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Italy, s. XV

Domenico Cavalca, *Esposizione del Credo*

1. f. 1r *Al nome de lo nostro Signore misere Yhesu Christo incomencia el prologo nelo libro della expositione de lo Credo composita per frate Domenico Cavalca da Vico Pissano de li Predicatori. In perciò che tanto è necessaria la virtù de la fede, como dice sancto Paulo ... E in principio de tuta l'opera poniamo la distinctione de li articoli de la fede exponendoli somariamente. Finisse lo prologo.*
2. ff. 1r-137v *Incomencia lo primo libro de la distinctione e de lo numero de li articoli de la fede. Capitolo primo. Debiamo sapere che la sanctissima fede Christiana sia [l. ha] certi articoli, li quali pertengano a la divinità de Dio [originally: a la humanità di Christo], e certi che pertengano a la humanità de Christo ... la lor gloria la quale dobbiamo sperare, lo lor adiuto ne lo quale ce dobbiamo confortare, ma principalmente la bontade // [catchword: de Dio]*

Artt. 1-2. Domenico Cavalca OP (c. 1270-1342), *Esposizione del Credo*. Kaeppli 844 (mentions 4 manuscripts). Printed from 1489 onwards (GKW 6398); Milan, 1842. On the author, see *Dizionario biografico degli Italiani*, v. 22 (1979), pp. 577-586. After f. 37 a leaf is missing, containing the end of chapter 22 of Book 1. Due to the loss of probably one quire the text ends incomplete in chapter 19 of Book 2 (the author left the text unfinished at chapter 22).

Paper, ff. II +137 + III, 285 x 205 mm. In-folio folding. Parchment stays in the center and at the outer side of the quires; the fold of many bifolios is repaired by means of strips of parchment. The top, outer and lower margins water-stained, the upper outer corners of the leaves defective. Many lower margins repaired by means of strips of paper.

Collation is difficult due to the repairs to which the quires have been submitted. Tentative collation: I? (ff. 1-3), II¹⁰ (ff. 4-13), III¹⁰ (- 1 leaf, no loss of text; ff. 14-22), IV⁸ (ff. 23-30), V¹⁰ (-8, loss of text; ff. 31-39), VI⁸ (- 1 leaf, no loss of text; ff. 40-47), VII-IX¹⁰ (ff. 48-77), X⁸ (-7, -8, no loss of text; ff. 78-83), XI¹⁰ (ff. 84-93), XII¹⁴ (ff. 94-107), XIII⁶ (ff. 108-113), XIV¹⁰ (-10, no loss of text; ff. 114-122), XV⁸ (ff. 123-130), XVI⁸ (- 1 leaf, no loss of text; ff. 131-137). Horizontal catchwords are visible on ff. 13v (center), 22v (center), 30v (center), 47v (center), 67v (center, between radially placed flourishes), 93v (center, between two flourishes), 107v (center, not in the scribe's handwriting), 122v (under the right-hand column), 130v (to the right of center), 135v (center, in very small handwriting).

Mostly rake ruling for two columns of a varying number of lines, as indicated below.

Many different hands, as indicated below.

Unevenly spread decoration, as indicated below.

In this manuscript the following sections may be distinguished:

