I
THE EARLY THIRTEENTH CENTURY
The early commentaries on Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics* show the product of meticulous discussions held at the Faculty of Arts in the University of Paris between 1230 and 1250. Nevertheless, they do not always interpret Aristotle’s sayings in ways that a contemporary reader would expect. This cannot be thoroughly explained by peculiarities of the texts, namely, the partial Latin translations circulating in the first half of thirteenth century that Masters of Arts knew as the *Ethica nova* (book 1) and the *Ethica vetus* (books 2 and 3). These translations were presumably made by Burgundio of Pisa before 1150; not until

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2 According to René-Antoine Gauthier’s introduction to Aristotle, *Ethica nicomachea*, ed. René-Antoine Gauthier (Leiden–Brussels, 1972–1974), the *Ethica nova* and *vetus* (both edited in this work) came from two different translations: one from the end of the twelfth century (*Ethica vetus*, of which books 2 and 3 remain), the other from the beginning of thirteenth century (*Ethica nova*; book 1 survives in 40 manuscripts, some excerpts of books 4 to 10 are found in only two manuscripts). However, Fernand Bossier,