



CONSEGNA TO



RESTITUITO



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**Cambio Scheda da Gori a Carloni de
Querqui Francesco 577 (576) sentire
Benzoni**

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FOTORIPRODUZIONE _

Box	Scaffali	Da	A	
114	25 - 44	1	1012	

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Requested Code: **632350**

Archives: GUADAGNI

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Annotations:

Change of the Tab from Gori to Carloni de Querqui Francesco 577 (576) ask Benzoni

.....

PHOTOREPRODUCTION _

Box	Shelves	From	To
114	25 - 44	1	1012

1326. 1329.

D. 1. N. 2.

Testamento di Rinaldo di Migliore di Recadaguo Recadagiu
Il di 20. Luglio.

Uy altro Testam.^o Il med.^o Il di 9. Ott.^o 1329.

Dear Family and friends,

We are starting here the translation of another document of the Guadagni Archives:
1326. 1329 A.D. i.e. the years in which the document was originally written – one of the most ancient documents of the Guadagni Archives and the most ancient Guadagni Last Will recorded.

D. 1 . N . 2 (Listing letters & numbers)

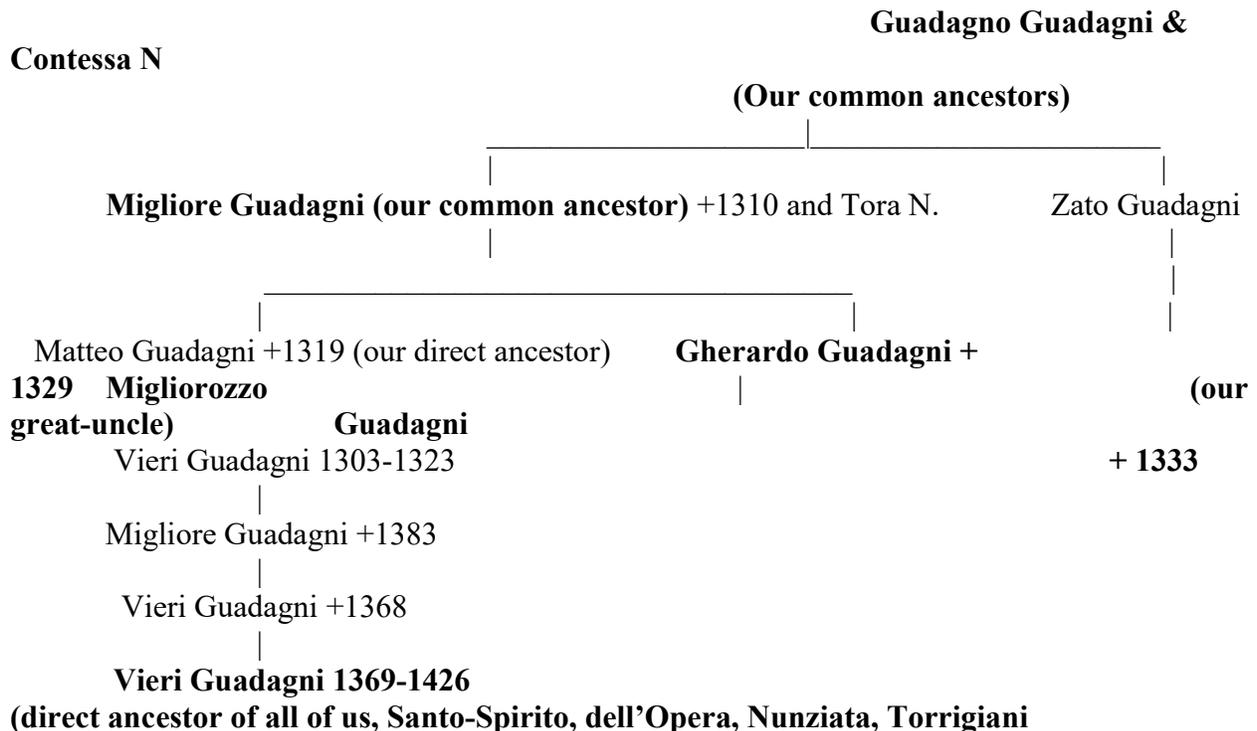
Last Will of Gherardo son of Migliore son of Guadagno Guadagni on July 20th, 1326

Another Last Will of the same on October 9th 1329.

This is the first Guadagni Archives document that we are translating from Latin, not Italian.

The most ancient last will and one of the most ancient documents of the Guadagni Family Archives is the above listed Gherardo Guadagni's last will (dated July 20, 1326). Gherardo is son of Migliore, son of Guadagno,

[The original Latin text, written 690 years ago, is here in its entirety, as a Family treasure to transmit through centuries and generations.]



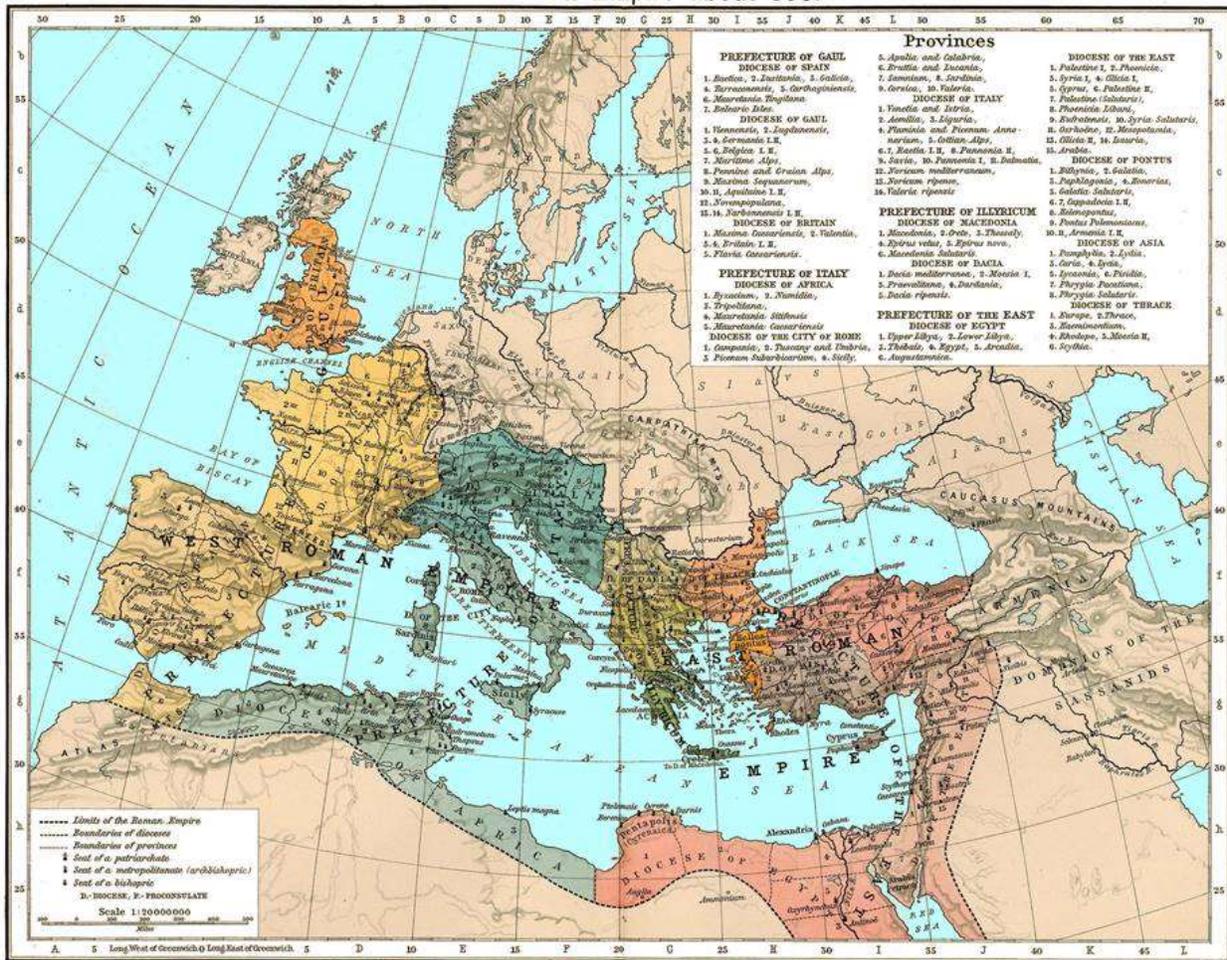
French Guadagni and Dufour Berte)

In the year 1326, 1329 A.D. Italian had not been accepted as a written language yet, it was only an oral dialect, different in the various Regions of Italy like other oral dialects in all the countries of Western Europe, which used to be part of the Roman Empire. As we know the City of Rome was officially founded in the year 753 B.C. by the twin brothers Romulus and Remus, and the Roman Empire officially ended in 476 A.D. when the last Roman Emperor Romulus Augustus (he lived from 461 to after 507 AD), aged 15, abdicated his scepter and crown to Odoacer, Barbarian King of the Goths.



The twins Romulus and Remus abandoned by their father are adopted and fed by a she-wolf. Romulus will found the city of Rome named after him.

M
The Roman Empire about 395.



Map of all the Roman Empire, from Southern Scotland to Egypt and Saudi Arabia.



Last Roman Emperor Romulus Augustus in a movie.



Romulus Augustus resigns the Crown

15 years old Emperor Romulus Augustus resigns the crown to Odoacer, Barbarian King of the Goths

During those 1,229 years, Latin was the official written and oral language of the Western Civilization. Later, little by little, each part of the ex-Roman Empire developed its own different oral language and/or dialect, influenced by the specific language of the different barbarian tribes which had conquered them and by other historical local factors of each city and/or country.

In 1326 however, Latin was still the official written language in all of Italy and most of Western Europe and this is why Gherardo Guadagni's Last Will is in Latin, which we will translate into English.

