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Rhaeto-Romance Studies



Language and Linguistics

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The authors are responsible for sections 1, 2, and 4, and 3, respectively.

1 General

Among the major publications concerning Rhaeto-Romance that came out in 2021, *Jacopo Pirona e la lessicografia friulana/Jacum Pirone e la lessicografie fur-lane. Atti del Convegno (Udine, 10–11 dicembre 2020)*, ed. by Federico Vicario, Biblioteca di studi linguistici e filologici, 24 (Udine: Società Filologica Friulana, 2021), 259 pp., and *Atti del terzo Convegno di Toponomastica friulana (Gorizia/Nova Gorica, 7–9 novembre 2019)*, ed. by Enzo Caffarelli and Franco Finco, Quaderni di toponomastica friulana, 11 (Udine: Società Filologica Friulana, 2021), 420 pp., deserve particular mention. The chapters contained in these two miscellaneous works will be discussed in section 2. For its methodological interest, however, we already discuss in this section the article of Enrico Castro, ‘Come l’araba fenice: che ci sia, ciascun lo dice; dove sia, nessun lo sa. La *Contrada del Chian* presso Roana’, *Studi Toponomastica friulana*, 3 (2021), 95–110. The *Contrada del Chian* is a micro-toponym near Roana (province of Vicenza) that in the last forty years, starting with the work of G. B. Pellegrini, has often

been cited as an example of the ancient palatalization of CA and GA in north Italy, as it is located in a later Germanized area (the Cimbrian linguistic island of the ‘VII Comuni’, dating back to the 11th century). At some point, however, the very existence of the place name was questioned, as it did not appear in official lists and was even unknown to the local population. However, through patient research work, the author managed to identify sources from the early 19th century that attest the existence of this place name without a shadow of a doubt, ascertaining that it was a road whose route can still be traced. In light of the fact, however, that CANE(M) ‘dog’ is an etymon difficult to justify for the name of a street, the author advances the suspicion that it has rather to be sought in the Germanic language of the Cimbrian settlers.

2 Friulian

Bibliographical and General

Following an almost centenary tradition, in 2021 the Società Filologica Friulana again published one of its traditional volumes focusing on topics related to the locality where its annual congress was held: *Vençon. 98ⁿ congrès (17 otubar 2021)*, ed. by Aldo Di Bernardo, Paola Fontanini, and Fausto Stefanutti (Udin: Societât Filologjiche Furlane, 2021), 898 pp. It contains sixty-one chapters on the most diverse aspects of the town, with a focus on the reconstruction that took place after the devastating 1976 earthquake. However, there is no shortage of articles of linguistic interest, particularly on the local Friulian dialect and local top- and anthroponomastics: Carla Marcato, ‘Il friulano venzonese’ (pp. 589–598) describes the local variety of Friulian; Enos Costantini and Giuliano Mainardis, ‘I nomi delle acque nel comune di Venzone: un repertorio di idrotoponomastica in forma di dizionario’ (pp. 743–788), discuss hydronymy; Aldo Di Bernardo, ‘La odonomastica nel centro storico e nelle frazioni di Venzone dopo i terremoti del 1976’ (pp. 789–794), focuses on street and square names after the earthquake of 1976; Pietro Bellina and Giuliano Mainardis, ‘Sorenons di Vençon = Soprannomi di Venzone’ (pp. 643–700) and Danilo Bressan, ‘Cognomi e soprannomi di famiglie piovernesi nei registri dell’Archivio Storico della Pieve di Sant’Andrea apostolo di Venzone’ (pp. 701–742), focus on surnames and nicknames in the main centre of Venzone and the hamlet of Pioverno. Particularly interesting for the comprehensive documentation proposed is Franco Finco, ‘Venzone, Vençon, Peuscheldorf, Pušja vas: I vari nomi dell’antica cittadina murata’ (pp. 619–642), as he shows that the various endo- and exonyms reflect, on the one hand, the historical importance of the town at the foot of the Alps, which is located on the important road to Carinthia, and, on the other hand, the contacts and

succession of languages in the region. Maria Chiara Visintin and Gabriele Zanello, *Lenghe e letteratura furlane* (Udin: Società Filologica Furlane, 2020), 112 pp., provide a textbook prepared for the Friulian language and culture courses organized by the Società Filologica Friulana, which therefore has no real academic ambition. Nonetheless, the amount of information provided, the particularly well-prepared didactic exposition, the numerous photographs accompanying the text, and the exercises concluding each section make it a very useful tool for those who wish to approach the topics dealt with—provided, however, that they already know Friulian.

