

Page height 266 mm

Redi, Francesco

Arezzo 1626 – 1697/1698 Pisa

Bacco in Toscana. Ditirambo di Francesco Redi Accademico della Crusca con le Annotazioni.

Florence, Piero Matini, 1685

QUARTO (265 × 195 mm), (160)ff. signed π⁴ A–F⁴ A–Z⁴ Aa–Kk⁴ and paginated (8) 1–46, (2) 1–264. Title printed in red and black with engraved device of the Accademia della Crusca.

PROVENANCE inscription on endpaper recording the author's presentation of this copy to Paolo Rucellai¹ in 1690 (partly deleted) — later inscription *John Ingilby*² — sold by Bonhams, 'Books from the library of Ripley Castle, North Yorkshire, sold by order of Sir Thomas Ingilby Bt', London, 1 March 1995, lot 460.

Light stain in lower margins of initial two quires, tear in margin of folio E4 with early repair, otherwise an attractive, untrimmed copy, in very good state of preservation.

BINDING contemporary flexible vellum; back lettered in a contemporary hand *Bacco del Redi* | 1685.

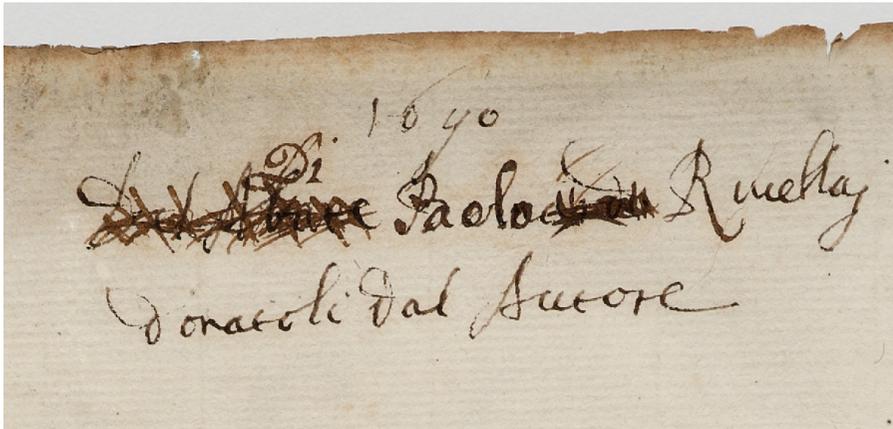
FIRST EDITION of 'Bacchus in Tuscany', a dithyrambic poem of a thousand lines, begun in 1666 and finally published in 1685 with copious annotations. The poem recounts the passage of Bacchus through Tuscany, accompanied by Ariadne, satyrs, and bacchantes, during which a number of local wines are sampled and evaluated, as well as other drinks such as tea, chocolate (pp.29–33), and coffee.³ The work is 'one of the most famous panegyrics on wine ever written' (Simon p.121) and was reprinted in at least forty-one editions (Prandi).

The author graduated in philosophy and medicine at Pisa in 1647 and became head physician at the Medici court and superintendent of the ducal pharmacy.

¹ Either Paolo-Filippo (1654–1723) or Paolo-Benedetto (1657–1734) Rucellai; see Luigi Passerini, *Genealogia e storia della famiglia Rucellai* (Florence 1861), pp.156, 161.

² Probably John Ingleby (circa 1705–1772), only son of Sir John Ingleby, succeeded his father as 4th Baronet, travelled in Italy in 1728–1729.

³ Richard von Hünersdorff, *Coffee: a bibliography* (London 2002), pp.1232–1233.



Presentation inscription on front endpaper:
 1690. Del Abate [deleted, Di] Paolo [deletion] Rucellai | donatoli dal Autore

In this copy there is a paste-on cancel on folio C1 correcting line 20 to read ‘Che vino è quel cola’.⁴ It measures 265 mm in height and is presumably one of the large paper copies cited by Gamba (the heights of the Grenville and George III copies in the British Library are 225 mm and 215 mm respectively).⁵

REFERENCES Bartolommeo Gamba, *Serie dei testi di lingua* (Venice 1839), no. 827; Carlo Lozzi, *Bibliografia storica della antica e nuova italia* (Imola 1881–1886), no. 5496; Dino Prandi, *Bibliografia delle opere di Francesco Redi* (Reggio Emilia 1941), no. 41; André Simon, *Bibliotheca Gastronomica* (London 1953), no. 1268; Baron Westbury, *Handlist of Italian cookery books* (Florence 1963), p.185; Giacomo Sormanni, *Catalogo ragionato delle opere di viticoltura ed enologia* (Bologna 1983), no. 106; *Autori italiani del '600. Catalogo bibliografico*, edited by S. Piantanida, L. Diotallevi, & G. Livraghi (reprint Rome 1986), no. 2988; *Catalogo del fondo italiano e latino delle opere di gastronomia* [catalogue of the collection of Fondation Bibliothèque Internationale de Gastronomie], edited by Orazio Bagnasco (Sorengo 1994), no. 1626; *Il vino tra sacro e profano. Vite e vino nelle raccolte casanatensi*, catalogue of an exhibition held in the Biblioteca Casanatense, Rome, 21 October 1999–29 January 2000 (Rome 1999), p.103 no. 26

⁴ Line 358 in the critical edition by Carmine Chiodo (Rome 1996), p.131.

⁵ Shelfmarks G.18224 and 84.e.9; British Library, *Catalogue of seventeenth century Italian books* (London 1986), p.726.