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Objekttyp: Article

Zeitschrift: Librarium : Zeitschrift der Schweizerischen Bibliophilen-Gesellschaft = revue de la Société Suisse des Bibliophiles

Band (Jahr): 12 (1969)
Heft 1

Persistenter Link: http://doi.org/10.5169/seals-388104

PDF erstellt am: 28.12.2020

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THE ALBANI LIBRARY AND POPE CLEMENT XI

By the early eighteenth century almost all the princely libraries of Italy had been dispersed—those very libraries whose formation in the second half of the fifteenth century had been a characteristic of the Renaissance—and one thinks of the famous Library of the Dukes of Urbino, of that of the Gonzaga, lords of Mantua, of that founded by Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, to name but three. For the most part their contents did not leave Italy, but passed above all into the libraries of powerful Italian families of the rank below that of the princes. Increasingly from the sixteenth century onwards, this Italian nobility was deprived of political power and, with commercial enterprise forbidden it, turned for solace to literary and cultural pursuits, withdrawing from the world to the library and its adjuncts, the art gallery and museum.

If some of these family libraries date back to the sixteenth century, the heyday of them was the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Almost every noble family could boast a cardinal a generation, and it was these princes of the Church who were paramount in establishing the family library. By the late seventeenth century, from Naples northwards, these libraries were to be found all over Italy, though probably Rome and Venice held the most and the richest. In Rome, for instance, it was Pope Paul V who established the Borghese Library, while Pope Alexander VII, a Chigi, not only enriched his family library, but created a public one, the Alessandrina, by donating the printed books taken from the Library of the Dukes of Urbino. The pace had been set for public libraries almost half a century earlier with the Ambrosiana Library of Milan, founded by Cardinal Borromeo, and such libraries developed side by side with those of noble families, absorbing the residue of books and manuscripts from the dispersed libraries of the princes.

While the public libraries exist today, generally speaking the family libraries flourished only some two or three centuries, and in this parallel the princely ones. In the late eighteenth century with the Napoleonic Wars, and throughout the nineteenth century as Italy lagged behind the industrially developing countries of England, France and Germany, the Italian families were forced to sell their libraries. A number of the libraries passed en bloc abroad, mainly to England and more recently to the United

CAPTIONS TO PAGES 11 AND 12
1 Urbino with its Ducal Palace. An engraved vignette from the titlepage of A. Albanae Urbini, Memorie concernenti la città di Urbino (Rome, 1724). Photographed from the copy in the British Museum.
2 The Palazzo Albani, Urbino.
3 The Albani Library. A pen drawing (apparently done to look like an engraving) presumably of the Library as it was in 1720, in MS Indices Bibl. Albanae Urbini, introductory page [33]. By courtesy of the Library, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. (Photograph by Svengaara).
4 Reading left to right from the book with the pope’s arms: Paolo Alessandro Maffei, Vita di S. Pio Quinto (Rome 1712); Paul Godet des Morais, Ordonnanee et instruction Pastorale de Monsignore l’Eveque de Chartres pour la condamnation... (Lyons, 3rd ed., 1658); Memoire sur le refus des sacrements à la mort (n.p., 1750); [François Vernet], Le triomphe de la foi catholique... (Lyons 1749), II; Jean d’Yse de Salion, Documentum pastorale... Archiepiscopi... Vienensis, clero suae diocessae; in commentationem apologistia cui titulus ‘Augustianianum systema’... (Vienne 1750); Ioannes Pierius Valerianus, Castigationes et varietates Virgilianae lectionis (Rome 1521); Catalogus codicum manuscriptorum Bibliothecae Regiae (Paris 1744), III; the book lying flat is Louis Richarme, S.J., Œuvres (Paris 1658), II. The labels with “C. L” (for Clementine Library) were added in Washington about 1930. By courtesy of the Library, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. (Photograph by Svengaara).
States. Foreigners, too, purchased heavily at auctions and sales. In this way such famous libraries as the Barberini and Borghese of Rome, the Foscarini and Pesaro of Venice, were eventually dispersed, and items from them are now in libraries throughout the world.