Lexis and Lexicography

The 150th anniversary of his death was an opportunity to remember the figure and work of Abbot Jacopo Pirona (Dignano 1789–Udine 1870). In the field of Friulian studies, his name is undoubtedly linked to his *Vocabolario friulano*, published the year after his death, in 1871, by his nephew Giulio Andrea, who had been his assiduous collaborator during the drafting stage. The quality of this dictionary was recognized as soon as it was published, and it remains to this day the most cited source on the Friulian lexicon. This is also due to the fact that Pirona did not limit himself to the vocabulary of a single rural or urban variety—as was usual at the time—but set out to collect the entire Friulian lexical heritage. In the 150 years since its publication, the *Vocabolario* has had a major re-edition—in 1935—and a series of smaller integrations concerning local varieties. The genesis of the dictionary, its content—in relation to neighbouring vernaculars as well as to special categories of the vocabulary such as animal and plant names, or place and personal names, which are assembled in special indices in the dictionary—its reception, as well as its place in today's lexicography: these are the arguments for its continued relevance in the contributions gathered in the conference proceedings *Studi Pirona* (2021). Adrian Cescje, 'I dizionaris furlans e la politiche linguistiche inte ete digitâl' (pp. 17–28), distinguishes three phases in the lexicography of Friulian: in the first, to which Pirona itself and its additions belong, the main 'linguistic policy' intention was to help teachers aid children who only knew and spoke Friulian learn the Italian national language. In the second, which began after World War II, the aim was to help people speak and write Friulian well, since general competence was declining. In the third phase, implemented from the 1990s onwards, the desire to normalize and plan the language was added, in light of its official use and the consequent need for neologisms. By now, however, the reference tool is no longer paper-based, but available in electronic format and accessible from dedicated apps installed on mobile phones. The lexicography even of minority languages must take into account this 'shift of devices'. Edoardo

Colombaro, 'Il *Vocabolario friulano* dalle carte di Jacopo Pirona' (pp. 41–54) traces an outline of the history of the *Vocabolario*, making use of the Abbot's correspondence and of MS 392 (probably autograph) preserved in the Biblioteca Civica of Udine. On the one hand, the epistolary makes it possible both to reconstruct the network of the Abbot's collaborators and to clarify certain events that preceded the printing of the dictionary's first fascicles in 1868. On the other hand, MS 392 and the epistolary exchange between the Abbot and the bibliophile Oliva del Turco leads to a new avenue of research: the reconstruction of Pirona's library. In fact, identifying the titles present in it would be useful not only to investigate certain aspects of the Abbot's culture (epigraphical, lexicographical, linguistic, etc.), but also to recognize the literary and erudite sources available to him during the compilation of his *Vocabolario*.

Franco Finco, 'Nomi di luogo nel dizionario dell'abate Pirona: il *Vocabolario corografico friulano*' (pp. 71–92) recalls that among the special features of the *Vocabolario* are three sections dedicated to onomastics: the '*Vocabolario corografico friulano*' and the '*Vocabolario dei nomi di persona*', and a Friulian–Italian toponymic repertory, accompanied by some etymological notes. The reason is that the Abbot intended these sections to be useful for comparative philology, and through it to disciplines as history, ethnography, or anthropology. Interest in toponymy seems to be characteristic for Friulian lexicography, as similar indexes are found from the earliest Friulian dictionaries, such as that of Count Girolamo Asquini (1762–1837), and continue to be included to the present day. Claudia Marcato, 'Tra le pagine del *Vocabolario friulano* di Jacopo Pirona' (pp. 105–124) examines the structure of Pirona's vocabulary. Her chapter includes an introductory part with ten versions of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, and notes on spelling, pronunciation, and grammar. The lexical corpus is followed by several appendices. A concluding section consists of an Italian–Friulian reverse index for the use of philologists. Since the purpose of the vocabulary was also to facilitate the transition from the idiom of Friuli to Italian, the entries show pedagogical-didactic intentions and several have an encyclopaedic character. For some entries there are comparisons with other languages and also etymological hints confirmed by subsequent research. Luca Melchior, 'Pirona e il *Pirona* nella ricerca linguistica ottocentesca d'Oltralpe: alcuni appunti' (pp. 139–154) dwells on the reception of Pirona's work—primarily the *Vocabolario*—as it can be reconstructed from the epistolary and manuscript materials preserved at the bequest of the German linguist Hugo Schuchardt (Gotha 1842–Graz 1927) as well as from his own writings. This shows how quickly Pirona's work was received and what importance was attached to it, not only when it first appeared but also several years after its publication. In addition, the fundamental importance networks of correspondence

