

Earthquake of 30 April 1279, Umbria-Marche Apennines

STATE OF EARTHQUAKE REVIEW

The bibliography of the catalogue was revised and contemporary memorial sources were found. The research was carried out on the basis of the major collections of sources on medieval history (*Monumenta Germaniae Historica*, *Rerum Italicarum Scriptores* first and second series and *Fonti per la storia d'Italia*). In the light of the testimonies of the sources closest to the event, it is right to sustain that this earthquake is clearly different from the Friulian one of 24 April 1279, or from the one of the Romagna area of 1 May 1279. However, the origin of the confusion between the three earthquakes, and especially between the ones of the Marche area and of the Romagna area can be found in the medieval chronicles of beyond the Alps, that remember them as connected events. In any case, two independent sources, one of the Umbrian area and another of the Romagna area, distinguish the two shocks, and attribute differently localised damage.

The notary Bonaventura di Benvenuto, who lived at Foligno between the end of the thirteenth and the middle of the fourteenth centuries, remembered that in 1279 there were strong earthquakes in the area surrounding the Umbrian city. The first one happened on the last Sunday of the month of April (that is, on the 30th day), after vespers («post vesperas»): this time indication should correspond to the middle of the afternoon (very approximately around 14:00 GMT), supposing that the ninth hour had already been moved from halfway the afternoon to midday, and as a consequence the hour of the vespers from one hour before sunset to halfway the afternoon (Bilfinger, 1892). This «slipping» of the hour was adopted in the monastic cycles in

the fourteenth century, but not everywhere and not in the same period. Thus, the doubt regarding the time conversion which is not easily solved, persists.

Pietro Cantinelli, a notary of the Romagna area and direct witness of the event, attests, after having annotated that on 30th April at about the hour of the Vespers («circa horam vesperarum») there was a big earthquake, that in the following night, that is, between 30th April and the 1st May occurred a big earthquake in the Romagna area in the middle of the night («quasi circa horam medie noctis»). A later testimony of the fifteenth century, which only partially depends on the chronicle of Pietro Cantinelli in the «Anales Forolivienses», makes it possible to approximate better the time origin of this shock, as it is written that it happened «at the matins» («in matutinis»), that is, at the moment of the first morning prayer established by Saint Benedict's rule, that for the period in question corresponds to an interval of time between about 3 and 3:30 in the morning (about between 2:00 and 2:30 GMT).

Thus, despite of their geographical and chronological closeness, the earthquakes of 30th April and of 1st May 1279 must be considered different. The earthquake of 30th April is testified by many chronicles of the Italian area of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The most detailed source contemporary to the event is the chronicle of the Franciscan father Salimbene de Adam, made up in the eighties of the thirteenth century. The author presumably died between the end of 1288 and the beginning of 1289. It is not exactly known where Salimbene was at the moment of the earthquake, he might have been in the same area of the earthquake or he might have received his in-

formation from his brothers. It could be that he moved to Reggio Emilia at the end of 1279. The same information of Salimbene was also reported by the notary of the Reggio area Alberto Milioli and in a shorter form by another source of the Reggio area, the anonymous «Memoriale potestatum Regensium» Salimbene and Alberto Milioli, refer, next to the damage caused to the Umbria-Marche area, also, though more concisely, to the effects of the shock localised in the Romagna area. Both authors and the anonymous «Memoriale potestatum Regensium» date the two earthquakes to 1st May 1279 without any time indication.

Partially divergent from the previous tradition, the «Annales Veronenses de Romano», written between the thirteenth and the fourteenth centuries, briefly mention the earthquake, recording that the shocks were felt in Rome and Montecassino. A very synthetic, local source for Foligno is the already mentioned notary Bonaventura di Benvenuto. A quick allusion to an earthquake that destroyed many castles in Tuscany and Romagna is found in the «Continuatio Pontificum Italica II» on the life of pope Nicolas III (1277-1280), while in the «Annales Placentini Gibellini» of the thirteenth century, one can find information regarding, probably, Forlì.

In the chronicle of Andrea Dandolo – he lived during the first half of the fourteenth century and was doge of Venice from 1343 till 1354 – next to the information of the earthquake of 24 April 1279, it is mentioned that a shock was felt at Venice on 30th April without any time indication. The same information returns in some handwritten chronicles dating to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and preserved in the Biblioteca del Museo Civico Correr (Library of the Correr Civic Museum).

News of the seismic event is also reported in some chronicles of the German area. The most detailed is the «Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis moderna» made up at Erfurt by the middle of the fourteenth century. It specifies more precisely – and probably in an exaggerated way – the damage suffered by Nocera, Camerino and Serravalle di Chienti. The «Annales Polonorum», compiled by the monastery of the Grey-Friars of Cracow and dating back to the second

half of the fourteenth and the beginning of the fifteenth centuries, record above all the effects of the earthquake on the environment, without explicitly mentioning any locality. There are brief mentions of the earthquake in the «Annales Neresheimenses», written in the monastery of S. Udalrico of Neresheim (diocese of Augsburg), which original core dates back to the twelfth and thirteenth centuries with continuations until the beginning of the fifteenth century, and in the «Chronicon Elwacense», written in the monastery of the Saints Vitus, Sulpicius and Servilianus of Ellwangen (in the same diocese of Augsburg), which draws on the previous chronicle. Both chronicles mention effects on the environment which are most likely exaggerated by the distance and the understandable overemphasis of a story which loses its rational descriptive elements.

This earthquake of the Umbria-Marche area, often described together with the one of the Romagna area, is handed down in the erudite historiography of the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries: starting from Sigonio (1591) it is recorded by Lilii (1649-1652), Tatti (1683), Muratori (1762-1764), De Morani; and by the local historians of the nineteenth century: Acquacotta (1838-1839), Moroni (1840-1879), Peruzzi (1847), Conti (1872), Sansi (1879-1884), Gaspari (1883) and Savini (1895). Of this tradition of studies the most interesting is the work by the historian Camerino Camillo Lilii (1649-1652), who used the diary of Pietro Antonio Lilii, his ancestor who lived two centuries earlier (about the middle of the fifteenth century), and who, next to quoting Sigonio, reports the transcription of a sales act made up between the noble family Bulgarelli and the city of Camerino in 1283. In the document the earthquake of April 1279 is an element of dating.

From Bonito (1691) on, this earthquake has converged in the seismological tradition through the catalogues of Perrey (1848), Mercalli (1883), Taramelli (1896), to finally end in Baratta (1901), a reference study for the PFG Catalogue (1985). After that date were published the catalogues of Paciaroni (1989) and of Conversini et al. (1990), the most recent study on the event is contained in the study done by Castelli et al. (monography of the GNDT, available, 1997).

EARTHQUAKE SOCIAL CONTEXT

Salimbene's chronicle states that at Camerino a lot of people died, but it does not specify how many. The information of a thousand deaths only in Camerino and five hundred in the castle of Serravalle di Chienti is attested by the «Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis moderna». Probably, this information is exaggerated and must be seen in the light of the strong impact that the seismic event had on the society and culture of the time. The «Annales Polonorum» talk about a Cistercian convent where fifty nuns died: this is probably the monastery of Camerino quoted by the historian Lili, based on the diary of one of his ancestors, in which it is affirmed that all the nuns, except one, died.

ADMINISTRATIVE/HISTORICAL AFFILIATIONS AND BOUNDARIES

The most developed of the struck centres was Foligno, a town with «popular» magistrates, that one decade after the seismic event was involved in a lacerating war with Perugia. Nocera Umbra was under the dominion of Perugia from 1202.

MAJOR EARTHQUAKE EFFECTS

The earthquake of 30 April 1279 that occurred at about 14:00 GMT («circa horam vesperarum», or «post vespas» or «immediate post vespas») hit a vast area of the Umbria-Marche Apennines. The terminology used by the sources does not allow an immediate identification and diversification of the damage for the various localities. In any event, the earthquake emerges from the testimonies as a strongly destructive event, with devastating effects on the buildings and on the environment.

The most heavily damaged towns were Camerino, where towers and houses collapsed, and in particular the bell-tower of Holy Mary, the tower of Saint Giacomo and a monastery; and Serravalle di Chienti, where the castle was swept away by wide landslides. There was also heavy damage at Nocera Umbra and in numerous small castles in the mountains, which are not specified (fig. 1). There was also considerable damage at Cingoli, Fabriano, Matelica, San Severino Marche and Spello. At Cerreto di Spoleto the inhabitants of the town held an open-air council, close to the walls of the castle, as staying in

the city was extremely risky. This is a sign that the earthquake had probably rendered some of the buildings unsafe.

