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Summaries
The end of the Papal States and the annexation of Rome on 20 September 1870 created a series of diplomatic problems that led to a state of fear in the Italian government for several months. In particular, between the end of 1870 and 1871, some Catholic governments (France, Austria, Bavaria) wanted to hold an international conference in Rome in order to exert some control on the Italian government regarding its relations with the Church, whilst the same government hoped to define the Law of Guarantees. The fiery speech of the ambassador in London, Carlo Cadorna, to the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Granville, in April 1871, and the cautious diplomacy of the Italian Foreign Minister, Visconti Venosta, managed to parry the blow of the Catholic powers. But the price paid by Italy was the British exchange for the waiver, by then, its policy of business expansion in Africa and the Middle East launched their enterprising aftermath of Porta Pia Minister of Education Correnti.

On the basis of a recently discovered original letter from Pius IX to General Hermann Kanzler, head of the papal army at Porta Pia on September 20th 1870, and on comparison with drafts of other documents in the Vatican Secret Archives, the author demonstrates how the German general dealt with the breach of Porta Pia, examining his obedience to the orders of Pius IX against the charge of disobedience alleged by the Italian General Fortunato Rivalta.

The essay relates electoral events in the Rome constituency during the election of members of the Chamber in the first decade after the fall of Papal temporal power, showing the similarity between the most important city in the State and the electoral constituencies of the province of Rome. The author analyses and studies the work and measures taken by the Deputies in Montecitorio and, in order to reflect the bicameralism of the Constitution, also takes into account the work of the senators. From this study it emerges that all the representatives from Rome have a deep and accurate knowledge of the problems and a strong affection for the little State created and with such difficulty.
Il dibattito sulle origini di un partito cattolico in Italia e l’Unione romana per le elezioni amministrative

Andrea Ciampani

Reviewing the debate on the origins of a Catholic party in the Italian State, the A. introduces two unpublished documents of 1878 on the birth of the "Roman Union", a model for a political party, and on the hypothesis of creating a "new conservative party" with the support of the Vatican. The two documents confirm the existence of a comprehensive initiative to include Catholics in political struggle, overcoming the "non expedit"; they also allow us to better understand the dynamics of the Vatican and the Catholic laity to bring about a Catholic presence in Parliament. Therefore, the paper suggests a reappraisal of the historiography of the Catholic party in Liberal Italy.

La questione dell’insegnamento religioso nelle scuole elementari a Roma dopo l’Unità d’Italia (1878-1883)

Mario Casella

The essay examines the question of education in Roman schools on the basis of the legislation in force after Italian unification and looks at the heated debates that took place in Rome’s Municipal Council in 1878 and 1883. Part of the argument related to the methods of religious education in municipal schools and the questions posed by a number of councillors on parish priests’ interference in schools in the city and its suburbs. Leo XIII and the Catholic associations in Rome reacted passionately, taking up a position opposed to the anticlerical movements that were hostile to religious teaching.

Cattolici nella capitale d’Italia: dibattiti, azioni e obiettivi nei primi decenni del Novecento

Domenico Rocciolo

At the beginning of the 20th century religious freedom came under attack from anti-Catholic groups. Various organizations, in particular the diocesan Curia, the Popular Union of Italian Catholics and parish churches supported families, women and young people against the marked secularism and anti-clericalism. This article expands upon some aspects of the great commitment made by the Catholic militants in Rome.

«Kunstschutz»: l’azione concertata per la protezione delle opere d’arte a Roma e nel Lazio nella prima fase dell’occupazione tedesca (1943/1944)

Lutz Klinkhammer
From September 1943 to June 1944, during the German occupation of Rome and Lazio, famous monuments and a huge number of masterpieces of Italian art sent into storage far away from the cities were exposed to extreme risks, not only because of the ongoing war and air bombardments, but because of several Nazi organizations’ plans to transport Italian art treasures to Germany. Nevertheless there is documentary evidence that some German officials of the “Kunstschutz”, the Monuments and Fine Arts Commission of the German Armed Forces, co-operated with Italian officials eager to protect Italian artworks.

Stranieri e comunità straniere a Roma, 1870-1960
Matteo Sanfilippo

For the period of the Restoration and, in general, for the decades prior to Unification, we have a great deal of information on travellers and scholars who resided in the city, but we do not know much about the development of immigrant communities. These often remained below 2% of the total population and were largely composed of migrants from other Italian states. After Unification, the percentage of immigrants from other parts of the peninsula, and also from Europe, grew slowly, preparing the way for the city’s progressive international-ization during the twentieth century.