

Spanish sources concerning the 1693 earthquake in Sicily

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Abstract

When the great 1693 earthquake occurred, Sicily was a viceroyalty of Spain. In order to find primary and direct sources, the Archivo General de Simancas has to be investigated. Due to the lack of extensive and adequate catalogues it is difficult to search amongst the millions of documents filed there. The author located among numerous bundles of papers of different Sections, a total of 238 manuscripts (with 850 pages) and 4 printed edicts related to the 1693 earthquake. All the gathered information offers good prospects of true knowledge on many aspects related to the seismic catastrophe: perception area, number of victims, ruin of towns, list of aftershocks, reconstruction, health and public order problems, and all those problems that surround a great historic earthquake (economic, political, social and religious).

Key words *historical seismology – Sicily – Spanish sources*

1. Introduction

The great Sicilian earthquake of 1693 is a paradigm of the need for extra-national research if we want to study solidly (that is to say: to rely on primary and reliable sources) the characteristics of a historical earthquake: the shaken area, the degree of destruction and ruin of the towns and villages, the number of casualties, the likely hypothesis of local intensity, the list of aftershocks, and the most exact approach to the immediate consequences in the society which suffered the catastrophe, the economic and public order problems, of health and of reconstruction, as well as other political, social, religious topics, etc. It is no coincidence, then that this earthquake of 1693 has been considered a typical example of cooperation among researches in different European countries (Stucchi, 1988).

2. The Archivo General de Simancas (Spain)

The village of Simancas, 10 km from the town of Valladolid, lies today surrounding the manorial fortress of the Admirals of Castile, built in the 14th century. But it is not only one of the «castles» in «Castile», because by the Royal Order of May 5th 1545, it was appointed to house the valuable documents the Spanish Crown had. Since that distant date it has continued uninterruptedly to be a record office for the numerous documents deriving from the activity of an imperial state.

During 450 years of existence, the Archivo General de Simancas (henceforth, AGS) gathered the documents related to the long activity of the Spanish State: about three million documents kept. In spite of the specialised work and the dedication of the staff of the Recorders Corp of Spain, the AGS lacks one fundamental thing in a Record Office: a complete printed inventory. A number of volumes were printed in the 20th century, that means an interesting contribution, which can be found in the main

archives, libraries and universities in the world. These guides are very partial and important objections to their structure can be raised.

The AGS is divided into 28 great Sections, subdivided in 740 large Series; it is hard to specify their subject and the territorial space and time their documents cover. Instead of 28 Sections there could be 280, because certain Series have more volumes than other Sections. Each Series has a variable number of bundles of manuscripts (from several to thousands) and each bundle can be found bound or unbound, sometimes numbered mostly without numbering. All forms a *totum revolutum* to which a lot of patience must be dedicated: an investigation *in situ* means a journey to the unknown, like an exciting adventure.

3. Spanish sources on Italian earthquakes

It is an historical fact that large territories of present day Italy were ruled for centuries by the Spanish monarchy. The use of Spanish sources in Italian historiography has a «before» and an «after». This separation is marked by the incomparable work of a learned scholar (Carini, 1884). Carini's work was conceived on the occasion of the preparation of the sixth centennial of the Sicilian Vespers, when the Home Secretary agreed to a scientific journey to Barcelona (Spain) to «*trascriversi i due preziosi registri De Rebus Regni Siciliae conservati nel celebratissimo Archivo de la Corona de Aragón*» (transcribe the two valuable De Rebus Regni Siciliae registers preserved in the famous Archivo de la Corona de Aragón) (Carini, 1884). But the Superintendent Silvestri, according to what he says in his «Introduction» did not appraise the result enough and begged Carini «*che quella missione si estendesse a' principali Archivi ed alle più conspicue Biblioteche della regione iberica*» (for the mission to extend to the main archives and most important libraries of the Iberian region). Thus, the final results of Carini's work were «*ampie notizie sui vari Stabilimenti, poco o nulla conosciuti in Italia, da lui esplorati in Saragossa, Alcalá di Henares, Madrid, Valladolid, Simancas, l'Escorial, Toledo ecc.*» (detailed notes

on the different institutions known little or at all in Italy which he explored in Saragossa, ...). Carini's work was striking; he searched libraries and archives, transcribed many manuscripts related to the history of Sicily and bordering regions. So, the first volume contains a «*Indice alfabetico dei nomi delle persone, dei luoghi e delle cose notevoli contenute nella relazione*» (Alphabetical index of names of persons, places and important things contained in the report), where also the word «*Terremoti*» appears. Let's see what Carini says about the AGS, to which he devotes 114 pages of his first volume. In the second volume, Carini's inventory, apparently complete, devotes 172 pages to Spanish sources about Italy. In spite of the validity of Carini's work, if we examine his «*Indice delle cose notevoli*» (Index of important things), where all documents related to Italian earthquakes should be quoted, we find: «*Terremoti. In Sicilia al 1693 (pag. 448). Di Bagnorea (pag. 460). Di Pozzuoli (pag. 408)*» (Earthquakes. In Sicily in 1693 (page 448). Bagnorea (page 460). Pozzuoli (page 408)). Carini did not find the documents related to the earthquake of 1693. Carini examined another division of the AGS, the one named «*Secretarías Provinciales*» (it consists of the documents from Italy, Flanders and Portugal Councils). There was nothing then (or now!) other than an inventory, written in 1826 (Inventario..., 1826).

A subject index is today available only for the XXVII Section, Maps, plans and drawings, and, partially, for the IV Section, Visits to Italy. Documents related to Italy can be found especially in Sections II, Secretary of State; III, Provincial Secretaries; and IV, Visits to Italy. But also in many other Sections, like the following: VIII, Justice; XI, War and Marine; XII, Secretary of War; XIII, Secretary of Marine; XXIV, Councils.

We will briefly describe the inventories available for Sections II, III and IV. For Section II, Secretary of State, the following inventories referring to Italian States have been published, to date: Rome (Ortiz de Montalbán, 1936), Naples (Magdaleno, 1942); Sicily (Magdaleno, 1951); Kingdom of the «Two Sicilies» (Magdaleno, 1956), Milan and Saboya

(Magdaleno, 1961), Genoa (Magdaleno, 1972), Venice (Magdaleno, 1976) and «Small States» (Magdaleno, 1978).

Section III, Provincial Secretaries, that is very important for the study of Italy, does not have any inventory. A handwritten inventory of 1826 (Inventario..., 1826), contains the time-span of each bundle and their subject (correspondence, consultations, registrations, ordinances, royal orders, drafts, etc.), but does not describe the manuscripts one by one.

Section IV, Visits to Italy, that includes 408 files divided into 4 Series (one of them devoted to Sicily) covering the years 1538-1607, has been catalogued in its entirety (Burgarella and Fallico, 1977).

In spite of scanty or erroneous information supplied by the quoted inventories, the direct consultation of the documents was devoted to Sections II and III.