The area where the earthquake was only felt, extended itself from Rome and Montecassino in the south, to Venice and maybe Forlì in the north. According to the sources, the strongest shocks continued for 14, 15 or 17 days. The vagueness and the imprecision of this information do not allow us to outline a certain chronological seismic sequence.

EFFECTS BY INDIVIDUAL LOCALITY

Cagli

This is one of the localities («castra»), which according to Salimbene de Adam, Alberto Milioli and the «Memoriale potestatum Regensium», suffered heavy damage («dirupta»).

Camerino

Two of the zones in which the city was divided were severely hit («submersa») and, as a consequence, there were many victims, according to Salimbene de Adam, Alberto Milioli and the «Memoriale potestatum Regensium». The «Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis», probably exaggerating the news, records the destruction of all the towers and houses and counts a thousand victims. According to the historian of Camerino, Camillo Lili (1649), who used the diary of Pietro Antonio Lili, his ancestor who lived two centuries earlier (about the middle of the fifteenth century), the bell-tower of Holy Mary collapsed («cecidit»), together with the tower of San Giacomo and a monastery of nuns all of whom died but one. Maybe the «Annales Polonorum» refers to about the same convent; they refer to a Cistercian monastery where fifty nuns died.

Castello di Serravalle

The locality is explicitly mentioned in the medieval sources, recording the name «Serovallis» («Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis moderna», as well as in implicitly as «castrum») (Salimbene de Adam, «Annales Polonorum»). The settlement was destroyed («spianato») by a concurrence of seismic effects on the buildings and on the environment: the damage directly caused by the earthquake was in fact probably aggravated

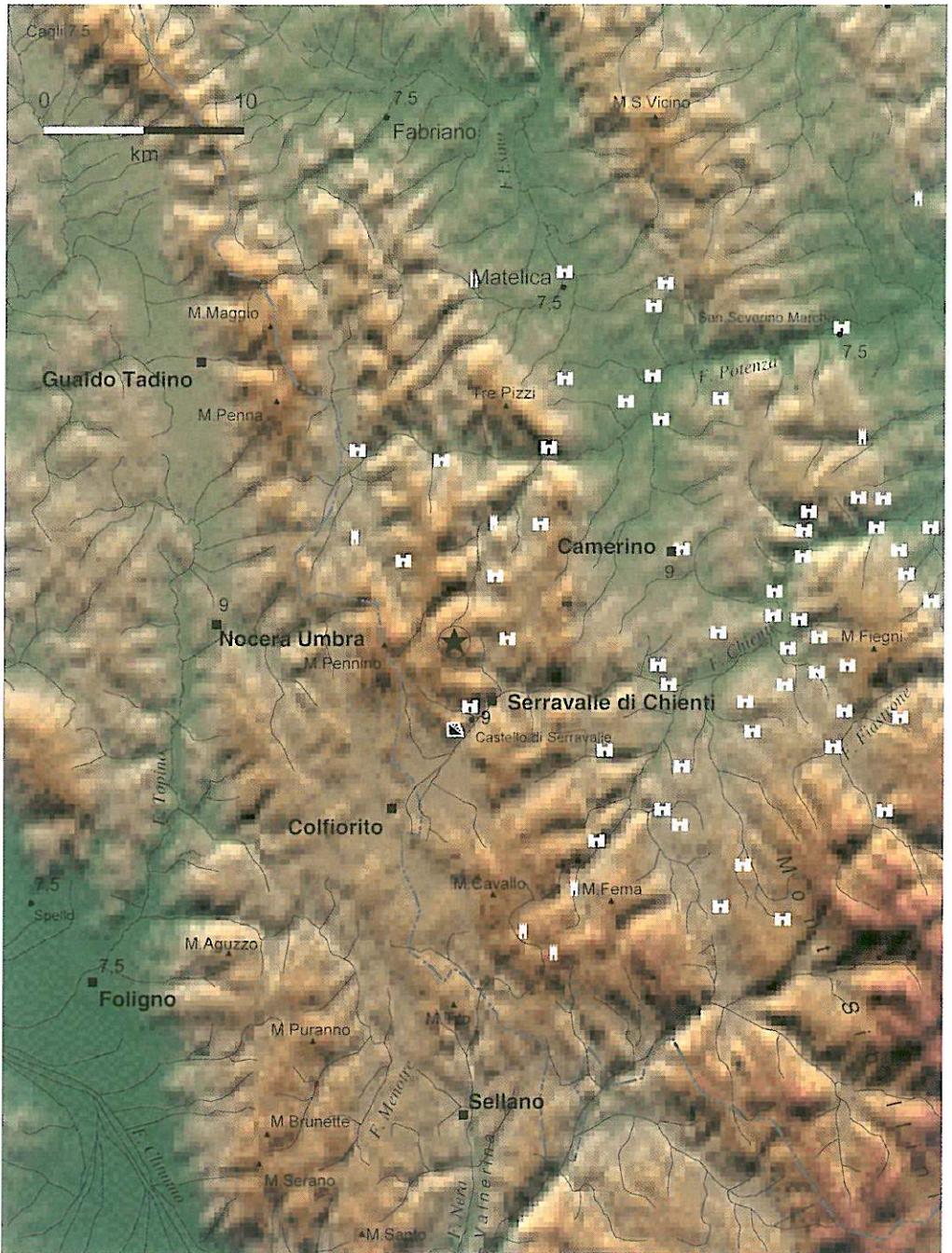


Fig. 1. Location of major seismic effects in 30 April 1279 classified using Mercalli Cancani Sieberg macroseismic scale. In this map are highlighted 13th century castles built in this area.

by a large land slide which stuck from the dominating mountains that hit the fortified village. All the inhabitants of the castle, that is 500 people, died.

Cerreto di Spoleto

The inhabitants of the town held a council on the side of the mountain, close to the castle walls as staying in the city was extremely risky. According to the local archivist and historian Sansi (1879) this is a sign that the earthquake caused considerable damage.

Cingoli

This is one of the localities («castra»), which according to Salimbene de Adam, Alberto Milioli and the «Memoriale potestatum Regensium», suffered heavy damage («dirupta»).

Fabriano

This is one of the localities («castra»), which according to Salimbene de Adam, Alberto Milioli and the «Memoriale potestatum Regensium», suffered heavy damage («dirupta»).

Foligno

A strong earthquake was felt, as records the notary Bonaventura di Benvenuto, who does not mention any other effects. According to Salimbene de Adam, Alberto Milioli and the «Memoriale potestatum Regensium», suffered heavy damage («dirupta»).

Forlì

According to the «Annales Placentini Gibellini» the shock extended to this city (supposing that the source, with the expression «Furlinum», refers really to Forlì, whose correct denomination should be «Forlivium»).

Matelica

This is one of the localities («castra»), which according to Salimbene de Adam, Alberto Milioli and the «Memoriale potestatum Regensium», suffered heavy damage («dirupta»).

Montecassino

The locality is recorded as the extreme limit of the area where the earthquake was felt, according to the contemporary «Annales Veronenses de Romano».

Nocera Umbra

More than half of the city collapsed; in particular the monastery of the largest church collapsed («corruit») together with its surrounding buildings, assigned to the canons. Many people died but the bishop was saved, according to the information in the «Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis moderna».

Roma

The shock was felt considerably: the table at which the Pope was eating and the entire palace moved in an impressive way, according to the «Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis moderna».

San Severino Marche

This is one of the localities («castra»), which according to Salimbene de Adam, Alberto Milioli and the «Memoriale potestatum Regensium», suffered heavy damage («dirupta»).

Serra San Quirico

The local historian Gaspari mentions the earthquake in general, on the basis of the historian of Camerino, Lilii, who does not provide any information on the city.

At the present state of the research it is deemed opportune not to attribute any value of intensity.

Spello

This is one of the localities («castra»), which according to Salimbene de Adam, Alberto Milioli and the «Memoriale potestatum Regensium», suffered heavy damage («dirupta»).

Venezia

According to Andrea Dandolo an earthquake shock was felt; any other information was not reported. The shock is dated 30 April 1279, but the missing of a time indication leaves some doubt on whether it was really the shock localised in the Umbria-Marche area that was felt, or the one localized in the Romagna area.

EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

From the mountains overlooking the settlement of Castello di Serravalle a large landslide broke away which probably hit the fortified village, thus exacerbating the damage caused directly by the earthquake, and obstructed the course of the river below (fig. 2), causing the formation of a lake.



