SETTECENTO

By G. W. SLOWEY, Senior Lecturer in Italian, University of Birmingham

(This survey covers the years 2000 and 2001)

1. General

Maria Augusta Morelli Timpanaro, *Autori, stampatori, librai: per una storia dell’editoria in Firenze nel secolo XVIII*, F, Olschki, 1999, 772 pp., is a major contribution to work in the area, bringing together a number of studies published in recent years, some of them revised and expanded. There is also one important new item, ‘Contributo per un’indagine su Antonio Maria Ristori, libraio fiorentino (1707–1785) e sulla sua famiglia’ (231–354). T. Olivieri, ‘L’editoria sarda nel Settecento’, StS, 41, 2000: 53–69, discusses Piedmontese attempts to legislate for printing in Sardinia, while pointing out that the first part of the century produced little of any cultural value. Later printers such as Bonaventura Porro realized the importance of printing the results of scientific research from the university and work on the Sardinian language. The article also refers to the importance of printers such as Giuseppe Piattolo at Sassari. *Editoria libraria in Italia dal Settecento a oggi: biografia 1980–1998*, ed. Luca Clerici et al., Mi, Mondadori, 2000, 271 pp., deals with more than 500 entries divided into eleven categories. Susanna Corrieri, *Il torchio fra palco e tromba: uomini e libri a Livorno nel Settecento: introduzione di Maria Gioia Tavoni*, Modena, Mucchi, 2000, 222 pp. M. G. Tavoni, ‘Di un flop editoriale nella Bologna del Settecento: Giovanni Battista Roberti alle prese con Petronio Dalla Volpe’, *Il Carrobbio*, 26, 2000: 137–56, is concerned with the period between 1751 and 1773 when R. was teaching at Bologna and discusses the problems that arose over the printing of the various volumes of the *Raccolta di varie opere*, including in an appendix R.’s *Lettera allo stampatore Petronio Dalla Volpe*.

A number of items deal with the importance of travel in the Settecento. Lorenzo Fabbri, *Descrizione del viaggio fatto da Lorenzo Fabbri nell’anno 1772 da Forlì a Londra: dedicato a sua Eccellenza il Signor Marchese Andrea Albicini*, ed. Furio Luccichenti, Mi, Ferrero, 1999, 245 pp. has a useful introduction which points out the rarity of diaries by Italians travelling abroad and also that Fabbri’s diary, perhaps because he was of limited education and experience, is full of minor details of everyday travel. Again on Italians abroad, though this time a more educated traveller, we have M. Rebecchi, ‘Paolo Andreini, un viaggiatore illuminato tra il Settecento e l’Ottocento’, *Acme*, 54, 2: 143–67, which gives much information on an intrepid traveller
and early aeronaut, whose diaries of his travels in Europe and America give a very clear indication of his enlightened concerns and approach to everything he saw. He was critical of government and Church, and his scientific and mineralogical interests occasioned much discussion. R. Rabboni, ‘Una vendemmia erudita di Angelo Maria Bandini: l’odeporico di Lombardia e Piemonte’, *SPCT*, 60, 2000:95–114, analyses Bandini’s diary of his journeys and also attempts to counter previously rather negative assessments of its value. M. Dell’Aquila, ‘L’Ofanto nelle relazioni dei viaggiatori stranieri in Puglia tra Sette e Ottocento’, *RLettI*, 19, 2–3:133–42, examines how foreign travellers such as Johann Hermann von Riedesel, and later Edward Lear, viewed the antiquities of the area.

*L’immagine della Sicilia nell’Italia del Settecento*, introduction and notes by Carlo Ruta, Palermo, Edibisi, 2000, 127 pp., contains texts by 18th-c. Italian travellers, including Lazzaro Spallanzani. On a slightly different sort of journey we have A. R. Capoccia, ‘Per una lettura delle indipetae italiane del Settecento: “indifferenza” e desiderio di martirio’, *NRLett*, 2000.1:7–43, which examines some of the thousands of letters in the Jesuit archive in Rome and analyses the question of the desire of priests to further the apostolic mission to the Indies.


Since the second centenary of the setting up of revolutionary republics in Italy in the period 1796–99, a number of items have appeared dealing with different aspects of the period. Desmond Gregory, *Napoleon’s Italy*, Associated University Presses, 242 pp., looks at Napoleon’s impact on Italy in the fields of politics and war, but also includes a chapter on ‘The awakening of national sentiment’. *Napoleonic Italy. Historical, literary and artistic perspectives*, ed. Eileen