between scholars and intellectuals assumed in the development of research on Rhaeto-Romance varieties is made clear. Lorenzo Tomasin, 'Il friulano nella lessicografia veneziana e il veneziano nel *Pirona*' (pp. 155–168) recalls the most interesting cases of Friulanisms and various entries of Friulian relevance that are included in Giuseppe Boerio's well-known *Dizionario del veneziano* (published in 1829 and later in 1856), and of the many Venetianisms included by Pirona in his vocabulary, dwelling in particular on entries that are problematic in terms of etymology or loan process, and presenting their treatment in the current *Vocabolario storico-etimologico del veneziano* (VEV) project. Gabriele Zanello, 'I vocabolari friulani e la letteratura' (pp. 225–259) examines the relationship between literary sources and the Friulian dictionaries published over the course of time: from Pietro Smeda's late 18th-century dictionary to the most recent and up-to-date lexicographical works, passing through the two main editions of Pirona's *Vocabolario* and Giorgio Faggin's dictionary. The review allows understanding of how the choice (or lack of choice) of textual sources from which a dictionary draws represents a decisive phase with respect to the results that the work itself intends to achieve.

Toponymy

The journal *Studi Toponomastica friulana* 3 (2021) contains many interesting articles. Per Carlo Begotti, 'Il lupo nella toponomastica europea occidentale' (21–38), attempts to classify wolf-related place names on the basis of the differing degree of physical or cultural relationship between humans and wolves. Given the role played by wolves in the anthropic reality of European man, place names associated with the presence of this animal are widespread. This is confirmed for Friuli by Walter Zucchiatti, 'Attenti al lupo. I ricordi del predatore nella toponomastica del Friuli morenico' (389–400). Benvenuto Castellarin, 'Le terre comuni in un'area della Bassa friulana' (63–93), exposes the origin, since Roman times, of the collective lands used by one or more communities, namely, common and municipal lands, the lord's reserved land and demesne, common pasture, and wood pasture, in the Friulian Plain, and mentions the most ancient testimonies of their use until they were sold during the Napoleonic era. The second part is a useful toponymic repertory with brief etymological explanations. Sandro Comuzzo, 'I toponimi *Roccoli*, *Bressane* e *Tese*. Alcune ipotesi per una ricerca sul territorio' (111–116), shows how the distribution of toponyms linked to fowling like *bressana* or *roccolo* in some areas of central Friuli is not random, but rather follows a well-defined scheme in relation to land parcelling by the Romans. In fact, the oldest *bressane* are not only arranged on the bird passage route, but also exactly on the cardines of the second Roman centuriation. Enzo Croatto, 'Noterelle etimologiche sugli *Oronimi del Friuli*' (117–130),