Fig. 2. Foot of the historical landslide, probably triggered by the 1279 earthquake which diverted the flow of the river Chienti: part of the present village of Serravalle di Chienti is built on the site of this landslide (see also fig. 10 in Valensise and Guidoboni «*Earthquake effects on the environment: from historical descriptions to thematic cartography*», this volume)

LOCATION AND NATURE OF THE OBSERVED EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Landslide, earth flow, mud flow in Castello di Serravalle

In the medieval sources the locality is mentioned explicitly, by recording its name «Serovallis» («*Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis moderna*»), as well as implicitly, as «castrum» (castle) (*Salimbene de Adam*; «*Annales Polonorum*»). From the dominating mountains a large landslide broke off and probably hit the fortified village, thus worsening the damage caused directly by the earthquake, and obstructed the course of the river below, causing the formation of a lake. The effects outlined by the sources are congruent with the topographical location and the ge-

ological knowledge available on the area of Castello di Serravalle. In fact, the locality is situated at the beginning of the valley of the river Chienti and still today one can observe the remainings of a castle, parts of whose walls seem to date back to the end of the thirteenth century. Moreover, the territory is prone to a geological instability in the case of a seismic shock, with the consequent interruption and/or deviation of the course of the river Chienti and the creation or disappearance of small lakes or swamps. An analysis of aerial photos at various scales and different ages, has disclosed on the area some superficial, as well as, deep landslide movements. The deep landslides, in general classifiable as complex slidings are wider than the superficial ones and contain either mountain

side detrital deposits as well as substrata of rock. One of these landslides in particular, which started between approximately 950 and 560 m. on the left hydrographic side of the valley, hit the most northern part of the village of Castello di Serravalle. This sliding did not only bring down the detrital covering but also the substratum of rock; in total about one million cubic metres of material that reached the valley floor and temporarily obstructed the course of the river. This might have caused the temporary swamping or formation of a temporary lake of modest dimensions and depth, immediately at the deposits of the landslide. Even if it is not possible to date the landslide, its still very «young» (at least ten centuries) and obvious morphological characteristics indicate that the movement is not that old: it could thus be the one mentioned by the medieval sources, related to the earthquake of 1279. In fact, the type of movement, a collapse of rocky material broken off due to a landslide, and the form of the deposit, localized largely at the foot of the mountain-side, are compatible with a seismic trigger, related to the shaking of the mountainside due to an earthquake.

SEQUENCE OF THE MAIN TREMORS

Even if the sources show uncertainties and variations as regards the indication of the day on which the earthquake occurred, because of the almost temporal concomitance and geographical proximity of another shock, some chronicles (the one of the notary Foligno Bonaventura di Benvenuto for the Umbrian area, and the one of Pietro Cantinelli for the Romagna area, report precise time indications and distinguish the two shocks: one first shock, localized in the Umbria-Marche area occurred on 30 April 1279 at about the hour of the vespers, or a bit later («circa horam vesperarum» (Pietro Cantinelli), «post vespas» (Bonaventura di Benvenuto), «immediate post vespas» («Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis moderna»), a time indication which should correspond to the middle of the afternoon (very approximately at about 14:00 GMT), supposing that the ninth hour had already been moved from halfway through the afternoon to midday, and as a consequence the hour of the vespers from one hour before sunset to halfway through the afternoon (Billfinger, 1892); a second shock localized in the Romagna area occurred in the middle of the night between 30 April and 1 May

List of classified localities
Earthquake of 30 April 1279 14:00 GMT

Locality	Province	Latitude	Longitude	Local intensity MCS
Camerino	MC	43080713	13040521	IX
Castello di Serravalle	MC	43035295	12563129	IX
Nocera Umbra	PG	43064533	12471728	IX
Cagli	PS	43324527	12390326	VII-VIII
Cingoli	MC	43222867	13125873	VII-VIII
Fabriano	AN	43200776	12541852	VII-VIII
Foligno	PG	42571816	12421313	VII-VIII
Matelica	MC	43152069	13003398	VII-VIII
San Severino Marche	MC	43134325	13103875	VII-VIII
Spello	PG	42593016	12400524	VII-VIII
Cerreto di Spoleto	PG	42490832	12550111	VI-VII
Roma	RM	41534321	12285656	V
Montecassino	FR	41292340	13484964	F
Venezia	VE	45261526	12200705	F
Forlì	FO	44130017	12025718	NC
Serra San Quirico	AN	43264947	13005445	NC

Table of values of the text (see details in Guidoboni «*Method of investigation, typology and taxonomy of the basic data: navigating between seismic effects and historical contexts*», this volume)

F	direct source;
Fc	source chronologically close to the event, but geographically remote;
Fi	indirect source;
Fn	negative source, used <i>ex silentio</i> ;
Fa	apocryphal source;
R	inventory or list of seismic events prior to the nineteenth century;
Rf	inventory containing transcription of source;
C	catalogue of earthquakes;
Cf	catalogue containing transcription of source;
B	seismic bulletin;
St	historiographic contribution;
Bs	scientific contribution;
Ig	general information.

(«quasi circa horam medie noctis») (Pietro Cantinelli). Since at the time of the earthquake the days were divided into canonic hours, the expression «horam medie noctis» does not actually mean «24:00 h» (or 23:00 GMT). It in fact indicates very generally the middle of the night, and hence the earthquake time cannot be determined more precisely. A later testimony, which only partially depends on the chronicle of Pietro Cantinelli, in the «Annales Forolivienses», makes it possible to approximate better the time origin of this shock, as it is written that it happened «at the matins» («in matutinis»), that is, at the moment of the first morning prayer established by Saint Benedict's rule, that for the period in question corresponds to an interval of time between about 3:00 and 3:30 in the morning (about between 2:00 and 2:30 GMT).

According to the sources, the strongest shocks continued for 14, («Chronicon Elwacense», «Annales Neresheimenses») or 15 (or 17) days («Annales Polonorum»). The vagueness and the imprecision of this information prevent an accurate outline of the sequence of the shocks of the Umbria-Marche area or of the Romagna one.

STATISTICS OF THE TEXTS USED

Total number 42 of which:

F 13, Fi 4, R 1, C 5, St 15, Bs 4.

Manuscript sources from: Archives 1, Libraries 2.

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C

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Tatti P.L.

St

Degli annali sacri della città di Como [...] Decade seconda. Milano 1683

BASIC TEXTS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CRITICAL VALUE

Direct source = F

Annales Neresheimenses [1049-1406] (cent. XI-XV), ed. O. Abel, in «Monumenta Germaniae Historica», SS., tome 10, pp. 20-27, Hannover 1852

<p. 24> 1279. *Vigilia sanctorum apostolorum Philippi et Iacobi terre motus factus est in terra Tuscanensium per 14 dies, et terre motu cessante terra aperiens os suum absorbit civitatem Arreze et villas; oppida innumerabilia diluvio perierunt. Dehinc infra diem pentecostes et octavam eius ignis durissimus emissus est in civitatem et partem civitatis destruxit ingentem, et homines numero 323 ibidem exusti sunt.*

[translation] 1279. On the eve of the Apostles Philip and James [30th April] an earthquake occurred in Tuscan territory for 14 days and when the earthquake ceased the earth opened its mouth, engulfed the town of Arezzo and ... villas; innumerable villages were ruined by the flood. Later between the day of Pentecost [21st May] the eighth of that [16th July], a fierce blaze broke out in the town [...] and in that same place men numbering 323 were burnt.

Annales Placentini Gibellini [1154-1284] (cent. XIII), ed. G.H. Pertz, in «Monumenta Germaniae Historica», SS., tome 18, pp.457-581, Hannover 1863

<p. 571> 1279. *de mense Madii multa castra et loca in marchia Ancone diluvio inefabili submersa sunt usque ad Furlinum, et magna pars illius civitatis, ita quod homines et bestie magni et parvi intermpti sunt.*

[translation] 1279 in the month of May many castles and places in the marshes of Ancona were destroyed by an unspeakable scourge to Forlì, and much of that town, so that men and beasts large and small were killed.

Annales Polonorum I-II-III-IV [965-1415] (cent. XIV-XV), ed. R. Roepell and W. Arndt, in «Monumenta Germaniae Historica», SS., tome 19, pp. 609-662, Hannover 1866

<p. 643> 1279. [...] *Item eodem anno in Italia in vigilia Marci ewangeliste factum est terre motus magnus, ex quo subverse sunt septem civitates.*

[translation] 1279. [...] The same year in Italy on the eve of Mark the evangelist [24th April] there was a strong earthquake which destroyed seven towns.

