

those sees in the vicinity of Rome whose incumbents subsequently figure as *cardinales* of the Roman church⁴²) of a man with a Germanic name has never been commented on; yet it is, I think, unique in this period. Wilchar succeeded to the see of Mentana between November 751 and 753⁴³). If he were a Lombard (which is certainly possible, even though the name is not certainly recorded in north Italy before 774⁴⁴), this is especially noteworthy at this time, and not less so if (as I believe) the diocese of Mentana straddled the frontier between the duchy of Rome and the Lombard Spoletan Sabina (transferred later in the century to Papal authority) and that therefore areas of Lombard settlement were within its *plebs*⁴⁵). The fact, however, that another Wilchar was bishop successively of Vienne and Sion⁴⁶) makes a Transalpine origin of his more famous namesake at least equally plausible. In this case the bishop of Mentana who became archbishop of the Gauls is to be added to the not negligible number of Frankish clerics who in the first half of the eighth century journeyed to Italy and made a significant contribution to the life of the church there, particularly in the regions round Rome⁴⁷). Such men may have done more than is usually recognised to help create the links between the rulers of the Franks and the Papacy; and most of the records of Wilchar's activities before the 780s show him travelling between the two courts to maintain and strengthen these links.

55). Other bishops, including George after he had been translated from Ostia to Amiens (C. C. no. 73), are invariably referred to in the Codex and in other letters of the period as *episcopus* — with one exception. This is the *coepiscopus* Peter of C. C. no. 70: the editor's identification with a bishop of Verdun of that name is implausible and perhaps impossible and I have suggested elsewhere (art. cit. n. 8) that he is a bishop of Pavia, a see directly dependent on Rome since the end of the seventh century. C. C. no. 25 is the only pre-769 letter in which Wilchar is not *coepiscopus* — I suggest, because he was already bishop of Sens. If so, its date must be 762/3 (the terminus post quem being supplied by bishop Lupus of Sens' presence at the synod of Attigny) and C. C. nos. 30, in which Wilchar is *coepiscopus*, and 31 must precede no. 25; in fact, on quite other grounds, Kehr argued that these letters belong to 759 and not (as Gundlach thought) to 761/6: Göttinger Nachr., Ph.-hist. Kl., 1896, pt. 2, 113 ff., 120 ff.

⁴²) See especially H.-W. K l e w i t z, Reformpapsttum u. Kardinalkolleg (1957) p. 24—31.

⁴³) His predecessor Benedict was still alive in November 751: Bonifatii ... Epist., no. 90.

⁴⁴) It is not in W. B r u c k n e r, Der Sprache der Langobarden (1895); and although his list of "Personennamen" (p. 215 ff.) is far from complete, I have not noted it elsewhere unless *Uuiliari(s)* (the name of an archdeacon of Ravenna and abbot of S. Bartolomeo, Ravenna, in the 750s, Agnelli Lib. Pont. Rav., SS. rer. Lang. p. 380; cf. the rural archpriest *Uuiliari* in the Modenese, Regesto della chiesa cattedrale di Modena, ed. E. P. Vicini, 1931, no. 12 of 830) is the same name with loss of intervocalic *-ch-*. The root *willi(o)* is, however, common in Lombard personal names and the suffix *-c(h)ar* not infrequent.

⁴⁵) I hope to produce the evidence for this view elsewhere.

⁴⁶) D u c h e s n e, Fastes² 1, 209, 247.

⁴⁷) To the names given by E. H l a w i t s c h k a, Franken, Alemannen, Bayern u. Burgunder in Oberitalien (774—962) (Forsch. zur oberrhein. Landesgesch., 8, 1960) p. 19 must be added Adalhard (the later abbot of Corbie and an influential figure at the Frankish court) who was a monk at Monte Cassino before 774: Paschasii Vita Adalhardi c. 12, MG. SS. 2, 525.