The total number of manuscripts concerning the Sicilian earthquakes of 1693-1694 that were found, analysed and detailed in my AGS investigation (year 1990), is «238» (62 of bundle 3507, 1 of bundle 3508, both of Section II; 175 of eight bundles and three registration books in Section III), with a total of 850 handwritten pages and 4 printed pieces (edicts). This material about the Sicily earthquakes from 1693 to 1694 much of which is still unpublished (year 1993), constitutes the first necessary materials in order to write a monograph on this important seismic series. The AGS also documents earthquakes in various countries (e.g. Rodríguez de la Torre, 1993).

4. The Spanish Viceroyalty of Sicily: the Viceroy, Duke of Uzeda

The historiography of the 20th century has studied the archives of the Viceroy Secretary (La Mantua, 1917) as well as the ceremonials of the Viceroys (Mazzarrese *et al.*, 1976), while some works on the history of Sicily examine social and political institutions. In order to learn something of Sicily's history I consulted, among many others, the works by De Stefano (1948) and Mack Smith (1968).

Following the chronology of the Viceroys established by Talamanca La Grua (1696), Auria (1697) and Di Blasi (1842), we know that the Count of Benavides, Viceroy of Sicily was sent to Naples as Viceroy and General Captain of the Kingdom (Teatro..., 1973) and was followed by the Duke of Uzeda. This personage was called Juan Francisco Pacheco Téllez Girón, born in 1647 (León Tello, 1967; document 2257). On April 9, 1687, he was appointed Viceroy of Sicily by the King Charles the Second of Spain. The parchment with the appointment is preserved in the file of the Dukes of Frías, at Madrid (León Tello, 1967; document 2274). The viceregal command was extended on March 16, 1680, (León Tello, 1967; document 2279). His government finished on May 21, 1696 (Aprile, 1725) being destined to Rome, as ambassador of the King of Spain. He experienced there the earthquakes of January 14 and February 2, 1703; the Duke of Uzeda already had seismic experience.

The Duke of Uzeda arrived in Palermo harbour on June 9, 1687, and he began his government. All the historians define this Viceroy as a lover of the sciences, who left government in the hands of his secretary: «... *il duca di Uzeda, personaggio adorno di talenti scientifici, ma per nulla governatori (...) ebbe egli sulle prime la ventura di avere al suo fianco un segretario per nome Don Felice Lucio de Spinosa, uomo dotato di animo sagace e d'intemerati costumi*» (... the duke of Uzeda, a person gifted with scientific talents, but not one for government (...) he initially had the fortune to have at his side a secretary by the name of Don Felice Lucio de Spinosa, a man gifted with wisdom and upright habits) (Lanza, 1836); but this good secretary died in 1691.

5. Effects and consequences according to documents of AGS

The 850 pages of manuscript and 4 printed pieces (edicts) were read compared and analysed, to obtain an overview of the Viceroy's actions and of the many events which occurred in Sicily after the devastating earthquakes. Regardless of where the documents were found

(Sections, Series, bundles), they were grouped as follows:

- letters from the Duke of Uzeda to the King (71 documents);
- judgements passed on the letters by the Council of State (85 documents);
- other letters and reports sent to Madrid by local authorities and personalities either directly or officially via the Viceroy (82 documents). They will be presented in the following paragraphs according to subject, established to get a view as clear and systematic as possible of the facts they describe.

Urgent writs – The first letter (dated January 20, 1693) informs about the earthquake and its catastrophic effects. It also informs about the immediate nomination of Italian personalities as fully empowered viceregal delegates. They are: Lanza, Duke of Camastra, for the Val di Noto; Coppola, for Lentini; Montalvo, for Syracuse; Asmundo, for Catania. Urgent letters with instructions were sent to the Archbishop of Messina and the Bishops of Syracuse, Girgenti (Agrigento) and other dioceses.

First-hand information and reports – We can read urgent, first-hand reports on the earthquake made by the Count of Santiesteban about the effects on Monteleón; by the guardian of Catania Castle, dated January 20, 1693. Another report, also dated January 20, by the the protophysician Domenico Bottoni. There is a long report (14 pages) by the Viceroy, dated January 22, giving a place-by-place account of the destruction. And another report by the Viceroy, on damage sustained (February 5, 1693) and a report of the Duke of Camastra, viceregal delegate, dated March 3, 1693, about damage in the Val di Noto.

6. The victims

The manuscripts of the AGS give reliable accounts of the terrible mortality rate. I have discovered four accounts of statistics on victims:

- the document called: «*Resumen de las Ciudades y Lugares asolados en Sicilia por los terremotos, rentas que pagaban cada año, y*

número de los muertos en la ruina, sacado del Mapa que embió el Virrey Duque de Uceda. Carta del 14 de Marzo (1693)» (Summary of the Cities and Places razed to the ground in Sicily as a result of the earthquakes, rents paid yearly and the number of deaths in the disaster, taken from the Map sent by the Viceroy Duke of Uzeda. Letter dated March 14 (1693)) is of major importance;

- there are further statistics on the victims in each town, with a short explanation, on two large sheets; it is also very important;
- the Viceroy informs (letter of February 2, 1693) about the number of dead in Catania;
- there are two sheets entitled: «*Relación de los Religiosos que quedaron sepultados en las ruinas que ocasionaron los terremotos de Sicilia*» (Report on the Monks who were buried in the ruins caused by the earthquakes in Sicily).

The above mentioned statistical accounts are highly reliable (one is on «fiscal retirements», specifying the «rents paid yearly» by those who have since died). In round figures the Duke of Uzeda refers to the number of victims in several other letters. On March 1, 1693 he refers: «*habrá habido unos 40000 muertos*» (there must have been around 40000 dead), and on April 16, 1693: «*creía llegaban a 50000 personas los que murieron*» (I think those who perished must amount to 50000). Finally, in a brief about problems in the Sicily Kingdom he writes: «*(...) y haber perecido en las ruinas de los terremotos cerca de sesenta mil personas*» (...) and about sixty thousand people died under the ruins of the earthquake) (August 4, 1695).

Later writers give their own estimates of victims, e.g. the Father Antonio Burgos, in a brochure printed in Barcelona (Burgos, 1693) or in the book of Aprile (1725). In the book about the historical demography of Sicily, Maggiore-Perni (1892) writes: «*Le cifre fanno orrore! Esse furono nel Val di Noto 9914, nel Val Demone 46894, in tutto 56808, e spenti nei soli giorni 9 e 11 gennaio 1693!*» (The figures are horrific! The victims number 9914 in the Val di Noto, 46894 in the Val Demone, 56808 in all, who died on the days of 9th and 11th January 1693 alone!).

