

inhabitants of the city have formed very exaggerated notions, in many instances, on the antiquity of this city; but it cannot be denied that it is one of the most ancient in Italy; it gave name to the city which washed its walls. By some excavations made there, and in the vicinity, a stratum mixed with relics of Etruscan pottery has been discovered, in which there is no mixture of Roman workmanship; the Etruscan and Roman are found mingled in an upper stratum, above which the vestiges of a theatre have been found. Both layers are very much below the present soil. I have seen in Adria curious collections, in which the relics that they contain are arranged separately. The prince viceroy, to whom I observed how interesting it would be to history and geology, if a research were made into all the excavations of Adria, as well in the primitive soil, as in the successive alluvial deposits, seemed much struck with my suggestions, but I am not aware if they were carried into effect.

“On leaving Atria, which was seated at the bottom of a small gulf, we find, in following the line of coast, to the south, a branch of the Athesis (Adige) and the Fossa Philistina, of which the remaining trace corresponds with what might have been the re-union of the Mincio and Tartaro, if the Po still flowed southward of Ferraro. Afterwards we come to the Delta Venetum, which appears to have occupied the place now the site of the lake or lagoon of Comachio. This Delta was traversed by seven branches of the Eridanus, or Vadis Padus, Podincus or P, as it was variously called, which had on its left bank, at the various ramifications of these mouths, the city of Trigopolis (Trigoboli) whose site could not be very distant from Ferraro. The seven lakes of the Delta were called Septem Maria, and Hatria