

STEPHANUS BYZANTIUS

by AUBREY DILLER
(Indiana University)

and PAUL OSKAR KRISTELLER
(Columbia University)

<i>Fortuna</i>	221
I. <i>Ethnica</i>	221
Translations	
1. Anonymus	
2. Benedictus Aegius	
3. Gulielmus Xylander	
4. Gaspar Sardi	
5. Late translations	

FORTUNA

Stephanus Byzantius, a professor in the Court Schools of Constantinople under Justinian, is known only from his one work, the *Ethnica*, an alphabetical dictionary of geographical proper names giving their correct adjective derivatives, with abundant citations of ancient texts for their occurrence. Written about A.D. 535, the original work was of some fifty books, but only an epitome of a few hundred pages is extant. See Christ-Schmid II 2 (1924) 1084-85; E. Honigmann in Pauly-Wissowa 6A (1929) 2369-99.

I. *Ethnica*

Editio princeps: Venetiis apud Aldum Manutium Romanum mense Januario MDII. Critical edition by Aug. Meineke, *Stephani Byzantii Ethnicorum quae supersunt*, tomus prior (unicus), Berlin 1849. Cf. A. Diller, 'The tradition of Stephanus Byzantius,' *Transactions of the American Philological Association* 69 (1938) 333-348.

TRANSLATIONS

1. ANONYMUS

An anonymous translation made by an Italian was contained in a manuscript lost

during the last war. It was presumably autograph, but incomplete, extending only to the entry Phrada.

Manuscript:

(*) Milano, Biblioteca Trivulziana, cod. 737, cart. s. XV (lost). Cf. G. Porro, *Catalogo dei codici manoscritti della Trivulziana* (Turin 1884) 425. Cf. Kristeller, *Iter* I 360.

2. BENEDICTUS AEGIUS

Stephani Byzantii de urbibus populisque commentarii luculentissimi Benedicto Aegio Spoletino interprete Pio III pont. optimo maximo dicandi per Aegii praefationem.

[*Inc.l*: Abae urbs est Phociensis a recto singularis Aba Abae. ./. . .] [*Expl.l*: hoc etiam videtur esse Zygonopolis iuxta Trapezuntem. Strabo libro duodecimo. Gentile Zygiannus, -na.

Manuscripts:

Vatican, Vat. Lat. 5734, cart. s. XVI. Cf. Kristeller, *Iter* II 335. With corrections by another hand, probably Aegio himself. Copied by Jacobus Deymius Batavus Haganus. The order is adjusted to the Latin alphabet.

— Barb. Lat. 115, cart. s. XVII. A copy of the other ms., made for Lucas Holstenius. Kristeller, *Iter* II 442.

Biogr. :

Benedictus Aegius (Benedetto Egio) 'presbyter Spoletinus, vir utriusque linguae doctissimus et rerum antiquarum interpres peritissimus,' beneficiario di S. Pietro, 'Parisiis iuris pontificii interpres,' 'obiit senex in patria a. Chr. 1578'. His Italian translations of Procopius, Paul the Deacon, and Eusebius (*Ecclesiastical History*) were printed in Venice between 1544 and 1548, and his *editio princeps* of Apollodorus' *Bibliotheca* in Rome in 1555. See cod. Ambros. J 149 inf. (graecus 1065); L. Jacobilli, *Bibliotheca Umbriae* (1658) 71; Tiraboschi VII 2 (Florence 1810) 759; Cosenza I, 62. Professor Sesto Prete has kindly communicated to us the text of the following inscription preserved in the town hall of Spoleto: Anno a Christo nato MDLXIII domum hanc Benedictus Aegius de Spoletio sibi posterisque suis posterisque eorum de philologiae manubieis a fundamentis condidit.

