DE NOVIS LIBRIS IUDICIA


The 9th volume of the series Tituli, initiated by Silvio Panciera, is (as is made clear in the title) dedicated to the Acts of a colloquium held in Rome in October 2006 with the aim of celebrating Professor Panciera’s career when he was on the point of retiring. The publication came out in 2008, a few months (as one learns from the Preface) before Panciera’s 75th birthday. From the same Preface (signed by all the three editors of the volume), one learns that there are 56 contributions based on papers delivered during the colloquium and in addition to these, about 40 (“una quarantina”) other contributions by scholars apparently not taking part in the colloquium but invited by the organisers to contribute. As there are, then, almost 100 papers, it is no wonder that 1538 pages are needed for this. The level of scholarship is high: the table of contents reads like a complete list of the most eminent modern authorities in the field of Latin epigraphy. However, here and there one observes, among the authors, also names which may be less familiar, at least to the older generation of epigraphists; one assumes that many, if not most, of them will be students of Professor Panciera himself.

The whole is divided into several sections, the names of which remind one of the names of the chapters in the collection of Panciera’s own papers, Epigrafi, epigrafia, epigrafisti of 2006. After some introductory elements, there are sections on Republican epigraphy, the city of Rome, “Municipia coloniaeque”, “Viri feminaeque notabiles”, “Milites” and, at the end, a section on “Varia cum artis epigraphicae doctrina et usu coniuncta”.

Obviously, it will not be possible for me to enumerate all the contributions, not to speak of offering an evaluation of each of them. But I may be allowed to point out in what follows some contributions which struck me as being of particular interest. F. Coarelli publishes (p. 79ff.) an interesting, but fragmentary, metrical inscription from Falacrinae from the early first century BC, which seems to honour a person distinguished during the Social War (with phrases such as liberatast Italia, etc.). F. Zevi and I. Manzoni return (p. 187ff.) to the inscription of the Porta Romana at Ostia, producing a revised text (p. 201). Obviously, there are details in this mysterious inscription which must remain uncertain (for instance, I’d like to see another inscription where fecit preceeds locavit – an activity one would expect to come before the phase of facere –, and in fact a building inscription where you have both verbs, for normally one finds either locavit – often with probavit following – or fecit; however, e.g., the missing filiations show in any case that we must be dealing with a text formulated very much later than it purports to be). S. De Maria and G. Paci publish (p. 654) a dedication by a familia Abundantiorum (we have here obviously an new example of a nomen sodaliciarium, as studied by I. Kajanto) from Suana to Silvanus, apparently for the first time defined as deus bonus. M. L. Lazzarini (p. 871ff.) publishes interesting inscriptions from Croto pertaining to various members of the
family of Futii (as for the inscription on p. 870, CIL X 110, I am not altogether sure the second Lollio must be an error; what if this man was a Lollius adopted by another Lollius?). On p. 937ff., G. Camodeca publishes a new 3rd-century senatorial career from Beneventum, probably (I'm quite sure Camodeca is correct in this) pertaining to a certain C. Egnatius Certus Sattianus. The article also includes a reference (p. 949) to an unpublished inscription mentioning a senator with the unforgettable name M. Casineius M. f. Stel. Vassius Passentilianus Titianus. S. Demougin provides (p. 975ff.) a most useful "mise à jour" of Julio-Claudian knights, with a list of "new" knights (58 numbers; but the correct reading of no. 34 = AE 1990, 332 from Falerii Novi is M. Quinctius Q. f. Hor. Chilo sen(ior) – rather than Sen(tino) – tr(ibunus) mil(itum), (centurio) prim(i) pili). A new proconsul of Baetica, C. Servius Rufus Terentianus, appears in an inscription published by A. U. Stylow (p. 1051ff.). W. Eck (p. 1121ff.) studies the production of military diplomas in Rome (with thoughts, e.g., on the amount of bronze needed and a list of diplomas published after RMD V). A. Magioncalda (p. 1149ff.) offers us another "mise à jour", this one being on prefects of the fleets of Misenum and Ravenna on which there is, thanks to the proliferation of new military diplomas, much recent documentation needing to be collected and interpreted.

There are no indices, but, as the editors say in the preface, this is fully compensated for by the fact that the volumes are available as a searchable PDF (at www.edizioniquasar.it/sku.php?id_libro=1703).

It goes without saying that this collection is a must for every scholarly library which also takes epigraphy into account.

Olli Salomies


I presenti studi sono dedicati a Gustavo Traversari, sommo conoscitore di scultura antica, maestro e protagonista di archeologia classica veneziana per decenni, infaticabile promotore di iniziative scientifiche di grandissima portata. Molti e vari sono i frutti della sua inesausta attività organizzativa e di studio intorno alla formazione e allo sviluppo degli studi archeologici nella Serenissima: missioni archeologiche in Italia e in Oriente, ideazione di numerosi convegni scientifici, continua attività di promozione editoriale (sono da egli fondate la Rivista di archeologia, la collana La Fenice nonché la preziosa serie delle Collezioni e musei archeologici del Veneto). Ma quello che forse di più ha distinto Traversari è stata la creazione, praticamente dal nulla, della Biblioteca di Archeologia di Ca' Foscari di Venezia, con sede nel primo piano nobile del splendido Palazzo Bernardo, sul Canal Grande. Conosciutissima tra i specialisti e considerata la più grande nel suo settore in Italia e una delle più belle in tutto il mondo, la biblioteca è diventata meta obbligatoria per chiunque voglia dedicarsi agli studi archeologici in una struttura ben organizzata e funzionante, che consente di consultare, in un'atmosfera altamente ispirante, i ricchissimi materiali esposti in scaffali aperti oppure, in parte, custoditi in depositi. Mi è ancora vivissima nella memoria la giornata, una diecina di anni fa, quando ebbi l'occasione di visitare la Biblioteca, accompagnato e guidato dallo stesso Traversari.