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MEDIÉVAL AND RENAISSANCE MANUSCRIPTS

MS 883

Western Germany, s. XII<sup>2</sup> (before 1173?)

Collectar

1. ff. 1r-6r Calendar. One page for each month (January missing). The computistical data are: duration of solar and lunar month; duration of day and night; Golden Number; Day Letter; Roman Calendar; verses for the Egyptian Days, Febr.: “Ast Februi quarta est, precedit tertia [finem]”; Dec.: “Dat duodena cohors septemque decemque Decembris” (incipit of the complete series: “Iani prima dies et septima fine timetur”; Walther 9771; Grotefend, v. 1, p. 56); the entrance of the sun into the signs of the Zodiac; the beginning of the seasons; Claves and Termini; and a few others. The alphabets in the margins mark 59-days cycles (two lunar months) by means of *litterae punctatae*. Noteworthy saints and feasts in the original layer of the Calendar: Vedastus and Amandus (6 Febr.), Mamertus (11 May), Servatius (original?, 13 May), Donatianus (24 May), Medardus (8 June), Albanus (22 June), Evurtius (7 Sept.), Lambertus (17 Sept.), Sequanus (19 Sept.), Andocius, Tyrsus, Felix (24 Sept.), Remigius, Germanus, Vedastus (1 Oct.), Marcellus, Apuleius, Sergius, Bacchus (7 Oct.), Benignus (2 Nov.), Columbanus (21 Nov.), Chrysantus, Maurus, Daria (1 Dec.). Among the later medieval additions: Cuthbertus (20 March), Adalbertus (23 April), Robertus (of Molesmes, 29 April), Hugo (of Cluny, 29 April), Petrus martyr (can. 1253, 30 April), Stanislaus (canonized 1253, 8 May), Anniversarium omnium monachorum (20 May), Visitatio Mariae (2 July), Octava Visitationis (9 July), Translatio Benedicti (11 July), Margaretha (13 July), Divisio apostolorum (15 July), Dominicus (can. 1234, 5 August), Corona spinea (11 August), Bernardus Claraevallensis (can. 1174, 20 August), Aegidius (erased?, 1 Sept.), Commemoratio fratrum et familiarium (17 Sept.), Franciscus (canonized 1228, 4 Oct.), Gereon (10 Oct.), Hedwig (“Hadewigis”, can. 1267, 15 Oct.), Malachias (5 Nov.), Elisabeth (of Thüringen, can. 1235, 19 Nov.), Conceptio Mariae (8 Dec.), Barbara (16 Dec.), Thomas (Becket, canonized 1173, 29 Dec.). Feasts added in the postmedieval period: Dorothea (6 Febr.), Casimir (can. 1522, 4 March), Lutgardis (16 June), Quinque fratrum Polonorum (12 Nov.), Praesentatio Mariae (21 Nov.). For historical notes in the Calendar, see below.
2. f. 6v Computus tables: (1) “Regulares feriales”. Table of the Regulares solis; E.I. Strubbe and L. Voet, *Chronologie van de Middeleeuwen en de Moderne Tijden in de Nederlanden* (Antwerp, Amsterdam, 1960), p. 40; but the numbers for Jan. (“Ianus”) and Febr. (“Februus”) differ; exactly the same numbers as in our manuscript are found in A. Derolez, *Die komputistischen Tafeln des Liber Floridus*. Mitteilungen und Verzeichnisse aus der Bibliothek des Bischöflichen Priesterseminars zu Trier, 16 (Trier, 2003), no. 17, pl. 11. (2) “Secuntur regulares lunares”. Derolez, *Die komputistischen Tafeln*, no. 18, pl. 11. (3) “Angelica linea”. Table on the *Rithmus de termino Paschae*, beginning “None Aprilis norunt quinos”, K. Strecker, ed., MGH, Poetae, v. 4.2 (1923), pp. 670-671; Derolez, *Die komputistischen Tafeln*, no. 21, pl. 11. (4) Minor tables and calculations in the original and in later hands; in the latter the year 1419 appears twice.

