

D O I 161 – A Neglected Original Charter of Otto I*

By

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Ottonian diplomatists have been very fortunate recently. After a lull of seventeen years since the sensational rediscovery of the lost original of D O I 217 in 2003¹, we once again have new material on our hands. In late June 2020 came the exciting news that the single sheet of D O II 284, a donation in favour of the foundation of Aschaffenburg from October 982, had been uncovered while digitizing the oldest muniments of the Stadt- und Stiftsarchiv – a discovery rightfully met with considerable public fanfare². In November of the same year, an equally important set of finds was announced more quietly by Laurent Morelle, in a short contribution to an edited volume on France and Germany in the Middle Ages: that of the original of D O I 426, a privilege in favour of the Lotharingian abbey of Crespin from February 972, alongside a

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1) Theo KÖLZER, Ein wiedergefundenes Original Barbarossas, AfD 29 (2003) p. 81–90, at p. 81f.; Ulrike HÖROLDT, Rechtliche Aspekte beim Erwerb von Archivalien aus dem Antiquariatshandel – Der Erwerb einer Urkunde Ottos I. aus dem Jahre 960 für das Landeshauptarchiv Sachsen-Anhalt auf einer Schweizer Auktion, Aus evangelischen Archiven 45 (2005) p. 42–57.

2) Aschaffenburg: Wiederentdeckung einer Urkunde Ottos II., Die Welt (28.06.2020); Hans KRATZER, Des Kaisers verschlammte Urkunde, Süddeutsche Zeitung (11.07.2020).