

RENAISSANCE NEWS

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Cellini and Vincenzo de' Rossi

BY RUTH WEDGWOD KENNEDY

TODAY only the specialist has heard of Vincenzo de' Rossi, whereas everyone who has heard of the Italian Renaissance knows the name of Benvenuto Cellini; yet on April 13, 1564, Rossi was chosen by Don Vincenzo Borghini to replace Cellini in an artistic task which Benvenuto had hoped to perform himself. The evidence comes from a letter now in the Bibliotheca Parsoniana in New Orleans which was reproduced in facsimile in the last issue of this news letter.¹ A document is so precious in the art historian's sight that it is always a comfort to have available a clear reproduction of the original. Checking the text of this letter against the translation which accompanies the facsimile, one can