

# **GRANHOLM GENEALOGY**

**BRITISH ROYAL ANCESTRY, BOOK 5**

**Kings of Anglo-Saxony**

## INTRODUCTION

The British ancestry is very much a patchwork of various beginnings. Until King Alfred the Great established England various Kings ruled separate parts. In most cases the initial ruler came from the mainland. That time of the history is shrouded in myths, which turn into legends and subsequent into history.

Alfred the Great (849-901) was a very learned man and studied all available past history and especially biblical information. He came up with the concept that he was the 72<sup>nd</sup> generation descendant of Adam and Eve. Moreover he was a 17<sup>th</sup> generation descendant of Woden (Odin). Proponents of one theory claim that he was the descendant of Noah's son Sem (Shem) because he claimed to descend from Scaef, a marooned man who came to Britain on a boat after a flood. See the *Biblical Ancestry* and *Early Mythology Ancestry* books).

The book *British Mythical Royal Ancestry from King Brutus* shows the mythical kings including Shakespeare's King Lear. The lineages are from a common ancestor, Priam King of Troy. His one daughter Troana leads to us via Scaef, the descendants from his other daughter Creusa lead to the British lineage. No attempt has been made to connect these rulers with the historical ones.

Before Alfred the Great formed a unified England several Royal Houses ruled the various parts. Not all of them have any clear lineages to the present times, i.e. our ancestors, but some do. I have collected information which show these. These include

*British Royal Ancestry Book 1, Legendary Kings* from Brutus of Troy to including Shakespeare's King Lear.

*British Royal Ancestry Book 2, Kings of Mercia*, from a mythical grandson of Woden (Odin) to Lady Godiva's granddaughter, who married King Harold II of England.

*British Royal Ancestry Book 3, Kings of Wessex*, from Cerdic, who came to Brittany in 495 to Harold II of England, my 27<sup>th</sup> great grandfather.

*British Royal Ancestry Book 4, Kings of Kent* from Hengest, who came from the mainland to Britain to King Alfred the Great and his sons.

*British Royal Ancestry Book 5, Kings of Anglo-Saxons* from Hengest's son, Hartwaker of Saxony to Henry the Fowler, the Duke of Saxony who became the first German King of the Ottoman Dynasty.

*British Royal Ancestry Book 6, Kings of England* from King Alfred the Great to present time.

The books include ancestral lineage list with names **highlighted** for which text has been included.

## Descendants of: Hengest Ruler of Kent As Related to: Lars Erik Granholm

- 1 **Hengest Ruler of Kent** #16638 b. 420 d. 488 (46th great grandfather)
- 2 **Rowena** #18116 (46th great-aunt)  
m. **Vortigern King of the Britons** #18117
- 2 **Hartwaker of Saxony** #18176 b. 442 d. 480 (45th great grandfather)
- 3 **Hattwigate (Hutugast) Duke of Saxony** #18177 (44th great grandfather)
- 4 **Childeric Duke of Saxony** #18178 (43rd great grandfather)
- 5 **Budic Duke of Saxony** #18179 (42nd great grandfather)
- 6 **Berthold Duke of Saxony** #18180 (41st great grandfather)
- 7 **Sigismund (Sigehard) Duke of Saxony** #18181 (40th great grandfather)
- 8 **Theodoric Duke of Saxony** #18182 (39th great grandfather)
- 9 **Warnechin (Werner) Duke of Saxony** #18183 (38th great grandfather)
- 10 **Wittikind (Widukind) I Duke of Saxony** #18323 (37th great grandfather)  
m. **Geva Eysteinsdatter of Westfold** #18332 b. 755
- 11 **Hasalda Duchess of Saxony** #18322 (36th great grandmother)
- 12 **Bruno Duke of Saxony** #18320 (35th great grandfather)  
m. **Oda IV of Saxony** #18321
- 13 **Liudolf Duke of Saxony** #18318 b. 805 d. 864 (34th great grandfather)  
m. **Oda Billung** #18319 b. 820 d. 913  
[daughter of Billung Baron von Stubenkorn of Saxony #18333 and Aeda #18334] (35<sup>th</sup> great grandfather)
- 14 **Otto I the Illustrious Duke of Saxony** #15750 b. 851 d. 30 November 912 (33rd great grandfather)  
m. **Hedwiga Countess of Franconia** #15751  
[daughter of Henry Duke of Franconia #15752 and Ingeltrude #15753]
- 15 **Henry I the Fowler Duke of Saxony King of Germany** #15746 (32nd great grandfather)  
m. **Saint Matilda of Ringelheim Queen of Germany** #15747 b. 895 Duchy of Saxony d. 968
- 14 **Bruno Duke of Saxony** #18330 d. 880 (34th great-uncle)
- 14 **Liutgard Duchess of Saxony** #18331 (34th great-aunt)  
m. **Louis the Younger King of Saxony** #16798 b. 835 d. 882 (first cousin 35 times removed)  
[son of Louis the German King of Bavaria #16796 and Emma Queen consort of Eastern Francia #16797]

