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MS 942

France, s. XIII/XIV

Nicolaus de Byard, *Tractatus de vitiis et virtutibus*

1. f. 1r-v Abstinentia. Adulatio. Ambitio. Amicicia ... Usura. Veritas. Videre Deum. Vita eterna. Versus. Sunt hoc collecta libro vulgaria multa, / Ex alphabeto distincte scripta teneto. / Et positum titulo quodlibet est proprio.

List of the chapters (themes) contained in art. 2. For the verses that follow, see Walther, *Initia* 18825.

2. ff. 1v-132v *De abstinentia*. Duplex est abstinentia, detestabilis et laudabilis. Detestabilis ut in ypocritis, avaris et gulosis ... Deditur ergo, fratres, unusquisque vestrum ultra servire peccato, cui tanta promittentur in celo [?], et multa alia, que oculus non vidit nec auris audivit nec in cor hominis ascendit, que preparavit Dominus electis suis; ad que nos perducere dignetur qui vivit et regnat, Deus per omnia secula seculorum. Amen. Explicit. C.XXXIII.

Nicolaus de Byard (s. XIII<sup>med</sup>), *Tractatus de vitiis et virtutibus*, often improperly titled *Summa de abstinentia* (themes treated in alphabetical order). Stegmüller 5695; Kaeppli 3046, with extensive list of manuscripts; Bloomfield 1841. On the author, see *Dictionnaire de théologie catholique*, v. 11 (Paris, 1931), 589-592. The number "133" after the explicit is the number of the final chapter ("Vita eterna"), although in our manuscript the chapters are not numbered.

3. ff. 133r-138r § In sabbatis ad vespas. § Benedictus Dominus Deus meus, qui docet manus meas ad prelium: capitulo Quare benedicendus est Deus ... Martini episcopi et confessoris. Unius confessoris. § Milicia vel temptatio est vita hominis: capitulo De temptatione. Expliciunt theumata tocius libri. f. 138v blank

Readings for the liturgical year, referring to the chapters of art. 2. The arrangement is as follows: the Vespers on Saturdays; Temporale and the feast of the Dedication of the church; Sanctorale ("De sanctis"), at the same time Common of the Saints.

Artt. 1-3 occur together in an incunable edition, printed anonymously under the title *Dictionarius pauperum* at Paris by André Bocard for Durand Gerlier, 1498; see A. Coates *et alii*, *A Catalogue of Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century now in the Bodleian Library*, v. 4 (2005), N-038.

Parchment, ff. 138, ..... Original foliation “I”-“LX” in the upper outer corner of the recto pages, ending f. 60 (end of quire V).

I- XI<sup>12</sup> (ff. 1-132), XII<sup>6</sup> (ff. 133-138). Horizontal catchwords below the right-hand column, close to the lower edge and often lost at the trimming of the codex.

Lead ruling for two columns of 34 lines below top line. Ruling type 43. The first page of art. 1 is divided into three columns.

Probably copied by one hand, writing a small, rapid *Gothica Textualis/Semitextualis Libraria* with numerous abbreviations. Typical features are the developed bifurcations at the top of the ascenders, the extension of the ascenders at the top line and of the descenders at the bottom line, and a tendency to adopt cursive forms in “d” and in some ascenders.

Headings and underlining in red. Alternately red and blue paragraph marks. Alternately red and blue 2-line half inset flourished initials, respectively with ..... penwork at the opening of the chapters, with guide letters. 6-line *littera duplex* with penwork in the same colours on f. 1v (opening of art. 2). Red heighening of the majuscules in artt. 1 and 3.

Binding ..... Spine with four raised bands. On the spine and partly on the covers, a s. XVIII paper title label with handwritten inscription “Ancien / Manuscrit / sur / Velin / Complet / et \*\*\*\*\*” (cfr. MSS 940 and 941).

On the front pastedown an erased inscription and the number “734”; on the rear pastedown the number “851”. Purchased on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund.