The first volume of the Bulletin of the Placidus Research Center on History of Astrology is a thorough research of the famous prediction-story. The original sources in Latin are published as they were in the original old-print books and in English translation. You will find here photos of the actual pages from books from the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries and from a manuscript written in 1460. All translated in English. A very important 20 pages section describes in detail the Medieval Techniques for Prognosis. The whole book is lavishly illustrated with 53 figures: portraits, medieval charts, pages from original Latin books and a manuscript, tables and graphics explaining the material. 57 pages of condensed information. Available at price of $30 + postage (usually less than $5) rumen_k_kolev@yahoo.com
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GAURICUS & HENRY II-MEDIEVAL ASTROLOGICAL PROGNOSIS

by Rumen Kolev
THE PRIMARY DIRECTIONS & HISTORY OF ASTROLOGY

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On the cover: Lucas Gauricus. Below the portrait: 'Dum coeli arcanos motus et sydera tractas, Est data Pontificis munere mitra tibi' i.e. 'As long as you are examining the mysterious movements of the celestial sphere and the stars, the turban of the high priest is given as a gift to you.

MMVI, Varna, Bulgaria
LUCAS GAURICUS &
HENRY II, KING OF FRANCE

THE RIDDLE OF THE PREDICTION

Few are the astrologers who don't know this famous story. In our culture this is, probably, the most well-known, almost magical story of astrological prediction ever. The heroes of the drama, an astrologer and a king, are conspicuous and the event predicted is spectacular. After all details of the prediction inexorably became reality, a legend was born. And this legend was destined to fascinate men for centuries.

The picture above is taken from 'Histoire de France' par M.Guiraud, Paris 1923. The translation of the text is as follows:

THE DEATH OF HENRY II

On occasion of the marriage of his daughter with the king of Spain, Henry II organized lavish feasts at his court and took part himself in the tournament. On the 30th of June (1559), he fought against an young gentleman, M. de Montgommery, who hitting him with the lance, by an unfortunate chance, opened his helmet and pierced the eye. The king fell down unconscious and died 10 days later, 41 years of age.
The story of how the astrologer Gauricus foresaw the tragic death of the king, became a common knowledge........and entered into the history books. Many authors wrote detailed accounts of the events. No-one, however, offered an explanation or a hypothesis at least, of how actually could Gauricus predict this! And indeed, how actually could Gauricus predict this?! Or did he predict it at all?

To answer these all-important questions, we will go through 4 stages:

I
First, drawing from different secondary sources, we will piece together THE LEGEND as it is told and retold by the writers of astrological and historical popular books;

II
Second, analyzing primary sources in Latin, we will try to look BEHIND THE CURTAIN OF TIME and reconstruct the real events;

III
Third and most important, we will try to conjure back in existence THE ASTROLOGICAL WORLD OF GAURICUS and dig deep in THE MEDIEVAL ASTROLOGICAL PROGNOSIS.

IV
Fourth will follow the RE-CASTING OF THE PROPHECY where we will attempt to become Lucas Gauricus and cast the chart of Henry II, recomputing all predictive techniques that Gauricus used in his work as an astrologer.