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A History of Pisa

William Heywood (1857–1919) experienced a variety of jobs, including working as a lawyer, a cowboy and a newspaper editor, before retiring to Siena in Italy in 1894 and becoming a specialist in medieval Italian history. His unorthodox background is shown in his holistic interpretation of the growth of Pisa in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, in contrast to the treatment of historical material by contemporary historians. Heywood examines the politics, society and religion of Pisa to chart the growth of the city from a small port at the end of the Roman period to a powerful city-state by the end of the twelfth century. He is also the first historian to recognise the importance of maritime power struggles between other city-states as an integral part of Pisa's rise to power. This volume provides a valuable addition to the study of the historiography of medieval Italy.

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A History of Pisa

Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries

WILLIAM HEYWOOD



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A HISTORY OF PISA

ELEVENTH AND TWELFTH CENTURIES

BY

WILLIAM HEYWOOD

AUTHOR OF *A PICTORIAL CHRONICLE OF SIENA*,
PALIO AND PONTE, *A HISTORY OF PERUGIA*
AND OTHER WORKS

WITH A MAP AND SIXTEEN PICTURES

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

WILLIAM HEYWOOD, who lived so long in Siena and Perugia and whose books on medieval Italy are well known to all students and lovers of that time, died on June 26th, 1919, at the age of 62. The son of the Rev. Nathaniel Heywood, Rector of St Michael's, Bristol, he was born at Much Wenlock (Salop), where his father was then curate, on March 19th, 1857, and was educated at Clifton College, which he entered in 1869, and at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (1875-1878). He read for the law, and for about three years was articled to a solicitor in Newcastle-on-Tyne. After his marriage in 1879 he threw up the law, however, for "the wild and woolly West," and went to America, when about twenty-five, as a cowpuncher. He owned a ranch in Buffalo, Wyoming, subsequently editing a Wyoming newspaper, threw this up for the law, was called to the American Bar, and at length became a Justice of the Peace. He returned to Europe in 1894 on account of his wife's health, and went to live in Siena, where he made a host of friends, English and Italian. Indeed it would be true to say that no one ever met him without being fascinated by his joyous and robust nature, his absolute sincerity, simplicity of character and good faith, his humorous outlook and enormous good nature and generosity. In many ways he may be said never to have grown up; he was an English Public Schoolboy to the day of his death. The richness of his nature, his gift for life, the overwhelming fullness of his temperament that would express itself in every sort of laughter and practical joking, his essential masculinity, too, together with his height and bigness generally, made up a figure that can never be forgotten and that was essentially English.

About 1904 Mr Heywood left Siena, where the greater number of his books were written—*Our Lady of August and the Palio of Siena* (1899), *The Ensamples of Fra Filippo* (1901), *A Pictorial Chronicle of Siena* (1902), *The Historical Guide to Siena* (1903), *Palio and Ponte* (1904). He went to Perugia in order to write

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

what proved to be his *magnum opus*, the *History of Perugia* (1910). The enormous care he expended upon everything he wrote, the absolute neatness and perfection even of his manuscript, the careful rewriting, sometimes four or five times, of every page, have given to all his works the priceless value of accuracy in fact, a virtue upon which he set the very greatest store. Whatever value his work may come to have in the future, it will certainly never be set aside on the score of inaccuracy. Profound student of medieval Italy though he was, his most passionate enthusiasm and love were given to Italy of to-day. It is true that he worshipped Siena and loathed Florence like a Sienese of the time of Montaperto, but he gave his whole heart to the new nation; and his whole attitude, so much in accord as it was with that of the young Italy of to-day, might be summed up in the famous last sentence of his *History of Perugia*: "Hygiene is greater than art, and facilities for locomotion and transit are more important to a modern city than the preservation of all the ancient palaces that were ever built. For myself, I am content to know that *Italia cammina*." To those who knew and loved him, Italy will seem to have lost a part of her delight now that he has gone. *Requiescat in pace*.

The book here given to the public was his last work. It was completed some time before his death, but the war prevented its publication during his lifetime. It was his last wish that it should be published after his death and it is appropriate that the Press of his old University, to which his library was presented, should have undertaken it.

E. H.

June 1921.

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PREFACE

THIS book, which occupied my leisure hours from 1910 to 1917, was written in a Devonshire village under the difficulties which naturally confront one who lives far from great libraries. It had been my intention to return to Italy and to finish it in Pisa. The war prevented that. I am conscious of many deficiencies; but I think it better to commit my volume to the press rather than to await opportunities which, at my age, are unlikely to recur. For copies of numerous passages from documents and chronicles and for the verification of many references I am indebted to the unfailing kindness of my friends Mr Edmund G. Gardner, Mr Robert W. Carden, Mr Edward Hutton and, above all, Mr A. G. Ferrers Howell who has taken an interest in the work ever since its inception and has rendered me invaluable assistance in ways too various to particularise. The two modern writers to whom I owe most are Professor G. Volpe and Professor Camillo Manfroni. How greatly I have profited by their learning may be gauged by the frequency with which I have cited their works in my footnotes. The map which accompanies the book was prepared for me by Mr Donald E. Woollen.

WILLIAM HEYWOOD

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CORRIGENDA

p. 14, l. 16, *for* Murangone *read* Marangone.

p. 206, l. 13, *for* Logoduro *read* Logudoro.

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