

Pierluigi Terenzi, “Niccolò di Borbona”,
Encyclopedia of the Medieval Chronicle,
R.G. Dunphy ed.
(Brill, Leiden and Boston 2010), 1141

Niccolò di Borbona

d. post 1444. Italy. Born in Borbona, a castle near L'Aquila, in central Italy; nothing is known about his life, but probably he was a storyteller. ANTINORI considered him to have written the *Cronaca delle cose dell'Aquila dall'anno 1363 all'anno 1424* (Chronicle of L'Aquila 1363–1424), and he is still usually cited as its author but recently DE MATTEIS questioned this opinion. In fact he almost certainly wrote nine religious and moralistic poems, whose language and style are very different from that of the *Cronaca*.

The chronicle recounts the history of the town of L'Aquila from 1363 to 1424, in central Italian vernacular. It is a continuation of → Buccio di Ranallo's *Cronica*, and it begins where this chronicler stopped, continuing to the defeat of Braccio da Montone, a soldier of fortune who besieged L'Aquila (1423–24). The style is very simple and

without rhetorical or poetic elements, and this is one of the reasons why Niccolò is no longer considered its author. It survives in a 15th-century manuscript, containing also a copy of Buccio di Ranallo's chronicle: Parma, Biblioteca Palatina, cod. 77.

Bibliography

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