

Lattualit Del Pensiero Francescano Risposte Dal Passato A Domande Del Presente Focus

'The Pinocchio Effect' draws on a broad array of sources to trace the making of a modern national identity in Italy. The author explores all the ways that identity was constructed through newly formed attachments, voluntary and otherwise, to the nation.

"There is nothing in England that exercises a more delightful spell over my imagination than the lingerings of the holiday customs and rural games of former times." So begins Irving's classic recital of Christmas traditions in 19th-century England.

Originally part of The Sketch Books of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent., which also included Irving's most famous stories, Rip Van Winkle and The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Old Christmas depicts Irving's Christmas Eve trip by stagecoach to Yorkshire and the delightful holiday games and rituals he shared with his hosts at their home, Bracebridge Hall. Famed illustrator Randolph Caldecott's sketches provide a perfect complement to Irving's descriptions of holiday cheer.

Italy and Albania
Financial Relations in the Fascist Period
Bloomsbury Academic

The first full and comprehensive examination of the turbulent financial and economic relationship between

Italy and Albania in the twentieth century, which throws new light on Italian Fascist imperialism. "Italy and Albania" retraces the complicated foreign and economic strategy that led in 1939 to the "union of the two crowns" of Italy and Albania. Drawing on original research, Roselli shows how Italy's strategy towards Albania veered between the extremes of a minimum of economic penetration and a maximum of political interference. He shows how, from an Albanian perspective, King Zog's policy was an impossible balancing act between the conflicting interests of foreign powers. Often presented as a trophy of Fascist foreign policy, the Italian experience in Albania in the interwar period can be regarded as a major economic failure. The huge inflow of Italian capital to Albania - consisting almost entirely of government money - failed not only to set in motion a stable expansion of the Albanian economy but also to produce a return for Italy in terms of the exploitation of the country's natural resources or its trade with Albania. Contemporary observers were impressed by the strength of Albania's currency, its monetary regime based on the gold standard, and its strong balance of payments. But this was largely window dressing, behind which there was an extremely backward economy that siphoned resources out of Italy, without that country gaining any appreciable advantage. Seen in this light, the events of 1939 -the Italian occupation of Albania and the Union between the two countries - become the inevitable consequence of a state of economic affairs that was unacceptable to Fascist Italy. Italy's involvement in Albania did not end with the defeat of Fascism, as the

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long international controversy surrounding the gold of the Albanian Central Bank demonstrates. This book makes a major contribution to our understanding of the history of both countries and the make up of Europe today.

Mormino presents an overview of the history of Italians in Florida, crediting the Italian-Americans with the state's growth and development.

THIS TRANSLATION makes available for the first time to English-speaking readers Petrarch's earliest and perhaps most important collection of prose letters. They were written for the most part between 1325 and 1366, and were organized into the present collection of twenty-four books between 1345 and 1366. THE COLLECTION represents a portrait of the artist as a young man seen through the eyes of the mature artist. Whether in the writing of poetry, or being crowned poet laureate, or in confessing his faults, describing the dissolution of the kingdom of Naples, summoning up the grandeur of ancient Rome, or in writing to pope or emperor, Petrarch was always the consummate artist, deeply concerned with creating a desired effect by means of a dignified gracefulness, and always conscious that his private life and thoughts could be the object of high art and public interest. AS EARLY AS 1436 Leonardo Bruni wrote in his *Life of Petrarch*: "Petrarch was the first man to have had a sufficiently fine mind to recognize the gracefulness of the lost ancient style and to bring it back to life." It was indeed the very style or manner in which Petrarch consciously sought to create the impression of continuity with the past that was responsible for the enormous impact he made on subsequent generations. THIS COMPLETE TRANSLATION by Aldo S. Bernardo has long been out of print and is reproduced here in its entirety in three volumes. Vol. 1, Books I-VIII. 472 pp. Introduction, notes, bibliography.

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