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Italy, 1778

*Priapea*

1. f. 1r-v De Priapo et Priapeis. Priapus, Veneris et Bacchi filius, Lampsaci natus est. Expeditione etenim in Hellespontum Bacchus suscepta eaque perfecta, cum Lampsacum reversus esset, Venerem generoso semine complevit ... Ex his carminibus facta Priapeia, diversorum scilicet poetarum in Priapum lusus epigrammata obscoena, incertique auctoris et, ut Scioppius autumat, qui sub Augusti tempus viveret. Alii alia.

Introductory note on Priapus and the *Priapea*. The author quoted at the end is the German Catholic polemic and classical philologist Gaspar Scioppius (Schoppe, 1576-1649).

2. ff. 2r-14v, 17r-20r Ad lectorem. Carminis incomiti, lusus lecture procaces, / Conveniens Latio pone supercilium ... Aut igitur tunicam parti praetende tegendae, / Aut quibus hanc oculis adspicis, ista lege. [text:] I. Ad Priapum. Ludens haec ego teste te, Priape, / Horto carmina digna non libello ... [LXXXVIII. Ad Priapum:] ... Nam te praecipue in suis urbibus colat ora / Hellespontia, ceteris ostreosior oris. Hic finiunt Priapeia.

*Priapea*, with annotations in the right margins. F. Vollmer, ed., *Poetae Latini Minores*, v. 2.2 (Teubner, 1923), pp. 43-73. The various texts are numbered I-LXXXVIII and their order corresponds to the edition as follows: the preface “Ad lectorem”, without a number in the manuscript, is no. 1 in the ed.; I-XXVIII correspond to nos. 2-29 in the ed.; XXIX is no. 30, verses 1-2; XXX is no. 30, verses 3-4; XXXI-XLII correspond to nos. 31-42 in the ed.; XLIII is no. 44 and XLIV is no. 43; XLV-LXVII correspond to nos. 45-67, but in L (no. 50) verse 1 is missing; LXVIII is no. 68, verses 1-8, and LXIX is no. 68, verses 9-38; LXX-LXXII correspond to nos. 69-71 in the ed.; LXXIII is no. 72, verses 1-2 and LXXIV is no. 72, verses 3-4; LXXV, verses 1-4 is no.73; verses 5-6 is no. 74; LXXVI is no. 75; the text has been divided into two sections by the insertion of art. 4 (see below); after verse 14 the manuscript like some others has the additional verse “Mortales tibi Lampsacum dicarunt”; LXXVII corresponds to nos. 76-77; LXXVIII-LXXXIII to nos. 78-83; LXXXIV is Martialis, *Epigrammata*, 8.40 [D.R. Shackleton Bailey, ed. (Teubner, 1990), p. 259]; LXXXV-LXXXVII are Ps.-Vergilius, *Priapea*, 1-3 [F. Vollmer, ed., *Poetae Latini Minores*, v. 1 (Teubner, 1930), pp. 127-129]; LXXXVIII is Catullus, *Fragm.* 1 [M. Schuster, ed. (Teubner, 1949), p. 101]. The reference between text and notes is made by means of letters between parentheses. The first note is to “supercilium” in verse 2: “Hor(atius) ait: demere supercilio nubem, i.e. frontem exporrigere, nec austero vultu, sive Catoniana fronte excipere”. The only modern author to be quoted is Josephus Justus Scaliger (1540-1609): ff. 4r [*Priap.* XI = ed. no. 12] and 18r [*Priap.* LXXXI = ed. no. 81].

3. f. 20v Ex Lucio Apuleo. Amare liceat si potiri non licet, / Fruantur alii, non moror, sum invidus ... Ac nobis casso saltem delectamine / Amare liceat si potiri non licet. Explicit feliciter, mense Martii MDCCLXXVIII [March 1778].

Ps.-Apuleius. *Anthologia Latina*, 114. Ae. Baehrens, ed., *Poetae Latini Minores*, v. 4 (Teubner, 1882), pp. 104-105. Annotations as in art. 2. The first is to “non moror” in verse 2: “Hic particula negativa desideratur, alioquin nullus sensus eruetur”.

4. ff. 15r-16r Dulcis amica veni, noctis solatia praestans, / Inter aves etenim nulla tibi similis ... Cuncta sua domino depromunt munera laudum, / Seu semper sileant, sive sonare queant. Finis. f. 16v blank

*De Philomela* (poem on the sounds of animals). Ae. Baehrens, ed., *Poetae Latini Minores*, v. 5 (Teubner, 1883), pp. 363-367. In the margin of f. 16r a contemporary hand has written a note in Italian in connection with verse 64 (“Garrula limosis rana coaxat aquis”): “gracchia rana, magoliare il gato”.

Paper, ff. I + 20, 215 x 155 mm.; ff. 15-16 (art. 4) are of a smaller size (200 x 135 mm.).<sup>4°</sup> folding.

I<sup>8</sup> (ff. 1-8), II<sup>10</sup> (ff. 9-14 + 17-20); ff. 15-16 are a bifolium excentrically inserted into quire II.

The main part of the manuscript (artt. 2-3) is written in one column of 22-25 lines at the left side of each page; the annotations are in a column of varying width at the right side, the distance between the lines being much smaller. Artt. 1 and 4 are written in long lines.

Three hands, all three writing Humanistica Cursiva: in the main part (artt. 2-3) the script (hand A) is vertical; the numbering and the headings of the various texts are in a large and calligraphic form of the same script; in art. 1 (hand B) the execution is sloping and more cursive, and in art. 4 (hand C, resembling hand B) it is even more cursive.

There is no decoration.

Modern binding: the covers are two s. XIII parchment manuscript fragments over pasteboard, the spine consisting of a modern blank strip of parchment with the inscription in handwriting imitating early Roman type: “1778. Liber Priapeorum”. The fragments are complete leaves from one manuscript, copied in two columns of 43 lines (front cover) or 42 lines (rear cover) below top line; c. 205 x c. 138 mm., intercolumnar space 15 mm.; written in small Gothica Textualis Libraria (Littera Parisiensis); they contain a scholastic treatise in Latin on virtues. The decoration consists of paragraph marks and 2-line flourished initials alternately in red and blue. Front cover: “// videtur quod eiusdem virtutis citius est delectari ... quod habitus cognoscuntur per actus non quoscumque sed formales sive elicitos et pri//”. Rear cover: “//tas ergo etc. § Item ratione videtur quod ad nullum preceptum divinum tenetur homo ex caritate ... § Item baptismus acceptus a ficto extra caritatem adveniente incipit//”. The main subdivisions begin: (front cover) “Tertio queritur utrum sit virtus theologica vel cardinalis, et quod theologica videtur, quia

penitencia est reconciliare Deo et detestari peccatum ...” ; (rear cover) “Quarto queritur utrum opera satisfactoria adveniente caritate reviviscant sive vivificentur et debeant computari in sortem, et quod sic videtur ...”.

Inserted are two typewritten descriptions of the manuscript in German. In handwriting are added the number “b 12219” and the initials “J.H.”. Gift of Thomas Ewart Marston, Yale 1927.

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Albert Derolez