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Stefanandro of Vimercate

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Stefanardo da Vimercate [Stephanus de Mediolano]

Stefanardo da Vimercate [Stephanus de Mediolano] ca 1230(?) - 1298. Town chronicler and Dominican lecturer of Theology.

Born in Milan to a noble family, he entered as a Dominican friar in the Milanese convent of St. Eustorgio in 1251, where subsequently became Prior in 1290-1292. In 1289 he was appointed as a Lecturer of Theology in Milan, and in 1295 he was named as the first Professor of Theology of the Maior Ecclesia Mediolani, a position instituted by his great friend, the Archbishop of Milan Ottone Visconti, in his will. His Latin *Liber de gestis in civitate Mediolanensi* (Book of deeds of the city of Milan), composed in Milan in 1277, covers the period 1259-1277 and constitutes the main historical source for the events that led the Visconti family to gain power against the Torriani. The chronicle celebrates Ottone Visconti as a hero fighting for freedom of country and religion. The two-volume poem, divided into paragraphs, is written according to the tradition of Italian epic in Latin verse. Its first and second editions (respectively, 1713 and 1726), both by Muratori, are copied from the only existing MS (cod. Ambrosiano 0.161 sup.). Stefanardo also composed an elegy, *De controversia hominis et fortune*, two theological summae, and other philosophical works now lost.

Text: L. MURATORI, *Anecdota*, III, 1713. L. MURATORI, *Rerum Ital. Script.*, IX, 1726. Lit: G. CALLIGARIS, "Per una nuova edizione del 'Liber de gestis in civitate Mediolani' di fra Stefanardo da Vimercate." in: *Archivio Storico Lombardo*, Serie 3, Vol. 18, Fasc. 35, 1902, p. 5 ss. G. CREMASCHI, *Stefanardo da Vimercate*, 1950.

1. 13th century, 2. Italian, 3. Italy (North), 4. town chronicles, 5. verse.