

Ranulf II of Aquitaine

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Ranulf II (also spelled *Rannoux*, *Rannulf*, *Ramnulf*, and *Ranulph*) (850 – 5 August 890) was Count of Poitou from 866 and Duke of Aquitaine from 887. On the death of Charles the Fat in 888, he styled himself King of Aquitaine and did so until 889 or his death, after which the title fell into abeyance.

Ranulf was a son of Ranulf I and Bilichild of Maine. He married an Ermengard (died 935) and by her had a son, Ranulf III, who succeeded him in Poitiers. His illegitimate son Ebalus succeeded him in Aquitaine and, upon the death of Ranulf III, in Poitiers too.

Ranulf may have been selected as a king by the Aquitainian nobles, for they accepted King Odo of France in 892 only after Ranulf's death. Only the *Annales Fuldenses* definitively give him this title, saying "Ranulf then set himself up as king" (*Deinceps Rannolfus se regem haberi statuit*). He is recorded to have taken custody of Charles, the young son of Louis the Stammerer and he certainly did not recognise Odo as king. The *Annales Vedastes* record that in 889

Post nativitatem vero Domini cum paucis Francis Aquitaniam perrexit, ut eos sibi sociaret. Quo audito, Ramnulfus, dux maximae partis Aquitaniae, cum sibi faventibus venit ad eum, adducens secum Karolum puerum, filium Hludowici regis; et iuravit illi quae digna fuerunt, simul et de ipso puerulo. . . Aquitanos itaque rex ex parte receptos, festinavit propter Nortmannos redire in Franciam.

After Christmas [888], [Odo] went to Aquitaine with a few Franks, in order to be accepted [as king]. Upon hearing this, Ranulf, duke of the greater part of Aquitaine, with his supporters came to him, bringing with him the child, Charles, the son of King Louis; and he swore to him who was worthy of it [i.e., Odo], as did the boy. . . So the king returned from Aquitaine to France [in June] because of the Norsemen.

Ranulf founded the viscounty of Thouars at about that time, part of larger movement to create viscounts with powers over regional fortresses to man them against the Vikings.

See also

- Ramnulfids
- Dukes of Aquitaine family tree

Sources

- Lewis, Archibald Ross. *The Development of Southern French and Catalan Society, 718–1050* (<http://libro.uca.edu/lewis/index.htm>). University of Texas Press: Austin, 1965.
- MacLean, Simon. *Kingship and Politics in the Late Ninth Century: Charles the Fat and the end of the Carolingian Empire*. Cambridge University Press: 2003.

Ranulf II of Aquitaine	
Spouse(s)	Ermengard
Issue	Ranulf III
Ebalus	
Noble family	House of Poitiers
Father	Ranulf I
Mother	Bilichild of Maine
Born	850
Died	5 August 890

Ranulf II of Aquitaine Ramnulfid Dynasty Born: 850 Died: 5 August 890		
Regnal titles		
Vacant Title last held by Louis the Stammerer Previously ruled by Charles the Fat <i>as King of Western Francia</i>	King of Aquitaine 888–890	Vacant Title next held by Louis the Sluggard
Vacant Title last held by Waifer	Duke of Aquitaine 887–888	Succeeded by Ebalus
Preceded by Ranulph I	Count of Poitou 886–890	

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Ranulf_II_of_Aquitaine&oldid=574286039"

Categories: [House of Poitiers](#) | [Dukes of Aquitaine](#) | [Counts of Poitiers](#) | [Kings](#) | [850 births](#) | [890 deaths](#) | [Franks](#) | [Frankish people](#) | [French nobility stubs](#)

This page was last modified on 24 September 2013 at 06:31.

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.