

= Theobald of Bec =

Theobald of Bec ( c . 1090 ? 18 April 1161 ) , sometimes known as Tedbald , was archbishop of Canterbury from 1139 to 1161 . He was a Norman ; his exact birth date is unknown . Some time in the late 11th or early 12th century Theobald became a monk at the Abbey of Bec , rising to the position of abbot in 1137 . King Stephen of England chose him to be Archbishop of Canterbury in 1138 . Canterbury 's claim to primacy over the Welsh ecclesiastics was resolved during Theobald 's term of office when Pope Eugene III decided in 1148 in Canterbury 's favour . Theobald faced challenges to his authority from a subordinate bishop , Henry of Blois , Bishop of Winchester and King Stephen 's younger brother , and his relationship with King Stephen was turbulent . On one occasion Stephen forbade him from attending a papal council , but Theobald defied the king , which resulted in the confiscation of his property and temporary exile . Theobald 's relations with his cathedral clergy and the monastic houses in his archdiocese were also difficult .

Serving during the disorders of Stephen 's reign , Theobald succeeded in forcing peace on the king by refusing to consecrate Stephen 's son and heir , Eustace . After Eustace 's death in 1153 , Stephen recognised his rival Henry of Anjou as his heir , and later Theobald was named regent of the kingdom after Stephen 's death . After a long illness , Theobald died in 1161 , following which unsuccessful efforts were made to have him canonised as a saint .

Theobald was the patron of his successor Thomas Becket , and a number of other future bishops and archbishops served as his clerks . During his time as archbishop Theobald augmented the rights of his see , or bishopric . Historians of his time and later were divided on his character and he is often overlooked in the historical record , mainly because of the fame of his successor .

= = Early life = =

= = = Family and background = = =

Theobald 's family was from the area around Thierville near Le Bec @-@ Hellouin , in the Risle River valley . The modern historian Frank Barlow speculates that Theobald may have been a distant relative of his successor as archbishop , Thomas Becket , as Becket 's family came from the same part of Normandy . The exact date of Theobald 's birth is unknown ; the only clue to his age is that when he died in 1161 contemporaries considered him an old man , suggesting a birth date of perhaps around 1090 to one modern historian . His father was supposedly a knight , but no contemporary reference gives his name . His brother Walter also became a priest , and later a bishop .

Theobald entered the Abbey of Bec in Normandy as a Benedictine monk in the late 11th or early 12th century , while William was the third abbot . But as William was abbot from 1096 to 1124 , that leaves a wide range of possible entry dates . Theobald was the 266th monk admitted under William , out of 346 . The historian Avrom Saltman suggests that , if admissions were spaced regularly throughout William 's abbacy , Theobald would have become a monk in about 1117 , but qualifies his estimate with the statement that 1117 " seems to be rather late " .

= = = Life at Bec = = =

In 1127 Theobald was made prior of Bec , after Boso succeeded William as abbot . Theobald became abbot in 1137 , following Boso 's death in June 1136 . The monks of Bec unanimously elected him to be their new abbot without first consulting the Archbishop of Rouen , Hugh de Boves , who consequently threatened to void the result . Audoen , the Bishop of Evreux , and brother of Thurstan , the Archbishop of York , intervened with Hugh and persuaded him to ratify the election . Another problem then arose when Hugh demanded a written profession of obedience from Theobald , which Theobald refused to provide ; no previous abbot had made such a profession . Theobald resisted for 14 months before a compromise was reached through the intercession of

Peter the Venerable , Abbot of Cluny , allowing Theobald to give a verbal profession to Hugh .

No documents survive from Theobald 's tenure as abbot , nor is there any information on the administration of the monastery during his period of office , except that 47 monks were admitted to Bec while he was abbot . Theobald travelled to England on business for his abbey at least once during his abbacy , to supervise the monastery 's lands in England , a trip that took place shortly before his selection as the new Archbishop of Canterbury in 1138 .