7. Problems of public order and health

Shortly after hearing about the catastrophe the Council of State approved (Madrid; March 24, 1693) the dispatch of infantry troops. On 2nd April a serious turmoil is reported by the Viceroy in Vizzini. In two other letters (dated March 19 and May 28, 1693) the Duke of Uzeda reports on the appearance of several groups of bandits in the mountains. He requests (letter dated May 26, 1693) further infantry troops from Madrid. He reinforces (letter dated May 28) the military garrison of Augusta.

Turkish pirates attack Lipari and are driven off by a victorious counter-attack (report of the Viceroy; October 15, 1693).

A rumour had spread that there would be another terrible earthquake on the 18th May 1694, «but the population was successfully calmed down», says the Viceroy, who personally soothed the Sicilian's nervousness. The Viceroy reports that on the 22nd June, 1694, there was an eclipse of the sun and the cities emptied; however, there were no problems of public order.

Fear, superstition, collective terror: as it can be seen, the Viceroy informed Madrid about everything that was happening. Informative loyalty is clear; the data are reliable. The first Viceroy's orders concerned common troubles of public health peculiar to all great earthquakes: to bury the corpses («*dare gli ordini opportuni per la sepoltura di tanti cadaveri che lasciandosi sotto le rovine potevano partorire infezione d'Aria*» (give appropriate orders for the burial of so many corpses which left under the ruins could give rise to infection of the air) (Aprile, 1725), and, of course, taking care of the injured.

On April 2, 1693, the Viceroy wrote to Madrid informing that there was no danger of an epidemic: «*porque (los Cadáveres) con el fuego y sepultura de Cal se han extinguido...*» (since (the corpses) were destroyed with fire and lime). Nevertheless, he reported that a lot of people were living in huts, and said that some steps concerning public health were adopted. On June 25, 1693, he alludes to «false murmurings about an epidemic» and insists on:

«*que los Cadáveres se extinguieron con fuego y con cal*» (that the corpses had been destroyed with fire and with lime). But some cases of illness arose in the next summer. On October 15, 1693, he reported to Madrid that «diseases in the town of Noto were finished, and a very few persons were dying...». Was there an epidemic? After seeing these documents kept in AGS, we cannot share Mack Smith's views with regard to this aspect: «*it is possible that 5 per cent of the island's population died on this occasion, especially as infections spread and made the damage even worse*» (Mack Smith, 1968).

8. The reconstruction of the towns

Up to 16 manuscripts are devoted to the reconstruction of the towns; they are not many. On February 19, 1693, the Viceroy refers his written order to Madrid, sent to the Duke of Camastra «on the form of attending the repairs and relief of the towns and places that have suffered ruin in the earthquakes». Problems in the change of location of Noto (letter of April 16, 1693) and the reconstruction of Lentini (letter on May 3, 1693) appears. The months go by, and on different occasions the Duke of Uzeda informs simply that «the reconstruction of the towns proceeds» (the last letter on the matter on February 10, 1694).

The resolution of the Council of State of September 1693 (without indication of the day) recommends to the Viceroy to take much care in the correct rebuilding of Augusta and Syracuse (because they were «military bastions».

A great problem appears in the reconstruction of Avola in a place a mile away from the coast, because this distance is opposed to the royal order which does not allow a settlement to be built less than two miles from the coast (in order to prevent attacks of pirates and repress smuggling); the Duke of Terranova, Lord of Avola, interceded for his subjects, and the King of Spain granted the petition on April 9, 1693. In a letter of the Archbishop of Messina, of July 20, 1693, we find out about the destruction of the archiepiscopal palace; its rebuilding is described in a letter dated October

20, 1695; there also are letters about the ruin of the Messina jail.

The letters of the Duke of Uzeda about the reconstruction were examined, like all his letters, in the Council of State of Madrid, and either they were accepted or meticulous recommendations were made to the Duke of Uzeda. The biggest problems appear upon changing the location of some cities, like Noto «*riedificata (...) in un luogo più acconcio distante cioè dall'antica circa quattro miglia a ponente*» (Luca and Mastriani, 1852). Also: «*(...) per supremo decreto del Re, fabbricarlo altrove novellamente (...) variamente si disputò della scelta del novello sito del 1693 al 1702, e fu decretato finalmente dover gettarsi le fondamenta della città novella...*» (rebuilt (...) in a place at a more seemly distance that is from the old city roughly four miles to the west (Luca and Mastriani, 1852). Also: (...) by supreme decree of the King, to build it up again elsewhere (...), the choice of the new site was discussed at various intervals between 1693 and 1702, and it was finally decreed where to lay the foundations of the new city...) (Amico, 1855-56; t. II).

9. The rebuilding of churches and convents

The problems raised by the rebuilding of the churches and the several destroyed convents are tackled with so much intensity by the Viceroy himself, that his letters on this matter exceed in number those concerning the rebuilding of towns; more than thirty manuscripts refer to this matter. The problems focus on the necessary contribution of the Bishops and the Pope in order to finance the reconstruction. The Bishops alleged the loss of their sources of income (properties, taxation) that prevented them from rebuilding. The Bishop of Syracuse, due to the exaggerated number of monasteries, proposes (letter of May 15, 1693) the aggregation of several monasteries in one.

The Duke of Uzeda sends circular letters to all the Archbishops and Bishops. He requests to the Council of State to intercede with the Pope, through the ambassador of Spain in

Rome. He gathers the Assembly of Ecclesiastical Ministers of Sicily and he sends their decisions to the State Council, an organism that elaborates a resolution of 45 folios on August 18, 1693. But the Duke of Uzeda had written a little before, on July 9, 1693, secretly, that «he distrusts the measures to be taken, due to the apathy of the Bishops».

The Viceroy requests to the Archbishops and Bishops «a record of damage» caused to the churches, but the Archbishop of Palermo answers that his parish priests «have appraised in some churches quantities so big that from the same inspection the exaggeration is known». In 1694, King Charles the Second grants directly aid in money to the convents of Our Lady of Grace, in Messina, and Santa Marie of Jesus, in Syracuse. Both convents had addressed Madrid directly.

On August 18, 1694, the ambassador of Spain in Rome informs about the negotiations carried out before the Pope and the Cardinals Congregation about the rebuilding of the churches of Sicily. Finally, on October 27, 1695, the Viceroy informs that he has succeeded in obtaining the repair of the majority of the churches «although not with the form that I desired». About 40 documents of the AGS refer to the problems of the destruction of monasteries and convents and require the attention of the political and ecclesiastical powers in order to remedy the situation of the cloistered nuns, obliged to live and sleep in wooden barracks.

The topic is referred to, for the first time, by the Viceroy in a letter to the King on March 19, 1693 («the cloistered nuns live in barracks»). But he had already written before to the Bishops of Sicily proposing a redistribution of the nuns in other monasteries not destroyed, even if these nuns were from different religious orders; he also proposes that the Bishops pick up in their Palaces small groups of poor nuns. Nine sessions of the Council of State are devoted to this matter between April 29 and July 5, 1693.