3. f. 7r Incipits of various antiphons and responsories, with the days on which they are sung. At the bottom a few lines of neumes. The ink on this page has very faded.
4. ff. 7v-62v \*\* *Sabbato Adventus Domini ad Vesperas Capitulum*. Ecce dies veniunt  
 //////////////////////////////////////. *Collecta*. Excita, Domine, quesumus, potentiam tuam et veni ...

Collects for the Temporale. On f. 62v the Collects for the feasts of St. Bernard and St. Eamundus are later additions.

5. ff. 63r-107r In natali sancti Stephani protomartiris in Laudibus, ad Terciam et ad Vesperas Capitulum. Stephanus plenus gracia et fortitudine faciebat prodigia et signa magna in populo. *Collecta*. Da nobis, quesumus, Domine, imitari quod colimus ...

Collects for the Sanctorale.

6. ff. 107r-117r *In natali unius apostoli ad Vesperas et in Laudibus et ad III et ad Secundas Vesperas Capitulum*. Iam non estis hospites. *Retro in VI. fol. Collecta*. Quesumus, omnipotens Deus. *In VIII. fol. Ad 9*. [this number by modern hand over erasure] *Capitulum*. Ibant apostoli gaudentes a conspectu concilii ...

Collects for the Common of the Saints.

7. ff. 117r-118v *In dedicatione ecclesie ad Vesperas vel III Vesperas Capitulum*. Vidi civitatem sanctam Iherusalem novam descendentem de celo ... *In nova dedicatione Collecta*. Deus, qui invisibiliter omnia continet ...

Collects for the feast of the Dedication of the church.

8. ff. 118v-120r *Super fratres egredientes de coquina ... Super ingredientes in coquina ... Super fratres egredientes in via ... Super fratres redeuntes de via ...*

Collects for various occasions.

9. ff. 120r-123v *Benedictio ignis in Sabbato sancto Pasche. Dominus vobiscum. Et. Oremus*. Domine Deus Pater, lumen indeficiens, exaudi nos ...

Benediction of the fire and exorcism of salt and water.

10. ff. 123v-126r *Letania per tres dies Rogationum dicenda ante missam*. Kyrie eleyson. Christe eleyson ...

Litany for the Rogation Days. Among the martyrs are noteworthy: Benignus, Irenaeus, Mauricius, Gereon.

11. ff. 126r-146v *Visitatio infirmi. Sacerdos indutus alba et stola pergat ad infirmum in medio domus positum cum aqua benedicta et cruce, in eundo cantantes Ps. Beatus qui intelligit [Ps. 40.2] ...*

Prayers for the sick and dying and ceremonial for the burial. On f. 145r musical notation for the Antiphone (announced as a Responsory) “Clementissime Domine, qui pro nostra miseria ab impiorum manibus mortis supplicium pertulisti ...”

12. ff. 146v-148r *Ad barbas iuvenum. Dominus vobiscum. Oratio. Deus, cuius spiritu creatura omnis incrementis adulta gaudet, exaudi preces nostras super hunc famulum tuum N. iuvenalis etatis decore letantem ...*

Ceremonial for the tonsure of a novice. A few neumes in Responsories on f. 146v

13. ff. 148r-151v *Incipit ordo ad benedicendum monachum. Ego frater ille, sacerdos vel dyaconus, subdiaconus, acolitus vel clericus vel laicus, promitto stabilitatem meam ... in hoc loco qui vocatur .N. [above the line, in later hand: Lynda ordinis Cysterciensis] ...*

Ceremonial for the profession.

Parchment, ff. 150, 230 x 155 mm.; f. 68 is a contemporary slip of parchment inserted between ff. 67 and 69.

I<sup>8</sup> (-1, - 2; ff. 1-6), II-XIX<sup>8</sup> (ff. 7-151).

The text has lead ruling for one column of 16 lines above top line; ruling type 36?? In the Calendar lead ruling for one column of 33 lines above top line. The Litanies on ff. 123v-125r and 130r-131v are written in two columns.

The text is copied by one hand in large Praegothica, except a few passages (the numerous smaller changes and additions not taken into account): the two texts on f. 62v (art. 4) are added by slightly later hands; f. 95v, except the first three lines (art. 5), is by a later hand; ff. 118v (except the first seven lines) -119v (art. 8) are in s. XV Northern Gothic Textualis Formata. Artt. 1-3 are in smaller Praegothica, with numerous additions and changes by later hands. Neumes are only found on ff. 7r (art. 3), 145r (art. 11) and 146v (art. 12).