= = = Appointment to Canterbury = = =

In 1138 King Stephen chose Theobald to fill the vacant archbishopric of Canterbury over Stephen 's own brother Henry , the Bishop of Winchester , who had helped Stephen gain the throne of England . Stephen feared that Henry would be too powerful as archbishop , and would attempt to control the king . The election took place on 24 December ; Stephen was present with the papal legate , Alberic of Ostia , and a small group of barons and bishops , but Henry was absent overseeing the ordination of deacons . Most historians consider that Stephen arranged the election 's timing to ensure Henry 's absence . Henry believed that Theobald had been elected not only because of Stephen 's concerns but also because Waleran of Meulan , the lay patron of Bec , was attempting to put his own man in one of the most powerful positions in England . Waleran and his twin brother Robert , Earl of Leicester , were Henry 's chief rivals for Stephen 's favour , and Henry disliked both of them intensely . Although Theobald was pious and well @-@ educated , he had only become abbot the year before , and his election was probably influenced by the reputation of his monastery , which had already produced two archbishops of Canterbury , Lanfranc and Anselm . Theobald had no important family connections to advance his career , and few clerical allies .

= = Archbishop = =

= = = Early years = = =

Theobald was consecrated on 8 January 1139 by the legate , Alberic of Ostia . He went to Rome for his pallium and took part in the Second Lateran Council . As archbishop his behaviour was less political in comparison to that of his main rival , Henry of Blois . Henry was appointed a papal legate on 1 March 1139 , which meant that Henry could now call church councils in England and had power equal to or exceeding that of Theobald . Theobald swore fealty to Stephen upon his election to Canterbury , recognising Stephen as the king of England .

Soon after his election Theobald selected his brother Walter to be archdeacon of Canterbury , and in 1148 promoted him to be Bishop of Rochester . Theobald attended the council held by Stephen in June 1139 that deprived Roger of Salisbury , Bishop of Salisbury , and his nephews Nigel , Bishop of Ely , and Alexander , Bishop of Lincoln , of their castles . According to most historians , Theobald took little part in the controversy that followed the council , which eventually ended with Roger 's death in 1139 and Nigel and Alexander 's restoration to favour . Recently however , that view has been challenged by two historians who argue that Theobald took a more active role in the council . They base their view on a Vita , or Life of the 12th @-@ century mystic Christina of Markyate , which narrates the events and gives a more central role to Theobald , instead of Henry of Blois , in challenging Stephen 's arrest of the three bishops .

= = = Civil war = = =

Theobald 's actions in the next few years are intertwined with the history of Stephen 's ascension to the throne . Following King Henry I 's death in 1135 the succession was disputed between the king 's nephews ? Stephen and his elder brother , Theobald II , Count of Champagne ? and Henry 's surviving legitimate child Matilda , usually known as the Empress Matilda because of her first marriage to the German Emperor , Henry V. King Henry 's only legitimate son , William , had died in

1120 . After Matilda was widowed in 1125 , she returned to her father , who married her to Geoffrey , Count of Anjou . All the magnates of England and Normandy were required to declare fealty to Matilda as Henry 's heir , but when Henry I died , Stephen rushed to England and had himself crowned before either Theobald II or Matilda could react . The Norman barons accepted Stephen as Duke of Normandy , and Theobald II contented himself with his possessions in France . But Matilda was not resigned to the loss , and secured the support of the Scottish king , David , her maternal uncle , and in 1138 the support of her half @-@ brother , Robert , Earl of Gloucester , an illegitimate son of Henry I .

After the Battle of Lincoln in 1141 , with Stephen in captivity in Bristol , Theobald did not immediately join the Empress . He claimed that he needed to talk to Stephen before switching his oath of fealty . After consulting in person with Stephen , he secured permission to accept the current conditions , and then joined Henry of Blois , who had switched sides , at Winchester in April for a legatine council held to depose Stephen and crown Matilda as queen . Attendance at the council was sparse however , and the Empress could not be crowned because she did not hold London . After the unsuccessful attempt to crown Matilda , those gathered at Winchester had to flee before Stephen 's forces ; one of Matilda 's chief supporters , her half @-@ brother Robert of Gloucester , was captured . During their flight Theobald and his fellow bishops were robbed of their horses and ecclesiastical vestments . Theobald then took a leading part in the negotiations that led to the exchange of Robert for Stephen , which happened in November 1141 . Henry of Blois , having switched sides again , then held another legatine council in Westminster , which reaffirmed Stephen as king . Theobald ceremonially crowned Stephen at Canterbury during the Christmas court held there .

