

The Bari Annals

Introduction: *There are three surviving sets of annalistic material from Bari, apparently related to each other, which have some importance for the study of eleventh-century southern Italy. (1) The 'Bari Annals' are a set of extremely sketchy entries for the tenth and early eleventh centuries (and by no means every year has an entry), but conclude with a lengthier discussion of the Norman attack on Apulia in 1041-3 (translated below). (2) The 'Annals of Lupus Protospatharius' (the name seems to be a seventeenth-century invention) have short entries for the years 855-1102, but are generally somewhat longer for the eleventh century than hitherto. They have been translated for the years 1038 onwards. It is probable that they draw on the same source as (1), though the two texts are not identical. The later parts provide some useful chronological information for the career of Robert Guiscard, and for Apulia in the years after his death in 1085. They show some links with Matera as well as Bari; they may draw on a set of (now-lost) annals from Matera, although it is also possible that the Matera information has been interpolated later. The Latin texts of both of these works can be found in Monumenta Germaniae Historica, Scriptores V (Hanover 1844) pp. 52-63. (3) the so-called 'Anonymous Bari Chronicle', to be found, in a poor edition, in L.A. Muratori, Rerum Italicarum Scriptores, V.147-156, is (despite its title) another related set of annals, albeit with sometimes rather longer entries than the other two, which continues until 1118.*

Readers should note that the annalists follow the Byzantine practice of beginning the year on 1st September.

The Bari Annals, 1035-1043

1035: Bishop Bisantius died on the Lord's Epiphany [6th January]. He was a most pious father of orphans and the founder of the holy church of Bari, the guardian and defender of the whole city, and terrible and fearless against all Greeks. Romuald the protospatharius was elected to his see by all the people. In the month of April the emperor summoned him to him in exile, and on 9th August Nicholas was elected.

1040: The catepan Nichephorus Dulchiano died in the town of Ascoli on 9th January. On 5th May the judge Michael Kirofacti was murdered by bandits [*conterati*] near the *castellum* of Mottola. Seven days later they all came to the city of Bari with Argyrus the son of Meles. Argyrus then wounded Musaandus, who was their leader, bound his hands and put him in prison, along with John Stonense. And all the bandits were dispersed.

1041: The protospatharius and catepan Michael Dulchiano the younger came from Sicily to 'Lombardia'. He entered Bari in November and ordered four men to be hanged on a gallows on the Bitonto wall. On 17th March there was a battle between Normans and Greeks on the River Olivento, where many Russians and Obsequiani were killed. Dulchiano and the rest of the army who survived the battle fled to Montepeloso. Then all the Greeks were gathered together, and a battle was fought on 4th May at Monte Maggiore on the River Ofanto, where many men from Anatolicon and Thrakesion, Obsequiani, Russians, Calabrians and men from Longobardia and the Capitanata perished. Angelus, priest and Bishop of Troia, and Bishop Stephen of Acerenza were killed there. Indeed it was said by those who were present at this battle that there were more than two thousand Normans there, and eighteen thousand Greeks, not counting

servants. Michael returned with a few disorganised survivors, who were stupified with fear of the Normans. He wrote to Sicily and there came to him some wretched Macedonians, Paulicians and Calabrians, whom he gathered together with the rest at Montepeloso. The son of Boiannes then arrived in Apulia as catepan, and on the emperor's order Michael returned to Sicily from whence he came.

1042: On 3rd September the army of the Greeks came down from Montepeloso, and the Normans from the *castellum* of Siricolo, and between these two hills they fought a tremendous battle, in which all the wretched Macedonians were killed, and only a few of the rest of the army survived. Boiannes was captured here, and was led all through Apulia to their base [*patria*] at Benevento. They say truthfully that in this battle there were seven hundred Normans and ten thousand Greeks. After this third battle had taken place, the people of Matera and Bari made an agreement with the Frenchmen, since there was no one who could rescue them from their hands. Then in the month of February the Normans and the citizens of Bari elected Argyrus, the son of Meles, as their prince and lord. In the month of April the magister Maniakes landed at Taranto, and gathered together the whole Greek army and made a camp at a place called Tara. Then Argyrus wrote to the Normans at Aversa and Melfi, and they all came, about seven thousand of them, to Mottola. Then that wicked Maniakes and his whole army were absolutely terrified by fear of the enemy, and they fled by night to Taranto. The Normans remained outside the land gate offering battle and there was no one who could resist them. They plundered all the land of Oria and then returned to their homes. In July the wretched inhabitants of Giovenazzo made a treaty with the Greeks who remained in Trani. Prince Argyrus surrounded that same miserable place of Giovenazzo with the Normans and the