Our direct ancestor, Matteo Guadagni (see family tree above), son of Migliore and brother of Gherardo, married Adalasia, daughter of Vieri de' Cerchi, leader of the "White" Guelphs, who were for the Pope but in favor of a certain independence from him. It seemed that Vieri de' Cerchi was extremely handsome (according to historian Dino Compagni). He was a banker and a politician. Matteo Guadagni probably named his son "Vieri" after his father in law. From then on Vieri became a famous and historical Guadagni Family name.



The most recent and actual Vieri Guadagni (b. 1948) aka V. Gaines, son of Antonio Guadagni and Dolores Mapelli, is a successful car racer and entrepreneur in Denver, Colorado.



Vieri de' Cerchi leading the "White" Guelphs against Donati's "Black" Guelphs.

Unhappily we don't have any portrait or sculpture of Vieri de' Cerchi. However we have a well preserved sculpture of Blessed Umiliana de' Cerchi.



Blessed Umiliana de' Cerchi (1219-1246), great aunt of Vieri de' Cerchi and Vieri Guadagni (and all of us; I suggest you read her marvelous life). Maybe in the austere but perfectly regular traits of her face we can see some of the astonishing manly beauty of our direct ancestor Vieri de' Cerchi (from whom we all descend).

Let's get back to Vieri Guadagni's uncle, Gherardo:

Gherardo Guadagni spent most of his life as a soldier. He was so proud of it that he wrote in his will that he wanted a portrait of himself in armor sculpted on his tomb. He also had special concern for his arms and armor, which he left to some of his servants, probably to those who had been with him in his military campaigns.

As we know he had a cousin, Migliorozzo Guadagni, son of Zato. Migliorozzo was a warrior more than a merchant. He fought in the defense of Florence against Holy Roman Emperor Henry VII in 1312, and his name is recalled in the list of the enemies of the Empire. He fought in the battle of Montecatini in 1315 among the "feditori" and was a "feditore" also in the tragic battle of Altopascio in 1325, and a standard-bearer.

Gherardo was “Gonfalonier of Justice” (President of the Republic of Florence) for two months, starting on April 15, 1319. Nothing noteworthy happened during his term because at that time Florence was at peace with everyone. In 1326, the city of Prato elected him Captain of the People and Governor of the City.

It was while he held that office that, on March 22, 1327, he asked his cousin Lorenzo Guadagni, son of Zato, to go to Migliorozzo Guadagni and tell him that he, Gherardo and his wife, Lippa, wanted to make peace with him and forgive him. Migliorozzo had been a “feditore”, a Prior of Florence in 1321 and a standard-bearer of the company of his district in 1325, the year of the tragic defeat at Altopascio. He spent the rest of his life as a military commander, mostly in charge of guarding the fortresses which Florence had conquered.



Migliorozzo’s poisoned pancakes.

However, Migliorozzo was a violent man, enemy to his own relatives. As we know in 1327 he attacked, smit and wounded his cousin Gherardo with a knife. Later he poisoned the pancakes that Gherardo and his pregnant wife were eating. The couple was given an antidote which saved their life momentarily. When the crime was discovered, on February 18 the judge sentenced Migliorozzo to pay a fine of 2,000 lire and to have his right hand and left foot cut off. However the second part of the sentence was not carried out because Gherardo and Lippa Guadagni offered him peace and forgiveness on Good Friday of that same year which fell on March 22. Lippa died however nine days later, from the consequences of that poisoning.

The following year, the Duke of Calabria, whom the Florentine had temporarily chosen as their ruler, decided to attack Castruccio, ruler of Lucca and Pisa. The duke greatly valued Gherardo’s military experience, so he ordered him to organize a large company of cavalymen, to be the backbone of the army. Gherardo participated in the campaign with a high commanding rank and rendered noteworthy services to his city. He did the same in the war of the following year. However he was severely wounded and suffered great pains for many months, until he died in October 1329.



Gherardo Guadagni's company of cavalymen attacking the enemy.



Knight Gherardo Guadagni is severely wounded in battle

In his will, drawn by Sir Ciallo son of Dino, he asked to be buried in a military way in the Chapel of S. Martino, built by his father Migliore Guadagni, common ancestor to all of us, in the

Church of the Santissima Annunziata. In the history of the Basilica of Santissima Annunziata we read that "...in the first half of the 14th Century several chapels and altars were built in the Basilica: St. Ann, *Saint Martin of the Guadagni Family*, Saint Jacopo..."

However, the Guadagni lost the patronage of the Chapel of St. Martin in 1434, when their goods were confiscated by the angry Medici. The chapel was given to the Villani Family. However, the Guadagni brothers, Jacopo (1497-1569, ancestor of the Guadagni of Santo Spirito i.e. us) and Filippo (1540-1555, ancestor of the Guadagni dell'Opera-Torrigiani), wanted to regain the chapel to their family. The chapel was dear to them because of the remembrance of their ancestors. So they went to the Grand Duke and asked for it, but were unable to obtain it. Then they decided to opt for another chapel in the same church, close to the main altar. Giovambattista del Tovaglia, thanks to a gift to his ancestors from Lodovico Gonzaga, Duke of Mantua, was allowed the ownership of all the chapels around the choir, behind the main altar. From him, the two Guadagni brothers obtained as a gift, the chapel of S. Sigismondo by an act of November 29, 1541, notarized by Ser Raffaello Baldesi. They immediately set out to have the chapel decorated in a noble fashion. They dedicated it to Saints Jacopo and Filippo. They had the famous artist, Agnolo Allori (better known as "il Bronzino") paint a great painting behind the altar, representing Christ's Resurrection.



Artist Bronzino-self-portrait



Guadagni Crest above the main entrance of the Guadagni Chapel in the Basilica of Santissima Annunziata.



Guadagni Chapel of Santissima Annunziata: “Resurrection” by artist Bronzino (In the original fresco the figures are larger than life; the Guadagni Chapel is next to the main altar on its left; it is one of the largest and most beautiful chapels of the Basilica).

So there were historically two Guadagni Chapels built in the Basilica of Santissima Annunziata.



Basilica of Santissima Annunziata, Florence. Guadagni Crest with crown of Marchese under the left upper window at the end of the Church, above the 16th Century Guadagni Chapel.

Gherardo also stated that, should his daughters ever want to become nuns, his inheritance should be used to found a convent, dependent on the Servite monks. However Historian Passerini, who gives us this information, has never found any trace of Gherardo's daughters, existence.

1376
26. Julij.

IN NOMINE Dñi Am̄. Anno ab eius Incarnate Domini.
Millesimo trecentesimo vigesimo sexto in diebus decima, die
vigesima mensis Julij. Gherardus filius Magistri Guadagni,
de Guadagni, populi sancti Michaelis in eodem loco de
Florentia civitatis Civitatis predictae, sanus, mem̄, corpore
et intellectu, et sciens, et cognoscens, nihil certius mori
et nil incertius sibi scire, Et volens quod sua iura
in corporeis rebus et in rebus regis mentem suam bonis
dispositionem facere ita post ipsius mortem, sicut
bonis, rebus, vel contentis et aliis rebus non possit
decebere, sua rebus bonis testamentum sine
scriptis, et suorum bonis dispositionem, et oblationem
voluntatem in hunc modum facere procuravit.
In primis namque suam animam reliquit, et commendavit
graciam eius non contingit, omnipotenti Deo, et Beato
Marii regis Regni, et ceteris Sanctis suis, et
Corpus suum, sepulture religio. Graciam de Sacra
Sacra, apud ecclesiam sancti Marii de Servis
de Florentia, et apud dictam ecclesiam, sepulture
suae elegit. Item reliquit dispositum, voluit, et
mandavit quod omnia, et singula ipsius accepta
a rebus, vel ad ipsam quoslibet non fuerit per
quancumque illicitam, et indebitam rationem exactorem

“1326 July 26 (166 years before Columbus discovered America)

In the name of the Lord, today in the year one thousand three hundred twenty six from His Incarnation, early in the tenth hour, of the twentysixth day of the month of July, Gherardo son of Migliore Guadagni, of the Guadagni Family, in the Holy Church of St. Michael Visdomini,



Interior of the Church of San Michele Visdomini, in Florence



Entrance of the Church of San Michele Visdomini on the left, and Duomo of Florence in the center background.

The Guadagni dell'Opera Palace is just behind the Duomo and the Guadagni "Nunziata" Palace is just a few blocks upfront of this picture.



© Nicola Cangoli, 2012

Another view of the Façade of the Church of San Michele Visdomini, Florence

Florentine citizen of the abovementioned city, healthy of mind, body and intellect, knowing and acknowledging that there is nothing more certain than death and nothing more uncertain than the hour of death, and to desire to keep the members of our body healthy for a long time and the area of power of the mind with an honorable disposition after one's death, that he keeps a good state of mind both in good times and in bad, he should never leave his will without writing it, and without good dispositions, and his last will he should make it be done.

At the beginning he will leave his soul, and it will be recommended by whoever is with him to the almighty God, and to the Blessed Mary Ever Virgin and to all the Saints, and his body, which left this life, will be buried in a Religious way, and in the presence of said church, they buried him the way he wanted. His relics were disposed as he wanted and ordered.”

