

Deposition of Mr. Roberto de Ricci on the proofs of Knight of Malta Guglielmo Guadagni

Articolo primo

Dei questionarie di Mr. Roberto de Ricci sopra le prove
del cavalier Guglielmo Guadagni della religione di
malta tradotte dal francese fidelm, duna copia autentica

Nobile Roberto de Ricci gentiluomo fiorentino nato nel d
Lione di età di ^{anni} sessanta prodotto p testimonio, il quale dopo
haver giurato di dir la verità sopra ogni cheli caratter d'ona
dati per tale glia d' commessione, et que non gli habbia proposto
Cosa se conosce il d' Guglielmo de Guadagni a egli è nato di legittimo ma-
trimonio et unito di stato civile nobilito tanto dal lato paterno che materno
non suo avolo avendo stato chiamato del bando et ultimo bando
della guerra) a egli è di età di di legittimo tanto anco che
non ha fatto alcuna promessa di matrimonio o altro di
alcuna religione o obbligo di alcuna somma di danari a egli è della
religion cattolica apostolica et Romana ha detto et dispone che
è persona molto bene il d' Guglielmo de Guadagni il quale è nobilito
univoco nobilito di legittimo matrimonio di mem. d' onore
de Guadagni legit. di Felinando Charles Champagne Briaglio
cavalier del ordine del Re gentiluomo ordinario della sua camera
et di Donna H. Licia di Maronay della casa de Montaray in
tante il d' Guglielmo è nato nella parrocchia di Saray, regente al
d' Briaglio suo cas. di Chavramont nella fine del presentato governo
è stato battuto sopra le font. di battesimo della d' parrochia
che gli è stato d' intero dei suoi membri per le armi
et che mai a avuto dire che gli habbia fatto alcuna promessa
de marriage ni altro di religione ne maris che è di un obbligo
patrimoniale somma di danari, et che egli è di età di decassette anni
et buon cattolico, et è sempre stato instruito d' alleato nella reli-
gion cattolica apostolica et Romana. Domandato se egli ha
conosciuto il padre et madre del d' sign. Romeo Guadagni
avolo et avola del d' Guglielmo disse che si et che il sign. Romeo
è figlio di nato in legittimo matrimonio della ba mem. del sign. Romeo
de Guadagni unito sua maordomo della ba mem. del Re France
prima di gp. nome et di damigella Loretta de berk.

Deposition of Mr. Roberto de Ricci on the proofs of Knight of Malta Guglielmo Guadagni faithfully translated from French from an authentic copy by Noble Roberto de' Ricci, Florentine gentleman, historian in the District of Lyon, from somebody who has been more or less sixty years producing testimonies, who, after having sworn to tell the truth on what the Commission would ask him and that we have suggested them concerning if he knows Guglielmo di Guadagni, if he is born from a legitimate marriage of people from noble families both from his father and from his mother's side, if his grandfather and grandmother were called from the banishment and last banishment of the war and if he is old enough to carry weapons, and if he did not promise to marry anyone or to join any Religious Order, doesn't owe anybody any amount of money and that he is of the Catholic Apostolic Roman Religion, he said and disposes he moves very well and that Guglielmo de Guadagne is noble as he is the noble son born from the legitimate marriage of Sir Tommaso Guadagni, Lord of Beauregard, Charly, Champroux and Briailles,



Remains of the Castle of Beauregard



Castle of Briailles

Knight of the Order of the King, ordinary gentleman of his room, and of Dame Hilaire de Marconnay de la Maison de Montaray dans le Bourbonnais and that Guglielmo was born in the Parish of Paray Briailles of the Diocesis of Clairemont in the Priory of Jouvergne and that he was held for Baptism in the Parish, that he is healthy and has all his body parts and that he is able to go to war and that we

have never heard that he promised to marry anybody or that he has done any Religious Vows, that he does not owe any money and is seventeen years old and good Catholic, and that he has always been instructed and raised in the Catholic Apostolic and Roman Religion. Asked if he knew the parents of Sir Tommaso Guadagni, grandfather and grandmother of Guglielmo, he said he did and that Tommaso was born from the legitimate marriage of the family of Noble Tommaso de Guadagni, majordome of King Francesco I first of his name and of Damsel Peronette de Berty.



King Francesco (“Francis”) I of France (his daughter-in-law was our cousin Caterina de’Medici)

la quale era usata di casa et famiglia nobile della città di
 Firenze nel qual luogo di Firenze la casa de Guadagni
 et Berti sono sempre state tenute et reputate nobile de lo lungo
 tempo che n'è memoria in ordine. Tommaso di celi ha
 conosciuto il padre delo signor Roman Casacola del d'ist' Guglielmo
 de Guadagni ha detto che n'è bene ha inteso dire che egli era
 fratello usato di legittimo matrimonio di Nobile Niccolò de
 Guadagni et di Damigella Orto de Giovanni et proprio tenute
 et reputate d'antichità et nobile usate de nobilitate nel d'ist' Firenze
 prima depondate negli ha conosciuto el padre et madre di lei
 Damigella Peronetta de Berti dice che n'è ma che egli ha non
 potuto dire che ella era figliola nata in legittimo matrimonio
 di suo Guglielmo de Berti et di Damigella Guisaria de Grandepollino
 cose prossime et reputate et la nobile nel d'ist' Firenze
 et de n'lungo tempo che n'è memoria in ordine di più dice
 de depondate che la casa de d' Guadagni è stata sempre occupata
 nelle più grande et importanti cariche de la Repub' de Firenze
 come ha de boniori de supremi magistrati del d'ist' de molte volte
 et in altre cariche delle più degne. Dice ancora che c'è un
 cavaliere della lingua d'italiana del med' nome et nome del d'
 Guglielmo de Guadagni. Sono stati ancora editti sign' de Guadagni
 in piegati in belli et honorati cariche tra gli altri maestri in
 Guglielmo de Guadagni suo patrono del d'ist' Guglielmo il quale
 è di presente cavaliere de l'ordine del Re ed ingleser. nel suo
 indulto de stato l'incisivo della città de Lione et l'ora
 l'ordinato de guerra n'è nella d'ist' provincia in abito de
 monsignor de mandolotto capo de un'orda di uomini in
 nome sign' et Baro de Bulghon verdu tanto vittorio
 la cost' May. Perizien. Minibel et nel ha detto più
 sotto scritto.

Roberto de' Ricci
 il med' dice Leonardo Poddy
 il med' dice Raffaello Bartoli
 il med' dice Giovanni delandij

She came from a noble house and family from the City of Florence, in which City of Florence the Families of the Guadagni and of the Berti have always been considered noble for a long time and nobody remembers anything different. When asked if he knew the father of Tommaso, great-grandfather of

Guglielmo de Guadagni, he answered that he did not know him well but that he heard it said that he was the son born from a legitimate marriage of noble Olivier de Guadagni and of Damsel Oretta de Giovanni who is considered and known as from ancient and noble union from very noble parents in Florence and when further asked if he knew the father and the mother of Damsel Peronetta de Berti he answered negatively but that he had always heard it said she was the daughter born from a legitimate marriage of Mr. Guglielmo de Berti and Damsel Giorgia de Gianfigliazzi



Gianfigliazzi Palace along the Arno River in Florence (It was bought and lived in by our great-aunt Aurora Guadagni and her husband Baron Adriano Van der Linden d'Hoogvorst).

both families esteemed and considered noble in Florence for a long time that nobody remembers differently; furthermore the people tell that the Guadagni Family has always been employed in the highest and most important charges of the Republic of Florence like Gonfaloniers of Justice, Supreme Magistrates of Florence and many other of the most worthy charges.



Gonfalonier of Justice (Piero Soderini 1450-1522) by Rodolfo Ghirlandaio, 1502. He is the grandson of Vieri Guadagni's (1369-1426) brother-in-law, Francesco Tornabuoni (+1436).

It also says that of a knight of the Italian language of the same name and family crest of Guglielmo Guadagni have been also said deeds done by the Guadagni employed in beautiful and honorable charges among others done by Guglielmo Guadagni paternal uncle of the above Guglielmo, who is presently Knight of the Order of the King and Counselor of the State Council and Seneschal of the City of Lyon and Lieutenant in the same Province and Monsignor of Mandelot, chief of a guard of men in Boutheon, on Good Friday he won a victory at Miribel , confirmed by Roberto Gerini (?)

The same is said by Lionardo Strozzi



Niccolo' son of Lionardo Strozzi by sculptor Mino da Fiesole

“ “ “ “ “ Raffaello Bartoli
“ “ “ “ “ Giovanni Orlandini.

Articolo primo

Se la casa e famiglia de Guadagni e nobile e delle piu antiche della citta di Firenze e se tale e stata da tempo tenuto et reputato

De che la detta casa sia et e tenuta e trattata famiglia nobile e delle nobili di questa citta e così comunemente e conosciuta e reputata da tutti le nobili e gentiluomini di Firenze e da chiunq di quelle ha tenuto et ha notizia

Art. 2^o

Se il detto nome de Guadagni e stato tenuto et reputato et se tale e stata da tempo tenuto et reputato e se tale e stata da tempo tenuto et reputato

De che il detto nome de Guadagni e presente et per il passato da lungo tempo et che non e memoria in cosa alcuna che stato et tenuto et reputato et conosciuta e reputata da tutti le nobili e gentiluomini di Firenze e da chiunq di quelle ha tenuto et ha notizia

1st Article:

If the House and family of the Guadagni is noble and one of the most ancient of the City of Florence and if it is and has been considered and esteemed as such by everybody.

The answer obtained is that said family was and is considered, upheld and treated as a noble family and one of the most noble of this City, and as such it is commonly considered and upheld by all the nobles, and Gentlemen of Florence and from everybody of that city we have heard and obtained similar information.

2nd Article:

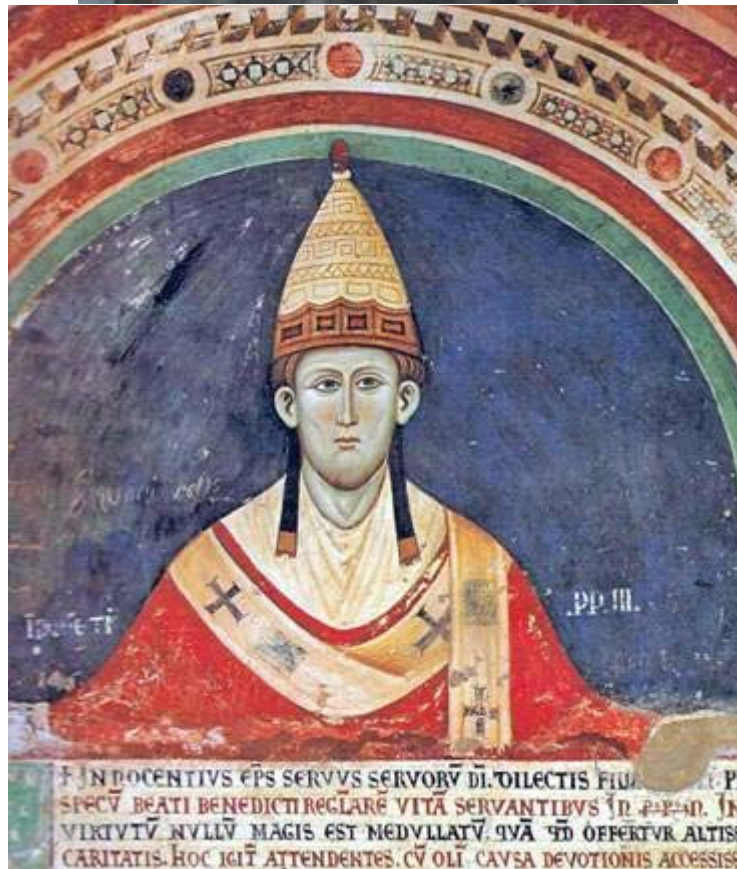
If the members of the Guadagni Family have been, were and are able to have all the dignities, honors and prominent positions in the City of Florence and have been, were and are able to marry the other families, and ancient and noble Houses of the abovementioned City.

The men of this Guadagni Family in the present and in the past for such a long time that nobody remembers when it started, were able to obtain and get each and any degree of honor and Magistrature usually given to Florentine nobles and Gentlemen and Senators of the above City and its dominion and so the Men of this Family



Florentine Renaissance nobles.

obtained these honors and even greater ones. As in the public Books of the Riformagioni in book 29 Chapter 16 it is written that in the year 1204 together with others, Guadagno was Prior of a Magistrature which appointed Tignoso son of Lamberto as Ambassador to Pope Innocent III with the delicate request of moving the Siege of the Bishop of Florence from Fiesole to the Convent of the Nuns of San Pier Maggiore in Florence with the necessary expulsion of the Nuns from their convent. The Nuns addressed themselves directly to the Pope so that he would protect their residency in their convent and deny the Florentine request.



Pope Innocent III (1160-1216)

An arch englobed in private houses is all that is left nowadays of the Church and Convent of San Pier Maggiore, destroyed by the Grand Duke of Tuscany at the end of the 18th Century because it was unsteady and in danger of crumbling down over passersby and visitors.



Street leading to San Pier Maggiore Square (seen in the far right of the picture). The Medieval Guadagni houses and palace can be seen on the left side of the street leading to the square.

We also see in Chapter 90 of "The Prior" by Jacopo Mazzinghi that in 1215, when the City of Florence was governed by 12 Consuls and the Senate, the Guadagni Family in the Sixth of the "Duomo" ("Cathedral") [Florence was divided in 6 administrative zones or neighborhoods during the Middle Ages] was among the noble families. And we see that in the year 1251, in the book 29 of the Riformagioni a 129 that Migliore son of Ulivieri Guadagni was a member of the Council of the Elders. And in 1253 in the book 29 a 351 Gianni Guadagni, son of Guadagno was also a Member of the Council.



Family Crest of Podesta' (Mayor) of Galluzzo, Florence, Francesco son of Bernardo Mazzinghi year 1513

And in 1279 we see that in Book 29 [a 335](#) of the Riformagioni Pierotto Guadagni son of Guadagno was one of the Guelph "mallevadori" ("guarantors") in the Peace between Guelphs (for the Pope) and Ghibellines (for the Holy Roman Emperor) organized by Cardinal Latino.

And in 1298, the same Pierotto was one of the 25 that had to promise the castle owner of Laterina for 60,000 Florins that he could choose the best men of Florence as we see in the above mentioned book and in the "Priorista" of the same year, he had the office of giving the order to recuperate the goods of the City in the book I [a 122](#). And in 1209 we see that the Prior of the Palace, Migliore son of Guadagno, was among the "excellent" and very famous Priors of Florence; in that "rank" (of Prior of Florence) as we see in the above "Priorista" (Historian of the Priors of Florence), we have seen 17 men of the Guadagni Family. And in 1293, the above mentioned Migliore was "Gonfalonier of Justice" (President of the Republic of Florence) and he was the second "Gonfalonier of Justice" in the history of the City of Florence. After him they continued to elect "Gonfaloniers", and that was the highest authority in the Government of the Republic of Florence, like the Doges of the Republics of Venice and Genoa.

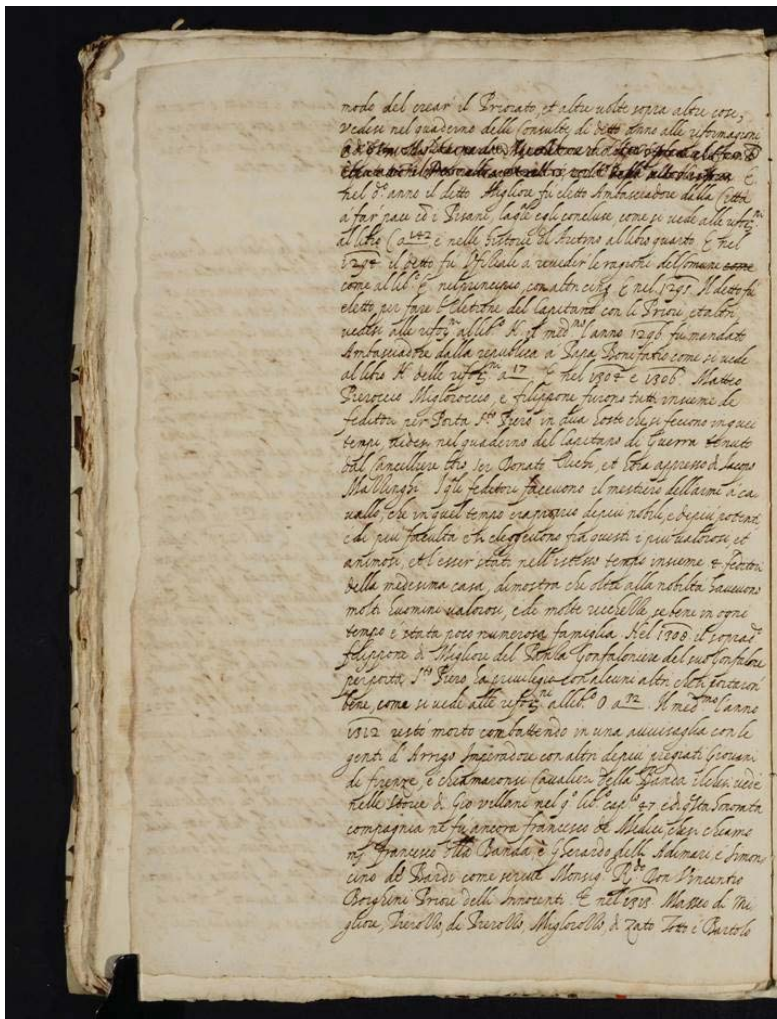


Venice



Genoa

And we find in the "Priorista" (Journal of the "Priors" of Florence) that members of the Guadagni Family had that dignity of the office of Prior eleven times and in the second year the above mentioned Guadagni advised the Council on the best way to create the "Priorate" (Office of the Prior) and other times on several other aspects of it, see in the copybook of the "Consults", of the above mentioned year of the Riformagioni.



In the above mentioned year Migliore was elected Ambassador of the City of Florence to go and make peace with the inhabitants of Pisa, which he was able to conclude, as we see in the Riformagioni of the book a 142 and in the 4th Book of Aretino's Stories, and in 1294 Migliore was the Officer to review the reasons of the



[Pietro Aretino (1492-1556) Italian poet, prose writer and dramatist, celebrated throughout the Europe of his time for his bold literary attacks on the powerful (above on the left, portrait by Titian). On the right, St. Bartholomew (Pietro Aretino was the model) displaying his flayed skin in the Last Judgement by Michelangelo (Michelangelo's self-portrait is on the flayed skin)].

City of Florence, as he did in the beginning, in Book E., with other five politicians, and in 1295, Migliore was appointed to organize the election of the Captain with the Priors, and others, as you see in Book K. In the year 1296, the same Migliore was sent as Ambassador of the Republic of Florence to Pope Boniface VIII as we can see in Book H. of the Riformagioni a 17. In his Divine Comedy, Cousin Dante, who was a White Guelph (in favor of a certain independence from the Pope, and he wrote about a new united Europe under Holy Roman Emperor Henry VII) puts Pope Boniface VIII in Hell, buried forever upside down, see illustration below, for selling Church benefits for money, (also because he helped the Black Guelphs (in favor of a complete union with the Pope) regain power in Florence, sending White Guelph Dante in exile, far away from his beloved Florence, for the rest of his life).



Latin poet Virgil shows to Dante (on the right), Pope Boniface VIII, who is buried upside down in Hell (Divine Comedy: Hell – Canticle 19). Illustration of the Divine Comedy by artist Gustave Doré'.

In 1304 and 1306, Matteo, Pieroccio, Miglioroccio and Filippone Guadagni were all together “Feditori” for San Piero’s Door (of Florence) at the same time in two attacks which they did in those times, as we can see in the copybook of the War Captain kept for them by Chancellor Donato Riesi, led by Jacopo Mazzinghi. The “Feditori” were “mounted soldiers” with several skills and only the bravest and most courageous among them were picked and the fact that in the same time and together 4 “Feditori” were picked from the same Family shows that the Guadagni were not only noble, but had several extremely brave men among them, and very wealthy, even though in their long history they had always few members per generation. In 1308 the above mentioned Filippone son of Migliore son of Panda is Gonfalonier of his “Gonfalone” (“Flag”) for San Piero’s Door. He shares this privilege with a few others that behaved well, as we can see in the Riformagioni in Book 0 a 32.



San Piero's Door.

In the year 1312 the same Filippone was killed fighting in a small encounter against the soldiers of Holy Roman Emperor Arrigo (Henry VII), together with some of the best young men of Florence, who called themselves the Knights of the Band as we read in the Stories of Giovanni Villani in the 9th book chapter 47 (as we remember Giovanni Villani married Monna de' Pazzi, widow of Vieri Guadagni, thus becoming the stepdad of Migliore Guadagni, from whom we all descend, and the cousin of the children of Zato, Pierozzo and Panza Guadagni) and of this famous company was also part Francesco de' Medici, who called himself "Francesco of the Band", and Gherardo degli Adimari, and Simoncino de' Bardi as also Monsignor Reverend Don Vincenzo Borghini, Prior of the Innocenti ("Innocents"). And in 1313 Matteo Guadagni son of Migliore, Pierozzo Guadagni son of Pierozzo, Migliorozzo Guadagni son of Zato, Lotto and Bartolo Guadagni sons of Migliore son of Panda, Giovanni and Neri Guadagni sons of Benedetto were condemned by Emperor Arrigo as leaders of the Black Party (for the Pope), as we see in the trial condemning them promoted by the above mentioned Emperor in 1325.



Holy Roman Emperor Henry VII (1275-1313) (Emperor Arrigo in Italian), King of the Romans, King of Italy, Count of Luxembourg and Arlon.



His father Henry VI (1240-1288), Count of Luxembourg and Arlon.

de Migliore del Barla, Gio: e Hen: di Bonetto furono con-
donati da Arras Imperadori come capi di parte Reale,
veden nel processo che ordinati ad detto marchese
nel 1325 Migliore fu Donatore del Paes di la Cita fu
in grande onore e trasaglio per astretto veder alle
refor. al lib. 7^o 38. Nel 1^o anno Toti di Migliore del
Barla fu del Consiglio. E nel 1325 Oreste Guasconi fu
ragione nella Cita che ebbe la Cita de Castoribus a Nico-
lasus, veden nel caso di capitani di guerra tenuto dal
Reo cancelliere. E nel 1329 Migliore de Dura Guasconi
fu case di la famiglia della Cita cheson parte Pedemone.
L'anno del Barla di Arlon veden nel lib. 13 della Refor.
1325 nel 1325. Migliore fu capitano appreso a la Piazza
della Cita per la compagnia di Luca, veden alle refor. al lib.
18 della Refor. del Trovato. 1325. Il med. l'anno
1355 fu uno della Cita di Arlon della Cita a bevrage
trasmila balistrica veden al lib. 14 della refor. a 76.
Il med. l'anno 1359 fu chiamato per Capitano di guerra
della Cita di Toti, veden alle refor. al lib. 7^o 38. Il
med. in compagnia di Dura di Migliore nel 1365 e nome-
nato in una questione di Offici, veden alle refor. Il med.
l'anno 1372 fu fatto de de della guerra con grandissima
autorita, veden alle refor. al lib. 100 a 2^o lib. pagante
era generale Commessario della guerra mass. da detta Cita.
Il med. l'anno 1372 sendo Compilatore di Giusticia
procurò una legge che tutti i ~~non~~ ~~liber~~ ~~liber~~ non
potessero essere per 20 anni offisi alcuno ne nella Cita,
ne fuori alla risposta non fu alcuno che contradicesse, ve-
den alle refor. al lib. 100 a 2^o lib. pagante
Il med. l'anno 1379 fu fatto de
Reformatore sotto nome d' Ambasciador sopra le cose de
Pistoria, veden alle refor. al lib. 100 a 2^o lib. pagante
1378 Il med. essendo Compilatore di Giusticia fu case a
far amoderar la Cita di ora fatta contra de Grandi, ve-
den nella Cita del 1381 alle refor. e nel 1370 il detto
fu gravato nel caso de Comp. della Offici al lib. 27 di luglio

Migliorozzo Guadagni was flag-bearer of the Vaio when the City of Florence was greatly upset and troubled because of Castruccio, see in Book Z a 30 (see pictures below).



Castruccio Castracane (1281-1328), Ghibelline Duke of Lucca (picture above), defeated the Florentines in the battle of Altopascio in 1325, threatening to conquer Florence, even though, eventually, he was unable to.



Azzone Visconti (1302-1339), Duke of Milan and ally of Castruccio in the Battle of Altopascio against the Florentines.

In 1325, Chele Guadagni was imprisoned in the rout of the Florentine Army by Castruccio in Altopascio, and listed as killed in the copybook of the War Captains kept by their Chancellor.

In the same year Lotto Guadagni, son of Migliore son of Panda was member of the Council.

In 1343, Migliore son of Vieri Guadagni makes peace with the family of the Aliotti, who are in part Visdomini, through the intercession of the Duke of Athens, see it in the Libro delle Paci ("Books of the Peaces") J a 6 E in 1344.



Expulsion of the Duke of Athens from Florence (on the right of the picture) by early Renaissance Artist Andrea Orcagna (1308-1368); in this painting of over 650 years ago, you can see Palazzo Vecchio in the center, where Gonfalonier of Justice Bernardo Guadagni (1367-1434) emprisoned Cosimo de' Medici the Elder (1389-1464), exactly as it still is nowadays.



Cosimo de' Medici the Elder, by artist Benozzo Gozzoli

Migliore Guadagni was kept as hostage by Mastino della Scala for the acquisition of the City of Lucca, see in the Book 10 of Riformagioni on the deliberations of the Priorate a 412. In the year 1354 Migliore was among the elected of the City of Florence to train 3,000 crossbowmen, see in book H. of the Riformagioni a 76. In the year 1363 Migliore was appointed War Captain of the City of Todi, see in the Riformagioni in book T. a 88.



Todi: "Piazza del Popolo" ("Square of the People")

Together with Vieri Guadagni (our direct ancestor), son of Migliore, he was appointed by scrutiny in an Office in 1366, see *Riformagioni*. In 1372, Migliore was made War Captain with very large authority, see in *Riformagioni* book C.C. a 2. As a Magistrate he was Commissary General of the wars started by Florence.



Renaissance Florentine Army (Migliore was War Captain and then Commissary General of the wars of Florence) – Palazzo Vecchio, Duomo of Florence and the Hill of Fiesole in the background.

In the year 1372, Migliore Guadagni was also Gonfalonier of Justice (President of the Republic of Florence).



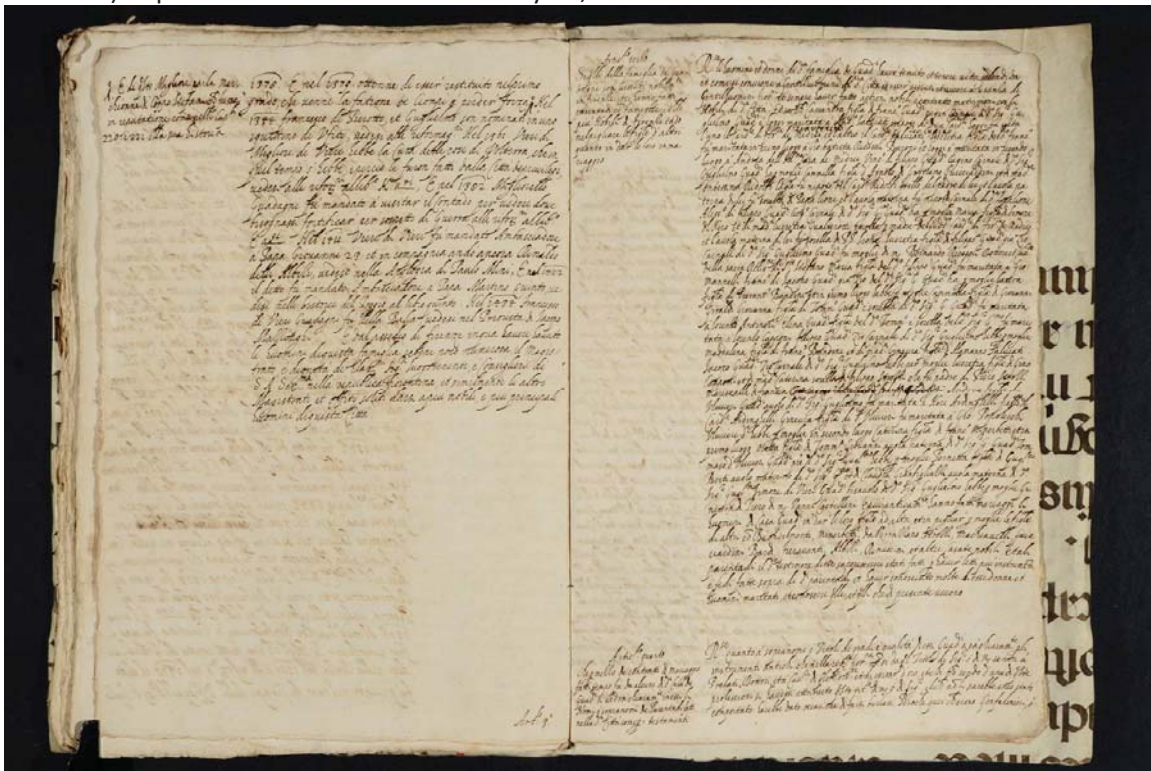
Parading of the Gonfalonier of Justice out of Palazzo Vecchio (which is in the background on the right of the left picture) and in the streets of Florence.

As Gonfalonier of Justice, Migliore proposed a law that no member of certain very important families of Florence could be appointed to any public office for ten years, either in the City of Florence itself or out of it, and nobody opposed his proposition, see Book C.C. a 143. In the year 1373, he was appointed Reformer with the name of Ambassador of the Government of Pistoia, see Riformagioni Book D.D. a 240.



Pistoia

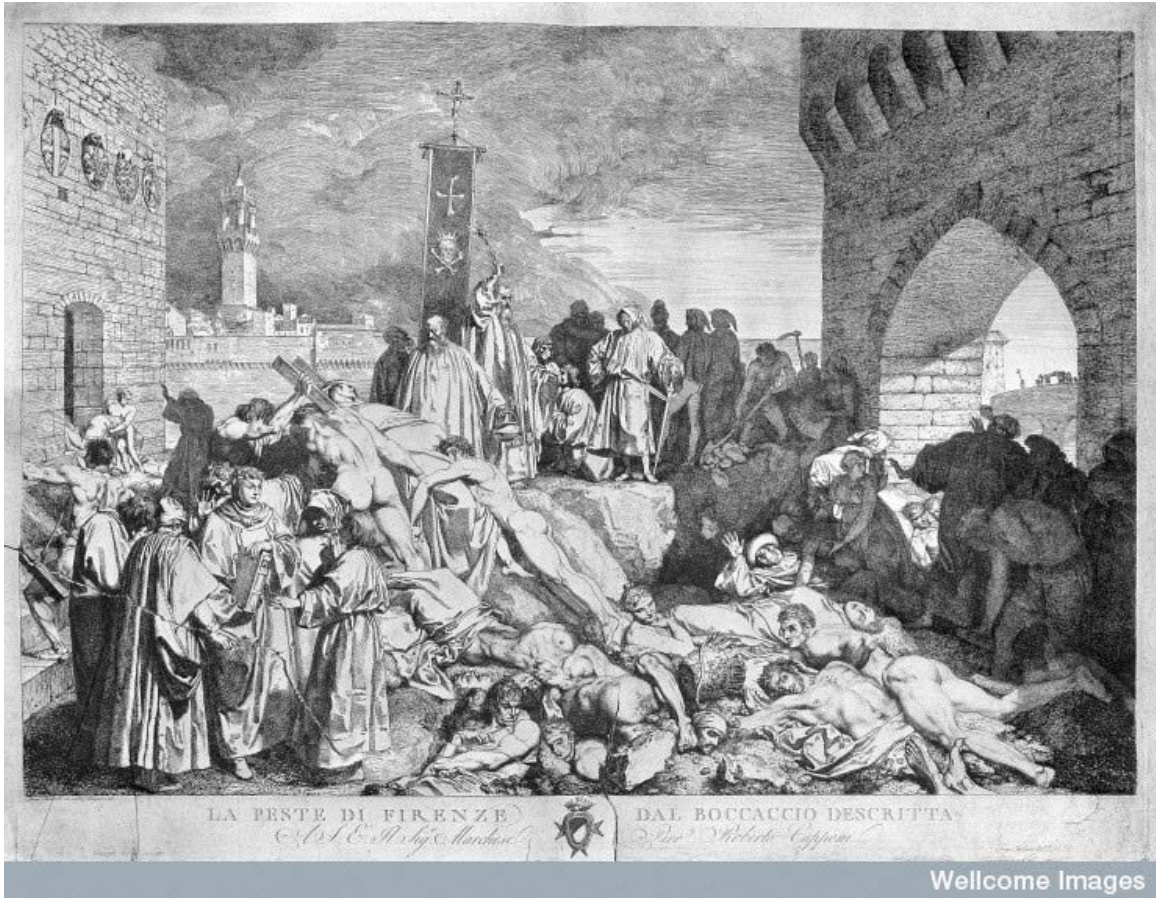
In the year 1376, Migliore was again Gonfalonier of Justice and wanted to moderate the law against the Great Families, see Balìa of 1381 in the Riformagioni, and in 1378 the revolt of the Ciompi (poor classes) deprived him of his Office until July 11, 1378.



