



The image shows the front cover of a dark red leather-bound book. The cover is decorated with an intricate embossed border. At the top, there are three crests: a shield on the left, a central shield with a floral design, and a crest on the right. The bottom features a central crest of an eagle with spread wings, flanked by two shields. The entire border is connected by a vine-like pattern with small circular motifs. In the center of the cover, the text "RUSPANTINI FAMILY" is embossed in a simple, sans-serif font.

RUSPANTINI FAMILY

*Notizie Storico-Araldiche  
sulla Casata*

R U S P A N T I N I

ISTITUTO GENEALOGICO ITALIANO

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FIRENZE



IL DIRETTORE  
Dell'Istituto Genealogico Italiano

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The surname RUSPANTINI, which was used also as RASPANTINI, derived from the word Raspanti, the name of a political faction that sprung up in various communes of Italy.

On this subject it must be noted that the Italian verb "raspare" derived from the german word "raspen", signifies the action of horses or other animals scratching the ground with their front feet. The word is also used with the meaning of thieving or stealing.

In the "Dictionary of the Italian Historical and Administrative Language" by Giulio Rezasco, there is the following explanation of this word:

"Raspante - He who rasped or thieved the public estate. Therefore it was the name given to a political Faction com-

posed of men who while ruling over the State had "rasped" (thieved) or were "rasping" (thieving), or were accused of this by their adversaries who were not ruling and consequently could not "rasp" (thieve)".

Factions of the "Raspanti" arose at Perugia, Pisa, Bologna and in other towns, as early as the XIVth century.

The Raspanti of Pisa were particularly important. They begun about in 1340 and were composed of gentlemen and commoners belonging to the most authoritative families in the City. With the passing of time this name applied to the noble faction, adversary of the Bergolinis the popular faction.

We are therefore authorized to attribute to the family

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under reference pertinence to an ancient and noble stock of Pisa that belonged to the faction of the "Raspanti". At the mercy as it was of the happy and of the adverse vicissitudes of its party, it suffered exiles and confications and was compelled to migrate elsewhere.

This family first settled down at Monte S. Savino, an ancient city of Tuscany, where it was called RASPANTI after the name of its faction.

In the XVIIth century the family appears already settled in Rome where its surname has assumed the form of RASPANTINI, perhaps to indicate a cadet branch of the Tuscan RASPANTI.

We have information on this family from a sepulchral stone that existed on the floor in the centre of the church of San Dionisio. The inscription quite worn out and almost deleted, was

however registered by Galletti (Inscr. Rom. T. III, Cl. XV, n.119, p.L.).

This tomb-stone is of the year 1663 and it was placed by Francesco RASPANTINI and his wife Maria Maddalena Vivenzi, in memory of their child Marino Girolamo Filippo, who died at the age of four years.

This document proves that the RUSPANTINIS lived already in Rome in the XVIIth century and that they enjoyed a high social distinction, because only the noble and prominent families were allowed to bury their dead in the Churches.

San Dionisio is a very little church situated in the Rione Monti at the beginning of the street that from the Quattro Fontane leads to S. Maria Maggiore. It was built about 1619 at the expenses and by care of some French fraiars of the SS. Trinità of the Redemption.

Continuing the examination of the documents that hand down information on the RUSPANTINIS, we find that in 1675 the family was honoured by an architecte who was held in high esteem by the Pontifical Court.

It must be noted here that the Pontiff Clement X who had been a zealous and well deserving pastor of Camerino, for the affection he had for his old diocesans, allowed them to set up a national company in Rome in 1675. For this purpose they acquired the Parish-Church of S. Giovanni in Mercatello, which was restored on a plan drawn by the architect Antonio Liborio RASPANTINI, an evident proof that this artist was very clever and much appreciated in the pontifical circles. About 1785 we have information of the Cordelier fraiar RUSPANTINI who was also very versed in the art of architecture because he enlarged and brought to better shape

the convent and the church of his own Order at Montefiascone. He was theologian to the celebrated Cardinal Giuseppe Garampi, a learned archeologist who died in 1792.

The RUSPANTINIS were settled at Città della Pieve, in the province of Perugia in the XIXth century.