Only the canon Homodey of Syracuse writes some letters requesting protection for the nuns. The Bishops excused their own problems: their palaces in ruin, the loss of the ec-

clesiastical taxation. In the months of July and August of 1693 the Viceroy receives 14 letters of Sicilian Archbishops and Bishops (included Lipari) that answer to his circular letter. Also in this matter, it is the Viceroy who acts, with urgency, and exercises his political authority over the religious authority.

10. Economic problems

There are twenty manuscripts and two printed documents (edicts) related to the economic and financial problems caused by the earthquakes.

– Firstly, the Duke of Uzeda published an edict, dated February 1, 1693, opening the mint of Palermo; it was affixed on the walls all around the island. Another edict with the same contents is dated February 7. Both printed papers were sent to Madrid. We know that at this moment: «*la moneta, interamente metallica, era scarsa*» (metal coins were scarce) (Verdirame, 1906).

– Secondly, the Viceroy asked the Council of State for money. In order to get funds, he wanted the Council to charge a special tax to all the non-Sicilian subjects of the Crown. His proposal, dated April 7, 1693, received a negative answer on June 6, 1693.

– Thirdly, the Viceroy ordered the ration of bread in Messina to be increased by two ounces more in order to attract the people spread over the country.

The economic problems were enormous: the collapse of the tax system and the need for money to rebuild the towns were Uzeda's major concerns. In all his reports he insisted on it. For instance, on April 30, 1693, he claims that «public funds are exhausted». On August 8, 1693, he prayed the King to allow the export of wines from Syracuse and Val di Noto, arguing that the wine cellars were ruined totally and a new grape crop was imminent.

During the years 1693 and 1694, some nobleman applied for a tax moratorium for their properties: the Prince of Gran Monte and other subjects from the State of Butera; the Admiral of Castile with regard to his county of Modica; the Lord of the State of Terranova. On May 3,

1693, the Duke of Uzeda writes a «*Viglietto de Sua Eccellenza Come deue regolarsi al Carriatore per l'assicurazione delli fromenti, che si conseruano nelli Magaseni d'esso, che sono di seruitio*» (Capitoli..., 1702). In spite of his loyalty to the Spanish Crown, he refused on April 1st, 1694, a royal warrant ordering the dispatch of wheat to Milan «because of the disaster suffered last year». So, we must recognize his devotion to the Sicilians.

11. The harbour fortifications

It is well known that Sicily, easily attackable because of its location in the centre of the Mediterranean Sea, had been since the Middle Ages an island where the art of fortification was cultivated. During the periods of peace, its inhabitants tried to build better bastions: «Those who are prudent, like Sicilians, take advantage from respite to fortify themselves» (Braudel, 1980, t. II). One of the most overwhelming works in the late 17th century was carried out by the engineer Charles Grunemberg (Aprile, 1725). This man was committed, with the rank of Colonel of military engineer, to rebuild fortifications in Syracuse and Augusta by an order of the Viceroy (a letter dated February 20, 1693). Previously, the authority of the island had reported (to the Council of State) on «the survey made by Major General Sancho de Miranda and Colonel Grunemberg of ruined fortifications of Syracuse and Augusta».

Very quickly, the Council of State received the news (April 6, 1693) and took the problem into consideration. The order of reconstruction of the fortifications of Sicily is recorded in the Book of Royal Orders. In the following letters, the Viceroy reported vaguely about the continuation of the works, started in April 1693, for «rebuilding of the fortifications». In the following year, 1694, the Viceroy informed by letters on February 4, October 2, November 12 and 26, that «the rebuilding of fortifications of Syracuse and Augusta went on».

Carlentini's ramparts were ruined as well, but the information of the Viceroy (letter of May 26, 1693) is vague, and it is not possible

to say whether the cause had been the main earthquake or the great aftershock of May 17, 1693.

12. The religiosity

The concern about religiosity was one of the major issues on the Viceroy's agenda. We refer to the nomination of «anti-seismic» patron saints, and the organizing of public prayers. There are more than twenty documents, some of them very long, concerning this topic. When the Council of State was informed that strong aftershocks had happened, it was ordered to the Duke of Uzeda to promote public prayers (drafts of the Council of September 3, 1693, and July 9, 1694). There are two other documents concerning this religious activity: a decree issued in Palermo on November 24, 1693, and an undated text (possibly, 1693) written in Italian.

The Sicilian devotion to St. Rosalia is very well known (Narbone, 1850-55; Mazzaresse, 1976; Messina, 1986). So, her nomination as Palermo's patron saint against earthquakes is understandable. The letter, from Madrid, proclaiming this patronage crossed with the Viceroy's letter from Sicily requesting the same thing.

In 1695, in April and again in August, the Spanish ambassador in Rome solicited the Pope to declare St. Rosalia patron Saint against earthquakes for the Kingdom of Sicily. This was obtained on September 25, 1695. Then the following texts were sent to Palermo: the «*Decretum de la S.R.C. de festo S. Rosaliae Virgine*», the «*Officium S. Rosaliae Virgines*» (12 pages) and the «*Missa S. Rosaliae Virgini*».

Another patron Saint appeared: the Spanish St. Francis of Borja. The Duke of Uzeda reported it (October 15, 1693), and then informed the Council of State (on November 25, 1693) that the town of Palermo: «*ha declarado por Patrón de ella a San Francisco de Borja como especial Abogado de los terremotos*» (declared its Patron to be St. Francis of Borja as a special Protector against earthquakes). Once again, on November 12, 1693, the Duke

reported to Madrid that the Senate of Palermo had claimed St. Francis of Borja as «anti-seismic» patron Saint (the Council of State authorised it on January 11, 1694). January 11, 1694 was the first anniversary of the disaster. The Duke of Uzeda reported some days later, on January 22, that on the anniversary there had been a memorial with public rogations dedicated to St. Rosalia. He informed the Council of State of the request made by the Archbishop of Messina to declare feast day all the earthquake anniversaries and the request was accepted. Aprile (1725) says also that: «*Nella Città di Palermo essendosi fatto Voto del Senato dell'anno trascorso di solennizzare una terza, a nuova festa di S. Rosalia agli 11. di Gennaro con pompa insigne, e colla Comunione degli stessi Senatori...*» (In the City of Palermo following the resolution of the Senate last year to declare a third feast day dedicated to St. Rosalia on the 11th January with public parade and the Communion of the Senators...).

There are other records regarding religious concerns. For example, on February 11, 1693, the Pope named the new Bishop of Catania with the utmost urgency but without charges. On the other hand, the Council of State denied the Frazano municipality the right to apply for help in worship because of the town having been preserved from the earthquake thanks «to the Blessed Virgin of the Rosary». It also denied, on January 22, 1695, the Franciscan Mathias de San Francisco, the grants he had requested for his four nephews, who had become orphans because of the earthquake.

