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MS 868

Italy, s. XV^{4/4}

Epistolae Magni Turci; On the Winds

f. 1r blank

1. f. 1v In nomine Iesu omne genu flectitur. Figura ventorum. f. 2 ruled but blank

Circular diagram of the world with the four main directions of the winds (the West at the top) and the Latin names of 12 winds. See also art. 4.

2. ff. 3r-11r Yhesus. Laudivii equitis Hyerosolimitani ad Francinum Beltrandum comitem in epistolas Magni Turci prefatio. Epistolas a me nuper in lucem editas ad quem potius mitterem, Francine, quam ad te habui neminem ... nunc pueri nasum rinocerontis habent. Argumentum epistolarum. [M]aumetes Turcorum imperator, cui postea ex magnitudine rerum gestarum Magnus Turcus cognomento fuit ... quas quidem Laudivius eques Hyerosolimitanus earum post sentencias assecutus Latinas edidit. [f. 3v, text:] Turcus Zancassano. [A]udio te ad Leptam Euphrate superato copias ingentes traiecisse, quibus mox Parthorum fines ingressus omnia belli incendio late vastaveris ... [f. 10v:] Lacedemonii Turco. Cleandro apud Laconas cum universo exercitu nostro deditionem nosmet sponte fecimus ... nec visa nobis potior victoria est quam nullo rei publice detrimento patriam ab incendio belli servasse. Epistole M(agni) Turci finiunt a Laudivio equite Hyerosolimitano edite, que sunt LXXXX numero.

Laudivius Zacchia (Laudivio da Vezzano, c. 1435-after 1475, Ps.-Mahomet II), *Epistolae Magni Turci*. See F. Babinger, "Laudivius Zacchia, der Erdichter der 'Epistolae Magni Turci'", *Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Philosophisch-Historische Klasse, Sitzungsberichte*, 1960, nr. 13. Short marginal observations on the text in a rapid contemporary hand.

3. f. 11r De hermofrodita per dominum An(tonium) Panormitanum carmen decasticon. Quom mea me genitrix gravido gestaret in alvo, / Quid [sibi *deleted*] pariat fertur consuluisse deos ... Femina, vir, neutrum, flumina, tela, crucem. Finis. f. 11v ruled but blank

De Hermaphrodito, ascribed to Hildebertus Cenomannensis (Hildegard of Le Mans, 1065-1133) and others, here ascribed to Antonius Panormitanus (Antonio Beccadelli, 1394-1471). Walther, *Initia* 3662; Schaller-Könsgen 3053. PL 171.1446; Ae. Baehrens, ed., *Poetae Latini Minores*, v. 4 (Teubner, 1882), pp. 114-115, vv. 1-10.

Artt. 2-3. These texts are printed together in a few of the incunable editions of the *Epistolae*, which appeared from 1473 onwards (list of incunable editions, without details about their content, in Babinger, pp. 39-42). The deviations from the Hildebert text which are seen in art. 3

occur also in these editions. The content of the undetermined Italian ed. Polain 2561 is close to our manuscript and that incunable may have been its exemplar.

4. f. 12r Incipit de ventis secundum Papiam, Isidorum et Iohannem Bocacium de Certaldo. Papias. Ventus est aer motus et agitatus et pro diversis partibus celi nomina sortitus. Dicitur autem quia sit vehemens et violentus, nam celum, terram mariaque conturbat ... Dicit tamen Papias ex omnibus ventis duos esse cardinales, Septentrionem et Austrum, et ventos quidem esse innumerabiles, nominatos ex propriis locorum flatibus. f. 12v blank

Note on the winds and their Latin names, according to the title based on Papias, Isidore of Seville and Boccaccio. The first author only has been excerpted (Papias, s. XI^{med}, *Elementarium doctrinae erudimentum*, s.v. *Ventus*; I saw the ed. Venice, Philippus de Pincis, 1496). See also art. 1.

Paper, ff. I + 12 + I, 215 x 155 mm. Watermark: Hand topped by Star similar to Briquet 10706 ff.

Consists of a bifolium (ff. 1 + 12 = A) now surrounding a quinio (ff. 2-11 = B).

A: f. 1 has no ruling; f. 12r has frame ruling in lead for one column (no bottom horizontal line), width 96 mm., 25 lines. B: ff. 2-11 have rake ruling for one column of 28 lines above top line, the vertical lines almost invisible, the horizontal lines traced in brown ink; ruling type 11, 138 x 107 mm.; above the top line a through line in lead has been added (resulting in ruling type 12, 28 lines below top line).

A is copied by one hand in Humanistica Cursiva; note however the difference in spelling between f. 1v ("Auster" etc.) and f. 12r ("Hauster" etc.). B is copied by one hand in Gothico-Humanistica Libraria.

Art. 4 is not decorated. In artt. 2-3 there are 2-or 3-line initials, in black ink and in outline; they have generally not been executed on the first pages. Guide letters do not seem to have been written consistently. The schematic drawing of art. 1 is traced in lead and consists of two concentric circles inscribed in a square and crosswise divided with double lines, containing the inscriptions "Meridies", "Occidens", "Septentrio" and "Oriens"; in the center "Terra". At the circumference the four main winds "Auster", "Favonius", "Septentrio" and "Subsolanus", each with two collateral winds.

Modern paper binding; on the front cover a printed label with the title "EPISTOLAE / MAGNI TURCI / MANUSCRIT".

On f. 1r an owner's (?) name "Raynaud" (s. XVI); on f. 12v several inscriptions s. XVI-XVII heavily crossed out. On the front pastedown in pencil the price "£ 4000". Purchased from Sam Fogg, London? Collection of Bernard M. Rosenthal (MS 107)? Purchased with the income from the fund bequeathed by Douglas M. Moffat, Yale 1903.

R.25.03.11

Albert Derolez