

This volume has been missing probably since the late 17th century:

<...> At some point, Duke Ernst's librarian as signed consecutive catalogue numbers to the volumes, which were later also used in Cyprian's 1714 catalogue of the manuscripts of the Gotha library. Ever since then, Strada's *Magnum ac Novum Opus* remained in Gotha. From about 1713, it was preserved in the beautiful cupboards of the "Numismatophylacium Fridericianum" at Friedenstein Castle, which was festively inaugurated on the duke's birthday of that year. A year later Duke Friedrich II's librarian, the well-known theologian Ernst-Salomon Cyprian, described the volumes in his detailed catalogue of the manuscript holdings in Gotha. 18 Though this entry is valuable, since it transcribes both Seckendorff's letter to Johann Andrea Bosius of 1657, referring to the *Magnum Opus*, and Strada's own preface to the separate volume of the *Series Imperatorum*, Cyprian did not examine and describe the volumes individually. This omission is the reason why he failed to remark that volume XV, dedicated to Hadrian's coinage, was missing. 19 That it was already missing at the time can be shown with the help of the catalogue entry. Although Cyprian thought he was describing thirty volumes of the *Magnum ac Novum Opus*, and a separate first volume of the *Series Imperatorum*—and therefore thirty-one volumes in all—the catalogue numbers heading his entry read "CCXXXIX.–CCLXII", that is 239–263. Therefore, this heading would refer to only twenty-five volumes. To some extent this mistake is explained by the number of the following entry, which is "CCLXIX", i.e. 269: the typesetter simply forgot the "V" in the last number, which should have been 268 instead of 263. Even then there are only thirty volumes, instead of thirty-one. Since the catalogue numbers given must have been taken from labels with shelf marks (no longer present) for the first and the last volume, this discrepancy cannot have been a simple printer's mistake. Hadrian's coinage is particularly attractive; moreover, Strada's drawing in the Vienna *Series Imperatorum* of a coin of the emperor's lover, Antinous, had been singled out for an ample and erudite essay and a double spread illustration in Lambeck's *Commentaries*. It is no surprise that this volume may have been extracted from the library at some time by one of the dukes themselves, or was lent to an interested—though untrustworthy—scholar or amateur, who never returned it.<...>

Jansen/Heenes, Jacopo Strada's *Magnum ac Novum Opus*, 2022, S. 22-23.