

Fögen has his focus on four Roman authors of different nature: Lucretius, Cicero, Quintilian, and Aulus Gellius. In addition, he makes some shorter comments on later writers such as Augustine, Jerome and Boethius. Of these, Cicero receives the most thorough analysis (77–141). Fögen has many interesting observations, and is able to open new lines of thought even if he has to use data known to most classicists. The book is generally quite enjoyable, but the extensive use of footnotes, especially concerning references to the modern linguistic literature, is slightly tiresome for the reader. One cannot avoid the feeling that there are references for the sake of references. Although central in their own field, some linguistic literature cited by Fögen has little or no use for the classicist who has to work with written data only. Even if one could try to find some positive use of this literature in analysing corpus languages, it seems to be quite useless, as theories based exclusively on speech and discussion are far from the problems faced in written corpus language. In addition, the arrangement of the bibliography is strange, as there is much duplication, which is only confusing.

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ESPEN KARLSEN: *The Accusativus cum infinitivo and Quod Clauses in the Revelaciones of St. Bridget of Sweden*. Lateinische Sprache und Literatur des Mittelalters, Band 33. Peter Lang, Bern 2001. ISBN 3-906767-34-5. 253 pp. EUR 38,20.

In ancient Latin literature the *accusativus cum infinitivo* (a.c.i.) continued to be used according to the model set by the classical authors for centuries afterwards. Therefore, the ancient authors do not, for the most part, offer suitable material for a study on syntactic variation and the competition between the a.c.i. and finite subordinate clauses which finally replaced it in the spoken registers. Mediaeval Latin, on the other hand, was characterized by a frequent use of *quod* clauses as the object of *verba sentiendi et declarandi*. Still, as Espen Karlsen notes, not much research has been done on this subject even in the field of mediaeval texts.

In the present study, Karlsen examines the use of these two constructions in one text corpus, the *Revelaciones* of St. Bridget of Sweden. The text is a translation from an Old Swedish original and although comparable syntactic variables exist in Old Swedish as well, Karlsen has found no evidence for any external influence in the language of the *Revelaciones*.

Firstly, Karlsen notes that the two groups, *verba sentiendi* and *verba declarandi*, differ from each other with regard to the most frequently used subordinate constructions. With *verba declarandi*, the *quod* clauses are used in a majority of instances (*quod* 69%, a.c.i. 27%, double accusative 4%) whereas, with *verba sentiendi*, the a.c.i. together with other non-finite constructions (the a.c.p. and double accusative) is used with more than half of the occurrences (*quod* 45.5%, a.c.i. 35%, a.c.p. 13%, double accusative 6.5%).

Karlsen shows that stylistic, syntactic and semantic factors are all relevant for the choice of construction. On the stylistic level, the choice can aim at variation and antithetic expression on the one hand and parallelism of subsequent clauses on the other. For example, *quod* clauses are preferred in enumerations, where several subordinate

constructions are dependent on the same verb. In complex structures, the a.c.i. is often used in cases where the governing verb appears in a subordinate clause, and *quod* clauses for their part are more frequent when other subordinate clauses are attached to the dependent construction (the a.c.i. or *quod* clause). Co-reference between the logical subjects of the main and subordinate clauses is a condition that clearly favours the a.c.i.

Of semantic factors, the most important is assertivity which has been pointed out in research on ancient material as well (P. Cuzzolin, *Sull'origine della costruzione DICERE QUOD: aspetti sintattici e semantici* [Pubblicazioni della Facoltà di lettere e filosofia dell'Università di Pavia 72], Firenze 1994). With assertive expressions *quod* clauses predominate strongly. Typical assertive idioms are *dico quod* and imperative forms of *scire* (e.g. *scias quod* and *scito quod*), which are usually uttered by Christ or the Virgin Mary. Although *scire* otherwise is not assertive to the same extent as *dicere*, the imperative mood renders these expressions assertive.

With regard to the nature of syntactic variation Karlsen observes that the a.c.i. and *quod* clauses in the indicative are semantically equivalent. When the *quod* clause is in the subjunctive, however, it conveys modal information as well, and therefore *quod* clauses in the subjunctive mood may be found where this modal information is crucial. This happens mainly in conditional contexts. The subjunctive is not found as a general *casus obliquus*.

Karlsen's approach, which takes into account all possible factors pertaining to syntactic variation, is very fruitful. He does not claim that semantic factors, such as assertivity, although important, are alone responsible for the variation but carefully analyses other reasons as well. By doing this he is able to show how the different levels of linguistic usage interact in determining the final form of an expression. In this way his study illustrates well the complex nature of syntactic variation without trying to reduce it to a too simplistic picture. For example, even though co-reference was found to promote the a.c.i., in expressions like *in veritate mea ... iuro quod iudicabo*, the co-reference in the first person singular favours the *quod* clauses instead, because of the strong assertive nature of these expressions (p. 108).

Karlsen mentions several times the formulaic nature of the latinity of the *Revelaciones* (generally p. 56), e.g., the assertives *iuro quod*, *dico quod*, *scias / scito / sciendum est quod* (pp. 70-72) and the use of the active periphrastic conjugation (p. 147, 165). This feature could result from the fact that Latin was not the native language of the mediaeval writers (though of course the effect of the genre should not be forgotten). In this connection it might have been interesting to have some discussion on the relationship between syntactic variation, formulae and the model of language use in a situation where the language under study was no longer spoken. Still, the same semantic properties (e.g., assertivity) seem to be relevant in both mediaeval and ancient material, despite the different status of Latin in these periods (non-native vs. native).

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