Gherardo also stated that, should his daughters ever want to become nuns, his inheritance should be used to found a convent, dependent on the Servite monks. However Historian Passerini, who gives us this information, has never found any trace of Gherardo's daughters, existence.

seu retentionem, restituantur, reddantur, et solvantur de
bonis suis, usque ad integram satisfactionem, illis, et
illi, a quibus ipse Saburise apparuit. Item cum
Legati reliquit omnibus ab eis aliquid recipere debeant, tunc
id, totum, et quicquid ab eis recipere, et sapere debent
quacumque ratione, iure, vel causa, et predictorum
soluendis, dandis, et restitendis, omnia, et singula sua
bona, mobilia, et immobilia, presentia, et futura
obligata reliquit et esse voluit, Item pro anima sua
et parentum, et fratrum, nepotum suorum, de bonis suis
presentibus et futuris reliquit, et dari voluit libere
centum ff quos dari, et solui voluit, et mandavit
pauperibus ipsius, et ipsius locis per infrascriptos nos
fideicommissis, illis pauperibus, personis, et ipsius locis
quibus ipsius fideicommissis suis, in eadem videbitur, et
placuit. Item reliquit dixit, voluit, et mandavit
infanti Johanni eius nomine dari, et solui de bene ecclesie
Sancti Marci de Servis de florentia quilibet
anno libra quinquaginta ff q Saburide, et retinenda
semper in dicta ecclesia unum cappellanus qui continuis
celebret omni die, divina officia in dicta ecclesia
in cappella, et super altare cappelle, que est
in dicta ecclesia, que appellatur altare, et
cappella

“His debts will be paid by means of his own goods until full satisfaction and those people with whom he has special ties should receive everything they are owed, if any good or goods appear

to be remaining the legate gives them to all of whom they still owe something, by law or by knowledge and after everything has been given or given back, every object, piece of furniture, house or piece of land, and if future obligations remain, they will be satisfied, the rest will be given to offer prayers for Gherardo's soul and the souls of his relatives and some money should be given to the poor and to repair their lodgings and to appease their creditors and something must be given to the Order of the Servites ("Servants of Mary" Friars who looked after the Basilica of Santissima Annunziata in Florence), of the Basilica of Santissima Annunziata in Florence, where Gherardo is going to be buried in the Chapel of Saint Martin where the Divine Office will be celebrated daily on the Altar of this Chapel by a Chaplain of the abovementioned Basilica for fifty years and the above mentioned Chapel of Saint Martin will be built there for Migliore Guadagni of the Guadagni Family, father of Gherardo.)

capella Sancti Martini sua constructa, et edificata
per Meliora Guadagni, de Guadagni sua patrem
suum, et juramentum vobis, necnon et vestris dicta Cappella
quod deus nec dari debeat, nec se a possit, si dicta
Cappellanus contra non erit in d. ecclesia, et divina
officia non dicat, et celebravit pro ipsius anima, et
parentum, et fratrum, et regum suorum. Primum in ea cum
dicta deus et quantitas pecunie, velis societati
Beate Marie semper virginis civitatis Sancti Michaelis
de florentia dandi, et solvendi et distribuendi paupe-
ribus, et in pauperes christi et Capellanis dicta societatis
qui pro tempore fuerint. Salvo si magis placuit inchois
eius fideicommissi non obstantibus quibus in d. Legato contenta
sunt. Item quinquaginta quatuordecim in Infermaria frum-
dendi conventus. Item deliquit pro francisco albaris
quod est in dicta Cappella. Item pro vno calice, vno
Mensali in parte de paramentis, et ortus alijs ornatis
et furnis qui pertinet quatuordecim et expedire
dicta Marie de sumis bonis quibus, et fructibus, florentiam autem
Certum dam, et solvem per dei inchois suos fideicommissi
et executi. Prout in testamento, et obsequio voluntatis
et voluit d. testator quod sic per executi d. testamenti
de solvendi presentis Legatum que fiat, et fieri
debeat pro dictis inchois fideicommissi inchois et executi

And some money should be given to provide for the living, food and clothing of the above mentioned Chaplain; such does not need to be provided nor should the priests do it if the above Chaplain never officiates in the said church, and does not lead the Divine Office, but celebrates only for his own soul, and for those of his parents, brothers, and of his own nephews then he does not deserve to receive money from the Society of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin and of Saint Michael of Florence and the above money should be distributed to the poor and among the poor especially to the Captains of the above Society who for a while would be safe in spite of the Judges of such Legacy.



Medieval poor, above and below



Book Fifty states that they can spend a certain amount of the offerings in the above convent. The same person takes care of the altar in the above Chapel, takes care of the Chalice, of the Missal, of the vestments and of all the ornaments and provides care for the ornaments and for all that

belongs to the said Altar, with his goods, including the flowers on certain days and pays his helpers and executes the testaments according



Medieval Priest celebrating Mass (in Latin)

to the last will of the testator and proceeds to the execution of the last wills in the presence of the Legate who gives the permission and needs to restrain his abovementioned employees and executives in the execution of the above wills.

Gherardo Guadagni's Last Will Page 6

Item parentis testamenti, Item reliquit Pauperibus
Etiā et p[ro]p[ri]os locos, et ipsius arma, et parentum
et frat[rum] et soror[um] suorum, omnia sua arma offerat, et
defensivā et cancel[is] sua tota ea lecta et alijs
forament[is] v[est]ib[us] occurrat in d[omi]no. Canera vendat
et daret, et soluet[ur] eidem et inter eos distribuenda
et d[omi]no videtur sicut fideicommiss[us], et occurrat testamenti
quor[um] Item reliquit v[est]ib[us] suis conxoribus videlicet
cuiuslibet eor[um] et v[est]ib[us] suis Item reliquit frat[er] sena
et Guglielmus de fratre dei Copuante videlicet
cuiuslibet ipsor[um] pro ipsor[um] necessitat[ibus] floren[ti]ar[um] decem,
Item pro ipsius arma, et parentum suorum, reliquit
et dari voluit Deo d[omi]no Conventus pro vna
cap[itu]la quinque floren[ti]ar[um] aut[em] Item cuiuslibet alij inter
frat[er] qui adiuuat res sunt res in present[is]
testamento et decem flo[ren]tis, Item eccl[esi]a s[an]cti Michaelis
vice Donator[um] et v[est]ib[us] suis, Item et quidam scripta
frenta per eum, et de p[ro]ceda per decem flo[ren]tis
Guglielmum debeat occurrat mandari ut in eo
continebitur per inter eius fideicommiss[us], et sui
testi occurrat - In omnibus alijs suis bonis
mobilib[us], et immobilib[us], que n[on] sunt et actionib[us]
quor[um], et fratre Magliore filium d[omi]ni v[est]ib[us] -
Matre Maglioris Guadagari de Guadagari p[ro]p[ri]o sibi

Likewise he left strips of snake and python skins for the poor and for his own soul and the ones of his parents and siblings and all of his attack and defense armaments and all the clothing on his bed in his bed-room and the other furniture existing in his room to sell



Python



Armaments



Clothings



Bed

and to give, and to give to other people and to distribute among his servants, according to their diligence and past service.



Medieval masters and servants.

Gherardo left Brothers Simone and Guglielmone of the Friars of the Convent tools to grow large numbers of flowers.



Tools to grow flowers and till the soil

Likewise for his soul and the ones of his relatives, he gave to each of the Priors of the above Convent a cape (mantle) with five flowers each.



Medieval Friars Cape



Medieval Convent

There are also seven witnesses in the present testament and several more, and in the Church of St. Michael there are twenty vicars. Also somebody has written an offer for him, and put it next to the offer that Guglielmo has to procure uninterruptedly for him (Gherardo) and for his servants. In all of these and other goods of his, and his properties, in all his actions present and future, Migliore son of Vieri son of Matteo son of Migliore Guadagni of the Guadagni Family was buried in the Chapel of Saint Martin that Gherardo built at that time for him, Migliore Guadagni of the Guadagni Family.

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sibi Universalem Sacerdotem Instituit, Et si dictus Michael
deceperit antequam perveniat ad Legnam etiam vel postea
postea sine filijs masculis legitimi, et ex legitimo matrimonio
natis, reliquit dirigit, iussit, voluit, et mandavit
de omnibus alijs bonis suis, mobilibus, et immobilibus
suis, et fuit, fieri unum monasterium dñi, virgini
ordinis s. Marij, in es locis, in quo, et ubi debet incipere
eius fideicommissi, et executioni magis placuerit, et vide-
bitur, et honeste, et monasterium sit sub correctione
gubernatione et protectione frum ordinis secus, s.
conventus de flor. qui pro tempore fuerit Et quod
monasterium debeat unum singulis annis ex redditibus
eius fideicommissi adveniens dicto can. de redditibus
bonis, suis, ubi, et qd aliqua bona immobilia de
ipsius bonis vendantur, et dictos redditus suos fideicommissi
pro sustentatione, et edificatione dicti monasterij, et
si predicta non fuerint, et executioni mandavit
sine aliqua diminutione, suos bonos, de fructibus, et
redditis suis bonis, ut dictum est, et quod dicta omnia
dicta bona perveniant, et pervenire debeat ad dictam
societatem boni sancti Michaelis de flor., et dictam
societatem adveniens dicto can. sibi Sacerdoti substituit
et voluit, ad hoc ut omnia eius bona et capitula

If the above mentioned Migliore should die before reaching the legal age or without leaving hereafter legitimate male children, born from a legitimate marriage, he said, confirmed, wanted and ordered that all his other goods, mobile (i.e. can be moved around like money, furniture, works of art...) and immobile (cannot be moved i.e. land, properties, houses, castles, farms etc.), in the present and in the future would be used to build a monastery of Nuns of the Order of the Virgin Mary, in that place, in which his trustworthy manager would follow up to build what would be the most pleasant and beautiful and honorable Monastery which would be under the authority, government and protection of the Order of a Convent of Florence. The Monastery had to be built a few years after the arrival of the trustworthy manager with the income from Migliore's own goods added to the profit from the sale of some of his immobile goods, and with this income the manager would build the said monastery. If he didn't plunder the building materials and executed the orders accurately without trying to diminish the projected work, with his goods from the sale and his rent from the goods he should be able to finish it as planned and given it to the Society of Saint Michael of Florence and this Society would inherit the goods and the substance of the above Society.





deus societatis que p[er] se fuerit vendant, et pau-
peribus, et suis locis dent, et distribuano. pro
v[er]is anima, et parentum, et filii, et respectu
dummodo de ip[s]is bonis nullus ad p[ro]prietate ueniat
vel alienari, aut quous modo aliquid alienari
conuocari de alijs p[ro]prietate uel eor[um] alio. ~~et~~ Ita quod
p[ro]prietate uel p[ro]prietate aliquid modo, non p[ro]prietate
aut p[ro]prietate p[ro]prietate, directis, et p[ro]prietate, aut tunc
vel ex p[ro]prietate ad aliquos de ei[us] consorte, uel si
filii masculi ex ea rati et decideret, sine filijs
masculis legitimis, et ex legitimis natiuitatis pro-
creatis, in ea causa simili modo p[ro]prietate fiat, et fieri
debeat Monasterium supradictum. Et si filie femine
una, uel plures, et d[omi]ni filie, uel eius filij
legitimi masculi, in dictum est remanserint, suffi-
ciant, eas, et quantitates ear[um]. Et ip[s]ius Monasterij
bonis facta p[er] eis maritandis filijs aut filijs decedentis,
et de redditibus bonis cum dicto Monasterio, et de
bonis actus dicti testatoris fiat, et fieri debeat
Monasterium supradictum. Et ad hec omnia exequenda
et exequenda mandant et p[ro]hibent eor[um] in d[omi]ni eius
testamento, et ultima voluntate contenta. Et voluit
et reliquit fideicommissum ad eor[um] testam[entum] et ultima
voluntate.