And Baldassarre, aka Marchionne, son of Coppo son of Stefano Bonaiuti (1327-1385) talks about Migliore Guadagni and his reputation in Chapters 220 & 221 of his History Cronaca Fiorentina (“Florentine Chronicles”) see cover of the book below.



Marchionne’s book is considered one of the best works written on the *Black Death* (i.e. Bubonic Plague) in Florence in the year 1348. In it Marchionne stresses the economic disruption in Florence during the 14th century which was the result of the bubonic plague. For the first part of his work up to 1348, Marchionne relied upon our step-great-grandad Giovanni Villani’s Nuova Cronica, but after that he diverges from the work of Villani. His own work focusses principally on Florence, while that of Villani extended over other parts of Europe. In 1348, the year of the plague, Migliore was only 26 years old and was very skilfully working in the Public Administration of Florence. He had married his first wife, Niccolosa Cavalcanti, five years before, in 1343 and had one son, Vieri (direct ancestor of all of us), and three daughters, sister Francesca (nun), Agnoletta and Nanna; Niccolosa died in 1358 and Migliore married Lagia Frescobaldi (+1393) and had two daughters from her, Niccolosa, through whom we are related to the Catellini da Castiglione and Jacopa. Migliore had several Guadagni cousins in Florence during the year of the plague, and some of them died because of it. However, in 1383, after Migliore finished his term of Gonfalonier of Justice, another violent plague broke out in Florence, killing several people. Migliore moved to Friuli, near the Alps, hoping to save his life, but nevertheless he died of the disease on July 28 of that year, at 61 years old.



Wellcome Images

Plague of 1348 in Florence described by famous historian Boccaccio, dedicated to our cousin Marchese Piero Capponi. As we remember the diagonal striped black and white crest in the lower center of the picture was given by the Republic of Florence to the Capponi Family because they were able to pacify the White Guelphs, one of whom was Cousin Dante, and the Black Guelphs, to whom the Guadagni and the Donati, and most of the old noble and rich families, belonged.



Mask of a Black Plague doctor, he would wear it to avoid getting infected.

As our direct ancestor Migliore and his family and several of our great-great Guadagni cousins and their families were in Florence in 1348 during the Black Plague, I will copy a few of Marchionne's sentences describing it so we can better relive in our imagination what many members of our family went through, ie. Migliorozzo Guadagni and his wife Mingarduccia, Giovanni, Telda (the last two probably died of it, as they both died in 1348), Lorenzo, another Giovanni, nephew of the first, Migliore, cousin of the above Migliore, Sandra, the brothers Giovanni and Lodovico, who are both believed to have died childless because of the Plague, Piero who died in 1348, probably because of the Plague, Lisabetta, Bartolommeo, and Guadagno, the latter died of another Epidemy of the Plague in 1340.

"The plague not only killed people, but it killed also their domestic animals, including dogs and cats, and their livestock, such as oxen, donkeys, sheep and chicken. The disease arrived in Florence in March 1348 and did not stop killing until September of that year.

The "Cronaca fiorentina" explains that physicians of the day had no idea how to fight this deadly plague, as the medicine of the day knew of no defense against it. The symptoms of the disease were a bubo in the groin area or the armpit. It was usually followed by a fever, with the sufferer spitting up saliva or blood. Those spitting up blood never survived, and most people with these symptoms would die within a few days. There was such fear of getting the plague just by being near the sick people that their relations abandoned them. Many people died simply by being left alone with no help whatsoever, no medical assistance, nursing or even food, if they indicated they were ill. There was nothing to do but to go to bed and die".



Black Plague in Florence in 1348: "Beccamorti" (their "nickname" means "vultures picking on the dead") pick up the corpses of the Florentines killed by the Plague in 1348.

Marchionne's book, which he finished to write around the year 1380, mentioned our ancestor Migliore Guadagni, his contemporary, in 15 pages. The following are the first three I found:

Page 88 (of Marchionne's book: "Florentine Chronicles")

Martello Ghetti sword maker Betto son of Rinaldo

Passa son of Zato Passavanti Migliore Guadagni (bold, Italic and underlined are mine (fcdq))

Geri son of Sir Jacopo Rosoni Simone Guazza, Gonfalonier of Justice

 Gonfalonier of Justice Sir Gherardo Aldighieri, their notary.

Sir Filippo Tani Bonatti, their notary.

Lapo son of Sir Angiolino de' Magli Sanna Benci

[As far as I know this particular information on our direct ancestor Migliore Guadagni is known by very few people nowadays (fcdq).]

Page 303 of the above

Rubric 769 – *How the Vicariate of Valdinievole was completely demolished (erased).*

In the above mentioned year 1376, the Priors of the month of January were: Antonio son of Niccolo' Ridolfi, Rammondino Vecchietti, Prior del Pera Baldovinetti, the well known Migliore Guadagni, gonfaloniers of Justice and other companions of theirs, but these four all agreed, and they saw that to solve the problem the only way was to have the other side study the chapters of the Problem and find a way to eliminate the "petitions", as we recounted before: where they gave them...

Page 321 of the above

Migliore Guadagni

Tommaso Soderini

Matteo son of Nanni son of Scelto Tinghi

|

|are forever denied any Office

|

During that tragic year, young Migliore worked in Florence's public administration, and surely was doing his best to alleviate the sufferings of his fellow citizens. His brilliant career in the public administration of Florence for the rest of his life, becoming even Gonfalonier of Justice more than once, are a proof of how his continuous and selfless dedication to the wellbeing of his fellow citizens was publicly and privately appreciated by everybody.

In 1379, the "Ciompi" faction was weakening and so Migliore was able to regain his position of great importance. In 1344 Francesco Guadagni son of Pierotto, and Guglielmo are nominated in the scrutiny of an election, see in the Riformagioni. In 1362, Vieri Guadagni, son of Migliore son of Vieri, was appointed in the Government of Volterra, and the City grew in that time, so he had privileges in that City, see the Riformagioni of K. a 71. In 1382 Migliorello Guadagni was sent to visit the County to see where fortifications were needed for suspicion of War see Riformagioni E a 92. In 1411 Vieri Guadagni son of Vieri was sent as Ambassador to (anti)-Pope John XXIII with (his best friend) Rinaldo degli Albizzi as his companion, as you see in the Apology by Paolo Mini, and in 1422 the same Vieri was sent as Ambassador to Pope Martin V, as you can see in the 5th volume of the "Istorie" ("Stories") by Poggio (Poggio was born in Terranuova, near Florence, in 1380, the son of Guccio Bracciolini. He became a very famous historian and went to Rome).



Rinaldo degli Albizzi
Played by actor Mario Erpichini

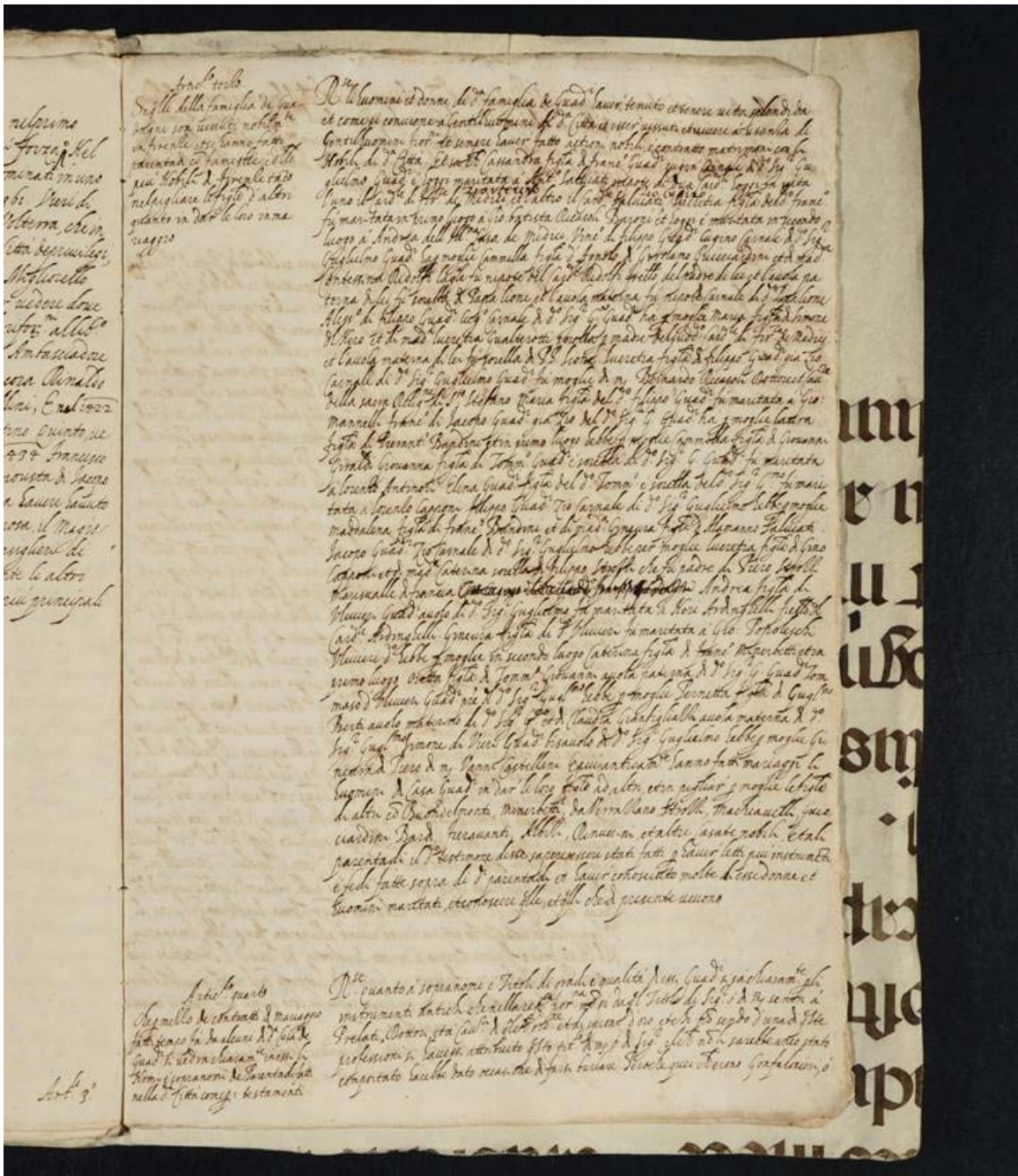


Historian Poggio Bracciolini



Pope Martin V

In 1434 Francesco Guadagni son of Vieri was a member of the Balia, see in the Priorista by Jacopo Mazzinghi. And after the Siege of Florence the males of the Guadagni Family, even though they were very few, obtained the Magistrate and the dignity of Very Famous Lieutenants and Advisors of His Very Sereine Highness in the Florentine Republic, in the same way as the other Magistratures and Offices were given to the noblest and most important men of this City (Florence).