Bariots, and, to its misfortune, on the third day of his siege he stormed it; all the moveable property was plundered while the Greeks there were killed. The entreaties of the prince freed its people, both men and women, from the hands of the Normans. Afterwards, since the people of Trani would not join the Bariots in doing evil, from the last week of June the prince, along with the Normans and Bariots, besieged it for thirty-six days. He harried it severely, both with direct attacks and other calamities, for he had a wooden tower built there, the like of which the human eye has never seen in recent times. But then Argyrus received an imperial letter, granting him an alliance and the titles of patrician, catepan and vestatus, and he ordered the machines to be burnt. Returning to Bari he and his fellow citizens gave praise to the holy emperor, Constantine Monomarchos. After dealing with these matters, I shall turn to discuss the wickedness of Maniakes. The Normans, as I should have said, had retreated from this region, and so Maniakes mustered his army together and one night in June he marched on Matera, where he captured many men in the fields round about. The evil man had more than two hundred of them killed before the very eyes of the people of Matera. Similarly this wicked man was not afraid to make a second expedition, to Monopoli.

1043: In September of this year the protospatharius Tubachis, the patrician Pardus and Archbishop Nicholas landed at Otranto, with Chrysubulo and Simpatia. The wicked Maniaches then went out to meet them, pretending goodwill, but he immediately ordered Pardus to be put to the sword, threw Tubachis into prison, and in the month of October he had him killed also.

The Annals of 'Lupus Protospatharius' 1038-1102

1038: The patrician and duke Michael arrived, called Sfrondili, and he sailed with the patrician Maniakes to Sicily.

1039: In the month of February the catepan Nichephorus, called Dulchiano, arrived.

1040: The said Dulchiano expelled the bandits [*conterati*] from Apulia, and these bandits killed the imperial judge Chirisfactira near Mottola and Romanus of Matera in the month of May. In that same month Argyrus, son of Meles, besieged the city of Bari, captured Musandus and bound him in chains, and entered Bari with him. And the bandits were dispersed.

1041: Dulchiano landed from Sicily and went to Ascoli, and in the month of May Arduin the Lombard summoned the Normans into Apulia to the town of Melfi, and the aforesaid Dulchiano fought a battle with almost three thousand Normans, and they slew the Greeks. And on the fourth feast day of the month of May the Normans fought once again with the Greeks, and Dulchiano fled to Bari.

1042: Exaugustus arrived and fought a battle with the Normans on 3rd September where he was captured, and he was taken away to Melfi. And in the month of December the Emperor Michael died, and his nephew the Caesar Michael was promoted to be emperor. And in the month of February Argyrus was made Prince of Bari and Duke of Italy. And in the month of April the magister Maniakes landed at Taranto, and in the month of June he destroyed the town of Monopoli, and went to Matera where he perpetrated a great massacre. And in the month of September William was elected count at Matera. And in

this year the aforesaid Caesar Michael was deposed from his throne and blinded on the orders of the sisters Zoe and Theodora, and Constantine Monomarchos was made emperor. And on 3rd June Giovenazzo was captured by Duke Argyrus, and in the month of August the aforesaid Argyrus went to besiege Trani, and remained one month over it.

1043: Bari returned into the hands of the emperor. And in the month of September the patrician Pardus arrived with a great deal of gold. Maniakes had him killed and made everyone call him emperor. In the month of October he came to Bari but did not secure it. In the month of February the magister and catepan Theodorokanos landed, and the aforesaid Maniakes went to Durazzo.

1044: William son of Tancred went down with Prince Guaimar into Calabria, and built the *castellum* of Stridula.

1046: The patrician Argyrus travelled to Constantinople, and the catepan Eustasios Palatinos recalled all the exiles to Bari and went to Taranto. On 8th May he gave battle to the Normans, and they slew the Greeks. And in this year Conus [*sic*] the King of the Germans came to Rome, ¹ because there were three popes there, Silvester in the church of St. Peter, Gregory in the Lateran, and Benedict in Tusculum. They were deposed and Clement was consecrated by the aforesaid emperor; then the said emperor went to Benevento. The Beneventans indeed cut the harness [*strennae*] of his horse to injure him. And in this year William died, and his brother Drogo was made count.