There has been no study of these libraries of Italian families as a genre, and comparatively few are well known by name even. An elegant binding, usually with an embossed coat of arms, a bookplate, or a shelfmark (the latter rarely appreciated for its significance) testifies the book's provenance, and often is all that remains to hint at the glory of a former family library. In rare instances a library's contents at a specific time are revealed by a printed catalogue; for others there may be a manuscript catalogue, or a series of them, each one of which, of course, is likely to be unique. The commonest, but least reliable, source is the sale or auction catalogue, where, unfortunately, items extraneous to the library were commonly added, while the most precious probably had been excluded.

The Albani Library of Urbino and Rome, in large measure the creation of Pope Clement XI, can be considered a case study of its class, and is the subject of this article. Interestingly enough one of the Library's prize possessions, which was a thirteenth century Italian manuscript of a Bible presented to Clement XI in 1719, has been auctioned twice by Sotheby in the last ten years, and very recently was for sale.

The Albani family of Urbino is reputed to have been driven by the Turks from Albania, and to have reached Italy about 1471, settling in Urbino, where the family was attracted by Federigo da Montefeltro, who became duke in 1474. Probably from modest beginnings as men at arms, members of the Albani family served in various capacities the succeeding dukes, until the death of the last duke in 1631, when the Duchy of Urbino reverted to the pope. As testimony of the wealth that the family achieved there exists today in Urbino the splendid Palazzo Albanì, the external walls of which are of the sixteenth century (see plate 2). In May 1624 Orazio Albani negotiated on the duke's behalf the reversion of the duchy to the pope, and in 1631 he was able to find a new patron in Cardinal Antonio Barberini, who was the papal legate appointed to govern the duchy. Orazio's knowledge and experience proved so valuable to the cardinal that in 1633 he was rewar ded by being created Senator of Rome.

Orazio's son, Carlo, served under Cardinal Francesco Barberini as chamberlain, while Annibale, another son, became head librarian of the Vatican. As legate the cardinal himself acquired some pickings off the duchy, principally paintings, while subsequently the ducal library was taken to Rome, where a large portion entered the Vatican Library. The papers relating to the negotiations of 1624 are to be found catalogued in the Albani Library, as are some sixteenth century documents that certainly originated in the ducal archives, while some books of the library are embossed with the arms of Carlo's patron, Cardinal Francesco Barberini. Hence it appears as though Orazio and his sons founded the Albani Library.

Carlo's son, Gianfrancesco, born in the Palazzo Albani in Urbino in 1649, is best known as Pope Clement XI (1700–1721), and he greatly increased the Albani Library, and advanced his own family, thereby ensuring that the library would continue to be enriched and preserved in the family. As pope he created his nephew Annibale (1682–1751) a cardinal, and in 1710, largely because of papal pressure, the Emperor Joseph made Carlo, Annibale's brother, a prince. It was the youngest brother, Alessandro (1692–1779), who was the pope's favourite nephew, and he was nominated cardinal by the successor of Clement XI, shortly after the latter's death. In his will the pope left the family library entailed to Alessandro, and on his death it passed to
Cardinal Gianfrancesco (1720–1803), and from him to the last of the series of cardinals in the family, Giuseppe (1750–1834). Giuseppe’s brother Don Filippo inherited, but died childless in 1852. Thus the family became extinct, and the heirs were cousins of Don Filippo. The principal portion of the Albani Library passed to the family of Count Castelbarco-Visconti-Simonetta, by agreement with rival claimants, the Di Bagno-Chigi family.

With Clement XI’s papacy Urbino was again a centre of culture, and the court of the Old Pretender was established, briefly, in the ducal palace (see plate 1). Inventories for the years 1701 and 1720 show that the Albani Library in Urbino flourished. While the catalogue of 1720 is particularly elaborate and ornate, that of 1701 contains acquisition lists which show that the pick of three libraries—that of Monsignor Dandini, of Monsignor Fedeli, and of the Veterani family of Urbino—was incorporated into the Albani Library. The volumes were selected by the compiler of the 1701 catalogue, Archbishop Battelli, who was nine years the pope’s junior, and likewise of Le Marche, having been born at Sassocorvaro. He passed from the service of Cardinal Antonio Barberini to become Pope Clement’s personal librarian, and he may have contributed some volumes with the Barberini arms to the Albani Library. The pope was interested in the history of the duchy, as indeed was Battelli, whose personal library in part exists today in Sassocorvaro; it was perhaps due to Battelli’s energy that the Albani Library was indebted for its exceptional strength in manuscripts relating to local history. Pope Clement donated books to the University of Urbino, and it is likely that a portion of these consisted of duplicates, which had accumulated with the bulk purchases of libraries for the Albani Library. Significantly Cardinal Annibale Albani gave his name (without doing much of the work involved) to a volume entitled: Memorie concernenti la città di Urbino, which was dedicated to the Old Pretender. Of its fine engravings one of the ducal palace of Urbino is particularly entrancing. A second volume of the Memorie exists in manuscript, with correspondence relating to it and its projected publication, which never materialized, and this manuscript is now in the Communal Library of Verona. It originated in the Albani Library, and was still there in the 1840’s when James Dennistoun worked on his history of the Dukes of Urbino.

A detailed inventory of the material of local interest in the Albani Library has been published from a manuscript catalogue that now appears lost, but which probably was compiled in the late nineteenth century. Among the documents listed is the portion of the ducal archives already mentioned, with autograph letters to the Duke of Urbino from Pietro Bembo, Baldassare Castiglione and Federigo Gonzaga, which are otherwise unknown. After the death of Bernardino Baldi, who from 1601 was historian to Duke Francesco Maria II of Urbino, his unpublished papers, which were many, passed to his young nephews, then under the tutelage of Orazio Albani, their uncle. It appears that either Orazio or a son took possession of the Baldi papers, and that Pope Clement had them taken to Rome. Certainly when Crescimbeni wrote his biography of Baldi he was able to draw on unpublished material then in the Albani Library, and he presented this biography in manuscript to the pope, mistakenly hoping that this would ensure its publication.

Today the interior of the Albani Palace in Urbino contains nothing evocative of the library. The manuscript catalogue of 1720, however, contains a drawing which suggests how the library then was arranged. We know, too, that its shelves were of walnut, divided by columns, and decorated with carved headpieces. Eventually the books were guarded by a network of metal, while above a solid cornice were portraits of popes, cardinals and bishops. In the centre
of the main room was an elaborately carved walnut table, with chairs around it. The names of the librarians themselves, from Battelli in the early eighteenth century until Valenti in the second half of the nineteenth, are known, and are of interest above all for their publications based on Albani material: Monsignor Antonio Baldacci, Winckelmann, Stefano Maffei, Morcelli, Gaetano Marini, Abate Fontana, Cesare Petrocellini, Padre Tito Cicconi, Giovanni Bianconi. The prefect of the library, as the librarian was called, was responsible for books and manuscripts not merely in Urbino, but elsewhere where the Albani stayed.18

There was a family palace of the Albani at the Quirinale in Rome, and there also Pope Clement XI deposited books as well as all kinds of objets d’art; in pride of place was a hundred folio volumes of drawings brought together by purchasing in 1703 the collections of Maratta and of Cassiano dal Pozzo. All passed to Alessandro Albani at the pope’s death in 1721, by which time Alessandro himself, shortly to become a cardinal, had a personal library housed in the Palazzo del Drago at the Quattro Fontane. In the course of a long life the cardinal greatly extended the family library in Rome, and became one of the great collectors of eighteenth century Italy. He built the Villa Albani on the Via Salaria, and displayed there his classical antiques, where they remain to the present; the Abate Ridolfino Venuti became prefect of the Albani Museum, while the famous scholar Winckelmann was curator of the Albani Library. Interestingly enough for many years the cardinal received a steady income from the English Government for supplying information on Jacobite activities in Rome.19 The cardinal left a greatly enriched library to his heir, Cardinal Gianfrancesco, though in 1762, in order to provide a dowry for his elder daughter by his mistress Countess Cheroffini, he had been forced to sell his collection of drawings to George III, and they are still in the English Royal collection. There are some eighteenth century catalogues in manuscript of the Albani Library in Rome, which indicate that the one important library incorporated was that of Cassiano dal Pozzo, which in turn included manuscripts and papers from the Lincei of Rome and the entire Cesi Library. The Dal Pozzo Library had originally been purchased for the Vatican in 1703, but eleven years later it was resold to Alessandro Albani, after the pope had removed for himself some of the choice items.20