<p. 644> 1279. [...] *Eodem anno in Ytalia, in vigilia beati Marci ewangeliste factus est ter motus terre, ex quo subverse sunt septem civitates. In montibus autem circa Bononiam cecidit ros sanguineus in maxima quantitate, presidente Romane ecclesie domino Nicolao papa III qui vocabatur Iohannes Gahetanus. Miserabiliter autem terra absorbit civitates, quia descenderunt in abyssum cum suis habitatoribus, et audiebatur vox clamantium per quatuor dies de abyso: Misericordiam, misericordiam, Deus. Montes eciam duo convenerunt in unum; inter quos fluebat fluvius, qui ita fuit conclusus montibus, quod nullum meatum habens fecit lacum circa se, ad sexaginta miliaria et amplius, omnia subvertens. Aliqua eciam castra in montibus sita, aperiens se terra per motum terre, qui stetit 15 diebus, ipsa castra cum montibus absorbit, aliquos montes maximos in planicem deducens terre penitus coequavit et in populo stragem fecit miserabilem. Nam in quodam claustro Cysterciensi quinquaginta sorores occidit; et talia multa mala facta sunt.*

[translation] 1279. [...] The same year in Italy, on the eve of blessed Mark the evangelist [24th April] there was an earthquake three times, which destroyed seven towns. Moreover, in the hills around Bologna large quantities of red rain fell, while pope of the Roman church was Nicholas III whose name was Giovanni Gaetano. Moreover, unfortunately the earth engulfed some towns, which descended into the abyss with their inhabitants, and the voices of the imploring could be heard for four days from the abyss: «Mercy, Mercy, God». Two hills were also joined into one; between them there ran a river, which was thus closed between the hills which having no bed formed a lake around it for sixty miles and more, sweeping everything away. Even some castles on the hilltops, as the earth opened due to the earthquake which continued for 15 days, these same castles were knocked down with the hills; some very high hills were completely flattened into fields with a miserable slaughter of the people. In fact in a certain Cistercian convent fifty nuns were killed; such calamities truly occurred.

<p. 645> 1279. [...] *Eodem anno in Ythalia in vigilia beati Marci evangeliste factus est terre motus ex quo subverse sunt septem civitates. Miserabiliter autem terra absorbit civitates, quia descenderunt in abyssum cum habitationibus suis et audiebatur vox clamantium de abyssu per quatuor dies. Montes eciam duo convenerunt in unum; inter quos fluebat fluvius, qui ita fuit montibus conclusus, qui nullum meautum habens fecit lacum circa se ad 60 milliaria et amplius, omnia subvertens. Multa eciam castra in montibus sita, aperiens se terra per motum terre que stetit 17 diebus, ipsa castra cum montibus absorbit, aliquos montes maximos in planiciem deducens, terre penitus coequavit et in populo stragem miserabilem fecit.*

[translation] 1279. [...] The same year in Italy, the eve of blessed Mark the evangelist [24th April] there was an earthquake which destroyed seven towns. Moreover, unfortunately the earth engulfed some towns, which descended into the abyss with their inhabitants, and the voices of the imploring could be heard for four days from the abyss. Two hills were also joined into one; between them there ran a river, which was thus closed between the hills which having no bed formed a lake around it for sixty miles and more, sweeping everything away. Even some castles on the hilltops, as the earth opened due to the earthquake which continued for 17 days, these same castles were knocked down with the hills; some very high hills were completely flattened into fields with a miserable slaughter of the people.

Anonymous Regiensis
Memoriale potestatum Regiensium [1154-1290]
 (cent. XIII), in «*Rerum Italicarum Scriptores*», ed. L.A. Muratori, tome 8, cols. 1073-1174, Milano 1726

<col. 1145> *Eodem anno [1279], Indict. VII in festo apostolorum Philippi et Jacobi in Kal. Maii factus est terraemotus adeo magnus in marchia anconitana, quod duae partes Camerini submersae sunt, et multi homines utriusque sexus perierunt. Fabrianum, Matellica, Callium, S. Severinum, et Cingulum, omnia ista castra sunt dirupta. Similiter Nuceria, Fuliginum, et Spellum, et breviter omnia illa castra, quae sunt in illis partibus montaneis multa sunt damna perpessa.*

[translation] In the same year [1279], seventh proclamation, on the feast of the apostles Philip and Giacomo, on the kalends of May [1st May] in the Ancona Marche there was such a great earthquake, for which two parts of Camerino were engulfed, and many people of both sexes died. Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, San Severino and Cingoli, all these castles were destroyed. Likewise Nocera, Foligno and Spello, and in short all those castles, which are located in those hilly parts suffered much damage.

Bonaventura di Benevento
Cronaca [1198-1341] (cent. XIV), in *Fragmenta Fulginatis Historiae*, ed. M. Faloci-Pulignani, «*Rerum Italicarum Scriptores*», 2nd ed., tome 26, part 2, pp. 5-26, Bologna 1932-1933

<p. 15> *MCCLXXIX. [...] Fuerunt magni terremotus et primus terremotus magna vi fuit die dominico post vespas ultimo mensis aprilis.*

[translation] 1279. [...] There were strong earthquakes [in Foligno] and the first earthquake of great strength on the last Sunday of the month of April [the 30th] after vespers.

Cantinelli Pietro
Chronicon [1228-1306] (cent. XIII-XIV), ed. F. Torraca, in «*Rerum Italicarum Scriptores*», 2nd ed., tome 28, part 2, Città di Castello 1902

<pp. 30-31> *MCCLXXIX. [...] Eodem anno, die dominica ultima mensis aprilis, circa horam vespas, fuit magnus terremotus. In nocte vero sequenti, adveniente die lune kalendarum madii, quasi circa horam medie noctis, fuerunt terremotus magni, et specialiter unus maximus fuit, propter quod gentes plurimum timuerunt; nam, ex forcia eius, multa castra in montanis corruerunt, et conquassata sunt, et multe gentes mortue sunt sub castris et muris castrorum, que corruerunt. Et tunc mortuus est Banbus filius Bonifacii de Sosenana, in Castiglono, cum pluribus aliis, qui erant cum eo. Similiter et filii fratris Guarnerii filii domini comitis Glacesii de Castrocaro, qui erant in castro de Fantella, cum matre ipsorum et tota eorum familia, mortui sunt propter conquassationem turris et castris predicti. Et multe alie gentes infinite mortue sunt, dicta occasione, in multis partibus mundi, propter domos et edificia, que corruerunt; et plurime ecclesie similiter destructe sunt propter fortiam dicti terremotus.*

[translation] 1279. [...] The same year, the last Sunday of the month of April [the 30th], at around the hour of vespers there was a strong earthquake. On the following night in truth, reaching the day of Monday, the first of May, in the middle of the night, there were strong earthquakes, especially one which was very great, for which people were much afraid; in fact, due to its strength, many hillside castles collapsed and were ruined and many people died under the castles and under the walls of the castles which collapsed. To be precise Banbo the son of Bonifce of Sisenana died in Castiglione, with many others who were with him. Likewise the followers of friar Guarniero, the followers of count Glacesio of Castrocaro who were staying in the castle of Fantella, with their mother and

the whole family, died due to the destruction of the tower and the above-mentioned castle. And many other persons without limit died, on that occasion, in many parts of the country because their homes and building collapsed; and many churches were likewise destroyed by the force of the said earthquake.

Chronica S. Petri Erfordensis moderna [1072-1335] (cent. XIV), ed. O. Holder-Egger, in Monumenta Erphesfurtensia saec. XII-XIII-XIV, «Monumenta Germaniae Historica», SS. RR. GG. in usum scholarum separatim editi, tome 42, pp. 150-369, Hannover-Leipzig 1899

<pp. 206-207> *Miraculum de terre motu.*

In «Deo cantate», quando fuit vigilia Philippi et Iacobi, immediate post vespas fuit terre motus maximus in civitate Camerina et in civitate Nuchir, que sunt site in marchia Anconitana et distant a Roma bene ad VII dietas, ita quod Camerina omnes turres et domus corruerunt, et fuerunt mortui plus quam mille homines. In civitate Nuchir corruit monasterium maioris ecclesie cum edificis et omnibus curis canonicorum, plus quam media pars ipsius civitatis; et mortue fuerunt persone infinite, sed episcopus evasit. Nuchir fuit sita in monte, et fuit alius mons ex opposito; et quoddam castellum fuit situm inter alios duos montes. Ibi fuerunt bene quingenti hospites. Et habebat nomen Serovallis. Isti montes venerunt unus contra alium et cooperuerunt illud castellum, quod fuit in medio, cum omnibus personis, que fuerunt intus; et est ita planum, sicut numquam fuerunt ibi aliqua edificia. Et circa illas duas civitates sunt alia castella, in quibus de eodem terre motu perierunt homines multi. Et habetur in partibus illis pro maximo miraculo. In Roma senserant aliquantulum de illo terre motu, et papa fuit illa hora in mensa, et tabula, in qua cenavit, et totum palacium mirabiliter movebatur. Et credatis pro firmo, quod est iudicium Dei occultum.

