

Family resident in Catania, Palermo, Naples and Rome. Descends from the Infant don Pedro of Aragon, count of Ayerbe and of Zenia, son of King Jayme the Conqueror and of donna Teresa de Vidaure, his third wife, declared fit to succeed to the throne, by his father's testament (Montpelier, 26th August 1272). One of the sons of whom, don Miguel, having rebelled against his cousin don Alfonso King of Aragon, was dispossessed of his father's lordships, and acquired in 1287 the castle of Paternoy from which his descendants have taken their name (see Ieronimo Alonia : Chronicles of Aragon; Zurita : Annals of Aragon; etc.). Many branches germinated in Spain, one of which was transferred to Sicily towards the middle of the XIV Century by Giovanni called "the Elder". By him were acquired the baronies of Murgo (1371), Nicchiara, il Burgio etc. and he had numerous descendants, who multiplied further in the course of the centuries, and divided into thirty-six branches. They gave to the Kingdom of Sicily 4 presidents and a great number of Vicars General, Captains at Arms and of War, a Viceroy in Tripoli and one in Malta, a Grand Chancellor and various Chamberlains of the Kings of Naples, to the Roman Church Archbishops, Bishops, Bailiffs and Grand Priors to the Order of St. John and Knights to all the military Orders of Spain and of the Two Sicilies. Arms : Or four pales gules (Aragon) a bendlet azure.