proposes a series of corrections to some etymologies put forward in *Oronimi del Friuli* by Barbara Cinausero Hofer and Ermanno Dentesano (2017). Alessandro Fadelli, 'Cortina e Centa nella toponimia fra Livenza e Tagliamento' (151–172), sees the presence of toponyms derived from the terms *cortina* < CORTĪNA < COHORTIS + -ĪNA and *centa* < CĪNCTA as a clue for the presence of ancient fortified areas. This is particularly true for *cortina*, which used to indicate the area surrounding the town church, once reinforced with strong, high walls and used in moments of danger as an area of gathering and protection. Franco Finco, 'Zuc Schiaramont e Castelraimondo: l'origine del toponimo' (173–202), researches the etymology of the Friulian toponym, arguing that a hill that overlooks the town of Forgaria nel Friuli but whose name had become obscured, derives, like the still-obvious Italian name, from the name of a castle built there by Patriarch Raymond dalla Torre around 1280. Vlado Klemš, 'Intreccio sloveno e friulano. Analisi dei microtoponimi nel catasto franceschino per il comune censuario di Dolegna del Collio' (249–254), analyses the toponyms of (mostly) Slovenian, and partly of Friulian and Italian, origin that are documented in a cadastre of 1811–1812 of the census district of Dolegna del Collio. They witness that in ancient time Slovenian was more widespread on the left bank of the Judrio River, but that a linguistic change took place from the 18th century onwards. The place names of this municipality, where Romance and Slavic toponymy overlap, are also the focus of Enos Costantini, 'A torzeon pal comun di Dolegne', *Sot la Nape*, 73.2 (2021), 5–37. Luca Melchior, 'Appropriazioni, suddivisioni, duplicazioni. Alcune osservazioni sul paesaggio linguistico friulano', *Studi Toponomastica friulana*, 3 (2021), 255–276, analyses, from the point of view of the research about linguistic landscapes, the use of Italian and Friulian on road and place name signs in Friuli, which—despite legal provisions—is often unequal. Concerning Friulian, the choice between common Friulian and local varieties, and between 'traditional' and 'new' Friulian, is also discussed. In the same journal, Maurizio Puntin, 'La Zeglia' (277–284), offers a very plausible explanation for the name of the Gail valley in Carinthia: the German name *Gail* and the Slovenian *Zilja* (> Friulian *Zelie*, Italian *Zeglia*) probably both go back to early Roman **zulja*, which, interestingly enough, only appears in documents of the 17th century in Latinized form as (*vallis*) *Iulia*. Federico Vicario, 'Odonimi in antiche carte friulane' (359–372) presents examples of names of urban areas, streets, boroughs, hamlets, and squares of the major cities of Friuli found in some late medieval Friulian manuscripts which are part of the large repertory of the historical Friulian dictionary *Dizionario storico friulano*. Maria Teresa Vigolo and Paola Barbierato, 'Nomi di monti tra Veneto e Friuli: discussione etimologica sul Monte Toc' (373–388), offer a synthesis of the various hypotheses of the origin of the name of the mountain which is infamous for causing

the Vajont Dam disaster. Despite recent attempts to explain the name as non-Indo-European, the most probable explanation is to trace the name back to the appellation *tok* ‘piece’, meaning an allotment of a (part of a) wood or of a cultivable part of the soil, following the practice of *sortition*. Maurizio Puntin and others, *Cormons: storia e onomastica: luoghi, strade, chiese, cognomi, locande e osterie* (Cormons: Società Cormonese Austria, 2020), 251 pp., provide an exhaustive treatment, including the description of the sites and etymological proposals, of all types of names relating to the Friulian locality of Cormons.

3 Ladin

Bibliographical and General

Johannes Kramer and Sylvia Thiele, *Dolomitenladinisch. Sprachgeschichte und hochschuldidaktische Aspekte*, *Italienischdidaktik im Dialog*, 2 (Stuttgart: Ibidem, 2021), 294 pp., have written a monograph divided into two, quite different, parts: the first is a history of the language and of the Ladin linguistic community. The second is dedicated to the teaching of Ladin: it deals with the pronunciation and grammatical properties of Ladin, but also with more applied and innovative aspects, such as the intercomprehension approach and exercises on the production and analysis of texts in Ladin. Peter Gallmann, Heidi Siller-Runggaldier, and Horst Sitta (with the collaboration of Giovanni Mischì and Marco Forni), *Sprachen im Vergleich: Deutsch–Italienisch–Ladinisch. v: Substantif, Adjektiv, Adverb, Präposition, Konjunktion* (Bozen: Pädagogischer Bereich in der Ladinischen Bildungs- und Kulturdirektion, 2021), 224 pp., provide the fifth volume of the series *Sprachen im Vergleich* (Languages Compared), a work dedicated to teachers and students of the Ladin schools of the Autonomous Province of Bolzano/Bozen, in which the three official languages of the province (Italian, German, and Ladin in the two varieties of Gardenesè and Badiotto) are systematically compared. While the first four volumes were dedicated to the verbal and to the pronominal system, to simple and complex clauses, in this volume the authors focus on various ‘residual’ categories, such as the nominal system, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions. As in the volumes before, there are numerous examples that exemplify both commonalities and differences between the three languages. Ivan Lezuo and Paul Videsott, ‘Der lokale Sprachgebrauch in Buchenstein in der frühen Neuzeit. Das Zeugnis von Verwaltungstexten aus dem 16.–18. Jahrhundert’, *Der Schlern*, 95.5 (2021), 30–69, have written a very accurate and precise article discussing the language uses in Fodom (Livinallongo) during the early modern period (mainly between the 16th and 19th centuries). It is based on