Page 7

Third Article:

If the members of the Guadagni Family lived in Florence in a noble way and if they intermarried with the noblest families of Florence as much in marrying women from other noble families as in giving their daughters in marriage to noble people.

If the men and women of the Guadagni family have always lived in a life of splendor like it is appropriate for Gentlemen of this City and still do nowadays and if they have lived and continue to live as Florentine Gentlemen do and if they have always done noble actions and contracted marriages with nobles of the

City. And Cassandra daughter of Francesco Guadagni, blood cousin of Mister Guglielmo Guadagni got married today with Antonio Salviati (1554-1619), uncle of Filippo Salviati (1582-1611), husband of Ortensia Guadagni, sister of Cassandra and daughter of the same Francesco Guadagni. Filippo Salviati was the nephew of two Cardinals both alive today (the book we are translating dates from the first half of the 17th century), one is the Cardinal of Florence de' Medici, uncle on his mother's side, and the other is Cardinal Salviati, uncle cousin.



Cardinal Giovanni Salviati, our great-uncle cousin

Filippo Salviati, husband of Ortensia Guadagni (1st Marchese of San Leolino) was an Italian scientist and astronomer from a noble Florentine family; he was also a senator of Florence and a member of the Accademia dei Lincei and a friend of Galileo Galilei, the famous astronomer who discovered that the world rotated around the sun and not vice versa.

Galileo and great-uncle Filippo wrote a book titled “the Dialogue Concerning the Two World Systems” comparing the traditional Ptolemaic system, where everything in the universe circles around the Earth, with the newly written Copernican system, where the earth and the other planets orbit around the sun. The book is presented as a series of discussions, over a span of four days, among two philosophers, Salviati, named after Galileo's friend, our great-uncle Filippo Salviati, who argues in favor of the Copernican position, and Simplicio (Italian for “simple-minded”) who defended the Ptolemaic system. Let us remember that Filippo was the husband of Ortensia Guadagni, and presumably they worked together and thought alike. They were noble and rich, so Ortensia could spend all her time with her husband and Galileo in their breathtaking and amazing researches on the movements of the sun, the earth and the other planets, while their servants took care of all the household chores. Together they improved and publicized one of the most important discoveries of mankind of all times, i.e. “the earth and the other planets move around the sun and not the opposite”. I will call it the Galileo-Salviati-Guadagni Discovery, which changed the perception of the world and the human understanding of it forever.

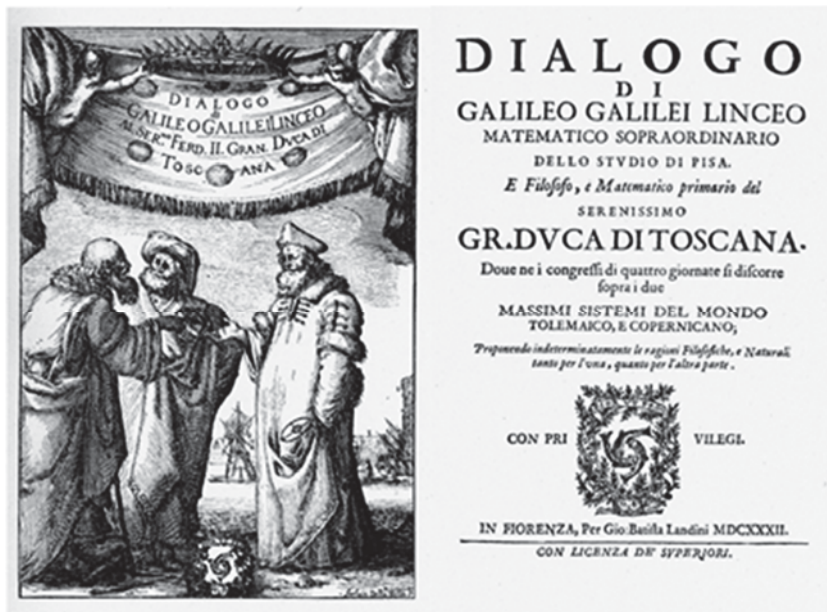


Salviati Palace, Florence



A rare Copy of the Dialogue ("Dialogo" in Italian)

I think great-uncle Filippo is the man on the left in the 17th century cartoon below.





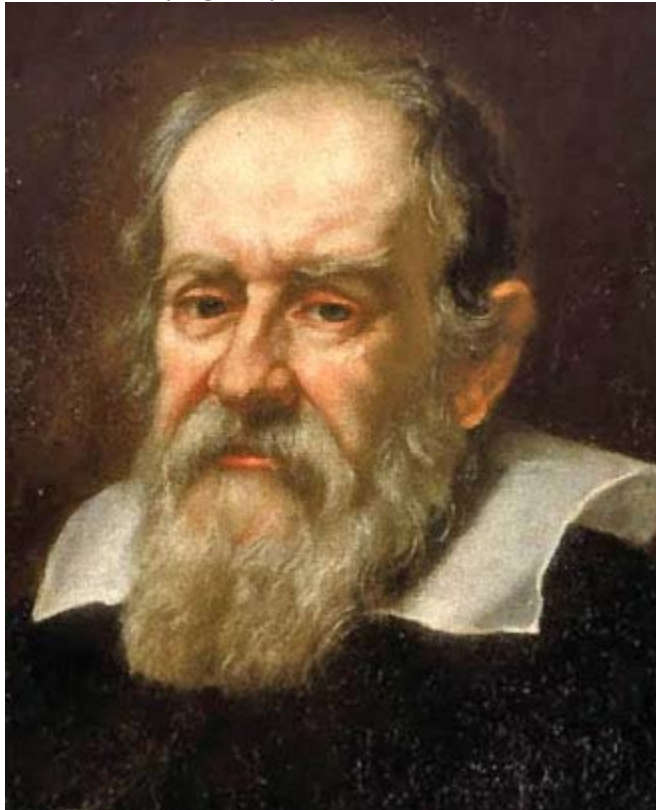
Statue of our great-uncle Filippo Salviati, husband of Ortensia Guadagni

Frontispice and title page of the Dialogue, 1632 – I think Great-uncle Filippo is the man on the left trying to clarify the different points-of-view. Unfortunately the Galileo-Salviati-Guadagni theory seemed to contradict the Bible, where in chapter 10 of the Book of Joshua, verses 12 and 13, to complete the victory of the Hebrews versus their mortal enemies, the Amorites, whose strategic retreat could be helped by the advancing darkness of the night, Joshua, leader of the Hebrews, prays: “Sun stand still, and the Moon stopped, till the Hebrew people had revenge upon their enemies...so the sun stood still in the midst of Heaven and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day...”.



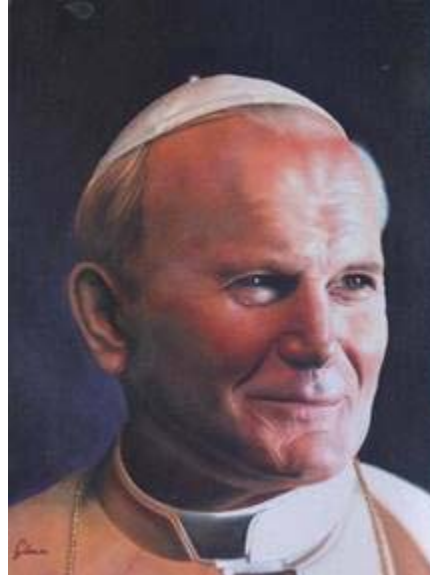
Joshua stops the sun.

The “Dialogue” was published in 1632 but put in the list of the “Forbidden Books” by the Inquisition of the Catholic Church in 1633, because it seemed to contradict the Bible, and Galileo was condemned as “Heretic”. Uncle Filippo escaped any punishment because he died prematurely in Spain in 1614. Aunt Ortensia did not officially sign any documents so she was not bothered.



Galileo Galilei by artist Justus Sustermans

Galileo was accused of heresy by the Catholic Church, for trying to change the understanding of the natural philosophy of Aristotle and of the Bible, was forced to abiure his astronomical conceptions on June 22, 1633, and confined in his villa of Arcetri.



Pope John Paul II

359 years later, on October 31, 1992, Pope John Paul II, declared that the Catholic Church recognized the errors committed vs. Galileo and approved the conclusion of a study commissioned on it, created by the Pope himself in 1981.

Lucretia, daughter of Francesco, was given in marriage first to Baron Giovan Battista Ricasoli and today she is married to her second husband Andrea of the very famous Medici Family. Vincenzo son of Filippo Guadagni, blood cousin of Mister Guglielmo Guadagni, married Cammilla daughter of Agnolo son of Girolamo Guicciardini and of her mother Countess Ridolfi, who was the niece of Cardinal Ridolfi, brother of her father, and her grandmother on her father's side was Pope Leo's sister and her grandmother on her mother's side was Pope Leo's niece.



Cardinal Niccolò' Ridolfi (1501-1550) Pope Leo XI (1535-1605) born Giovanni de'Medici

Alessandro, son of Filippo Guadagni was Guglielmo Guadagni's cousin and his wife was Maria, daughter of Simone del Nero and of Maddalena Lucrezia Gualtierotti, sister on her mother's side of the above Cardinal of Florence de' Medici and her maternal grandmother was the sister of his Holiness Pope Leo. Lucrezia, daughter of Filippo Guadagni, uncle of Guglielmo Guadagni, was the wife of Bernardo Ricasoli, Doctor and Knight of the Holy Order of Santo Stefano, Maria daughter of Filippo Guadagni was married to Giovanni Mannelli, Francesco son of Jacopo Guadagni uncle of Giovanni Guadagni married Laura daughter of Pierantonio Bandini but before that, he had married Cammilla daughter of Giovanni Giraldi (1504-1573), Italian novelist and poet



known as Cinzio (see picture on the left), Giovanna daughter of Tommaso Guadagni and sister of Guglielmo Guadagni, was married to Lorenzo Antinori, Elena Guadagni, daughter of Tommaso and sister of Guglielmo was married to Lorenzo Capponi. Filippo Guadagni, uncle of Guglielmo, married Maddalena, daughter of Francesco Bandini and of Ginevra daughter of Alamanno Salviati. Jacopo Guadagni, uncle of Guglielmo, married Lucrezia, daughter of Gino Capponi and of Caterina, sister of Filippo Strozzi, who was the



Filippo Strozzi



Piero Strozzi, Marshal of France and Knight of Malta

father of Piero Strozzi, Marshal of France. Andrea, daughter of Ulivieri Guadagni, who was Guglielmo's grandfather, married Neri Ardinghelli, brother of Cardinal Ardinghelli.