However the Captain of this Society sold it and distributed the profits to the poor, offering it for the good and Redemption of his own soul, of the ones of his parents, his children and his

grandchildren and so nothing of his goods could be sold or alienated. In such a way Migliore could not attain in any way the property or possession of those goods directly or indirectly, silently or officially, or through a relative of his spouse, (because they had been dedicated to the salvation of the souls of the Captain and of his family), even if the Captain's male children died, without legitimate male children, and he did not have any more children from his legitimate marriage, but if Migliore had children from a legitimate marriage in such a case it would be okay and the Monastery had to be built, and if said Migliore had female daughters, one or more than one, in this case Migliore, or his legitimate male children and, this is said and remains, if he wanted those daughters as many as they came, then pious good Migliore and the flowers of his marriage ("his children"), even if they were "one thousand two hundred" (Medieval expression meaning "numerous") with what was left of "good Migliore's" fortune and of the goods of the ones who inherited from him, the Monastery would have to be built if everything was to be executed and was executed according to that order and that it was somehow indicated anywhere in his testament and last will and consensus and that he wanted to "disregard the last will and testament of his "untrustworthy manager"" (i.e. the "Captain").



Detail of a 14th Century oak choir stall of Winchester Cathedral – his smile reminds us of medieval crooks.



Medieval Monastery

Historical Note: Who was this Migliore Guadagni (direct ancestor of all of us) and why was he so important for Gherardo? _

Gherardo (+1327) was the oldest son of Migliore Guadagni (Senior), great-grandfather of the above; he had a sister, Agnoletta, and two brothers, Matteo and Guadagno. As we remember Gherardo's cousin, Migliorozzo Guadagni poisoned Gherardo's pregnant wife, Lippa, and their unborn baby to death. Guadagno died of plague in 1340 and had three daughters, Piera, Eletta and Fia and no sons. Matteo married Adalasia de' Cerchi, daughter of the "handsome" Vieri de' Cerchi, leader of the "White Guelphs" of Florence, and named his only son, Vieri, after his famous father-in-law. Vieri Guadagni had only one son, Migliore, before dying at 20 years old. So Migliore was the only Guadagni male left to continue the family and we all descend from him. However Gherardo could not foresee the future and was thus rightfully worried about the continuation of the Guadagni Family, who all depended on Migliore, who was only 4 years old when Gherardo died of his wounds while leading the Florentine cavalry in a heroic attack.

[Eventually Migliore Guadagni had only one son, Vieri, and five daughters, Sister Francesca (nun), Agnoletta, Nanna, Niccolosa and Jacopa.

His son Vieri Guadagni had two sons, Bernardo (who had 6 sons and one daughter) and Vieri (who had 5 sons and 5 daughters and one of his sons, Migliore Guadagni Junior, is the director ancestor of all of us)].

voluntas executi d. falconem d. & hincmaro et
B. Bonaccursi juri de pretructo et juris d. conuen. tri. p. m.
qui pro ope fuit, et fecit honores et Guglielmo
supior de frat. d. b. ordinis et conuentus et
maiores p. e. p. i. o. r. u. m. s. s. i. p. i. e. n. t. i. a. d. a. n. s. et concedens
dictus testator d. b. i. s. e. x. e. c. u. t. i. o. n. e. s. f. i. d. e. i. c. o. m. m. i. s. s. i. o. n. e. s.
p. r. o. p. r. i. e. t. a. t. i. s. et singulis supior, et
quolib. supior, e. x. e. c. u. t. i. o. n. e. s. n. a. r. d. a. t. i. o. n. e. s. p. l. e. n. a.
l. i. b. e. r. a. g. e. n. e. r. a. l. e. et speciale mandatum, et plena
libera, et generale administratio, ac et plena, licentia,
et libera potestatis, et irrevocabila mandata, cum
plena, libera, et generale administratio s. m. c. o. n. t. r. a. d. i. c. t. i. o. n. e.
cuiusq. personae, vel loci, de eius bonis, nobilitas, et
in nobilitas, et de quib. n. a. g. g. o. l. a. d. u. e. n. d. i. a. l. i. e. n. a. r. i. s.
et obligatio q. n. o. b. i. s. l. o. g. a. t. i. s. s. o. l. u. e. n. d. i. s. d. a. n. d. i. s. p. a. g. n. i. s.
p. r. o. u. t. s. u. p. e. r. i. o. r. s. s. c. r. i. p. t. u. m. e. s. Tutores aut. d. c. t. i.
Migliori reliquit, et e. x. e. c. u. t. i. o. n. e. s. d. i. c. t. o. r. d. n. u. m.
falconem d. b. i. s. e. x. e. c. u. t. i. o. n. e. s. B. Bonaccursi juri n. o. s. t. r. o. s. e. o. f. f. i. c. i. o. s.
supior et d. n. u. m. f. r. a. n. c. i. s. c. a. d. P. a. r. r. i. n. i. d. e. P. a. r. r. i. n. i. s.
n. a. u. t. e. p. a. r. t. e. s. i. p. s. o. r. s. s. u. p. e. r. u. e. n. i. e. n. t. i. s. C. a. n. a. s. et i. u. r. i. s. t. a. n. s.
dictus Gerardus testator, de aliam testamentales et o. e. n.
aliam aliam voluntate d. i. c. t. a. t. a. b. S. o. d. e. n. e. t. r. o.
q. e. u. a. n. d. e. m. G. e. r. a. r. d. u. s. c. o. n. d. i. t. i. o. n. e. s. f. a. c. i. o. s. et ordinatus
s. c. r. i. p. t. u. m. n. a. m. c. u. r. a. n. d. i. s. n. o. s. t. r. o. s. u. e. l. a. l. i. o. s. c. u. r. a. n. d. i. s.

And that he (Migliore) consented and wanted to “disregard the last will and testament of his “untrustworthy manager”” (i.e the “Captain”) to execute Falcone of Lucignano and Bonaccorso of Ginevetro and the Prior of the above Convent who was for the above, and Brothers Simone and Guglielmino, superiors of the friars of the above Order and the



Lucignano: small medieval town close to Florence.

Convent and the oldest of them and their superiors, giving and conceding what was said above about the untrustworthy manager in words and his life, and in his singular pride and whether you like it or not, the superiors were executing the orders, in full liberty, the general and the special order, with full, free and general administration, and full, free power and irrevocable mandate, with full, free and general administrative power against two persons, in the fields of their mobile and immobile goods and by whom they were asked to sell and to alienate and obliging the above legates to sell, give, pay for their superiors and so it is. Migliore left the above mentioned tutors behind and wanted the above Falcon and Father Bonaccorso Geri and the Franciscan Pazzino de'Pazzi (who was Migliore Guadagni's uncle; Pazzino's sister, Monna de'Pazzi, being Migliore's mother), most of the same intervened uselessly, thus irritating the above “testor” (last will-writer) Gherardo Guadagni, concerning a different testament and a different last will, so on the back of the same he put together the facts, and orderly writing them with his own hands and in this very important task (text continues in page 10 like in the original Latin)...



Francesco de' Pazzi (1340-1378), who tried to murder Lorenzo de' Medici the Magnificent, was a great-nephew of the above Migliore Guadagni, whose mother was of Monna de' Pazzi.

Historical note on the above:

An interesting historical truth(: some members of the Guadagni Family were aware of it, including my cousin Vieri Guadagni who told me about it, however I was not, so I write it here for all those who did not know it and for all the readers who are not part of the Guadagni Family and maybe are not aware of it)

In contemporary Italian “Pazzo” means “Crazy”. In reality, however, Pazzi was simply an old family name like “Smith”, “Brown” or “Jones” before the Pazzi plot against the Medici. However, after the Pazzi plot to kill the all-powerful Medici brothers and their failure to kill both of them, and the horrible consequences for the Pazzi Family, several of whom lost their lives, and the loss of their large patrimony, their name “Pazzi” (is Plural, “Pazzo” is singular, “Pazzino”, i.e “little Pazzo” was a typical first name of the Pazzi Family like Guadagno Guadagni for the Guadagni) in Italian became synonymous of “Out of their mind, crazy” and such it is still nowadays. In the Latin Dictionary (as we know Italian comes mostly from Latin) the adjective “Pazzus” or “Pazzum” or anything similar does not exist, proof that the adjective “pazzo” does not come from Latin but from the “Pazzi Family name”. From their name also come the verb “impazzire”, “to become crazy” and the term “pazzia”, “craziness, folly, madness”, and the adverb “pazzamente”, “in a crazy way”.