Matilda remained in England until 1148 . The disorders were at their peak between 1142 and 1148 , but her cause could never secure enough support to enable her to be crowned . Nor could Stephen decisively defeat Matilda 's forces , which meant that England remained divided in allegiance between the two rivals . But while Matilda was in England , her husband Geoffrey was conquering Normandy , which he finally overran in 1144 .

= = = Difficulties with Henry of Blois = = =

Theobald 's dealings with Henry of Blois , the Bishop of Winchester , his suffragan bishop , were strained because of Henry 's position as papal legate . Henry supported the appointment of William FitzHerbert as Archbishop of York in 1141 , which Theobald opposed . Although Theobald spoke out against the manner of election , he took little active part in the subsequent electoral disputes , which resulted eventually in the deposition of FitzHerbert and his replacement at York by Henry Murdac . But in September 1143 , Henry 's legatine powers lapsed when Pope Innocent II , who had made the legatine appointment , died . Celestine II was elected on 26 September 1143 , but he was an opponent of Stephen , and thus was not favourably inclined towards Stephen 's brother Henry either . To secure appointment as legate , Theobald travelled to Rome in December 1143 , arriving shortly before Celestine 's death on 8 March 1144 . Theobald was probably accompanied by Nigel , Bishop of Ely , and Roger de Clinton , Bishop of Coventry . Before his death , Celestine forbade Theobald " to allow any change to be made in the position of the English crown , since the transfer of it had been justly denounced , and the matter was still under dispute " . This became the papal policy , and was a significant change from the recognition of Stephen as king by Pope Innocent II soon after Stephen 's coronation in 1135 . It essentially forbade Theobald from crowning any successor to Stephen , especially while Stephen was still alive .

After Celestine 's death Theobald returned to England , stopping at St Denis Abbey in Paris to help Suger , the abbot , consecrate the newly rebuilt abbey church and its altars . Theobald was the only bishop present at the ceremony whose diocese was not in France . Meanwhile , Henry of Blois had arrived in Rome and begun negotiations with the new pope , Lucius II , over the elevation of the bishopric of Winchester to an archbishopric . It appears that Lucius appointed a legate , Cardinal Icmar , the Bishop of Tusculum , to travel to England and oversee the project , but Lucius died before anything was accomplished .

## == Disputes with Stephen ==

Theobald was back in Paris in May 1147 to meet with the new pope , Eugene III ; among the issues probably discussed was Theobald 's dispute with Bernard of St David 's . Relations at this time between Theobald and Stephen seem to have been good , but when Eugene summoned the English bishops to the Council of Rheims in April 1148 the king forbade all of them from attending except for three he nominated : Chichester , Hereford and Norwich . Despite having been specifically refused permission Theobald sneaked away in a fishing boat , presumably accompanied by Gilbert Foliot , who attended the council with him . Theobald had a number of reasons for defying the king : chiefly his obedience to the pope 's order commanding his attendance , but also to keep the papacy from favouring the newly elected Archbishop of York , Henry Murdac , in the disputes between York and Canterbury . Murdac was known to be close to his fellow Cistercian Eugene .

Bethune , the Bishop of Hereford , died during the council , and Eugene nominated Foliot as his successor at Theobald 's urging . One of the council 's last acts was to suspend the non @-@ attending bishops from their offices . The only English bishop specifically named was Henry of Blois , but the others who did not attend were presumably also suspended although not named . Henry of Blois was singled out for special handling , as the papacy ordered that he could not be reinstated by Theobald ; Eugene reserved to himself the power to restore Henry . Theobald appears to have reinstated most of the bishops quickly , as Foliot wrote later in 1148 that only the bishops of Winchester , Durham , Worcester , Bath and Exeter were still suspended . Theobald forgave the bishops of Exeter , Worcester and Bath on 11 November 1148 , according to the later chronicler Gervase of Canterbury . Gervase also lists Hilary of Chichester as one of those forgiven by Theobald on that date , but as Hilary attended the council it is likely that this is an error . Durham may have been omitted because he was a suffragan bishop of the Archbishop of York , and his reinstatement was in his archbishop 's hands .