Cardinal Ardinghelli (1502-1547); Ardinghelli Family Medieval Towers in san Gimignano

Ginevra Guadagni, daughter of Ulivieri, was married to Giovanni Popoleschi. After the death of his first wife, Oretta, [daughter of Tommaso Giovanni, paternal grandmother of Guglielmo Guadagni, son of Tommaso, son of Ulivieri,] Ulivieri Guadagni (direct ancestor of all of us) married Caterina, daughter of Francesco Minerbetti. Guglielmo Guadagni married Pernetta daughter of Guglielmo Berti, maternal grandfather of Guglielmo Guadagni and of Claudia Gianfigliuzzi, who was maternal grandmother of Guglielmo Simone son of Vieri Guadagni great-grandfather of Guglielmo; he married Giovanna, daughter of Piero son of Vanni Castellani, and in more ancient times the men of the Guadagni Family, in giving their daughters away in marriage and in marrying daughters of other families, like Buondelmonti, Minerbetti, da Verrazzano, Strozzi, Macchiavelli, Guicciardini, Bardi, Fioravanti, Albizzi, Rinuccini, and other noble families and the witness told us that marriages with members of the above listed families were made and that he read more documents and promises made on marriage relations and to have known many of these women and men married to members of the Guadagni Family and to know both women and men who are actually still alive.

[All the people whose portraits are listed below (except Caesar and Themistocles) are related to the Guadagni Family and all the palaces pictured below belong to relatives of the Guadagni.]



Buondelmonti Palace, Florence



Minerbetti Palace



Giovanni da Verrazzano (1485-1528) Pietro Strozzi (1510-1558) Niccolò Machiavelli (1469-1527)



Leone Strozzi, Knight of Malta (1515-1554)



Francesco Guicciardini (1483-1540)



Contessina de' Bardi (1400-1473) wife



Two pictures Giovanna degli Albizzi Tornabuoni by Ghirlandaio of Cosimo de' Medici the Elder; the Bardi Family financed Christopher Columbus' discovery of America



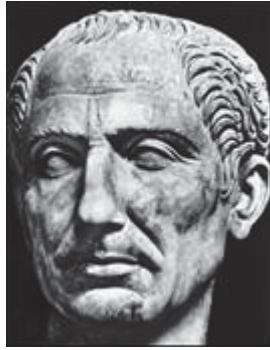
Another portrait of our cousin Giovanna degli Albizzi this time by Botticelli



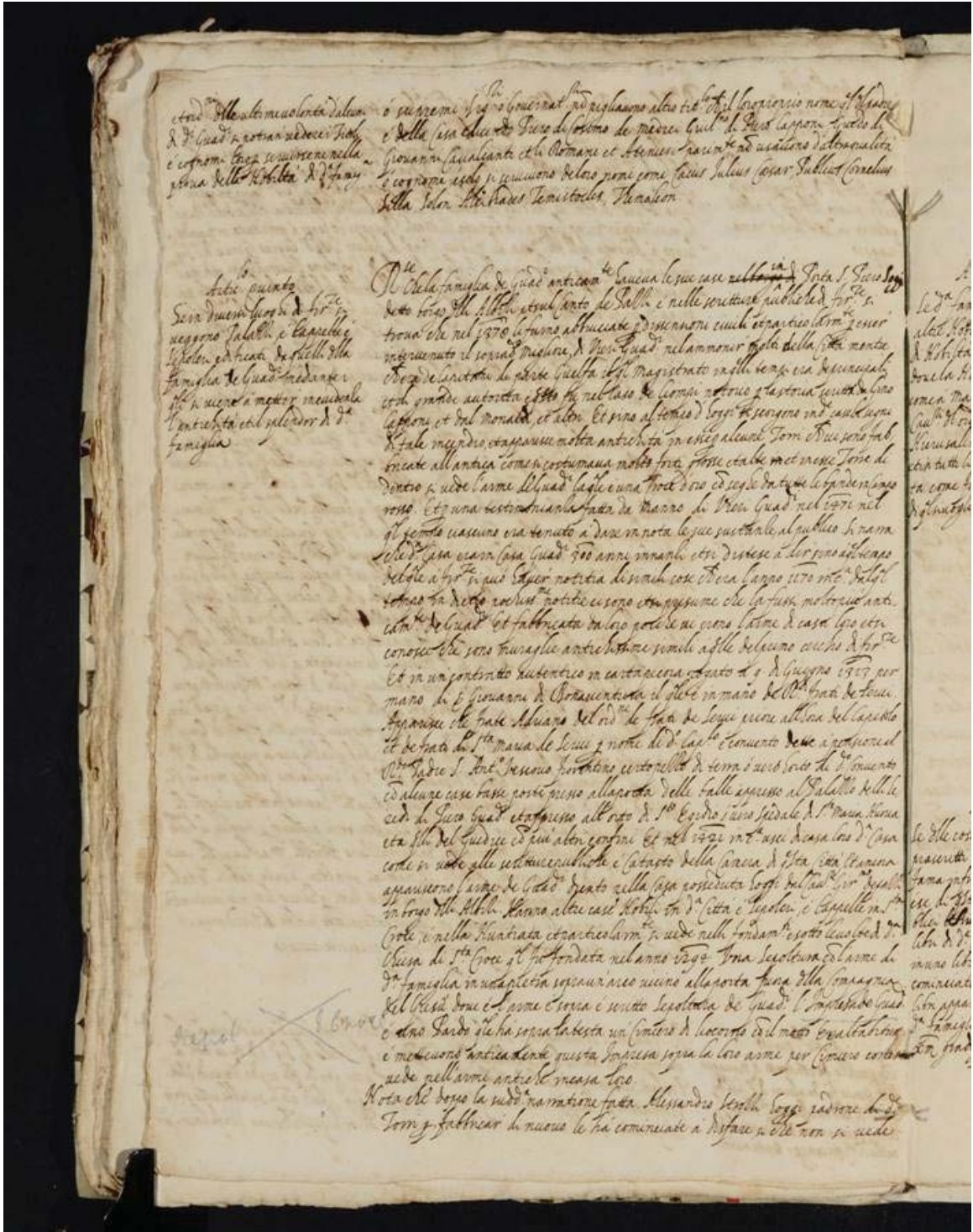
Rinuccini Palace, Florence

Fourth Article: that in the marriage contracts made some time ago by some members of the Guadagni Family we will clearly see the names and surnames of the family relations established in the City as in the last wills of some of the Guadagni and we will be able to see the Nobility Titles and Surnames written down as a proof of the Nobility of their Family.

For what concerns the surnames and Titles of degree and quality of the Guadagni we clearly know the ancient tools used in the Republic of Florence where we only give the titles of senior or Monsignor to Prelates, Doctors, and Knights of those orders with golden spurs, and if someone who does not belong to one of these professions had added this title to himself and behaved as if he had the right to it, he would give other people the right to make fun of him, because those who were Gonfaloniers, or supreme Governors didn't take other title than their name, the one of their father and of their family like "Piero son of Cosimo de' Medici", "Guglielmo son of Piero Capponi", Guido son of Giovanni Cavalcanti and similarly the Romans and the Athenians did not use any other quality but their name and surname like Caius Julius Caesar, Publius Cornelius Silla, Solon Alcibiades Themistocles, Hemaleon.



Caius Julius Caesar (100-44 BC) Themistocles (524-459 BC)



Page 8

Fifth Article: If in various localities in Florence you can find Palaces, Little Chapels and Tombs built by members of the Guadagni Family through which we can discover the antiquity and the splendor of the above mentioned Family.

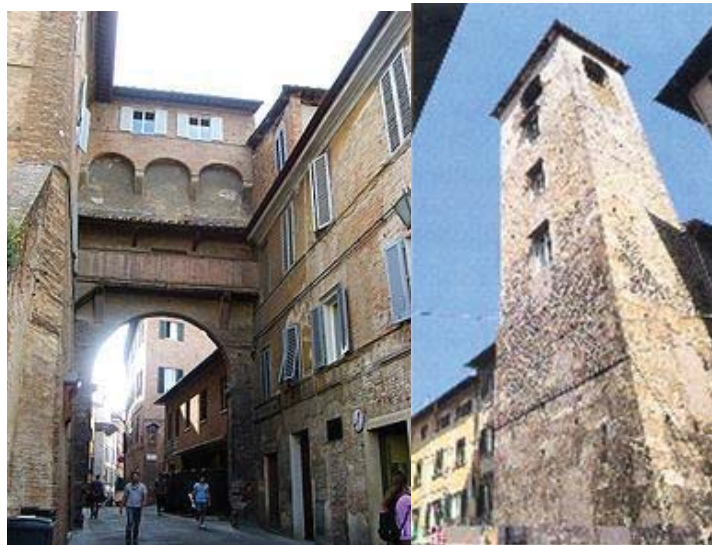
It seems that in ancient times the Guadagni Family had their houses in Porta San Piero (“Saint Peter’s Door”), today (ca. year 1630) called Borgo degli Albizzi (“Street of the Albizzi Family”), and on the Canto de’ Pazzi (“Corner or little square of the Pazzi Family”) and in Florentine public documents we find that in the year 1378, the houses were burned by internal city disagreements mostly caused by the intervention of Migliore Guadagni, son of Vieri, who had admonished many important citizens of the City while he was Captain of the Guelph Party, whose office in those days was one of the most important and with great authority, and it happened during the Ciompi revolt, well known due to the history of it written by Gino Capponi and by Monaldi and others and even today (1630) we can notice in those houses signs of a large fire, and a lot of ancient history appears in them and some towers built in the Medieval way very sturdy, large and tall and inside them you can see the Guadagni Crest which is a golden cross on a red background.





Three pictures of Borgo degli Albizzi which used to belong to the Guadagni in the Middle-Ages and has not changed much since.

