

Chronicles of the reigns of Stephen, Henry II., and Richard I.: The chronicle of Robert of Torigni, abbot of the monastery of St. Michael-in-peril-of-the-sea, , Richard Howlett

Volume 4: The Chronicle of Robert of Torigni, Abbot of the Monastery of St Michael-in-Peril-of-the-Sea. Edited by Richard Howlett. The fourth volume of this four-volume set of Latin chronicles, edited by Richard Howlett (1841–1917) and published between 1884 and 1889, contains the work of Robert of Torigni (c.1110–86), abbot of Mont Saint-Michel, whose chronicle is a continuation of the *Gesta Normannorum ducum* ('Deeds of the Norman dukes') up to the time of Henry II. Despite problems with the chronology of the work, Robert's chronicle remains a valuable source for the early years of Henry II's reign. Howlett's introduction provides historical background as well as an exhaustive survey of both Robert of Torigni (also known as *Roburtus de Monte*) (c.1110–1186) was a Norman monk, prior, abbot and twelfth century chronicler. Robert was born at Torigni-sur-Vire, Normandy c.1110 most probably to an aristocratic family but his family name was abandoned when he entered Bec Abbey in 1128 In 1149 Robert of Torigni became the prior of Bec replacing Roger de Bailleul who had by that time become abbot. In 1154 Robert became the abbot of Mont Saint-Michel in Normandy. Richard Howlett, ed., *The Chronicle of Robert of Torigni, Abbot of the Monastery of St. Michael-in-Peril-of-the-Sea* (Nendeln, 1964), 250–251;Google Scholar. Henri-François Delaborde, ed., *Oeuvres de Rigord et de Guillaume le Breton, historiens de Philippe-Auguste* (Paris, 1882), 1:28;Google Scholar. Jules Viard, ed., *Grandes chroniques de France* (Paris, 1927), 4:111; Delisle, *Notes sur quelques mss.* 189.Google Scholar. The punishment of crimes committed before baptism is addressed by Henry of Ghent, among others, in reference to the hypothetical baptism of a host desecrator. In a quodlibetal question from before 1292, Henry concludes that such a person could not be judged by the civil authorities nor put to death, since his guilt was eliminated by baptism.