

STRABO, WALAHFRID -

Monk fl. mid- 9thc in Fulda (D:).

His poem, “On the Statue of Theodoric” in c850 seems to describe the organ at [Aix-la-Chapelle, Court 826](#). The text refers to the transfer of organ building knowledge from the eastern (Greek) empire to the west. It also suggests that organ music will supplant the need for bell ringing with the possible consequences of angry bell-ringers attacking the organ:

But elsewhere, shining with a brilliant light,
A gilded knight capers, surrounded by a band of foot-followers.
One plays the bells, another the organ.
A subtle melody sets their light hearts dancing
Until, losing consciousness, a woman
Breathes out her life under the music's spell...
The organ, once the pride and joy of Greece
Is now no marvel to our great king.
But if ours comes to no harm and continues to play as it has begun,
The bell-ringer will be idle.
But first he will cast off his cloak, spurning its warmth,
And, running mad, wielding an iron bar,
Will shatter the sounding trunks and the pipes with their unequal sounds.
It will not be in vain, for though he was unrewarded for his music,
The scattered gilding of the outer surface
Might clothe his dusky limbs, and thus reward him.