In contemporary Italian “Guadagno” means “gain, earning” and “Guadagni” means “gains or earnings” and the verb “Guadagnare” means “to gain, to earn”. However, in the Latin Dictionary, “Guadagnum”, “Guadagni”, “Guadagnare” “Ganum”, “Ganare” don’t exist, the closest we get to is “ganea” which means a “disorderly house or a low-eating house”. This means that “Guadagni” does not come from Latin but was an old Florentine family name like Antinori, Corsini, Torrigiani, Bartolini, Medici and Pazzi, and then because they became so nationally and

internationally famous for earning such huge amounts of money until they became for a few years the “richest family in Europe”, in Italian “Guadagno, plural Guadagni”, started meaning to “gain(s), earning(s)” and the verb “Guadagnare” “to earn, to gain” (while Antinare, Corsinare, Torrigianare and Bartolinare don’t mean anything at all and don’t exist). When the Guadagni moved to France during the Renaissance, and changed their name in “Gadagne”, the new French verb “gagner” meant to “gain”. In English the verb to “gain” or the noun “gain” were probably adopted when the French Royal Princess Henriette married King Charles 1st of England and moved to England with all her French retinue and friends.

However in English, “**gains**” and “**to gain**”, from **Guadagni** and **Guadagnare**, can also be translated in “earnings”, and “to earn”; in Italian instead “**guadagnare**”, in French “**gagner**”, in Spanish “**ganar**”, in Portuguese “**ganhe**” are the only verb meaning to “earn”, so any activity earning a profit in “all the Latin derived languages”, spoken in Europe, Latin America and most of Africa derive directly from our Guadagni Family surname, which replaced completely the original word of those languages meaning “to earn” due to the international fame earned by our ancestors in making money. In most of the contemporary world the only word of the vocabulary meaning profit-making activity comes from our family name, Guadagni, and their outstandingly brilliant internationally famous historically known financial success. In German to “earn” is “verdienen” but to “gain” is “zu **gewinnen**” (probably from **Guadagni** also).

[“Pazzo” (“crazy” in Italian) instead is translated by “fou” in French, “crazy” in English, “loco” in Spanish, and “louco” in Portuguese and so the influence of the actions and behavior of the Pazzi Family is restricted **only to Italy**, not to **most of the civilized world like the “Guadagni’s”**].

Non derogatibus aliquibus rebus derogatibus in
 ipso testamento vel pluribus, et aliorum voluntate servare
 eorum, ordinare curantibus, terra, et conditio, seu
 de quibus dicitur fieri rationem, auctores de curantibus
 aliter testari, et aliorum voluntate, sacrum per cur
 rogatibus, et aliorum voluntate, et procurantibus, rector, derogatibus, aliter in
 ipso testamento vel pluribus, et aliorum voluntate, seu extra conditio, et faciens in tal
 et hoc testamento, et aliorum voluntate, in quo seu qua
 et aliter voluntate, deo tamen derogatibus, non derogatibus, et ceteris qui but
 eorum, curantibus, prevalere, et hoc tamen testamentum
 aliorum voluntate, deo tamen derogatibus, non derogatibus, et si
 dicitur secundum non tales, vel tales, valeat saltem
 et valere voluit, dicitur derogatibus, et curantibus, aliquibus
 aliorum voluntate, quibus, magis, melius, valere potest
 et tenere — Petrus Floris in loco fidei P. Maria
 de Servis, quibus testibus, ad dictos Testamentum, vobis
 et rogatibus, fidei Petrus Gucij, philippi, fidei Joanne
 de Stranis, fidei franco de Stranis, fidei Guinardo
 de Mucelli, fidei Andrea P. Mestor, fidei Andrea de
 P. P. postibus, fidei Guillelmo de Floris, fidei conventibus
 dictos conventibus, fidei P. Maria de Servis de Floris
 Joannes Crallus, filius p. d. de Petrognan, postquam auctore
 dicitur vobis, et ceteris, postquam auctore, et ceteris, rogatibus
 postquam auctore, et ceteris, rogatibus, postquam auctore

...he did not write any derogatory observation on other people, or on several witnesses, and wrote his will in his ordinary handwriting but backwards, and the conditions, apart from their fiery motion, asserting that he was a different witness from them regarding the Holy last will, for

that fact and whatever were the derogatory words, the alternative last will for their condemnation acting in such testament and last will taking advantage of the totality of the expertise and of the revocation of the expert concerning such testament and Holy last will he wanted this testament and last will in which we can see such combined derogation of yours and so forth, which seems in any way to overrun, and he wanted this own testament of his to win with the testament writer thereupon with this text, and if this testament has no value, nor will it have, nor did it have once upon a time and he wants it to be valuable then he must uphold the lawful rights of the “codicils” (“Additions to the Will”) and the will of the author of them, thanks to which he could better and more strongly win [the Latin language likes long sentences so I tried to keep them that way to add to the Medieval flavor of this inedit document of Gherardo Guadagni, which has been kept safe and untouched in the Guadagni Archives *for 688 years!*

Written in Florence in a room of Santa Maria de’ Servi [The Guadagni Family Parish Church in the Middle Ages; a few centuries later they Moved to the Basilica of Santissima Annunziata, where they built two Family chapels, and then to the Basilica of Santo Spirito, a few yards from the Guadagni di Santo Spirito (our branch’s) Palace], in front of witnesses, by the above testament writer in front of and witnessed by Father Paolo Gucci Filippi, Father Giovanni, from Oltrarno (“the other side of the Arno from where the Duomo and Santa Maria de’ Servi are, ie. where Santo Spirito and the actual Guadagni-Dufour Berte Palace are located now), Father Franco from Oltrarno, Father Grimaldo from Mugello, Father Andrea Pilastri, Father Andrea from (the Church of Santi Apostoli), Father Grettimo, from Florence living in the above Convent of Santa Maria de’ Servi in Florence.



Oltrarno: Piazza Santo Spirito: “Outdoor Market Day”: Palazzo Guadagni-Dufour Berte is the Palace on the left, behind the statue. The top of the main entrance door of the palace can be seen behind a salesperson canopy on the left of the statue.



Left: Church of Santi Apostoli, Florence. As we remember, Isabella Guadagni and Tonino Carloni got married there in June, 1943. It is considered the oldest church in Florence.
Right: Bartolini-Salimbeni-Torrigiani Palace where Uncle Vieri Guadagni lived and where he gave the wedding reception for Isabella and Tonino.

Countersigned by Ciallo son of Dino from Petrognano (often in the Middle-Ages people only had a first name and the town of origin and no last name, unless like the Guadagni and de'Pazzi they were from an important noble family), implied in addition with orderly and public notary in between which and with denial of public employee and public legislator is signed by the undersigned.



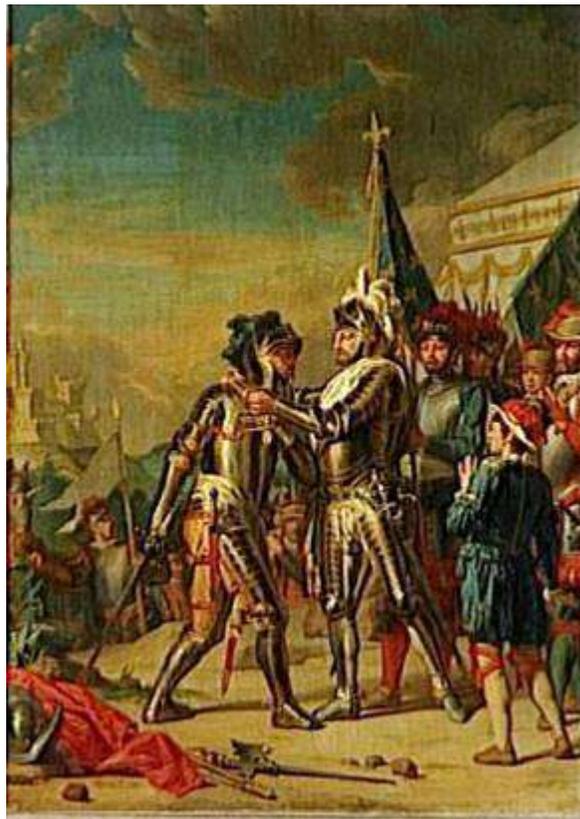
Petrognano

In Nomine Dei Amen. Hanc ab eorum inter. Fili. Motta
 Trecentorum viginti nono die. Decembris. Lxx nono
 Octobris. Gerardus filius q. Myleses Guadagni de
 Guadagni populi Sancti Michaelis Vice. Florentia,
 florentia, sanus ac libet, in pace languens
 volens bonis suis disponere. Facere, et servare, et
 recognoscere, se alias testamentis fecisse scriptum
 non nisi rati se, volens detinere, et adhibere dicto
 testamenti. alias ipse eundem Gerardus confitetur
 eo in sua testam. corrigere, et mutare, et confirmare
 prout inferius continetur. In hunc modum facere
 procuravit. In primis namq. dictum testamentum alios
 q. ipse Gerardus conditum et factum, scriptum namq.
 nec usq. in ea. per hoc sui testam. in istis suis
 capitulis et articulis confirmavit, et a probante
 et notariis obtulit exceptis, et deductis, titulis, et
 singulis q. in hoc ipso testam. revocatus, corri-
 gendus, vel mutatus. Item addendo d. testam.
 reliquit sine legato. In hunc modum. cuius d. testam.
 quas ab ea vel aliis d. q. ea habuit seu con-
 factus fuit. contra. matrimonij sui. et
 et utraque sua florent. adducendo, computato
 in ipso legato. florent. adducendo. omni q. pariter
 hanc ipse sine quas habet, et habebit de bonis

[Before starting the translation of the Eleventh Page of Gherardo's Last Will I wish to add more remarks on the linguistic ramifications of the Guadagni Family surname].

