

**Incunabula in Special Collections,
University of Otago Library**



**Pre-1501 Early Printed Books (Incunabula*)
in Special Collections, University of Otago Library**

Special Collections, University of Otago Library, houses 42 examples of pre-1501 early printed books that represent 15th century printmanship from Italy, German, Switzerland, and France. There is one highly unusual English sample: four binding fragments printed by William Caxton, and John Lettou, about 1480 and bound in a 1481 edition of Nicolas de Lyra's *Commentaria in bibliam* (no.7). There is a selection of printers, ranging from Johann Amerbach, Peter Drach, Ulrich Han, and Georg Husner to Anton Koberger, Aldus Manuitus, Johann Mentelin, and Johannes Trechsel. Operating from European towns such as Basel, Speyer, Rome, Strassburg, Nuremberg, Venice, Strassburg, and Lyon, their productions reflect their expertise and resources in this burgeoning industry. Typefaces, style, and quality of printing and bookmaking also vary. Indeed, the collection contains items that are typographical masterpieces (no. 7); others are downright pedestrian. Barring one book in German and another in Latin and Greek, all of the other books are in Latin, the predominant language for the printed word before 1500.

Given that most of the books are tied to established bibliographies, the descriptions attached are brief. However, the descriptions are grounded in the books at Otago, especially to condition and provenance. There has been some modernization of letters. References used follow the catalogue listing, as do printer and location indexes.

Images accompany most entries, offering a brief glimpse of the book and its make-up. They highlight bindings, decorations such as woodcut initials and illustrations, title-page samples, rubrications, typefaces, colophons and printer's devices, and provenance and bibliographical information (often on endpapers).

Notable highlights include *Liber chronicarum* (*The Nuremberg Chronicle*, 1493), Boccaccio's *De genealogiae deorum gentilium*, an encyclopedia of pagan gods, a book of medical aphorisms translated from Arabic in to Latin (1484), the Aldine printing of *Institutiones Graecae Grammaticae* (1497), and a leaf of the Nuremberg Bible, printed by Anton Koberger, 1483.

The prime purpose of this descriptive list is to raise the awareness of the existence of these books in New Zealand (and at the University of Otago, Dunedin) and encourage scholarly use in them. Like their vellum counter-parts, the medieval manuscripts, these survivors of a bygone age have their own distinct beauty and specific usefulness, be it textual or physical. They stand as very useful resources, especially to Early Modern scholars.

Special thanks to Dr Christopher de Hamel (Parker Library, Cambridge); John Goldfinch (British Library); Dr Falk Eisermann (State Library, Berlin); Klaus Graf (University of Freiburg), Michael Laird (Texas), Bettina Wagner (Bavarian State Library, Munich); and Anthony Tedeschi (Dunedin Public Library).

No list is without flaws. To this end, feedback is appreciated, either through email, letter, or in person. I welcome comments and suggestions.

Dr. Donald Kerr
Special Collections Librarian
University of Otago Library
Donald.kerr@otago.ac.nz
Ph: (03) 479-8330
Fax: (03) 479-8327

*Incunabula (singular incunabulum) is the technical term used to describe books printed before 1501. It is derived from the Latin word *cunae*, a cradle, hence incunabula, from the cradle or infancy of printing.

Principal Book Collectors University of Otago, Dunedin



Canon William Arderne Shoults, scholar-clergyman (left), was born in 1839 and died in London in 1887. The following year, Bishop Samuel Tarratt Nevill, first Anglican Bishop of Dunedin, persuaded his widow to send his fine library to New Zealand to form the nucleus of a library for Selwyn College, Dunedin. In 1965 the Shoults Collection was placed on permanent loan with the University of Otago Library by the Board of Selwyn College.

The collection of about four thousand volumes, the majority of them pre-1801 imprints, is rich in history and theology and includes fine examples of Greek and Roman classics by early printers such as Aldus Manutius, Robert Estienne and Christopher Plantin. Science, travel and Middle Eastern languages are also well represented.

Among the twenty-seven incunabula (pre-1501 printed books) in the collection is a handsome single volume of the Bible gloss of Nicholas de Lyra (1481), with a Rood and Hunt blind-stamped binding reinforced with fragments of indulgence printed by William Caxton, England's first printer. It is the oldest known English binding in New Zealand. The Shoults Collection also includes a small manuscript collection. One (MS 13: *Book of Morals, in three parts*) quite possibly contains the oldest paper in New Zealand, with watermarks identified as used at fifteen different places between 1353 and 1391 A.D.

In 1946 **Willi Fels** (1858-1946; middle), notable Dunedin collector and uncle to Dora, Mary and Esmond de Beer, gave the University of Otago Library four hundred of his most valuable pre-1801 books, including illuminated manuscripts, incunabula and many German and Italian imprints. This gift formed the nucleus of what was to become the de Beer Collection.

Dunedin-born **Esmond de Beer** (1895-1990; right) collected in areas such as 17th-century English history, politics and philosophy, 18th-century poetry, European architecture (particularly Roman antiquities and baroque Rome), travel and guide books, and the history of horticulture. Because of his own personal research interests in John Evelyn and John Locke (*The Diary of John Evelyn* (1955) and *The Correspondence of John Locke* (1976-89)), there are a concentration of books on both these men. Many are first edition titles. Foreign language works in Italian, French and German also feature, including a number of incunables. Along with sisters Dora and Mary, de Beer donated his collection to the University of Otago, beginning in 1983.

**

1. Alphonsus de Spina, Bp. of Orense, d. 1469.

Fortalitium fidei.

[Basel: Bernhard Richel, before 10 May 1475].

Text and Decoration

Paper. 240 numbered leaves, unsigned; 390 x 285 mm (fol.)

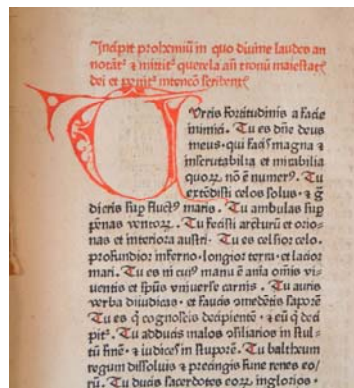
Gothic type; two columns per page.

'Tabula fortalicij fidei' (8 leaves) is in this copy placed at the beginning, not at the end.

Text begins on f.9a: 'Incipit prohemium in quo divine laudes annotat' & mittit' querela an tronu maiestate dei et ponit' intencō scribente.'

f.10a has a coloured woodcut.

Rubricated throughout.



Binding

Vellum covers (wormed) with fragments of manuscripts at front. Blind stamped with painted red 'T' on front cover. Brass clasps gone.



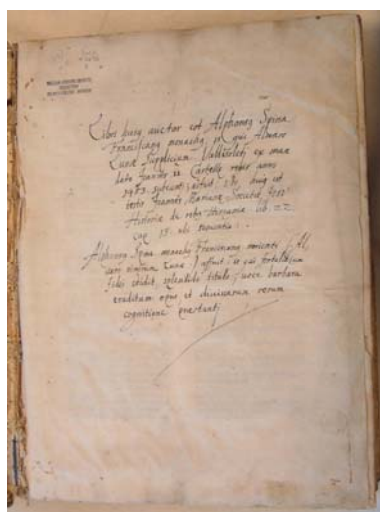
Printer

Bernhard Richel was an important printer in the city of Basel, first mentioned in the trade on 12 March 1472. He issued the city's first dated printed book, the *Sachsenspiegel* of 1474, and the city's first illustrated book: *Spiegel des menschlichen Behältnisses*, 1476. He died late July 1482.