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-Saxons>

# Anglo-Saxons

*The parade helmet found at Sutton Hoo, probably belonging to Raedwald of East Anglia circa 625. Based on a Roman parade-helmet design (of a general class known as spangenhelm), it has decorations like those found in contemporary Swedish helmets found at Old Uppsala (Collection of the British Museum)*



**Anglo-Saxons** is the term usually used to describe the invading [Germanic tribes](#) in the south and east of [Great Britain](#) from the early 5th century AD, and their creation of the English nation, to the [Norman conquest](#) of 1066. The [Benedictine monk](#), [Bede](#), identified them as the descendants of three [Germanic tribes](#):

- The [Angles](#), who may have come from [Angeln](#) (in modern [Germany](#)), and Bede wrote that their whole nation came to Britain leaving their former land empty. The name 'England' (Anglo-Saxon 'Engla land' or 'Ængla land') originates from this tribe.
- The [Saxons](#), from [Lower Saxony](#) (in modern Germany; [German](#): Niedersachsen)
- The [Jutes](#), from the [Jutland](#) peninsula (in modern [Denmark](#))

The history of Anglo-Saxon England broadly covers early medieval England from the end of Roman rule and the establishment of Anglo-Saxon kingdoms in the 5th century until the Conquest by the [Normans](#) in 1066.

The main Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms circa A.D. 600



## Viking Age (800-1066)

In the 9th century, the Viking challenge grew to serious proportions. Alfred the Great's victory at Edington, Wiltshire, in 878 brought intermittent peace, but with their possession of [Jorvik](#) the Danes gained a solid foothold in England.

An important development in the 9th century was the rise of the Kingdom of [Wessex](#); by the end of his reign Alfred was recognised as overlord by several southern kingdoms. [Æthelstan](#) was the first king to achieve direct rule over what is considered "England".

Near the end of the 10th century, there was renewed Scandinavian interest in England, with the conquests of [Sweyn of Denmark](#) and his son [Canute](#). By 1066 there were three lords with claims to the English throne, resulting in two invasions and the battles of [Stamford Bridge](#) and [Hastings](#), the results of which established [Anglo-Norman](#) rule in England.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rowena>

# Rowena

**Rowena** was the daughter of the [Anglo-Saxon](#) leader [Hengest](#) and a wife of the [Briton](#) High King [Vortigern](#), according to [British legend](#). Described as a beautiful [femme fatale](#), she won her people the [Kingdom of Kent](#) through her scheming seduction of Vortigern. Rowena is unknown in contemporary records, causing modern historians to regard her story as fictional.

She is first mentioned without name as the beautiful [Saxon](#) daughter of Hengist in the Latin *[Historia Brittonum](#)*. Following the arrival of Hengest and [Horsa](#) at Ynys Ruym, now known as [Thanet](#), Hengest negotiated with the British High King [Vortigern](#) for more land. At her father's orders Rowena gets Vortigern drunk at a feast, and he is so enchanted by her that he agrees to give Hengist whatever he wants if he allowed her to marry him as his second wife. (The fate of Vortigern's first wife Sevira is unclear). The text makes clear this desire for a pagan woman is a prompting by the [Devil](#). Hengest demands the [Kingdom of Kent](#), which Vortigern foolishly grants him. This agreement is a disaster for the Britons and allows the Saxons to strengthen their foothold in Britain considerably.

