Limes Transalutanus Breviary – Help file

A breviary is a small encyclopaedia, thus the records are alphabetically sorted. The application is simple, having only one main form, split in three sections: the main article, the bibliographical search engine, at the bottom, and the illustration, in thumbnail view, on the right side.

Navigation through the database is made using the search field from above. You have only to type a few characters and the options you have will be displayed in a list. You will make the choice at one click. Inside the articles you will find literature references, expressed (usually) as a code (*Author, year, variant*). To find out the meaning of this code you have to use the other search facility on the page, located at the bottom.

'**Search for literature**' works similar as the first. The characters typed will make a selection inside two things: the reference code and the title of the publication. You will click to make an option. My advice is to search for codes (in order to display the details), but you can use it also searching for key words (*limes, Alutanus*, tower etc.). For a subsequent search in this section, you must push the button 'Reset search' before searching again.

Note that the references within the main articles are using the usual syntax (*Author, year, variant*, or Teodor 2016 b), but the code used in the references database is more complex, using the syntax *Author, Initial, year, variant*. The reason is that I am reusing here an older bibliographical database, containing over 30,000 records, in which the code of the record was meant to be unique (the Initial of the main author forename being used to segregate literature signed by scientists having the same surname).

At the public opening of this application there are such differences between the codes used inside articles (*Author, year, variant*) and codes used in bibliographical database (*Author, Initial, year*). Such discrepancies will be diminished in time, but it is possible that some of the references to be left in the simplified format, in an indefinite future.

I have avoided, as much as possible, to use notes within the main entries, but I saw myself in the situation to make some. Because the database cannot negotiate with superscripts, I marked them in the text with asterisk (one for the first note, two for the next). The reader will find those side commentaries at the bottom of the main text.

On the right side of the screen one will see **thumbnails of the illustrations** and their titles. In order to see the full scale picture, you need to click on the image and it will be displayed in another window. The **full scale illustration** has the title above the picture, and some technical data below (when necessary), along the date of the last update. You will push the button 'close window' at the end (or not, in order to see it later, but the number of opened windows will increase). Loading the full scale illustration could take time, depending on your connection. The average size of one illustration is almost 1.5 MB.

Within the records you will find right arrows (→), suggesting another entry which develops a certain information. You can open the secondary record through the button 'New Window' (on the header), which will open the same form, ready to go and waiting a search.

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Feedback (of any nature) is welcomed, writing at eusteo/at/gmail.