The king was angry with Theobald for attending the council , even though the archbishop intervened with Eugene , who was displeased with the king for forbidding the bishops ' attendance . Theobald persuaded Eugene against excommunicating Stephen , asking the pope to allow the king to make amends for his behaviour . But Stephen was unimpressed with Theobald 's intercession ; he confiscated Theobald 's property and banished the archbishop . In September 1148 , the pope put England under interdict , which was ignored except in Canterbury . At first Theobald was in exile at St Omer , where he consecrated Gilbert Foliot as Bishop of Hereford . He then returned to England and set himself up in Framlingham , which was held by Hugh Bigod , an adherent of the Empress . From there he conducted the ecclesiastical business of England , but Theobald 's presence in the country posed a threat to Stephen 's authority , and Stephen quickly settled the differences between the two .

Henry of Blois had lost his legateship before Celestine became pope , but it was not until about 1150 that Theobald was appointed legate by Eugene III , perhaps owing to the exhortations of Bernard of Clairvaux . Theobald held the legatine powers in England until his death in 1161 . In 1151 Theobald held a legatine council in London . The council was attended by the king and Eustace , the king 's eldest son , as well as other members of the nobility . The council decreed eight canons , or ecclesiastical statutes , including ones condemning the pillaging of church properties and the imposition of financial levies on the clergy . Another canon of the council stated that bishops should no longer pursue violators of church property in the royal courts , but should use ecclesiastical courts instead . The other canons dealt with procedural matters arising from excommunications for abusing church property .

The next year , the archbishop refused to crown Eustace and was again exiled by Stephen , who was attempting to secure the succession for his son by imitating the Capetian dynasty of France , which usually saw the king 's heir crowned during his father 's lifetime . Although Theobald claimed papal authority for refusal , based on the prohibition by Celestine , it was more probable that he and the bishops had no desire to prolong the civil war . Stephen demanded in April 1152 that Theobald crown Eustace , but the archbishop once again refused , and went into exile in Flanders . Theobald

claimed that Stephen had gained the throne through perjury , implying that if the archbishop crowned Eustace , Theobald would be perpetuating this crime . The king and the archbishop reached a truce in August .

In January 1153 Henry of Anjou , Matilda 's son , invaded England in pursuit of his claim to the throne , and with the death of Eustace in August 1153 , Stephen gave up . Theobald was instrumental in the negotiations between Henry and Stephen that resulted in the Treaty of Wallingford , securing Henry 's succession to the throne . Theobald was also present when Henry of Anjou met with Stephen 's second son William , probably after Eustace 's death , to settle William 's lands and status after Henry succeeded Stephen . Pope Eugene III forced Stephen to reverse the sentence of banishment , and Theobald returned to his see . Later it was mainly Theobald and Henry of Blois who negotiated the treaty ending the civil war , as neither Stephen nor Henry of Anjou was interested in a compromise . Henry of Blois and Theobald , who had previously found working together difficult , managed to secure an end to the disorders in England .

= = = Under Henry II = = =

Theobald was present at Stephen 's deathbed in October 1154 , and Stephen named him as regent until Henry could take up the crown . During the six weeks before Henry arrived , the archbishop had little difficulty in keeping the peace . After Henry 's arrival , Theobald crowned Henry and his wife Eleanor of Aquitaine on 19 December 1154 at Westminster Abbey .

For most of the remainder of Theobald 's life he was occupied with ecclesiastical affairs in his diocese , as well as attending the royal court when Henry was in England . In January 1155 Theobald helped to secure the Chancellorship for his protégé , Thomas Becket , an action that Barlow speculates happened because Theobald hoped to secure more influence with the king through Becket . If this was his hope , Barlow notes that it did not materialise . Although the king and the archbishop occasionally clashed when their interests conflicted , both appear to have wished to minimise the disputes and were willing to compromise to secure good relations . As an example , when Pope Adrian IV died in September 1159 , two rival claimants for the papal throne emerged . King Henry , following the custom of his grandfather Henry I , forbade the bishops from recognising either claimant . Eventually , after Henry weighed the political factors , he recognised Pope Alexander III , and it was only then that Theobald also recognised Alexander as pope .