[Geoffrey of Monmouth](#)'s work *[Historia Regum Britanniae](#)* ("The History of the Kings of Britain"), ca. 1138, was the first to give Hengest's daughter a name: Rowena, though the spelling varies widely. In Geoffrey, Vortigern usurps the [throne of Britain](#) from the rightful king [Constans](#). Geoffrey claims the drunken seduction of Vortigern created the tradition of [toasting](#) in Britain. Vortigern's friendly dealings with the Saxons, especially his allowing even more settlers to join them, causes his sons by his first wife to rebel. His eldest son [Vortimer](#) takes the British throne and drives out the Saxons, but he is poisoned by Rowena, who assumes a [wicked stepmother](#) role. Later the Saxons kill all the British leaders at the [Night of Long Knives](#), sparing Vortigern because of Rowena. According to the *Historia Brittonum*, Vortigern "and his wives" were burned alive by heavenly fire in the fortress of *Craig Gwrtheyrn* ("Vortigern's Rock"), "in north Wales", but Rowena/Rhonwen is not named directly in the passage.

In the [Welsh Triads](#) and medieval Welsh poetry, Rhonwen, "the Mother of the English Nation" is an everlasting example of Saxon treachery and paganism. Geoffrey's Rowena with her use of seduction and potions probably forms a basis for villainesses in later [Arthurian legend](#) like [Morgan le Fay](#) and can be compared with his portrayal of good British Queens like [Cordelia](#) and [Marcia](#). There are also connections with the story of [Queen Gwendolen](#) and [Estrildis](#), another beautiful German princess. She is also a character in [William Henry Ireland](#)'s play *[Vortigern and Rowena](#)*.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vortigern>

# Vortigern

**Vortigern** was a 5th-century warlord in [Britain](#), a leading [ruler among the Britons](#). His existence is considered likely, though information about him is shrouded in legend. He is said to have invited the [Saxons](#) to settle in Britain as [mercenaries](#), only to see them revolt and establish their own kingdoms. This earned him a poor reputation so that he was eventually remembered as one of the worst [kings of the Britons in later legend](#).

*The two dragons found beneath Dinas Emrys*



The 6th-century historian [Gildas](#) wrote *[De Excidio et Conquestu Britanniae](#)* ([English](#): *On the Ruin and Conquest of Britain*) in the first decades of the sixth century. In Chapter 23, he tells how "all the councillors, together with *that proud usurper*" made the mistake of inviting "the fierce and impious [Saxons](#)" to settle in Britain. According to Gildas, apparently a small group came at first, and was settled "on the eastern side of the island, by the invitation of the unlucky [*infaustus*] usurper". This small group invited more of their countrymen to join them, and the colony grew. Eventually the Saxons demanded that "their monthly

allotments" be increased, and when their demands were eventually refused, broke their treaty and plundered the lands of the [Romano-British](#).

Gildas also describes that their raids took them "sea to sea, heaped up by the eastern band of impious men; and as it devastated all the neighbouring cities and lands, did not cease after it had been kindled, until it burnt nearly the whole surface of the island, and licked the western ocean with its red and savage tongue".

Excluding what is taken from Gildas, there are six groupings of traditions:

- The magical tale of [Ambrosius Aurelianus](#) and the two [dragons](#) found beneath [Dinas Emrys](#). This origin of the later legend of [Merlin](#) is clearly a local tale that had attracted the names of Vortigern and Ambrosius to usurp the roles of earlier characters. While neither of them has any connection with that remote part of Wales, the personage of Vortigern is best known to us because of this tale.
- Genealogical material about Vortigern's ancestry, the names of his four sons ([Vortimer](#), [Pascent](#), [Catigern](#), Faustus), a father (Vitalis), a grandfather (Vitalinus) and a great-grandfather who is probably just an eponym (Gloui) which associates Vortigern with [Glevum](#), the civitas of [Gloucester](#).

The film [The Last Legion](#) (2007), based in part on the novel *[L'ultima legione](#)* (2002) by [Valerio Massimo Manfredi](#), features a highly-fictionalized portrayal of Vortigern under the pseudo-authentic name Vortgyn.