In 1841 Doctor Giuseppe Alessio RUSPANTINI held the governorship of that town; and as reported in the local history by Antonio Baglioni, he showed a great zeal and capacity in the management of the important office held by him.

The historical information we have gathered shows that the family under consideration was indistinctly named RASPANTI, RASPANTINI and or RUSPANTINI, and that its branches lived in Tuscany and in the old Papal States.

The house hands down in the figures of its coat-of-arms

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the memory of her ancient and illustrious origin.

The fess is an honourable heraldic sign that indicates the baltheus or girdle of the knight, and in the Middle Ages it amounted to Nobility.

The girdle in the early stages of the Empire was a symbol of distinction and those who were honoured with it had to wear it when presenting themselves to the Emperor.

In an illustrated manuscript that dates back to the XIIIth century, preserved in the British Museum in London, we can see the complete armour of a knight, and while the spurs are being put on by two kneeling pages, the girdle with the sword is fastened by the crowned king himself.

This symbol of knighthood was worthy of being borne in the coat-of-arms so that it might come down to posterity.

In heraldry the figure of the anvil signifies the resistan-

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ce to violence, and in this coat-of-arms it can hint to the struggles of the factions that so much affected the family.

The hammer is the symbol of Fatigue, Assiduous and Proficuous Work, Cleverness and Perseverence.

The hammer and the anvil indicate a tenacious and irresistible will, the vain trail to resistance, and a firm and courageous mind.

The comet symbolizes Illustrious Renown, Speedy ascent of the family's Fortunes, Superior Virtue and Eternal Power.

A branch of the RUSPANTINI family settled at Grotte di Castro, in the province of Viterbo.

Among the present representatives of this family is Mr Ermete RUSPANTINI, son of the late Salvatore.

We are pleased to give to this descendant of such an

an illustrious ancestry an account of the heredity of glory  
of his forbears.

L'ESTENSORE

H. Pancher

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME

QUALITA

EPOCA

LOCALITA Monte S. Savino (Tuscany)

FONTE Armory of Monte San Savino

NOTIZIA Gio Battista Sozzini made this collection of coats-of-arms belonging to the families of Monte San Savino with learning and care. All the coats of arms of these families are blazoned in this collection by Gio Batta Sozzini, son of Francesco and Grand-son of Gio Batta of Monte San Savino, originating in Siena, in the 23rd of April 1811, and everything has been done in the glory of God and of the Most Saint Virgin.

RASPANTI

Party per fess, argent and azure, a fess or on the partition accompanied in the chief by an anvil and a hammer of iron, and in the base by a comet per pale or. ( This family hails from Verniano and it became extinct with the death of Clemente, son of the flag-bearer Giuseppe on the 13rd of August 1764 ).

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Marino and Francesco

QUALITA Citizens of Rome

EPOCA 1663

LOCALITA Rome

FONTE Forcella - Iscrizioni delle Chiese e di altri Edifici di Roma  
Vol. 11, page 165.

NOTIZIA Inscription in the Church of S. Dionisio

Year 1663

D. O. M.

MARINO HIERONIMO PHILIPPO

RASPANTINO

QUI NATURAE DONIS CUMULATIS

IN ACERBA ADHUC AETATE

COELO MATURUS

QUAM PRECARIO ANOMAM ACCEPERAT

QUI PRETIOSAM NON DIV. RETINVIT

SED CANDIDAM UT ACCEPERAT

AETERNITATI RESTITUIT

FRANCISCUS RASPANTINUS ET

MARIA MAGDALENA VIVENTIA PARENTES

HOC AMORIS COMPENDIUM

Posuere

OBIIT VIII<sup>o</sup> + DECEMB. MDCLXIII

AETATI SUAE ANNORUM IV

MENS. III DIEB. VIII.

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Antonio Liborio

QUALITA Restaurer

EPOCA 1675

LOCALITA Rome

FONTE G. Moroni - Dizionario di Erudizione Storico-Ecclesiastica  
Vol. VIIth, page 56.

NOTIZIA Historical Information

.....omissis.....

They acquired the Parish-Church of San Giovanni Mercatello (that formerly belonged to the Basilians of Grottafer-rata, and was called Mercatello (market) because the market was held there before it was transferred to Piazza Navona). They res-taured this Church after the design of Antonio Liborio RASPANTINI, and dedicated it to the SS.Venanzio and Ansovino, their Patrons, whose holyday was celebrated there on the 18th of May and on the 13th of March.