On the 26th December 1797, in consequence of the Napoleonic invasion of Italy, General Lechi, the commandant of the troops that had occupied Urbino, made the Albani Palace his headquarters, and on his departure a month later took with him some books from the library. General Trebutte, who replaced him, likewise took some books—mainly of French interest apparently—when he left. Then the palazzo was taken over by French commissioners, who sold the paintings that were there, and much material from the library. The Albani Library in Rome appears to have suffered likewise during the republican disturbances of 1798. Thus, for example, a manuscript of Terence in beautiful humanistic script, seemingly from the Albani Library, and probably that portion in Urbino, had reached England by 1802, while a group of eighty-one manuscripts from the Rome library came to rest in Montpellier in France. A Petrarch manuscript with the arms of Clement XI appears to have reached Paris in 1798. There is an inventory in manuscript of the library in Urbino, which was compiled about 1804, probably when Cardinal Giuseppe inherited. If the portion in Rome was catalogued at that time, as seems likely, the inventory is now unknown, and there is no detailed list of the manuscripts preserved there in the nineteenth century, but merely a sale list of 1857 for the printed books. None of the last three Albani owners appears to have enriched substantially the Albani Library. However an interesting
letter of the eighteenth century scholar and bibliophile the Marchese Scipione Maffei was certainly added to the Library in Cardinal Giuseppe’s time, and the cardinal allowed the Baldi papers, some of which, at least, were still in Rome in the 1820’s, to be used for an edition of Baldi’s Vita di Federigo da Montefeltro. When this was printed in 1824 it was dedicated to the cardinal. In Don Filippo’s time some of the material lost in the years 1797–1798 was recovered or replaced, mainly as a result of the energy of Padre Tito Cicconi, prefect of the library from 1825 until his death in 1846. Cicconi even sought, though without success, to recover the manuscripts in Montpellier, while best of all, his publications and papers throw light on Albani manuscripts that existed in the Albani Library when he was librarian, but which have since become lost. His edition of La descrizione del primo viaggio fatto a Roma dalla Regina di Svezia, Cristina Maria… (Rome 1838), is of particular interest, for instance, in this latter respect.

At the death of Don Filippo in 1852 his heirs contested the division of the inheritance, and a lawsuit dragged on until 1858, when at the settlement the Castelbarco family obtained the Urbino portion of the library. By then a sizeable part of the library in Rome had been sold already. Probably the total holding of manuscripts in 1852 in the library in both locations was some nine hundred and eighty-nine volumes of individual works, and six hundred and sixty-seven volumes of miscellany. While much of the manuscript material in Urbino was of local interest, the Baldi papers were in Rome, with the most valuable material. In the years 1856–1858 at least a quarter of the entire collection of manuscripts was dispersed, and this from among the Rome portion. Indeed an attempt to sell the manuscripts in Rome en bloc to the Vatican Library failed, and the main purchasers of the part sold were the Government of Rome, the Duke d’Aosta, the Duke Massimo, the Prince Boncompagni and the Prince della Cisterna. In April 1857 twelve volumes relating to the papal curia were handed over to the Vatican, while three volumes were restored to the Linci of Rome. In 1858 the library’s entire holding of printed books was perhaps about thirty-five thousand volumes, including pamphlets, and from November 1857 until mid-February 1858 a sale of the portion in Rome was held, when its printed catalogue listed some twenty thousand items, about half of which are of ecclesiastical interest.