Red rubrics. Occasionally red stroking of majuscules. Numerous 2-line (rarely 3-line) half inset initials in ... , often with fancy forms; they are plain or more often decorated with interior reserved shapes and/or primitive forms of penwork. Large Romanesque initials on ff. 7v (7 lines, in red, with blue and green background filling, opening of art. 4); 42v (6 lines, in red, with blue background filling, art. 4, Vigil of Easter); 54v (4 lines, in ... , Insular influence; art. 4, Pentecost); 63r (6 lines, in ... , opening of art. 5). The headings and first letters and words after the initial on ff. 7v, 42v and 63r are in large fancy capitals in alternating colours: red, blue, green, yellowish brown, often with some penwork in a contrasting colour.

Binding s. XV: brown calf over bevelled oak boards, spine with three raised bands. Both covers blind-tooled: a frame traced with fillets, the central panel decorated with floral stamps and the frame with a roll. The title "Collectarius" is stamped in the lower section of the frame on the front cover.

The manuscript was probably produced in a monastery of the Rhine area. According to Noell, who compared its features to those of a series of contemporary manuscripts from the Cistercian abbey of Altenberg and a few neighbouring institutions, all now in Frankfurt, Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek, it is quite probable that it was produced in the Altenberg scriptorium. From there it was in the early thirteenth century taken to the Cistercian abbey of Łąd (Łądek, Greater Poland), which in 1145 had been founded by monks from Altenberg. From that time onwards up to the seventeenth century the manuscript was constantly in use, resulting in countless passages that were erased or crossed out and replaced with extensive liturgical texts in many different hands, added on the deleted passages, on flyleaves and in the margins, to the detriment of the original beauty of the manuscript. From the origin the Calendar seems to have been a Cistercian one, but it is highly remarkable that a large number of major Cistercian feasts were added in its second layer (whether the first quire containing the Calendar was from the beginning part of the manuscript is not sure; this problem is of course important for the dating). The absence in the first layer of Bernard of Clairvaux and Thomas Becket, canonized in 1174 and 1173 respectively, has been explained by the supposed very early date of our manuscript. Also in the Calendar, apart from the above-mentioned Polish saints that have been added, we see: "Anniversarium Karoli" (Karl Bessart, Master General of the Teutonic Knights, d. 1324, 4 Febr.); "Anniversarium Nycolai iudicis de Venancia" (recorded 1399, 25 Febr.); "Anniversarium Wyzek heredis" (27 Febr.); "Anniversarium comitis Dobeslav" (13 March); "Obiit dux Mescho [Mieszko III, d. 1202] fundator domus Landensis" (15 March); "Anno Domini M<sup>o</sup> CC<sup>o</sup> LXXXIII<sup>o</sup> occubuit dux Kasimirus" [Kasimir of Łęczyka, d. 1294] (10 June); "Dominica post Dyonisium [9 Oct.] habetur dedicatio Lydensis ecclesie". Belonged afterwards to the Archiwum Archidiecezjalne of Poznan (circular stamp on the front pastedown and on one of the front flyleaves with the inscription "Biblioteka Seminaryjna Poznanskich". This is obviously the "Collectarium de Łąd (Grande-Pologne) de la fin du XII<sup>e</sup> ou du début du XIII<sup>e</sup> siècle" mentioned by H. Feicht, "Problématique de l'histoire de la musique polonaise", *Acta Poloniae Historica*, 13 (1966), pp. 65-85 (68), reported to having disappeared from the library of the Polish Academy of Sciences during the Second World War, and of which only f. 145r (part of art. 11) was known to the author through a reproduction in W. Semkowicz, *Paleografia łacińska* (Cracow, 1951), p. 507 (p. 460, pl. 152 in the 2002 edition). Purchased from H.P. Kraus, New York.

#### *Bibliography:*

B. Noell, "Origins and Evolution of the Polish Cistercian Monastery of Łąd: The Evidence of Beinecke MS 883", *Revue Mabillon*, 16 (2005), pp. 113-131.