where he was a pupil of Cosimo Tura. From Donatello’s sculpture and through the Padua School and to Flemish art, one can find the various influences in his work.” The list of completed works could, conceivably, be of value, as could the bibliographies that follow each entry; but the bibliographies contain entries to works in all languages – and it is surely unreasonable to expect undergraduates to take on the thoughts and language of, for example, W. von Scidlitiz – and the chronological lists give the appearance of being so arbitrary and unreliable that any student of intelligence would feel as uncertain about them as he would about the essays and biographical entries. To conclude this unfortunate state of affairs, Dr. Lengyel has been badly served by his proof-readers, for the work is spattered with misprints, minor ones it is true, but ones that confirm the general impression one receives that this book was hastily conceived and hastily put together.

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The grand princely festivals of the Renaissance, long neglected, have recently attracted the attention of scholars in various fields; with this edition of a descriptive account of the wedding festivities of 1539, and the literary and musical pieces composed for it, Professors Minor and Mitchell have made available in English translation a document of great importance in the history of the Renaissance festivals.

The description of the festival written by Pier Francesco Giambullari is one of the most detailed and interesting of the century. The authors have translated Giambullari’s entire text, with its wealth of detail, including the poetry of Giovambattista Gelli, a comedy written for the occasion by Antonio Landi, and the intermedi of Giovan Battista Strozzi. It is the presentation of this material which is most interesting; each poetical and musical text is given in the order of its original presentation and preceded by Giambullari’s discussion of costumes and staging. Giambullari’s text also includes lengthy descriptions of the arrival of Eleonora, the decorations constructed for the entry into Florence and the banquet presented in honour of the couple.

Giambullari’s account provides an extraordinarily clear idea of the festival, in its whole context. But whereas the book may prove to be of least interest to the art historian, as no works of art from the festival have survived, it should prove to be of special interest to the musicologist, because it is the first wedding festival for which the music has survived. All of the pieces (many of them composed by Francesco Corteccia) have been transcribed into modern notation; indeed, one of the initial purposes of the book was to make the music available for present-day performance. This purpose alone would justify publication, for these motets and madrigals are pieces of great charm and beauty.

The text and music are preceded by a commentary containing background information in political, literary, musical and art history, which will help to situate the general reader. Professors Minor and Mitchell have rendered a useful service to students of the Renaissance in presenting these documents in an interdisciplinary context, which will be of interest to the generalist and the specialist alike.

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