.....omissis.....

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME

QUALITA CLERGYMEN

EPOCA 1780

LOCALITA Montefiascone

FONTE G. Moroni - Dizionario di Erudizione Storico-Ecclesiastica -  
Vol. XLVth, page 207

NOTIZIA Historical Information

.....omissis.....

Near the city there is the Church of St. Francis, held  
by the monks, and built again in the site of the ancient one by  
father RUSPANTINI of Grotte di Castro. Many provincial chapters  
took place in this convent.

.....omissis.....

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Filippo

QUALITA Theologian

EPOCA 1785

LOCALITA Todi

FONTE G. Moroni - Dizionario di Erudizione Storico Ecclesiastica -  
Vol. 101°, page 281

NOTIZIA Historical Information

.....omissis.....

Father Maestro RUSPANTINI, a minorite and theologian to the celebrate Cardinal Garampi, Diocesan Bishop, enlarged the convent and the church and gave them a better shape.

Zucchi says that the inhabitants of this town are industrious and hard labourer, and the women are beautiful; and Palmieri associate to him qualifying the people of Grottaferrata as a good race very kind to the foreigners (and to one of them he dedicate his homage and his grateful soul so that he may be immortalized in his book: namely the canon don Filippo RUSPANTINI, a Burghense, praisinf him for his uncommon benignity and for the kindness he showed to his little Dictionary, of which he is an honourable subscriber).

.....omissis.....

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Giuseppe

QUALITÀ Governor

EPOCA 1841

LOCALITÀ Città della Pieve

FONTE Antonio Baglioni - Città della Pieve Illustrata - Historical Letters - Page 491.

NOTIZIA On the call at Città della Pieve of the Holy Father Gregorius XVith.

.....omissis.....

The official letters of the Governor of this town, Doctor Giuseppe Alessio RUSPANTINI, and the coming of the pontifical fore-runners in order to prepare the lodgings for the Holy Father and his Court, released me from some work.

.....omissis.....

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Giuseppe

QUALITA Governor

EPOCA 1841

LOCALITA Città della Pieve

FONTE Antonio Baglioni - Città della Pieve Illustrata - Historical Letters - Page 494.

NOTIZIA On the call at Città della Pieve of the Holy Father Gregorius XVith.

.....omissis.....

The Governor, Mr RUSPANTINI on the other hand did not omit anything to guarantee for the public peace. He convoked all the sellers of combustible matters and he made himself sure of the execution of his orders regarding the amount of foodstuffs he judged necessary to the numerous people that should have arrived, appraising it to about ten thousand persons.

According to his infatigable zeal and to the cooperation and activity of the marshall Pegatello, the commander of the brigade of the "carabinieri" of the town, he had the satisfaction of ascertaining with his own eyes, that in the 25th of September all was ready as regard to the provisions and the quality of the inns. He did not omit to assure himself about the items proper to lodge the foreigners, and he was helped on this purpose by the religious charity of the Superiors of the Convents, who put at his disposal the vast halls and the corridors of thir convents.

The zeal and activity of the chief magistrate, my dear Alfonso, had much contributed to the perfect result of everything.

He has obtained all this by casting off the rigid vest of a magistrate and assuming only the aspect of a friend.

Mr Domenico Mondragoni, the clever engineer of the province, upon the order of the Governor Mr RUSPANTINI, and according to his office, visited all the public establishments, all the galleries that had been built, with his well known uprightness in order to cover of any danger in the way our Sovereign Pontiff might run over.

.....omissis.....

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Giuseppe

QUALITA Governor

EPOCA 1841

LOCALITA Città della Pieve

FONTE Antonio Baglioni - Città della Pieve Illustrata - Lettere Storiche, Page 495.

NOTIZIA On the call at Città della Pieve of the Holy Father Gregorius XVIth.

.....omissis.....

