

The Bishops of Treves: My Reconciled Analytical List

[A compilation by Marshall K. Kirk from 1998 or earlier]

D = Duchesne

EEC = *Episcoporum Ecclesiae Catholicae* (1873)

VDS = *Vies des Saints et Bienheureux*

RWM = Ralph Whitney Mathisen

GT = Gregory of Tours

OCD = Oxford Classical Dictionary

W = Wightman, *Roman Trier & the Treveri* (197-)

< = bef.; > = aft.; ~ = ca.

T = names pointing at Tours (Brictius, Lucontius, Volusianus)

C = names pointing at Clermont (Apollinares/Aviti /or other bishops of; 'Apollo' or 'light' names)

S = names pointing at Syria

L = names pointing at Lyons

R = names pointing at Rheims

I = names directly connected to fam. of 'Itta' Iduberga

C 1 EUCHERIUS

C 2 VALERIUS

These two are cited in a versified inscription (D) of the late Vth century -- not remotely contemp. If imaginary, names well-chosen: note attested connection of later Gallic Eucherii & Priscii Valeriani. Maternus is earliest Bp. of Treves attested by contemp. ev.; see was prob. founded not long before, at time of Diocletian's raising of Treves -- formerly of no great importance, on remote German frontier -- to high status as admin. capital of Prefecture of the Gauls, ~285, which it held 'til ~395. (Or 407.) In short: if real, E & V prob. date to 280s & 290s.

3 MATERNUS Had removed by 313/4 to a new see, Cologne.

Bishops prior to the official Xianization of the Empire are less likely, in most cases, to be genealogically connected to the aristocratic families which coopted their sees after Xianity acquired sanction & power. At Treves, this means that Maternus very likely doesn't 'count.'

S 4 AGROECIUS [St-13 Jan (EEC)] [D Agroecius, vars. Agritius, Agricius; EEC Agroetius, var. Agricius] [D ...314...; EEC ...314-332] Gk. (same meaning as 'Ruricius' & 'Rusticus.') First Gallic bp. of this name; a Syrian (per Vita {CS}). --Name recurs at Treves: ~410, Agricius was official of usurper Jovinus (at Treves); ~450/500, stone of spouses Agricia & Maurontius; ~500, stone of Agricius, s. of Febrarius & Calvola (?a child); VIth or VIIth cent., stone of siblings Agrecia & Pascontius. Suggests genealogical continuity of an explicitly Syrian element. As a Syrian, Agroecius was doubtless unrel. to his preds.; as bearers of Syrian names, Bps. Iamblichus & Himerius, *inf.*, were prob. desc. from Agroecius. That he *had* descs. follows from the rapid emergence of a 'mitred fam.' at Troyes & Sens whose nomenclature forces the conc. that a member of Agroecius' fam. (a dau.?) marr. a close rel. of St. Ambrose -- poss. his fa. (Cp. *fasti.*)

5 MAXIMINUS [St-29 May (D) or 12 Sep (EEC)] [D & EEC Maximinus] [D

...336-346...; EEC 332-349] Names in 'Maxim-' spring up in great numbers at time of Tetrarchy, appar. aft. Maximianus (Augustus 286-305/10) & Maximinus (Augustus -----). However, W (---) thought the emperor Maximianus might himself have been of Trier (no reason cited; other sources call him native of Sirmium, b. ~250). In any case, the name suggests a connection with Bp. Maximianus, *inf.* --Note that St. Athanasius was exiled at Treves during Maximinus' episcopacy -- quite likely Treves was frequently used in this cap. for dissidents from eastern end of Empire, both to separate them as far as poss. fr. co-conspirators and to keep them under an official eye ... that of the Praetorian Praefect of the Gauls. --Maximinus, *per* RWM n. 356, was of Aquitaine, like his succ., Paulinus; latter had to retrieve former's body aft. former went home on visit & d. there. Prob. *not* rel. to his preds., esp. the Syrian Agroecius.

6 PAULINUS [St-31 Aug (D & EEC)] [D & EEC Paulinus] [D ...347-358; EEC 349-358] Aristocrat of Aquitaine (RWM); prob. a Pontius (CS, *Rurice*). Prob. *not* rel. to Agroecius. --This is not to say, of course, that the *successors* of Maximinus & Paulinus were unrelated; Maximianus seems likely to have been so.