The second stage of the disposal of the library was in 1862, when at the recommendation of Theodor Mommsen, and through the agency of the Duke of Sermoneta, the residue of the library in Rome was sold to the Prussian Government for fourteen thousand five hundred franci. Since a single autograph letter of Lorenzo de’ Medici could sell at an auction held in Paris in 1856 for seven hundred and eleven French francs, it is obvious that there were few collectors’ items in the 1862 purchase. There is no detailed list of what was shipped in twelve crates from Leghorn in August 1863 and lost when the ship sank off Gibraltar. The printed books probably included “prohibited” works that had not been listed in the 1857 auction, together with items unsold then. The core of the consignment was manuscript material: apparently there were autograph drafts of letters of Pope Clement XI, documents relating to Queen Christine of Sweden, and to the purchase of the Royal Crown of Prussia. Perhaps included were some Arabic manuscripts acquired by Pope Clement XI from the Library of Sant’ Andrea della Valle. The bulk consisted of miscellaneous documents originating in the Vatican Secret Archives, and covering from the sixteenth to the late eighteenth centuries. Since it is likely that some of this latter material in particular exists in transcript or minute, the loss to scholarship is not as serious as might be feared. Especially regrettable, though, appears the loss of two manuscripts of The Divine Comedy, and an auto-
graph unpublished translation of part of the *Iliad* by Niccolò Franco (a transcription of this latter, however, appears to exist among Cicconi’s papers).

At first the Castelbarco family maintained the library in the Albani Palace, Urbino, much as they inherited it, and continued to employ the Abate Valenti as its custodian. Some scholars were allowed to use the library, which continued to give Urbino a reputation as a cultural centre. Hence it can be appreciated why in 1915 the transfer of the library to the Villa Imperiale, Pesaro, by the Castelbarco family was resented bitterly by the citizens of Urbino. There was no longer a great library in Urbino, as had existed from the mid-fifteenth century, first with that of the dukes, then that of the Albani.

The year 1928 marks the third stage of the dispersion of the Albani Library, when about ten thousand printed books and nine manuscripts were purchased by the Catholic University of America, Washington D.C., conveyed in some ninety crates from Pesaro to Leghorn by land, and thence by sea, safely this time, to America. The material selected was concentrated in the various ecclesiastical disciplines, and an analysis by century shows that the purchase included twenty incunabula, while about a quarter of the books were printed in the sixteenth century, and the rest almost equally divided between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The unique strength of the Washington collection lies in the literature relating to Pope Clement XI’s anti-Jansenist constitution of 1713, which perhaps can be supplemented by pamphlets presented by the pope to Urbino University, and by material in Batelli’s papers. The Washington holding, too, has items printed in Urbino that seem otherwise unknown, and which will be the subject of a study to be published shortly by Professor Peebles. There are interesting association copies of works written by the Albani; and of works donated to the family as presentation or dedication copies.

The manuscripts consist of catalogues of the Albani Library in Urbino, together with four enormous music volumes with the coat of arms of Pope Benedict XIII. The latter were already in Urbino about 1804, though it is not known how they were acquired, or why they were taken to the Urbino Library. While one suspects that a few of the more choice manuscripts in the Urbino Library may have been sold in the course of the nineteenth century, the bulk of the collection relating to the history of the Duchy of Urbino was taken to Pesaro seemingly, and may still be owned by the Castelbarco family. During the Second World War the German troops are reported to have pilfered from the library, when it was kept for safety in the Castelbarco Villa at Morciola di Colbondolo (Pesaro-Urbino), and at least one item that may derive from the library was purchased for the Urbino University Library in 1951. The Archivio Albani is said to be in the villa, and remnants of the library may still be there, in the Imperiale and in a family palazzo in Milan. Unfortunately the present heirs have consistently refused to allow what remains of the library to be examined, and this, not surprisingly, has given rise to the suspicion that there may be little or nothing left, perhaps because of a secret sale.

Books with embossed Albani arms on the binding, which imply a connection with the Albani Library, are not infrequently offered for sale by antiquarian booksellers, and most of these probably derive from among the twenty thousand sold in 1857. The most common feature of the Albani bindings is a star and trimount stamped on the spine. Pope Clement XI liked to have books bound in parchment or in red leather, stamped with the papal arms. Of course the mass of the thirty thousand volumes sold in 1857 and in 1928 were in original boards or covers of unadorned cardboard or paper, with nothing save a shelfmark to tie them to the Albani Library: Cardinal Alessandro only appears to have had a bookplate. The
subsequent binding of these books may have destroyed the shelfmark, and hence all trace of their distinguished provenance is now lost. The collection in Washington has some luxurious bindings, including those with the arms of Cardinal Annibale, of Cardinal Giuseppe, and of Prince Carlo, nephew of Pope Clement XI; a book with the embossed arms of Cardinal Gianfrancesco recently was auctioned. Bindings like these serve not merely to associate the volume with the library, but often indicate precisely the owner for whom it was bound, or to whom it was presented. A representative collection of printed books with attractive bindings deriving from Italian family libraries like that of the Albani could be formed today at no great cost, and would be particularly rewarding, not least because it would be entirely original in its scope.