Commentary

Alphonso de Spina was a Spanish Franciscan, who died about 1491. His main claim to fame is his *Fortalitium Fidei*, which deals with the different kinds of armour to be used by preachers and others in their warfare against the enemies of the Christian religion. It is divided into five books, the first directed against those who deny the Divinity of Christ, the second against heretics, the third against the Jews, and the fourth against the Mohammedans, while the fifth book treats of the battle to be waged against the Gates of Hell. The dating of this edition is determined by the fact that the Harvard copy of this work was bought on 10 May 1475 (Walsh) and the Freiburg copy was rubricated in that year (Sack). A manuscript note about de Spina is on a preliminary page.



Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 871*; BMC III 735; Goff A540; Kaplan 22; ISTC ia00540000; GW 1575

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Swe /1475/ E

Illustrations: Binding, rubricated initial f.5a, coloured woodcut f.10a, notes on preliminary page.

2.

Astesanus De Ast, d. 1330?

Summa de casibus conscientiae

[Strassburg: Johann Mentelin, not after 1473]

Text and Decoration

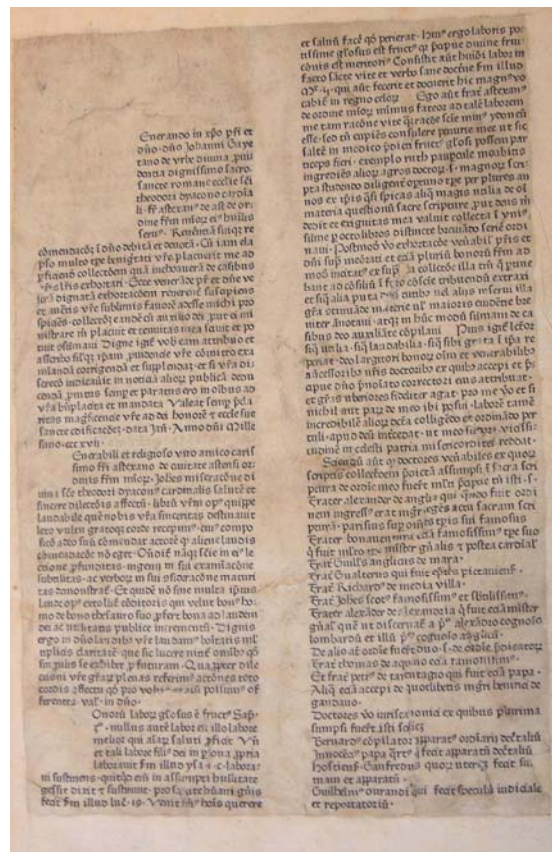
Paper. 433 leaves; 396 x 255 mm (fol.)

Gothic type; double columns, 62 lines per column.

L.403 and 424 are blank.

Lacks initial decoration; first folio leaf framed.

There is no colophon or printing date.



Binding

Calf covers detached. Spine title reads: Corpus Juris

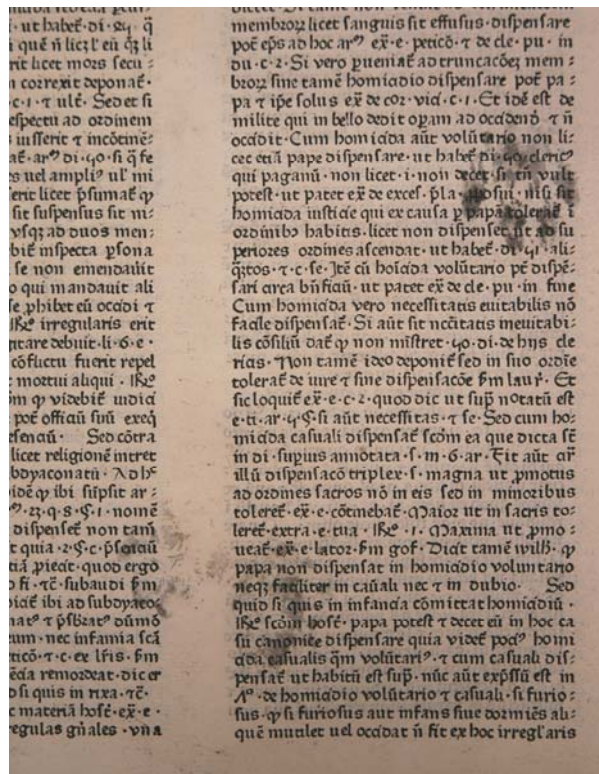
Printer

Johann Mentelin was the first printer in Strassburg. He was a former illuminator and episcopal notary who set up a printing press about 1458. According to J.P. de Lignamine's *Chronica Summorum Pontificum* (Rome, 1474) Mentelin was at that time (1458) printing 300 sheets a day. He printed the *editio princeps* of Virgil and printed the first German Bible, issued in 1460-61. He continued to print at Strassburg until 1477-78. He died on 12 December 1478.

Commentary

Little is known about Astesanus. He probably came from Asti and died in 1330. He was a theologian, moralist and Franciscan friar. *Summa de casibus conscientiae* (*Cases of Conscience*) is divided into eight books and deals with the Ten Commandments, virtues and vices, questions of civil

law, the Sacraments, the ordination of priests, matrimony, &c. This is a second edition copy; the first edition was printed by Mentelin, not after 1469. The BL copy has a rubricator's date of 1473. Mentelin's printery had a cat. On l. 252 two inky paw marks run across across the text.



Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC(+Add) 1889*; BMC I 56; Goff A1161; Kaplan 38; ISTC ia01161000; GW 2750

Call No. Shoults (Special Collections) Gd/1472/ A

Illustration: First page of text proper; f.252 with inky cat's paw.

3.

Augustinus, Aurelius, Saint, Bishop of Hippo.

Opus quaestionum.

Lyons: Johannes Trechsel, 25 April 1497.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [286] leaves ; 270 x 190 mm (fol.).

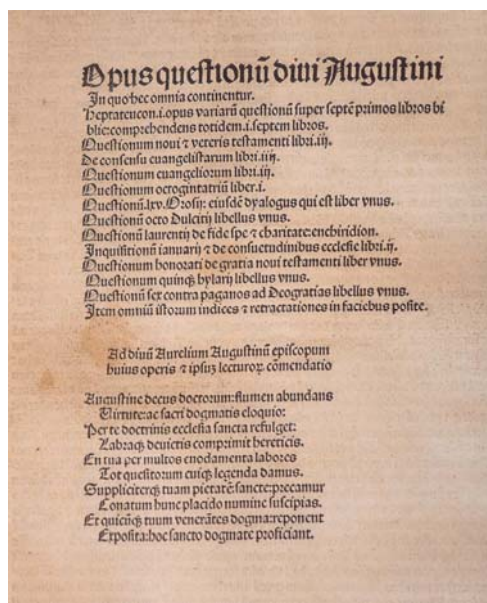
Gothic type; two columns per page.

F.1a – Title: *Opus questionū diuī Augustini*

F.285b – Colophon: *Impssum est hoc op. Lugduni: opa et Impensis. M. Ioānis Trechsel alemāano salutis nostre Millesimo quadringentesimo nonagesimoseptimo. Vij. Kalē. Maias. [Device].*

Edited by Augustinus de Ratisbona and Jodocus Badius Ascensius.

Last leaf wanting.



Binding

Rebacked; wooden boards with ornate stamped covers. One brass clasp remaining. Small fragment of spine label present.

Bound with: Haymo, Bp. *In diuī Pauli epistolas*...Strassburg, 1519.

