

sti¹⁰⁷, while similar constructions (albeit without reference to *Africa*) have also been identified in both the *Carmen de Hastinae Proelio*¹⁰⁸ and the *Introductio monachorum*¹⁰⁹.

The evidence is not limited to chronicle material. In a Latin charter that appears to have been destroyed in the Second World War, Roger II was specifically described as: *dominus noster Syclie et Ytalie nec non et tocius regni Africe serenissimus et invictissimus rex a deo coronatus pius felix triumphator semper augustus*¹¹⁰. No further extant charters refer to this title. Nevertheless, a charter from the reign of King William I, dated to just months after his father's death, describes the new king as *rex Italiae, Siciliae et Africae*. It is conceivable that this title was carried over from the Rogerian period, and would be used in a further eight charters up until the conquest of Norman Africa by the Almohads¹¹¹.

Within this body of evidence, the *Cronica* has previously been unrecognised. Yet, quite irrespective of the debate concerning the precise meaning of *Africa* – whether *Africa* was used to refer to the region or the city of al-Mahdiyya – the *Cronica*'s use of a royal title is significant: not only would it appear to locate the text within a clearly-defined temporal period, but it would also suggest that its author was aware

107) Petrus de Ebulo, Liber ad honorem Augusti (as n. 53) p. 197: *Hec, quantum Calaber seu quantum debeat Afer, / Apulus aut Siculus debeat, orbis habet.*

108) The *Carmen de Hastinae Proelio* of Guy, Bishop of Amiens, ed. and trans. by Frank BARLOW (Oxford Medieval Texts, 1999) p. 14, ln. 259: *Apulus et Calaber, Siculus, quibus iacula fervunt.*

109) *Introductio monachorum*, in: *Chroniques latines du Mont Saint-Michel (IX^e–XII^e siècle)*, éd. Pierre BOUET / Olivier DESBORDES (Les manuscrits du Mont Saint-Michel – Textes fondateurs 1, 2009) p. 202–223, at p. 203: *ut testimonio sunt Cenomannicus pagus, Anglica regna, Campania, Apulia, Calabria, Sicilia aliaque plura ab eis armis adquisita diversis temporibus.*

110) Karl Andreas KEHR, *Die Urkunden der normannisch-sicilischen Könige. Eine diplomatische Untersuchung* (1902) p. 246f., n. 3. It is possible that this charter was part of the archive destroyed by the Wehrmacht in April 1943, see Arnold ESCH / Andreas KIESEWETTER, *Südtalien unter den ersten Angiovinen: Abschriften aus den verlorenen Anjou-Registern im Nachlaß Eduard Stamer*, QFIAB 74 (1994) p. 646–663.

111) I am grateful to Graham Loud for pointing out that this would seem to be a peculiarity of a single place, Molfetta, and perhaps also of a single scribe, a certain Alfanus. For these charters, see Francesco CARABELLESE, *Le carte di Molfetta (1076–1309)* (Codice diplomatico Barese 7, 1912) nos. 22, 24–29, 34. They have now been contextualised as part of a broader study in: Matthew KING, *The Norman Kingdom of Africa and the Medieval Mediterranean* (Diss. Minnesota, 2018) p. 246.