NOTES


3 Clough, p.103.

4 The titlepage of the second part of the Borghese sale (see note 2 above) indicates the material there as being from the Borghese Library and from that of M. le Comte de l'Aubepin.

5 The Bible is in contemporary Neapolitan binding, and was donated by Lorenzo Auguratii of Naples. It was auctioned by Sotheby on 26 January 1959 for £546, cf. The Times Literary Supplement, 20 March 1959, p.168; I am indebted to Professor B.M.Peebles for this and much other information relating to the Albani Library. The Bible was resold by Sotheby on 12 December 1967, as lot 25, for £680, and purchased by Mr. Charles W.Traylen of Guildford, who has resold it to Antiquariat F.Neidle, Stuttgart.

6 B.M.Peebles, The Bibliotheca Alhama Urbina as represented in the library of the Catholic University of America, in: Didascalica: Studies in Honor of A.M.Albarela, ed. S.Prete (New York 1959), pp.329-352 at p.330. Further studies on the Albani Library are in progress: Professor Peebles is compiling a list of manuscripts that were preserved in the eighteenth century in the Albani Library, Urbino, and Mr. F.J.Witty is studying the printed books now in Washington; Professor M. Howard Rienstra of Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, is working on a history of the Albani Library; Mme Jeanne Bignami-Odier of the Vatican Library is working on Albani material there.

For the family palace see L.Serra, Catalogo delle cose d'arte e di antichità d'Italia: Urbino (Rome 1932), p.83, and see plate 2. For the material of 1824 see Catalogo dei manoscritti in Urbino nella Biblioteca del Papa Clemente XI, ed. F.Canuti (Fano, 200 copies printed, 1939), pp.29-31; for the creation of senator see D.L. Galbreath, Papal Heraldry, I (all published, Cambridge 1930), p.101.

7 For the Barberini see Dizionario biografico degli Italiani (Rome 1965), VII, and for the Albani, Peebles, p.330. For the paintings taken by Cardinal Barberini see P.Rotondi, Il Palazzo Ducale di Urbino (Urbino, 2 vols., 1939), I, p.904; for the transfer of the library see Clough, The Library ..., p.103.

8 For the 1624 papers see note 6, and see note 16 for the ducal archival material; for Barberini's books see Peebles, pp.338-339, and also this article above note 12.


11 For the catalogues see Peebles, pp.340-342 and plate, and plate 3 to this article. For an inventory of the 1780's see Peebles, p.352, Addenda 2; for one of about 1804, and for those relating to the library in Rome, see this article above note 24 and notes 24, 25 and 34.


13 Battelli restored the rocca of Sassocolvaro and his library was preserved in it until 1965, but is now in the Sala dei professori in the Scuola Media Angelo Battelli. Battelli's papers, particularly twenty-two volumes of miscellanee, contain much material relating to the Albani; for his interest in local history see the MS Scrittature appartenente a Sassocolvaro e altri luoghi dello
State di Urbino, which Battelli had copied in 1707, and which is among his books; for his library see the Dizionario biografico . . . Some idea of the material of local interest in the Albani Library is given in the Catalogo . . ., ed. Canuti, cited in note 6. For the pope's interest see ibid., p.20 item 72; for material possibly added by Battelli see, for instance, ibid., pp.44–45 items 316–326. For a manuscript of Paltroni’s biography of Duke Federigo in the library see P. Paltroni, Commentari . . ., ed. W. Tommasi (Urbino 1966), p.29 n.9.

I am grateful to Dr. P.G. Peruzzi of Urbino University for the information concerning the pope's gift to the University Library; some of the material appears legalistic in nature, and perhaps cf. Peebles, p.340 n.35.

14 (Rome, Salvioni, 1724.); see plate I.

