

The Journal
of
Theological Studies

APRIL, 1919

ANTONIO SPAGNOLO

A NOTICE AND A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HIS WRITINGS.

ON July 30, 1916, the world of sacred learning became the poorer by the death (after an operation, in itself successful) of Antonio Spagnolo, custodian of the Chapter Library at Verona, a self-taught worker who raised himself to a front place among the palaeographers of Europe, and continued worthily the high traditions of Veronese scholarship. It is no light thing to challenge comparison with the great scions of Verona in the eighteenth century, Maffei, Bianchini, Vallarsi, the Ballerini brothers, and I am sure that Spagnolo would have been far too modest to dream of ranking himself in that august company. But students whose ways have led them in recent years to Verona and its MSS would not find it easy to over-estimate the inspiration and the help rendered them, as simply and unconsciously as it was ungrudgingly, by the librarian in charge.

To a memorial notice addressed to the Verona Academy of Agriculture, Science, and Letters, by Count Giuseppe Biadego—a copy of which the author was good enough to send me—I am indebted for a few details about my friend's career, and in particular I have borrowed from it the important bibliography of Spagnolo's publications which is reproduced, almost in full, at the end of these pages.

Antonio Spagnolo was born on January 18, 1863, at Badia Polesine—situated, if I rightly identify it, on the lower Adige between Verona and Rovigo—and at ten years old became a pupil of the Istituto Mazza at Verona, to which, after completing his studies for the priesthood at the Episcopal Seminary, he returned first as vice-rector of the boys' branch of the Institute, and, from 1906, as Superior of the whole Institute, boys' and girls' departments alike. His work in the School was one of the two great interests of his life: the other was his work in the Chapter Library, of which, after the death in 1894 of Canon Giuliani, he was

appointed 'custode' or warden—not being a Canon he could not be technically librarian, and he never attained that dignity. There is probably no collection in Europe which rivals in its antiquity and continuous history the library of Verona: hardly anywhere else can be found so many precious manuscripts of the centuries from the fourth to the tenth after Christ, and nowhere else, I think, have so large a proportion of the ancient MSS belonged to their present home since the date of their writing. Among its treasures are some of the oldest and most important of the Latin MSS of Canons; a sixth-century MS, for instance, lix [57], one of a small group of four contemporary MSS probably written for the church of Verona, and a seventh- or eighth-century MS, lx [58], containing a unique collection of apparently African *provenance*. My own studies, therefore, drew me to Verona on nearly every visit that I paid to Italy from my first in 1890 down to my most recent in 1911: and of some eight or ten occasions on which I must have worked in the library, Spagnolo was in charge of it on all save the first and perhaps the second. The library was open daily to scholars from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m.; though for some three-quarters of an hour, between 12 and 1 o'clock, the *custode* would retire home for his dinner, leaving one locked in, a proceeding to which I never felt quite reconciled. On my later visits, when we had become more intimate, he would, if I were pressed for time and wanted to work in the afternoon or on Sunday, take the MS on which I was employed back with him when the library was closed for the day, and I would make my journey, across the old Roman bridge over the Adige and up the slope of the hill immediately opposite, to the Istituto Mazza, and there continue the process of collation in his apartment. In May 1911 I spent a week at Verona, and that was the last time I saw him: one morning, when I was nearing the end of the work I had come to do, we went upstairs from the ground-floor room in the Chapter Library set apart for working purposes—the mark of the height attained by the great flood of 1882 is some three or four feet from the ground—to the upper floor where the manuscripts themselves are spaciouly housed, and there we turned over some of the oldest of them. Two extraordinarily antique copies of St Hilary first claimed attention, and next a sixth-century MS labelled with the name of St Maximus of Turin. Here my eye was at once caught by the words 'canones Nicenorum' on the last leaf: and though what I had noticed had nothing really to do with the council of Nicaea, we had in fact lighted on a fragment of a wholly unknown Latin version of the *Apostolic Constitutions*, containing the last chapters of the eighth book followed by the *Apostolic Canons*. The pages were far too difficult of decipherment for me to make much progress with them in the time that remained at my disposal: and Dr Spagnolo undertook the whole task

