

According to Sickel, It D was a student and colleague of It B, who was responsible for at least five diplomas between 966 and 970. It D's scribal activity neatly coincides with Ambrosius' time as chancellor (966–970), and he disappears precisely when the latter was appointed to the see of Bergamo¹⁴⁶. A contextual case can therefore be made for identifying the two, a case reinforced by the strong similarities between It D's hand and the apparently autograph subscription of Ambrosius to a private charter of 973 from Bergamo. While the material is insufficient to establish hand identity with absolute certainty, the use of a with an ascender at the start of words and the same form of **ro** ligature speak strongly in favour of the two being one and the same¹⁴⁷.

If so far Huschner's approach has enabled us to appreciate the regional qualities of figures once deemed „chancery scribes“ more fully, it struggles with other leading notaries of the period. A case in point is Bruno A (BA), one of the most active draftsman-scribes of Bruno of Cologne's chancellorship. Sickel and his associates assigned BA sole or primary responsibility for eighteen diplomas of the 940s or 950s, including a second engrossment of an earlier Magdeburg privilege, making him the dominant force in charter production in these years¹⁴⁸. They also identified BA's hand in the protocol or eschatocol of another three documents, while they ascribed twenty more to him on the basis of formulation or later script imitation¹⁴⁹. If there ever was a true

146) DD O I 335, 352, 360, 394, 396. Sickel and his team also identified his hand in the eschatocol of DD O I 334, 390, and signs of his formulation or script behind the following (which only survive in copial form): DD O I 336, 364, 372, 374. See HUSCHNER, Transalpine Kommunikation (as n. 10) p. 112–115; HOFFMANN, Notare (as n. 14) p. 450.

147) D O I 352, Florence, Archivio di Stato, Diplomatico, Camaldoli, S. Salvatore (eremo), 967 Dicembre 7; Le pergamene degli archivi di Bergamo, a. 740–1000, a cura di Mariarosa CORTESI, 2 vols. (Fonti per lo studio del territorio bergamasco 8, 1988) 1, no. 130, Bergamo, Archivio Capitolare, 431 (B XIII), 973 maggio –. For reproductions: ibid. 2, tav. 130; HUSCHNER, Transalpine Kommunikation (as n. 10) Abb. 5–7.

148) DD O I 15b, 56, 57, 65, 69, 77, 83, 87, 96, 97a, 100, 102, 116, 117, 119, 120, 126, 160. On BA: STENGEL, Immunität (as n. 27) p. 147–149, 153–156. This is one of the cases where Sickel's identifications require revisiting. Certainly the hand of D O I 96, Marburg, Hessisches Staatsarchiv, Urk. 56, 2276, does not look like that of BA; that of D O I 15b, Magdeburg, Landeshauptarchiv Sachsen-Anhalt, U 1, I 2b, also differs in manners which make the ascription doubtful. Systematic investigation will probably yield further doubtful cases.

149) Hand in protocol and/or eschatocol: DD O I 59, 104, 159; formulation or script imitation: DD O I 39, 42, 43, 64, 66, 67, 68, 80, 86, 88, 95, 99, 107, 111, 112, 125, 132, 134, 161, 164. Doubts have been expressed regarding the assignment