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DUE IDILLI LATINI DI GIUSEPPE POZZOBONELLI:  
UN AZZECCAGARBUGLI IN VACANZA  
E UN CIABATTINO ALLA FESTA DEL TREDICI MARZO

TWO LATIN IDYLS BY GIUSEPPE POZZOBONELLI:  
A PETTIFOGGER ON HOLIDAY  
AND A COBBLER AT THE 13<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH FEAST

*Abstract*

The Latin poems by Giuseppe Pozzobonelli (1696-1783), archbishop of Milan from 1743, are for the most part unpublished, preserved by the Ambrosiana Library and by other institutions. Two idylls are offered here, accompanied by the Italian prose translation. The first was published in 1747 by Angelo Maria Querini, bishop of Brescia, without the author's knowledge and without mentioning his name, in a letter addressed to Pietro Paolo Marcolini. Pozzobonelli tells with narrative and descriptive vivacity the autumn holidays of a Milanese lawyer in his birthplace on Lake Maggiore, with his wife, who looks after the chicken coop and the kitchen, and her two daughters. The text of the Ambrosian autograph is given from the second idyll, unpublished; is set on the feast of the thirteenth of March, which was celebrated in the church of San Dionigi, built on the place where according to tradition the apostle Barnabas, who came to Milan to preach the faith, planted the first cross on that day. The cobbler Melchior goes to the church to pray, but the beggars, to whom he gives alms, attack him in crowds: forced to leave, he consoles himself in the tavern. This article documents Pozzobonelli's debts towards the ancient classics, in particular Horace, and above all his constant dialogue with the Latin poetry of the Milanese Tommaso Ceva, author of the poem *Iesus Puer* (1690) and *Sylvae* (1699); and also offers some references to contemporary dialect poetry.

*Keywords*

Latin poetry of the eighteenth century; Milanese Arcadia; Giuseppe Pozzobonelli; Angelo Maria Querini; Tommaso Ceva; Domenico Balestrieri; feast of the Tredesin; Ambrosiana Library.

I. *Un azzeccagarbugli va in vacanza con la famiglia sul Lago Maggiore*

Il cardinale Angelo Maria Querini (1680-1755), vescovo di Brescia, trascorre gli ultimi sei giorni di Carnevale del 1747 a Saiano, a otto miglia dalla città, dividendosi tra impegni religiosi e la lettura del tomo primo della *Istoria ecclesiastica* di Giuseppe Agostino Orsi. Così riferisce lui stesso in una lettera latina

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