- (1) ff. 1-3 (quire I): 39 lines, *Gothica Textualis Libraria*; f. 3vb is blank; red 3-5-line plain initials; contains the Prologue and chapters 1-2 of Book 1.
- (2) ff. 4-30 (quires II-IV): 37 lines, except ff.8v-9r, where there are 40 lines; *Gothico-Humanistica Libraria* on f. 4ra, elsewhere *Gothico-Humanistica Semitextualis Libraria*; initials as in (1) up to f. 13r, missing thereafter; Book 1, chapters 3-18.
- (3) ff. 31-37 (quire V): 39 lines, hand as in (2); one leaf missing after f. 37, with loss of text (end of Book 1, chapter 22); initials missing ; Book 1, chapters 18-22.
- (4) ff. 38-47 (end of quire V and quire VI): 38 lines, except the central bifolium 42-43, where there are 39 lines; large and bold *Gothico-Humanistica Semitextualis*, first *Currens*, afterwards *Libraria/Formata*; 2-line initials missing (no guide letters); Book 1, chapters 22-26.
- (5) ff. 48-57 (quire VII): 40 lines, except the outer bifolium, where there are 39 lines: small and angular *Gothica Semitextualis*, with extensions in the lower margins; 2-line initials missing (guide letters); Book 1, chapters 26-30.
- (6) ff. 58-67 (quire VIII): 37 lines, except on f. 67, where there are 38 lines; thin, clumsy *Humanistica Textualis*; from f. 66ra²¹ onwards *Gothico-Humanistica Textualis*; 2-line initials missing; Book 1, chapters 31-34.
- (7) ff. 68-83 (quires IX-X): 39 lines, except on ff. 78-79, where there are 42 lines; *Gothico-Humanistica Semitextualis* with tendency towards making loops at the ascenders, on ff. 68-77r; *Gothica Hybrida* under *Humanistic* influence on ff. 77v-78r⁴; bold *Hybrida Currens* on ff. 78ra⁵-79; *Gothica Textualis Libraria* on ff. 80-83; the lower part of f. 83vb is blank; 2-3-line initials missing or added by the scribe himself (on f. 80r containing a human face); Book 1, chapters 34-41.
- (8) ff. 84-93 (quire XI): 37 lines; *Gothica Hybrida Libraria*; simple black initials of various sizes; Book 1, chapters 42-46.
- (9) ff. 94-107 (quire XII): 39 lines; same hand as (8); initials of various sizes mostly not executed; Book 1, chapters 46-50; Book 2, chapter 1.
- (10) ff. 108-113 (quire XIII): 39 lines; small *Gothica Hybrida Libraria*; the scribe occasionally writes the abbreviation “xhs” in the upper or lower margin; the textual connexion with the preceding quire is bad (first word cancelled) and the lower part of f.113va and the entire f. 113vb are blank; red plain initials; Book 2, chapters 1-4.
- (11) ff. 114-122 (quire XIV): frame ruling, 42-52 lines; small *Gothica Hybrida* under *Humanistic* influence; red 3-line plain initials; Book 2, chapters 5-11.
- (12) ff. 123-130 (quire XV): 42 or 43 lines; *Gothico-Humanistica Semitextualis Libraria* on ff. 123ra-123rb²¹ and 125v-130v; small *Hybrida Currens* in the remainder of the section; on f. 125r a long addition has been written in the lower margin; in the lower part of f. 130vb the handwriting is first very much compressed, then returns to a normal line distance in order to connect with the next quire; catchword on f. 130v; red plain initials; Book 2, chapters 11-17 (but the beginning of chapter 12 is not marked).
- (13) ff. 131-137 (quire XVI): 39 lines, except on ff. 131 and 132r, where there are 40 lines (handwriting above top line); bold *Gothica Semitextualis Libraria* on ff. 131r-132r³¹; more rapid *Gothica Hybrida Libraria* on ff. 132r³¹-137vb⁸; the scribe wrote “Yhesus Christus”

in a scroll in the lower margin of f. 135r; Gothico-Humanistica Textualis Libraria/Formata f. 137vb8 to the end; initials missing; Book 2, chapters 17-19.

Quarter binding s. XIX: brown paper over cardboard, the spine in brown leather with five raised bands, the second compartment gold-tooled with the title “CAVALCA / ESPOSIZIONE / DEL CREDO”. Marbled endpapers.

A careful codicological study of this complicated manuscript will no doubt throw light on its genesis, the exemplars on which it is based and its textual importance. Belonged s. XV to the Benedictine abbey of San Pietro di Savigliano (Piemont, south of Turin): f. 1r, upper margin: “Sancti Petri de Saviliano signatus numero 83”. According to a typewritten description of the manuscript in German, pasted on the second front flyleaf, it was in the collection of Cav. Carlo Morbio (1811-1881) in Florence (but Morbio lived in Milan!); see about him C. Frati, *Dizionario bio-bibliografico dei bibliotecari e bibliofili Italiani dal sec. XIV al XIX*. Biblioteca di Bibliografia Italiana, v. 13 (Florence, 1933), pp. 378-379. Armorial bookplate of Victor von Klemperer, with the handwritten shelfmark “2152”. Handwritten notes s. XX: “A.R. I/56” (first front flyleaf v) and “Schluss A.R. 31.III.1920” (ff. 127v and 137r). Purchased on the fund established by Charles J. Rosenbloom, Yale 1920.

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Albert Derolez