

YALE UNIVERSITY
BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY
MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE MANUSCRIPTS

MS 905

Northern France, s. XV^{med}

Jacques Legrand, *Livre de bonnes meurs*

f. 1 blank

ff. 2r-53v Tous orgueilleux se veulent a Dieu comparer en tant que ilz se glorifient en eulx mesmez et es biens que ilz ont, desquelles choses la gloire est deue principalement a Dieu ... et ce tu meurs en grace, en icelle heure tu seras sauvé ou en voye de sauvement. § Par quoy il appert que pou vault l'esperance de ceulx qui dient que le monde durera moult longuement. § Explicit le livre des bonnes meurs. Lamberti [followed by the scribe's mark]. ff. 54-57 ruled but blank

Jacques Legrand (c. 1360-1415/1418), *Livre de bonnes meurs*. E. Beltran, ed., *Bibliothèque du XV^e siècle*, 49 (Paris, 1986), pp. 305-399. The text of the manuscript is much shorter at the beginning of the Second Part: Book II begins f. 26r (“§ Cy commance [corrected in: finit] la premiere partie de ce livre et s'ansuit la second [*sic*] partie, laquelle parle de l'estat des gens de l'Eglise et des clerics”); the only other chapter in this part is “Comment on doit estudier”; Book IV begins f. 28r (“§ Cy commence la IIII^e [corrected in III^e?] partie de ce livre, laquelle parle des estas du commun peuple, et est le premier chapitre de l'estat des riches, comment ilz ne se doivent point en leurs richesses glorifier”); so chapters 1-13 of the edition occupy no more than a few pages, the state of the nobility not being treated at all; Book V begins f. 41v (“§ Cy s'ensuit la quinte partie, qui parle de la mort ...”).

Paper, ff. 57, 310 x 220 mm. Folio folding. Watermarks: two parallel keys, Briquet 3818; three monograms, var. Briquet 9746 (DP) and 9913-9916.

I-IV¹² (ff. 1-48), VI¹⁰ (-10, ff. 49-57). Vertical catchwords very close to the fold.

Frame ruling traced in lead for one column of script, c. 35-40 lines, c. 200 x 145 mm.

Copied by the unrecorded scribe Lambert in Gothica Cursiva Libraria/Currens (Bastarda).

Red paragraph marks, red stroking of the majuscules and of the punctuation marks. The words following a majuscule are generally written in large and narrow Gothica Textualis and barred with horizontal parallel red lines. 2-line plain initials in red, with guide letters (3-line on ff. 2r and 3r).

Bound (s. XXI) in paper cover.

The manuscript was at one time bound with a second copy of the same text, now MS 894. Sotheby's, 12 June 1999, lot 34. Purchased on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund.

R.12.01.12

Albert Derolez