

Supplementa Italica. Nuova serie 31. Edizioni Quasar, Roma 2019 (in fact 2020). ISBN 978-88-5491-025-6. 373 pp. EUR 46.

This volume of the meritorious series *Supplementa Italica* contains three contributions. In region II, we have the town of Bantia by Marcella Chelotti (p. 9–42). In region XI, we have Novaria and its environs, including the western shore of the Italian part of the Lago Maggiore and, northwest of there, the Ossola valley squeezed in between the Swiss cantons of Valais/Wallis and Ticino. This entry by Giovanni Mennella and Valentina Pestarino (p. 43–276) is by far the most substantial chapter. Third, in the same region, we find Augusta Praetoria (Aosta) and its territory, covering much of the northwestern corner of Italy bordering on France in the west and on Switzerland in the north, by Silvia Giorelli Bersani and Mattia Balbo (p. 277–373). The structure of the individual chapters is the same as before, with the main parts as follows: bibliography (“B”); an historical – in the widest of senses – introduction to the city/territory to be discussed (“C”), modestly called “addenda and corrigenda (aggiunte e correzioni)” to earlier treatments; addenda and corrigenda to inscriptions published in earlier collections (“D”); “new” or republished inscriptions (“E”); and indexes. The introductions (“C”) contain a wide range of different kinds of information on, for example, the history, territory, population, cults and monuments of the site in question (for instance, in the case of Novaria we have in section C about 30 informative pages on these and other subjects). I must say, and not for the first time (cf. *Arctos* 30 [2018] 282f.), that the introductions would greatly benefit from the information they contain being presented in different subsections and furnished with captions.

In the chapter dealing with the two neighbouring towns of Bantia and Aceruntia, the *corpus* contains only two inscriptions from Bantia, *CIL* IX 416 and 418. Accordingly, section D consists of addenda to only one inscription, the bilingual Latin/Oscan *tabula/lex Bantina* (*CIL* IX 416 = I² 582, etc.), for 418 is republished in section E (with the correction of [I]IIvir(i) to IIvir(i)). Eight inscriptions have been published after the *corpus*; these include the *cippi* pertaining to augury found in the 1960s (*CIL* I² 3181 = here no. 2a–k). From several of the ‘new’ inscriptions it appears that the tribe of the city, unknown to Mommsen and Kubitschek, was the *Camilia* (cf. p. 25).

As mentioned above, the chapter on Novaria, consisting of more than 200 pages, is the most extensive contribution. The sections in this chapter are compiled either by Mennella (E) or Pestarino (C and D). The very long section C (p. 94–190) contains addenda not only to texts published in *CIL* (including no. 5997, assumed to come from Mediolanum in *CIL*) but also to those published in the supplement by Pais (1888) and in *Inscriptiones Christianae Italiae* vol. XVII (2016). It is of interest to observe that many inscriptions which Mommsen could not himself inspect still exist (e.g., 6492, 6495, 6501, 6517, 6522, 6532, 6536, 6537, 6540, 6544, 6568, 6587, 6594 [note the corrected readings producing e.g. the otherwise unattested cognomen *Vagianus*, perhaps derived from a nomen **Vagius*], 6597, 6601,

6618, 6621, 6624, 6626, 6628, 6637, 6639, 6640, 6646, 6647, 6650). On p. 92, there is a list of inscriptions that are now “irreperibili”, but the list mainly consists of inscriptions known even to Mommsen only from other, normally earlier authors (with the omission of e.g. 6508, seen by Mommsen but now apparently lost). Some of the corrections provided in this section are of more general interest. Note e.g. the following: 6499, described in *CIL* as “ara magna”, is in fact a “sarcofago di serizzo”; 6524: the correct reading is *P.* (not *L.*) *Varisidius*; 6527 *Aimili Calventi* (not *Calvini f.*; in the commentary, the author unfoundedly speaks of an adoption; similarly in 6502); 6601: the correct reading of l. 1 turns out to be *M. Graiani Valeri*, which produces a nomen *Graianus -nius* not otherwise attested, as observed by the author.

In some cases, the author seems to be mistaken or does not say all that could be said. In inscription no. 6512, for example, it does not seem a good idea to consider the possibility that *Burius* could be a “variant” of *Eburius*. The forms *nuri* (i.e. *nurui*) and *pintissime* (surely a contraction of *piint-*, cf. *piintissimo* in *CIL* VI 39738 = *AE* 2005, 281; *IPO* A 126 and elsewhere) could have been commented upon. 6518: according to the Clauss-Slaby database, the phrase *eximiae caritatis* is found in no other inscription. 6638: the name of the person whose slave Trophimus was taken over by the emperor Claudius was surely Daphnis rather than “Daphnidianus”. 6643: the nomen, transmitted in the genitive, could have been *Severius* rather than *Severus*. The scholar J. Liu is called “Liou” both in the bibliography and e.g. in the addenda to 6515.