In Italian “guadagno” means “gain” and “guadagnare” means “to earn”. But it also means “to win” and “to reach” and “guadagnare tempo” “to save time”, “guadagnare terreno” “to gain ground”.

In French “guadagnare” i.e “gagner” (from Guadagne, later Gadagne (French form of the Italian Guadagni) means like in Italian “to earn, to win and to reach” but it also means “to gain, to get, to overcome, to spread, and to save” for example “gagner une bataille” means “to win a battle” “une equipe gagnante” means “a winning team”; the Gadagne Family were not only known to make unbelievable businesses and fortunes, but, thanks to their several members who were brilliant officers in the King of France’s army, their name became synonymous with “victory” (of the King’s armies over their enemies and in general).



Battle of Renty August 12, 1554. Led by the Duke of Guise, Gaspar de Saulx-Tavannes and Guillaume de Gadagne, the French defeat the Holy Roman Imperial Army led by Emperor Charles V himself. Guillaume is only 19 years old but his courage and determination become legendary. King Henry II of France rewards him by nominating him one of the 24 noblemen allowed to enter his room at any time. He also appoints him Seneschal of the Region of Lyon, at that time the richest and most important city of France.

So “gagner” means “to win” not necessarily only in battle or war, but also in other fields; for example “gagner un pari” means “to win a bet”, “Les Denver Broncos ont gagne’ contre les Chicago Bears” means “The Denver Broncos have beaten or defeated the Chicago Bears”, “il a gagne’ une ame” i.e. “he saved a soul” and so forth.].

In Spanish the noun “guadagna” means “scythe” and is used in the expression “la guadagna de la muerte” “the scythe of death”; the verb “guadagnare” i.e “ganar” means “to win, to receive, to be superior, to be better, to have an advantage, to conquer, to improve.”

In Portuguese the verb “ganhar” means “to win”, “to beat”, “to outdo”, “to earn”, “to gain”, “to get”, “to reach”; “ganhador” means “winning” and “winner” and “earner”; “ganho” (like “Guadagno” in Italian and “ganhos” plural like “Guadagni”) means “profit, gain and winnings”.

In German the verb “gewinnen” means “to win”, with another word after it, it may mean “to win somebody over”, “to win handsomely”, to “gain time”, to “reclaim land”, to “climb” and so forth.

What fascinates me is that in the Middle-Ages Guadagni was not a famous historical last name but a normal first name like John, Jim or Mike. The names of the first recorded 6 generations of the family were Migliore, Guittone, Giovanni, Francesco, Guittone and Guadagno. Guadagno had a brother, named Ildebrandino and both of them had children and descendants. So to specify which branch they were from, they probably asked if they were Guadagno’s (Latin Genitive Guadagni) or Ildebrandino’s (Ildebrandini) offspring. We and everybody else of the remaining Family Branch descend from Guadagno, so we are last-named Guadagni. Pretty quickly, the members of the Guadagni Family became known for their capacity to earn and make huge amounts of money and to be great winners all the time in everything they did. So like “pazzo” started meaning “crazy” after the ill planned conspiracy of the Pazzi Family against the Medici, “Guadagnare” started meaning to “earn and to “win” because that’s what the Guadagni Family did all the time. So new verbs and nouns were created from the Guadagni surname, in Italian, French, English, Spanish, Portuguese and German languages, because of the continuity and success of their famous actions in so many fields. The above lists of how many verbs and nouns derive from their last name define historically the different traits of their personalities more accurately than any written or painted portrait.

The Carloni instead, who are another old Florentine Family, are the descendants of “Carlone” (i.e “Big Carlo”). It seems that some well-known members of the Carloni Family were known to be sloppy, confused, disorderly, unorganized, inaccurate in their doings. So in Florence they created the expression “alla Carlona” i.e “the Carloni way”, which meant all of the above. And they created the verb “inCarlonirsi” which meant “to behave alla Carlona”. In junior high I disliked Ancient Greek, Algebra and Geometry. So I did my homework in those subjects in a sloppy, inaccurate, disorderly way. When my mother, Isabella Guadagni, saw me acting that way, knowing that I could do better, she told me with an amused smile “Francesco don’t “inCarlonirti...!!!” in her gentle good-natured Tuscan humor.

Let us go back to great-uncle Gherardo’s testament:

“In the Name of the Lord in the year one thousand three hundred and twenty nine from His birth in the thirteenth hour of the Day October nine, Gherardo son of Migliore Guadagni of the Guadagni Family of the Parish of St. Michael Visdomini of Florence, healthy of mind as it is allowed,



Frescoed ceiling of San Michele Visdomini Church in Florence (the church is located 3 blocks from Guadagni dell'Opera Palace).



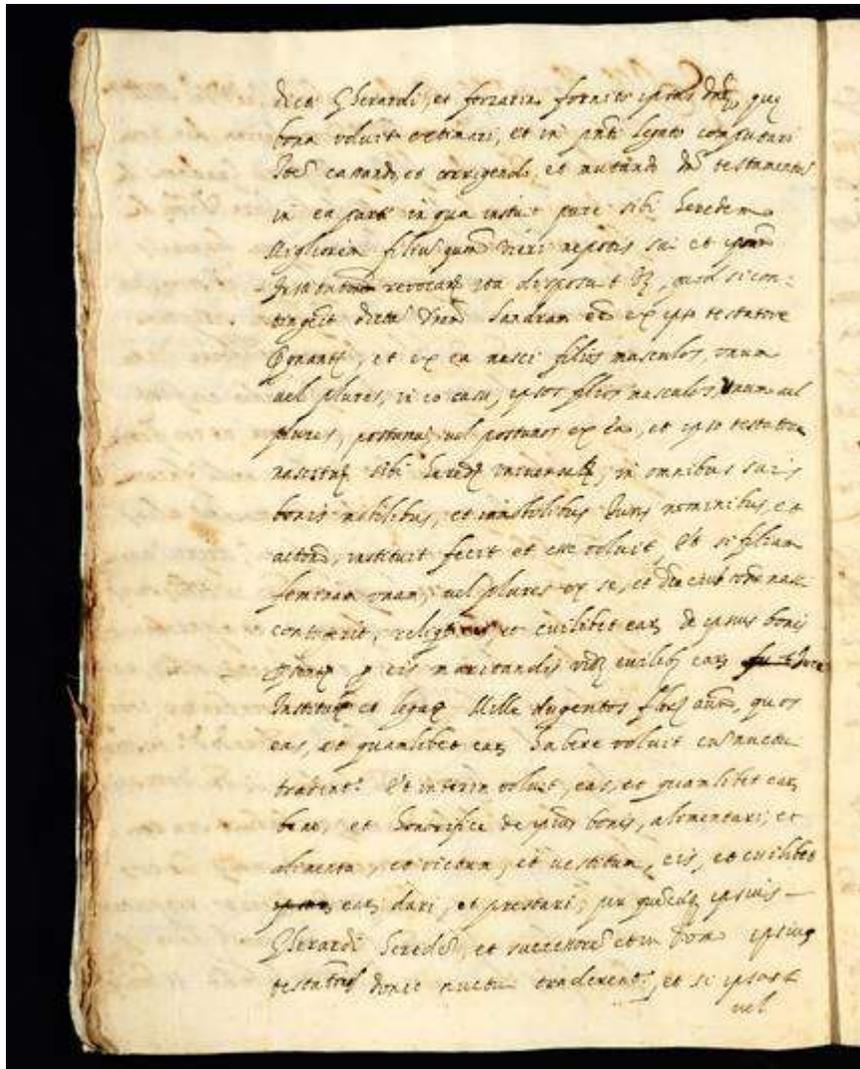
Main entrance of the Guadagni dell'Opera Palace, now Palace of the Region of Tuscany (i.e. the most important palace of Tuscany, because all of Tuscany, including the cities of Florence, Pisa, Siena and so forth, are governed by functionaries in its offices), in Square of the Duomo ("Cathedral"), Florence.

and of weary body, wanting to dispose of his goods, and knowing and recognizing that he had a testament written elsewhere with his hand for this use, wanted to detract and to cling to the above testament for himself to correct, change and confirm to contain rites to honor the dead. In such a way he managed to do. At first he increased the above Testament. At another time he had himself put it together and do it, written with his hand for the text in his chapters and parts – then he confirmed and approved it and wanted it to be valid in all and each one of its exceptions and detractions which in this text will be revoked, corrected and changed. Likewise if it happens that

the testament is left to a juridical representative for his second wife Sandra, for what he wants to leave to her or to somebody else and she knew if he confessed that at the time when the marriage was contracted between them, his wife brought him a dowry of two hundred Florins (Florentine currency) or two hundred Florins reckoned in the same legacy or two hundred from all the pieces of cloth which Gherardo owned or used to own from his own goods and which the representative estimated.

[Passerini ignores Sandra's last name and so do we; as we remember, Gherardo's first wife, Lippa Ardinghelli, died with their unborn child from poisoned pancakes given to her by their cousin Migliorozzo Guadagni on March 31, 1327 and Gherardo himself wrote this will on October 9, 1329 and died sometimes in October 1329, a few days later, from his wounds in battle. So he was probably writing his testament on his deathbed and had married his second wife Sandra less than two and a half years before. As far as Passerini and we know, he had no sons from her. However he mentions his daughters in his Will: are they all from his first wife Lippa or also from Sandra? Passerini only mentions Sandra's first name in his Family Tree, so we don't know anything about her birth family. Lippa, instead, was an Ardinghelli, of a rich and powerful family of San Gimignano. Two of the town's famous 14 towers were of the Ardinghelli's (see below two towers of San Gimignano)].





