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Celio Calcagnini's Quod caelum stet: A Humanist Defence of Terrestrial Motion in Copernicus's Time

The Ferrara humanist Celio Calcagnini (1479-1541), an Italian contemporary of Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543), wrote around 1518 an apology for the motion of the Earth, Quod caelum stet, terra moveatur vel de perenni motu terrae (That the Hevens Stand Still, and the Earth Moves, or on the Earth's Constant Motion). It is a short but dense treatise, philosophically complex and sophisticated in style, on a topic of great interest in the history of cosmology. Yet, it has not so far received adequate consideration in the history of science. In his talk, Pietro Daniel Omodeo presents the publication of its first translation into a modern language, edited by Alberto Bardi and himself (Castelvecchi 2022).

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