However , not everything was always harmonious between the king and the archbishop . In 1156 , Theobald supported the efforts of Osbert de Bayeux , who was accused of poisoning William the Archbishop of York , to secure a trial for his alleged crimes in an ecclesiastical court rather than in the royal court . The crime had taken place during Stephen 's reign , but Stephen 's death had prevented Osbert from being tried in 1154 . The delay allowed the shifting of the trial to the church courts , which Henry opposed . Although Theobald 's position displeased the king no open rupture ensued . Theobald himself admitted to the papacy in 1154 that English custom was to try clergy for crimes in the secular courts .

Theobald called a church council at London in June 1160 , which dealt partly with the issues of the papal schism ; his health was poor and he had to be taken to the council in a litter . A further cause of distress to Theobald was what he saw as the ingratitude of Becket , who did not visit the ailing archbishop .

= = = Relations with his cathedral clergy = = =

Theobald 's cathedral chapter was composed of monks , and he was considered the abbot of the monastery of Christ Church Cathedral . Because of his episcopal duties , the regular running of the cathedral was the responsibility of the prior . At the time of Theobald 's election there were about 140 monks in the chapter , and they seem to have expected that Theobald , being a monk himself , would take their side in disputes and continue to support their needs . Theobald began well , sending a party of monks from the cathedral to St Martin 's Priory at Dover , which had been settled with canons instead of monks . Theobald replaced the canons with the monks . Theobald also

refounded a collegiate church at South Malling near Lewes to provide benefices for his cathedral chapter .

Theobald worked with his first prior , Jeremiah , to eliminate clerical marriage in the diocese . But Jeremiah had been elected during the vacancy before Theobald 's election , and the monks had not secured papal permission for the election of a new prior , so eventually Theobald decided to remove Jeremiah and install his own choice as prior . Jeremiah appealed to the papacy , but Theobald deposed him while the appeal was ongoing , and appointed Walter Durdent as prior . Innocent II , however , appointed Henry of Blois to hear the case , and Henry sided with Jeremiah and ordered Jeremiah 's reinstatement . Theobald then refused to perform any services in the cathedral until Jeremiah was removed by the chapter . The lack of services would have deprived the monks of income , and Theobald 's threat had the desired effect , as Jeremiah resigned his office and left Christ Church for St Augustine 's Abbey , Canterbury . Durdent was reinstalled as prior and remained in that position until he became Bishop of Coventry in October 1149 .

At Easter , 1151 , Theobald took over the management of the chapter 's estates , as the new prior , Walter Parvus , was not up to the task . At first , there were no disputes , but soon the monks felt that Theobald was cheating them and imposing too rigorous a definition of poverty , and asked that the stewardship of the estates be restored to Parvus . Theobald refused and the monks attempted to appeal to the papacy . Their envoys , however , were caught by agents of the archbishop and the appeal went nowhere . Theobald then deposed Parvus and appointed a new prior . Theobald 's relations with the monks after this point seem to have been without incident .

= = = Relations with other monastic houses = = =

Theobald also had a dispute with St Augustine 's Abbey over the right of the archbishop to receive annual payments , and whether those payments were for sacraments performed by the archbishop , which would have been uncanonical , or were for other reasons . The dispute was eventually settled by a compromise in which St Augustine 's continued to make the payments but they were specifically stated not to be for sacraments . Another dispute with St Augustine 's concerned the right of the archbishops to have a say in the election of new abbots and whether or not the abbots would make a profession of obedience to the archbishops . This was eventually settled by a papal mandate of 1144 instructing the abbots to profess obedience .