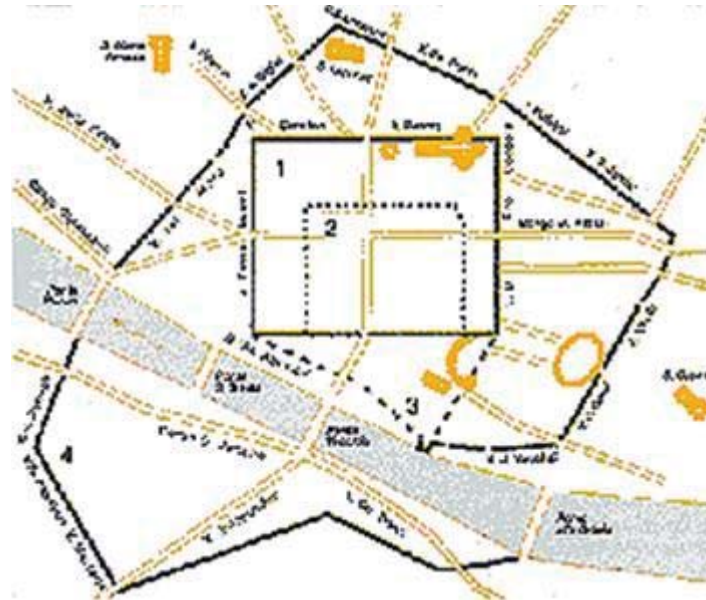
And in a testimony given by Manno son of Vieri Guadagni in 1471 in whose time everybody had to notify his belongings to the public, it said that a house was owned by the Guadagni Family three centuries earlier and they went on to say that you can have information of such things up to that time in Florence and it was the year 1170 during which time we have very little information and people presume that those Guadagni houses were a lot more ancient than the year 1170.



Remnants of old city walls and towers incorporated in city homes.



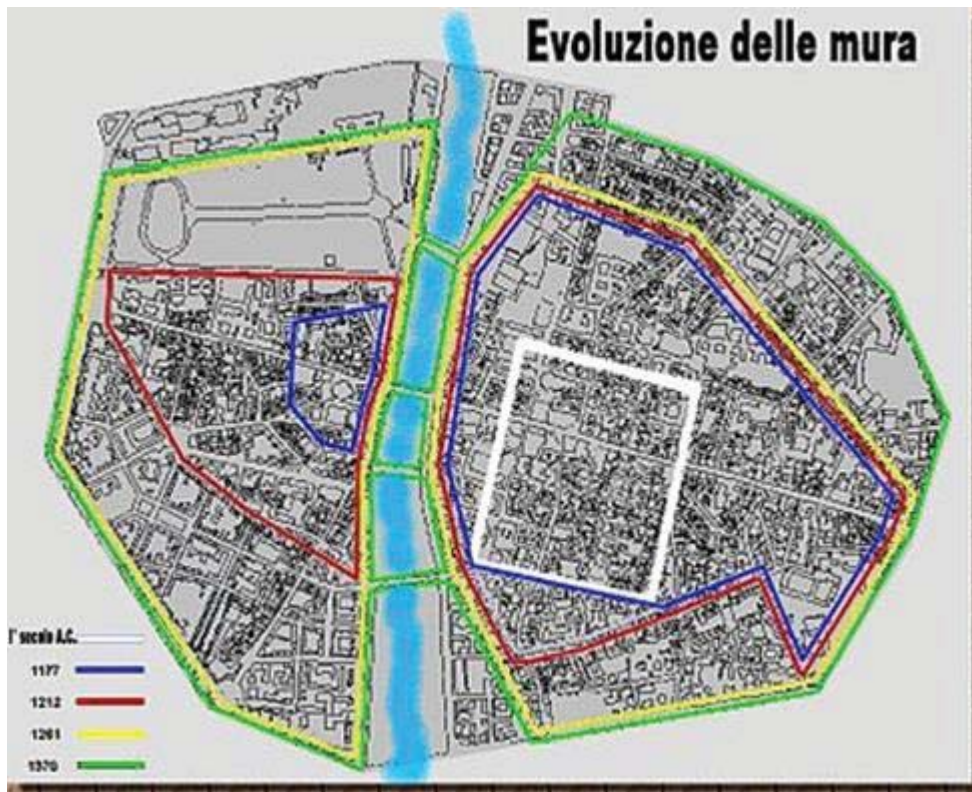
Could the first ancestors of the Guadagni have been Roman citizens living 16 centuries ago? As we remember historian Romanelli has the Guadagni Family originate from Fiesole, when it was a Roman Colony part of the Roman Empire. And you can see their Family Crest in the old Florentine Guadagni houses, and their walls are of extremely ancient construction similar to the ones of the first circle of walls of Florence.



Florence with the Arno River in gray, the first circle of walls delimitates the square north of the River. That is where the First Guadagni houses were.



Tower of the first circle of walls now surrounded by houses in Florence. The Guadagni houses and palaces were built like the above 1100 years old powerful and sturdy tower; remnants of the Guadagni houses remain nowadays, scattered in the oldest part of Florence.



Evolution of the walls of the City of Florence
White square: 1st century BC (The first Guadagni houses could be somewhere there)

Blue perimeter (on both sides of the Arno): 1177 AD The Guadagni houses could be a few centuries older, says the text. 1st circle of walls.

Red Perimeter (" "): 1212 AD 2nd Circle of walls.

Yellow Perimeter (" "): 1261 AD 3rd Circle of walls.

Green Perimeter (" "): 1370 AD 4th Circle of walls.

In an authentic parchment contract personally signed June 9, 1323 by Giovanni son of Bonaventura, nowadays kept by the Friars of the Servants of Mary, it appears that Friar Adriano of the Order of the Friars of the Servants (of Mary), Prior of the Chapter and of the Friars of Saint Mary of the Servants, in the name of the above Chapter gave on rental a certain piece of land near the above Convent and some low houses near the City "door delle Palle"



Detail of the Bastion "delle palle" ("of the balls")

near the Palace of the heirs of Piero Guadagni near the orchard of Sant'Egidio i.e, Hospital of Santa Maria Nuova and



Sant'Egidio Street w/view of the Hospital in the far right corner.



Hospital of Santa Maria Nuova in an old 17th century print.

the border of the Judge and other borders. And in 1421 he left their house as we can see in public records and in the land register (ie. "Catasto") of the Chamber of this City. And we can also see the Guadagni crests in the House owned today by Knight Girolamo de'Pazzi in Borgo degli Albizzi ("Degli Albizzi Street"). The Guadagni have other noble houses in the City (of Florence) and Tombs and Chapels

in the Churches of Santa Croce and Santissima Annunziata and mostly we can see them in the foundations under the Church of Santa Croce, which was founded in the year 1294: a tomb with the Guadagni crest on a stone over an arch next to the door of the Company of Jesus where the crest is located and above it we find "Tomb of the Guadagni" written. The Guadagni Crest is held by a Leopard who has a helmet with a Liocorn on his head with the "motto" "Exaltabitur" and from ancient times they put this motto on their helmet as we can see in the old crests in their houses.

Take notice that after the above description that we made, Alessandro Strozzi now owner of the Guadagni towers, in order to rebuild them better has started by destroying them so we cannot see any more the above mentioned signs of the fire or the details of the Guadagni crest that was inside but the original owner of the tower who sold it and other people told us about them.



Original Florentine Guadagni Family Crest



French Branch of the Guadagni Family Crest



Cross of the Knights of Malta

Grand Master and senior Knights Hospitalliers (of Malta) in the 14th Century



The Cross of St. James, badge of the Order of “Santiago” (ie “St. James” in Spanish) de Compostela (Spain) also known as the Order of St. James of the Sword.

Stating that the Guadagni Family has enjoyed the privileges of Nobility as have all the other Noble families of this City and knowing that Brother Piero Guadagni, cousin of Brother Guglielmo, was received in the Holy Religious Order of St. John



Jerusalem – old city walls.



Fort St. Elmo, Malta

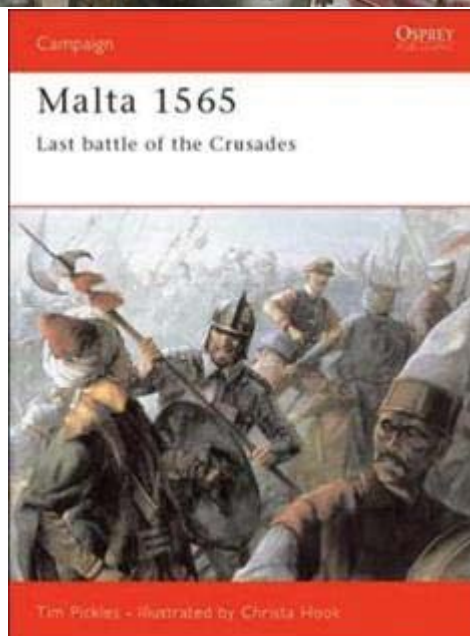
of Jerusalem. Brother Piero has always served his Order well, and having been captured and enslaved by the Turks in the battle of Fort St. Elmo in the year of the War of Malta, 1565, he was redeemed and then captured again in the year of the Battle of Hama.



The Title of the above picture is in Italian: "Siege and bombardment of the Island of St. Michael on June 2nd, 1565".

The Turks are attacking Fort St. Elmo (center) in the Siege of Malta of 1565; the rest of the city of Malta is on the right.

Brother Knight Piero Guadagni is defending it with other brave knights. Doesn't it seem that the "Guadagni Crest Flag" (Gold cross on red background) is floating above the Fort?



Piero Guadagni is leading his soldiers and knights in the brave defense of Fort St. Elmo That happened while he was traveling to join the Christian Army, he was attacked and captured again by the Turks and he was redeemed again and appointed Captain of a Galley of the Holy Order of Malta and then Commander of the repaired new fortress of Fort St. Elmo of the newly

rebuilt City of Malta. Later he was appointed Receiver of the Holy Order of Malta in the Priory of Pisa and Lieutenant General of the same Priory and then he said he had heard that Knight Brother Guglielmo Guadagni, son of Tommaso Guadagni, Baron of Champroux, brother of Guglielmo Guadagni Lord of Boutheon, Seneschal of Lyon, had also been accepted in the Holy Order of the Knights of Malta.



Knights Square, Pisa.



Castle of Boutheon, Valley of the Loire, France, transformed from a medieval fortress into an Italian Renaissance Castle by Guglielmo Guadagni.



