

the medieval and early modern manuscripts, the *Cronica* can be seen to describe King Roger II as: *prius tantum comes, postea Dei nutum incomparabili eius sapientia operante dux ferocis Apulie et Capue principatus, ad ultimum rex Scicilie*⁶⁶. This echoes a style that was used in chancery documents after 1135: *Rogerus divina favente clementia rex Sicilie, ducatus Apulie et principatus Capue*⁶⁷.

To this evidence can also be added the anonymous author's ambiguous present-tense epilogue which strongly suggests that Roger II's deeds had not yet reached their final conclusion:

September 1146) p. 205f.; no. 72 (Terracina, November 1147) p. 207f.; no. 73 (Terracina, November 1147) p. 209–211; no. † 74 (12 December 1147) p. 211–214; no. 75 (Palermo, [February] 1148) p. 214–216; no. † 76 (Palermo, July 1148) p. 217–223; no. † 78 (Salerno, [September?] 1149) p. 224–228; no. † 79 (Palermo, October 1151) p. 228–233; no. † 80 (Messina, 4 June 1155) p. 233f. Of these, after 1140, certain charters include *gloriosissimus* in Roger II's signing statement. See: no. 49, no. † 50, no. 57, no. † 58, no. 59, no. † 60, no. † 61, no. 64, no. 66, no. 67, no. † 70, no. 71, no. 72, no. 73, no. † 74, no. 75, no. † 76, no. † 79, no. † 80. The use of *gloriosus* in Roger II's signing statements is confined to two charters: no. 53, no. 55. For the use of *magnificus* in Roger II's signing statements; no. 68, no. † 70, no. 71, no. † 74, no. 75, no. 77, no. † 80. Two charters of Roger II's son, Roger III, also refer to Roger II as *gloriosissimus* and *magnificus*. See *ibid.* no. I ([Trani], June 1139) p. 237f.; no. III (30 March 1147) p. 240f. The charters of King William I replicated the use of *magnificus*, *gloriosus* and *gloriosissimus* as found in the charters of Roger II: Guillelmi I. Regis Diplomata, ed. Horst ENZENSBERGER (Codex Diplomaticus Regni Siciliae 3, 1996) no. † 1 (Palermo, April 1154) p. 3–6; no. 2 (Palermo, October 1154) p. 7f.; no. 4 (December 1154) p. 11–14; no. 6 (Salerno, March 1155) p. 16–19; no. 7 (Salerno, March 1155) p. 20–23; no. 8 (Palermo, May 1155) p. 23–26; no. 12 (Benevento, June 1156) p. 32–36; no. 13 ([Capua], 7 July 1156) p. 36f.; no. 14 (Salerno, July 1156) p. 38–41; no. 15 (Palermo, August 1156) p. 42–44; no. 16 (Palermo, September 1156) p. 44–46; no. 17 (Palermo, November 1156) p. 47f.; no. 18 (Palermo, November 1156) p. 49–53; no. 19 (Palermo, May 1157) p. 53–55; no. † 20 (Palermo, May 1157) p. 55–58; no. 22 (Palermo, December 1157) p. 60–64; no. 24 (Palermo, [before September] 1158) p. 66f.; no. 25 (Palermo, January 1159) p. 68–70; no. 27 (Palermo, June 1159) p. 72–74; no. † 28 (Palermo, May 1160) p. 75–77; no. 29 (Palermo, May 1160) p. 78f.; no. † 30 (Messina, 20 August 1160) p. 80–82; no. 33 (Palermo, March 1166) p. 88–90; no. † 35 (Palermo, April 1154) p. 97f. The *Cronica* also describes Count Roger I by using the adjective *illustris*, V fol. 298v col. I. Dated to 1122, a sixteenth-century translation of a Greek charter of Roger II for the abbey of Santa Maria del Patire at Rossano uses similar terminology to describe the king. This has been discussed in: Hubert HOUBEN, Roger II of Sicily: A ruler between east and west, trans. by Graham Loud / Diane Milburn (Cambridge medieval textbooks, 1997, repr. 2002) p. 50.

66) V fol. 298v col. II; V¹ fol. 24v; N fol. 29v. As p. 590f.

67) The first use of this title is recorded in a 'forged' Palermitan charter for 10 October 1135: Rogerii II. Regis Diplomata Latina (as n. 65) no. † 41 p. 113–115.