of transcription, while I digested and edited his material as it reached me in England, and the proofs went to and fro between us till we had satisfied ourselves that all had been done that could be done. The ultimate results were published—apart from the three concluding pages, a sort of appendix, which only appeared in this JOURNAL, October 1913, xv pp. 63-65—in my *Ecclesiae Occidentalis Monumenta Iuris Antiquissima* in the spring of 1913. No sooner was this section of the MS off our hands than Spagnolo's indefatigable industry carried him on to a similar plan of transcription for the earlier portion of the MS, that which (correctly, as I have now no doubt) gave the name of St Maximus to the volume: and a series of Homilies were made public for the first time in *J. T. S.* (January and April 1915, April 1916). Next we attacked the matter which the Roman edition of the *Opera S. Maximi* (A. D. 1784) had already published on the unique testimony of our MS: the tract *adversus Paganos* appeared in a much improved form in *J. T. S.* July 1916, and the companion tract *adversus Iudaeos* is to follow in the next (July) number. The process of revision by which Dr Spagnolo examined, and verified or rejected after a second inspection of the MS, my own suggestions and conjectures made on the basis of his first transcription is lacking for this second tract, for the *adversus Paganos* had barely appeared (I am not sure of the exact day of the publication of our July number in 1916) at the time of his death. But even for the *adversus Iudaeos* a glance over the apparatus at the foot of any of its pages, when published, will shew how large an advance has been made towards the presentation of a complete text: while the Roman edition suffers from some twenty serious *lacunae*, the number will be in our edition reduced to three—so systematically and successfully were the difficulties of decipherment faced and overcome by my colleague in the work.

We may well be thankful that the city which he loved and served has been spared the worst horrors of disfigurement or conquest in the late war: but free though Verona is again from the dangers that threatened and more than threatened it, it can never be quite the same place to the scholars to whom it had been, for the last twenty years before the war, indissolubly associated with the burly figure and cheery face of Antonio Spagnolo.

Two small reminiscences I may add, for they will shew better than many words the nature of the man: he gave his services to sacred science for little or no material gain, and what material gain came in his way he accepted only for the objects to which his life was devoted. I once asked him what salary he received for his work as custodian of the Chapter Library: the answer was, A lira a day. On another occasion I forwarded him a small sum that had been collected among a few

English scholars in recognition of his assistance, I think it was £10: he accepted it with gratitude, and wrote that it would come in splendidly for 'leaving gifts' (bursaries) to the best of the girls whose time at the Institute would expire that summer. And when a few books were selected, as something that he could not well divert from himself to his pupils, he took them as gratefully as he had taken the money—and presented them to the Chapter Library. *Non perdet mercedem suam.*

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE PUBLISHED WRITINGS OF ANTONIO SPAGNOLO.

1. Regole di civiltà per i convittori (dell' Istituto don Nicola Mazza). Verona, tip. Collegio Artigianelli, 1895, in 18°, p. 21.
2. Storia letteraria della Biblioteca Capitolare di Verona (anni 1894-1895). In *Nuovo Arch. Veneto*, tomo xii, p. i, 1896.
3. Di un codice prezioso della Capitolare di Verona che si credeva perduto. Verona, tip. Gurisatti 1896, in 16°, p. 16. (È il codice clxxi (158) *Collectanea chronologica et astronomica*, del x secolo.)
4. Di due codici dei secoli vi-viii della Biblioteca Capitolare di Verona. Verona, Franchini, 1896, in 8°, p. 8. Estratto dalla 'Miscelanea per le nozze Biadego-Bernardinelli'. (Sono: il codice lxi (59), del sec. vii-viii: e il codice lix (57) del vi secolo [MSS of Canons, employed in my *Eccl. Occid. Mon. Jur. Ant.* under the symbols U and V respectively. C. H. T.])
5. Intorno all' origine dei testi di Diritto Canonico contenuti in un codice della Bibl. Capit. di Verona. Nota. In *Atti della R. Accademia delle scienze di Torino*, vol. xxxii, 1897. (È il cod. lx (58) del sec. vii [© in my book. C. H. T.])
6. Storia letteraria della Bibl. Cap. di Verona (anno 1896). In *Nuovo Arch. Veneto*, tomo xiii, p. ii, 1897.
7. Il Sacramentario Veronese e Scipione Maffei. Nota. In *Atti della R. Accad. delle scienze di Torino*, vol. xxxiii, 1898. (È il codice lxxxv (80) del vi-vii secolo.)
8. Francesco Bianchini e le sue opere. Memoria. In *Atti dell' Accademia di Verona*, vol. lxxiv, serie iii, 1898.
9. Una lettera di Niccolò Tommaseo. In *Rassegna Nazionale*, anno xx, 1898. (È diretta al prof. canonico Leopoldo Stegagnini di Verona ed ha la data Firenze, 28 gennaio 1873.)
10. L'Orazionale Gotico Mozarabico della Capitolare di Verona descritto da Scipione Maffei. In *Rivista bibliografica Italiana*, 1899. (È il codice lxxxix (84) *Breviarium Mozarabicum*, del secolo vii.)
11. L'Evangelario Purpureo Veronese. Nota. In *Atti della R. Accad. delle scienze di Torino*, vol. xxxiv, 1899.
12. Storia letteraria della Bibl. Cap. di Verona, 1897-1898. Verona, tip. Gurisatti, 1899, in 8°, p. 8.