13. The aftershocks

More than sixty documents, most of them being informative letters of the Duke of Uzeda, allude to aftershocks felt after the very large earthquake of January 11, 1693. The same documents report on definite periods in 1693 characterised by six to ten days of seismic inactivity («we have been for six days without earthquakes...»). A meticulous survey of all the retrieved documents will permit a list of aftershocks to be prepared. The Italian seismic cata-

Table I. List of aftershocks 1693-94 from the AGS documents.

Date aftershock	Locality or territory	Description	Date document
1693			
February 2	Val di Noto		March 3, 1693
February 27	Val di Noto	Strong and light earthquakes	April 4, 1693
May 27, at 20 h	Felt in all Sicilian territory	It was as strong as the one of January 11, 1693	May 26, 1693
June 6	Noto and Catania	Seismic noise	June 11, 1693
June 18	Syracuse, Catania, Augusta	Equal to those of 11th January	July 9, 1693
June 22	Catania, Syracuse, Augusta	Like the one preceding, but lighter	July 7, 1693
July 8, at 17h 30min	Lentini and Carlentini		July 23, 1693
July 11	Augusta and Siyacuse	Very intense	July 23, 1693
September 20	Syracuse and Augusta		October 1, 1693
November 13 and 14	Augusta		November 26, 1693
December 14	Noto		December 24, 1693
December 20	Noto and Ragusa		January 7, 1694
1694			
January 10	Syracuse		January 21, 1694
January 16	Syracuse	Light	January 21, 1694
Holy Thursday and Good Friday	Val di Noto		April 15, 1694
May 3	Modica, Noto and neighbourhood		May 13, 1694
May 28	Augusta		June 10, 1694
June 18	Augusta and Catania	Seismic noise	July 9, 1694
June 22	Augusta and Catania		July 9, 1694
June 28	Val di Noto		July 8, 1694
June 29	Catania and Val di Noto		July 22, 1694
July 2	Catania and Val di Noto		July 22, 1694
July 26	Noto and Augusta		August 5, 1694
July 29	Catania		August 5, 1694

logue (Postpischl, 1985) only records «one» aftershock in 1693 (the 1st April) and «three» in 1694 (February 10, March 20 and May 19). The letters of Duke of Uzeda inform about several earthquakes, that he qualifies as «light», or «medium» or «intense», as well as about the evolution of eruptive phenomena observed on the Etna. The following list is not at all complete, but only indicative of some data obtained from AGS manuscripts. Table I shows

day, locality or territory in which the aftershock was felt and the date of the document which reports it.

14. Inspection visits of the Viceroy

With the letter of May 26, 1694, the Duke of Uzeda informs King Charles the Second about the «condition in which he found the

towns and places that suffered the earthquakes and the condition and the state of their restoration works». Regrettably, the letter was sent to the Council of Italy and it was not found in the bundle of papers of this Council.

In 1695, two years after the earthquake, the Viceroy effects inspection visits again and he reports what he observed. On May, 26, 1695, he sends from Messina his report concerning the inspection of this town (4 pages). On the same day (May 26, 1695) he sends a new, very important report of the inspection of several localities. Some paragraphs say: «I found the fortifications of Augusta in better condition than before the earthquakes (...) in order to put in suitable fortification more than 50000 escudos (gold coins) will be necessary. As for as the houses, except for about 50 that are lacking and a few monasteries, it will remain without any ravage. In Catania (...) there is a remarkable lag in parishes, churches and monasteries. [The Bishop had neglected his tasks because of his discords with the neighbours]... 12000 inhabitants people already Catania (...). 8000

more than those who remained were alive (...) Lentini (...) backward at all [because of the internal disputes on change of emplacement, although it will be built in a different location] Carlentini (...) continues with its repairs and soon they will be finished. Syracuse (...) the fortifications are finished, except San Miguel's bastion. Briefly this town will be in pristine condition (...) and only in churches and convents is there are the greatest lag [it has been for two years without a Bishop]».

The Council of State of Madrid examines on July 6, 1695 this important report, then delivers it to the King and the latter orders the Duke of Uzeda «to pay the biggest attention in all this topics to the great service of His Majesty, as he expects of your zeal».

Years later Augusta, Avola, Carlentini, Catania, Lentini, Noto and other towns and villages were reconstructed with greater magnificence (Luca and Mastriani, 1852; Amico, 1855-56). Noto has constituted since then «the jewel of Italian baroque».

Table II is an index of documents in AGS.

Table II. Index of documents in AGS (V.i. means «very important»).

Section II (Secretary of State)

[Number of the paper – chronological ordinance by the author. Authority, date. Subject. (Pages)]

Bundle 3507

5. Domenico Bottoni, protophysician, Messina, 01-20-1693. Letter with the first news. (2).
6. Joseph Bustos, Guardian of the castle of Catania, 01-20-1693. Letter with the first news. (2).
9. Viceroy, 01-22-1693. First official information about the earthquakes. (14). V.i.
8. Viceroy, 01-22-1693. First information about official providences decided. (6). V.i.
2. Letter of Naples, 01-30-1693. Letter with the news concerning Sicilian earthquakes. (2).
4. Baltasar Bazan, Governor of Messina, undated. Letter with the first news. (2).
10. Viceroy, 02-05-1693. New official providences decided (10). V.i.
11. Viceroy, 02-05-1693. Relation of the Sicilian earthquakes (4). V.i.
29. Viceroy, 02-19-1693. Inform about aid to Augusta and Syracuse. (1).
28. Council of State, undated. Approves preceding inform. (2).
19. Viceroy, 02-19-1693. New providences decided and information about new earthquakes. (5).
21. Viceroy, 02-19-1693. Mandates to General Vicar, Duke of Camastra. (7).
 1. Council of State, 03-07-1693. Approves official providences of Viceroy 01-22-1693. (5).
 3. Count of Santiesteban, 03-15-1693. Report about the great earthquake in Monteleon. (2).
 7. Council of State, 03-25-1693. Sees information concerning Sicilian earthquakes. (7).
 14. Council of State, 03-25-1693. Approves new official providences of Viceroy. (10).
 16. Council of State, 03-25-1693. Sending infantry troops to Sicily. (1).

Table II (*continued*).