# Liudolf, Duke of Saxony

*Pedigree of the Ottonian dynasty, Ludolf dux Saxonie at the top, chronicles of St. Pantaleon, Cologne, 12th century*



**Liudolf** (born about 805, died 12 March 864 or 866) was a [Saxon](#) count, son of one count (Graf) Brun (Brunhart) and his wife Gisla von Verla ; later authors called him duke of the Eastern Saxons and count of [Eastphalia](#). Liudolf had extended possessions in eastern Saxony, and was a leader (*dux*) in the wars of King [Louis the German](#) against [Normans](#) and [Slavs](#). The ruling [Liudolfing](#) House, also known as the Ottonian dynasty, is named after him; he is its oldest verified member.

Before 830 Liudolf married Oda, daughter of a [Frankish princeps](#) named [Billung](#) and his wife Aeda. Oda died on 17 May 913, supposedly at the age of 107.

They had six children:

- [Brun](#)
- [Otto the Illustrious](#), (15750, 33<sup>rd</sup> ggf) father of [Henry the Fowler](#) (15746)
- [Liutgard](#) married King [Louis the Younger](#) in 874.
- Hathumoda, became an abbess
- Gerberga, became an abbess
- Christina, became an abess

By marrying a Frankish nobleman's daughter, Liudolf followed suggestions set forth by [Charlemagne](#) about ensuring the integrity of the [Frankish Empire](#) in the aftermath of the [Saxon Wars](#) through marriage.

In 845/846, Liudolf and his wife traveled to [Rome](#) in order to ask [Pope Sergius II](#) for permission to found a house of secular canonesses, duly established at their [proprietary church](#) in Brunshausen around 852, and moved in 881 to form [Gandersheim Abbey](#). Liudolf's minor daughter Hathumod became the first [abbess](#).

Liudolf is buried in Brunshausen

# Otto I, Duke of Saxony

*Otto I Dux, Chronica Sancti Pantaleonis, Cologne, about 1237*



**Otto** or **Oddo** (c. 851 – 30 November 912), called **the Illustrious** (*der Erlauchte*) by later authors, was the [Duke of Saxony](#) from 880 to his death. He was the younger son of Duke [Liudolf of Saxony](#) and his wife Oda of [Billung](#), and succeeded his brother [Bruno](#) as duke after the latter's death in battle in 880. His family, named after his father, is called the Liudolfing, after the accession of his grandson [Emperor Otto I](#) also the [Ottonian dynasty](#).

By a charter of King [Louis the Younger](#) to [Gandersheim Abbey](#) dated 26 January 877, the *pago Suththuringa* (region of South [Thuringia](#)) is described as *in comitatu Ottonis* (in Otto's county). In a charter of 28 January 897,

Otto is described as *marchio* and the *pago Eichesfelden* ([Eichsfeld](#)) is now found to be within his county (march). He was also the [lay abbot](#) of [Hersfeld Abbey](#) in 908. He was described as *magni ducis Oddonis* (great duke Otto) by [Widukind of Corvey](#) when describing the marriage of his sister, [Liutgard](#), to King Louis.

Otto rarely left Saxony. He was a regional prince and his overlords, Louis the Younger and Emperor [Arnulf of Carinthia](#), with both of whom he was on good terms, rarely interfered in Saxony. In Saxony, Otto was king in practice and he established himself as tributary ruler over the neighbouring [Slav](#) tribes, such as the [Daleminzi](#).

According to Widukind of Corvey, Otto was offered the [kingship of East Francia](#) after the death of [Louis the Child](#) in 911, but did not accept it on account of his advanced age, instead suggesting [Conrad of Franconia](#). The truthfulness of this report is considered doubtful.<sup>[1]</sup>

Otto's wife was [Hathui of Babenberg](#) (Hedwiga, †903), daughter of [Henry of Franconia](#). Otto was and is buried in the church of Gandersheim Abbey. He had two sons, Thankmar and Liudolf, who predeceased him, but his third son [Henry](#) succeeded him as duke of Saxony and was later elected king. His daughter Oda married the [Carolingian](#) King [Zwentibold of Lotharingia](#).

