

## Vicus Andicus

(Essay of Experimental Philology)

The Philologists are still debating questions concerning the *Publius Vergilius Maro's* life; the Philologists still hold proceedings, each trying to defend theories, ideas and fantasies, variously interpreting the mantuan Poets's works, words and ideals<sup>1</sup>; the Philologists have spent much of their time trying to answer the: «*Where, the Vergil's native vicus*»? question but the matters's problematicity is not yet satisfactorily cleared up.

Scant, scarce and contradictory the testimonies quotable from the direct source: the «*Poet's works*», from the indirect source: the «*Lives*» and «*Commentaries*» of the Exegetes, from the «*Conclusions*» of the past and modern Scholars.

We open the inquiry, quoting the Poet:

1. *Mantua quod fuerat quòdque Cremona prius*<sup>2</sup>
2. *Sive Mantuam/Opus foret volare sive Brixiam*<sup>3</sup>;
3. *Superet, modo, Mantua nobis*<sup>4</sup>;
4. *Mantua, vae miserae nimium vicina Cremonae*<sup>5</sup>;
5. *Infelix amisit Mantua campum*<sup>6</sup>;

1 The Virgil's works, and ideals have been studied and explained variously: «*ex uniuscuiusque ingeniolo*», but the problems of the roman Poet's life have not had all the necessary and right answers.

We don't know where Virgil was born: we know almost nothing of his family, of his father, of his mother, of his grand-father; we don't know why he was born roman citizen; we don't know nothing of his going to Cremona and which was the cause of the confiscation of his farm; we do not know why the Poet left Rome and went to Nola *etc.*

2 *Kataleptòn* 8, 6.

3 *Kataleptòn*, 10, 4-5.

4 Verg., *Eclog.*, 9, 27.

5 Verg., *Eclog.*, 3, 28.

6 Verg., *Georg.*, 2, 198.