Page 12

Gathering, correcting and changing the testament in those parts in which he appointed as his heir Migliore, son of his nephew Vieri, and revoking his disposition that what oral parts you would come in contact through Sandra [the only and closest Sandra we can find is **Sandra Guadagni**, great-grand-daughter of Panza Guadagni, 3rd cousin of Gherardo Guadagni]. In 1327, the same year Gherardo wrote his testament and died, Sandra married Tommaso Donati, son of Corso Donati, who was the leader of the Black Guelphs and for a while the most powerful man in Florence], and the same testament writer Gherardo wrote that



Corso Donati (on the left) by contemporary artist Peter Howson (on the right).

if he (Migliore) had male children born to him, one or several, in that case, the same male children, one or more, even posthumous (born after the death of their father Migliore) or posthumous of his wife (I presume the mother dies during the birth or shortly before or afterwards) and the testament writer himself makes the baby to be born universal heir, of all his goods, those that can be moved (furniture, paintings, etc.) and those that cannot (land, castles, buildings in general, etc.), then in writing and actions he established and decided that if it was a female offspring, one or more than one, and that she was born from her mother's womb and became separated from her mother's body and was well heard screaming (i.e. she was alive) by any of the people who were present and very well seen by any of them, it is instituted by law that one thousand two hundred florins will be appointed to them and to any of them who wants and knows how to deliver the newborn, and for the time being to them and any of them and in an honorable way, food and clothes for them and any of them, and to give them or lend them anything they need.

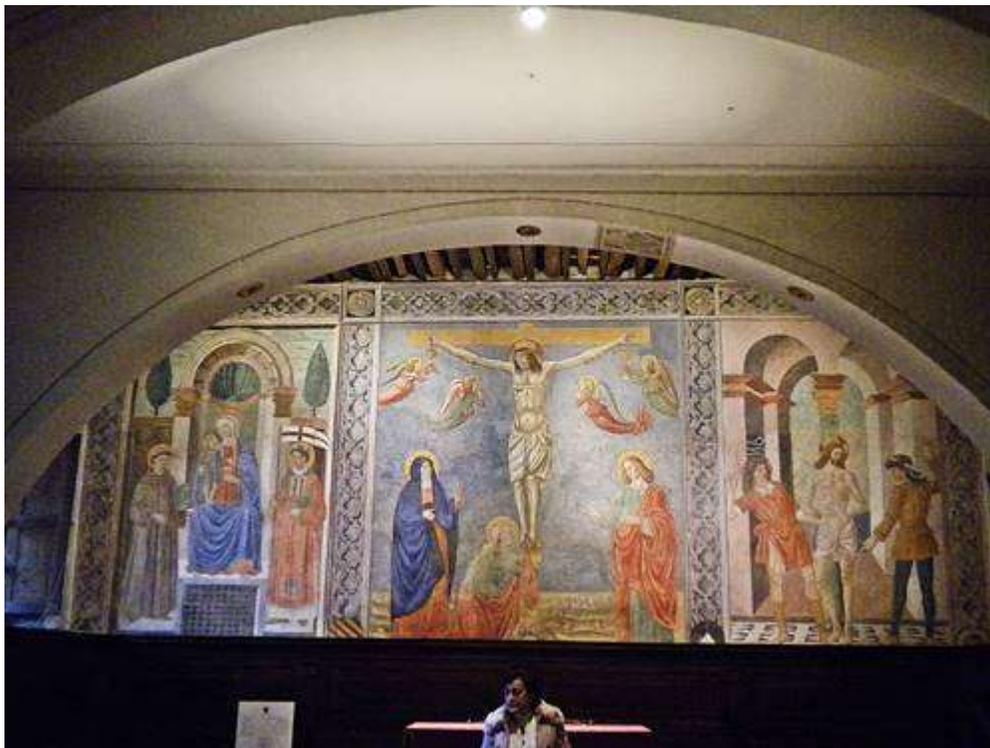


Medieval depictions of the birth of a baby with all the midwives assisting the delivering mother.

vel aliquam earum continget decedere de hactenus
vita antequam nuptias contraxerit, dicitur ubi legitur
Mathe ducator florentis remanere voluit, pater
ipsum testator heredes, et successores, et si ipsa
filias nupturas vel aliquas earum continget habere
et postea viduas remane in eo casu reliquit
earum, et cuiuslibet earum, Vna, et Sabina, donec in
qua nunc vivat, et ante predicta, et alimenta, et
nuptias, et vestituras, de bonis ipsius testatoris
habere, et honorificis, donec se vidue habeant
et viduale sibi reservaverit, et si ex ipso testatore
et de eius vna contingit non nasci filium, vel
filios masculos, unum vel plures, vel si contingit
ex d. testatore, et de eius vna filios masculos unum
vel plures nasci, et est decedere, in pupillari
etate, vel postea quocumque tempore filii legitimi nati
culis ex legitima matris procreant, tunc
et in quolibet dictorum casuum, eis, et cuiuslibet
eorum instituit, et substituit, et heredes suum, et
dictorum filiorum suorum, et voluit dictam Mathe
filiam q. d. d. veri materem suam, et filiam, et
filium d. d. Mathe Magistri Guadagni
et si d. Magistri non contingit in pupillari

The heir and successor of Gherardo and testament writer of the same, living in the house, up to whenever the marriage is arranged, if they or somebody else happens to die before the marriage is consumed, the remaining spouse inherits the legacy of one thousand two hundreds Florins, hence if this same will-writer dies and so do all of his successors, and if his daughters to be born or any of them happen to marry and then remain widows afterwards, in this case the inheritance remains to them and any one of them she leaves them to, and lives in the house, will want to remain hence with the heir and successor, witnessed by the same witness, and if those daughters to be born or others of them happen to marry and then remain widows in that case it remains to them, and whomever of them lives in the house where now the writer of the will lives, they get the food, the way of life and the clothes of the goods of the will writer himself, well and in an honorable way, until his life remains deprived and destitute, and if it happens that no children are born to the will writer, one or more male children, or if it happens that the will writer has one or more male children, and they die in childhood, or if afterwards somebody without legitimate male children or a procreating legitimate marriage, then in whatever of these cases, to them and to whomever of them he will stand on and stand up to and his heir and his so called children to the will manifested by Migliore son of Vieri, Gherardo's own nephew, and the daughter and the son of Matteo (i.e Piera, one of the Dominican sisters who found the Convent of San Niccolo' di Prato, and her brother





Images of Dominican Convent of San Niccolò in Prato co-founded by Sister Piera Guadagni, sister of our direct ancestor Vieri.

Vieri, (our direct ancestor, father of Migliore Junior) son of Migliore Guadagni and if Migliore has a new contingent of children in young age (eventually as we know Migliore had five daughters, Sister Francesca, Agnoletta, Nanna, Niccolosa and Jacopa, and one son, Vieri),

etate, vel postea quicquid sine filijs legitimis masculis
ex legitimo matrimonio procreant, vel si contraxerit
ex ipso Migliore filios legitimos masculos nasci
et remanere unum vel plures, et ipsam, seu ipsos
nati in pupillari etate, vel postea quicquid
sine filijs legitimis masculis ex legitimo matrimonio
procreant, tunc, et in quolibet dictis casuum
volunt, et iussit, et mandavit, de totius bonis
suis fieri, omne totum, et illud qd in d. testamento
alias per ipsum G. Bernardum, conditum est scriptum
ne rest. intus, de re iussit, et fieri mandavit
si d. Migliore decedat antequam perveniat ad
Legitimam etatem, vel quicquid postea, sine filijs
masculis legitimis ex legitimo matrimonio nascitur.
Et omnia, et singula, et prout, et sicut in d.
testamento fieri disposuit, et mandavit, in d.
cau iussit, et mandavit per hoc testamentum
fieri, in capitulis inferis, et quilibet eorum, ac
in hoc testamento esse scripta, et apponit, que
omnia precepta et recepta, et apponit in hoc
testamento ~~sub~~ voluit. Item detrahit de dicto test.
alias per eum condito, et detrahit et signa per re-
st. intus de ea parte in qua ~~dicta~~ franciscus
fin

or afterwards somebody without legitimate male children but procreates from a legitimate marriage, or reunited with the same Migliore has legitimate male children born and remaining, one or more, and the above, one or more, die in their childhood, or afterwards somebody without

legitimate male children from a legitimate marriage, procreates at that very time and whether he likes it or not in that situation, he wants it and legitimizes it and entrusts it of all the goods he can, all of them, and what is in the Testament elsewhere for the same Gherardo, polished and written, all for us, he said and legitimized, brought and entrusted.



Medieval Family



Medieval Courting

If the above Migliore dies, before he attains a legitimate status, or sometimes afterwards, without legitimate male children born from a legitimate wedlock and everything and each single thing just as it is disposed for in the testament, and entrusted, carried for this testament, in case it is committed, and to whomever of them, and also you find written in this testament appropriately that everything that is written and repeated and put in this testament he wanted to be taken away from this text elsewhere for its condition, and it is said and written. Altogether from this side on, it is broken into pieces by Lord Pazzino de Pazzi (he was the grandfather of Vieri Guadagni's wife, Monna de'Pazzi; Vieri was Gherardo Guadagni's nephew) and Datrone.