L 7 BONOSUS [St-7 Feb (EEC)] [D & EEC Bonosus] [D 353 or 8-<374; EEC 358-~373] Elderly priest of Treves, imprisoned, 353, for defending anti-Arianism of just-exiled Bp. Paulinus. Bonosus elected at exile or d. of latter (D). --Name uncommon, several times associated with name Rusticus, viz., *Rusticus*, aristocrat-Bp. of Narbo, 427-~461, s. of a Bp. (see unk.) *Bonosus*; *Rusticus* & *Bonosus*, buried in same Mainz churchyard at about same time; *Bonosa*, d. at Vienna ~525, where *Rustica* & *Rusticula*, sisters of *Sapaudus*, are also buried. Suggests genealogical connection of names Bonosus & Rusticus (? Sapaudus).

TR 8 BRICTIUS [St-5 May (EEC)] [D Britto, var. Bricto; EEC Brito] [D ...374-382/3...; EEC ~373-386] Clearly a nickname; can hardly be for anything other than the nearly extinct 'Brittius/Brictius.' (Equally clearly *not* Germanic -- considering appar. root, era/episcopal context.) Cp. BRICTIO (D; EEC Brictius; GT Bricius; pope Zosimus Britius), Bp. (& native) of Tours (397-443); these Brictii at Tours & Treves are only ones in Gallic *fasti* -- just as with the two Volusiani. Suggests a genealogical connection between the two names. Cp. also 'Britianus' (GT). --I had already postulated some connexion betw. Remigius of Rheims, great-grandfather of a Praetextus & Praetextata, & an early-IVth-cent. group of loosely connected Brittii/Praetextati of Rome, *via* the imperial official Remigius of Mainz. This rare name might be further ev. --*N.b.*, even so, the (?Celtic) name Britta or Britto which shows up twice in *CIL* 13.

9 FELIX [St-26 Mar (EEC)] [D & EEC Felix] [D 386 (Sulp. Sev., VMartini)-"la fin du IVe siecle;" EEC 386-~398 or ~400] Name prob. too common to require or suggest explanation(s). However, Agroecius did have a subaltern named Felix in 314.

I 9a SEVERINUS I Apparently GT cites a Bp. Severinus of Cologne ~397; Ven. Fort. cites what seems to be the same Bp., also ~397, but as of Treves; in either case removing to Bordeaux. *A priori*, departing Treves for greener pastures would, if feasible, have been highly desirable once the seat of the prefecture removed (~395 [RWM]) to Arles; and there are perh. some signs, also, of reshuffling of the bishoprics around Treves in that era, which might confuse accounts. --We have little basis for choice betw. the *données* of GT and those of Ven. Fort.; they were contemps., both Bps., and both capable of error. However, bad cheese stinks, no matter how thinly it's sliced: the *fasti* show no Severinus at Treves, but one at Cologne; and Felix is datable, tho' admittedly not exactly, up to 'the end of the century;' so I hold Severinus of Treves to be of doubtful reality.

10 MAURICIUS [D Mauricius; EEC Mauritius] [D no dates; EEC ~398 or ~400-~407] Note confused conjectures (only!) as to date of elev., which have some bearing upon whether Severinus, *sup.* (supposedly ~397), was Bp. of Treves or not. --This name *might* relate to Marus (var. Maurus), *inf.*, if he's not simply a doublet of Emer(i)us.

TC 11 LUCONTIUS [St-19 Feb (EEC)] [D Leontius {sic}, actual ms. readings Legontius, Legoncius, Legentius, Ligoncius; EEC Legontius] [D no dates; EEC ~407-446] D's reading is without ms. warrant; all actual spellings put a palatal (?glottal) between the 2 vowels. This name (in my op.) = pre-Roman royal Treverian 'L(O)UCOTIOS,' attested by coins of 1st cent. B.C. (W). Name also attested at Trier by stones of *Lycontia* and *Lycontius presbyter*, perh. ~400-500 (RWM); *n.b.* also, appar. rel. betw. Sidonius' close friends Volusianus (later Bp. of Tours) & 'Lucontius' -- which tends to tie our Bp. 'Legontius' to Bps. Volusianus & Briccius of Treves. (*N.b.*, may also have been the local god-epithet Romanized as "LEUCETIUS or LOUCETIUS[,] a 'surname' [*interpretatio Romana*] for Mars[,] found near Mainz and elsewhere, [which] comes from a root meaning 'light,' an attribute which might rather be expected for Jupiter or Apollo." [W, 208] [Was it Romanized also as the 'Leucadius' we see in GT's ancestry?]) --Cp. the contemp. Bp. 'Legontius' of nearby Metz, and 'Liconcius' of Lyons, both, again, erroneously 'corrected' by D to 'Leontius,' against all ms. readings. --The poss. connexion with 'Phoebicius,' *inf.*, is striking.)