13. Il Congresso internazionale per il restauro degli antichi codici e la Capitolare di Verona. Verona, tip. Vescovile, 1899. Estratto dal *Verona Fedele*.

14. Di alcuni doni preziosi di Mons. F. Bianchini alla Capitolare di Verona. Note storiche. In *Atti dell'Accademia di Verona*, vol. lxxv, serie iii, 1899.

15. Per la storia dei Vescovi di Verona. S. Annone (750-780?). Brevi note. In *Miscellanea per nozze Bolognini-Sormani*. Verona, Franchini, 1900.

16. La festa del Corpus Domini in Verona. Verona, tip. Vescovile, 1900, in 16°, p. 15.

17. S. Bernardino da Siena a Verona ed una sua predica volgare inedita. In *Atti dell'Accademia di Verona*, serie iv, vol. i, 1900.

18. Vita di S. Leonardo romito del Limosino, storia del suo culto e dei principali miracoli. Verona, tip. Franchini, 1901, in 16°, p. 115.

19. Storia letteraria della Bibl. Cap. di Verona, 1899-1900. Verona, tip. Gurisatti, 1901, in 8°, p. 12.

20. La processione del Corpus Domini in Verona nei secoli xv-xix. In *Atti dell'Accademia di Verona*, vol. lxxvii, serie iv, 1901.

21. Tradizione della berretta cardinalizia a mons. Gio. Francesco Barbarigo vescovo di Brescia fatta il giorno 4 novembre 1720 da mons. Francesco Bianchini, canc. seg. di S. S. P. Clemente XI. Verona, Franchini, 1901, in 8°, p. 22.

22. Scipione Maffei e il suo viaggio all'estero (1732-1736). In *Atti dell'Accademia di Verona*, serie iv, vol. iii, 1902.

23. Un diploma di Berengario I e una questione riguardante la serie dei Vescovi di Verona. Nota. In *Atti dell'Accademia Reale delle scienze di Torino*, anni 1901-1902.

24. La Biblioteca Vaticana e la Capitolare di Verona. Verona, tip. Marchiori, 1904, in 18°, p. 16.

25. L'Arcidiacono Pacifico di Verona inventore della bussola? In *Nuovo Arch. Veneto*, nuova serie, tomo viii, p. i, 1904. [The Archdeacon Pacificus was the 'second founder' of the Verona library in the ninth century. Dr Spagnolo sent me a copy of this little treatise on the claim for Pacificus of the invention of the compass, though I am sorry to say I cannot now lay my hands on it. C. H. T.]

26. A proposito dei frammenti di Tito Livio scoperti a Bamberga. Verona, tip. Marchiori, 1905, in 18°, p. 20. [With reference to Traube's *Bamberger Fragmente der vierten Dekade des Livius*: Palaeographische Forschungen, iv. Munich 1904. C. H. T.]

27. La tachygraphie latine des manuscrits de Vérone, par Ém. Chatelain et Ant. Spagnolo. In *Revue des Bibliothèques*, 1905.