the analysis of a number of documents from the archive of the prince-bishop of Bressanone/Brixen, to which Fodom belonged in this period. Although the authors could not find any document written in Ladin, there are several hints that allow a reconstruction of various aspects of the linguistic history of Fodom. On the one hand, the authors discuss several documents that describe the language uses both between central and local authorities (e.g. the bishop and his court communicating with the local representatives of his government) and by the local people. In particular, the presence of the three languages, Ladin, Italian, and German, is investigated. On the other hand, the letters written (or dictated to scribes) in Italian by locals to the authorities contain a series of lexical interferences from their native Ladin language, some of which are absent in today's language.

Edition of Texts, Philology

Fabio Chiocchetti, 'La lingua delle vivane. Considerazioni estemporanee su due lettere di Amadio Calligari (1889–1890)', in *Lektüren und Relektüren/Leggere, riflettere e rileggere/Nrescides letereres y letures critiches. Studia Prof. Kindl septuagenariae die XVI mensis Oct. anni MMXXI dicata*, ed. by Leander Moroder, Hannes Obermair, and Patrik Rina (San Martin de Tor: Istitut Ladin 'Micurá de Rù', 2021), pp. 121–142, is part of a *festschrift* dedicated to Ulrike Kindl, Professor Emerita at the University Ca' Foscari of Venice. In this paper, the author proposes an analysis of two letters written by Amadio Calligari, who transcribed popular tales from the Fassa valley for the local intellectual Hugo de Rossi. These tales were collected by de Rossi in a manuscript, and only published in 1984 by Ulrike Kindl. Chiocchetti transcribes two of these letters (written in 1889–1890) and adds a linguistic and sociocultural commentary. In particular, one of the most interesting, and still unclear, aspects of these tales is the presence of various deities, whose names and origins have been lost over time.

Phonetics, Phonology, Prosody, Orthography

Yang Yifan and others, 'Illustrations of the IPA: Ladin, Varieties of Val di Fassa', *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*, 51 (2021), 1–26, provide a detailed description of the phonological and phonetic system of the three language varieties spoken in the Fassa valley. In addition to the inventory of phonemes, the article discusses, in particular, the realization of some specific consonants (such as the sibilants and affricates), as well as phonological rules such as final devoicing or nasal assimilation. As usual in this type of publication, at the end, the transcription of the tale 'The North Wind and the Sun' is given in the three dialect varieties: Moenat, Brach, and Cazet.

Syntax

Jelena Živojinović, 'Is there a Grammaticalized Progressive in Ladin? A Preliminary Field Report', *Revue Roumaine de Linguistique*, 66 (2021), 211–226, offers a preliminary field report on her project, which aims at investigating the existence and grammaticalization of a progressive periphrasis in Ladin. The author focuses on the construction *vester tl lëur de* (lit. 'be in the work of'), which appears to be used as progressive in northern Ladin. A first result visible in the data is that the periphrasis is much more frequent in Gardenesse than in Badiotto. This is only noted in passing by the author, because her focus is on Badiotto: she observes that in many cases Badiotto speakers use just the indicative form (present or imperfect) to express the progressive aspect. The data on the aspectual periphrasis are therefore scarce: in her corpus of written texts it occurs only four times. In these occurrences, it is clear that the expression with 'work' is used as a progressive periphrasis and not in the literal sense. Maybe an analysis of the Gardenesse data, where the construction is much more frequent, would have been useful in order to have more data for the analysis of the properties of this aspectual periphrasis.

