beke of Staffordshire and Joan de Stafford, daughter of Ralph de Stafford, K.G. 1st Earl of Stafford. Robert and Elizabeth were related in the 4th degree, and a dispensation was dated circa 1364. Elizabeth died circa 1373. Robert and Elizabeth had a daughter:

- **Maud Swinnerton**, mentioned next.

Robert married secondly to Joan Hameldene and they had a son:

- Thomas Swinnerton

(Richardson: p.637 Roberts p.452&454 Weis, Ancestral: 32-32 Weis, Magna Charta: 96-8)

Generation Eight

Maud Swinnerton

Born circa 1370

Died before 1424

Maud married first to Humphrey Peshale (or Peshall), son and heir apparent of Sir Richard Peshale of Chetwynd, Shropshire, Sheriff of Shropshire. Humphrey died before 1388. Maud and Humphrey had one son:

- **Richard Peshale**, mentioned next.

Maud was abducted on December 8, 1388 and forced to marry secondly in December 1388 to Sir William Ipstones who had been born circa 1373. William died in October 1399. Maud and William had two daughters:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christine Ipstones | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alice Ipstones |
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Maud married thirdly to Sir John Savage and they had the following children:

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|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Savage • William Savage • Arnold Savage • George Savage | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger Savage • Margaret Savage • Maud Savage • Mary Savage |
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(Richardson: p.637-638 Roberts p.452&454 Weis, Ancestral: 32-33 Weis, Magna Charta: 96-9)

Generation Nine

Richard Peshale, Sheriff of Staffordshire

Born before 1388

Died sometime around 1454 - 1458

Richard married, but the name of his wife is not known. They had one son:

- **Humphrey Peshale**, mentioned next.

(Richardson: p.152)

Generation Ten

Humphrey Peshale of Tean and Blithewood in Checkley, etc.

Died on May 28, 1498

Humphrey was the Justice of the Peace for Staffordshire and Commissioner of the Array for Staffordshire. He married, but the name of his first wife is not known. They had one son:

- Hugh Peshale

Humphrey married secondly to Lettice Harcourt, daughter of John Harcourt and his wife Anne Norreys and they had the following children:

- Richard Peshale
- **Eleanor Peshale** (See *Angevin Kings*, Generation Thirteen)
- Joan Peshale who married Richard Sandforde
- Elizabeth Peshale who married Richard Alsop

(Richardson: p.152)

For the continuation of this line, see *Angevin Kings*, Generation Thirteen

Sources

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