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MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE MANUSCRIPTS

MS 484.15

Southern Italy, s. X/XI

Passionary

The two lives of St. Cassian in this fragment are also found together in Rome, Bibliotheca Casanatensis, 1408, nos. 40-1, a manuscript copied in Beneventan script in Benevento in the twelfth century (see A. Poncelet, Catalogus codicum hagiographicorum latinorum bibliothecarum Romanarum praeter quam Vaticanae [Brussels, 1909], 258-9).

- f. 1r [Inc: Sylla forum statuit Cornelius ...] //re uulnerem stillant ... domum reuertor cassianum predico.
 - St. Cassian (13 August); Prudentius, Peristephanon, Book IX.58-106; BHL 1625.

 The upper margin has been trimmed with the loss of the first line of text.
- f. 1r-v Hinc d[octus prudentius dum taliter] gesta ... nunc scinditur nunc//

Passio S. Cassiani; BHL 1626b. The upper margin has been trimmed with the loss of the first line of text.

Parchment. 1 folio. $413 \times 308 \text{ mm}$ (written space originally ca. $385 \times 245 \text{ mm}$). 2 columns. 35 of 36 lines remaining.

Written in Beneventan script. The Prudentius life is written in poetic stanzas. Six-line decorated initial is outlined in brown, not set apart from the text. 1-line initials are brown uncials; in the Prudentius text, they are set apart from the text, but in the prose life they are only set apart when they occur at the beginning of a line. Punctuation consists of the punctus, punctus

elevatus and the punctus versus.

According to V. Brown, another leaf from this manuscript is preserved in Sweet Briar (Virginia) College Library, MS 2 (letter of 17 October 1994). The Sweet Briar leaf contains Pseudo-Ildefonsus, Homily 7 (PL 96.269; Inc: [Celebritas hodierni diei nos admonet ...ma]//ria mulier esse non potuit ... amen.) and Pseudo-Augustine, Homily 194 (PL 39.2104-6; Inc: Adest nobis diem dilectissimi optatus dies ... fingunt sabelli peperit paruulum//). These two texts are in Alan of Farfa's Homiliary (Homilies II.64-5) for the feast of the Virgin Mary (15 August). They occur with the prose Passio S. Cassiani in Rimini, Biblioteca Gambalunghiana, 4.A.I.i, a manuscript written in Italian Caroline script of the end of the eleventh or beginning of the twelfth century (see A. Gattucci, "Codici agiografici riminesi: il Passionario della Biblioteca Gambalunghiana," Studi Medievali 10 [1969]: 269-331 and BHL 5355cb and 5355cc).

According to De Ricci, the Sweet Briar leaf was obtained in 1931 from Rappoport in Rome (See De Ricci, 2:1855, no. 2; see also Faye and Bond, 525).

The Beinecke fragment was used as the wrapper of a volume measuring ca. 308 x 207 mm. There are various pen trials, including two in Greek, both of which read [Greek], a quotation from Psalm 148.6.

Modern hands have written in pencil "Sec. XI 1a meta probabilmente Monte Casino" on the recto and the number "24" on the verso. Gift of the Yale University Library Associates; purchased from Kraus in 1948. The leaf was earlier sold by E. von Scherling (Leiden), cf. Rotulus, 1.4 (December 1931): 75, item 1269.

Bibliography:

Kraus, H. P. List no. 109 (New York, [1947]), no. 24.

Lohrmann, D. "Zwei Passionare des 12. Jahrhunderts aus der Kapitelbibliothek von Benevent," Quellen und Forschungen aus italienischen Archiven und Bibliotheken 46 (1966): 455-75.

Lowe, E. A. The Beneventan Script: a History of South Italian Minuscule, 2nd ed. by Virginia Brown, 2 vols (Rome, 1980), 2:107.