

Per sottolineare l'importanza dei materiali contenuti nel libro 39, analizzerò alla fine brevemente un caso singolo che dimostra quante notizie importanti possa offrire un'analisi approfondita del codice napoletano. Sappiamo da molte fonti che Ligorio e il cardinale Rodolfo Pio di Carpi (il quale possedette a Roma una casa e un famoso giardino sul Quirinale, ambedue contenenti ricche collezioni di antichità, tra l'altro iscrizioni) si conoscevano bene ed mantenevano fitti rapporti. Pirro include nel codice parecchie iscrizioni delle raccolte carpensi (come si solevano chiamare le collezioni di Pio) che ha senza dubbio studiato di prima mano (non è neanche escluso che egli abbia mandato al cardinale iscrizioni riferentisi al personale della casa imperiale romana, inclusi numerosi falsi, poi esposti nel palazzo di Pio). Ai ff. 117r–119v si trova un numero rilevante di epigrafi, che sembra siano tutte appartenute alla collezione di Pio (tranne *CIL* VI 18005, certamente aliena) come un'attenta analisi sembra dimostrare. Anche se per un certo numero dei pezzi manca una *Nebenüberlieferung*, l'informazione data da Ligorio sembra cogliere nel segno. Se ciò è vero, allora dobbiamo tra l'altro ripensare le problematiche relative ad alcune iscrizioni ritenute false dagli editori del corpus berlinese contenute in questa sezione del codice; almeno saranno tutte esistite sulla pietra (e non soltanto sulla carta), proprio per il fatto che i fogli 117r–119v sembrano costituire una unità coerente; alcune delle iscrizioni ritenute comunemente false devono essere considerate piuttosto autentiche, anzi, soltanto una, *CIL* VI 371* (f. 118v) sembra con certezza un falso (sulla questione ho scritto nel libro sul collezionismo nel Cinquecento, di prossima pubblicazione).

In conclusione, un volume importante, cui speriamo seguano altri dell'edizione nazionale di Ligorio, realizzati con la stessa accuratezza.

Heikki Solin

The Oxford Handbook of Papyrology. Edited by ROGER S. BAGNALL. Oxford University Press, Oxford – New York 2009. ISBN 978-0-19-517838-8. XXIV, 688 pp. GBP 95 (hb), GBP 32.50 (pb).

What is known as 'papyrology' is a wide field ranging from palaeography and linguistics to various ways of interpreting history for over a thousand years in Antiquity. The survival circumstances of papyrus and similar writing materials are better in Egypt than elsewhere, but as this *Handbook* illustrates, papyrologists nowadays deal with the whole of the ancient world from the Roman fortress at Vindolanda, Great Britain, to the Near East. Seeing that the topic is so vast, it is understandable that the volume comprises almost 700 pages.

Even though, as the editor Roger S. Bagnall states in the Introduction (p. XX), "handbooks tend to be consulted or read in part rather than continuously", this volume constitutes a coherent whole. Thus, I slightly disagree with Bagnall (still on p. XX): "Although some repetition has been excised, some remains, and some contention remains, too." In my opinion, there is surprisingly little repetition, and the contention is hardly recognisable.

"The divide between the methodological and substantive sides of the discipline will also be evident. Some chapters are more practical in character, aiming to help the reader to understand how papyrologists go about reading, editing, and making sense of the texts. Others give some of the results of that process." (Bagnall, p. XIX) The chapters are arranged accord-

ingly. The first nine chapters are concerned with the more practical issues, and from chapter 10 on, the two sides of the discipline go hand in hand. Even in the perhaps most theoretical chapter 21, Todd M. Hickey's "Writing Histories from the Papyri", the practical side of papyrology is both present and discussed.

As Bagnall notes in the introduction, one could have arranged the order of the chapters differently. Bagnall's own chapter 8, "Practical Help", could have preceded N. Gonis' chapter 7, "Abbreviations and Symbols", but this is a minor matter of opinion. All in all, both Bagnall's chapter 8 and P. Schubert's chapter 9, "Editing a Papyrus", are good examples of how lucidly and in a lively manner the present authors can write about potentially "boring" subjects. I especially enjoyed the illuminating examples from modern languages in Schubert's "Editing a Papyrus".

It is evident throughout the Handbook that the authors are the leading experts of their field. Raffaella Cribiore's chapter 14, "Education in the Papyri", and Dorothy Thompson's chapter 17, "The Multilingual Environment of Persian and Ptolemaic Egypt, Egyptian, Aramaic and Greek Documentation", are as good examples as any. Also the concluding chapter 27, "The Future of Papyrology" by Peter van Minnen is clearly something that the author has pondered on thoroughly on several occasions.

One both reads and consults this handbook with pleasure. To illustrate the range of the topics discussed in the handbook, the contents are: 1) Writing Materials in the Ancient World (Adam Bülow-Jacobsen); 2) The Finds of Papyri (Hélène Cuvigny); 3) The History of the Discipline (James G. Keenan); 4) Conservation of Ancient Papyrus Materials (Jaakko Frösén); 5) Greek and Latin Writing in the Papyri (Guglielmo Cavallo); 6) The Greek and Latin Languages in the Papyri (Eleanor Dickey); 7) Abbreviations and Symbols (Nikolaos Gonis); 8) Practical Help (Roger S. Bagnall); 9) Editing a Papyrus (Paul Schubert); 10) Archives and Dossiers (Katelijjn Vandorpe); 11) The Ancient Book (William A. Johnson); 12) Papyrology and Ancient Literature (Timothy T. Renner); 13) The Special Case of Herculaneum (David Sider); 14) Education in the Papyri (Raffaella Cribiore); 15) Mathematics, Science and Medicine in the Papyri (Alexander Jones); 16) The Range of Documentary Texts (Bernhard Palme); 17) The Multilingual Environment of Persian and Ptolemaic Egypt (Dorothy J. Thompson); 18) The Multilingual Environment of Late Antique Egypt (Jean-Luc Fournet); 19) Arabic Papyri and Islamic Egypt (Petra M. Sijpesteijn); 20) The Papyrology of the Near East (Jean Gascou); 21) Writing Histories from the Papyri (Todd M. Hickey); 22) Geography and Administration in Egypt (Maria Rosaria Falivene); 23) Law in Greco-Roman Egypt (Uri Yiftach-Firanko); 24) Egyptian Religion and Magic in the Papyri (Willy Clarysse); 25) Christianity in the Papyri (David G. Martinez); 26) Manichaeism and Gnosticism in the Papyri (Cornelia Römer); 27) The Future of Papyrology (Peter van Minnen).

Erja Salmenkivi

PETER FRANZ MITTAG: *Römische Medaillons. Caesar bis Hadrian*. Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart 2010. ISBN 978-3-515-09699-7. 236 S., 8 s/w Abb. 69 Taf. mit 617 Münzabb. EUR 54.

Es handelt sich um ein wichtiges Buch. Medaillons waren ebenso wie reguläre Münzen wichtige Medien der Selbstdarstellung römischer Kaiser. So war es eine glückliche Idee, ein