15 MS 1286 [287], Pacchetto 82.4, see G. Bia- degro, Catalogo . . . dei manoscritti . . . della Bibl. Com. di Verona (Verona 1893), p.586. I hope to publish elsewhere a study of this manuscript.

16 For the nature of this inventory edited by Canuti (see note 6) see Peebles, p.350; Canuti had not seen the material himself, and does not state where he saw the inventory, see Canuti, pp.6–7. For the autograph letters from the archives see ibid., p.17, and for the dispersal of these archives see C.H. Clough, Sources for the economic history of the Duchy of Urbino . . ., Manuscripta X (St. Louis 1966), pp.10–14.

17 For the Baldi papers see F. Montani, Elogio storico del Padre Pietro Cicconi . . ., in B. Baldi, Due opuscoli inediti tratti dalla Bibl. Albani, ed. T. Cicconi (Roma 1847), estratto p.20 n.2.

For the biography see G. Zaccagnini, B. Baldi nella vita e nelle opere (Pistoia, 2nd ed., 1908), pp. 7 n. 1, 41–42; the biography, now lost to sight, contained at cc.283–288, a Catalogo de’ Mss. originali di varie delle opere stampate e d’altre non stampate dei Baldi che si conservano nella Libreria di Sua Santità. I. Affò used Crescimbeni’s biography and the Baldi papers in the Albani Library for his Vita di B. Baldi (Parma 1783).

18 See plate 3. For the description see Canuti, pp.6, 10, and for the prefects see Gabrieli, p.433 no. 333 and cf. Peebles, p.346. Something of the nature of the Albani Library in Rome is indicated scantily by the Catalogo . . ., cited in note 30, II, p.383.


20 Fleming.

21 Gabrieli, pp.411 no. 16, 416–417 nos.85–86, 423 nos.174, 176, 177, 429 no.268, 6; these refer to manuscript catalogues still in existence.

22 F. Madiasi, Libri, quadri, opere d’arte tolte dal Palazzo Albani di Urbino negli anni 1797 e 1798, Nuova Rivista Miseric. Periodico Marighiano VIII (Arcevia 1896), pp.122–124. No precise source is given but probably the author found the evidence in the Albani papers. Cf. Gabrieli, p.429 no.268, 11; and Canuti, p.9, with no precise source.

23 Peebles, pp.349 and 352 Addenda for the Terence MS. The identification of the Bodleian MS E. D. Clarke 28 with the Terence of the Albani Library rests on the fact that both were written by Gherardo del Ciragio and dated 1466. Dr. R. W. Hunt, Keeper of Western Manuscripts of the Bodleian Library, Oxford, most kindly tells me that the Albani MS was catalogued as quarto, while that in the Bodleian, being 21 x 14 cm is called octavo today; moreover, Gherardo wrote more than one copy of the same work. However, the Albani MS disappears after 1798, and the first appearance of the Bodleian MS is in 1802. For the Montpellier material see Gabrieli, pp.418 no.119, 421 no.152, 422 nos.160, 163, 425 no.220, 427 no.258, and Montani, cited note 17, p.17. For the Petrarch MS see E. Pellegrin, Manuscrits de Pétrarque . . ., in Italia medioevale e umanistica, VI (1969), pp.392–395, under MS Itál, 543 of the Bibl. Nazionale, Paris.

24 For the 1804 catalogue see Peebles, pp.342–343, 352 Addenda 1; for the catalogues of the Rome portion see Peebles, pp.343 n.42, 349, n.57 (see also note 21 above); for the 1857 sale list see note 30; for the earlier catalogues of the Albani Library see note 11.

25 The number of books printed after 1780 in the sale catalogue of 1857 is small; of course some books printed earlier may have been acquired after Cardinal Alessandro’s death, though there is no way of knowing this from the catalogue. The inventory of the 1780’s probably was compiled shortly after Cardinal Gianfrancesco had inherited (see note 11) and suggests most of the material printed prior to 1780 was by then in the library. For the letter of Maffei see L. Moranti, L’arte tipografica in Urbino (1493–1800) (Florence 1967) pp.6–7; Baldi, Vita . . . (Milan, Zuccardi, 1824); cf. B. Baldi, Vita di Custodaldo . . . (Milan 1821), preface, mentions two manuscripts of this Vita in the Albani Library, Rome; see also note 17. For Cicconi see Montani, p.17, and see Gabrieli, pp.426–427 nos.237–238, 429 no.268, 12.

