

Falcandus (d. < 1169) also understood the word *Africa* as a reference to al-Mahdīya<sup>76</sup>. Such a usage was also employed by the authors of the *Chronica monasterii Casinensis*, and the *Chronica Romanorum pontificum et imperatorum ac de rebus in Apulia gestis*<sup>77</sup>. Beyond the Norman period, the *Epistola* of the monk Conrad (fl. 1380–1395?) used *Africa* in the same context, and so did Andrea Dandolo in his *Chronicon Venetorum*<sup>78</sup>. Indeed, Ralph Niger (d. c. 1217) referred to al-Mahdīya as the *Africa civitas*<sup>79</sup>. Along with such examples, it should also be considered that the *Cronica*'s anonymous transcriber also completed a version of the *Annales Siculi* which are preserved in V. In doing so, he claimed that King Roger had conquered *Africa* (that is, al-Mahdīya), in July 1148<sup>80</sup>.

Regardless of this evidence, and perhaps owing much to the introduction of commas in Caruso's defective transcription, Amari and Heskell either missed or failed to realise the importance of the *Cronica*'s reference to King Roger II's apparent kingship over *Africa* in the anonymous author's panegyric-like conclusion:

Huic<sup>a</sup> successit ille hominum maximus et<sup>b</sup> plusquam  
homo, iustitiae<sup>b</sup> unicus leo et pacis firmamentum<sup>c</sup>: Roge-

a) Hic *V<sup>1</sup> P<sup>1</sup>*. b–b) *deest V Pan Pan<sup>1</sup> B Pan<sup>2</sup>; sequitur* ade dilectus et benedictus *V*; a deo *N*; a deo dilectus et benedictus *B Pan Pan<sup>1</sup>*; benedictus a domino *Pan<sup>2</sup>*.  
c) fundamentum *Pan<sup>2</sup>*.

76) Pseudo Ugo Falcando, *De rebus circa regni Siciliae curiam gestis* (as n. 53) p. 56: *Tripolim namque Barbarie, Affricam, Faxum, Capsiam aliasque plurimas barbarorum civitates multis sibi laboribus ac periculis subiugavit.*

77) Die Chronik von Montecassino (*Chronica monasterii Casinensis*), ed. Hartmut HOFFMANN (MGH SS 34, 1980) III,71 p. 453; *Chronica Romanorum pontificum et imperatorum ac de rebus in Apulia gestis*, ed. Augusto GAUDENZI, in: *Ignoti monachi Cisterciensis S. Mariae de Ferraria chronica et Ryccardi de Sancto Germano Chronica priora* (Società napoletana di storia patria. Monumenti storici 1/3, 1888) p. 1–46, at p. 13, col. I.

78) *Epistola Fratris Conradi Dominicani prioris conventus Sanctae Catharinae in civitate Panormitana ad B. episcopum Cathanensem, sive brevis chronica ab anno 1027. ad annum 1283*, primum impressa a Joanne Baptista DE GROSSIS in *Cathana Sacra*, in: Giovanni B. CARUSO, *Historiae Saraceno-Siculae Varia Monumenta, Quibus accedit Breviarium historico criticum* (1720) p. 47–50, at p. 48; *Andreae Danduli ducis Venetiarum Chronica per extensum descripta*, aa. 46–1280 d.C., a cura di Ester PASTORELLO (RIS<sup>2</sup> 12/1, 1938–1958) p. 243 ad a. 1148: *Rogerus rex Siciliae rapit insignem civitatem in Africa, que dicitur Africax.*

79) Radulfi Nigri *Chronica*. *The Chronicles of Ralph Niger*, ed. by Robert ANSTRUTHER (1851) p. 84.

80) V fol. 298v col. II.