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Southern Germany or Austria, s. XV (1436?)

Iohannes Herolt, *Sermones de tempore*

ff. 1r-383v [Dominica 1a Adventus:] Ecce rex tuus venit tibi mansuetus. Zacharie IX [Zech. 9:9]. Mathei XXI° [Mt. 21:5]. Marci 21°. Luce 19. Iohannis XI°. Egregius doctor noster de aliquo dicit quod nulla accio sit perfecta seu meritoria nec [l. nisi] fuerit per gratiam Dei illuminata ... [f. 381v, Dominica 3a post octavam Pasche:] Arguet mundum de peccato, quia non credunt in me. Iohannis 16° [Jn. 16:8-9]. Sciendum quod plura genera hominum sunt, qui dicunt verbo se credere in Deum ... et dedit ei bibere, dicens: quia in ebrietate vixisti, hoc potus tuus erit; et coegerunt eum bibere, et tamen potum illum ebibere non potuit, quia vas illud // [catchword: e converso inmediate [?] plenum fuit [?]]

Iohannes Herolt OP (d. c. 1468), *Sermones de tempore*, incomplete: from the first Sunday of Advent till the fourth Sunday after Easter, i.e. sermons 1 to 62 according to the numbering in the incunable editions (we compared with the ed. Nuremberg, Anton Koberger, 1492 [GKW 12373]; the *Sermones de tempore* consist of 136 sermons in total). Due to the loss of one or more quires the last sermon is incomplete. In contrast with the printed editions the sermons are not numbered in our manuscript. It is strange, then, that in references from one place to another in the series the sermons are indeed indicated by number, e.g. ff. 164v-165r: “*De eodem* [i.e. the second Sunday after Epiphany]. Ecce leprosus veniens adorabat eum. Per leprosum intelligitur peccator ... Istum sermonem de novem penis inferni quere infra sermone 127 O”. The letter refers to the current alphabetical numbering of the sections in Herolt’s sermons, which is found in the text of the incunable editions and in the outer margins of our manuscript. It consists of a series of 22 majuscules, from A to Y, which independently from the limits of the sermons is repeated through the entire work. The sections of sermon 1 e.g. are numbered A-H, those of sermon 2 I-N, those of sermon 3 O-T, those of sermon 4 X-Y and A-C, those of sermon 5 D-K, etc.

Paper (sturdy), ff. 384, 215 x 145 mm. In-4° folding. Parchment stays in the center of the quires. The leaves are badly waterstained in the outer lower corner in the second half of the manuscript. The modern foliation comprises ff. 264 and 264bis.

I-XXXII¹². Long horizontal catchwords at right.

Frame ruling in brown ink for one column of script, c. 148 x c. 92 mm.; 21-27 lines.

Copied probably by one scribe writing *Gothica Cursiva Libraria*. When the first letter on a page is a majuscule it is as a rule made larger, with some calligraphic development.

Red stroking of majuscules and underlining, red plain generally 3-line initials; 5-line red flourished initial with red penwork on f. 1r.

Binding s. XV-XVI: green parchment over rather thin wooden boards. The spine with three raised bands is a repair, made after the final quires of the manuscript got lost; on each cover it masks the marks of two of the five bosses that were fixed on the boards; marks of two clasps attached to the rear board. At the top of the rear board there is an excavation for the staple to which a chain was attached. On the spine brown parchment label with the handwritten title s. XIX: "JOHANNES HEROLT / Sermones Discipuli / De Tempore / saec. XV. 1436." At the top of the rear cover, close to the spine, a printed paper label containing a quadrangular space for a shelfmark partly covering a large printed capital "W"; the handwritten shelfmark is "5867".

By the shape of the numerals, the date 1436 on the binding seems to imitate an original inscription, perhaps a colophon which is now lost; so the manuscript could well have been finished at that date. At the top of the front pastedown part of a s. XV note is visible related to the content of the manuscript: " *** racione faciendā q*** sermone 2^e Dominice in Adventu *** in 2^o sermone de eodem ***". In the upper margin of f. 1r the s. XVIII ownership inscription "Biblioth(eca) Vienn(ensis) Scholarum Piarum"; the manuscript at that time consequently belonged to a school in Vienna. On the front pastedown large armorial bookplate surmounted by a protonotarial hat, with the inscription "Io(hannes) Ern(estus) de Famagne, protonotarius apostolicus, sacrae theologiae doctor, cons(ul?) Pass(aviensis?), decanus et parochus urbis Waidhov(ensis) ad Theiam" (Waidhoven on the Thaya is a place in the north of Lower Austria, close to the Czechian border); at the bottom the handwritten shelfmark s. XVII (?) "num: Mss. 241 (?)"; at the top the handwritten shelfmark "G/147". The number "5867 I" written in pencil in the lower margin of f. 1r (see also Binding) seems to indicate that at some time there existed more than one volume. Purchased from Sam Fogg on the Mrs. Lathrop Colgate Harper Fund in Memory of Lathrop Colgate Harper Litt. D.

R 08.01.12

Albert Derolez