# Henry the Fowler

**Henry I the Fowler** (**German**: *Heinrich der Finkler* or *Heinrich der Vogler*; **Latin**: *Henricius Auceps*) (876 – 2 July 936) was the **Duke of Saxony** from 912 and **King of the Germans** from 919 until his death. First of the **Ottonian Dynasty** of German kings and emperors, he is generally considered to be the founder and first king of the medieval German state, known until then as **East Francia**. An avid hunter, he obtained the epithet "the Fowler" because he was allegedly fixing his birding nets when messengers arrived to inform him that he was to be king.

*Henry and Matilda in the Pedigree of the Ottonian dynasty, Cologne, 12th century*



Born in **Memleben**, in what is now **Saxony-Anhalt**, Henry was the son of **Otto the Illustrious**, Duke of Saxony, and his wife **Hedwiga**, daughter of **Henry of Franconia** and Ingeltrude and a great-great-granddaughter of **Charlemagne**. In 906 he married **Hatheburg**, daughter of the Saxon count Erwin, but divorced her in 909, after she had given birth to his son **Thankmar**. Later that year he married **St Matilda of Ringelheim**, daughter of Dietrich, Count of **Westphalia**. Matilda bore him three sons, one called Otto, and two daughters, Hedwige and Gerberga and founded many religious institutions, including the abbey of **Quedlinburg** where Henry is buried, and was later **canonized**.

*The crown of Germany is offered to Henry*

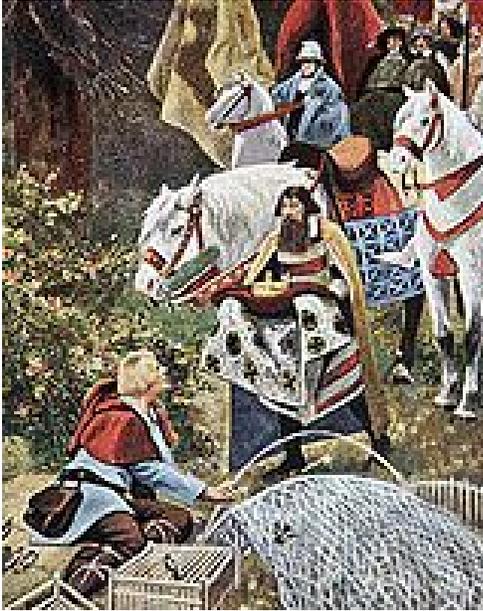


Henry became Duke of Saxony upon his father's death in 912. An able ruler, he continued to strengthen Saxony, frequently in conflict with his neighbors to the South, the dukes of **Franconia**.

In 918 **Conrad I**, King of East Francia and Duke of Franconia, died. Although they had been at odds with each other from 912–15 over the title to lands in **Thuringia**, before he died Conrad recommended Henry as his successor. Conrad's choice was conveyed by Duke **Eberhard of Franconia**, Conrad's brother and heir, at the **Reichstag of Fritzlar** in 919. The assembled Franconian and Saxon nobles duly elected Henry to be king. Archbishop Heriger of Mayence offered to anoint Henry according to the usual ceremony, but he refused to be anointed by a high church official — the only King of his time not to undergo that rite — allegedly because he wished to be king not by the church's but by the people's acclaim. Duke **Burchard II of Swabia** soon swore fealty to the new King, but Duke **Arnulf of Bavaria** did not

submit until Henry defeated him in two campaigns in 921. Last, Henry besieged Ratisbon (Regensburg) and forced [Arnulf of Bavaria](#) into submission.

In 920, [Charles the Simple](#) invaded Germany and marched as far as [Pfeddersheim](#) near [Worms](#), but retired on hearing that Henry was arming against him.



*Henrik receiving the crown while trapping birds*

On November 7th, 921 Henry and Charles the Simple met each other and concluded a treaty between them. However, with the beginning of civil war in France, Henry sought to wrest [Lorraine](#) from the Western Kingdom. In the year of 923 Henry crossed the Rhine twice. Later in the year he entered Lorraine with an army, capturing a large part of the country. Until October of 924 the eastern part of Lorraine was left in Henry's possession.

In 933 Henry, with the end of his truce with the Magyars, refused to pay the regular tribute. When the Magyars began raiding again, he led an army of all the German tribes to victory at the [Battle of Riade](#) in 933 near the river Unstrut, thus stopping the Magyar advance into Germany.