Printer

The earliest printings in Lyons are some Latin devotional tracts by Pope Innocent III on 17 September 1473. The printer's name – Guillaume Le Roy – ‘an expert in this typographic art’ appears in the colophon. The German-born Johannes Trechsel was an important printer-cum-publisher in Lyons. He was a fellow countryman of Nicolaus Philippi and had presumably been his foreman, as after the latter's death, Trechsel married the widow and soon came into possession of the printing office. His first known book was Caracciolus's Lenten sermons ‘de peccatis’, printed 4th February 1488/89. Trechsel prided himself on accuracy, clearness of type, and handiness of format. It worked; there was always a steady demand for his productions. Unlike other Lyonnese presses, he stuck to Latin works, avoiding the vernacular. The scholar-printer Jodocus Bodius Ascensius joined him in 1492. One result of this ‘partnership’ was an illustrated edition of Terence in August 1493, which is Trechsel's best-known work. He died in 1498; his successor was Johannes Clein. Trechsel's print device is present below the colophon.

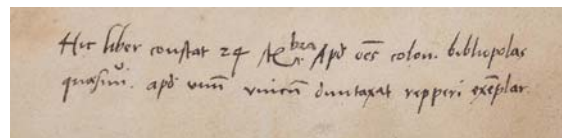


Commentary

This work contains a collection of theological questions by St Augustine, one of the Church Fathers. First edition, the only one published in the fifteenth century.

Provenance

1. Unknown owner, with inscription within: 'Hic liber constat 24 A'bra. Apud omnes colonienses bibliopolas quaesivi, apud unum unicum dumtaxat exemplar'. [The book consists of 24 [indecipherable?] and he's asked in every bookshop in Cologne and only found a single copy at one of them].
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library



Reference:

HC 1965*; BMC VIII 301; Goff A1297; Kaplan 48; ISTC ia01297000; GW 2915

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Gc/ 1519/ H

Illustrations: First page of text proper, binding, printer's device and colophon, bibliographical inscription.

4.

Aurelius Victor, Sextus

De viris illustribus urbis Romae.

Rome: Stephan Planck, 26 January 1492

Text and Decoration

Paper. [2], [18] leaves; 210 x 140 mm (quarto).

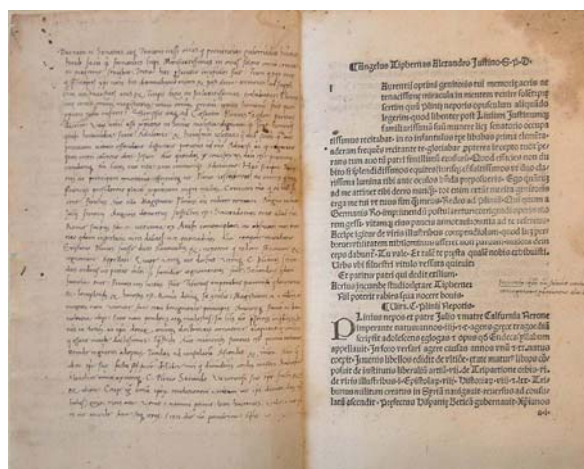
Gothic type. Prelim. leaf in manuscript.

F.1a – 'Angelus Tiphernas Alexandro Iustino'.

Colophon: f.18a: 'Caj Plinij Secundi Veronensis Liber Illustriū virorum Finit foeliciter. Impressus Rome per Stephanum Planck. Anno 1492. die. xxvi. Ianuarii.'

First initial decoration wanting; some pages loose.

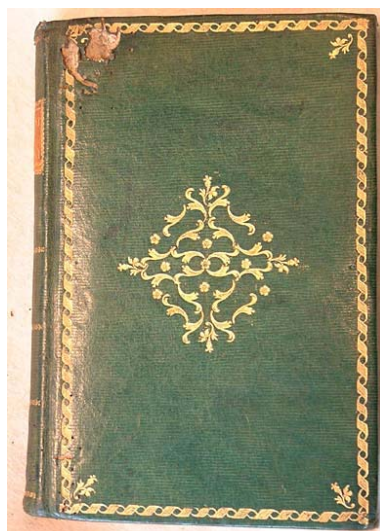
Contemporary annotations in margin.



Binding

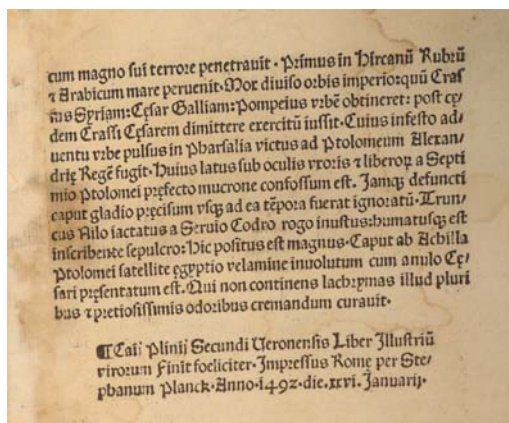
Green morocco with gilt lozenge in middle of both covers. Gilt tooling around the edge of covers. One portion of front cover damaged. Spine title reads: C.Plini/ II/ Epistoi

Bound with: Plinius Caecilius Secundus, Gaius, the younger. [*Epistolae*]. Rome: Eucharius Silber, 1490 (See no. 30)



Printer

The first book containing Stephan Plannck or Planck's name was the Roman Missal finished on 5 March 1482 (Hain *11377), although he was printing a few years prior to this (See *BMC* III, p.80). Plannck became a leading printer in Rome, and had, in 1493, the distinction of printing the first printed European description of the people and places in America by Columbus.



Commentary

The authenticity of authorship of *De Viribus Illustribus* is often questioned. It has often been attributed to Pliny the Younger, but generally to Aurelius Victor, especially from the sixteenth century onwards. Three other small historical works on the lives of illustrious Romans have been attributed to Sextus Aurelius Victor: (1) *Origo Genlis Romanae*, (2) *De Caesaribus*, and (3) *De Vita et Moribus Imperatorum Romanorum excerpta ex Libris Sex. Aur. Victoris*. They are generally published together under the name *Historia Romana*. This particular edition is edited by Angelus Tiphernas.

Provenance

1. Willi Fels, 1946.
2. Otago University Library



Reference:

H 2140*; BMC IV 96; Goff A1391; ISTC ia01391000

Call No.

DeBeer (Special Collections) Ib/ 1492/ P

Illustrations: First page of text proper with manuscript leaf opposite, binding, colophon, label on front endpaper depicting Fels bequest.

5.

Bartholomaeus Anglicus, 13th cent.

De proprietatibus rerum.

[Lyons]: Petrus Ungarus (Pierre Hongre), 21 November 1482, 'die vero nouembris XXI, 1482'.

Text and Decoration

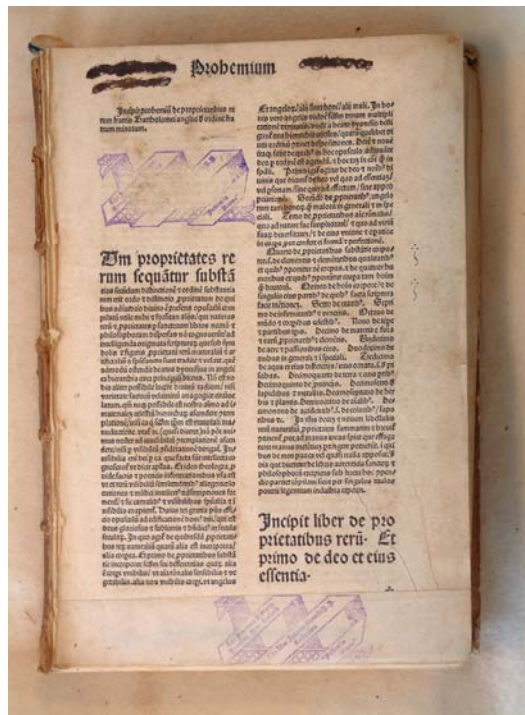
Paper. 256 (first and last blank), both wanting.

Gothic type; double columns; 275 x 185 mm (fol.).

F.2a - 'Incipit prohemium de proprietatibus rerum fratris Bartholomei anglici d' ordine fratrum minorum.'

