

Lattanzi, Giovanni Battista

**Trattato dei seminarj e collegj da Monsignor Ill.mo, e R.mo Giambattista  
Lattanzj... per suo privato studio composto e dall'abate Antonmaria  
Crescioli... pubblicato.**

**Città di Castello, ‘Nel seminario, e Collegio... presso Ortensio Bersiani stampatore vescovile’, 1770**

QUARTO (255 × 185 mm), (106)ff. signed π<sup>2</sup> \*<sup>4</sup> A-Z<sup>4</sup> Aa-Bb<sup>4</sup> (blank Bb4) and paginated (4), I–VIII, 1–197 (3); plus folding engraved plate (see below).

CONTENTS title with woodcut ornament (π1r; verso blank), *Approbationes* (π2r; verso blank), dedication to Monsignor Francesco Gaetano Incontri, archbishop of Florence, subscribed by the editor, Antonio Maria Crescioli, at Città di Castello, 4 May 1770 (\*1r–\*4v), *Lettera confidenziale scritta da Monsignor Lattanzj... al Signor Conte Luigi de’ Sette Castelli a Ravenna il p.o Novembre 1767* (A1r–B1v), *Trattato de’ Seminari e Collegj* (B2r–Aa1v), *Indice delle Materie* (Aa2r–Bb3r; verso blank).

PROVENANCE unidentified old ink ownership stamp in lower margin of title-page (‘La Lupa’, the she-wolf, but without her twins) — Bloomsbury Auctions, 17 March 2007, lot 297

Occasional spotting, mostly confined to margins of text, otherwise in very good state of preservation.

BOUNDED contemporary cartonnage.

**O**NLY EDITION of a book of precepts for the building and governance of seminaries compiled by the archbishop of Città di Castello, who in 1752 had rebuilt the seminary there. All aspects of the education of candidates for holy orders are considered, including such subjects as health (‘Libidine quanto nocevole a tutti’, p.76), ‘arti cavalleresche di scherma, ballo &c’, music, theatre, and other diversions.

The book is distinguished by a folding print of the new seminary and its walled garden (platemark 325 × 435 mm, sheet 395 × 535 mm), engraved by Giuseppe Vasi (1710–1782) after a drawing by the painter-architect Giovanni Battista Marchetti (1730–1800), and lettered

*Above Joanni Baptiste ex Comitib. De Lactantijs in forma amplissima vetustis Bononiae, Urbis Veteris, et Fori Sempronij Patricijs, vigilantissimo Civitatis Castelli Episcopo | Ejusdem Urbis*

Seminarij, ac Collegij eximio in integrum Restauratori, Patronoque suo munificentissimo | Antonius M.a Cresciolus Collegij Studijs Praefectus in perenne Obsequij monumentum D.P.P.

*Below Prospetto, e veduta, così esterna, che interna del Seminario, e Collegio di Città di Castello cò suoi annessi, del gran Cortile, dell’Orto, o sia Giardino, ed in poca distanza due Ville, o Casini per uso dei Collegiali nei giorni, e nel corso delle Vacanze, fatto in breve tempo con la maggior proprietà, ed interi comodi riedificare dalla somma vigilanza instancabile dell’Ill.mo, e Rev.mo Monsig.r Giambattista dei Conti Lattanzi Vescovo della suddetta Citta | Giambattista Marchetti dis. | Giuseppe Vasi inc.*

The print is not recorded by Scalabroni.<sup>1</sup> One other collaboration between Vasi and Marchetti is known: Vasi’s print of Prince James Francis Edward of Wales, called ‘The Pretender’, who died on 1 January 1766, lying in state in the Basilica of SS. Apostoli in Rome, lettered *Ioannes Baptista Marchetti delin | Eques Joseph Vasi sculpsit.*<sup>2</sup>

Two other copies of our book can be located

- Foligno, Biblioteca comunale Dante Alighieri, G B 1-4-20 (from the library of the Convento di S. Bartolomeo di Foligno, inscribed *Fra Petri Fulginaten. Ex libris Lub.ti ex Prolis* on title-page) •
- Urbino, Biblioteca di giurisprudenza e scienze politiche dell’Università degli studi di Urbino, shelfmark F.A.Giur L.06 161

<sup>1</sup> Luisa Scalabroni, *Giuseppe Vasi (1710–1782)* (Rome 1981).

<sup>2</sup> C. Kelley, ‘Ars moriendi in eighteenth-century Rome: Papal and Princely Catafalques. The contribution of Paolo Posi’ in ‘All the World’s a Stage’: Art and Pageantry in the Renaissance and Baroque, edited by Barbara Wisch & Susan Scott Munshower (University Park, PA 1990), II, p.590, figs. 15–18; *Corpus delle feste a Roma, 2: Settecento e l’Ottocento*, edited by Marcello Fagiolo (Rome 1997), II, p.177.