28. Le scuole accolitali in Verona. In *Atti dell'Accademia di Verona*, serie iv, vol. v, 1904. (8 + 235 pp.)
29. Moggio de' Moggi da Parma. *Ib.* vol. vi, 1905.
30. L'Arcadia Veronese. Note e documenti. Roma, tip. sociale Polizzi e Valentini, 1900, in 8°, p. 35.
31. I marchesi Scipione Maffei e Francesco Muselli. Breve istoria di una loro inimicizia (con documento inedito). In *Ateneo Veneto*, anno xxx, vol. i, 1907.
32. Nozze Tassistro-Pacchielli. Verona, Marchiori, 1907, in 8°, p. 23. (Lo Spagnolo pubblica un oratorio per musica di Scipione Maffei 'La Passione di Maria nella Passione di Gesù'.)
33. Sonetto giovanile di Scipione Maffei. Verona, tip. Marchiori [1907], in 8°, p. 4.
34. Il Clero Veronese nella elezione del Vescovo 1080-1338. In *Atti dell'Accademia di Verona*, serie iv, vol. ix, 1908.
35. Il grande merito di Scipione Maffei nel campo paleografico. *Ib.* vol. x, 1909.
36. Tre frammenti biblici della 'Versio Antiqua' ancora sconosciuti. *Ib.* vol. x, 1909.
37. Gai codex rescriptus in Bibliotheca Capitulari Ecclesiae Cathedralis Veronensis distinctus numero XV (13) cura et studio eiusdem Bibliothecae custodis phototypice expressus. Lipsiae, K. W. Hiersemann, 1909, in folio (260 tavole con introduzione latina di A. Spagnolo).
38. Una leggina di Giustiniano in un miscellaneo Veronese del secolo xi-xii. In *Mélanges offerts à M. Émile Chatelain 15 avril 1910*. (È il codice Capitolare lxiv (62): la legge di Giustiniano è *De famosis libellis*.)
39. Abbreviature nel minuscolo veronese. In *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, annata xxvii dic. 1910.
40. Di don Nicola Mazza e della I^a missione italiana nell' Africa Centrale. Verona, Marchiori, 1910, in 16°, pp. 277.
41. An Arian Sermon from a MS in the Chapter Library of Verona. [L'articolo è firmato da A. Spagnolo e C. H. Turner: *J. T. S.* Oct. 1911 xiii 19-28.]
42. La scrittura minuscola e le scuole calligrafiche veronesi del vi e ix secolo. In *Atti dell'Accademia di Verona*, serie iv, vol. xii, 1911.
43. L'origine dell'anno liturgico e in particolare della Settimana Santa. *Ib.* vol. xiii, 1912.
44. A fragment of an unknown Latin version of the Apostolic Constitutions: from a MS in the Chapter Library of Verona. (Reca le firme: A. Spagnolo e C. H. Turner. [*J. T. S.* July 1912 pp. 492-510.])

45. Il più antico Canone della Messa in un manoscritto di Verona. In *Atti dell' Accademia di Verona*, serie iv, vol. xiii, 1912. (Il ms. è il codice Capitolare lv del principio del secolo vi.)

46. Fragmentum Veronense Codicis Bibliothecae Capitularis li (49), scilicet Apostolorum per Clementem Constitutiones libri viii capitula 41-46. et Canones . . . descripsit. huius operis causa Antonius Spagnolo bibliothecarius. [In my *Ecclesiae Occidentalis Monumenta Iuris Antiquissima*, tom. i, fasc. ii, pars 1, Oxford 1913. C. H. T.]

47. Un nuovo frammento delle Costituzioni e dei Canoni Apostolici. In *Madonna Verona*, vii, 1913. (Dal cod. li (49) Capitolare.)

48. La Settimana Santa nella Storia, note ed appunti. In *Atti dell' Accademia di Verona*, serie iv, vol. xiv, 1913.

49. Tre calendari medioevali veronesi con prefazione storica. *Ib.* vol. xv, 1915.

50. An Ancient Homiliary [of St Maximus of Turin] (firmati: A. Spagnolo, C. H. Turner. [*J. T. S.* Jan. and Apr. 1915, Apr. 1916, xvi 161-176 and 314-322, xvii 225-235.]

51. L'Avvento e le sue domeniche. Le quattro tempora e un documento veronese. Note. In *Atti dell' Accademia di Verona*, serie iv, vol. xvii, 1915.

52. Don Nicola Mazza anima di artista. In *Madonna Verona*, x, 1916.

53. L'Ordo Veronese del secolo xi 'Carpsum'. In *Bollettino ecclesiastico ufficiale per gli Atti Vescovili nella Diocesi di Verona* nei fascicoli Anno i (1914), n. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9; Anno ii (1915), n. 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12; Anno iii (1916), n. 2, 4.

[54. Maximus of Turin *contra Paganos*. A. Spagnolo and C. H. Turner. *J. T. S.* July 1916, xvii 321-337.]

Count Biadego adds that on p. 16 of the pamphlet numbered 24 in the above list Spagnolo relates that he was invited by Padre Ehrle to prepare a catalogue of the Verona MSS for publication in the series of *Studi, testi e cataloghi* of which the authorities of the Vatican Library were in charge: and he believes that Spagnolo did complete this work, and that the manuscript of it was duly sent to Rome in his lifetime.

C. H. TURNER.