[translation] The miracle of the earthquake.

The fourth Sunday after Easter, when it was the eve of Philip and James, just after vespers in the town of Camerino and in the town of Nocera, which are located in the Ancona Marche exactly seven days away from Rome, there was a great earthquake, so strong that in Camerino all the towers and houses collapsed and more than a thousand men died. In the town of Nocera the monastery of the main church collapsed with all the buildings and all the canon's houses, more than half of the said town; and innumerable people died but the bishop was saved. Nocera was sited on a hill, and it faced another hill; and a castle was situated between one hill and the other; here there were exactly five hundred guests, and it was called Serravalle. These hills were pitched against each other and they covered

that castle which was in the middle, with all the people within. And now it is so flattened, as if there had never been any building there. And in the areas surrounding those two towns there are other castles, in which because of the same earthquake many men died. And in those regions it is held to be a great prodigy. In Rome they had felt that earthquake to some extent and the pope was at that hour at dinner and the table at which he was dining, and the whole palace moved miraculously. And believe for certain, this is the hidden judgement of God.

Chronicon Elwacense [1-1477] (cent. XV), ed. O. Abel, in «Monumenta Germaniae Historica», SS., tome 10, pp. 34-51, Hannover 1852

<p. 38> *1279. Vigilia apostolorum Philippi et Iacobi terrae motus factus est in terra Tuscanensium per quatuordecim dies, et terrae motu cessante terra aperiens os suum absorpsit civitatem Arreze, et ... oppida, villas, et innumerales diluvio perierunt. Dehinc infra diem pentecostes et octavam eius ignis durissimus emissus est in civitatem..., et partem civitatis destruxit ingentem, et homines trecenti et viginti tres ibidem exusti sunt.*

[translation] 1279. The eve of the Apostles Philip and James [30th April], the earthquake in Tuscan territory occurred, for 14 days, and when the earthquake ceased, the earth opened its mouth, engulfing Arezzo and... innumerable villages, villas were destroyed in the flood. Later on between the day of Pentecost [21st May] and the eighth of that [16th July], a fierce blaze broke out in the town [...], and destroyed an enormous part of the town, and in that same place 323 men were burnt.

Continuatio Pontificum Italica II [1276-1285] (cent. XIII), in Continuaciones Breves Chronici Martini Oppaviensis, ed. O. Holder-Egger, «Monumenta Germaniae Historica», SS., tome 30, part 1, pp. 711-712, Hannover 1896

<p. 711> *Huius tempore ex terremotu nimio multa castella Tuscie et Romandiole corruerunt cum magno hominum interitu.*

[translation] In his times [under Pope Nicholas III, 1277-1280] due to the enormous earthquake many castles in Tuscany and Romagna were destroyed with great fright for men.

De Romano

Annales Veronenses [1259-1306] (cent. XIV, copy cent. XV), ed. C. Cipolla, in Antiche cronache veronesi, tome 1, «Monumenti Storici pubblicati dalla

R. Deputazione Veneta di Storia Patria», s. III, Cronache e Diari, vol. 2, pp. 409-469, Venezia 1890

<p. 422> *Item eodem anno [1279], die dominico ultimo mensis aprilis, de nocte venientibus Kalendis maij, fuit terremotus magnus in partibus Romaniolae, Marchie Anconitane, et quasi usque ad civitatem Romanam et Casinate: perierunt bene LXIII. inter villas, castra et alia loca in illis partibus, et magna multitudo hominum et mulierum perierunt ibi.*

[translation] Likewise in the same year [1279], the last Sunday of the month of April, the night before the kalends of May [30th April] there was a great earthquake in the regions of Romagna, the Ancona Marche, and almost reaching the city of Rome and Cassino [Montecassino]. 63 buildings including villas, castles and other places in those regions were ruined and a great number of men and women died there.

Miliolus Albertus

Liber de temporibus et aetatibus [1-1290] (cent. XIII), ed. O. Holder-Egger, in «Monumenta Germaniae Historica», SS., tome 31, pp. 353-579, Hannover 1903

<p. 553> *Anno Domini MCCLXXVIII, indictione VII, in festo beatorum apostolorum Phylipi et Iacobi, id est in Kalendis Maii, sub Nicholao papa tertio factus est terremotus adeo magnus in marchia Anconitana, quod due partes Camerini submerse sunt, et multi homines utriusque sexus perierunt; Fabrianum, Matelica, Callium, Sanctum Severinum et Cingulum, omnia ista castra sunt dirupta. Similiter Niceria et Fulignum et Spellum, et breviser omnia illa castra, que sunt in illis partibus montaneis, multa sunt dampna perpressa. Item tres montes, inter quos duo lacus et castrum erant artificiose constructi, ad invicem sunt coniuncti et pariter comminuti; et lacus et fluvius, ex cuius redundatione fiebant lacus, omnino absorti. Item unum castrum omnino absortum est. In Romagnola et in montibus qui sunt inter Florentiam et Bononiam et castra et edificia multa sunt dirupta, et multi homines utriusque sexus suffocati. Tantus enim timor invasit omnes in illis partibus, quod non audebant in domibus commorari, nec etiam ipse dominus legatus cardinalis Latinus. In marchia Anconitana multe sunt paces facte et alibi pre timore et expectatione imminentis timoris.*

[translation] In the year of Our Lord 1279, seventh proclamation, on the feast of the blessed apostles Philip and James, that is the kalends of May [1st May], under pope Nicholas III [1277-1280] there was such a large earthquake in the Ancona Marche, due to which two parts of Camerino were engulfed and many people of both sexes died. Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, San

Severino and Cingoli, all these castles were destroyed. Likewise Nocera and Foligno and Spello. In short, all the castles located in those hilly parts suffered much damage. Likewise three hills, between which two lakes and a castle had been artificially built, were joined into one and formed only one hill; and the lake and river, due to the overflow of whose waters a lake was formed, were completely dried up. Thus a castle was completely destroyed. In Romagna and in the hills between Florence and Bologna many castles and buildings were destroyed and many people of both sexes were suffocated. In fact, such great fear invaded all those parts, that they dared not stay at home, not even the lord cardinal legate Latino. In the Ancona Marche and elsewhere many peace treaties were made and out of fear and apprehension of the imminent danger.

Salimbene de Adam

Cronica [1171-1287] (cent. XIII), ed. O. Holder-Egger, in «Monumenta Germaniae Historica», SS., tome 32, pp. 1-652, Hannover 1905

<pp. 500-501> *Eodem anno in festo apostolorum Philippi et Iacobi, id est in Kalendis Maii, sub papa Nicholao tertio factus est terremotus adeo magnus in marchia Anconitana, quod due partes Camerini submerse sunt, et multi homines utriusque sexus perierunt. Fabrianum, Matelica, Callium, Sanctum Severinum et Cingulum, omnia ista castra sunt dirupta. Similiter Nuceria et Fulignum et Spellum. Et breviser omnia illa castra, que sunt in illis partibus montanis, multa sunt damna perpressa. Item tres montes, inter quos duo lacus et castrum erant artificiose constructi, ad invicem sunt coniuncti et pariter comminuti; et lacus et fluvius, ex cuius redundatione fiebant lacus, omnino absorti sunt. Item unum castrum omnino absortum est. In Romagnola et in montibus qui sunt inter Florentiam et Bononiam, castra et edificia multa sunt dirupta, et multi homines utriusque sexus suffocati sunt. Tantus enim timor invasit omnes in illis partibus, quod non audebant in domibus commorari, nec etiam ipse dominus legatus cardinalis Latinus. In marchia Anconitana multe sunt paces facte et alibi «pre timore et expectatione» imminentis timoris.*

[translation] 1279. In the same year on the feast of the apostles Philip and James, that is the kalends of May [1st May], under pope Nicholas III [1277-1280] there was such a large earthquake in the Ancona Marche, due to which two parts of Camerino were engulfed and many people of both sexes died. Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, San Severino and Cingoli, all these castles were destroyed. Likewise Nocera and Foligno and Spello. In short, all the castles located in those hilly parts suffered much damage. Likewise

three hills, between which two lakes and a castle had been artificially built, were joined into one and formed only one hill; and the lake and river, due to the overflow of whose waters a lake was formed, were completely dried up. Thus a castle was completely destroyed. In Romagna and in the hills between Florence and Bologna many castles and buildings were destroyed and many people of both sexes were suffocated. In fact, such great fear invaded all those parts, that they dared not stay at home, not even the lord cardinal legate Latino. In the Ancona Marche and elsewhere many peace treaties were made and «out of fear and apprehension» of the imminent danger.

