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Northern Italy, s. XV²

Lorenzo Giustiniani, *De disciplina claustralium*, Italian translation

1. f. 1r ... // Come prudentemente se deba regere el proprio corpo, et de la beatitudine de esso corpo dapo la resurrectione, cap. XXII. De li studii spirituali di quali se debano exercitare i servi di Christo, cap. XXIII. Finisce li capitoli.

Final part of the Table of Contents of artt. 2-3.

2. ff. 1r-4v *Incomincia el prologo ne libro il quale o intitulado della disciplina overo de' regulati costumi et perfectione de la monastica conversatione.* La divina bontade, volendo premiare le anime dei soi electi de richeçe celestiale per isino che essi vivano in questa carne mortale, non cossa da richir de doni spirituali ... a laude et honore de la gloria tua et utilidade dei tuoy fideli, i quali cum puro cuore desiderano a ti servire, il quale se vivente in tutti i seculi. Amen.

Prologue to art. 3.

3. ff. 5r-226v *Incomincia el libro et in prima come la pietà de Dio a dato el l'uomo caduto dal stato de la innocentia rimedii et medicina de' peccati cum tre maniere et modi de leçe; et come nela plenitudine del tempo mando l'unigenito Fiolo suo a ciò che cum parole de doctrina et cum exemplo e opere accendesse i suoy fideli al dispersio del mondo et a palma de virtude. Capittulo primo.* Da poy che per lo peccato di primi nostri parenti la generatione humana fu distaçata in questa lacrimosa peregrinatione piena de miserie ... et se medesimi elevando in Dio ne potendo si contenere per la smisuranza de la suavidade et de lo amore cum smisurato iubilo diranno quel che siegue: Secondo il nome tuo, o mi Dio, così è anchora la tua loda in secula seculorum. Amen. Finito è lo libro chiamato de' costumi et perfectione della monastica conversatione, etc. Deo gratias.

Laurentius Iustinianus (Lorenzo Giustiniani, 1381-1456), *De disciplina et spirituali perfectione monasticae conversationis (De disciplina spiritualium)*, Italian translation by Iohannes de Tossignano (Giovanni Tavelli da Tossignano, 1386-1446, bishop of Ferrara 1431-1446). About him see *Bibliotheca sanctorum*, v. 12 (1969), 151-155. The Latin original was composed 1420; see A. Derolez, "Une bio-bibliographie de saint Laurent Justinien, éditée d'après le manuscrit New York, Public Library, MS 82", *Latomus*, 55 (1996), pp. 786-805 (793-794). In our manuscript there is an error in the numbering of the chapters in the very incompletely preserved Table of Contents (art. 1), where chapters 22-23 should have been numbered 23-24, in accordance with the text and with the Latin original. An Italian version (apparently different from the present one) was first printed in Venice in 1494 (BMC, v. 5, p. 378).

Paper, ff. I (paper) + 226 + I (parchment) + I (paper), 200 x 140 mm. Sturdy paper, 8° folding.

I¹⁰ (-1, ff. 1-9), II-XXII¹⁰ (ff. 10-219), XXIII¹⁰ (-3 -4 -5, ff. 220-226). Horizontal catchwords; (1) at right, between four groups of dots and flourishes and in a frame of hairlines : quires I-VIII (ff. 1-79); (2) in the middle, in a decorated cartouche: quires IX-XVII and XXI (ff. 80-169 and 200-209); (3) the same, but with a different decoration: quires XVIII-XX (ff. 170-199); (4) in the middle, between four penwork flourishes: quire XXII (ff. 210-219).

Ruled with lead for one column of 21 lines below top line. There are two prickings both in the upper and in the lower margin, and one pricking in the outer margin at the height of the first horizontal line. Ruling type 12.

Copied by one hand in Italian Gothica Hybrida Libraria/Currens.

Headings in red ink of various darkness. On f. 1r the Prologue opens with an 8-line Gothic foliate initial *L* in purple and blue, heightened with white penwork, on a square golden background, containing a stylized flower in purple and yellow with green foliage and ending in blue, purple and green acanthus leaves; on the same page a full floral border in blue, purple and green with a multitude of hairy gold balls. On all the remaining pages the decoration was not executed: the rectangular spaces with guide letters for initials are blank. A 4-line initial was planned f. 5r at the beginning of the text, a 3-line initial at the beginning of chapter 2 (f. 10r), and 2-line initials at the beginning of the other chapters.

Of the original binding the wooden boards (and the gilt and gauffered edges) survive. The boards are now covered with brown s. XIX marbled paper and the spine with cloth-reinforced beige marbled paper. On the latter (now detached) a paper label with handwritten s. XIX inscription: "146. / Anonimo. / Della disciplina et perfectione / de la monastica conversatione. / Cartaceo. / secolo XV."

The first leaf, containing the major part of the Table of Contents, is missing. Collection of Guglielmo Libri (1803-1869). Libri sale, London 1859, no. 608. Collection of the bookseller Giuseppe Martini. H.P. Kraus, New York, Catalogue 125 [1970], no. 8. Collection of Bernard M. Rosenthal, Berkeley (MS 136). Purchased from him in 1994 on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund.

R 12.04.10

Albert Derolez