1047: The town of Stira was captured by the Varangians in the month of October, and in the month of December they depopulated Lecce, and the month of June the above said

Pope Benedict killed Pope Clement with a cup of poison.

1050: The Empress Zoe, sister of Theodora, died. They were the daughters of the Emperor Constantine. Zoe had three husbands, first Romanus, secondly Michael, and third Constantine Monomarchos, and she ruled with her three husbands for twenty-two years. After the death of the said Zoe the Emperor Constantine ruled with his sister-in-law Theodora for nine years.

1051: The magister and vestes Argyrus, Duke of Italy, son of Meles, arrived in the month of March and went to Bari. Adralistus and the brothers Romuald and Peter refused to receive him. But not very long afterwards the Bariots received him against the wishes of Adralistus and the others. Adralistus fled, but the brothers Romuald and Peter were arrested by Argyrus and carried off to Constantinople in chains. In this year Drogo was killed at Monte Ilari by his compatriot Concilius, and his brother Humphrey was made count.

1053: On the sixth feast day of the month of June the Normans fought a battle with the Germans whom Pope Leo had brought and defeated them. And in this year there was a great famine.

1054: The protospatharius Sico of Matera died.

1055: The Emperor Constantine Monomarchos died.

1056: The Augusta Theodora, sister of the Empress Zoe, began to reign. Humphrey died and Robert his brother was made duke. And in this year Archbishop Peter of Cosenza

¹ Actually Henry III (1039-56).

died.

1057: The Augusta Theodora died, and Michael Bringas was made emperor.

1058: The patricius Trombi had Scribones killed in the city of Cotrone.

1059: Michael Bringas died, and Isaac Comnenus was made emperor.

1060: Constantine Ducas was promoted to be emperor.

1061: Duke Robert captured the city of Acerenza.

1062: Alexander of Lucca was made pope. And in this year Duke Robert entered the city of Oria, and then he once again seized Brindisi and its merarch.

1063: Taranto was taken by the Normans.

1064: Matera was taken by Robert in the month of April.

1065: Duke Robert entered Sicily and killed a multitude of Agareni, and he took hostages from the city of Palermo.

1066: Count Godfrey, son of Peter, wanted to go with many people to Romania, but a certain Greek leader called Mambrita prevented him. And in this year Prince Richard invaded the land of Campania, besieged Ceprano and captured it, and ravaged as far as Rome.

1067: The Emperor Constantine Ducas died in the month of May, and his son Michael received the empire. And in this year there appeared a comet star, and the Norman count Robert [*sic*] fought a battle with Harold, King of the English, and Robert was victorious

and became king over the people of the English.

1068: On 16th February Duke Robert laid siege to a town called Montepeloso, but made no progress. He went with a few men to Obiano and took it. And through the treason of a certain Count Godfrey the duke gained entrance into the aforesaid town of Montepeloso.

1069: In the month of September the aforesaid Duke Robert besieged the city of Bari; and Romanus Diogenes, who held the empire along with the aforesaid Michael, his stepson, was because of the treachery of the said stepson Michael captured at a certain town in Armenia and blinded.

1070: In the month of January there was a great massacre in the city of Brindisi; for forty of the Normans trying to seize the city were captured, along with forty-three others, their accomplices, and the heads of all the aforesaid men were sent to the emperor.

1071: Duke Robert entered Brindisi, having left Bari under siege; for the duke had had a bridge made on the sea, that shut off the port of the aforesaid city of Bari. In this year Bisantius called Guirdeliku was murdered in Bari through the treachery of Argirizzus son of Ioannacus. And on 15th April Duke Robert took the city of Bari, and in the month of June the aforesaid duke sailed over the Adriatic Sea and went to Sicily with fifty-eight vessels.

1072: On 10th January Duke Robert entered the city of Palermo in Sicily.

1073: The Normans first entered Trani with Count Peter on the octave of Epiphany [*5th January*]. But Duke Robert drove Peter out and entered the city on the Purification of St. Mary [*2nd February*].

1076: A certain nephew of the King of Africa was captured by Roger, Duke Robert's brother, who ruled over Sicily, along with one hundred and fifty ships, at the city of Mazzara. And in this year the aforesaid duke gave his daughter to be the daughter-in-law of the Emperor of Constantinople.