26 Gabrieli, pp.422 no.171, 429 no.268, 13; Peebles, p.331.

27 Gabrieli, pp.426 no.232, 237, 413 no.29,
I; cf. ibid., p. 410 n. 3. Here I diverge from Peebles, p. 332, where these figures are taken as representing what was actually sold in 1862 to the Prussian Government (see note 31) based on Gabrieli, p. 428 no. 252, 8–9. The latter is possibly an inaccurate summary. For the abortive attempt to sell manuscripts see Gabrieli, p. 424 no. 268, 16.

28 Gabrieli, pp. 412–413 no. 29F, I, 411 no. 18, 422 no. 158, where 93 should probably read 85.


30 Gabrieli, pp. 412 no. 24, 430 no. 268, 15; Catalogue della copiosa biblioteca già appartenuta all’Eccezientissima Famiglia de’ Principi Alabani (Rome, Fratelli Pallottina, 1857), 2 vols., pp. 4 + 379, 383, compiled by Prof. Rezzi, librarian of the Corsiniana, Rome. There is a copy of this catalogue in the Vatican Library, shelfmark 2.997.A2, which has some of the prices realized penciled in.

31 Gabrieli, pp. 412 no. 29B, C, 427–439 no. 252.

32 Catalogue d’une belle collection de lettres autographes... (Auction Catalogue, Maison Silvestre, 21 January 1856, Paris), p. 86 item 808; the copy in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, pressmark Δ 8, 117, has the prices added in ink.

33 Gabrieli, pp. 41 no. 29C, 428 no. 252, 8–9, for there being no list. Ibid., p. 424 no. 196 for MSS from the Library of S. Andrea della Valle. C.Frati, Dizionario bio-bibliografico dei bibliotecari e bibliografi italiani del secolo XV al XIX (Florence 1933), pp. 5–6; Montani, p. 19.

34 J. Dennistoun, Memoirs of the Dukes of Urbino (London, 3 vols., 1851), I; p. xviii, gives thanks to Valent for his assistance; L. Nardini, Palazzo dei Principi Alabani: Catalogo della Galleria e della Biblioteca, Urbino, no. 1, pp. 1–11; no. 2, pp. 15–19; no. 5, pp. 1–9 (all published of the article) (Urbino 1931) 1, p. 3, refers to being shown over the library as a young man by Valent. Count Nardini died with the publication unfinished (see Urbino, 1932, I, p. 22), and it is not certain what is the date of the catalogue of paintings that is printed in part, but it appears to list material that was in the palazzo prior to the despoliation of 1797. No mention is made of any book or manuscript (cf. Peebles, p. 331 n. 10), and the paintings in the library itself are not listed as such, if at all.

35 For bitter remarks cf. Nardini, p. 3: "... i degeneri e lontani nepoti ed eredi..."; Canuti, pp. 6–7 (and see Peebles, p. 350); for scholars visiting the library see Peebles, p. 331 n. 9, n. 11.

36 Peebles, pp. 331–333.

37 Ibid., pp. 333–337; F.J. Witty, Four music books at Washington from the Pontificate of Benedict XIII, Didascalies, ... ed. S. Prete, pp. 519–533. B.M. Peebles, Urbino imprints in Washington, Italia Medioevale e Umanistica, XI, forthcoming, For works dedicated to the family see also Moranti, L’arte tipografica ... , for instance Tav. XVII, and p. 263 no. 286.

38 The item is the Libro della Rassegna dei Hominii d’arme, in Fondo Urbino Busta 94 (242) Fasc. II, pezzo 4, cc. 210–222, which clearly derives from the ducal archives. At the time of the sale the bookseller reported it to be Albanian material.


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VORBEREITUNG EINER HISTORISCH-KRITISCHEN AUSGABE DER WERKE VON FRIEDRICH MAXIMILIAN VON KLINGER (1752–1831)

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