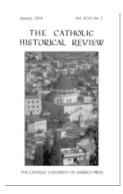


Byzantines and Crusaders in Non-Greek Sources, 1025-1204 (review)

Thomas F. Madden

The Catholic Historical Review, Volume 96, Number 1, January 2010, pp. 104-105 (Review)

Published by The Catholic University of America Press *DOI: https://doi.org/10.1353/cat.0.0641*



➡ For additional information about this article https://muse.jhu.edu/article/369529 the more practical, newer field of diplomatics and the more abstract, traditional discipline of canon law in the twentieth century. In 1922 Hans Hirsch pointed out the need of a synthesis. Historians were becoming aware that diplomatics was a better reflection of historical reality than collections of canon law. However, canon law continued to maintain its dominance well past mid-century, but in the 1940s scholars like Rudolf von Heckel and Walther Holtzmann saw the need to combine them. By the mid-1950s and early 1960s studies in canon law began to flourish in England and North America. In England Walter Ullmann sought a connection between political philosophy and canon law. His pupils Christopher Cheney and then Jane Sayers in the 1980s took the lead in diplomatics, while Othmar Hageneder assumed a similar role in German-speaking countries. In the United States, Stephan Kuttner established the study of classical canon law with a greater focus on the Church and general history, not diplomatics. Nonetheless, a group of younger scholars has given studies in canon law a firm footing here. The author strikes a note of pessimism about the current state of the European university, especially in Germany, in terms of the loss of research institutes, university chairs, and libraries in these and related disciplines. In any event, by 2004, general medievalists in diplomatics had reversed the earlier position in favor of canon law and its juristic and theological adherents.

Newport News, VA

JOHN R. EASTMAN

Byzantines and Crusaders in Non-Greek Sources, 1025-1204. Edited by Mary Whitby. [Proceedings of the British Academy, Vol. 132.] (New York: Oxford University Press. 2007. Pp. xxvii, 428. \$125.00. ISBN 978-0-197-26378-5.)

What are the geographical and cultural boundaries of the Byzantine world? This seemingly simple question gave birth to this volume. While it never completely answers that question, the volume is extremely useful nonetheless. The British Academy project, "Prosopography of the Byzantine World" (PBW), has for many years combed through Greek sources to identify and store in a database information on thousands of individual Byzantines. At its inception the PBW defined its geographical scope, logically enough, as the empire at the death of Emperor Basil II in 1025. Of course, the years after 1025 saw a dramatic contraction of Byzantine borders, leaving many of its citizens in foreign lands. Furthermore, the movement of Muslim powers and the onset of the crusades meant that the line between the Byzantine and the non-Byzantine became muddied. In response, the PBW expanded its definition of the Byzantine world, extending it not only to western crusaders who crossed, conquered, or settled in it but also to the crusader states, including Jerusalem itself. Travelers, visitors, merchants, mercenaries-all of these could be seen as part of Byzantium. By this definition, members of the Byzantine world were no longer just Greeks but also Normans, Turks, Armenians, or even Scandinavians.

BOOK REVIEWS

Just as the PBW was finishing up with its Greek sources, it began to suspect that they were only the beginning. This expanded Byzantium would naturally require the expertise of more than just Byzantinists. Responding to that need, the British Academy hosted a colloquium in 2002 at which scholars from a variety of fields were asked to consider the limits of Byzantium as well as to identify non-Greek sources that could be used with the PBW database. This book is the result.

One thing is clear: the organizers of the colloquium (Judith Herrin and Michael Jeffreys) certainly knew how to pick their experts. It is difficult to imagine someone better to survey the western Latin sources for pilgrims and crusaders than Jonathan Riley-Smith. The same can be said for Peter Edbury with Near Eastern crusader sources, Michael Balard with Genoese sources, or Carole Hillenbrand with Arabic sources. Michael Angold's chapter on Venice is especially good, evaluating not only primary sources but also surveying major historiographical questions in Veneto-Byzantine relations such as the vexing chrysobull of 1182 (or was it 1184 or 1192?).

While different contributors approach their task differently, all of the chapters have certain elements in common. Each provides a brief historical background to the interface between Byzantium and its subject culture. Aside from those already mentioned, there are chapters on sources from south Italy and northwestern Europe, as well as Slavonic, Georgian, Armenian, and Syriac sources. There is also an excellent section on Jewish sources by Nicholas de Lange. After a description of the relevant primary sources and major secondary literature, each contributor then provides a handy and sometimes extensive bibliography of editions, manuscripts, and scholarship on the sources.

Whatever the original purpose of the colloquium, the resulting collection is an extremely handy resource for anyone interested in the medieval Mediterranean world. New students and seasoned researchers will find it equally useful.

Saint Louis University

THOMAS F. MADDEN

Saints in English Kalendars before A.D. 1100. By Rebecca Rushforth. [Henry Bradshaw Society for the Editing of Rare Liturgical Texts, Vol. 117.] (Rochester, NY: Boydell & Brewer for the Henry Bradshaw Society. 2008. Pp. ix, 79. \$70.00. ISBN 978-1-870-25223-2.)

Medievalists expect volumes in the Bradshaw Society series (now published by Boydell & Brewer) to contain newly edited medieval liturgical texts, such as missals, breviaries, litanies, and so on. The work reviewed here, however, is somewhat unusual in its purpose as a supplement and companion to an existing HBS edition, Francis Wormald's *English kalendars before A.D. 1100* (HBS 72, London, 1934). Wormald had promised an introduction, notes, and indices to follow in a subsequent volume, which never appeared. Rebecca