1077: The city of Salerno was besieged by Duke Robert of the Normans and captured by him.

1078: Naples was besieged by Prince Richard, but not captured; and Duke Robert besieged Benevento, but his siege was broken up by Count Rodulf Pipinus. And in this year Prince Richard died.

1079: Peter entered Trani, and Bari rebelled, with the duke's garrison being driven out. Abelard son of Humphrey captured Ascoli. And in this year the aforesaid Emperor Michael was driven from his throne, and a certain Botaniates became emperor. He stole Michael's wife and made use of her. In this year there was a great mortality among the men of Matera.

1080: The body of the blessed Canionis was discovered at Matera by Archbishop Arnold, and the same archbishop began to build the new cathedral, that is the church of St. Mary. In this year the city of Bari returned to the power of Duke Robert. The same duke besieged the city of Taranto and captured it in the month of April, and he once more besieged Castellaneta, and captured it. And in this year the Emperor Michael landed in Apulia to seek help from Duke Robert against Botaniates. And on 26th July the distinguished Count Robert died, and the Normans were a second time expelled from Matera, and his son Count Geoffrey began to rule in his place in Matera on the vigil of St.

Mary in the month of August [*14th August*].

1081: Duke Robert entered Tricarico in the month of October. And in the month of April Argirizzus went to Michael, the King of the Slavonians, and gave his daughter as wife to his son. Duke Robert with the aforesaid Emperor Michael went to Otranto, having sent ships before him to the island of Corfu which captured it. A little while later he sailed with the emperor and in the month of July they laid siege to Durazzo both by sea and land, but the siege was broken by the arrival of the Venetian fleet, which opened the sea to Durazzo. In this year Botaniates was made a monk, and Alexius was made emperor. And King Henry of the Germans came to Rome, and drove Pope Gregory out.

1082: This year was the 6281st from the beginning of the world and the 1824th from the foundation of the City. And in this year the Emperor Alexius raised a great army and fought a battle with Duke Robert not far from Durazzo, and he turned and fled. More than six thousand of his men were killed in this battle; there were however 70,000 men in his army. (During the reign of the Emperor Alexius Bishop Gilbert of Ruvo gave the church of St. Sabina in the city of Ruvo to the prior of Montepeloso, who held it in return for four pounds of wax every year on Holy Saturday, and for sending one mounted man at his own expense when the Bishop of Ruvo went to the city of Bari or to Canosa). And in the month of January Duke Robert took the town of Durazzo through the treachery of some of the Venetians. At this time the aforesaid King Henry besieged Rome, with the intention of forcing an entrance and making the Archbishop of Ravenna pope there. And Duke Robert returned from Epirus, leaving his son Bohemond there. He went to Rome, bring help for Pope Gregory, while the king was in the region of Liguria to attack Matilda's lands, since she was a supporter of Pope Gregory. In this year Abelard travelled

to the Emperor of Constantinople, Alexius, to get help. And on 16th May of this same year the new church of St. Eustachius was dedicated in Matera by Archbishop Arnold. This church was ruled by its founder, Abbot Stephen.

1083: This year was the 517th since the Lombards had entered Italy. In this year the solar cycle was twenty-eight and the lunar cycle seventeen, and it was the first in the nine[teen?]-year cycle, and there was no lunar epact. And at this time the Romans abandoned Pope Gregory, sent envoys to the aforesaid king, telling him what was happening in Rome; but the duke anticipated this and sent more than thirty thousand solidi to the Romans, that they might be reconciled to the pope, which was done. However when the king arrived at Rome he captured the whole of the Trastevere district where the church of the Prince of the Apostles is conspicuous. In June he left a garrison and his son in the citadel which he had built there, to attack Pope Gregory who continued [to reside] in the Lateran or on the Coelian Hill, and left for Tuscany, taking with him forty hostages from Rome. In the month of May the duke laid siege to Canne, and in June he captured it.

1084: Duke Robert raised a multitude of Normans, Lombards and other people, and journeyed to Rome to free Pope Gregory, who was closely besieged. This was done, for when he arrived at Rome he captured the greater part of the City, rescued the pope by force, and brought him with him to Salerno.

