

Elena Di Venosa, “Bossi, Donato”,
Encyclopedia of the Medieval Chronicle,
R.G. Dunphy ed.
(Brill, Leiden and Boston 2010), 193

Bossi, Donato

[Bossius Donatus Bosso]

1436–ca 1500. Italy. *Notarius* (notary) and *causidicus* (ecclesiastical advocate) in Milan. Author of a town chronicle in Latin. Donato Bossi wrote the chronicle *Gestorum dictorumque memorabilium ab orbis initio usque ad eius tempora liber* (Book of memorable deeds and sayings from the beginning of the world to his times), named also *Chronica Bossiana* (Bossi's Chronicle), dedicated to the sixth duke of Milan, Giovanni Galeazzo Sforza. It starts with the creation of the world and relates events and people involved in the history of Milan until the death of Simonetto Belprato (16th January 1492), Ferrante of Aragon's ambassador at the Sforza court. It was used as a source by Bernardino → Corio.

The *Chronica Bossiana* is known only in prints; the *editio princeps* was produced by Antonio

Zarotto, Milan 1st March 1492, copies of which are in Milan, *Biblioteca nazionale Braidense*, AM.XIII.9 and Milan, *Biblioteca Trivulziana*, Inc. A 28. This folio book contains 168 leaves; each page is 44 lines long. On the external margins the narrative is summarized by glosses. A genealogical tree of the Visconti family is printed on the verso of the first leaf, and Bossi's *Series episcoporum et archiepiscoporum Mediolanensium* (List of bishops and archbishops of Milan) up to the year 1489 is edited at the end of the chronicle.

Bossi wrote also a *Vita Francisci Sforziae* (Life of Francesco Sforza), published by Leonardo Pachel, Milan 1495.

Bibliography

Text: F. ARGELATI, *Bibliotheca scriptorum Mediolanensium*, I/2, 1745, 211.

Literature: *RepFont* 2, 566

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