Lexis, Lexicology, and Lexicography

Marco Forni, 'Dare un nome alle cose tra mari e monti. Parole ladine a confronto con il *Dizionario del dialetto veneziano* di Giuseppe Boerio', in *Lektüren und Relektüren*, ed. by Moroder, Obermair, and Rina, pp. 231–256, discusses some lexical correspondences between the dictionaries of Lardschneider (1933) and Boerio (1829): Lardschneider wrote the first dictionary of Gardenesse Ladin, while Boerio is the author of the dictionary of Venetian, one of the most influential dialectal dictionaries of the 19th century. The paper is divided into two parts: in the first, Forni describes the cultural and historical background of Boerio's work. The second part is devoted to the discussion of some entries that correspond in the two languages, for example, grd. *jurman*—ven. *zermàn* 'cousin', grd. *zedula*—ven. *cètola* 'piece of paper'. In the appendix, there is a table with several lexical correspondences. Paul Videsott, 'Un nuovo dizionario ladino: il *Vocabolar dl ladin leterar* (VLL). Esperienze, risultati, prospettive', in *Studi Pirona*, pp. 197–210, offers a description of the ongoing project for the vocabulary of literary Ladin. It aims at collecting all the lexemes used in literary texts, and its realization consists of five steps, each dedicated to a specific period. The concept on which it is based is innovative, because—unlike usual vocabularies of this type—the final result will not be a vocabulary with five volumes, one for each period. On the contrary, each book is conceived as a 'new edition', which integrates the data collected in the previous periods with those of the current period. This concept is surely much more reader-friendly,

because it allows one to find all the information about one entry in a single volume, without having to consult all five volumes for the same entry. As of 2022, the first edition has been published (texts until 1879), the second is in revision (texts until 1945), while the collection of data from the third period has just begun. The discussed article illustrates the state of the work, some innovations introduced in the third edition, and the importance of the comparison with Pirona's vocabulary of Friulian, which sheds light on the meaning of some remote lexemes found in the texts. Ester Cason Angelini, 'La collana degli "Oronimi bellunesi" della Fondazione Giovanni Angelini–Centro Studi sulla Montagna', *Studi Toponomastica friulana*, 3 (2021), 49–62, provides an overview of a research project that started in 1992 with the aim of collecting oronyms in the province of Belluno (Veneto). The principal investigator of the project was Giovan Battista Pellegrini (until his death in 2007); since then, the project has been carried out by his colleagues at the University of Padova and by Johannes Kramer. The paper gives much space to the description of the methodology, which combines fieldwork with research in the archives, in order to propose etymologies for the collected toponyms. For historic and cultural reasons, the paretymologies given by the informants are also documented, even in the cases in which they are undoubtedly wrong.

4 Swiss Romansh

Bibliographical and General

Claudine Brohy, 'Standardisation du romanche en Suisse: sauvetage ou mise à mort d'une langue menacée?', in *Sur la standardisation des langues minor(is)ées aux xxe et xxie siècle*, ed. by Carmen Alén Garabato, Henri Boyer, and Ksenija Djordjevic Léonard (Paris: L'Harmattan, 2021), pp. 55–75, traces the history of the common Romansh written koine *Rumantsch Grischun* since its introduction in 1982. In some areas, its use was marked by success (especially in administration), but in others (such as, in particular, its introduction as a school language) it was not accepted by the population and had to be withdrawn. Therefore, it is impossible to answer the question often posed in a dichotomic way, as to whether *Rumantsch Grischun* will save or undermine Romansh, as the survival of a language depends not only on its standardization but also on its intergenerational transmission and its use in the public domain. The author advocates the establishment of a language barometer, that, for example, would be carried out every five years and would guarantee the comparability of the results, or of an observatory for Romansh in schools. Both could provide guidance to those involved in the policy of multilingualism and Romansh. Raphael

Berthele, 'The Selective Celebration of Linguistic Diversity: Evidence from the Swiss Language Policy Discourse', *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 42 (2021), 125–136, also refers to *Rumantsch Grischun*, detecting different attitudes to the standard language in German and Romansh-speaking Switzerland. Despite the official celebration of all traditional Swiss linguistic varieties when needed by the Swiss to distance themselves from the growing influence of English, the use of certain varieties, such as the German dialect or the standard Romansh language, is criticized with mutually contradictory arguments.