1085: After preparing a large fleet of ships and gathering a multitude of men, the aforesaid duke came with his huge army to Brindisi where he had collected his fleet. He put to sea on the Adriatic and sailed to the island of Corfu where the Venetian fleet, led

by the doge's son and comprising many ships, attacked Duke Robert. But after a battle at sea between them, victory was granted to the Normans. More than a thousand men were killed in that engagement. Furthermore five ships were captured and two more sunk with all hands, so that those who escaped the warriors' swords were swallowed up by the thirsty sea. In May of this year Pope Gregory ended his days at Salerno; it is said that, when he died, there was such a terrible thunderstorm that everybody present believed that they were going to die. In July, after the victory over the Venetians, Duke Robert Guiscard was staying at a place called ..., and his army was on the island of Cephalonia trying to capture the town there. He was living at this said place with part of his army, making preparations to sail to the City with a mighty fleet and a vast horde of knights to seize the throne but, on the order of the Most Merciful and Almighty God who scatters and frustrates the plans and dispositions of princes, his schemes did not come to fruition, for he died from an overflow of wind.

1086: Roger, Duke Robert's son, became duke.

1087: In the month of May the body of the most blessed Bishop Nicholas of Myra was stolen from Myra by certain Bariots and was brought to Bari, the leading city of Apulia. In this year Abbot Desiderius of St. Benedict of Montecassino, with the agreement of some of the Roman nobles, became the Roman pope, although Pope Clement, who had been the Archbishop of Ravenna, was still alive.

1088: In the month of September there was a great earthquake throughout Apulia, so that in many places towers and houses were destroyed; and then a civil war [*guerra*] began between Duke Roger and his brother Bohemond. In this year Syracuse, once the capital

of Sicily, was captured by Count Roger; it is said that the siege of this town lasted so long that children and men were eaten.

1089: A synod of all the Apulian, Calabrian and Lucanian [*?Bruziorum*] bishops was held at the town of Melfi. Duke Roger and all the counts of Apulia, Calabria and the other provinces were there, and it was laid down that the holy Truce of God should be observed by all those subject to them. In this year Archbishop Ursus of Bari died. Pope Urban came to the city of Bari, and there he consecrated both the shrine of St. Nicholas and Archbishop Elias, who had formerly adhered to Pope Clement. Pope Urban also consecrated the church of Brindisi.

1090: Acerenza burned down by accident in the month of August, and in this year Prince Jordan died.

1091: The Truce of God was sworn to by the Normans, and 6291 years had passed since the beginning of the world, exact twenty-nine.

1092: While Bohemond was besieging the city of Oria, the inhabitants, with the help of certain other people, lifted the siege. Bohemond fled and they captured all his baggage and standards.

1093: Abbess Eugenia of the nunnery of St. Benedict at Matera died in the month of October, and in that same month Pope Urban came to Matera and came to the monastery of St. Eustachius with a great crowd of his people.

1095: On the night of the fifth feast day in April all over Gaul sparks of fire were seen falling from Heaven, as though from a comet, and they landed all over the earth's surface.

And after that the people of Gaul, as well as from all over Italy, began an armed journey to the Lord's Sepulchre, making the sign of the cross on their right shoulder.

1096: Count Roger of Sicily besieged Amalfi with twenty thousand Saracens, a great multitude of other people and all the counts of Apulia. While they were continuing with this, then suddenly and through the inspiration of God Bohemond, with other counts and more than five hundred knights, fixing the sign of the cross on the right shoulder of their garments, abandoned the siege, took ship and journeyed to the royal city, that with the help of the Emperor Alexius they might fight against the pagans and travel to Jerusalem to the Holy Sepulchre of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

1097: Bohemond, the Count of St. Gilles, the Count of Normandy and the other western counts, along with a vast multitude of people, left the royal city in the month of April, crossed into the lands which the Turks had taken from the emperors and recaptured them. They fought a battle with the Turks and Christ granted victory to the Christians. It is indeed said that there were 140,000 pagans there. This took place at the city of Nicea.

1098: A comet star appeared in the month of October, and the Christians fought their way through to Antioch and laid siege to it. They captured it in the month of April, killing more than 60,000 men there. Battle was joined one again; the Christians were victorious and captured a great deal of booty from the Turks. And Capua was captured by Count Roger in May of this year.

