

G. *Greek Words*. In uncial characters, with a horizontal stroke above the word.

H. *Deletion*. Notice the English usage of a triangle of dots over the syllable to be deleted in 822. (Another English usage is the surrounding of initials by red dots, e. g. 814 often, 1773 initial *D*).

I. *Punctuation*. Only the dot in the ninth century is normal. The additional punctuation seems due to a later corrector, except perhaps the interrogation-sign (corkscrew form) in 198, 238, 285, etc.

THE FARFA TYPE.

BY W. M. LINDSAY.

After Giorgi's paper (on some MSS. of the Liber Pontificalis) in 1897 (Archivio Società Romana di Storia Patria, vol. XX, p. 247) the name of 'the Farfa type' has been given to an Italian minuscule which reached its full development in the eleventh century. Giorgi cites as examples of this type some MSS. from the scriptorium of Farfa, a Benedictine monastery about 20 miles N. (or N. N. E.) of Rome. The three plates (xiii-xv) which illustrate this article of mine will shew, better than any laborious description, what the type is; and I hope that every librarian who has MSS. of this sort in his library will let me know. For a full knowledge of this important variety of Italian minuscule a list of all the extant specimens is the first thing required. Do not let us waste time in disputing about the name. 'The Farfa type' will do very well for a label. It is the name associated with this type since 1897 and does not imply that the script was current only at Farfa and at no other scriptorium, nor even that it was invented there. So far as is known at present, it was the script of Rome and all the Roman region.

Here let me digress and appeal to palaeographers to use the same names for the same things. Some years ago I brought to notice (in the *Revue des Bibliothèques* XXIV 15) an eighth century script of which five specimens were then known. Two of the five came from the Laon Cathedral-library, and the best name I could devise was 'the Laon az-type', since one prominent feature was an angular *a* and another a unicornhorned *z*. Two photographs accompanied my article, so that everyone might understand exactly what the script was; and the *z*-form has been exhibited in *Palae. Lat.* I, pl. I, n^o. 81. Yet, in the last twelve months three palaeographers have written about this script and have not given it its baptismal name. One has written 'the a-type',

another 'the North-French az-type', another 'the Laon type'. How is the unfortunate reader to know that all three are writing about one and the same thing? Palaeography will never progress unless we are loyal to nomenclature.

To return from this digression, I would try to excuse the inexcusable error in my *Notae Latinae* (p. 479, etc.) "Farfa in Umbria", instead of "Farfa near Rome", by the plea that I was misled by Chevalier's "Farfa, près Spolète (Ombrie), abbaye de Bénédictins fondée VI^e. s., restaur. 715".

The librarian of the Vallicelliana, to which library belong the MSS. represented in the three plates (pl. xiii, pl. xiv, pl. xv) which accompany this article, tells me that nothing is known of the provenance of the first MS. (Vallicell. B 10 Bible; but foll. 1-95 shew a different minuscule), and that Trisulti has been tentatively named for the second (Vallicell. B 23 Missal). The third (Vallicell. B 24; but foll. 118-200 are a later addition) is the famous Subiaco Missal of the year 1075. (Subiaco is about 25 miles East of Rome).

South Italian script has received full treatment in Loew 'Beneventan Script' (Oxford, 1914); to which Novak 'Scriptura Beneventana' (Zagreb, 1920) makes a useful supplement, tracing the spread of the Beneventan type in the regions East of the Adriatic. But neither Lowe nor Novak tell us much about the ordinary minuscule which competed there (and in the Southern half of the Italian peninsula) with the Beneventan. Did the Farfa type (like the Beneventan) cross the sea? The question has some interest for classical scholars. For our one and only MS. (now at Naples) of Festus 'de Verborum significatu' has the Farfa-type and was, according to one of its earliest editors, 'liber advectus, ut ferunt, ex Illyrico'. (It has been reproduced in facsimile by Thewrewk de Ponor, Budapest, 1893). In *Class. Quart.* X [1916] 106 I adduce evidence of a MS. of Festus at Ceneda in N. Italy when Grausus was bishop there (c. 1000 A. D.).

Will not some Italian palaeographer provide us with a book on Central Italian script (or scripts) like Lowe's book? The first thing to be done is to collect as full a list of Farfa-type MSS. as Lowe collected of MSS. in Beneventan minuscule. That, I repeat, is the purpose of these three plates,

to enable librarians to report the presence of this type in their library. Another plate (of Vat. lat. 3833) will be found in Ehrle and Liebaert 'Specimina' (pl. 35). Others (of Vat. lat. 4770) have just been published in part I of Carusi and de Bartholomaeis 'Monumenti Paleografici degli Abruzzi' (Rome, 1924; pl. x-xi). I hope that the New Palaeographical Society will let us have one of Eton 124. And we may look for a continuation of the *Monumenti Paleografici di Roma* for additional specimens; for, naturally, this type has great interest for Roman palaeographers, and both it and its various homes have received much attention in the last few years in Italian journals. Since however these publications (of the Roman Historical Society, etc.) may not be accessible to some of my readers, I have asked Mgr. Carusi to write a summary of what is now known of Farfa and Subiaco, as writing-centres. And so I quit the stage and give place to him.