Guglielmo Guadagni

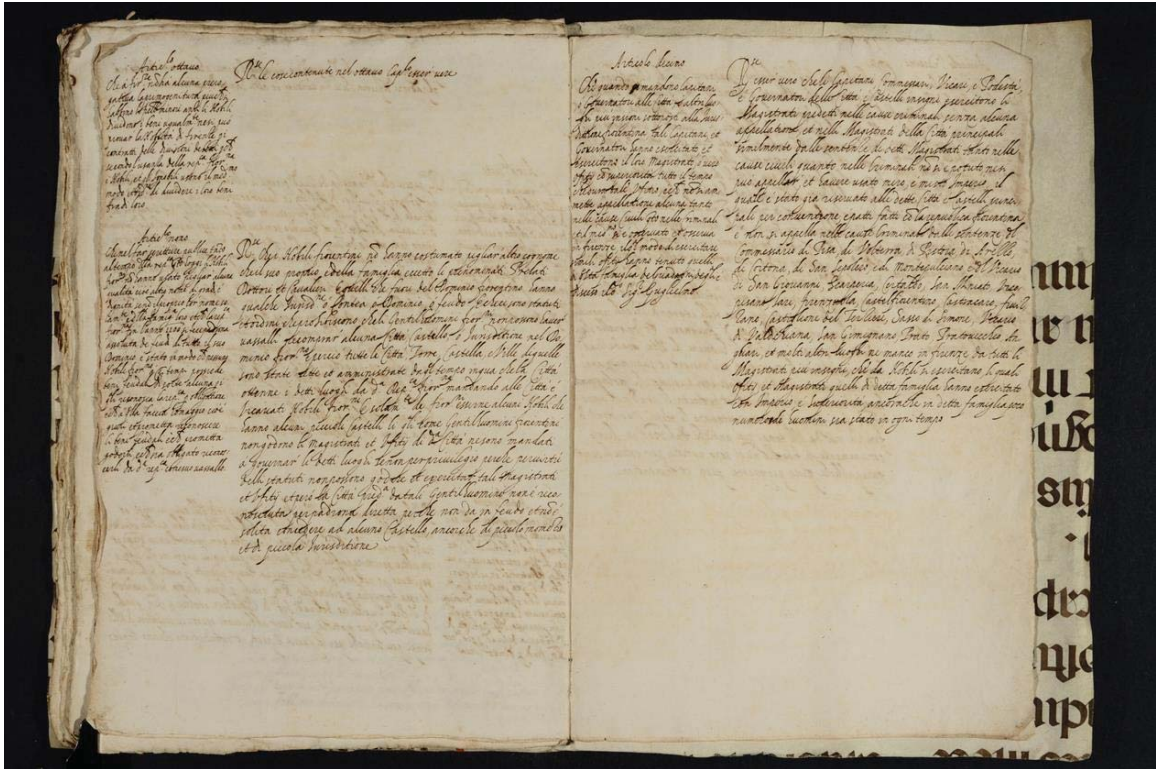


Knight of the Crown of the Holy Spirit (highest title of nobility in France, granted directly by the King of France himself to Guglielmo.)

These Guadagni are pretty capable, as all the other Noble and gentlemen of Florence, to be accepted in whatever Militia, Order or Knighthood of Christianity!!!

Seventh Article: If the information contained in the above Chapters is well known by most Nobles of the City of Florence as it appears in public Authentic and trustworthy books of this City, in a particular book named Priorista ("The Priorist"), started in the year 1281, the Nobility of the Guadagni Family appears in it by highest degrees and in a straight line.

If the information contained in the Seventh Chapter are well known even publicly among the Nobles of Florence and in public and authentic books and mostly in the book named Priorista ("The Priorist") started in the year 1282 and in other public writings which the above witness has seen several times in books and writings, and in the Family Tree he saw the names of the men of this family in order by highest degrees and straight line of the ancestors of Mr. Guglielmo Guadagni, Lord of Boutheon and also by highest degrees we cannot however have all the information because often the most ancient documents are destroyed because of wars, plagues, floods.



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Article Eight: In Florence there is no special prerogative for the firstborns, as the younger siblings, even among the Nobles, receive their due share of the Family inheritance and you cannot prove the Nobility of a Florentine family by their contracts or divisions of the inherited goods because in the Republic of Florence both the Nobles and the non-Nobles use the same method of dividing the inheritance equally among the siblings.

What is stated in the title of Article Eight is true.

Article Nine: in public writings from the early times of the Republic until now the Florentine Nobles were not in the habit of adding other qualities like another name or degrees or dignity to their name but kept only the name of their family. Since the year 1200 the Florentine Republic conquered all the fiefs of its Dominion so that no Florentine Noble in our times owns any Feudal fiefs and the Republic does not recognize any of them or promise to recognize such Feudal rights and properties and its own obligations towards them.

The Florentine Nobles are not in the habit of choosing another surname except their own and the one of their family, except the above mentioned Prelates, Doctors and Knights and the ones living out of the Florentine Dominion who own some County, or Dominion, or Fief. There are however Statutes and Orders forbidding these Florentine Gentlemen to have any vassals under them and/or to buy any Town, Castle or Jurisdiction in the Florentine Dominion and so all the Cities, Towers, Castles and Villas have been governed and administrated by the Florentine Republic sending to these towns and Vicariates only Florentine Nobles to govern them with the exception of some Florentine nobles who own little Castles and don't like to have them governed by Magistrates and Officers of the City of Florence so they keep the Privilege and don't recognize the City of Florence as their direct Master, because the City of Florence does not give any fief even small to any of its citizens.

If it is true that the Captains, Commissaries, Vicars, Mayors and Governors of important Cities and Castles, exercise the above Magistrates in the criminal cases without any appellation, and similarly in the Magistrates of the main Cities by the sentinels of said Magistrates as much in the Civilian cases as in the Criminal cases, we were not and are not able to appellate or use Mixed Authority, which has been reserved to the above mentioned more important Cities and Castles by conventions and treaties made by the Republic of Florence, and we cannot appellate in the Criminal causes of the sentences. The Commissary of Pisa, Volterra, Pistoia, Arezzo, Cortona, San Sepolcro, Montepulciano, and of the Vicar of San Giovanni, Scarperia, Certaldo, San Miniato, Vico Pisano, Lari, Firenzuola, Castelfiorentino, Castrocaro, Finizzano, Castiglione del Terziere, Sasso di Simone, Vicar of Valdichiana, San Gimignano, Prato, Pratovecchio, Anghiari, and several other localities, not even in Florence by all the most important Magistrates, exercised by the Nobles, have these Offices and Magistrates exercised with such Authority and Superiority as by the men of this Guadagni Family even though they have always been few in numbers.

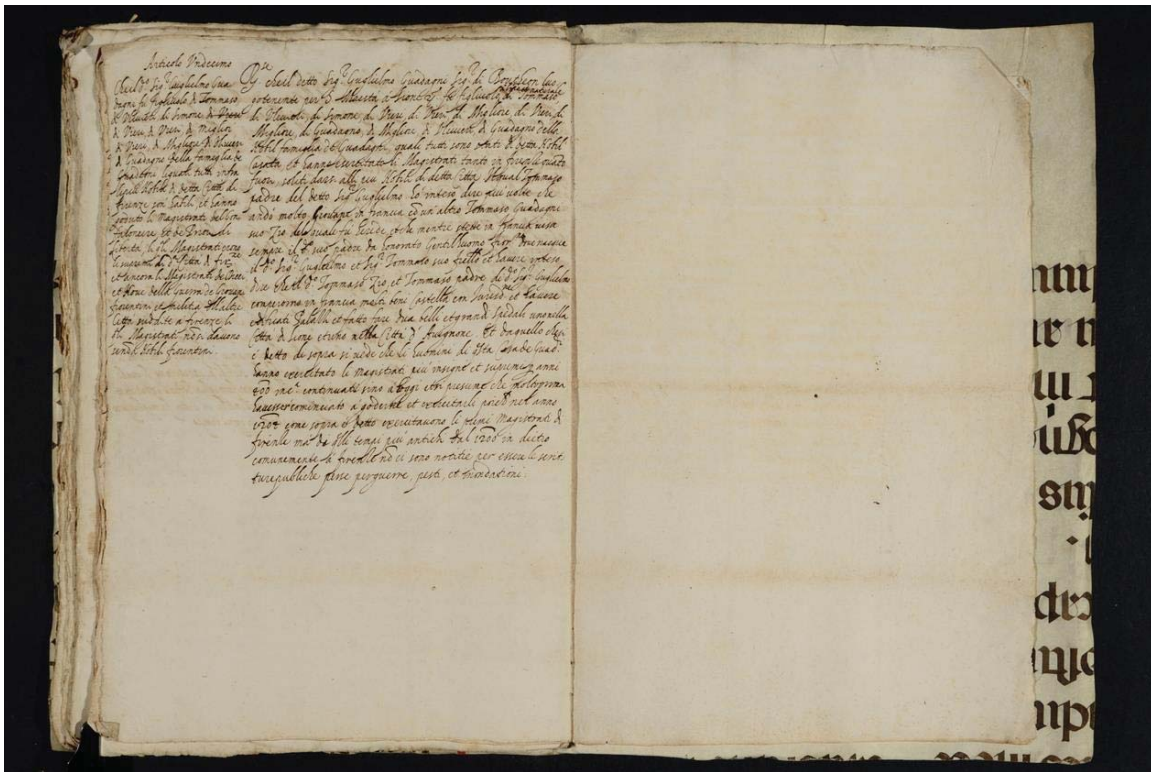
[note of fcdq: I would like to put a picture of each one of 24 above listed Tuscan towns where the Guadagni were brilliant and successful Commissaries and/or Vicars during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. The Computer does not allow me to put them all together. I will try and put 2 per page in the order they are above with their order number.



Pisa



Volterra



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Article Eleven: That Guglielmo Guadagni was the son of Tommaso, son of Ulivieri, son of Simone, son of Vieri, son of Vieri, son of Migliore, son of Vieri, son of Migliore, son of Ulivieri, son of Guadagno, of the Guadagni Family, all of whom are among the noblest of this City of Florence, are capable, and have had the Magistrates of Gonfalonier and Priors of Freedom; these Magistrates were the most important of this City of Florence, and they were also Magistrates of the Ten, and the Nine of the War of the Young Florentines and militia in Florence of the other abovementioned town, the other Magistrates were not given to Florentine Nobles.

The above mentioned Guglielmo Guadagni, Lord of Boutheon, Lieutenant of His Majesty in Lyon, was the son of Tommaso, son of Ulivieri, son of Simone, son of Vieri, son of Vieri, son of Migliore, son of Vieri, son of Migliore, son of Guadagno, son of Migliore, son of Ulivieri, son of Guadagno, of the Noble Guadagni Family, who were all from the abovementioned Noble Family and they exercised the Magistrates in Florence as well as out of Florence, which are usually given to the Noblest of the City. I have often heard several times the abovementioned Tommaso, father of Guglielmo that he went to France when he was very young, and another Tommaso Guadagni, his uncle, from whom he inherited a large fortune, and that while he was in France, he saw his father always live as



Tommaso I Guadagni



Tommaso II Guadagni



Interior courtyard of the Guadagni Palace-Museums in Lyon, France.

a very honorable Florentine Gentleman, Guglielmo and his brother Tommaso Guadagni were also born there and he heard it said that his uncle Tommaso and his father Tommaso, father of Guglielmo bought several properties in France including Castles with Jurisdiction over them and built Palaces and two beautiful and large Hospitals, one in the City of Lyon and the other in the City of Avignon.

And from what we said above we see that the men of this Guadagni Family have exercised the most important and supreme Magistrates for 400 years and they continue doing so today and we presume that they started to enjoy and exercise them in the year 1204 as we mentioned above, they exercised their first Magistrates in Florence but for documentation concerning Magistrates more ancient than the year 1200, we cannot find any more public documents in Florence because they were lost in wars, plagues and floods.

- The End -