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56. Ecclesiastical Council, 04-01-1693. Letter to Viceroy about several problems. (14).
 38. Viceroy, 04-02-1693. Inform about aftershocks. Rumours, but it has no epidemic. (4).
 25. Council of State, 04-04-1693. About reconstruction of Syracuse and Augusta. (2).
 18. Council of State, 04-11-1693. Informs to Council of Italy about Sicilian problems. (2).
 41. Baltasar del Castillo, 04-11-1693. Economic problems caused by earthquakes. (4).
 40. Viceroy, 04-30-1693. Proposes special taxes to the foreigners for reconstruction. (2).
 58. Bishop of Siracusa, 05-05-1693. About monasteries and convents destroyed. (3).
 31. Council of State, 05-06-1693. Approves the new official providences of Viceroy. (3).
 55. Viceroy, 05-14-1693. Concerning rebuilding churches and nuns' problems. (9).
 37. Council of State, 05-23-1693. Diverse answers to Viceroy. (5).
 44. Viceroy, 05-28-1693. Military fortifications destroyed and proposal of rebuilding (5).
 52. Viceroy, 06-11-1693. Inform about aftershocks. New official providences. (2).
 42. Council of State, 06-30-1693. Sees problems of reconstruction of churches ruined. (2).
 60. Viceroy, undated. Circular-letter to Archbishops and Bishops of Sicily and Lipari. (3).
 49. Council of State, 07-14-1693. Refuses special taxes to the foreigners in Sicily. (3)
 50. Council of State, 07-14-1693. Approves other providences of Viceroy. (3).
 51. Council of State, 07-27-1693. Examines letter Viceroy of 06-11-1693. (3).
 54. Council of State, 08-03-1693. About reconstruction of churches and nuns' problems. (6).
 53. Council of State, 08-18-1693. About reconstruction of churches ruined. (45). V.i.
 79. Viceroy, 08-20-1693. Letter with inform concerning new aftershocks in Augusta. (2).
 71. Council of State, 09-15-1693. Sees inform about rebuilding churches and convents. (10).
 99. Viceroy, 10-01-1693. New earthquake and volcanic eruption of Etna. (2).
 78. Council of State, 10-01-1693. Sees and annotates letter of Viceroy 08-20-1693. (3).
 95. Viceroy, 10-15-1693. Eight days without earthquakes. (2).
 97. Viceroy, 10-29-1693. Letter. The rebuilding continues. The earthquakes are paused. (4).
 108. Viceroy, 11-26-1693. Again new earthquakes and volcanic eruption of Etna. (2).
 94. Council of State, 12-14-1693. Examines letter Viceroy 10-29-1693. (5).
 114. Viceroy, 12-10-1693. Some days elapsed without earthquakes. (1).
 116. Viceroy, 12-24-1693. Again new aftershock. Inform about reconstruction. (1).
 98. Council of State, 12-29-1693. Examines letter of Viceroy 10-01-1693. (2).
 118. Viceroy, 01-07-1694. Quake in Ragusa and Noto; the volcanic eruption continues. (1).
 107. Council of State, 01-11-1694. Examines letter of Viceroy 11-26-1693. (2).
 126. Viceroy, 01-21-1694. Relates public prayers to God on 11th January 1694. (2).
 113. Council of State, 01-27-1694. Examines letter Viceroy 12-10-1693. (2).
 123. Viceroy, 02-04-1694. Informs. No earthquakes. Reconstruction continues. (2).
 115. Council of State, 02-09-1594. Examines letter of Viceroy 12-24-1693. (2).
 117. Council of State, 02-22-1694. Examines letter of Viceroy 01-07-1694. (2).
 122. Council of State, 03-02-1694. Examines letter of Viceroy 02-04-1694. (2).
 125. Council of State, 03-30-1694. Examines letter of Viceroy 01-21-1694. (2).
 134. Viceroy, 04-01-1694. The Viceroy cannot send wheat to Milan for want. (2).
 136. Viceroy, 04-15-1694. Inform about new earthquakes felt in Val di Noto. (1).
 129. Council of State, 04-29-1694. Examines letter of canon Homodey (Messina) about nuns.(2).
 135. Council of State, 05-29-1694. Examines letter of Viceroy 04-15-1694. (2).
 146. Viceroy, 07-08-1694. Inform about earthquake in Noto and panic caused for eclipse. (2).
 145. Council of State, 09-03-1694. Examines letter of Viceroy 07-08-1694. (2).

Bundle 3508

13. Council of State, 07-09-1695. Approves last information about state of rebuildings. (1).
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Table II (*continued*).

Section III (Provincial Secretaries)

Book 799, of Royal Orders

[Copy of all papers sent to His Majesty and recording of royal answers].

- 04-20-1693. Accepts proposal touching Sicilian fortifications reconstruction. (1).
- 31-05-1693. Remits a debt to Duke of Terranova (Sicily) by possessions destroyed. (3).
- 07-03-1693. Sends to Council of Italy proposal touching rebuilding of churches ruined. (1).
- 07-16-1693. The Council of Italy must form state of all ruins in Sicily. (1).
- 07-12-1695. Sends to Council of Italy information about state of reconstruction. (1).

Book 831, of Royal Orders

- 04-04-1693. Fiscal moratorium to Admiral Castile for earthquakes. (2).

Book 926, of Royal Orders

- 09-09-1693. Accepts memorial of Duke of Terranova about new location of Avola. (26). V.i.
- 05-04-1693. Congregation of St. Philip Neri (Palermo). Expenses by succours. (16).
- 05-04-1693. Accepts fiscal moratorium to Prince of Gran Monte (State of Butera). (11).
- 05-04-1694. Donation of 300 ducats to convent of Our Lady of Grace, of Messina. (2).
- 07-27-1694. Aids to convent of St. Maria of Syracuse. (2).
- 08-10-1694. About payment of debts to elect Bishop of Syracuse. (12).

Bundle 1079

[Without number of paper. Documents: letters received and memoranda of Council of State. Subject. (Pages)]

Each bundle comprises disordered papers of different subjects by hundreds; selection and chronological ordinance by the author. Similar considerations for all next bundles of Section III.

- 04-02-1693. Approves official providences of Viceroy; earthquakes are paused. (2). V.i.
- 04-02-1693. Inspection of destroyed fortifications in Siracusa and Augusta. (3). V.i.
- 04-13-1693. Examines Viceroy's inform 02-14-93 («In Catania 11964 died...»). (19). V.i.
- 04-15-1693. Examines Viceroy's inform about military reconstruction. Aftershocks. (6). V.i.
- 04-15-1693. Refuses economic aid for devotions of Frazano municipality. (1).
- 04-17-1693. Approves naming St. Rosalia «anti-seismic» patroness of Palermo. (2).
- 04-17-1693. Sees mandate of Viceroy about increased distribution of bread in Messina. (3).
- 04-30-1693. Various information (bandits in the mountains; about nuns). Thanks Viceroy. (7).
- 05-15-1693. Sees news. Earthquakes in Val di Noto. Rebuildings. A serious turmoil (7). V.i.
- 05-27-1693. Sees news. Earthquakes. The reconstruction of Noto continues. (2).
- 05-27-1693. Problems of Bishops concerning rebuilding monasteries. (8).
- June 1693 (without day). Strong quake May 17th felt in all Sicily. Difficult. (7). V.i.
- 06-15-1693. Refuses proposal special taxes of Viceroy to the foreigners. (6).
- 06-26-1693. Viceroy informs (at 05-14-93); rebuilding of Augusta and Syracuse (14). V.i.
- 07-08-1693. Accepts nomination of Duke of Camastra as General Vicar for Sicily. (5).
- 07-08-1693. Inform of Viceroy 05-20-1693. Send three next Reports. (4).
- Undated: Relación de los Religiosos que quedaron sepultados en las ruinas... (1). V.i.
- Idem*: Relación de las Ciudades y Lugares asolados en Sizilia por los temblores... (1). V.i.
- Idem*: Resumen de las Ciudades y Lugares asolados en Sizilia por los terremotos... (1). V.i.
- 07-24-1693. Examines three preceding Reports. Problems concerning nuns. (3).
- 07-27-1693. Viceroy's inform 06-11-1693; new aftershocks in Catania and Val di Noto. (3).
- 08-07-1693. Viceroy's inform 05-25-1693; rumours about epidemic are untrue. (6).