SI 12 SEVERUS [St-15 Oct (EEC)] [D & EEC Severus] [D no dates; EEC ~446-~455] The name was fairly common, but became rapidly less so in Vth- and VIth-cent. Gaul. Note connexion with Severa, *inf.* --Disciple, > 426, of St. Lupus of Troyes (a see largely coopted, it appears -- along with nearby Sens -- by a fam. emerging from a marr. betw. the fams. of St. Agroecius, *sup.*, and Ambrosius, PPO at Trier ~340 and fa. of St. Ambrose, Uranius Satyrus, and Marcellina). --Companion of St. Germanus on his second trip to Britain, ~447 (D).

S 13 CYRILLUS [St-19 May (EEC)] [D Cyrillus, var. Quirillus; EEC Cyrillus] [D no dates; EEC ~455-~458] Unique in Gallic *fasti*, but not uncommon in Syria; well fits imm. context of successors Iamblichus & Himerius. --Attested, not long > the fact, by a late Vth-cent. inscription (D).

S 14 IAMBLICHUS [D Iamlychus, vars. Iamnecius, Lamnecius, Iamnerius, Iamnerus, Panerius; EEC Jamblicus, vars. Jamiricus, Himerius] [temp. Arbogastes, count of Treves, ~472? (But see *inf.* -- I assume I.'s dates as ~458-say 462)] His name -- as strange, it seems, to medieval scribes as to us -- is proven to be 'Iamlichus' by Auspicius of Toul's 'metrical letter' to Arbogastes, *comes Treverorum* (< ~480, attested {Sid.} ~472 or 5), which praises the count's bishop by name. --It doesn't follow fr. Sidonius' epistolary date-fix on Arbogastes & Iamblichus that Auspicius' letter was also written in ~472 or 5; and this is the sole basis upon which Iamblichus has been dated as *sup.* In fact, Arbogastes could have become Ct. of Treves long bef., and the v. tight bunching of the following Bps., even counting Marus as a doublet, almost demands that Arbogastes, & Auspicius' missive, be dated earlier. The d. of Marus (who, I assume, = [H]imerius) is dated by EEC to a specific day and month in "465?" --Extremely rare name; prob. all known bearers are members or descendants of Emesene royal family (1st cents. B.C. & A.D.), who notably bore name 'Ya-m'likh.' Prob. *not* the 'IAMLICHUS EPISCOPUS' bur. near Chalon-sur-Saone (CIL 13 #2601; index guesses "c. 479?," appar. on assumption this *is* the Bp. of Treves. But disordered Chalon episcopal list bears the name of a Bp. 'Amblacus,' undatable. Surely a rel. of I. of Treves; *n.b.* also Bp. Tranquillus at Chalon, also undatable, only instance of name in Gallic *fasti*, cp. late-3rd-cent. senator C. Lieurius Tranquillius Tocius Soaemus. --*N.b.* also 'Ampletius' at ----.

S 15 HIMERIUS [?St-16 Jan (EEC) ... assuming Himerius = Marus] [D Enemerus, vars. Emerus, Emer; EEC Evemerius, var. Emerius] [D & EEC no dates -- I assume say 462-~465] *N.b.*, again, that EEC gives *Himerius* as var. for *Iamblichus*, *sup.*, appar. due to, if not conjecture, some ms. line-inversion. There's v. little time betw. Iamb. & Volusianus, & no external attestations of *two* supposed intercalary bishops. I read the various

