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978-0-521-48333-9 - Charity and Power in Early Modern Italy: Benefactors and their Motives in Turin, 1541-1789

Sandra Cavallo

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Acts of charity have generally been interpreted as a response to socio-economic conditions or to spiritual and ideological movements. In *Charity and power in early modern Italy* the focus shifts from these impersonal forces to the everyday experiences of benefactors, from collective mentalities to subjectivity.

Drawing extensively on archival material, this study analyses the tensions within the individuals' personal and political milieus and shows that power and gender conflicts within the world of the elites were a crucial factor in encouraging charitable giving and even in shaping perceptions of the deserving poor. Special attention is given to the symbolic and metaphorical significance of charity rather than to the explicit aims of charitable activity.

Through its examination of a city marginal to the Italian tradition of communes and city-states and its concern with a relatively under-investigated period of Italian history, the book offers an extended reassessment of what has hitherto been regarded as the typical Italian model of welfare.

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*Cambridge History of Medicine*

EDITED BY

CHARLES WEBSTER

Reader in the History of Medicine, University of Oxford,  
and Fellow of All Souls College

CHARLES ROSENBERG

Professor of History and Sociology of Science,  
University of Pennsylvania

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SANDRA CAVALLO

*University of Exeter*



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## Equivalent weights and measures

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### Capacity (dry)

1 *sacco* = 5 *emine*1 *sacco* = 138,33 litres (3,81 bushels)1 *emina* = 23,055 litres (3,04 pecks)1 *carra* = 4 cubic metres

### Capacity (liquid)

1 *carra* = 10 *brente*1 *carra* = 493,07 litres (130,27 gallons)1 *brenta* = 49,31 litres (13,03 gallons)

### Money<sup>1</sup>

The main unit of currency was the *fiorino* (divisible into 12 *grossi*, divisible in turn into 4 *quarti*) up to 1632, when it was replaced by the *lira* (divisible into 20 *soldi*).

### Other units referred to

*scudo*: before 1600 it was worth 8 to 13 *fiorini*; in the following decades its value soared as a result of heavy inflation up to 35 *fiorini* in 1632. After this date its value oscillated between 3,5 and 9 *lire*.

*ducatone*: it was worth 12 to 19 *fiorini* before 1632, and 2,5 to 6 *lire* in the following period.

*doppia*: two *scudi*

<sup>1</sup> D. Promis, *Le Monete dei Reali di Savoia*, Turin 1841, vol. II; S. J. Woolf, 'Sviluppo economico e struttura sociale in Piemonte da Emanuele Filiberto a Carlo Emanuele III', *NRS*, 1 (1962), pp. 25–9.

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## Abbreviations

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### Archives

AAT	Archivio Arcivescovile, Turin
ACT	Archivio Comunale, Turin
AOC	Archivio Ospedale di Carità
AOSG	Archivio Ospedale S. Giovanni
AOSML	Archivio Ordine di S. Maurizio e Lazzaro
ASSP	Archivio Storico S. Paolo
AST, p.s.	Archivio di Stato di Torino, prima sezione
AST, s.r.	Archivio di Stato di Torino, sezioni riunite
BR	Biblioteca Reale

### Archival funds

Ins.	Insinuazione di Torino (in AST, s.r.)
LPqM	Luoghi Pii di qua dai Monti (in AST, p.s.)
OPCB	Opere Pie Comuni e Borgate (in AST, p.s.)
Ord.	Ordinati del Comune di Torino (in ACT)
PCF	Patenti Controllo Finanza (in AST, s.r., art. 689)
T.P.	Testamenti Pubblicati dal Senato (in AST, s.r.)

### Printed primary sources

Borelli	G. B. Borelli, <i>Editti Antichi e Nuovi dei Sovrani Principi della Real Casa di Savoia</i> , Turin 1681.
D.	F. A. Duboin, <i>Raccolta per Ordine di Materia delle Leggi, Editti, Manifesti . . . Emanate dai Sovrani della Real Casa di Savoia sino all'8-12-1798</i> , 23 Toms, Turin 1818–69.

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## List of abbreviations

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**Periodicals**

AHN	Acta Historica Neerlandicae
AHR	American Historical Review
AIIGT	Archivio dell'Istituto Italo-Germanico di Trento
Ann. Osp. M. Vitt.	Annali dell'Ospedale M. Vittoria di Torino
ARH	Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte / Archive for Reformation History
ASI	Archivio Storico Italiano
ASL	Archivio Storico Lombardo
BSSS	Biblioteca della Società Storica Subalpina
BISSSV	Bollettino dell'Istituto di Storia della Società e dello Stato Veneziano
BSBS	Bollettino Storico Bibliografico Subalpino
BHM	Bulletin of the History of Medicine
CC	Continuity and Change
EcHR	Economic History Review
ESR	European Studies Review
Giorn. Acc. Med.	Giornale dell'Accademia di Medicina di Torino
JIH	Journal of Interdisciplinary History
JMH	Journal of Modern History
Loc. Pop. St.	Local Population Studies
MH	Medical History
Mem. Acc. Sc. Tor.	Memorie dell'Accademia delle Scienze di Torino
NRS	Nuova Rivista Storica
QS	Quaderni Storici
RQ	Renaissance Quarterly
RSLR	Rivista di Storia e Letteratura Religiosa
RSI	Rivista Storica Italiana
SHM	Social History of Medicine
SS	Società e Storia
SMRH	Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History
TRHS	Transactions of the Royal Historical Society
Univ. Birm. Hist. JI	University of Birmingham History Journal