Table II (continued).

- 08-19-1693. Viceroy's inform 07-09-1693. New quakes. People lives in barracks. (5). V.i.
 Sept. 1693 (without day). Examines letter of Viceroy 08-20-1693. New aftershocks. (2).
 09-04-1693. About reconstruction of churches, convents and monasteries. (7). V.i.
 09-09-1693. Viceroy's inform 07-23-1693; strong quake on July 8th in Carlentini. (6). V.i.
 09-30-1693. Examines inform touching destruction jail of Messina (2).
 10-09-1693. Four memorials of convents of Catania. Other against Bishop of Catania. (6).
 10-14-1693. Letter of Viceroy 09-03-1693; quakes since August 14th; eruption continues.(2).
 Nov. 1693 (without day). Attack of Turkish pirates is repelled in Lipari islands. (2).
 11-04-1693. Solution of problems on reconstruction of churches ruined. (3).
 11-09-1693. Fiscal moratorium for Admiral of Castile for ruins in Earldom of Modica. (3).
 11-10-1693. Viceroy's inform 10-01-1693; earthquake of September 20th; eruption. (2).
 11-16-1693. Difficulties of Bishops concerning lodging of nuns. (4).
 11-25-1693. Viceroy's inform 10-15-1693; «anti-seismic» devotion of Palermo. (2).
 12-11-1693. Viceroy's inform. Rebuilding continues. No quakes. Problems of the nuns. (2).
 12-11-1693. Spanish ambassador in Rome. Inform about aid for Sicilian convents. (2).

Bundle 1080

- 01-11-1694. Various informs. New quakes («with enough force»). Eruption. Rebuilding. (2).
 01-11-1694. Approves expenses of Viceroy for «anti-seismic» devotions in Palermo. (1).
 02-10-1694. Viceroy's informs. No earthquakes. Reconstruction continues. (1).
 02-10-1694. Other Viceroy's informs. Quake in Noto December 14th. Rebuilding (2).
 02-10-1694. Another Viceroy's informs. Rebuilding of nuns' convents. (3).
 02-22-1693. New informs. Earthquakes December 29th. Eruption. Rebuilding. (1).
 03-05-1694. Rogations St. Rosalia January 11th (the first anniversary). (2).
 03-05-1694. Approves prayer Messina Archbishop about holiday January 11th. (1).
 03-18-1694. No earthquakes. Works of military fortifications continue. (1).
 Undated. Syracuse Bishop dies. General vicar aids nuns. In Italian and Spanish. (8).
 05-07-1694. Letter of Canon Homodey, of Syracuse, about lodging of nuns. (3).
 05-20-1694. New earthquakes in Val di Noto (Holy Thursday and Good Friday). (1).
 06-23-1694. New aftershocks on May 3rd in Modica, Noto and neighbourhood. (2).
 07-09-1694. New strong earthquakes on 16th, 17th and 18th, May 1694. (5). V.i.
 07-21-1694. Examines prayer of convent of Messina for rebuilding of ruined churches. (2).
 09-21-1694. Earthquakes 26th and 29th July in Noto and Augusta. Volcanic eruption. (2).
 10-22-1694. Council of State examines petition of two convents of Messina. (5).
 11-24-1694. Council of State approves preceding petition for rebuilding. (2).
 11-29-1694. Conversations of Viceroy with two Archbishops about rebuilding churches. (2).
 01-22-1695. Council of State refuses aid to the Father Mathias Caltanageta. (2).

Bundle 1081

- 07-06-1695. Last Viceroy inspection of reconstruction of towns. (5). V.i.

Bundle 1222

- 02-11-1693. New Bishop of Catania with the utmost urgency. (1).
 02-19-1693. Letter from Palermo concerning the earthquakes. (8). V.i.
 02-19-1693. Copy of letter of Viceroy with news about earthquakes and damage. (8). V.i.
 02-20-1693. Letter of Viceroy; visit to destroyed fortifications in Syracuse. (2). V.i.

Table II (*continued*).

- 02-28-1693. Baltasar del Castillo, Palermo. Economic problems. (Copy in Italian). (2).
 03-05-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Earthquakes continue in Noto at 24th February. (3). V.i.
 03-05-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Increase bread distribution in Messina. (1).
 03-15-1693. Letter from Roma. About urgent designation of Bishop of Catania. (2).
 03-19-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Quakes continue in Val di Noto. Problems caused. (4). V.i.
 04-02-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Quakes continue in Val di Noto. Severe problems. (4). V.i.
 04-08-1693. Economic providences motivates by earthquakes. (4).
 04-10-1693. Providences of Council of State for to answer letter 02–19-93. (1).
 04-11-1693. Royal Patronage. Palermo. Various economic problems. (1).
 04-16-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Earthquakes continue. Problems caused. (2).
 04-30-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Earthquakes continue. Severe problems. (7). V.i.
 04-30-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Explains monetary problems in Sicily. (1).
 Undated. Statistics of victims. (1, double folio). V.i.
 Undated. Statistics. Every place, with dead. (2). V.i.
 Undated. Inform concerning reconstruction of ruined churches. (3).
 Undated. Spanish ambassador in Roma. About problems of reconstruction. (6).
 Undated. Solemn public «anti-seismic» prayers to God. In Italian. (1).
 May 1693 (without day). Viceroy's inform to Spanish ambassador in Rome about nuns. (2).
 05-05-1693. Viceroy solicits nomination St. Rosalia «anti-seismic» patroness. (1).
 05-14-1693. Earthquakes continue in Augusta. Rebuilding of Syracuse. (4).
 05-28-1693. Letter of Viceroy. The earthquakes are paused. (3).
 06-11-1693. New earthquakes in Catania and Noto. Official providences adopted. (2).
 07-08-1693. Bishop of Lipari; about churches injured. In Italian. (2).
 07-09-1693. New earthquakes June 18th and 22th in Augusta and Catania. (3).
 07-14-1693. Copy of letter of Viceroy to Bishops; about lodging of nuns. (2).
 Undated. Other copy; letter of Viceroy to Bishops; about lodging of nuns. (2).
 07-20-1693. Letter of Archbishop of Messina; his palace was ruined. (3).
 07-20-1693. Bishop of Cefalú; about nuns. In Italian. (1).
 07-21-1693. Archbishop of Messina; about nuns. (1).
 07-21-1693. Bishop of Syracuse; about nuns. (1).
 07-23-1693. New earthquakes in Augusta and Syracuse. About volcanic eruption. (6). V.i.
 07-23-1693. Letter of Viceroy concerning problems in consequence of earthquakes. (2).
 07-23-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Solicits wines exportation because cellars are ruined. (2).
 07-23-1693. Bishop of Mazara; about nuns. (1).
 07-23-1693. Bishop of Cefalú; another letter about nuns. In Italian. (1).
 07-25-1693. Letter of Viceroy about public rumours concerning epidemic. Viceroy denys. (3).
 07-27-1693. Designation of warden of Palermo jail. Other decisions. (2).
 07-28-1693. Bishop of Syracuse; another letter about nuns. (1).
 07-29-1693. Bishop of Patti; about nuns. In Italian. (1).
 07-30-1693. Archbishop of Palermo; about nuns. (1).
 07-31-1693. Archbishop of Messina; another letter about nuns.(1).
 08-01-1693. Bishop of Patti; another letter about nuns. In Italian. (1).
 08-05-1693. Bishop of Girgenti (Agrigento); about nuns. (1).
 08-05-1693. Archimandrite of Messina; about nuns. (1).
 08-06-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Earthquakes and volcanic eruption are ceased. (2).
 08-10-1693. Bishop of Lipari; about nuns. In Italian. (1).
 08-20-1693. Viceroy's inform respective jail destruction. (3).
 07-24-1693. Archbishop of Monreale; about nuns. (1).
 09-17-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Light quakes and volcanic eruption continues. (3).
 09-30-1693. Letter of Viceroy. New earthquakes in Val di Noto and Catania. (3).
 09-30-1693. Another letter of Viceroy. Also new earthquakes in Augusta. (2).

