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978-0-521-08960-9 - The Italian Cotton Industry in the Later Middle Ages 1100-1600

Maureen Fennell Mazzaoui

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THE ITALIAN COTTON INDUSTRY
IN THE
LATER MIDDLE AGES
1100–1600

MAUREEN FENNELL MAZZAOUI

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The University of Wisconsin, Madison*

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*In loving memory of my mother
Evelyn Ruud Fennell*

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Preface

This book is a result of years of research in Italian archives and libraries during which period I incurred innumerable debts to many scholars. My greatest debt of gratitude is owed to David Herlihy, who first introduced me to the field of medieval economic history and has since lent his support to all my endeavors. I also wish to thank: Egidio Rossini, with whom I have collaborated on other works, for his encouragement and advice and for his willingness to share his extensive knowledge of Italian archival collections; Frederic C. Lane, whose knowledge and expertise saved me from naive errors in my chapter on the Mediterranean cotton trade; and Domenico Sella, whose incisive questions helped me to focus on broad trends in the transformation of the Lombard cotton industry in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. In addition to substantive suggestions on content, Norman J. G. Pounds kindly offered to draw the scale map of Mediterranean cotton cultivation and, in the process, greatly improved my original draft.

In attempting to trace the connections between the Islamic and Italian cotton industries, I benefited from the exchange of ideas and information with Andrew Watson who shares my interest in the expansion of cotton cultivation in the Islamic world. Kemal Karpat and Halil Inalcik helped me to gain some insight into trends in cotton production and manufacturing in the Ottoman empire. I also thank Eliyahu Ashtor for sending me offprints of his articles on Venetian trade in the Levant, and Bradford Martin for his bibliographical suggestions. Additional citations were contributed by John Barker, Carlo Cipolla, William Courtenay, Alfred Senn and Thomas Walker. John Munro, Maria Elisabetta Vallania, Hurican İslamoğlu and Suraiya Faroqhi generously shared the results of their research prior to publication. While I acknowledge much welcome assistance, any errors or flaws remaining in the text are entirely my responsibility.

My research in Italy was greatly facilitated by the directors and

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Preface

staff of the state, municipal and private archives and libraries in which I worked. I especially appreciate the many kindnesses extended to me by Dr Carlo Paganini, formerly head of the state archive of Pavia and currently director of the Archivio di Stato in Milan, and Dr Giulio Sancassani, former director of the state archive in Verona.

In my search for manuscript sources, I had valuable advice from Dr Domenico Giofrè on Genoese sources and Dr Dante Zanetti and Dr Antonia Borlandi on Pavian materials. Dr Borlandi kindly made available to me, from her father's private papers, a transcription of an important manuscript to which I would not otherwise have had access. The transcription reflects the late Dr Franco Borlandi's great interest in the history of Italian cotton manufacture, which was the topic of an article he published in 1953. A special word of thanks is also owed to Mr Yasin Safadi, Assistant Keeper, Arabic Section, Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed Books, The British Library, for standardizing the transliteration of the Arabic technical terms used in this volume. At the same time, I accept full responsibility for any errors in the text.

Over the past several years in which my research interests have been divided between woolen and cotton production in northern Italy, I have been fortunate to receive post-doctoral fellowships from the Fulbright-Hays Commission in Italy, Indiana University, the Institute for Research in the Humanities and the Graduate School of the University of Wisconsin. To all of these institutions and to those who recommended me, I wish to express my gratitude.

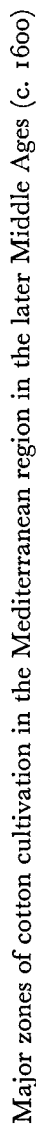
Madison, Wisconsin, 1980

Abbreviations

ACP	Archivio Civico di Pavia
ASB	Archivio di Stato di Bologna
ASC	Archivio di Stato di Cremona
ASCG	Archivio Storico Comunale di Genova
ASCM	Archivio Storico Civico di Milano
ASG	Archivio di Stato di Genova
ASM	Archivio di Stato di Milano
ASMN	Archivio di Stato di Mantova
ASP	Archivio di Stato di Pavia
ASVR	Archivio di Stato di Verona
BCAB	Biblioteca Comunale dell'Archiginnasio di Bologna
BCQB	Biblioteca Civica Queriniana di Brescia
BGC	Biblioteca Governativa di Cremona
BNB	Biblioteca Nazionale Braidense (Milan)
Bonvillano	<i>Bonvillano</i> (1198), ed. J. E. Eierman, H. C. Krueger, R. L. Reynolds, (Genoa, 1939).
BUP	Biblioteca Universitaria di Pavia
Giovanni Scriba	<i>Il cartolare di Giovanni Scriba</i> , ed. M. Chiaudano and M. Moresco, 2 vols. (Rome, Turin, 1935).
Giovanni di Guiberto	<i>Giovanni di Guiberto</i> (1200-1211), ed. M. W. Hall-Cole, H. C. Krueger, R. G. Reinert, R. L. Reynolds, 2 vols. (Genoa, 1939).
Guglielmo Cassinese	<i>Guglielmo Cassinese</i> (1190-1192), ed. M. W. Hall, H. C. Krueger, R. L. Reynolds, 2 vols. (Genoa, 1938).
Lanfranco	<i>Lanfranco</i> (1202-1226), ed. H. C. Krueger and R. L. Reynolds, 3 vols. (Genoa, 1951-3).
Oberto Scriba (1186)	<i>Oberto Scriba de Mercato</i> (1186), ed. M. Chiaudano (and C. Jona) (Genoa, 1940).

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Oberto Scriba (1190)	<i>Oberto Scriba de Mercato (1190)</i> , ed. M. Chiaudano and R. Morozzo della Rocca (Genoa, 1938).
Sella, GLE	Pietro Sella, <i>Glossario latino emiliano</i> , Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Studi e testi 74 (Città del Vaticano, 1937).
Sella, GLI	Pietro Sella, <i>Glossario latino italiano, Stato della Chiesa-Veneto-Abruzzi</i> , Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Studi e testi 109 (Città del Vaticano, 1944).



Source : For the zones of cotton cultivation in the Islamic world through the twelfth century, I have followed, with minor modifications, the maps published by Maurice Lombard, *Études d'économie médiévale III : Les textiles dans le monde Musulman du VII^e au XII^e siècle* (Paris, The Hague, New York, 1978), pp. 65, 72-3 and folio map I. Additions for the Black Sea, Turkey, the Aegean and Italy are based on data for later centuries.