F. 255a - Colophon: 'Impressus per Petrum ongar. Sub anno domini. Millesimoqua dringentesimo octuagesimosecundo. die vero nouembris. xxi.'

Guide letters unpainted.



Binding

Covers detached; spine cracked and broken.

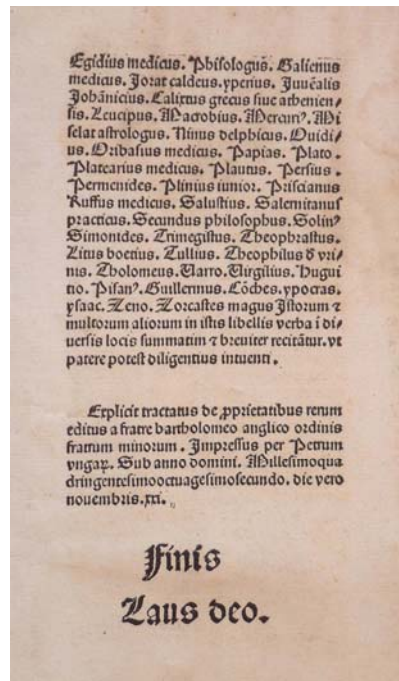
Spine title reads: Barth Angl/ de/ Proprietat-/ rerum



Printer

Petrus Ungarus, a Hungarian, known in the vernacular as Pierre Hongre. The first known books signed by this printer are the *Vocabularius Breviloquus* (1482) and the above work, a possible reprint of the Philippi and Reinhardt 1480 edition. Between 1483 and 1491, Petrus disappears, and then

reappears in Toulouse in the latter year. He is printing up to and including the year 1500. In the colophon of his books Petrus credits himself as ‘a man greatly skilled in the printing art’ (‘magister’), yet by 1500 he was excused payment of taxes on the ground of poverty. (BMC VIII: li). Given this, he was somewhat enterprising. He supplied Greek type where it was required, instead of leaving spaces to be filled in by hand.



Commentary

Bartholomaeus Anglicus (Bartholomew the Englishman) was a Franciscan friar who compiled *Liber de proprietatibus rerum* (‘Over the Order of Things’) around 1240. Its purpose was to help preachers and mendicant orders prepare sermons. It was translated into six languages and printed several times; the last edition in 1601. This work in nineteen books is an early forerunner of the encyclopedia and is one of the first reference books of the Middle Ages.

Provenance

1. Previous owners blacked out on f.2a and f.3a.
2. Canon William Arden Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 2502; BMC VIII 268; Goff B134; Kaplan 67; ISTC ib00134000; GW 3406

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Fc/ 1482/ B

Illustrations: First page of text proper (Incipit), binding, colophon

6.

Biblia. (German).

Nuremberg: Anton Koberger, [17 February 1483]

Text and Decoration

One leaf (paper) from the *Nuremberg Bible*: Exodus, Chap. X and Chap XI, the Israelites in Egypt
Gothic type; printed in double columns on both sides of the page; 402 x 284 mm (fol).
Woodcuts and initials are hand-coloured.



Printer

Anton Koberger of Nuremberg (b. about 1445; d.1513) was a goldsmith before he became a printer and bookseller. He began printing about 1470, his first dated book being Alcinous's *Disciplinarum Platonis epitome*, 24 November 1472. In 1483, he produced a German Bible and in 1484, the first book printed in the Hungarian language. Koberger was primarily a publisher, an entrepreneur *par excellence*, who, by 1500 had produced as many as 200 works and sold them through the various agencies he had in cities. He employed traveling salesmen, and issued one of the first advertising circulars. According to statements, Koberger had some twenty-four presses operating a day for his printing and employed over a hundred workmen.



Commentary

Ninth edition of the Bible in German, the first to be printed in Nuremberg, and the only German edition printed by Koberger. The text, derived from Zainer's first German Bible of 1475-6, was

used in all succeeding pre-Lutheran High German editions. According to Darlow and Moule (1911) *Koberger's Bible professes to be, and apparently is, "a revision made with great diligence."* The 100 woodcuts, attributed to the 'Master of the Cologne Bibles,' were first used in the Cologne printer Heinrich Quentell's two Low German Bibles of c. 1478 (Goff B-636 and 637), with which Koberger appears to have been associated. He had the types cut specially for this edition of approximately 1000-1500 copies, which were sold in three forms, uncolored, colored in 3 tints only, and fully colored.

Provenance

1. Esmond de Beer
2. Otago University Library

Reference:

H 3137; BMC II 424; ISTC ib00632000; GW 4303

Call No.

DeBeer (Special Collections) Ge/ 1483/ B

Illustrations: Full page (f.36a), detail colour woodcut (f.36b and f. 36a).

7.

Biblia latina (Vulgate)

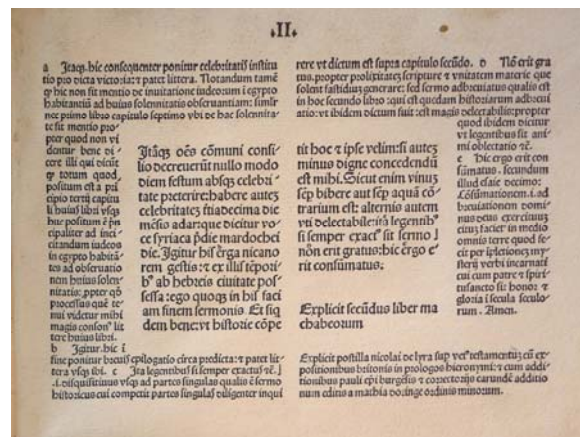
Biblia Latina cum postillis Nicolai de Lyra [with additions by Paulus de Sancta Maria and others].
Venice: [Johannes Herbolt, de Seligenstadt] for Johannes de Colonia, Nicolaus Jenson et Socii,
31 July 1481.

Text and Decoration

Paper. 4 v. [3142 p.] ; 322 x 220 mm (fol.); Otago has vol.3 only (Isaiah-Maccabees; 1.836-1185)

Gothic type.

Edited by Paulus a Mercatello.



Explicit (v.3; f.1185a): 'Explicit postilla nicolai de lyra sup vet' testamentuz cu[m] er positionibus
britonis in proloos hieronymi z cum additionibus pauli epi burgesis z correctorijs earunde additio
num editis a marbia doringe ardinis minorum.'
Not rubricated.

Binding



Wooden boards covered in blind stamped calf, executed by the English Rood and Hunt binder. For further details, see Isabelle Pingree, 'A Catalogue of the Bindings of the Fifteenth Century Bookbinder called the Rood and Hunt Binder', in *The Library*, Vol. 4 no. 4 (2003), pp. 371-401. Vellum sheet forms as front endpaper. Clasp joints remain only. Spine partially detached. Spine title reads: 'Nic Lyran in Prophetas.'

