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MS 890

Italy, s. XVⁱⁿ

Cicero, Pseudo-Cicero, Pseudo-Sallust, etc.

1. ff. 1r-14v [text:][A]nimadverti sepe Catonem avunculum tuum, cum in senatu sententiam diceret, locos graves ex phylosophia tractare abhorrentes ab usu hoc forensi et publico, sed dicendo consequi tamen ut illa probabilia ecciam populo viderentur ... [gloss:] Avunculum: nota quod Cato erat avunculus Bruti et non patruus ex parte patris, sed matris. Locos graves: loci sunt brevia argumenta ... [text:] improbi autem et avari, quoniam incertas atque casu positas possessiones habent et plus semper appetunt, nec eorum quisquam adhuc inventus est cui quod habet satis esset, non modo non copiosi ac divites sunt, sed inopes ac pauperes extimandi sunt. Amen. Marcii Tullii Ciceronis paradoxa solliciter expliciunt. Amen.

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.), *Paradoxa*. O. Plasberg, ed. (Teubner, 1908), pp. 3-26. The extensive marginal and interlinear glosses, in the scribe's hand, stop after f. 3v. Marginal notes and corrections are found here and there in the subsequent pages; a note in Italian s. XVII in the margin of f. 4r. The running headline, on all recto pages, is "Pa".

2. f. 14v Profetia. Gallorum levitas Germanus [l. Germanos] iustificabit, / Italiae gravitas Gallo confuso vocabit [l. Gallos confusos necabit?] / Annis millenis quatuor centum ac quadragenis / Et septem tanquam consurget aquila grandis ... Dux tamen illustris complebit gaudia vite / Tempore quo Venus obumbrabit cornua Martis.

Prophecy (11 verses) added by a slightly later hand on the blank lower half of the page. The text is corrupt. Prophecies with largely the same text exist for the years 1293, 1389, 1420, etc. (Walther, *Initia* 7015). The present prophecy announces events of the year 1447: the death of a pope (Eugenius IV?), the universal power of an emperor ("Cesar regnabit ubique", Frederick III?), the end of the vain glory of the clergy, and the surge of a famous Duke. The fall of Constantinople (1453; or is the collapse of the statue of Constantine in Rome meant?) appears equally to be announced ("Constantina cadet"), as well as the destruction of the marble horses, an obelisk and numerous palaces. The original version, with variants and important notes on later versions, is edited and discussed by O. Holder-Egger in *Neues Archiv*, 33 (1908), pp. 118-124. For the "Joachimite" prophecies as applied to "the Third Frederick", see M. Reeves, *The Influence of Prophecy in the Later Middle Ages. A Study in Joachimism* (Oxford, 1969), pp. 332-346.

3. f. 15r Oratio domini Iohannis Ampiani [?]. [1] § Ipse coram illustri conspectu sublimissimi nominis tui, principum strenuissime ac nostro seculo [seculo *repeated*] gloriosissime Cesar, odierna die orationem acturus, rem profecto grandem ... aperi oculos mentis amodo et cerne fulgentissimum, quod ad te advenit quotque [?] lucebit eterne, lumen. [2] Ipse coram illustri conspectu splendidissimi nominis tui, princeps strenuissime,

propter universitatis illius fidelis ***** verba facturus, rem profecto grandem accentans [?] ... aut non ea recitatione stupebit? Etiam me quidem nec dum ad *** medium proficientem presens Apollo destituer. Nam // f. 15v blank, except for the catchword "hora 9"

Apparently two rhetorical exercises by an unrecorded author addressed to an emperor, who is praised with all possible exaggeration. [2] is incomplete at the end. No facts are recorded that would allow to identify the addressee (Frederick III?). These texts are copied by a slightly later hand on an originally blank page. The legibility is scant.

4. f. 16r Ianuarius I (+ hora 9), II (p), III (p), XI (p), XV (p), XXX (<+> hora 5) ...
December I (p), VII (+ hora 1), XI (p), XXIII (+ hora 6).

Astronomical or computistical table, recording for each month 3 up to 7 days, of which two are superscribed with a cross and an hour, the remaining ones only with the letter "p". The crosses are crutched crosses up to September inclusive, afterwards simple crosses. Note the Italianate spellings "Aprelis", "Madius", "October".

5. f. 16v [1] Et quia in historiis Romanorum quamsepius nomina abbreviantur, sciendum est quod per A. intelligitur Aulus, per Ap. intelligitur Appius, per Fla. Flaminius Flavius ... per S.C. Senatus Consultus, per B. Brutus, per K. Kamillus. [2] Nota quod in codicibus antiquis has litteras ita levare [?] videntur: P. Publius, G. Gaius, M. Marcus, Gn. Gneus ... L.C. Latinum Colonarii, S.N.L. Sotii Nominis Latini, et similia. [3] Nomina Grecorum. Argolicus, Grecus Graiusque Pelasgus, Achivus, / Aiginus, Danaus, eademque [?] sunt Doricus et Argus. [4] Versus de Cupidine. Cecus et allatus, nudus, puer et pharetratus, / Istitis quinque modis deus signatur amoris.