The conflict re @-@ surfaced in 1149 , when some of the monks of St Augustine 's , led by their prior and sacrist , refused to obey the interdict placed on England by Theobald and Pope Eugene III . Theobald had the two officials excommunicated and publicly flogged . When the previous abbot of St Augustine 's died in 1151 , the prior , Silvester , paid the king for the right to administer the abbey and to hold a free election for a new abbot . The monks then proceeded to elect Silvester as the new abbot , but Theobald refused to confirm the election , accusing Silvester of buying the office . Eventually , however , Pope Eugene III ordered Theobald to allow Silvester to take up the office , which Theobald did in August 1152 . Theobald and St Augustine 's also came into conflict over the abbey 's claims of exemption from the archbishops ' oversight , because it owed obedience directly to the pope . Papal documents held at Rome backed the abbey , but there were no English royal charters that gave the abbey its liberty from the archbishops . Theobald attempted to end the confusion by legal actions both at Rome and in England , but the record was mixed . The documents at Rome clearly favoured the abbey , but at a royal council held at Northampton in 1157 , Henry II ruled in favour of Theobald . As part of the settlement Silvester , as abbot , was required to make a formal profession of obedience to Theobald , something he had been attempting to avoid since his election . The struggle with Silvester was just one event in the long history of the dispute between Canterbury and St Augustine 's .

As well as St Augustine 's , the abbots of a number of other monasteries in the diocese of Canterbury are known to have professed obedience to Theobald , as the documents recording the events survive . Not only abbots and priors from within Canterbury , but some from other dioceses swore to obey Theobald , although normally such oaths would have gone to their diocesan bishop instead . Most of these exceptions occurred because the monastic house claimed exemption from

the oversight of their diocesan bishop , and had a tradition of making those oaths to Canterbury instead . Besides these events , Theobald also intervened in the elections of some abbots , although not always successfully . He attempted to secure the right of Gilbert Foliot to remain Abbot of Gloucester after Foliot 's election as Bishop of Hereford , but a new abbot was elected by the monks of Gloucester . Theobald was more successful in securing the election of William , who had previously been a monk at Christ Church , to be Abbot of Evesham over the objections of some of the monks of Evesham .

Theobald also became embroiled in the dispute between Hilary , the Bishop of Chichester , and Walter de Lucy , the abbot of Battle Abbey , over Hilary 's claims to jurisdiction over the abbey and the abbey 's counter @-@ claims that it was exempt from episcopal supervision . The abbey had never received a papal exemption , but relied instead on its royal foundation by King William I of England and its status as an *eigenkirche* , or proprietary church of the king . Under King Stephen , the abbey 's claims prevailed , but after Stephen 's death Hilary excommunicated the abbot , who appealed to the papacy . Theobald supported the bishop , who eventually secured a trial before King Henry II . It was a minor setback for Theobald when the case was eventually decided in Battle 's favour , mainly on the basis of charters that were thought at the time to be genuine , but modern historians have come to believe were forged .

= = = Relations with other bishops = = =

Theobald was instrumental in securing the subordination of the Welsh bishoprics to Canterbury . His first act in this area was the consecration of Meurig as Bishop of Bangor in 1140 , during which Meurig made a profession of obedience like those made by other bishops subject to Canterbury . Bernard , Bishop of St David 's , contested Theobald 's right to consecrate Meurig and instead asserted that St David 's should be considered an archbishopric , and that Bernard should receive a pallium . This went against the last half @-@ century of precedent that Canterbury had jurisdiction over the four Welsh sees , a precedent that dated back to Anselm 's days when Anselm had consecrated Urban as Bishop of Llandaff in 1107 .

Also in 1140 , Theobald consecrated Uhtred as Bishop of Llandaff , with Uhtred also swearing to obey Theobald . Likewise , when Theobald consecrated Gilbert as Bishop of St Asaph in 1142 , a similar profession of obedience was made . Along with these consecrations , Theobald 's legal efforts enabled him to withstand the attempts of Bernard to turn St David 's into an archbishopric , and when Bernard was succeeded by David fitzGerald in 1148 , Theobald secured the new bishop 's profession of obedience to Canterbury , thus ending the efforts to remove Wales from Canterbury 's jurisdiction . Also in 1148 , Pope Eugene decided in favour of Canterbury and against the claims of St David 's , securing Canterbury 's jurisdiction over Wales .

Theobald even maintained the theoretical claim of Canterbury to jurisdiction over Irish sees by consecrating Patrick as Bishop of Limerick in 1140 . That , however , was the last assertion of the claim , as in 1152 the papal legate Giovanni Paparo reorganised the Irish dioceses and settled the issue by appointing the Archbishop of Armagh the primate of Ireland .

