

Saturday 6 September 1281: An exchange was made, amid great celebration, of captured *carrocci* between the communes of Parma and Cremona, because peace had been made between them. Because of this the commune of Cremona began to act well, because they beautifully prepared Parma's *carroccio*, which was called 'Biancardo', repainting it and having a new banner made for it. And the Cremonese brought the *carroccio* into Parma's territory, with three pairs of oxen covered in purple and sendal, and at a place called Reginoldo gave it back to the commune of Parma. And on the following Sunday, the Parmesans took their *carroccio* to Parma with great celebration and rejoicing ... And the Parmesans had the Cremonese *carroccio*, which was called 'Berta', painted and well-prepared, with a new banner, restored to a better condition than when the Parmesans captured it in Victoria at the time of Emperor Frederick.<sup>49</sup> The podestà of Parma, with the knights and people of the city gave this *carroccio* back to Cremona at Ragazzola, near a ditch on the border, along with three pairs of oxen covered in scarlet and sindon.

### 19 *Nettezza urbana*: legislation

*Statuti di Bologna dell'anno 1288*, vol. 1, pp. 135, 136, 137-8, 139, 140-4, 147-8, 149, 155, 165.

We order that no one throw or cause to be thrown into the piazza of the commune of Bologna or in the crossroads at the Porta Ravennate, any stinking or dead animals or rotten fish or shellfish or any filthy or stinking thing or foodscraps, sweepings, dung or prison filth. Item, that no butcher, or anyone else, is to slaughter ... any animal within four houses of the piazza, nor to pour onto it the blood or intestines of any animal ... And whoever contravenes any of the above ... is to be fined 40s for each occasion ...

We establish that no one is to keep outside the columns or walls of houses around the commune's courtyard any wood or barrel-hoops which might obstruct passage through the courtyard ... and whoever contravenes is to be fined 100s ... The same penalty is to be incurred by those who keep any straw, hay or rushes in houses within 25 perches<sup>50</sup>

<sup>49</sup> Victoria was the name that Frederick II gave to a fortified encampment he built during his siege of Parma in 1248. The *carroccio* had thus been held in captivity for over thirty years.

<sup>50</sup> The Bolognese linear perch was equal to 3.8 m.

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of the communal piazza, except that innkeepers and taverners can keep enough hay in bundles as needed for their guests ...

We establish that no one is to have over the public thoroughfare a bucket, bowl, water conduit or spout or any other thing of any material that might fall into public space during the day and which might contain dirt ... and if anyone contravenes, he is to pay 100s... and to repair any damage done. And no one by day is to throw or pour water from the solar or balcony or house, and if any is thrown or poured, those who live in the house are to pay 20s. ... Item, that where there are latrines or water-conduits around the piazzas or streets in which there are sewers, they are to be channelled underground into those sewers, lest they leak onto the piazzas ... Item, that it is licit for anyone to channel water from the water-courses that flow through the city and suburbs for the purpose of cleaning house-drains and other filth at appropriate times. We also say that no one may have a water-conduit or rain-pipe unless he or she has at least half a foot of their own land beyond the spot where the water falls (this applies to those who are not on the roadway) ...

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We establish that no one should throw lime or lime-water within the suburbs or elsewhere, except into the Aposa [river]. Item, that all water of dye-works or anything else pertaining to dying that contains filth ... or tanners' waste<sup>51</sup> ... is not to be disposed of in the city or suburbs except into the Aposa or Savena, when it flows, and then only at night ... Item, we prohibit the placing of skins for stripping or soaking in the public streets at any time between Easter and Michaelmas, except in the Savena, when it flows into the Aposa. Item, that no one is to beat skins during the day in the squares or porticoes in front of shops ...

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We establish that every person who has an alley where there are latrines is to keep it walled in, in stone, lime or daub, up to the height of the house, or at least to 12 ft. And this is to apply in alleys which have houses on each side and walled-in sewers ... such that passers-by receive no injury. Except that they can be opened at the time of cleaning, but once cleaning is done, they should be closed and kept closed. Item, we say that no wall or building is to be built cross-wise into any communal alley, so as to obstruct the flow of water or dirt, and if any is so built, it is to be removed. And anyone who contravenes in any of the above is to pay L 10 as penalty.

<sup>51</sup> *multitium*.

We order that no person is to throw grape-skins or dung or horses, asses, dead meat or other filth along the walls or into the city ditches, and whoever does so must remove it and if he does not, he is to be punished [with a fine of] 20s, and is still required to remove it. The same penalty is to be incurred by anyone who takes a horse, mule, ass, dog, cat or other animal for skinning on the bridge of the Aposa or in the Aposa ... and by whoever carries any of the said filth, or anything else, into the courtyard of any friars or religious persons.

We say that no one is to make gut strings in the city or suburbs, or within 1 mile of the suburbs, on pain of L 10.

Item, that no one is to break up tallow or fat in the city or suburbs, day or night ...

Item, that no one is to bury any animal bones or to cook them to make dice or for other purposes, in the city or suburbs. And whoever contravenes will be fined for each occasion L 100. Also that no one is to have in the city any kiln in which gypsum is cooked, or to make paint in the city or suburbs ... on pain of 100s ... Also that no kiln or workshop or refinery is allowed in the city in which silver or other metal is refined ...