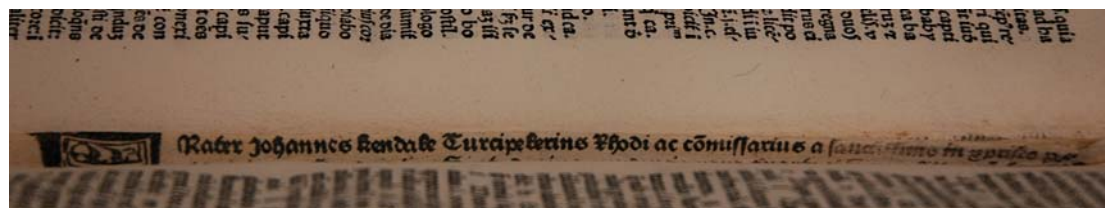
Of particular note, there are four paper fragments used as binding material. These have been identified by Dr Christopher de Hamel as fragments of indulgences printed by William Caxton (Westminster, after 9 August 1480) and John Lettou (London), after 1480. They are specifically: John Kendale, Commissary, *Indulgence for the Knights of Rhodes* (plural issue), dated 'in the tenth year of the pontificate of Sixtus IV' (ik00010600; Duff 207; STC 22584; BMC XI 118; GW(Einbl) 821); John Kendale, Commissary, *Indulgence for the Knights of Rhodes* (singular issue), dated 'in the tenth year of the pontificate of Sixtus IV' (ik00010800; (R)STC 14077c.107c; R. N. Swanson, in *The Library* 7th ser. 5 (2004) pp.195-201 (with pl); BMC XI 119) and John Kendale, Commissary, *Sixtus IV: Indulgence for the Knights of Rhodes* (plural issue), dated 'in the tenth year of the pontificate of Sixtus IV' (ik00010700; C 5500; Duff 208; (R)STC 14077c.111; STC 22585; Pr 9756; BMC XI 245; GW(Einbl) 823). De Hamel reported his findings in an unpublished paper read to the Oxford Bibliographical Society on 1 December 1982, and in his Lyell Lectures, 2009.

Printer

Johannes Herbort, also known as Magnus or Grandis, of Seligenstadt, started his Venetian career as a printer to the firm of Johannes de Colonia et Nicolaus Jenson et Socii. He had previously worked in Padua. The first book signed by Herbort was the Zabarellis, 28 January 1481, printed in Venice. He died on the 8th October 1484.

Commentary

The *Postillae litteralis super totam Bibliam* is a comprehensive commentary on the Old and New Testaments and was the principal theological contribution of Nicholas of Lyre (ca. 1270–1349). Born in La-Neuve-Lyre in Normandy, France, Nicholas became a Doctor of Theology at the Sorbonne in Paris. Completed in the years 1322-31, the *Postillae litteralis* was celebrated for its clarity and reliability by later scholars and earned the author the epithet 'Doctor planus et utilis.' The *editio princeps* of *Postillae litteralis* was printed by Conrad Sweynheym and Arnold Pannartz in Rome, 1471–72. This printing is the earliest edition with Nicholas' commentary surrounding the text. (See Darlow & Moule, II, p.912, no.6085). As noted, the Library has the third volume only.



Provenance

1. Biblio. Harvin (?)
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

References:

HC 3164*; BMC V 301; Goff B611; Kaplan 100; ISTC ib00611000; GW 4286

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ic/ 1481/ B.

Illustrations: First page of text proper (Incipit prologus), explicit, binding and spine; fragment sample.

8.

Boccaccio, Giovanni

Genealogiae deorum.

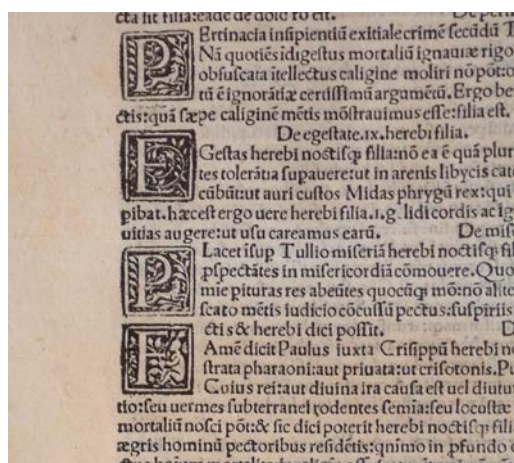
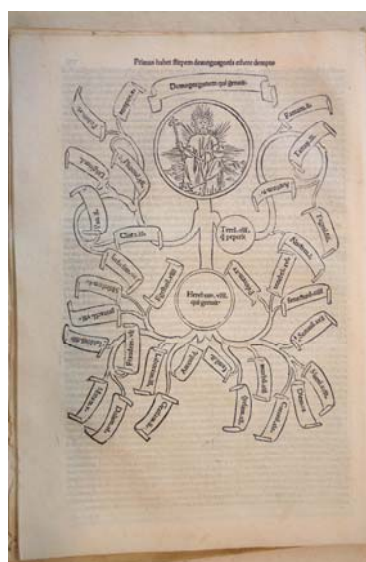
Venice: Manfredus de Bonellis, de Monteferrato, 25 March 1497.

Text and Decoration

Paper. 162, [1] leaves; 298 x 205 mm (fol.)

Roman and Greek types.

Double columns; illustrated with genealogical tables.



Title-page: f.1a: 'Genealogie Ioannis boccati. cum demonstrationibus in formis arborum designatis. Eiusdem de montibus et siluis. de fontibus lacubus et fluminibus. ac etiam de stagnis et paludibus: necnon et de maribus. seu diuersis maris nominibus.'

Colophon: f.162a: 'Impressum Venetiis per me Manfredum de Streuo De Monteserrato. Anno ab incarnatione Omnipotentis Dei. M.CCCC.XCVII. Octauo kalendas Aprilis. Amen.'

Woodcuts.

Guide letters unpainted.

Binding

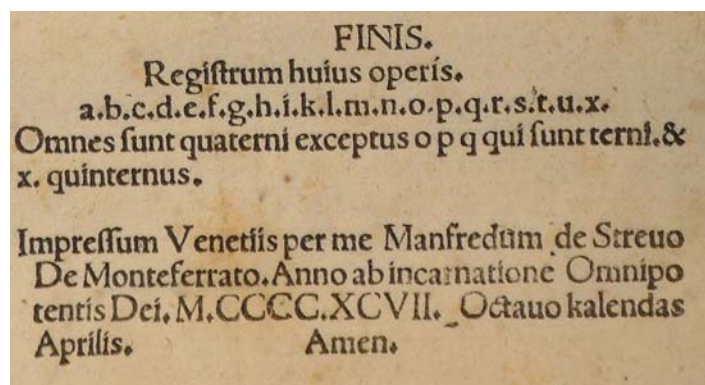
Vellum covers, severely marked. Inner front detached from text block. Spine title reads:

Boccaco/ Genealo/ Deor. Gen/ et de/ Montibus/ &c/ 1497



Printer

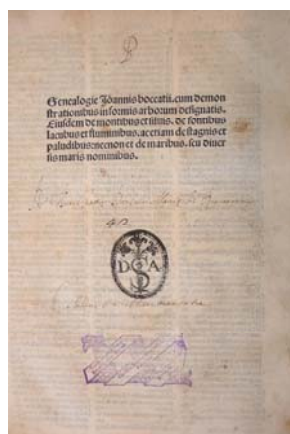
Two editions of Aesop's *Fables*, one dated 31 January, the other 15 February 1491, are the first known books from the press of Manfredus de Bonellis, de Monteferrato, in Venice. At the end of 1500, he was in partnership with Georgius de Rusconibus.



Commentary

A page-for-page reprint of the 1494-1495 Venetian edition printed by Locatellus for Scotus. Giovanni Boccaccio's *Genealogia* (first printed in Venice by Vindelino de Spira in 1472) is an encyclopedia of classical mythology, tracing the genealogy of the pagan gods. It was completed possibly about 1360. Boccaccio (1313-1375) was a Latin encyclopedist and founder of Italian prose literature.

Provenance



1. Oval black stamp with initials DSA and a plant flourishing three flowers within.
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 3324* = H 3322; BMC V 504; Goff B754; Kaplan 111; ISTC ib00754000; GW 4479 (+ Accurti (1936), p. 84.

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ic/1497/B

Illustrations: Genealogical tables, initial details, binding, colophon, early title-page details and provenance stamp.

9.

Saint Bonaventura, ca. 1217-1274.

Opuscula, pars I.

Strassburg: [Printer of the 1483 Jordanus de Quedlinburg, i.e. Georg Husner], 1495.