Section E contains, in addition to five *falsae*, 82 ‘new’ or republished inscriptions (although many consist of just a few letters or no text at all). Several inscriptions already in *CIL* reappear here, namely 6531, 6542, 6556 = no. 27 (an inscription not seen by Mommsen but which still exists; note that the reading of *CIL*, *Marcus Valerius M. fil. Clau.*, has been corrected to something quite different, *M. Novarius Pheidon*), 6593, 6623, 6642, 8995. Some of the inscriptions are edited here for the first time (61, 68), but most of the ‘new’ inscriptions presented here have already been published in various publications, often of a more or less local nature. It is rather worrying that many of them have not been collected in the *Année épigraphique* and thus remain practically unknown to scholars (at least nos. 2, 5f., 8f., 10, 12–14, 19, 24, 28–31, 34f., 38–41, 47, 49–54, 56f., 59–62, 64–75, 77–82). It is true that many of these inscriptions are fragments of minor significance, but note, e.g., no. 5 mentioning apparently an *opilio*, and no. 25, the funerary inscription of a *faber carpe(ntarius)*. As for details, in no. 4 the reading should surely be *matri{s}* rather than *matris*.

The last contribution on Augusta Praetoria is obviously welcome, too, but possibly not as important as *Supplementa Italica* contributions in general tend to be. After the publication of the *corpus* in the 19th century the inscriptions of this town have been collected not only in an *Inscriptiones Italiae* volume (XI: 1) of 1932, but also in the fairly recent volume *Iscrizioni di Augusta Praetoria* of 1988. This *Supplementum* does not include the votive inscriptions from the *Summus Poeninus* as the site probably lay outside the border of Italy (p. 297, cf. p. 319). As the *Inscriptiones Italiae* numbers

are used to refer to individual inscriptions in the section with the addenda (where the references to *CIL* V or Pais are unfortunately omitted), it follows that there are addenda only to inscriptions 1–47 and 106ff. and to the few texts in *ICI* XVII. From the addenda in this section it appears that some inscriptions that were not seen by Mommsen do in fact still exist (at least 34 = *CIL* V 6821; 42 = 6838; 107 = 6845; 114 = 6897; 117 = 8945). Older readings are corrected here and there (e.g., no. 46 = 6861 line 4, *Camil[l]ia[e] Firminae*; 47 = 6862 *C. Iulius Mamae* – rather than *Mami – fil.*; a few words of commentary would have been useful). In some cases the commentaries seem perfunctory or simply wrong. For instance, in the commentary to inscription no. 116 = 6896, which mentions a soldier of the legion XII Primigenia, saying that the legion was stationed in Mainz in Germania Superior would have been more to the point than saying “Il campo principale di azione della legio XXII Primigenia era sito lungo il limes renano”. Similarly, in no. 18 = 6950, it is not correct to say that the name of Saturnina, the daughter of Maricca Namici fil(ia), is here used “in funzione nominale anziché cognominale”.

The section with the ‘new’ inscriptions contains some inscriptions published after the *Augusta Praetoria* volume of 1988 but not in the *AE*. Note, for example, in votive inscription no. 2 the uncommon formulation *Matr[onis] ... Valerius Iustus et sui* instead of *cum suis*, which is not commented upon by the editors (the parallels seem to concentrate in the area of *CIL* V, XII and XIII; e.g. *CIL* V 6566f., votive inscriptions set up by a certain *Verinus et sui*). Note, too, especially no. 14, an inscription inscribed with elegant letters in honour of someone from the local tribe *Ser(gia)*, who seems to have been *praefectus* [---] *Ca[esaris]*, no doubt in Augusta. There are further inaccurate details. In the commentary on no. 5 the editors do not seem to have recognized the full significance of the dedication *G(enio) T(iti) n(ostri) et Iunoni Varenae T. f. Severillae*, for they speak of dedications by slaves and freedmen to the *genius* of their masters “o alla Iuno”. However, *Iuno* in the dative followed by a female name (we are of course dealing with the wife of *Titus noster*) in the genitive is not really a dedication to Iuno but rather a dedication to the *Iuno* of a woman, *Iuno* here being the female equivalent of a male person’s *Genius* (cf. L. Chioffi, *Genius e Iuno a Roma*, *MGR* 15 (1990) 165–234). In no. 24, the reading is uncertain in many places. In l. 5, *[A]styanaci* seems plausible, but this is of course the dative not of “*Astyanaces*” (p. 348) but of *Astyanax*, and this is a masculine name and as such not suitable to be the cognomen of a *Tafia*. Hence, the reading *Tafiae* in l. 4 seems more than uncertain.

To conclude, the few critical observations presented above should not obscure the fact that this is another successful volume of a series that has established itself as an indispensable tool for the epigraphist dealing with Italy.