1099: In the month of October Pope Urban called a universal synod in the city of Bari, which was attended by one hundred and eighty-five bishops. And in this year in the

month of June, on the feast of St. Peter the Apostle [*29th June; sic*], ² the Christians stormed the city of Jerusalem and killed all whom they found there. It is said that 200,000 men were killed there. And then the Christians elected for themselves as king there Godfrey, who had been the Duke of Swabia [*sic*]. ³ And the aforesaid Pope Urban died in the month of July, and Paschal was elected pope.

1100: The aforesaid Godfrey died from wounds he had received earlier from a bear while he was leaving a pass.

1101: Caesarea was captured by the Christians and overthrown. And in September of this year Count Geoffrey died, and his son Alexius entered Matera, and the higher areas began to be inhabited by the inhabitants of Monte [?]. Archbishop Arnold of Acerenza died in this year, and Count Roger of Sicily in the month of June.

1102: Abbot Stephen of Matera died in the month of November, and Abbot Symeon succeeded him. And in the month of May Peter was elected Archbishop of Acerenza.

² Actually 15th July 1099.

³ Godfrey of Bouillon, Duke of Lower Lotharingia.

The 'Anonymous Bari Chronicle' 1081-1115

1081 (Ind. IV): In the month of March Duke Robert despatched his fleet and besieged Corfu, and afterwards he himself went there with many men, and on 21st May he captured Corfu, and Butrinto, and in the month of June he travelled by land and sea to Durazzo; and he surrounded it by land and sea and fought against it with many siege engines. While this was going on the Venetians arrived and defended it. Emperor Alexius rose up and entered Constantinople by force, and deposed Emperor Botaniates and clad him as a monk.

1082 (Ind.V): Emperor Alexius came and did battle with Duke Robert, on the third day of the week, on the day of St. Luke the Apostle and Evangelist, and the duke was victorious and the emperor turned tail. On 20th February the duke took Durazzo, and he captured there the duke of the Venetians, and their fleet along with many men.

1083 (Ind.VI): This same duke levied many thousands of *solidi* from the people of Bari, and he caused them great tribulation through this, and men were imprisoned; and he marched against the city of Canne and fought against it, and he stormed it on 10th June.

1084 (Ind.VII): He destroyed Canne, and once again he levied many *solidi* at Bari, and he marched on Rome, and entered the city. He then took away Pope Hildebrand and brought him back with him.

1085 (Ind. VIII): This same Robert crossed into Romania in the month of October. In the month of January he fought a battle at sea against these same Venetians and conquered them. Pope Hildebrand died in Salerno, and in the month of July, on the day of St.

Alexius, Duke Robert died in Cephalonia.

1086 (Ind. IX): [*blank*]

1087 (Ind. X): On 9th May our men of Bari carried off the body of the most blessed St. Nicholas.

1088 (Ind. XI): On 10th September, on the sixth day of the week, there was a great earthquake throughout our whole land, which shook buildings to their foundations

1089 (Ind. XII): Archbishop Urso died, and Elias was elected. He made [an agreement?] about Bari with Bohemond.

1090 (Ind. XIII): Pope Urban entered the city of Bari in the month of September, and he consecrated Archbishop Elias in the city of Bari on 30th September. And on 1st October he dedicated the confessional of St. Nicholas.

1095 (Ind. III): In the month of January the men of Bari swore to the lord Archbishop Elias that they would listen to what he should order for the salvation of the commune (*pro communi salvatione*).

(1096 (Ind. IV): [*blank*]

(1097 (Ind. V): Inspired by God, many men of the west, kings, counts and princes, and with them many warlike knights, and footmen [too], great and small, rich and poor, old and young, children, and even many women with them, and bishops, priests, abbots, monks and hermits, with the greatest enthusiasm, and with the consent of Pope Urban, all placed the sign of the Cross on their clothes. Some travelled through the land of Hungary

