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MS 788

Italy, s. XV

St. Jerome, Two letters

1. ff. 43r-46r *Ieronimi ad Salvinam consolatoria de Nebridio et viduitate servanda.*
Vereor ne offitium putetur ambitio et, quod illius exemplo facimus, qui ait: Discite a me, quia mitis sum et humilis corde, glorie facere appeti<ti>one dicamur ... sed de pudoris magnitudine extimes accidisse, dum vereor ignotis me diu ingerere auribus et oculum iuditium legentium pertimesco.

Hieronymus Stridonensis (St. Jerome, 347-420), *Epistula 79 (Ad Salvinam)*. I. Hilberg, ed., CSEL, v. 55 (1912), pp. 87-101.

2. ff. 46r-50v *Ieronimus ad Ageruchiam de monogamia.* In vetere [sic] via novam semitam querimus et in antiqua detritaue materia rudem artis excogitamus elegantiam, ut nec eadem sint et eadem sint. Unum iter ad perveniendum quo cupias multa compendia habet ... Hic libellus de monogamia sub nomine tuo titulum possidebit.

Hieronymus, *Epistula 123 (Ad Geruchiam)*. I. Hilberg, ed., CSEL, v. 56 (1918), pp. 72-95.

Paper, ff. V + 8 + VII, 340 x 240 mm. In-folio folding. Early foliation "43"- "50" in the middle of the upper margin of the recto pages. There is a parchment stay in the fold of ff. 47-48, consisting of two strips cut from a Latin theological manuscript s. XIV/XV, written in small Southern Gothica Textualis Libraria (Rotunda), 32-34 compact lines, height of text area c. 113 mm.

I² (ff. 43-44, apparently two singletons pasted on a strip of paper to obtain a bifolium), II⁶ (ff. 45-50).

Rake ruling, the bounding lines in lead, the horizontal lines in pale brown ink, for one column of 38 lines below top line. Ruling type 11, 223-225 x 137-138 mm.

Copied by one hand in Humanistica Textualis Libraria.

Art. 1 opens with a 4-line Gothic flourished initial in blue with red penwork extending in the inner margin; art. 2 opens with a 4-line Gothic plain initial in red.

The half binding s. XX (?) was removed and the codex restored and rebound in 2000 by the Northeast Document Conservation Center (printed note about condition and treatment pasted to the rear pastedown). The new binding is grey cloth over heavy pasteboard. On the spine a new black leather title label with gold-tooled inscription "SANCTI JERONIMI EPISTOLAE MS 788". Among the flyleaves, the two following f. 50 are earlier than the others, which are yellowish machine-made paper belonging to the discarded binding. A modern hand wrote on the last front flyleaf r the title "Sancti Ieronimi epistolae ad Salvinam et Ageruchiam".

The manuscript is only part of a codex of at least 50 folios; the lower half of f. 50v is blank, so this is the last leaf of the original manuscript or of a section of the original manuscript. Purchased on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund.

R 14.04.10

Albert Derolez