

from his native idiom (beyond established medieval Latin forms)¹⁶⁹. Moreover, in his rendering of personal and place names, LF displays an occasional preference for Lower German forms, perhaps indicating an origin in northern Germany: he typically writes the name of the chancellor as Liutolf (rather than Liudolf) and twice renders Quedlinburg with a *t*, as *Quitilingaburg* and *Quitilingaburch*. By contrast, Liudprand consistently spells his own name with a *d* as *Liudprandus*. There can, in other words, be little question of LF being the Cremonese bishop, nor is there an *a priori* case for identifying the latter with any other charter scribe of the era.

Finally, it should be noted that there are a significant number of „trans-regional/imperial court notaries“ whom Huschner has not been able to associate with leading prelates and only discusses in passing. Among these are Bruno B (BB), who alongside BA was the leading notary of the 940s and early 950s; the otherwise obscure Wigfrid, who was responsible for almost all of Otto I's charters during his first bid for the Italian throne in 951–952; Italian C (It C), who alongside It B was the leading notary of Otto's next Italian expedition (961–965); Liudolf G (LG), who was one of the most active draftsman-scribes in the years thereafter (965–968); and Liudolf K (LK), who shouldered most of the rest of the notarial burden in these years. When we add to their ranks BA, LF and WB, then the vast majority of leading notaries cannot be securely identified with bishops, be they in post or not.

If we take stock of our identifiable notaries, we are therefore left with one bishop in active scribal service (Hubert of Parma, *alias* It B); two bishops who were active before promotion to the episcopate (Poppo of Würzburg and Ambrosius of Bergamo); three bishops who were never more than occasional scribes, largely active in favour of their own sees or associates (Hartbert of Chur, Abraham of Freising and Pilgrim of Passau); and five individuals who never held an episcopal seat (Hoholt, Otpert, Wigfrid, Adalman and Herward of Aschaffenburg). As Herward's case reveals, the latter were by no means insignificant figures. But like court chaplains, to whose ranks they often belonged, royal notaries were more often men on the make than leading prelates

169) Joseph BECKER, *Textgeschichte Liudprands von Cremona* (Quellen und Untersuchungen zur lateinischen Philologie des Mittelalters 3,2, 1908) p. 10 f.; RICCI, *Problemi sintattici* (as n. 168). See also *Liudprandi Cremonensis opera omnia*, ed. by Paolo CHIESA (CC Cont. Med. 156, 1998) p. LXXIf.