

Matthias Thumser, Petrus de Vinea in the Kingdom of Sicily. On the origins and development of the letter collection (p. 30-48)

This contribution challenges the prevalent opinion in research that the letter collection of Petrus de Vinea was compiled around 1270 at the papal Curia. Analysing the short five-part redaction, it determines that this represents the earliest transmitted compilation, which is entirely focussed on Emperor Frederick II and the Staufen Kingdom of Sicily, probably took its origin at the royal court there and was most likely strongly determined by the participation of the notary Nicolaus de Rocca. It pays homage to the important author (*dictator*) of the preceding years, Petrus de Vinea, and recalls a golden period under the governance of an exemplary ruler. Between the summer of 1264 and early 1266, it was reworked to the long five-part and this then to the short six-part redactions, both including additional letters. They may have been composed at the *studium* of Naples where such an *Ars dictaminis* with a focus on politics and administration was needed.

Key words: Petrus de Vinea; Kingdom of Sicily; Staufen dynasty; letter collections; history of the transmission of texts

Schlagworte: Petrus de Vinea; Königreich Sizilien; Staufer; Briefsammlungen; Überlieferungsgeschichte