

Abstract: The *Commenda perpetua* of Asola. The success story of a diploma of Emperor Henry VI forged in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and the forgeries of imperial diplomas in the historiographical work of the town's early modern historian, Lodovico Mangini

Most forgeries of diplomas under the name of Emperor Henry VI date from the Middle Ages, but a few, however, are from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Henry VI's charter for S. Maria Assunta in Asola (Prov. Mantua) dated 1192 July 27 has long been suspected to be a forgery, but never underwent critical diplomatic analysis. This has now been remedied here, settling the question once for all. The charter was forged as a means of proof in a law-suit between the archpriest of Asola, Giovanni Battista Tosio, and the bishop of Brescia in 1676. It led to success as hoped for, and was later used as an important weapon when Asola was established as an exempt abbey. Furthermore, most probably it inspired the early modern historian of Asola, Lodovico Mangini, to include made-up fragments of imperial diplomas in his historiographical work.

Keywords: Emperor Henry VI; diplomatic; forgery; Asola; Lodovico Mangini (1664–1723); diplomas

Schlagworte: Kaiser Heinrich VI.; Diplomatie; Fälschung; Asola; Lodovico Mangini (1664–1723); Urkunden