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MS 754

Western Germany (Essen?), s. XIV<sup>2</sup>

**Martinus Oppaviensis; Accounts**

1. ff. 1r-114r Incipiunt cronice fratris Martini, ordinis fratrum Predicatorum, domini pape penitenciarum et capellani. [Prologue:] Quoniam scire tempora summorum pontificum Romanorum ac imperatorum necnon et aliorum patrum contemporaneorum suorum quamplurimum inter alios theologos ac iuris peritis expedit, ego frater Martinus, domini pape penitenciarum et capellanus, ex diversis cronicis ac gestis summorum pontificum et imperatorum presens opusculum per annos Incarnacionis Domini ab ipso summo pontifice [sic] imperatore per pontifices et imperatores descendendo usque ad Nicolaum tercium [1277-1280] deduxi inclusive, in una pagina eo anno Domini quo creati fuerint ponendo pontifices, in alia pagina econtra sub eisdem annis eo anno quo creatus quisque fuerit ponendo imperatores ... Item ex cronicis fratris Vincencii Belvacensis et aliqua accepi ex decreto et quedam ex passionibus sanctorum. [text:] [P]rimo dicendum est de quatuor regnis maioribus, de quibus Romanum ultimum fuit ... quod nunc est tempus quod verificatur illud ewangelium, dicens: Erit unum ovile et pastor unus, scilicet Ihesus Christus, Deus noster, qui est benedictus per infinita secula seculorum. Amen.

Martinus Oppaviensis OP (Martinus Polonus, Martin of Troppau, d. 1278), *Chronicon pontificum et imperatorum*, with continuations up to pope Clemens VI (1342-1352). Kaeppli 2974. L. Weiland, ed., MGH, *Scriptores*, v. 22 (1872), pp. 397-482. In contradiction with the author's statement in the Prologue, the lists of the popes and the emperors are conflated in our manuscript; the original parts end respectively on p. 443 (popes) and p. 474 (emperors) of the edition. F. 87v of the manuscript, at the beginning of the pontificate of Nicholas III (1278), there is a marginal note "Hic incipit papalista", indicating the beginning of the *Continuationes*. On ff. 19r-25v the copy of a *Provinciale ecclesie Romanae* (inc. "In civitate Romana sunt quinque ecclesie que patriarchie dicuntur ..."), followed by lists of emperors, kings and other authorities with the countries they govern; and a text on the emperor: "Imperator Romanus debet coronari tribus coronis, videlicet prima de ferro .."; f. 51 is blank. Quite a number of Martin of Troppau manuscripts contain the *Provinciale ecclesie Romanae*: see A.-D. von den Brincken, "Studien zur Überlieferung der Chronik des Martin von Troppau", *Deutsches Archiv für Erforschung des Mittelalters*, 41 (1985), pp. 460-531 (Table on pp. 501-531).

2. ff. 114r-121v, continued on the rear pastedown Accounts and other documents from the years 1385-1403. The accounts, in Latin except those on f. 121r, which are in German, are for the years 1395-1403 and deal with the production of the "proper farm" and of farms situated in places as Dornham, Kokelenberghe, Northusen, Voghelzang, Essen etc. The products mentioned are wheat, malt, oats and barley. Expenses are also mentioned, e.g. "dedi magistro de Summo ... de s<c>itu et conces<s>u matris ..."; "dedi Fennyken monyali pro fratribus et sororibus ..."; "dedi abbati in Yborgh [the Benedictine abbey of Iburg,

Niedersachsen]... pro sacrificio Rodolphi ...”; “pro annulo abbatis et familiaribus abbatis ...” (all f. 116r). On ff. 114v-115v the copy of a charter in German, dated 29 July 1385 (“des Saterdaghes na sunte Pantaleonis Daghe”), containing an agreement between the archbishop of Cologne, the bishops of Münster, Paderborn and Osnabrück, the abbot of Corvey, the count of the Mark, the lord of Lippe, and the burgomasters of Soest, Münster, Osnabrück and Dortmund. On f. 119r the copy of a charter in German, dated 14 Oct. 1398 (“ipso die Calixti pape”), issued by Johan van den Bryncke in favour of Lambrecht [Lambert] van Becklo.

Paper, ff. I + 121, 275 x 205 mm. In-folio folding. Modern pagination and partial modern foliation close to the lower edge; an important part has been torn away at the top of f. 103-206, with loss of text, and a trapezoid section is cut out at the right of the rear pastedown; f. 119 has only half the width of the other leaves; f. 26 (blank) and the front flyleaf are a younger kind of paper. Many pages water-stained and damaged, especially the lower margins. F. 1 and art. 2 badly spoiled by the use of a reagent.

I<sup>24</sup> (+ 1 leaf = f. 21; ff. 1-25, inserted into a bifolium consisting of the front flyleaf and the blank f. 26), II-IV<sup>24</sup> (ff. 27-98), V<sup>24</sup> (-23; ff. 99-121).

Art. 1 pricked and ruled with lead for two columns of generally 32, sometimes 31 or 33 lines below top line. Prickings are visible in the upper, outer and lower margins. Ruling type 43, the horizontal lines crossing the intercolumnar space, 210-215 x c. 148 mm., intercolumnar space 15-16 mm. The *Provinciale* is copied in three columns. Art. 2 is written without any ruling in two columns or in long lines.

Art. 1 is probably copied by one hand writing *Gothica Cursiva Libraria* becoming more rapid towards the end. Art. 2 is written at various moments by one hand writing *Gothica Cursiva Antiquior Currens* in compressed and irregular lines, sometimes difficult to decipher.

In art. 1 the headings have not been executed (instructions for the rubricator in the lower margins in the first quire). Neither have the 2-line initials been executed, for which there are guide letters; the first initial only (a 3-line plain initial in black), f. 1r, has been made. Art. 2 is undecorated.

Binding s. XV: quarter red leather (pigskin) and oak boards with rounded edges; the leather fixed on the boards with iron nails; sewn on three split leather thongs. Remnants of one strap attached to the rear board, with a brass pin in the front board. Part of the iron attachment for a chain preserved at the top of the rear board. Yellowish leather pastedowns, now detached.

The irregularity in quire 1 has no textual implications. The leaves remaining blank after the copying of art. 1 were used for writing art. 2. On the basis of the documents described in art. 2 can be concluded that the manuscript from the beginning belonged to a double convent in Northwestern Germany (an abbot and a “mater”, brethren and nuns are mentioned, as well as “pueri”), probably the Benedictine noble abbey of Essen (Nordrhein-Westfalen), which had a famous school. On the remnants of its medieval library, see Krämer, *Handschriftenerbe*, pp. 234-235. On a front flyleaf, in German s. XIX handwriting: “Hdschr. B.XVI” (repeated on the facing page); on the same page the numbers “554” and “MS 131” were added at later moments. Purchased on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund in.

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