## Death and aftermath

Henry died of a cerebral stroke on 2 July 936 in his palatium in [Memleben](#), one of his favourite places. By then all German tribes were united in a single kingdom. Henry I is therefore considered the first German king and the founder of the eventual [Holy Roman Empire](#). He has sometimes been considered to be Henry I, [Holy Roman Emperor](#).

His son [Otto](#) (31<sup>st</sup> ggf) succeeded him as Emperor. His second son, [Henry](#), became Duke of Bavaria. A third son, Brun (or [Bruno](#)), became [archbishop of Cologne](#). His son from his first marriage, Thankmar, rebelled against his half-brother Otto and was killed in battle in 936. After the death of her husband Duke Giselbert of Lotharingia, Henry's daughter [Gerberga of Saxony](#) married King [Louis IV of France](#). His youngest daughter, [Hedwige of Saxony](#) (31<sup>st</sup> ggm), married Duke [Hugh the Great](#) of [France](#) and was the mother of [Hugh Capet](#), the first [Capetian](#) king of France.

Henry returned to public attention as a character in [Richard Wagner's](#) opera, [Lohengrin](#) (1850). There are indications that [Heinrich Himmler](#) saw himself the reincarnation of the first king of Germany.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matilda\\_of\\_Ringelheim](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matilda_of_Ringelheim)

# Matilda of Ringelheim

**Saint Mathilda** or **Saint Matilda** (c. 895 – March 14 968) was the wife of [Henry I](#), King of the [East Franks](#) and the first ruler of the Ottonian or [Liudolfing dynasty](#). Their son, Otto, succeeded his father as [King \(and later Emperor\) Otto I](#).

*Saint Mathilda*



The details of St. Mathilda's life come largely from brief mentions in the *Res Gestae Saxonicae* (*Deeds of the Saxons*) of the monastic historian [Widukind of Corvey](#), and from two sacred biographies (the *vita antiquior* and *vita posterior*) written, respectively, c. 974 and c. 1003.

St. Mathilda was the daughter of the [Westphalian](#) count Dietrich and his wife Reinhild, and her biographers traced her ancestry back to the famed Saxon hero, [Widukind](#) (c. 730 - 807). As a young girl, she was sent to the convent of Herford, where her reputation for beauty and virtue is said to have attracted the attention of [Duke Otto of Saxony](#), who betrothed her to his son, [Henry the Fowler](#). They were married in 909 and had three sons and two daughters:

1. [Hadwig](#), wife of the West Frankish duke [Hugh the Great](#)
2. King (and later Emperor) [Otto I](#)
3. [Gerberga](#), wife of (1) [Duke Gisibert of Lotharingia](#) and (2) King [Louis IV of France](#)
4. [Henry I, Duke of Bavaria](#)
5. [Archbishop Brun of Cologne](#)

After Henry the Fowler's death in 936, St. Mathilda remained at the court of her son Otto, until a cabal of royal advisors is reported to have accused her of weakening the royal treasury in order to pay for her charitable activities. After a brief exile at the Westphalian monastery of [Enger](#), St. Mathilda was brought back to court at the urging of Otto I's first wife, the Anglo-Saxon princess [Queen Edith](#).

St. Mathilda was celebrated for her devotion to prayer and almsgiving; her first biographer depicted her to the sixth-century *vita* of the Frankish queen [Radegund](#) by [Venantius Fortunatus](#) leaving her husband's side in the middle of the night and sneaking off to church to pray. St. Mathilda founded many [religious](#) institutions, including the canonry of [Quedlinburg](#), [Saxony-Anhalt](#), a center of [Ottonian ecclesiastical](#) and secular life and the burial place of St. Mathilda and her husband, and the convent of [Nordhausen](#), [Thuringia](#), likely the source of at least one of

her *vitae*. She was later [canonized](#), with her cult largely confined to [Saxony](#) and [Bavaria](#). St. Mathilda's [feast day](#) is on March 14.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruno,\\_Duke\\_of\\_Saxony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruno,_Duke_of_Saxony)

## Bruno, Duke of Saxony

*Bruno dux, Chronica Sancti Pantaleonis, Cologne, about 1237*



**Bruno, Brun, or Braun** (died 2 February 880) was the [Duke of Saxony](#) from 866 to his death. He was the elder son of Duke [Liudolf of Saxony](#), progenitor of the [Liudolfing dynasty](#) and his wife Oda of [Billung](#). While his father is described as *dux orientalis Saxonum*, duke of East Saxony, it is possible that Bruno, according to [Widukind of Corvey](#), was *dux totius Saxonum*, duke of all Saxony.

