

RASSEGNA STORICA DEL RISORGIMENTO
Vol. 110, issue 2, July-December 2023

Contents

COVER

Arianna Arisi Rota

The Child Who Does Not Look. A Still-Image of 19th-Century Exile

RESEARCH ARTICLES

Margherita Acciaro

The Chimney Sweep of 3 January. A Child Hero in 1848 Milan?

Ludovico Matrone

«Atrocities against the Military»: Political Violence in the Sicilian Uprising of 1866

Antonio De Marco

Buffalo Bill's Wild West in Tuscany and the Italians' «Desire for America», 1890-1906

THE WORKSHOP OF THE LONG 19TH CENTURY

Brigandage Revisited. Narratives, Practices, and Political Uses in Modern and Contemporary Italy

Alessio Petrizzo and Giulio Tatasciore, Marco Manfredi, Alessandro Capone, Alessandro Bonvini, Marcello Ravveduto

SOURCES

Francesco Biasi

Piedmont under the Lion's Gaze. Uprisings and Revolutionary Propaganda in the Correspondence of Venetian Diplomats in Turin, 1790-1792

OPEN SHELF

Material Culture and Politics in the Age of Revolutions

A forum on E. Francia, *Oggetti risorgimentali* and E. Francia, C. Sorba (eds.), *Political Objects in the Age of Revolutions*

Reviews by Maria Pia Casalena, Lucy Riall, Gian Luca Fruci

Edited by Angelica Zazzeri

Author's Response to the Forum on *Navi, penne e cannoni*

Linda Colley

Editors' Response to the Forum on *A Cultural History of Democracy*

Eugenio F. Biagini, Anna Plassart and Michael Mosher, Tom Brooking and Todd M. Thompson

WHAT WE HAVE SEEN

Alberto Mario Banti

On *Bridgerton*

Matteo Lorenzini

***Illusions perdues*. Restoration and the "Fourth Power" in the *Comédie humaine* by Balzac/Giannoli**

WHAT WE HAVE READ

Avallone 2022 (M.S. Chiaruttini), Balzani-Fiorentino 2022 (S. Orazi), Bonatesta 2023 (V. Demichele), Buttiglione 2023 (C. Caligiuri), Cavicchioli 2022 (A. Poli), De Fort 2022 (A. Facineroso), Fichtl 2020 (D. Taccardi), Jones 2023 (G. Corrado), Jovine 2023 (F. Benigno), Manfredi-Papadia 2021 (M. Marianelli), Ramsey 2019 (C. Santarnecchi), Storozyński 2010 (S. Sabbioni)

CONTENTS AND ABSTRACTS

RASSEGNA STORICA DEL RISORGIMENTO
Vol. 110, issue 2, July-December 2023

ABSTRACTS AND KEYWORDS

Research Articles

Margherita Acciaro, Università di Pisa – Université Paris Est-Créteil
The Chimney Sweep of 3 January. A Child Hero in 1848 Milan?

During the 19th Century, the chimney sweep took on new meanings from both a social and a symbolic perspective. In Italy, this social actor was integrated in the national-patriotic communication during the *Lungo Quarantotto*. The present article analyses how a child chimney sweep was vested with heroic connotations within the political discourse around the revolution of 1848 in Milan. Focusing on the role of the young chimney sweeper during the uprising of 3 January, the article deals with the childhood revolutionary experience and its reception both in contemporary political narratives and in later memory.

Keywords: 1848 Revolution, Childhood, Milan, Political Communication, Memory

Ludovico Matrone, Università di Torino
«Atrocities against the Military»: Political Violence in the Sicilian Uprising of 1866

Between 16 and 22 September 1866, Palermo was the scene of a popular anti-government uprising. Thousands of people rose up and numerous armed bands arrived from neighbouring towns. Historians of the Palermo revolt have not examined in depth the practices of extreme violence against the police agents, including torture and mutilation of the bodies of the agents who were killed. Some scholars even dismissed such practices, either denying their reality or minimising them. By analysing the uprisings in the towns of Misilmeri and Ogliastra, this article reconstructs the process leading to the mass murder of *Carabinieri* and policemen. The available documentation thus allows to verify the narratives concerning the alleged atrocities committed by the rebels.

Keywords: Political Violence, Torture, Sicily, Liberal Italy, Security Forces

Antonio De Marco, Università di Verona

Buffalo Bill's Wild West in Tuscany and the Italians' «Desire for America», 1890-1906

In *fin-de-siècle* Italy, journalists, intellectuals, and wealthy travelers promoted a vision of the United States as land of modernity, extravagance, and exuberance. This corpus of images and stereotypes fueled a growing interest in America, a sort of “proto-Americanization”, and served to interpret everything originating from it. When Buffalo Bill's Wild West toured the Peninsula in 1890 and 1906, Italians approached the show and its various aspects – advertising, internal organization, program acts – through the same conceptual framework. Tuscany, visited during both tours, and the impressions of its inhabitants about the show provide an excellent case study to investigate these ideas, their function, and diffusion in Italian society at the time.

Keywords: Americanization, Buffalo Bill, United States, Italy, Tuscany

Sources

Francesco Biasi, University of Salerno

Piedmont under the Lion's Gaze. Uprisings and Revolutionary Propaganda in the Correspondence of Venetian Diplomats in Turin, 1790-1792

The correspondence of Venetian diplomatic agents in Turin from 1790 to 1792 allows to focus on two key issues: the onset of insurrections in Piedmont and the influence of French propaganda. The documents clarify the Venetian Republic's response to the revolution. In this regard, the Kingdom of Sardinia provided an initial model for addressing the challenges introduced by the revolution. Analysing how Venetian diplomats interpreted social turmoil and uprisings in Piedmont, the article sheds light both on interstate dynamics within the Italian Peninsula and the circulation of information, printings, and individuals.

Keywords: Republic of Venetia, Kingdom of Sardinia, French Revolution, Political Communication, Diplomacy