Notes added by slightly later hands on a blank page. [1] and [2]. Notes on ancient Roman abbreviations; see also MS 762. [3] Various Latin names applied to the Greeks; the same verses occur in Berlin, Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz, MS Hamilt. 608, f. 1v. For a variant of [4], see Walther, *Sprichwörter*, v. 1, p. 253, no. 2217a.

6. ff. 17r-68v Cicero Lucio salutem. Collegi ea que pluribus modis dicerentur, quo uberior prompciorque esset eloqucio, quorum plerumque maior pars trahi in has omnes fortunas poterit, ceteris conveniet minime; nec mirum erit si pluribus locis aut quia memoria fugerint, aut quia pluribus significacionibus conveniant. Igitur alfabetum inicium capiamus. [f. 17v:] Abditum: opertum, absconditum, obscurum, obumbratum, obtusum ... Vates: sacerdos, poeta, augur divinum, interpres. Marchi Tullii Ciceronis Sinonima feliciter expliciunt. Deo gracias. //

Ps.-Cicero, *Synonyma*. Printed from 1487 onward (GKW 7031-7040). S. XVII Italian annotations, in the same hand as in art. 1, are found in the margins of ff. 23v-25r. Ff. 64v-65r were inadvertently skipped by the scribe and are blank; a later hand has written on them in clumsy Gothic Textualis Formata: "Herror // scribentis" (twice repeated by other hands).

7. ff. 69r-70v [G]raviter et iniquo animo maledicta tua paterer, Marche Tulli, si scirem iudicio magis quam morbo animi ista petulancia uti ... hiis male dicis, illos odisti, levissime transfuga, neque in hac neque in illa parte fidem habens. Salustii Crispi causa contra Marchum Tullium Ciceronem.

Ps.-Sallustius, *Invectiva in Marcum Tullium Ciceronem*. A. Kurfess, ed. (*Appendix Sallustiana*, Teubner, 1958), pp. 1-8.

Paper, ff. I + 72 + I, 215 x 145 mm. In-4° folding. There are remnants of an early foliation in arabic numerals (s. XVII?) in the upper outer corner of the recto pages, starting f. 16 ("1").

I¹² (flyleaf + ff. 1-11), II⁴ (ff. 12-15), III-VIII⁸ (ff. 16-63), IX⁸ (ff. 64-70 + rear flyleaf).
Horizontal catchwords at right of the center (in decorative linear frames on ff. 31v, 55v, 63v).

Almost invisible frame ruling in lead for text in long lines, except in art. 6, where the lists of synonyms are disposed in two columns, with many blank spaces (ruling: c. 120 x 50 mm.). In art. 1 there are c. 20-25 lines on the page (155 x 76 mm.), in art. 7 24-26 lines (c. 130 x c. 80 mm.).

The original parts are copied by two scribes: A copied art. 1 in Gothica Semihybrida Libraria/Currens; B, writing a bold Gothica Cursiva Formata with "northern" features and marked by lengthened and decorated ascenders on the top line, copied artt. 4, 6 and 7. The additional texts, copied on blank spaces or pages, are in badly shaped Humanistica Cursiva (art. 2), slovenly executed Gothica Semihybrida Currens (art. 3), Humanistica Cursiva (art. 5, [1] and [2]) and Gothico-Humanistica Cursiva (art. 5, [3] and [4]).

In the original parts all initials are missing; at the opening of art. 6 the upper half of f. 17r is blank (in view of a picture which was not executed?) and a later hand has entered a large and coarse initial "C" (8 lines) containing a human face; in that art. there are guide letters for the small initials which were intended to open each entry; a few of these initials were added afterwards. The initial planned at the opening of art. 7 is 6 lines high. The opening lines of art. 1 are in a large fanciful display script overdecorated with flourishes and almost illegible. There is some pale red stroking of the majuscules on ff. 68v, 69r and 70v.

Binding s. XX: yellow parchment over light cardboard, with turned edges.

Hand A and some additional hands seem definitely Italian; so is the spelling of art. 4. But hand B (who copied art. 4) has no Italian features and is probably of foreign origin; the dotted abbreviation strokes and the (very rare) use of "i longa" ("anjmus", f. 46v) may point to a Portuguese scribe. On the blank f. 15v is written in very pale red crayon and in giant letters: "Henricus (?) scribentis (?) hec (?) est". Collection of Bernard M. Rosenthal, Berkeley, California (MS 211). Purchased on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund.

In the following table the additional texts (artt. 2, 3 and 5) are not taken into account.

<u>Quires</u>	<u>folios</u>	<u>foliation</u>	<u>scribes</u>	<u>contents</u>
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I-II	1-15	-	A	art. 1
III-IX	16-70	+	B	artt. 4, 6, 7

R.11.01.12

Albert Derolez