

should be accorded to the similarities between Hubert's subscription sign – which appears in all three of his diplomatic minuscule subscriptions – and that employed by It B in the eschatocol of his diplomas. Such signs are not a typical feature of diploma recognition clauses, nor are they always present in episcopal subscriptions to judicial notices, so it is significant that we should find them across both. And though some variation can be observed in execution, Hoffmann is wrong to say that in D O I 356 and D O II 17 – both established products of It B – the *i* is placed in a different part of the composition from Hubert's subscriptions: this is only true of the latter case, and even then the overall execution is distinctly Hubertian (Plates 8–14)¹⁴³. This is not the only point of contact. Hubert often employs a chrismon, rather than a standard cross, in his subscriptions, and the forms this takes closely resemble those seen in It B's symbolic invocations. When we add to this the fact that It B's first charter is a generous privilege in favour of Hubert's see of Parma¹⁴⁴, the case for identifying bishop and notary becomes all but certain. The alternative possibility – that It B was Hubert's amanuensis, who repeatedly subscribed on his master's behalf – cannot be categorically excluded; and were It B anyone but the bishop, the most likely candidate would be the otherwise obscure *Willerius*, who appears as chancellor in the recognition clause of his first diploma. But Ockham's razor clearly favours Hubert: It B appears wherever Hubert does, writes the way Hubert would have written, and behaves as we might expect Hubert to have done¹⁴⁵.

The identification of Hubert with It B is important. It demonstrates that some bishops were indeed court notaries, at least in Italy. And on this basis, we should be more willing to countenance Huscner's other suggestions than was Hoffmann. Similarly encouraging is Huscner's identification of Italian D (It D) with Ambrosius of Bergamo.

143) D O I 356, Marburg, Hessisches Staatsarchiv, Urk. 56, 2284; D O II 17, Marburg, Hessisches Staatsarchiv, Urk. 56, 2285.

144) D O I 239, Parma, Archivio Vescovile, sec. X, 4, with BRESSLAU, *Nachträge* (as n. 138) p. 129–133. Note that the subscription sign here takes Hubert's standard forms. See further HUSCHNER, *Transalpine Kommunikation* (as n. 10) p. 107–112; Olivier GUYOTJEANNIN, *Les pouvoirs publics de l'évêque de Parme au miroir des diplômes royaux et impériaux (fin IX^e–début XI^e siècle)*, in: *Liber Largitorius. Études d'histoire médiévale offertes à Pierre Toubert par ses élèves*, éd. par Dominique BARTHÉLEMY / Jean-Marie MARTIN (2003) p. 15–34, at p. 16–20; ALBERTONI, *Il potere del vescovo* (as n. 139) p. 69–70, 93–97 (with reproduction at p. 94).

145) GHIGNOLI, *Uberto* (as n. 140) p. 83–88. Cf. FICHTENAU, *Urkundenfälschungen* (as n. 7) p. 95–97.