Relations with bishops in England remained good , with little activity in the long @-@ running Canterbury ? York dispute over the primacy of Britain . Theobald obtained a vague confirmation of his see 's primacy from Celestine II in 1143 ? 1144 , but at the Council of Reims in 1148 Eugene clarified that this primacy did not affect the claims of York to be independent of Canterbury . Because of the unsettled election disputes during the 1140s over the see of York , when it was contested between William of York and Henry Murdac , Theobald faced little challenge from either William or Murdac as to the traditional dispute between Canterbury and York . When William of York died in 1154 , Theobald secured York for his protégé , Roger de Pont L 'Evêque . Further peace between the two sees was ensured when Theobald consecrated Roger without requiring a profession of obedience , which had previously been a major bone of contention between the two .

= = = Patronage and household = = =

Theobald 's household included many young men of ability , including his successor Thomas Becket . Theobald was instrumental in the early spread of Roman law to England , inviting the Bologna @-@ schooled jurist Vacarius to join his administration and advise on legal matters . Whether Vacarius actually started a school in Theobald 's household is unclear , but in the 1140s he taught briefly at Oxford . Theobald was instrumental in fostering the teaching of canon law in England ; the conflict that later arose between Henry II and Thomas Becket had its roots in disputes that were exposed during Theobald 's time in office . While still in Normandy , Theobald had made an intense study of ecclesiastical or canon law , which he continued after being elected archbishop .

Although Theobald was a monk , his episcopal household was not monastic in character . As he settled into the role of archbishop , he seems to have left most of his monastic habits behind , although he continued to have a monk as a companion . His nephews and brother benefited from his nepotism , with his nephews becoming part of his household early in his archepiscopate . The four nephews ? Guillaume , Gilbert , Roger and Lechard ? were witnesses to a charter of Theobald 's dated to about 1150 or 1153 . After Theobald 's death , Guillaume was a clerk in Bartholomew , the Bishop of Exeter 's household in around 1172 .

Another charter of Theobald 's from about 1152 shows the usual household staff that surrounded him . It was witnessed by the archbishop 's crossbearer , three of Theobald 's nephews and the clerk who presumably was in charge of them , a chancellor , two chaplains who were monks , a butler , dispenser , chamberlain , steward , cook , usher , porter and marshal . Theobald also at about the same time granted a mill to his baker named William and some lands to his cook William and the cook 's heirs .

Theobald was the patron of three eminent men : Becket , Vacarius , and John of Salisbury . John of Salisbury was secretary to Theobald for many years , and after Theobald 's death became Bishop of Chartres . It was during John 's time as secretary that he wrote his two most famous works , the Policraticus and the Metalogicon . Others who studied for a time in Theobald 's household were Roger de Pont L 'Evêque , later Archbishop of York , John Belemis , later Archbishop of Lyons , John de Pageham , later Bishop of Worcester , Bartholomew Iscanus , later Bishop of Exeter , William of Northall , later Bishop of Worcester , and William de Vere , later Bishop of Hereford . In all , his household produced three archbishops and six bishops . The household itself , although not formally a school , acted as one , with many going on to careers in the church .

= = Death and legacy = =

Theobald died on 18 April 1161 , after a long illness , at his palace in Canterbury . He was buried in Canterbury Cathedral , in the Holy Trinity Chapel , near the tomb of Archbishop Lanfranc . His coffin was opened in 1190 during repairs to the cathedral and his body was found to be uncorrupted , but efforts to secure his canonisation as a saint on the basis of that evidence were unsuccessful . He was reburied in the nave near the altar to St Mary , with his old marble tomb replaced above his new resting place . In 1787 his lead coffin was found in Canterbury .

Although Theobald was troubled by the opposition of his suffragan Henry of Blois , he regained control of the English Church , secured the rights of his see , and helped maintain the unity of the realm . Contemporaries were somewhat divided on his effectiveness and personality . Gervase of Canterbury felt that he was too impetuous , probably because of Theobald 's treatment of his priors at Christ Church . Henry of Huntingdon , who knew him , felt that he was a worthy archbishop . Theobald 's legacy perhaps suffered because he was overshadowed by his successor , Becket . Modern historians have been kinder than his contemporaries ; Frank Barlow says of Theobald that he was " an upright man , but quick tempered , and sometimes spoke far too rashly " .