Text and Decoration

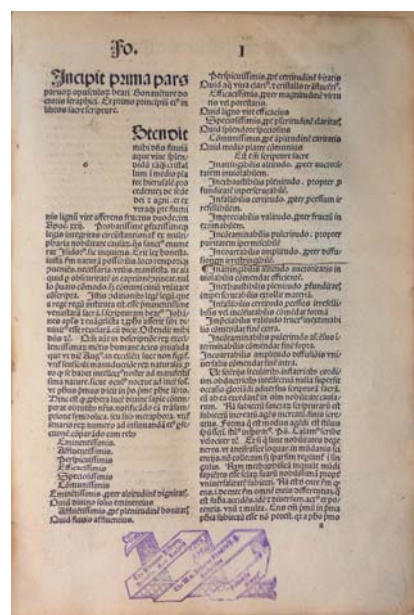
Paper. [26], CCLV (i.e. 353), [1] leaves; 275 x 190 mm (fol.)

Gothic type; double columns.

Copy lacks 2 of the preliminary leaves, XXIII-XXX (whole of sig. d), and the final 3 leaves (including colophon and blank)

Text begins after tabula: 'Incipit prima pars parvo[rum] opusculo[rum] beati Bonave[n]ture doctoris seraphici.'

Guide letter unpainted.



Binding

Half-bound calf over buckram boards which are detached. Spine broken, with spine cover partially disintegrated. Spine title reads: 'Bonave'.

Printer

George Husner has been recognized as the Printer of the 1483 Jordanus de Quedlinburg. He flourished in Strassburg about 1473-1505, and printed in partnership with Johann Beckenhub. He was a goldsmith prior to turning to printing. His *Speculum Judiciale* of 1473 has been described as a masterpiece of typography.

Commentary

The baptismal name of St. Bonaventura (1221-1274) was Giovanni. As a young man he joined the Roman Province of the Franciscans and was sent to complete his education at Paris University. In 1257, despite his youth, he was elected as minister general of the whole Franciscan Order. His most influential works were his Commentary on the Franciscan Rule, his biography of St. Francis, and the celebrated *Itinerarium mentis in Deum* (*Journey of the Soul to God*), written in 1259. Bonaventura was canonized by Pope Sixtus IV in 1482.

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 3468*; BMC I 144; Goff B928; Kaplan 119; ISTD ib00928000; GW 4648

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Gc/1495/B

Illustrations: Prologus page, Incipit.

Bernardinus de Busti

Mariale.

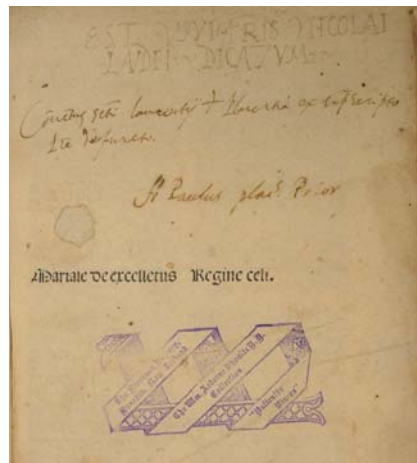
Milan: Leonardus Pachel, 21 May 1493.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [388] leaves; 200 x 135 mm (small quarto)

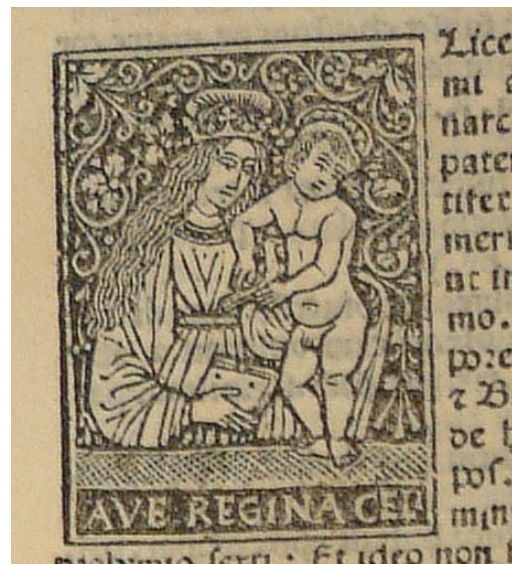
Gothic type; double columns, 58 lines to a full column.

Title-page: f.1a – 'Mariale de excelletus Regine celi.'



Colophon: 'Impressum Mediolani per Magistrum Leonardum pachel. Anno domini M. cccc.lxxxiiij. die xxi. Maij.'

Printed capitals throughout the text.

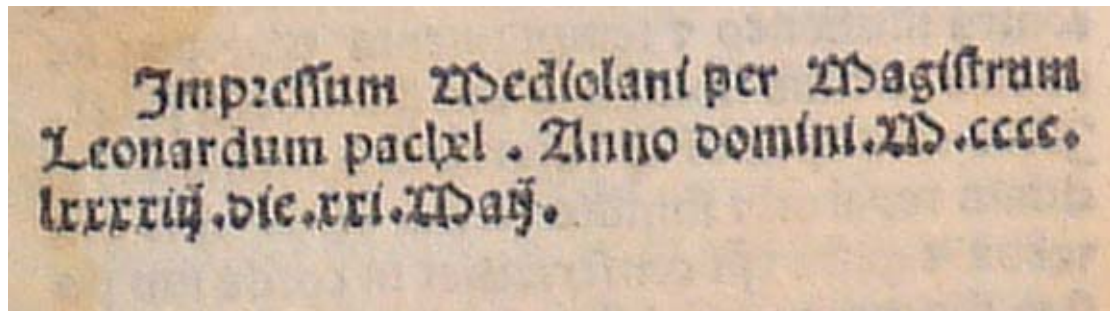
**Binding**

Faded brown boards. Spine cover detached. Spine title reads: De Busti/ Mariae/ 1493.

Additional spine label (partially disintegrated) reads: Ecclesiastical His [tory] Series. No. [848].

Printer

Leonardus Pachel had collaborated with Uldericus Scinzenzeler in 1477-87, but the first edition authenticated as produced by Pachel is the Tartagnus, *Super parte ia Infortiati*, 27th March 1488 (Hain-C 15307). Pachel's print device is present.

**Commentary**

Sermons on the Virgin Mary. The first edition of the complete *Mariale*. The first part with the Officium conceptionis B.V.M (15a-67b) had already been printed by Uldericus Scinzenzeler in Milan in May 1492.

Provenance

- 1 Nicolai Landei (?)
- 2 Inscription: 'Conventus sancti Laurentii de Placentia ex subscripto fratre defuncti' and (below) 'fr. Paulus placentiae prior'. [Given to San Lorenzo in Piacenza, [Emilia-Romagna, Italy] by its late prior Paolo].
- 3 Canon William Ardene Shoults
- 4 Selwyn College; University of Otago Library

Reference

HCR 4160; BMC VI 779; Goff B1333; Kaplan 138; ISTC ib01333000; GW 5804

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ib/1493/B

Illustrations: Early title-page, prologus page with detailed initial, colophon and printer's device.

11.

Johannes Cassianus, ca. 370 - 435.