Indirect source = Fi

Annales Forolivienses ab origine urbis usque ad a. 1473 (cent. XV), ed. G. Mazzatinti, in «Rerum Italicarum Scriptores», 2nd ed., tome 22, part 2, Città di Castello 1903-1909

<p. 32> *MCCLXXXVIII. [...] Magnus terremotus k[a]lende maij, in matutinis; et arces in montanis coruere, et multe gentes perierunt ex hedificijs corruentibus.*

[translation] 1279. [...] A strong earthquake on the first of May in the morning; and castles on the hillside were destroyed and many people died because of the buildings which collapsed.

<p. 34> *Eo anno, die dominico, ultima mensis aprilis, circa horam vesperarum, fuit magnus terremotus. In nocte vero sequenti, adveniente die lune kallendarum maij, quasi circa hora medie noctis, fuerunt terremoti magni. Nam ex fortia ejus multa castra in montanis coruerunt et quamplurime gentes mortue sunt.*

[translation] That year, on Sunday, on the last day of April, around the hour of vespers there was a great earthquake. On the following night in truth, reaching the day of Monday, the first of May, at around midnight, there were strong earthquakes. In fact, due to their force many castles in the hillside were destroyed and many people died.

Dandolus Andreas

Chronica per extensum descripta [46-1280] (cent. XIV), ed. E. Pastorello, in «Rerum Italicarum Scriptores», 2nd ed., tome 12, part 1, Bologna 1938-1958

<p. 326> *Hoc anno [1279], die XXIII aprilis, maximus terremotus fuit in Venecia et quasi per totam*

Ytaliam, et, die ultimo eiusdem mensis, eadem clades renovata est.

[translation] This year [1279], on 24th April, there was a great earthquake in Venice and almost all over Italy, and on the last day of the same month that scourge recurred.

Inventory or list of seismic events prior to the nineteenth century = R

Bonito M.

Terra tremante, o vero continuatione de' terremoti dalla Creatione del Mondo sino al tempo presente (anastatic reprint, Sala Bolognese, 1980), Napoli 1691

<pp. 525-526> *Nella Lombardia, e nella Romagna apparirono i Terremoti nell'anno 1279. a' primo di Maggio. Bzovio nell'Hist.Eccl. tom.13. in detto anno num.17. asserisce, che insorsero così fieri, che spaventarono tutti. Di Camerino caddero due parti, opprimendo molti viventi; precipitarono tre Monti, ed un Lago, ed un Castello restarono assorbiti. In Romagna, e ne Monti tra Bologna, e Fiorenza molte Terre rovinarono, e la gente atterrita fuggì a trovar scampo nella Campagna, tra quali anco Latino Orsino Cardinal Legato. «In Lombardia; et reliqua Italia hoc anno Kal. Maii terra saevissimo, ac periculosissimo tremore concussa omnium animos insolita formidine consternavit. Camerini tectorum partes duae procubuerunt, ac multos utriusque sexus homines ruinaru magnitudine contriverunt. Tres Montes, inter quos duo Lacus, et Castrum erant siti, penitus consederunt, Lacus autem, et Castrum ipsum voragine terrae absortum. In Romandiola, et Montibus inter Bononiam, et Florentiam interjectis Castra, et aedificia multa ad terram prociderunt, multosque item homines oppresserunt. Eo timore percussi reliqui, sub dio habitare statuerunt, ac passim in Campis tabernacula posuerunt; atque inter alios Latinus quoque Cardinalis-Legatus Ursinus eodem modo habitavit».*

L'Autor del Testo, che produce Bzovio è Sigon. «de Reg. Ital.» quale con la medesima frase toltagli dal Bzovio riferisce tal successo, onde scuso replicarlo. Adorna di tal caso il suo «Diar.» Girardi, servendosi della congiuntura del giorno, onde al primo di Maggio ne tesse tal racconto. «Fu grandissimo Terremoto, per lo quale si viddevo Montagne cadute, Terre divorate. Tra Bologna, e Fiorenza rovinarono molte Terre, ed Edificii con morte di molti».

Fà di tal caso menzione Sardo ne' «Discorsi» in più luoghi, l'uno nella pag.190. con esprimere molte Terre, che soggiacquero al castigo, così dicendo. «Nell'anno 1279. al primo di Maggio consumò

Ancona, e due parti di Camerino, afflisce Fabriano, Matellica, Calli, Foligno, ed i contorni». Nella pag. poi 193 s'unisce con l'opinione de' sudetti scrivendo in tal forma: «Nell'anno 1279. Il Terremoto fece l'unione de' tre Monti in Umbria con assorbirsi due Laghi interposti tra loro, ed il Fiume, che faceva essi Laghi». Nella medesima pag. dice. «Nell'anno 1279 scappò una falda dalla Montagna di Falterona, ed un'altra dal Monte d'Ancona caduta in mare». Nella pag. poi 195 trattando della forza de' Terremoti, che sogliono abbassar le Terre soggiunge così: «Come similmente due delle tre parti di Camerino al primo di Maggio dell'anno 1279».

[translation] In Lombardy and in Romagna Earthquakes appeared in the year 1279 on the first of May. In the Hist. Eccl. vol.13 in said year num.17, Bzovio states that they arose so violently that they frightened everyone. Camerino collapsed in two parts, crushing many of the living; three Hills fell, and a Lake and a Castle were engulfed. In Romagna and in the Hills between Bologna and Florence many Villages were ruined and the terrified people fled to safety in the Countryside, among them also Latino Orsino Cardinal Legate. «In Lombardy and in the remaining parts of Italy, in this year on the first of May, the earth shaken by a terrible and highly dangerous earthquake filled the souls of everyone with an unusual fear. Two parts of the dwellings of Camerino collapsed and many men and women were crushed by the mass of ruins. Three hills, among which there were two lakes and a castle, were entirely unified, and lakes and the same castle were also engulfed in a chasm in the earth. In Romagna and in the hills between Bologna and Florence many buildings collapsed and many men perished. Struck by this fear, the survivors decided to put themselves in God's hands and they encamped in the fields, among them Latino Orsino Cardinal legate encamped likewise».

The Author of the Text, who cites Bzovio is Sigon. «de Reg. Ital.» who with the same phrase taken from Bzovio refers such success, which I apologize for repeating. Girardi embellishes this event in his «Diar.», making use of the day's crisis, of which on the first of May he gives this account. «It was a great earthquake, by which Hills were seen to collapse and villages were engulfed. Between Bologna and Florence many Villages and Buildings were ruined with the death of many». Sardo mentions this event in the «Discorsi» in different places, one on page 190, expressing many towns which succumbed to the calamity, thus «In the year 1279, on the first of May it destroyed Ancona and two parts of Camerino, it hit Fabriano, Matellica, Calli, Foligno and the surrounding areas». On page 193 thereafter, he agrees with the opinion of the above sources writing thus: «In the year 1279. The Earthquake united three hills in Umbria engulfing two

Lakes lying between them and the River, which made them Lakes of them». On the same page, he writes: «In the year 1279 a slope of the Hill of Flaterona was detached and another from Monte d'Ancona fell into the sea». Then on page 195, referring to the strength of Earthquakes, which engulf the earth he adds: «Just like two of the three parts of Camerino on the first of May in the year 1279».

Catalogue of earthquakes = C

Baratta M.

I terremoti d'Italia. Saggio di storia, geografia e bibliografia sismica italiana (anastatic reprint, Sala Bolognese, 1979), Torino 1901

<p. 39> [177] 1279. Aprile 30. Romagna, Marche [...].

A Forlì sul crepuscolo del 30 aprile e poi circa la mezzanotte due scosse sì forti da far diroccare parecchie castella nella regione montuosa, causando la morte a molte persone: Anche Galeata (Rocca S. Casciano) ebbe a soffrire danni giacché fu scosso fin dalle fondamenta il monastero di S. Ellero. Questo terremoto si propagò per le Romagne, le Marche e per lo Spoletino recando da per tutto danni gravissimi. In Camerino rimase diroccato l'altissimo campanile di S. Maria, la torre di S. Giacomo ed un monastero sotto le cui rovine perirono tutte le monache, una sola eccettuata: caddero pure due terzi dei tetti con mortalità di persone: fu abbattuto un castello nel piano di Fiuminata (Camerino), anche Castel Raimondo (Camerino) ebbe a risentire vari danni e così pure Brisighella; parecchi castelli furono distrutti fra cui quello di Castiglione nella valle del Lamone, fra le cui rovine molti restarono sepolti. Il terremoto fu sentito a Foligno, a Nocera, a Spello, a Fabriano, a Cagli, a Matelica ed a Cingoli: in modo più lieve anche a Venezia. Ancona non andò immune da danni; a Cereto di Spoleto le scosse devono essere state abbastanza forti giacché risulta che gli abitanti del comune tennero un consiglio sul declivio della montagna presso le mura del Castello, perché dentro si correva gran rischio della vita.