3. GULIELMUS XYLANDER

In the preface to his edition of Stephanus Byzantius (Greek without Latin, Basel, Oporinus, 1568) Xylander says: Iampridem hunc Geographicorum priorum nominum Indicem in Latinam linguam convertere ita sum aggressus, ut urbium, regionum, montium, fluviorum, aliaque id genus nomina ab autore omnia adicerem ex aliis Geographicis, Strabone puta, Plinio, Mela, Ptolemaeo, nec non Historicis Poeticisque, Graecis iuxta Latinisque; vel quae hic brevius aut confusius proponuntur, ex iisdem scriptoribus plenius atque distinctius exponerem. Quod nostrum opus aliquandiu intermissum, hoc tempore persequimur, et spes est confere, ut Graeci huius libri editionem confestim subsequatur ipsius quoque in publicum emissio. Again in the preface to his edition of Strabo (1571): Etenim cum instituissemus Stephani de urbibus emendationem atque versionem (quae deinde commentatio a nobis gravibus de causis est in *Onomasticon geographicum* traducta). . . The *Onomasticon geographicum* is cited in his notes on Horace (1575) I 7.13 and IV 14.11, but on his death in 1576 it was unpublished and unfinished.

Stephani Byzantii de urbibus et populis liber Gulielmo Xylandro Augustano interprete.

[*Inc.*]: Abae urbs est Phocidis. . ./. . . [Expl.]: Dystus urbs Euboeae, Theopompus Philippicon XXIV.

The order is adjusted to the Latin alphabet, but the work progresses only through the letter D. Additional material from Strabo and other sources, as stated above, is incorporated in Annotations after the respective articles, but some new articles are interpolated.

Manuscript :

Vatican, Barb. lat. 159, cart. s. XVI, autograph. Cf. Kristeller, *Iter* II 443.

Biogr. :

See below under Strabo, I, 3.

4. GASPAS SARDIUS

The translation appears anonymous in a miscellaneous manuscript of the sixteenth century, written by the same hand that has been identified by Dott. Pietro Puliatti as that of Alessandro Sardi. The translation may be attributed to his father Gasparo Sardi who used Stephanus as one of his major sources in his unpublished *Toponomasiae libri XVIII*, as he states in the preface of that work dated 1561 (see Bern, Burgerbibliothek, ms. 174, written by the same hand as the Modena ms.). The translation is not complete; the entries are much abridged and rearranged according to the Latin alphabet.

Stephani Byzantii liber de urbibus et populis. [*Inc.*]: (f. 73) Abacanum urbs Siciliae (p. 2 Meineke). Abae urbs Phocidis ab Aba heroe. Est et urbs Italiae. In Abis Phocidis fuit templum Apollinis et oraculum ante illud quod Delphis erat (p. 1-2). [*Expl.*]: (f. 190) Zygantis urbs Libyae, Hecataeus in Asiae descriptione (p. 297). Zygi ultra Asiae Bosporum. Similis est et Zygopolis apud Trapezuntem, Strabo in 11 et 12 (p. 298). Zygina insula in mari Thessalico (sic, cf. p. 297).

Manuscript :

Modena, Biblioteca Estense, Est. lat. 50 (Alpha 0 7,19), cart. s. XVI, fols. 73-190. Kristeller, *Iter* II 542. Partial microfilm kindly supplied by Cav. Carlo Orlandini.

Biogr. :

Gaspar Sardius (Gasparo Sardi), a Ferrarese scholar and writer of varied interests. He was born about 1480, was a student of Battista Guarini and Ludovico Carbone and died in 1564. He published a history of Ferrara (in Italian, 1556), and his letters (in Latin, 1549, followed by a treatise *De triplici philosophia*). He left many writings in manuscript, including poems, historical, philological and theological notes. His *Toponomasia* survives in the above cited manuscript in Bern, and in two manuscripts in Modena (Est. lat. 179 and 481, with indices in cod. 293).

Bibl. : Cosenza IV 3194 ; L. Ferrari, *Onomasticon* 609 ; Kristeller, *Iter* I (index) ; Tiraboschi (1824) VII 1274-77 ; G.A. and

L. Barotti, *Memorie istoriche di Letterati ferraresi* II (Ferrara 1793) 68-73.

5. LATE TRANSLATIONS

Since none of these translations was ever published, attention should be called to the seventeenth-century translations that were repeatedly printed, one by Abraham Berkelius (first printed in Leyden 1688) and one by Thomas de Pinedo Lusitanus (first printed in Amsterdam 1678). Notes on Stephanus Byzantius by Lucas Holstenius were repeatedly printed (first in Leyden 1684 ; the autograph ms. is in Florence, Laur. Acquisti e Doni 141, see *Studi italiani* 6, 1898, 100), but his Latin translation survives only in manuscript (Vatican, Barb. lat. 174 and 319, cf. Kristeller, *Iter* II 443 and 444).