He died, along with several other Saxon noblemen, in a battle against the [Vikings](#) (probably [Danes](#)) on 2 February 880. The battle near [Ebstorf](#) was a crushing defeat and two bishops as well as twelve counts, among them Bruno, were killed. He is called *ducem et fratrem reinæ: dux* and "the queen's brother," meaning that his sister [Liutgard](#) was married to King [Louis the Younger](#). According to [Thietmar of Merseburg](#), Bruno died in a flooded river while on campaign against the Danes in 880. This probably took place during the battle or during a retreat.

According to legend, Bruno is the founder of [Brunswick](#) and ancestor of the [Brunonen](#), counts in the [Derlingau](#), though an affiliation with Count [Brun I of Brunswick](#) is uncertain.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liutgard>

# Liutgard

*Liutgard*



**Liutgard of Saxony** (c. 845–17 November 885) was the wife and Queen of [Louis the Younger](#), the Frankish King of Saxony and East Francia.

She was born between 840 and 850, the daughter of [Liudolf, Duke of the Eastern Saxons](#) (b. 805–820, d. 12 March 866), and of Oda Billung (b. 805–806, d.17 May 913).

She married Louis the Younger - who had already been betrothed to a daughter of Count Adalhard - on 29 November 874 at [Aschaffenburg](#). They had two children:

Louis (877–879) and Hildegard (c. 879–after 899), who became a nun in [Chiemsee, Bavaria](#).

After her husband's death, she married in 882 [Burchard I, Duke of Swabia](#) (b. between 855 and 860, d. 5 November 911). They had two children: [Burchard II, Duke of Swabia](#) (born 883–884, d. 28 April 926) and Udalrich von Schwaben (born between 884 and 885, died 30 September 885). Her daughter Dietpirsch of Swabia (also known as Theoberga) married [Hupald, Count of Dillingen](#) (d. 909). Their children included [Ulrich of Augsburg](#).

Liutgard was especially noted for her strong will and political ambition.

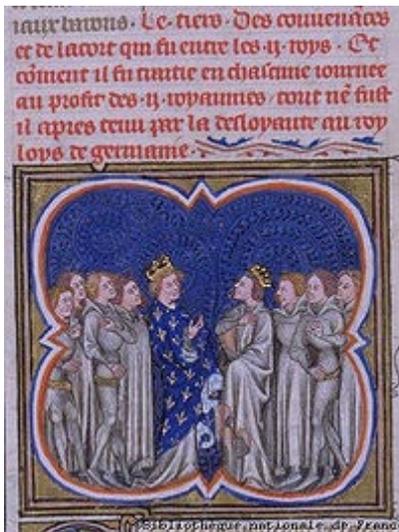
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis\\_the\\_Younger](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_the_Younger)

# Louis the Younger

**Louis the Younger** (835 – 20 January 882), sometimes **Louis III**, was the second eldest of the three sons of [Louis the German](#) and [Emma](#). He succeeded his father as the [King of Saxony](#) on 28 August 876 and his elder brother [Carloman](#) as [King of Bavaria](#) from 880. He died in 882 and was succeeded in all his territories, which encompassed most of [East Francia](#), by his younger brother, [Charles the Fat](#), already [King of Italy](#) and [Emperor](#).

*A fourteenth-century depiction of the signing of the Treaty of Furon. Louis the Younger is in the plain grey costume while Louis the Stammerer is wearing the fleur-de-lis symbolic of the French monarchy.*

*In the Grandes Chroniques de France*



As a young man, Louis was deployed in military operations against the [Abodrites](#) to the east in 858 and 862.<sup>[2]</sup> In 854, at the invitation of the nobles of [Aquitaine](#) opposed to [Charles the Bald](#) and [Pepin II](#), and coaxed by his father and his cousin [Charles, Archbishop of Mainz](#), he crossed into Gaul at the head of an army, intent on receiving the Aquitanian crown. He marched as far as [Limoges](#) before turning back.