La violenza dell'urto sotterraneo produsse molti effetti permanenti nel suolo, giacché i cronisti ricordano vari frammenti allora successi ed altri fenomeni, fra i quali che tre monti e due laghi restarono del tutto assorbiti.

[translation] In Forlì at dusk on 30th April and then at around midnight two shocks so strong as to destroy several castles in the hilly region, causing the deaths of many people: Galeata (Rocca S. Casciano) also suffered damage since the foundations of S. Ellero monastery were shaken. This earthquake spread over Romagna, the Marche and to the Spoletino area causing severe damage everywhere. In Camerino the

high bell-tower of St. Mary's and the tower of S. Giacomo were destroyed together with a convent under whose ruins all the nuns perished, except one: two thirds of the roofs also collapsed killing people: a castle was knocked down in the plain of Fiuminata (Camerino), Castel Raimondo (Camerino) was also damaged as well as Brisighella; several castles were destroyed including that of Castiglione in the valley of Lamone, among whose ruins many remain buried. The earthquake was felt in Foligno, Nocera, Spello and Fabriano, Cagli, Matelica and in Cingoli: more lightly in Venice too. Ancona was not left undamaged; In Cereto di Spoleto the shocks must have been quite strong since the inhabitants of the municipality held a meeting on the slopes of the hills near the walls of the castle, because within they risked their lives. The violence of the impact had many permanent effects on the landscape, as chroniclers record different landslides which occurred and other events, among which three hills and two lakes were completely engulfed.

<p. 626> [*] 1279. Romagna, Marche.

Fr. Salimbene Parmense nella sua molte volte citata «Chronaca», (pag. 273-274) scrive a proposito di questo terremoto descritto al n. 177, che due parti di Camerino furono distrutte con molti morti: che Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, S. Severino, Cingoli, furono rovinare e così pure Nocera, Foligno e Spello: che nella Romagna e sui monti fra Bologna e Firenze molti castelli furono distrutti con grande perdita di uomini.

[translation] Fr. Salimbene Parmense in his much cited «Chronaca» (pages 273-274) writes about this earthquake described under n. 177, that two parts of Camerino were destroyed with many deaths: that Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, S. Severino and Cingoli were ruined as were Nocera, Foligno and Spello: that in Romagna and on the hills between Bologna and Florence many castles were destroyed with many lives lost.

Mercalli G.

Vulcani e fenomeni vulcanici in Italia (anastatic reprint, Sala Bolognese, 1981), Milano 1883

<p. 285> An. 1279, nelle Marche in Umbria ed in Romagna.

Il Muratori parlando di quest'anno (nelle «Antiquit. Ital.», Diss. 46) scrive: «Avvennero grandi terremoti. Il primo fu in domenica dopo i vesperi nell'ultimo giorno di aprile»: e negli «Annali d'Italia» «nel primo dì di maggio dell'anno presente una terribile scossa di terremoto si sentì per quasi tutta l'Italia. Il maggior danno ch'essa recò, fu nella Marca d'Ancona, dove due parti di Camerino andarono a terra, e vi perirono molte persone. Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, San Seve-

rino, Cingoli, Nocera, Foligno, Spello ed altre terre ne risentirono un grave nocumento». Il Sigonio narra, che il castello Orbe nelle Marche, fu sommerso con tre monti e con tre laghi. Nel 1.o Maggio vi furono terribili scosse anche a Padova.

[translation] Year 1279, in the Marche, in Umbria and in Romagna.

Referring to this year (in the «Antiquit. Ital.», Diss. 46), Muratori writes: «Great earthquakes occurred. The first was on Sunday after vespers on the last day of April»: and in the «Annali d'Italia» «on the first day of May of the current year a terrible earthquake shock was felt almost all over Italy. The worst damage it caused was in Ancona Marche, where two parts of Camerino fell to the ground and many people perished. Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, San Severino, Cingoli, Nocera, Foligno, Spello and other villages were severely damaged. Sigonio narrates that the Orbe castle in the Marche, was engulfed with three hills and three lakes. On 1st May there were also terrible shocks in Padua.

Historiographic contribution = St

Conti A.

Camerino e i suoi dintorni, Camerino 1872

<p. 55> Il campanile [della chiesa di S. Giacomo di Camerino] avea già ruinato nel 1279 a cagione d'uno spaventevole terremoto.

[translation] The bell-tower [of the church of S. Giacomo in Camerino] had already been ruined in 1279 because of a terrifying earthquake.

<p.104> Un altro [terremoto] è del 1279 egualmente nell'ultimo d'aprile [il 30] in cui, dice il Lili si scosse la terra per un grande e non più inteso terremoto. Il ducato di Spoleti, la Marca e la Romagna ne riportarono grandissimi guasti; ma più di tutti sentirono quel colpo la città e lo stato di Camerino. Diroccarono in quel dì il campanile altissimo di Santa Maria, la torre di S. Giacomo e un monastero di monache le quali perirono tutte, trattane una. Carlo Sigonio ricorda che oltre la caduta di due terzi di tetti della città era caduto un Castello («Orbe») e sommerso con tre monti e tre laghi.

[translation] Another [earthquake] was in 1279 equally on the last of April [30th] when, Lili relates the earth shook from a large and not more intense earthquake. The Duchy of Spoleti, the Marche and Romagna suffered enormous damage; but most of all the quake was felt by the town and state of

Camerino. The high bell-tower of St. Mary's was destroyed together with the tower of S. Giacomo and a convent of nuns all of whom died except one. Carlo Sigonio recalls that in addition to the collapse of two thirds of the roofs in the town a Castle («Orbe») had fallen and was engulfed with three hills and three lakes.

Gaspari D.
Memorie storiche di Serrasanquirico nella marca d'Ancona, Roma 1883

<p. 197> *Era già avvenuto il gran terremoto del giorno ultimo di aprile del 1279, (nota 2 Lili, Istoria di Camerino, parte II, p. 46) quando per non so qual giorno ultimo di aprile o dai dipendenti del Monastero di San Vittore di Chiusi presso Pierosara, alcuni uomini di Serra nel dicembre 1282 danneggiarono per rappresaglia e devastazione per ben due volte i possedimenti del Monastero; di che furon condannati in contumacia dal giudice della Marca, che siede a Cingoli.*

[translation] The great earthquake of the last day of April in 1279 had already occurred (note 2 Lili, Istoria di Camerino, part II, p. 46) when I know not which of the last days of April or by the workers of the Monastery of San Vittore di Chiusi near Pierosara, some men from Serra in December 1282 damaged as a reprisal and devastation for a good two times the possessions of the Monastery, for which they were condemned in their absence by the judge of the Marche, who resided in Cingoli.

Giulini G.
Memorie spettanti alla storia, al governo ed alla descrizione della città e campagna di Milano ne' secoli bassi raccolte ed esaminate dal Conte Giorgio Giulini, nuova edizione con note ed aggiunte (anastatic reprint, Milano 1974-1975), Milano 1856-1857

<vol. 4, libro 57, p. 657> *Non so se in Milano si provasse molto forte quella scossa di tremuoto, che nel primo giorno di maggio [1279] cagionò danni gravissimi in Italia; ma dal vedere che i nostri scrittori non ne parlano, argomento che qui non sia stata molto sensibile.*

[translation] I do not know if Milan felt very strongly that earthquake shock which on the first day of May [1279] caused extremely severe damage in Italy; but seeing as our writers do not speak of it it does not seem to have been much felt.

Moreschini M.
Ragionamento storico-filosofico sul tremuoto accaduto in Camerino il dì 28 luglio 1799, Camerino 1802

<pp. 16-18> *La più memorabile però, e con precisione autenticata dall'autorità della Storia è quella, che scosse Camerino nell'anno 1279, siccome rilevasi dall'opera dell'illustre Storico di questa Città Camillo Lili.*

Nell'ultimo di Aprile del detto anno, dice esso, [Lili Hist. di Camerino p.2. lib.2, pag.46] si scosse la Terra per un grande, e non più inteso Terremoto; il Ducato di Spoleti, la Marca, e la Romagna ne riceverono grandissimi danni, ma più di tutti sentirono quel colpo la Città, e lo Stato di Camerino. Diroccarono in quel dì il Campanile altissimo di S. Maria, la Torre di S. Giacomo, ed un Monastero di Monache, le quali perirono tutte, tranne una.