versions of the names of both of these as corruptions or doublets of a *single* bishop, 'Himerius,' appar. also inverted with Iamblichus in some ms. seen by the compilers of EEC. --Name extremely rare in Gaul (if other 'E(u)merii' are not in fact 'Himerii' -- one [of Saintes] explicitly stated by GT to be assumed name of one "Cymulus"). But note Sidonius' letter to a Sulpicius, *re*: S.'s s. Himerius, in holy orders, namesake of S.'s fa. Sidonius terms this H. *antistes*, which, for Sidonius, usually signifies 'bishop.' Though appar. quite young, this Himerius *may* = the Bp. of Treves; certainly, many Gallo-Roman Bps. were elevd. in equally early youth, if of 'mitred family.' (If so, date of Sidonius' letter becomes relevant, because it would nec. *antedate* his own episcopacy, by at least 5 years.) Sulpicius' fa. is other possibility; no other Himerii are definitely known in Gaul. --N.b., however, this name *actually appears at Treves as Hemerius*, in an inscription honoring 10 (retired?) members of the order of *haruspices* (W, 209; "of uncert. date," though presumably < 392 -- Theodosius' abolition of the order -- and prob. < say 325). -- Root appar. = Gk. 'hemer-,' 'day.' Another 'light' name?

15 a MARUS [St-26 Jan (EEC)] [D "Marus (Maris, Maurus?);" EEC Marus] [D no dates; EEC -"465?"] Probable doublet of 15. Note severe chronological constraints. *If* actually a discrete Bp., name (as 'Maurus') might indicate relationship to Mauricius, *sup.*, or (as 'Marus,' 'Maris') to Marius Artemius, *vic. Hisp.* (----), sometimes thought rel. of Artemius of Treves.

T 16 VOLUSIANUS [D Volusianus, om. in 1 ms. (of 8); EEC Volusianus] [D & EEC no dates -- I assume ~465-say 472] Rare name in lower Empire, extremely so outside Ceionii, Rome's 2nd greatest fam. One of 3 cases in Gaul: one other Bp. Volusianus (Tours, elevd. 491; closely related to 2 imm. preds. Eustochius & Perpetuus), one civilian Volusianus, suggested as s. of the Bp. of Tours. Treverian Bp. clearly related, esp. in light of further 'linking' names Brittius & Lucontius.

C 17 MILETUS [St-19 Sep] [D & EEC Miletus] [D & EEC no dates -- I assume say 472- say 479] Name is unique in Gallic *fasti*; almost, elsewhere. *Prima facie*, it's simply Gk. 'Miletos,' s. of *Apollo* & eponym of city in Asia Minor, conventional scene of (rather Rabelaisian) 'Milesian tales.' (OCD) This, like Phoebicius, *inf.*, shows poss. connexion to fam. of Sidonius, nicknamed 'Phoebus;' cp. also Lucontius, *sup.*, Modestus, *inf.* Also squares well with earlier descent from solar priest-kings of Emesa. (Relatively weak 2nd poss: 'Meletius,' another eastern-Empire name, but no suggestive spelling variants in mss.)

C 18 MODESTUS [St-24 Feb] [D & EEC Modestus] [D no dates; EEC --486 -- I assume say 479--486] Name is uncommon in late-Empire Gaul, but shared by Sidonius, Modesta, & poss. -- frontally -- Bp. Modoald, *inf.* Would have been of Sidonius' own gen., or the next.

19 MAXIMIANUS [D & EEC Maximianus] [D no dates; EEC --498 -- I assume ~486--498] Names in Maxim- are among most common of lower Empire. However, this one suggests relationship to Bp. Maximinus, *sup.*

C 20 PHOEBICIUS [?-5 Nov (EEC & VDS)] [D Fibicius, vars. Fabicius, Hibitius, Tibitius; EEC Felix (doubtless reading 'Felicus'); RWM Phoebicius] [EEC -511; VGoariz + PLRE on reign of Sigebert of Cologne suggests ---490, which isn't poss. -- I assume ~498--511] His name read by some scholars as Felicius or Fabricius; but all mss. give -bicius/-bitius [hard *c* & *t* interchangeable in these *fasti* -- many examples], never -bricius, still less -licius. (Initial P, F, H, T all, of course, easily misread for one another [H < Ph].) -- Very rare; no other Gallic Bps. of this name (though *n.b.* 'Phoebadius') -- but cp. IVth-cent. Gallic use as cognomen -- obv. meaningful -- of 'priest of Apollo' (appar. some Celtic [Druidic] divinity -

- ?Lug -- syncretized with Apollo) & his grands. (Ausonius states explicitly name given in honor of Apollo.) V. poss. another ref. to fam. of Apollinaris Sidonius (nicknamed "Phoebus"), or to the solar priest-kings of Emesa, cf. Iamblichus, *sup.* --Bp. Phoebicius was imm. pred. of Rusticus (VGoaris).