The hearts of the Bishop Severa, of the Governor Doctor RUSPANTINI, and of the Gonfaloniere Rinaldi jubilated at the spontaneous deeds of filial devotion performed by the Nobles. But these Gentlemen made them understand with sense and delicateness that it was dangerous for them to ride horses which were not accustomed to the shooting of the artillery and to music. moreover, not being themselves, although young and strong, used to such a fleet race as that of the Pontifical attendance, some sad event could derive from their devoted resolution and faithful subjection, that could trouble the paternal heart of the Holy Father; and the noble young men instead of rejoycing themselves ought to have grieved for their zeal.

.....omissis.....

CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Giuseppe

QUALITA Governor

EPOCA 1841

LOCALITA Città della Pieve

FONTE Antonio Baglioni - Città della Pieve Illustrata - Lettere  
Storiche, page 508.

NOTIZIA On the call at Città della Pieve of the Holy Father Gregorius  
XVith.

.....omissis.....

The Governor Ruspantini seized the right opportunity for  
supplicating the clemency of His Holyness to be so kind as to grant  
an indult in favour of a man condemned to the capital punishment,  
besides the indult granted six months ago, in the favour of some  
other men condemned to other punishments in his State.

The Holy Father, with his particular smile, addressed to  
the Governor saying "Be those unhappy men delivered", and those men  
who were no more unhappy reached the happy people shouting: "Long  
live the Holy Father".

.....omissis.....

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Giuseppe

QUALITA Governor

EPOCA 1841

LOCALITA Città della Pieve

FONTE Antonio Baglioni - Città della Pieve Illustrata - Historical  
Letters - Page 511.

NOTIZIA On the call at Città della Pieve of the Holy Father Gregorius  
XVith.

.....omissis.....

About half past seven p.m. the Holy Father was so kind  
as to receive six child belonging to the Noble Families Cartoni,  
Mazzuoli, Severa and Fabiani, and each of them offered him a sym-  
bolical bouquet with a poetical motto which they placed at his feet.

The Holy Father dwelt with them for half an hour and gave  
them a silver medal and the same he gave to every child who had  
strewn his path with flowers.

The halls were closed. But the Holy Father wanted to see  
next morning 30th, the employees who had draged his coach, the  
Governor of the city, made an appointment with each one.

Next morning at half past six o'clock His Holiness was  
already talking with the Governor RUSPANTINI, who has gained the  
Sovereign goodness.

Later on the employees were admitted to kiss the Pope's toe and each of them received a crown as a pontifical present.

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Francesco

QUALITÀ Governor

EPOCA 1841

LOCALITÀ Città della Pieve

FONTE Antonio Baglioni - Città della Pieve Illustrata - Historical Letters - Page 514.

NOTIZIA On the call at Città della Pieve of the Holy Father Gregorius XVith. Page 514

.....omissis.....

The very illustrious Count Gabriele Stelluti, Francesco RUSPANTINI, Livio Gregori, Giuseppe Grimaldi, Giuseppe Lupatelli, Alessandro Sulpizi, Giuseppe Quindici, Natale Mascalchi, Ospizio, Vannuccio, and Francesco, brothers Verri, and Antonio Amori, had the honour to drag the pontifical coach.

.....omissis.....

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CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME Francesco

QUALITA Secretary

EPOCA 1854

LOCALITA Bari

FONTE Almanacco Reale del Regno delle Due Sicilie - Year 1854, p.263.

NOTIZIA General Administration of the Customary Duty of the Royal  
Dominions on this side of the light.

PROVINCE OF TERRA DI BARI

Don Gaetano Tajani, Manager.....BARI

Don Francesco RUSPANTINI, Secretary.....BARI

Don Tommaso Aucone, Chief Accountant.....BARI

CASATA RUSPANTINI

NOME

QUALITÀ Writer

EPOCA 1893

LOCALITÀ Rome

FONTE Archivio Storico Lombardo - Year 1912, Fourth Sery, page 512.

NOTIZIA The first performances at the "Scala" theatre and an invective against the aulic poet of the XVIIIth century.

.....omissis.....

Fisically the portrait made by the Venetian adventurer was advantageous for the Abbot of Acquapendente (3) because "la syphilis ne lui avait pas encore rongé la lulette dans ce temps-là".

.....omissis.....

(3) Thus and not of Montefiascone. See the Preface of T. RUSPANTINI to the Edition of the "Animali Parlanti", Rome 1893.