[Ex diario P.A. Lili.] Ma negli annali di Lombardia più largamente vennero descritti i pessimi effetti di questo Tremuoto in Camerino, e nel suo Stato. Osservò in essi Carlo Sigonio, che oltre alla caduta di due terzi de' tetti della Città, s'era diroccato un Castello, e sommerso con tre Monti, e con due Laghi. «Eo anno MCCLXXIX. kalendis maij terra saevissimo, ac periculosissimo tremore concussa, quo omnium animi insolita formidine costernati sunt. Camerini tectorum partes duae procubuerunt, ac multos utriusq. sexus homines ruinarum magnitudine contriverunt. Tres montes, inter quos duo lacus, et castrum erant siti, penitus considerunt; lacus autem, et castrum ipsum voragine terrae absorptum». [Carl. Sigon. de Regn. Ital. ad ann. 1279.] Il Castello atterrato dal tremuoto [il nome del Castello atterrato è Orbe situato nella confluenza di due Fiumicelli alla distanza di circa due miglia dalla Fiuminata.] era de' Nobili Bulgarelli, o di Marciano verso la Fiuminata dodici miglia lontana dalla Città.

[translation] The most memorable, however, and accurately authenticated by the authority of History, was that which shook Camerino in the year 1279, as disclosed by the work of the famous Historian of this City Camillo Lili.

On the last of April of said year, he writes [Lili Hist. di Camerino p. 2, book 2, page 46] the Earth shook due to a great, and not more intense Earthquake; the Duchy di Spoleti, the Marche and Romagna were the most severely damaged, but more than all of them, the City and the State of Camerino felt the quake. On that day the high bell-tower of St. Mary's and the Tower of S. Giacomo were destroyed together with a convent of nuns all of whom died except one.

[From the diary of P.A. Lili] But in the annals of Lombardy, the terrible effects of this Quake in Camerino and its state were described in more detail. Carlo

Sigionio observed in them that in addition to the destruction of two thirds of the roofs of the Town, a Castle had been destroyed and three Hills engulfed with two Lakes. In the same year 1279 the first of May the earth was shaken by a very strong and extremely dangerous trembling, such that all souls were filled with consternation by the unusual fright. Two parts of Camerino collapsed, and crushed many people of both sexes due to the vast number of ruins. Three hills, between which were located two lakes and a castle, suddenly collided, the lake and the same castle were engulfed by the chasm in the earth. The Castle destroyed by the earthquake [the name of the ruined Castle is Orbe located at the confluence of two small Rivers at a distance of about two miles from Fiuminata] belonged to Nobles Bulgarelli, or Marciano towards Fiuminata twelve miles away from the city.

Moroni G.

Dizionario di erudizione storico-ecclesiastica da San Pietro sino ai nostri giorni specialmente intorno ai principali santi, beati, martiri, padri, ai sommi pontefici, cardinali e più celebri scrittori ecclesiastici, 103 vols. + 6 of indexes, Venezia 1840-1879

<vol. 74, p. 130> *Nel 1279 questo flagello [il terremoto] afflisse Foligno.*

[translation] In 1279 this scourge [the earthquake] afflicted Foligno.

Muratori L.A.

Annali d'Italia dal principio dell'era volgare sino all'anno 1750, 12 vols., Lucca 1762-1764

<vol. 7, p. 349> *Del resto nel primo di di Maggio dell'anno presente [1279] una terribile scossa di Tremuoto si sentì per quasi tutta l'Italia. Il maggior danno, ch'essa recò, fu nella Marca d'Ancona, dove due parti di Camerino andarono a terra, e vi perirono molte persone. Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, San Severino, Cingoli, Nocera, Foligno, Spello, ed altre Terre ne risentirono un grave nocumento.*

[translation] Moreover on the first day of May of the current year [1279] a terrible Earthquake shock was felt almost all over Italy. The most damage that it caused was in the Ancona Marche, where two parts of Camerino fell to the ground and many persons perished. Fabriano, Matelica, Cagli, San Severino, Cingoli, Nocera, Foligno, Spello and other Regions suffered severe damage.

Savini P.

Storia della città di Camerino, 2nd ed, Camerino 1895

<p. 64> *Un'orribile terremoto nell'aprile dell'anno 1279, scosse il Ducato di Spoleti, la Marca e la Romagna, recando da per tutto danni e devastazioni grandissime, ma più d'ogn'altra parte ne risentì Camerino ed il suo stato. L'ultimo di aprile rimase per esso diroccato l'altissimo campanile di S. Maria, la torre di S. Giacomo ed un monastero, in cui perirono tutte le monache tranne una sola che poté salvare la vita. Due terzi de' tetti caddero con gran mortalità di persone, ed un castello nei piani di Fiuminata, tre monti e due laghi restarono del tutto assorbiti: i quali siti poi nell'anno 1283 furono per 2300 lire venduti alla città [di Camerino] dai signori Bulgarelli.*

[translation] A terrible earthquake in April in the year 1279, shook the Duchy of Spoleti, the Marche and Romagna, causing damage and severe devastation everywhere, but more than in any other part it was felt by Camerino and its state. On the last of April it destroyed the high bell-tower of St. Mary's, the tower of S. Giacomo and a convent in which all the nuns died except one who saved her life. Two thirds of the roofs collapsed with great loss of life, and a castle in the plains of Fiuminata, three hills and two lakes were completely engulfed: such sites then in the year 1283 were for 2300 liras sold to the town [of Camerino] by the Bulgarelli lords.

Sigionio C.

Historiarum de Regno Italiae libri viginti [-1580], Frankfurt 1591

<parte 2, p. 119> [1279] *Eo anno Kal. Maij terra saevissimo ac periculosissimo tremore concussa, quo omnium animi insolita formidine consternati sunt. Camerini tectora partes duae procubuerunt, ac multos utriusque sexus homines ruinarum magnitudine contriverunt. Tres montes, inter quos duo lacus, et castrum erant siti, penitus consederunt, lacus autem et castrum ipsum voragine terre absorptum. In Romania, et montibus inter Bononia ac Florentiam interiectis, castra atque aedificia multa ad terram procederunt, multosque item homines oppresserunt. Quo timore percussi reliqui sub dio habitare statuerunt, ac passim in c'impis sibi tabernacula posuerunt, atque inter alios Latinus quoque legatus eodem modo habitavit.*

[translation] [1279] In the same year the first of May the earth was shaken by a very strong and extremely dangerous trembling, such that all souls were filled

with consternation by the unusual fright. Two parts of Camerino collapsed, and crushed many people of both sexes due to the vast number of ruins. Three hills, between which were located two lakes and a castle, suddenly collided, the lake and the same castle were engulfed by the chasm in the earth. In Romagna and on the hills between Bologna and Florence, the castles and many buildings fell to the ground and crushed many men. The remainder deranged by such fear decided to live in the open and forthwith built shelters in the fields and among the others the legate Latino also lived like that.

Schiavina G.

Annales Alexandrini, ed. V.F. Pongiglione, in «Historiae Patriae Monumenta» tome 11, SS. 4, cols. 1-660, Torino 1863

<col. 262 a> [1279] *Hoc eodem anno in multis Lombardiae locis terra horrendo motu concussa est, tectis plurimis ubicumque partim collapsis penitus, partim foede vitatis, et ruinosis [ea calamitate] factis.*

[translation] In the same year, in many places in Lombardy, the earth was shaken by a terrible quake, everywhere many houses either collapsed completely,

or were terribly damaged, and reduced to ruins [by this calamity].

Tatti P.L.

Degli annali sacri della città di Como [...] Decade seconda, Milano 1683

<p. 748> *Restò grandemente spaventata l'Italia da un nuovo terremoto, che si fece sentire il primo giorno di Maggio [1279] in varie parti, e colla rovina di molti edifici schiacciò una moltitudine di persone, che sotto vi si trovarono.*

S'aprirono tre monti, tra' quali v'erano due Laghi, e un Castello, che incontanente sprofondarono. Le case, che di continuo cascarono, sforzarono molti popoli a ritirarsi dalle Città, e habitare alla campagna sotto i padiglioni.

[translation] Italy was greatly frightened by a new earthquake, which was felt on the first day of May [1279] in different parts, and with the ruins of many buildings crushed a large number of persons who were under them.

Three hills opened, between which there were two Lakes and a Castle, which immediately were engulfed. The houses, which collapsed continuously, forced many people to leave the town, and live in the countryside under shelters.