Item, that no one presume to have a latrine near the city gates or over the city walls or near the walls and ditches that is visible from the side ... and whoever contravenes is to be fined L 25 and is required to remove or close it ...

Item, that no one is to obstruct the flow of rain water or other water that usually runs into sewers or alleys ... Item, that drains that flow along a wall where there is a latrine are to be walled in, lest the filth, once it is on the ground, be seen from the public streets and squares ... Item, we say that all alleys and latrines which are on the piazza may not be opened ... so that material can come out, in the months from March to September. Item, we say that where several houses have latrines over an alley they are to have it cleaned and washed by the Savena once a year ... Item, that any landlord of a house which has an alley or latrine which is open at the top of the alley or is badly walled, such that stench comes to passers-by or neighbours, is to be fined L 25 ... Item, that no one with a latrine over an alley is to put in it any bath water or ... refuse or food scraps, and whoever contravenes is to pay 20s ... Item, that there may not be any latrines in any alley less than one foot wide and four feet long ...

We establish that whoever has paving in front of their houses is to maintain it, and if it is broken, to redo it at their expense ... on pain

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of 20s. Item, that if any paving is to be laid or repaired in front of houses built on land belonging to some other person, then this is to be done half at the expense of the landlord and half at the expense of the householder. And this is to apply to both clergy and laity, and if a cleric refuses to contribute, he is to be put outside the protection of the commune of Bologna ... And we say that paving is to be level and smooth, such that horses and pedestrians may cross it without danger ... Besides, if there remains any unpaved road in the city or suburbs, and a majority of the neighbours of that district wish to pave it, then it is to be paved and all the neighbours are to be compelled [to contribute] ...

We order that everyone must remove, from the street in front of his house mud, earth, grape-skins ... and all other dirt ...

We order that each district of the city and suburbs that has a neighbourhood well is to have it cleaned twice a year and is to keep by the well a water-container of stone or wood, a basin or cask, of at least 7 *corbe* capacity.<sup>52</sup> And each of these wells in or near the street is to have, at the expense of the neighbours, a windlass or wheel or frame with an iron chain and an iron-bound bucket fixed to the chain so that it cannot be removed.

We ordain that the Savena weir, and the branch of the Savena and the bridges through which water flows into the city, are to be maintained and repaired by the commune ... We give permission to the Franciscan and Dominican friars to take water from this channel as is customary, and to the nuns of Sant'Agnese ... And that this water is to flow into the city so that half goes to the quarters of Porta Stiera and San Procolo, and half to the other two quarters. Item, that this water is not to flow through the city from mid-May to mid-September without the consent of the podestà ... and Anziani of the *popolo*, except in the event of fire ... and except that from mid-September to mid-May it can flow once or several times a month to clean and wash the districts, as and where necessary. And that in these months no one can take water from the said channel to clean his alley except on only two days per month ... and at night only, not by day ..., saving that at all times some of this water is to flow along the Strada Castiglione for the honour and benefit of those exercising the craft of wool-manufacture and dyeing. And on Sundays and other solemn days, water is not to be channelled through the city ...

<sup>52</sup> The Bolognese *corba* was equal to 78.5 lt.

We order that no innkeeper, male or female, keeping wine for sale, may have as a sign any fruitbearing tree or any banner or pennant of linen, silk or wool, and whoever contravenes is to be fined 100s.

### 20 *Nettezza urbana: enforcement*

The exceptionally rich Bolognese judicial sources allow us to follow the enforcement of hygiene regulations by special officials who toured the city looking for infractions.

Archivio di Stato, Bologna, Comune, Capitano del Popolo, busta 806, fols 18, 18v, 19, 20, 21.

1376

1 October: Bonino di Mengobrio, second-hand clothes-dealer of the Capella<sup>53</sup> of San Lorenzo, found by me Antonio, notary and official, selling wine at retail, and for an inn-sign having a branch of a fruit tree, contrary to the statutes.

8 October: Martino di Viano, inn-keeper of the Capella San Tomaso, found by me to have measured and sold three quarts of wine, and of each of them to have made bad measure [*ossagium*], contrary to the statutes.

13 October: Domenico di Nanne da Viadagola and Filippo di Cavalino, inhabitants in the Capella SS Giacomo e Filippo, found by me to have a pipe over the public roadway from which water fell into public space, contrary to the statutes.

14 October: Catarina, wife of Cantino da Burgo, and Christina, wife of Rigo di Azzolino, of the Capella of San Felice ... found by me washing cloths in the Reno canal contrary to the statutes.

Mengo di Vitale, ploughman of the Capella of Santa Maria di Mascarella, found by me ... driving a cart through the city of Bologna and not holding his hand on the reins nor being next to the oxen, contrary to the statutes.

20 October: Giovanni di Dindolo, cooper of the Capella San Procolo, found to have barrels and buckets on the street that leads to the church of San Pietro, blocking passage, contrary to the statutes.

22 October: Viano di Bartolomeo, butcher of the Capella of Santa Caterina di Saragossa, found to have thrown a dead dog into the butchers' alley, contrary to the statutes.

<sup>53</sup> City district.

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