De institutis coenobiorum

Basel: Johann Amerbach, 1497.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [205] leaves, last 15, including colophon wanting; 185 x 135 mm (quarto)

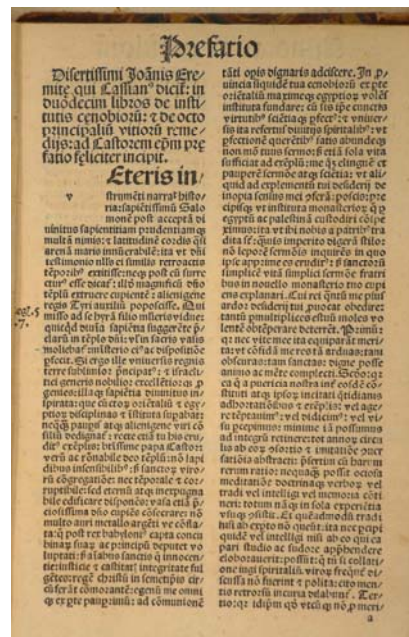
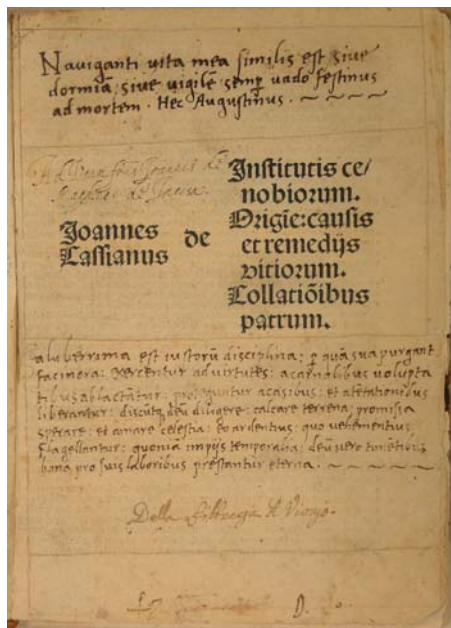
Gothic letter; two columns.

Title-page – f.1a

Imprint details from f.1b.

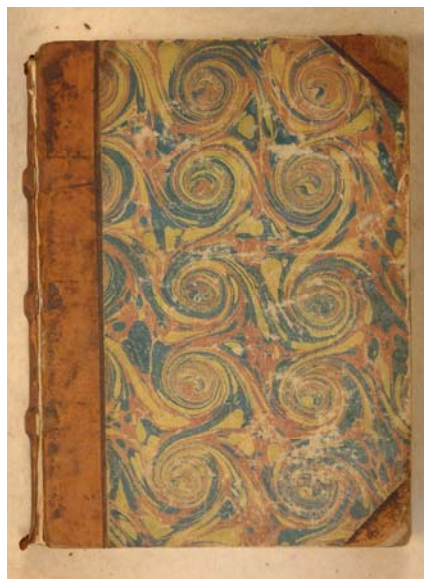
Guide letters, with capital spaces unpainted.

Annotations on title-page.



Binding

Half-bound calf over marbled boards. Covers detached.



Printer

Johann Amerbach (c. 1430 –1513) was born at Reutlingen in Germany. He studied at the Sorbonne under Johann Heynlin before working in Nuremberg as a press corrector for Anton Koberger. He established a press at Basel about 1481 (1478 has also been suggested), and became its leading printer, issuing some seventy works. He was the first Basel printer to use roman type. At various times, Amerbach was in partnership with Jacob von Pforzheim, Johann Petri, and Johann Froben, and he had continued his association with Anton Koberger at Nuremberg, who acted as his publisher, and with Rusch at Strassburg, to whom he appears to have lent type.

Commentary

This is a work about monasticism and religious orders in the early church. The first book of *De Institutis Coenobiorum* deals with the external appearance of the monk; the second, with the order of nocturnal Psalms and prayers; the third, with the order of the daily prayers; the fourth, with renunciation of the world. The eight remaining books are devoted to the eight principal sins.

Provenance

1. Della Libbreria el Viorgio (?)
2. 'Ad usum fratris Johannis Mapheis de Incisa', i.e. a friars' book, assigned to friar Giovanni Maffei of Incisa (near Florence).
3. Canon William Arderne Shoults.
4. Selwyn College; Otago University Library.

Reference

HC 4564; BMC III 758; Goff C235; Kaplan 149; ISTC ic00235000; GW 6162

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Swb/1497/C

Illustrations: Binding, early title-page with inscriptions, Prefatio page.

12.

Cyprianus.

Opera

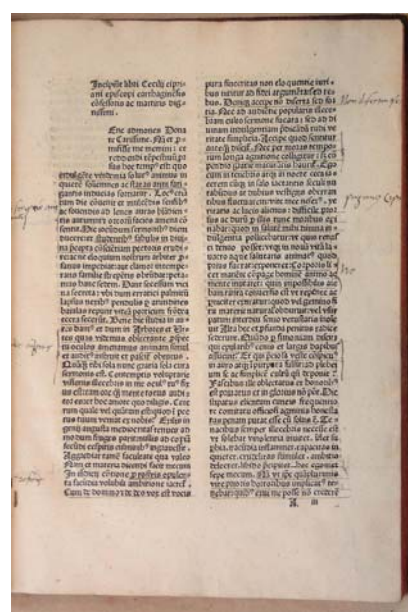
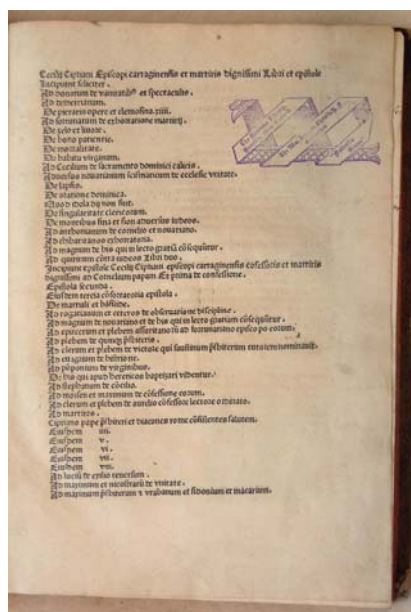
[Stuttgart, Printer of the 'Erwahlung Maximilians', about 1486]

Text and Decoration

Paper. [132] leaves; 275 x 195 mm (fol.)

Gothic type; two columns.

Contents page – f.2a



F.3a – 'Incipiūt libri Ceciliij cipriani episcopi carthaginēsis cōfessoris ac martiris dignissimi.'

Colophon – f.123a: 'Expliciunt Epistolae Ceciliij Cipriani Episcopi cartaginensis cōfessionis et martitis dignissimi.' – f.123a

Capital spaces unpainted.

Annotations throughout.

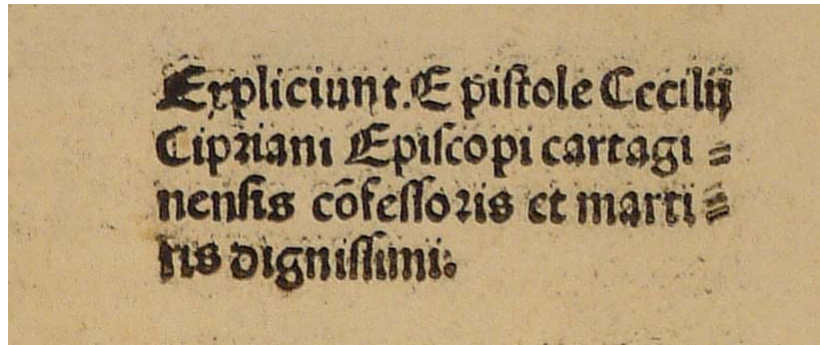
Binding

Rebacked paper boards with mottled covers. Spine cracking near front cover. Bookplate or label removed.



Printer

Only two – perhaps three – books are registered as emanating from Stuttgart, and both by the printer of the ‘Erwählung Maximilians’, after 16th February 1486. It has been suggested that Conrad Fyner at Urach about 1481 was the printer because of the use of the capital ‘T’ and two border pieces. Hans Scheffer (Johann Scheffler?) is another candidate. These claims are not conclusive.

**Commentary**

Caecilius Cyprianus was an African by birth who converted to Christianity only after middle life. In 1248, he became Bishop of Carthage. He was considered the ‘first great Latin writer among the Christians.’ This is his principal work, of particular interest for the application of the Roman juridical tradition to the governance of church affairs.

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 5895*; BMC III 675; Goff C1014; Kaplan 175; ISTC ic01014000; GW 7887

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Gc/1485/C

Illustrations: Contents page, Incipit page, binding, Explicit page.