Pazzi Family Chapel in the Basilica of Santa Croce, Florence, by Architect Brunelleschi

Donni Pizzari de Pisey et datus. tutorum
de ipso dno francisco in d. testamento facti revocavit
eipsum, et prohibuit, ipse d. franc. in tutela
vel gubernatione dei Migliorini, se aliquo modo intromittere
Et addendo dicto testamento et datus. tutorum
tutores in simul cum alijs tutoribus scriptis in d. testamento
per d. Alexandrum conditum et scriptum per me
notum notum reliquit d. Migliorini, et ipsius testator filij
sui vel plures nasciturus ex eo, et d. eius uxore
et cuiuslibet d. franciscum de Medicis, et Guadagnam
Migliorini populi sancti Petri Martini
et in executionem et fidem d. testatoris, et obsequium
voluntatis eius per eum conditum ut dictum est et
scriptum est et obsequium voluntatis eius in simul cum
alijs executoribus et fidem d. testatoris scriptum
et per ipse reliquit ad executionem omnia, et singula
contenta in ipso testamento, et obsequium voluntatis eius
voluntatis, et cuiuslibet eius. Item de tractando de testamento
predecessoris sui et reliquit quod scriptum est in ipso testamento
in quo legitur legaverat, et scriptum erat et in
quibus legaverat et reliquerat d. Alexandro
pauperibus ipsi et suis locis pro ipsius anima
et parentum et filij, et nepotibus suis omnia
sua bona, officium, et defensionem, et cameram

They did it to protect in person Master Francesco. In the above Testament the facts revoked clearly and advanced by the same Master Francesco in the safeguard and inspiration of Migliore, if in some way adding to the above testament and giving to the “tutors of the tutors” together with other tutors explaining this testament written by the above Gherardo put together and written for the noble descendant of Migliore, and the same heir, an only child or one of many, born from the above and from his wife, and among them Francesco de’ Medici and Guadagno son of Migliore Guadagni of the Parish of Saint Peter the Oldest (or the Greater) for the execution and feoffment of the Testaments and the Last Wills of the same on the condition of what was said and indicated in the text and the Last Will executed together with the execution of the will and trust of other people in the above written text and left everything to the executioner of the will, and the single contents of the same text and of the Testament and of the Last Will, and because of them taking away from the above Will what was left in the above text in what was bequested by the testator and that is what was and is appointed and left by Gherardo to the poors for his soul and the ones of his relatives and children and grandchildren, and his weapons of attack and defense, and all of his room with the bed and the other related furniture in the above Room .



Church of San Pier Maggiore (Saint Peter the Greater) in the 17th century (above) and the arch that is left of it now (see picture below) after it was demolished in the 18th Century by order of the Grand-Duke because of the dangers of crumbling on faithfuls and passers-by due to its

instable foundations. It is located in one of the most ancient neighborhoods of Florence where the Guadagni, already wealthy and noble in those ancient times, had houses and palace. Most of the street on the left of the Church used to belong to the Guadagni (see closeup of the street 3 pictures below).



Remains of the Church of San Pier Maggiore (“Saint Peter the Greater”). You can read on the left “Piazza (Square) San Pier Maggiore” on the small street sign on the left of the closed window.



Details of the square and a street leading to it, above and below.



This used to be a Guadagni Street in the Middle-Ages; part of the arch of the Church is englobed into it (around the Irish Pub “The Lion’ Fountain”). Most of its houses and buildings belonged to the Guadagni.

sua tunc ad lecto, et alijs fornicis istis exiterij
in dicta Camera sicut detrahit camera sua tunc
ad lecto, et alijs fornicis istis exiterij in dicta
Camera, et ipsum relictum revocavit expresse
et dixit, et reliquit illam cum sua excepto
conterio suo de Ferro. Itē addendo de testatō,
et vltij voluntatē reliquit iussit dixit, voluit et
mandavit q̄ fiat, et fieri debeat in ecclia s̄m
S. Marz de senis de flor. in quadam cappella
s̄m in ecclia s̄m constitutā in dicta p̄ced. per
dictam Misionem patrem d. Gerardū quē vocat
cappella, sancti Martini, quādam rōna sepultura
coperta lapidibz marmoreis, in qua tunc lapidibz
designata sic figura d. Gerardū et eius quā p̄ced. sic
fuit sic verba, Gerardus Misionis Guadagni
de Guadagni de florentia, Ita q̄ clara, et
apertē, potest legi videri, et cognosci quātū sit
sepultura Gerardū s̄m, et sic sunt testimo
obtinere, et tunc Valere voluit, et bene
Iure testamenti, et si Iure testamenti nō
valeret, seu non valeret Iure voluit, et
iure Iure Codicillorū et curā s̄m
alibz vltij voluntatē, quibus magis, et melius
valere potest ratificandi, et approbandi
Ioc

And he took away from his room the bed, and the other pieces of furniture existing in said room, and he clearly revoked the above remnant and left only his weapons except for his iron breastplate.



Medieval breastplate

In that manner he added to the above testament and by his will he left, added, said, ordered and did, what he had to do. In the Church of Santa Maria de' Servi ("Saint Mary of the Servites") of Florence (now known as "Basilica of Santissima Annunziata of the Servites Fathers") in the Guadagni Chapel he erected for the above Migliore, his father, called Chapel of Saint Martin, he put his own tomb covered by marble stones, in which stones is portrayed the figure of Gherardo himself, Gherardo son of Migliore Guadagni of the Guadagni Family of Florence.

[In the above paragraph Gherardo abbreviates, "Guadagni" in "Guada", "Florenzia" (Florence in Latin) in "Flor.a", "reliquit"(he left in Latin) in "reliqt"and so forth; as we remember, he wrote on his deathbed, and maybe he felt his strength diminishing by the hour and wanted to make sure he had the capacity to finish it all in the few days or hours he had left to live and so he used abbreviations]



Guadagni Chapel of Santissima Annunziata where the brothers Iacopo (our direct ancestor) and Filippo (direct ancestor of the Torrigiani) Guadagni are buried. However Gherardo is buried in a more ancient private chapel of the Santissima Annunziata (built 2 centuries earlier, during his lifetime), which is one of the most ancient of all the chapels of Florence.

This chapel, continues Gherardo in his Last Will, will be full of light and open, you will be able to read and to see and to know that this is the tomb of Gherardo Guadagni and that he wanted this last will of his to be finished, valid, and lawful, and if this testament is not lawful or if it is not as lawful as he wanted, if anybody is able to add what he wanted, adding malevolent things, and is able to ratify it and get it approved, as if Gherardo himself had put it together and consented to it, if what is written for him is not impaired except to some extent – today he detracts part of the text of the testament, which was corrected, revoked and changed b

Et hoc publicum presens testamentum, cum testam-
entum ab eodem Gherardo cordatum
et contentum in eo, scriptum per me nro infrascripto
excepto quibus ea parti seu parti - Sodie
de tractu in sub testamento, de testamento
et exceptis que hoc presens testamentum, conuicta
revocata, seu sanata, sunt.

Actum florentie in domo Sordationis
diebus Gherardi presentibus, scilicet Gherardo
de lastra, filio Augustini de Macella
Senis diebus Conuentus ^{senis} de florentia, Piero
Dionisii filii sancti Michaelis vice domini
Giano Durati popul. sancti Stefan-
keris Manetti de Medicis, Alfonsi
Lapi de Medicis, et Puccini Jurell
popul. sancti Tommarij de florentia
a diebus testatore vocatis, et
rogatis.

Locu signi

Ego Crullus filius Ser Ser-
noti Notarii de Petrognano Impe-
riali auctoritati iudicis Ordinaris

Done in Florence in Gherardo's house in the presence of witness Brother Guglielmo de Castra, Brother Agostino de Macella, futur director of the Convent of the Servites of Mary (Santissima Annunziata) of Florence, parishioner of the Church of San Michele, witness Giano Duvelli, parishioner of Santo Stefano, Alessio



Church of Santo Stefano, Florence, near Ponte Vecchio

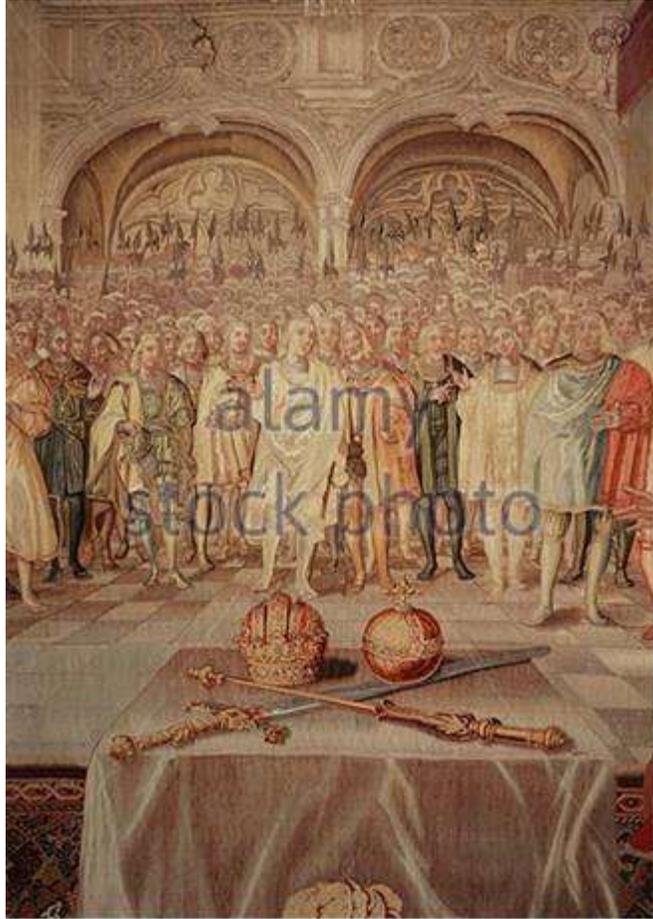


Ponte Vecchio (the "Old Bridge"), Florence (above and below)



Manetti de' Medici, Albizzo Lapi de' Medici, and Puccino Santarelli of the Parish of San Tommaso in Florence were called and questioned by the above will-writer Crassus, son of Dino Noti (? difficult to decipher the handwriting), Notary of Petrognano, Ordinary Judge by *Imperial Authority* and well-known foreteller of public events, polling clerk and introducer of bills.

Louis IV, called the Bavarian, was King of the Romans from 1314, King of Italy from 1327, and *Holy Roman Emperor* from 1328, the year Gherardo died.



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Holy Roman Emperor Louis IV aka the Bavarian



Manetti Palace, Florence, first 2 pictures Lapi Palace Florence



Church of San Tommaso, Florence