Table II (*continued*).

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- 10-01-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Royal fiscal of Noto died in earthquake. (1).
 10-01-1693. Earthquakes continue. Rebuilding Noto with change of emplacement. (2).
 10-01-1693. Letter of Viceroy with different subjects. (2).
 10-15-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Solicits St. Francis Borja «anti-seismic» patron. (1).
 10-15-1693. Letter of Viceroy. Eight days without earthquakes. (Copy). (1).
 11-12-1693. Senate Palermo solicits St. Francis Borja «anti-seismic» patron, too. (1).
 11-26-1693. Letter of Viceroy. New earthquakes in Augusta November 13th and 14th. (2).
 11-26-1693. Viceroy's decree about public prayers to God. (1).
 12-10-1693. The earthquakes continue in different towns. (2).
 12-10-1693. Official providences of Viceroy concerning reconstructions. (6).
 12-11-1693. Palermo. Ecclesiastical providences. (1).
 12-24-1693. Letter from Palermo about new earthquake in Noto. (2).
 12-26-1693. The Viceroy informs about monasteries destroyed. (2).

Bundle 1223

- 11-13-1693. Archbishop of Messina solicits holiday January 11th. (Anniversary). (1).
 01-07-1694. Large dossier about the new Sicilian ecclesiastical structure. (26).
 02-04-1694. Letter of Viceroy. The works of reedification continues. (2).
 04-15-1694. Quakes Val di Noto: Holy Thursday and Good Friday. (Copy piece 136, 3507). (1).
 05-13-1694. Letter of Viceroy. Earthquake May 3rd in Modica, Noto and neighbourhood. (1).
 05-27-1694. New Viceroy's inform about preceding earthquakes. (2).
 06-10-1694. Letter of Viceroy. Light earthquake May 28th in Augusta. (1).
 07-18-1694. Spanish ambassador in Roma. Negotiations concerning Sicilian churches. (1).
 07-22-1694. Quakes June 28th and July 2nd in Catania and Val di Noto. (1).
 08-05-1694. Quakes June 26th and 29th July in Catania, Noto and Augusta. (1).
 08-08-1694. Quake and panic by eclipse. (Copy piece 146, bundle 3507). (1).
 10-24-1694. Letter from Rome. Instructions to Archbishops Palermo and Messina. (10).

Bundle 1224

- 05-26-1695. Letter of Viceroy from Messina about inspection reconstructions. (4).
 06-09-1695. Other letter from Messina about preceding subject. (1).
 Aug. 1695 [without day]. Letter to Pope about St. Rosalia as «anti-seismic» patroness. (1).
 09-25-1695. Spanish ambassador in Rome. Send three next documents. (1).
 Undated. Decretum de la S.R.C. festo S. Rosalia Virginis. (1).
 Undated. Officium S. Rosaliae Virginis. (12).
 Undated. Missa S. Rosaliae Virginis. (2).
 10-20-1695. Copy of letter of Archbishop of Messina to Viceroy. (2).
 12-08-1695. Letter of Viceroy. Inform about rebuilding Messina Archiepiscopal Palace. (2).
 Undated. Taxes every place, before and after big earthquake. (12). V.i.

Bundle 1225

- 11-12-1694. Damage in cathedral of Lipari caused earthquakes. In Italian. (1).
 11-13-1694. Damage in churches of Cefalú diocese. In Italian. (1).
 11-13-1694. Letter of Archbishop Messina about preceding damage. In Italian. (1).
 12-06-1694. Damage in churches of Patti diocese. In Italian. (2).
 12-06-1694. Letter of Bishop of Patti about preceding damage. In Italian. (3).
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Table II (*continued*).

- 05-23-1695. Archbishop Messina. About rebuilding churches. In Italian. (3).
 06-09-1695. Letter of Messina about rebuilding archiepiscopal Palace. (1).
 08-04-1695. Viceroy's inform about economical problems in the Kingdom of Sicily. (1).
 Undated. Valuation for rebuilding churches and convents of Messina. In Italian. (2).
 10-11-1695. Archbishop Messina opines about preceding valuation («exaggerated»). (3).
 10-27-1695. Letter of Viceroy. Churches ruined in Palermo and Catania dioceses. (1).
 Undated. Inform to Pope about rebuilding churches ruined. In Italian. (11).
 Undated. Inform about churches ruined of Syracuse and Catania. (18).

Bundle 1475

- 05-26-1695. Penult inform of Viceroy about inspection of reconstructions. (4). V.i.
 07-15-1695. Favourable remittance to H.M. preceding inform. (2).

Printed pieces

[Date. Subject. Bundle and Section of AGS]

- 02-01-93. Edict about the opening mint of Palermo [Piece 23, bundle 3507, II Section, and bundle 1222, III Section].
 02-93 [the day. manuscript]. Circular-letter to Archbishops and Bishops of Sicily and Lipari, about problems caused by earthquakes [Bundle 1222, III Section].
 02-07-93. Edict about mint of silver of Palermo [Piece 23, bundle 3507, II Section, and bundle 1222, III Section].
 02-19-93. Mandates and providences of Monarchy's Judge [Piece 22, bundle 3507, II Section, and bundle 1222, III Section].

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