L 2 1 RUSTICUS [St-14 Oct (EEC)] [D & EEC Rusticus] [D & EEC no dates; VGoaris puts his elev. nr. access. of Sigebert of Cologne (~490 {PLRE2}), not poss. -- I assume ~511-say 519] Imm. succ. of Phoebicius *per* VGoaris, which gives him unsavory notice as fornicator & liar, sainthood notwithstanding. --Note poss. connexion to Bonosus, *sup.*, perh. Sapaudus.

C 2 2 APRUNCULUS [St-?22 Apr (EEC)] [D Aprunculus, var. Aponuculus &/or *precedes* Rusticus (line inversion); EEC Aprunculus] [D -526/7; EEC - 527 -- I assume say 519-~527] Imm. pred. of Nicetius (GT). Cp. Rusticus & Aprunculus, Vth-cent. Bps. of Clermont. Latter was immediate successor there to Sidonius, who, in GT's account, called him "my brother," sense uncert. (Did GT use "frater" or "germanus"?)

C 2 2 a GALLUS [~487-552] Unc. of GT. The people of Treves agitated for his election aft. Aprunculus, but were overruled by the king (GT VP 6:3). Perh. useful in assessing whole genealogical picture; points to Clermont, as do so many of these Bps.

CL 2 3 NICETIUS [St-5 Dec (EEC)] [D & EEC Nicetius] [D 526/7-"quelques anneés" >561; EEC 527-566 -- adopted here, w./~s] Imm. succ. to Aprunculus (GT). Given long tenure, surely b. not long bef. 500. Name appar. assoc. with fam. of Sidonius' mo., & strongly with name Rusticus, cp. Nicetius' 2nd pred. --Wealthy; had castle on Moselle (Ven. Fort., *Carm.*). Patron of St. Aredius (~511-591), who may have been grt.-gr.-s. of Ruricius of Limoges.

2 4 MAGNERIC [St-?25 Jul (EEC)] [D Magneric, var. Magnaric; EEC Magneric] [D ...585-587...; EEC -596 -- I assume ~566-596] First Germanic name in list. However, this is era when even patrilineal Gallo-Romans were beginning to use Germanic nomenclature; Fortunatus' poem to Magneric explicitly calls him a descendant (though necessarily patrilineal?) of Tetradius of Treves (seen ~385, "proconsularis vir," ?governor of [diocese of] Gaul, or prefect of the Gauls -- "proconsul" seems an anachronism, for the era -- perh. *sub Magno Maximo*), an imp. indicator of long-term genealogical continuity at Treves.

2 5 GUNDERIC [D Gunderic, var. Gonderic; EEC Gunderic, var. Gauderic] [D no dates; EEC --~600 -- I assume 596-~600] End-alliteration of his name with that of imm. pred. suggests (given patterns of Frankish nomenclature, & of episcopal inheritance), that Magneric & Gunderic were closely related. (Both frontal roots 'royal' among Franks.)

L 2 6 SAPAUDUS [St] [D & EEC Sabaudus] [D & EEC ...614...] Gallic Sapaudi were closely connected with Placidi >~500 [RWM; *n.b.* Sidonius' dau.-in-law & granddau., Placidinae; name Sapaudus also connected with Rustici by VIth cent., *v. sup.*, *sub* Bp. Bonosus.

I 2 6 a SEVERINUS II [(?St, ?mart, ?'blessed')-21 (VDS) or 22 (EEC) Dec] [D omits; EEC "Severinus?"] [D & EEC no dates] Cp. Severa, sis. of Modoald, *inf.*, & Bps. Severus & the equally disputed Severinus I, *sup.* --Severinus I & II may be same person, and/or not of Treves at all.

C 2 7 MODOALD [St-12 Jun] [D Modualdus, vars. Modowandus, Modoaldus; EEC

Modoaldus] [D ..627...; EEC 622-640] Name in typical Frankish 'two-piece' form (*Mod-wald), but frontal root looks Latin, cp. Modestus, *sup.*, Modesta (his niece). Cp. also Mummolen, Pappolen, Gallic aristocrats of same era, with typical Frankish end-root '-len' (cp. also Dagolen, Dragolen, *et mult. al.*), but, apparently, Latin frontal roots Mumm-, Papp- (cp. Mummia, Mummolus, Pappus, Pappolus). (One conciliar list fills his place with 'Anastasius;' prob. confusion, *not* additional name.) --Rare; only other example is a contemp. Gallic bishop at Langres; no indications of close rel. betw. two.