Edition of Texts, Philology

Michele Luigi Badilatti, 'Ina brev rumantscha dal 1579', *Annalas da la Societad Reotorumantscha*, 134 (2021), 27–31, provides the first philological edition of one of the oldest known letters written in Romansh: that written by the Grisons 'entrepreneur' Gian Salis (1546–1624) to his mother on 17 February 1579. In the same journal volume, Adrian Collenberg and Georges Darms, 'Protocols processuals rumantschs da la Mantogna (1641–1643)' (33–79), present a series of Romansh inserts in legal protocols, from 1641 to 1643, from Mantogna. These inserts are very interesting both from the point of view of legal procedures (there were no similar inserts from neighbouring Surselva until the end of the 18th century) and from the linguistic point of view as evidence of the Sutsilvan dialect of the time. The Romansh parts are edited and analysed philologically. Meanwhile, Manfred Gross, 'Davart il svilup da la lingua giuridica rumantscha en las constituziuns grischunas dal 1791 al 1892' (81–102), traces the orthographic, morphological, syntactic, and lexical development of the Romance varieties that can be deduced from a collection of laws that the then Free State of the Three Leagues and later Canton Graubünden enacted between 1791 and 1892. The texts analysed can be found in the forthcoming *Constitutional Documents of Switzerland from the Late 18th Century to the Second Half of the 19th Century*, VII: *Grisons*, ed. by Rainer J. Schweizer and Ulrich Zelger (Berlin: De Gruyter).

Lexis and Lexicography

The 195–196 issue, *MIRAR I-MISTER I* (2021), 129–256, opens the 15th volume of the famous thesaurus of Graubünden Romansh, *Dicziunari Rumantsch Grischun*. Ricarda Liver, 'Davart locuziuns pli u meins trasparentas', *Annalas da la Societad Reotorumantscha*, 134 (2021), 9–25, studies the degree of comprehension of certain Romance phrases that are regularly recorded in dictionaries, but which, when tested in practice, have fallen out of use, as most locutors are no longer familiar with them. Non-use is often explained by the intransparency

of a locution, but this cannot be the decisive argument, because a comparison with equally intransparent German and Italian locutions that are nevertheless in current use proves the opposite. Wolfgang Eichenhofer, 'Etymologisches im *Lexicon romontsch cumparativ* (LRC) (II)', *Ladinia*, 45 (2021), 161–220, provides the last in a series of quite controversial reviews that he has delivered about the *Lexicon romontsch cumparativ* of Alexis Decurtins. It culminates in the constation 'the LRC is neither useful as a reference work nor as a teaching tool' (220).

Toponomastics

Guntram Plangg and Werner Vogt, *Flurnamen Walgau. Materialien, Deutungen* (Bregenz: Amt der Vorarlberger Landesregierung, 2021), 296 pp., provide a dictionary of the pre-German toponymy of Walgau in the Austrian state of Vorarlberg. The Walgau is characterized immediately by its name (*Walgau* < **Walchengau* 'canton of Romansh'), clear from the long persistence of Neo-Latin. The dictionary is organized by municipalities. For each name, a site description is given, then the most important historical evidence is discussed, and finally an etymological explanation is proposed.

Languages Contact

Claudia Cathomas, 'Ju a detg fetsch bu il verstellen mei: Davart fuormas e funcziuns da code-switching el tuaschin', *Annalas da la Societad Reotorumantscha*, 134 (2021), 103–123, gives a systematic analysis of the code-switching phenomena of Tuaschin, a sub-variety of Sursilvan, found in a corpus of over three hundred hours of speech originally created to study the phenomenon of agreement in this variety. The article classifies examples of code-switching and also tries to justify their presence in certain contexts. Oscar Eckhard, *Alemannisch in der Rumantschia. Die alemannischen Dialekte im romanischen Sprachraum von Trin, Ilanz, Trun und Scuol*, *Zeitschrift für Dialektologie und Linguistik*, Beiheft, 183 (Stuttgart: Steiner, 2021) 384 pp., deals with the question of whether the German dialect spoken by Romansh speakers differs from that the Germans speak themselves and, if so, whether it differs to the extent that it can be considered a dialect of its own. The answer is negative. The German varieties spoken by Romansh are rather variants of the usual German dialect of Chur and the Rhine valley, in which, however, interference-related phenomena from Romansh occur (manifested mainly in the different pronunciation of certain vowel quantities and qualities).