to Constantinople, while others took ship. The people of Bari and those through all the towns along the coast of our province also took ship, crossing with a great, indeed a vast, number of ships, great and small, that they might go to the help of God, and fight with and destroy all the Saracens who were rebels against God, and entering Jerusalem by force they might drive all the pagans out of there, so that the Christians might reign there in perpetuity for all time. However, Alexius the Emperor of Constantinople was best with great fear and trembling, in case they should drive him out of his kingdom. He began to harm them and secretly hindered them, and many were killed in the mountains and passes of Bulgaria, and also in Hungary, or they died of hunger, since they had not joined together. Eventually a great host reached Constantinople, and they made an agreement with the emperor, and gave him security for his realm, and finally he gave them great gifts, and ships with which they crossed the sea, about six hundred thousand of them. They promptly journeyed to Nikea, and they made war on the Saracens who were there, and with the help of God they put them to the sword, and they entered the city and held it in their power. And then leaving it, they marched through the whole of Romania and Armenia, and after many dangers and conflicts they came to Antioch, which was manfully besieged by the army of the Lord. The defenders fought back against them wonderfully, and many fell on both sides. After a few days they were informed that Corbaran, prince of the army of the king of the Persians was plotting their deaths, and was coming against them with a vast army, and had crossed the River Euphrates. But God does not desert those who trust in him.

1098 (Ind. VI): Antioch was surrendered to them by the citizens on 5th June. They killed all the pagans [there]. On the following day Corbaran arrived along with many kings and

besieged the city, and they were forced to eat the flesh of dogs, horses and asses. The enemy sought to force them to surrender through shortage of food, but God revealed to them the Lance which had pierced the body of Christ. It was found under a pavement at a depth of two men's height. On the vigil of the Apostles Peter and Paul they sent envoys to Corbaran: 'thus says the army of the Lord. Retreat from us and from the inheritance of Blessed Peter, otherwise you will be defeated in battle. On hearing this Corbaran swore on his unsheathed sword by his kingdom and throne, that he would defend himself from all the Franks, and possess their land, and that he would hear no more words from them until Antioch was destroyed and they had denied Christ and acknowledged the king of the Persians. On hearing this, the Christians were cleansed by confession, and after being stoutly armed by receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, they opened the gates, and with the Lance of the Lord at their head, and the Wood of the Lord, they did battle. With the help of the Lord the Turks were overthrown and completely defeated. They turned in flight and numbers of them were happily slain. They therefore celebrated this with great joy.

1099 (Ind. VII): Pope Urban came on 13th October, along with many archbishops, bishops, abbots and counts, entered Bari and was received [there] with great reverence. Elias our archbishop prepared a wonderful throne within the church of the most blessed Nicholas the confessor of Christ. And he held a synod there for a week. After eight days he departed in peace, and in the month of June this Pope Urban died; and Pope Paschal arose. And in this same month Jerusalem was captured by storm by those same Christians who had travelled there for love of the Holy Sepulchre, and they put all the pagans to the sword.

1105 (Ind. XIII): Bohemond came from Antioch in the month of June. And Archbishop Elias died on 23rd May.

1106 (Ind. XIV): Bohemond travelled to the western regions in the month of September, seeking the help of knights there, and this happened, with a multitude of Frenchmen as well; and he received in marriage the daughter of King Philip of France, named Constance, and in this same year in the month of August he returned.

1107 (Ind. XV): He remained here in the province, preparing a great fleet, and small [ships].

1108 (Ind. I): In the month of September he celebrated the holy mass on the holy altar where the body of St. Nicholas is interred, and then travelled to the port of Brindisi , with 34,000 men, both cavalry and infantry, and 200 ships both great and small, and thirty galleys. On 10th October he sailed across the sea, and came to Valona, which he entered peacefully, and also Canina. Then he went to Durazzo and besieged it, but he was unable to capture it, and he made peace with the emperor.

1109 (Ind. II): In the month of October Bohemond sailed to Otranto.

1111 (Ind. IV): Duke Roger died in the month of February. And in that same year, in the month of March, Bohemond, the brother of this same duke, [also] died.

1112 (Ind. V): Riso entered the see of Bari on Palm Sunday, 14th April. Abbot Leo of St. Benedict died on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul in the month of June. ⁴

1113 (Ind. VI): On 7th March Abbot Vincent entered into the monastery of St. Benedict.

1114 (Ind. VII): [*blank*]

1115 (Ind. VIII): Paschal son of Pallarus and Nicholas Tirra his nephew, son of Sergius, called Ungruli, sent two men during the hours of the night who placed a wooden ladder against the house of Nicholas Garzone. They quietly climbed up it and crept into the tower of the sons of Melis Joannis the Patrician, for the top storey of the tower had a storeroom below it, into which they climbed, and then stealthily descending by the stairs within the tower they reached the guard room and captured the tower, which they destroyed right up to the third floor. As a result there were many conflicts between the citizens on both sides, in which a number of young men were killed.

⁴ 29th June.