

Nuova Rivista Storica

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Abstracts

ELENA MUSIANI, «L'altra questione sociale». Le inchieste di Adolphe Blanqui su una Francia rurale in crisi

In the wake of the May 1849 legislative elections – seen as a catastrophe by the Conservative Parti de l'Ordre – the Académie des sciences morales et politiques decided to launch an inquiry to analyse the situation of France's rural communities. Adolphe Blanqui, who was chosen to head the inquiry, had already conducted a great deal of research into the French peasantry («paysannerie»). He was one of the first to acknowledge the existence of a “social issue” in the countryside, which was just as important as the urban working-class issue that had emerged from inquiries carried out by Villermé. His report following the inquiry, never published in full, allows us to highlight the social issue that emerged from the crisis in the countryside, an issue that the conservatives had refused to take into consideration but which, instead, was at the origin of the insurrection against the coup d'état of 2 December 1851.

Keywords:

Adolphe Blanqui

Liberalism

Rural society

Inquiries