

THE DATE WHEN THEOBALD ARRIVED IN ACRE ≠ MARCO POLO
We need not, however, follow CAMPI in the seventeenth or LANGLOIS in the

Visconti con atto pubblico data a Parigi 28 dicembre 1269 deponere nelle mani di S. Luigi la somma di 24 marchi d'oro per averla oltramare, &c.. With refs. *Vita Greg. p. dec.* in CAMPI *Hist. Ecc. di Piac.* II. 344; *Biblioth. de l'École des Chartes* XIX an. T. IV. ser. IV. 1858, pp. 285, 286.

POTTHAST *Reg. Pont. Rom.* II. 1875, p. 1651: Ottobonum Fliscum . . . a Clemente IV in Angliam missum legatum secutus est [Thealdus]. Cum Ludovicus IX rex Francorum expeditionem Tunetanam suscepisset, Thealdus ab eo accercitus ab Anglia in Italiam rediit. Brundisii dum transfretandi in Africam tempus expectat, Ludovici regis mortem audivit, qua perturbatus consilium suum, ut Hierosolymam proficisceretur, vertit. Navigio igitur Ptolemaidem delatus, Edwardum . . . et sororem, qui . . . eo paulo ante applicuerunt, invenit. This passage seems to make it probable that in April 1269 Theobald was in England, whither he had been sent in May 1265, arriving there perhaps on All Saints Day that year. cf. W. STUBBS *Chron. of the Reigns of Ed. I & Ed. II* (*Chron. & Mem. of Gt. Brit. & Ireland* No. 76) vol. I, 1882, pp. 71, 79-81. On this p. 81 Edward's Crusade is said to have been delayed by the death of Louis, and the story of the attack made on him at Acre by an assassin is put in 1271. In *Flores Hist.* ed. 1567, fol. 167a the last item under M.CCLXX is: Edwardus, cum magna militia exiit Acon, transiens per Nazareth, Cako, & Cayphas castra, interficiens, quos reperit, Saracenos. This would make Edward's arrival at Acre not later than February 1271. But Marino Sanudo the elder (c. 1320) in *Liber Secretorum* (*Gesta Dei* tom. 2) 1611, p. 224 under An.D. 1271 says: Odoardus etiam, de quo superiori capitulo fecimus mentionem, ix. die Madii, cum auunculo, & filio Comitum Britanniae, & multa comitiua, Ptolemaidæ applicuit. This date is accepted in *Archives d'Orient Latin*, I, p. 622. Finally *Chron. dom. Walteri de Hemingburgh*, ed. for the Eng. Hist. Soc. by H. C. HAMILTON, vol. I, 1848, p. 333, under A.D. 1270, says: Edwardus hiemavit [in Sicilia] cum navibus suis quas Deus omnipotens sibi salvaverat. Circa medium Quadragesimæ (1271), iterato propositum renovans, navem ascendit Edwardus, et a Pascha Domini per xv. dies (28 April) ad Acram applicuit cum 'M.' (v.l. multis) viris electis, mansitque ibidem per mensem integrum . . . post mensem vero exierunt . . . ceperuntque Nazareth. The same book (p. 335) puts the attempted assassination on Friday after Pentecost (17 June) 1271 (*sic*, for 1272). There is thus considerable variation in the dates, but the later dates are accepted both by the *Archives d'Or. Lat.*, as we have seen, and by the *D.N.B.* s.v. Edward I, and Hemingburgh's date for the assassination is very strongly supported by Edward's extant Will which is doubly dated Saturday after Pentecost 1272, and Saturday 18 June. If these later dates are right Theobald did not reach Acre before May 1271.

Recueil des Hist. des Croisades, Hist. Occidentaux, II. 1859, p. 449 (*l'estoire de Eracles Empereur*, 1183-1277, the anon. continuation of W. of Tyre *Hist. rerum in part. transmar. gest.* bk. 34, ch. 5): Mes a la parfin eslurent .i. sage clerc prodome et de bone vie, qui estoit nes de Plaisance en Lombardie, et estoit apeles sire Thealz. Il estoit arcediacre du Liege, et ales estoit en pelerinage Outre mer avec mon seignor Odouart et fu mandes querre au .ix. jor a l'issue d'octobre. . . . Et parti d'Acra avec .iii. galies le jor de la Saint Martin (11 Nov.) en iver,