Back home, Louis forged close ties with the nobles of the East Francia and became increasingly independent from his father. He engaged himself to the daughter of [Count Adalard](#) and, in 865, he and his brother Charles joined in rebellion against their father. This flirtation with revolt was brief, however, and Louis, Charles, and their father were reconciled later that year, though

the elder Louis was forced to make a division of the remainder of his territories between his two sons. Carloman had already been given the *subregulus* of [Bavaria](#) in 864, now Louis received [Saxony](#), [Thuringia](#), and [Franconia](#) and Charles [Alemannia](#) and [Rhaetia](#).

In 869, Louis married [Liutgard](#), daughter of [Liudolf, Duke of Eastphalia](#), at [Aschaffenburg](#). Luitgard was a strong-willed and politically ambitious woman and later on spurred her husband to pursue ambitious goals. This match increased dissension between father and son and in 871 and in 873, Louis rebelled, but each time he was reconciled.

## Rule in Saxony

Upon his father's death in 876, Louis fully inherited his subkingdoms, bearing the title *rex Francorum* ("king of the Franks"). Louis the Younger considered himself the true heir of Louis the German and as his father died in 876, Louis buried him in the abbey of [Lorsch](#), in his own territories, in order to emphasise his primacy to his brothers. Louis also retained his father's chief

advisor, [Luitbert](#), [Archbishop of Mainz](#). He and his brother ruled their kingdoms independently but cooperatively and never at war.

## Acquisition of Lotharingia and Bavaria

Louis's rule was immediately threatened by Charles the Bald, who tried to annex the eastern parts of [Lotharingia](#) and maybe even to achieve supremacy over his nephew. Louis brought war on Charles and, on 8 October 876 at [Andernach](#), he defeated the much larger host of West Francia with a significantly smaller army. The East Frankish army displayed superiority in both unity and tactics, and the young king had even dressed his soldiers in white garments so that they appeared as an army of dead spirits.

After this victory, Louis the German's three sons met in November at [Nördlingen](#) to discuss the division of their father's kingdom and to have their hosts swear allegiance. According to the plan drawn up in 865, which their father, despite all his sons' rebellions, had confirmed in 872, Carloman received Bavaria, Charles Swabia, and Louis Saxony, Franconia, and Thuringia. Throughout his reign, though he is always called "King of Saxony" by historians, he never visited Saxony proper, though it formed the bulk of his territory. At the end of 877, the brothers assembled again to discuss the administration of their half of Lotharingia. After Carloman relinquished his claim, the realm was divided between Louis and Charles, who again met in September 878 in [Alsacia](#). In 879, Carloman was incapacitated by a stroke and partitioned named Louis as his successor in Bavaria. Louis received it a year later when Carloman expired.

*A fourteenth-century depiction of the three sons of Louis the German — Carloman, Louis the Younger, and Charles — swearing an oath to him. Louis the German is here depicted as a French king, wearing the fleur-de-lis. In the [Grandes Chroniques de France](#)*



## Viking incursions

Since the summer of 879, [Vikings](#) had been increasing their attacks on the Frankish kingdom and occasionally penetrated deeply into the interior of the land. Louis's kingdom was the most hard-hit after that of West Francia. In February 880, Louis confronted and defeated a [Norse](#) host at the [Battle of Thimeon](#) (near modern [Charleroi](#)). His son Hugh, however, was killed in this battle. Louis also drove the Norse out of the royal palace of [Nijmegen](#), which they had occupied. In the same month, a Saxon host commanded by [Duke Bruno](#), the king's brother-in-law, suffered a heavy defeat near [Hamburg](#) and Bruno and many other Saxon nobles fell. However, as the example of the victory at Thimeon illustrates, no single military victory could stop the tide of Viking incursions.

Louis fell sick in 881 and died in [Frankfurt](#) on 20 January 882. He was buried beside his father in the abbey of Lorsch. By his wife Luitgard of Saxony, he had had a son called Louis (877–879), who died in a fall from a palace window, and a daughter called Hildegard (878–895). Louis had also fathered an illegitimate son, Hugh (855/60 – February 880), either with the daughter of

Adalard or with an earlier concubine. Since he left no heir, all his territories fell to his brother Charles.