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essay on the topic came out in June of 1999; more followed in various formats, either as public lectures or as articles. But discoveries continued apace and the research spread far and wide. In some ways it is still not finished, as the indomitable Tesilio continues to surprise me with his endlessly prolific production of texts and annotated books. But research has to be shored and enough material is now available, I believe, that a book such as this will be deemed useful by readers. In the last three years of this work I was fortunate to have the assistance of Giovanni Maria Fara, whose erudition and attentive skill when working with manuscript materials did much to make Gallaccini's work reachable to me and others, and whose friendship, gentle humor and enthusiasm for this work, like our many conversations on this topic sustained me in the moments of doubt that all scholars are only too familiar with. I cannot thank him enough for his contribution.

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