13.

Eusebius Caesariensis

Historia ecclesiastica

Mantua: Johannes Schallus, [not before 15] July 1479.

Text and Decoration

Paper. 171 leaves, wanting first leaf (f.1 a/b); 280 x 185 mm (fol.).

Roman letter.

F.2a/b: Part of printer's dedicatory letter ending in 'Mantue apud sanctum Alexandrum die. xv.

Iulii. M.cccc. lxxix

F.3a: Table of contents: 'Incipiunt Capitula primi libri hystorie ecclesiastice.'

Text proper begins: 'patre sempiternus extitisse...'

F.171b: Colophon – 'Explicit liber ecclesiastice hystorie' followed by an epigram in which occurs the printer's name 'Schallus Ioannes' and the month and year.

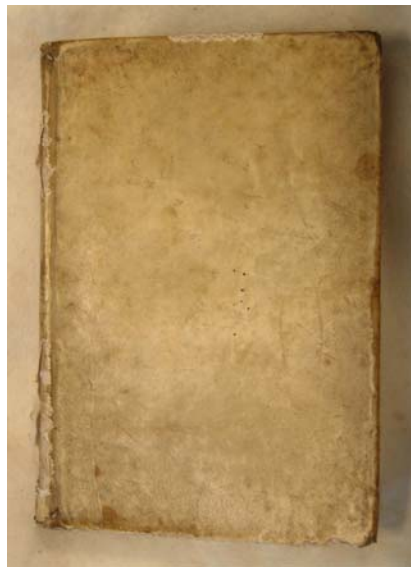
Pencil notes on preliminary page.

Incomplete, and misbound.

Binding

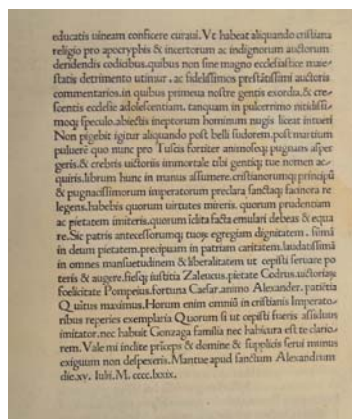
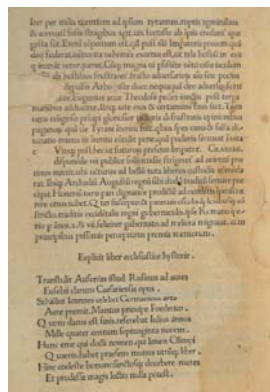
Vellum over thick paper boards. Spine ripped and reads: Pomp. Mela/ De situ orbis/ 1530/ &/ Eusebii/ Hist. Ecclesia/ Mcccclxix/ 1479.

Bound with: P. Mela, *De orbis situ*. Paris 1530.



Printer

Johannes Schallus was a printer based at Mantua, who printed seven known books between 1475 and 1479. This was his last work.



Commentary

Eusebius Pamphili, Bishop of Cæsarea in Palestine, is known as the ‘Father of Church History’ (b. c.260; d. before 341). This work, translated by Rufinus Aquileiensis, is the fourth edition, preceded by editions printed in Utrecht, Strassburg and Rome.

Provenance

1. W. Canlot?
2. Stanley sale, 1816
3. Canon William Ardene Shoults
4. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 6711*; BMC VII 933; Goff E127; Kaplan 205; ISTC ie00127000; GW 9437

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Fc/1530/M

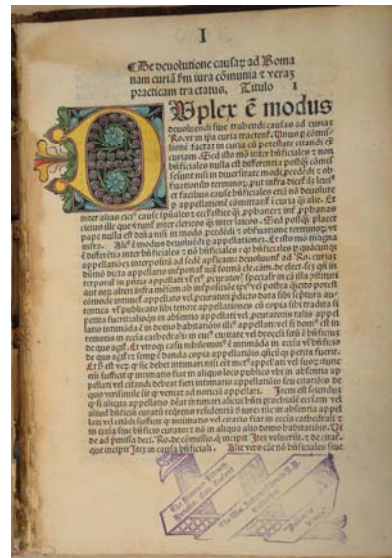
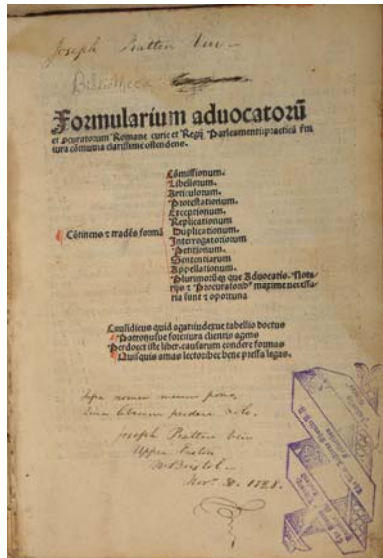
Illustrations: Binding, Explicit page with epigram, colophon.

14.

Formularium procuratorum et advocatorum Curiae Romanae.

Basel: [Michael Furter?], 10 March 1493.

Text and Decoration



Paper. 230 leaves (last leaf blank); 200 x 140 mm (quarto)

Gothic type.

Title-page present.

Imprint from colophon: 'Formulariū Aduocatoru[m] et Procurator Romane curie et Regij parlemēti: practicā ostendēs fm iura cōmunia: exactissima diligentissima impssum Basilee Anno dñi M. CCCC.lxxxxiij. sexto ydus Marij. Finit foeliciter.

Rubricated. Some woodcut initials. One hand-coloured initial at beginning of text proper (f.7a).

Colours are modern; not contemporary.



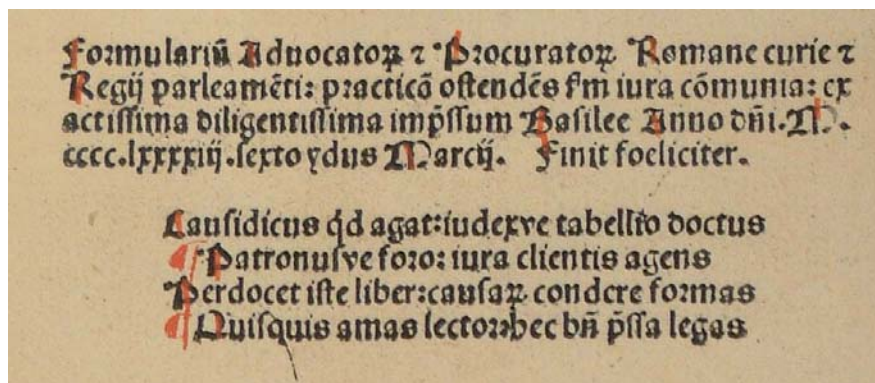
Binding

Brown calf over paper boards. Split away from boards near spine, which is broken, with spine cords exposed.

Some gatherings loose.

Printer

The earliest books signed and dated as produced by Michael Furter of Basel are Brant's *Expositiones omnium titulorum legalium* (1st October 1490) and Panormitanus's *Processus iudicarius* (1490). However, Furter is mentioned as a printer as early as the 15th January 1483. He died in 1517.



Commentary

A work of canon law pertaining to the Roman curia. A note on preliminary page: 'very rare printed in the year 1493.'



Provenance

1. Illegible Monastery library inscription
2. Joseph Pratten Vin, Upper Easton, Nr. Bristol, 30 November 1828.
3. Canon William Arden Shoults
4. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 7300*; BMC III 787-8; Goff F268; Kaplan 214; ISTC if00268000; GW 10224

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Swb/1493/F

Illustrations: Early title-page, painted initial (f.1a), detail (f.1a), detail of initial (f.103a), colophon, double-page spread with initial (f.25b & f.26a).

15.

Robertus Holkot, d. 1349.

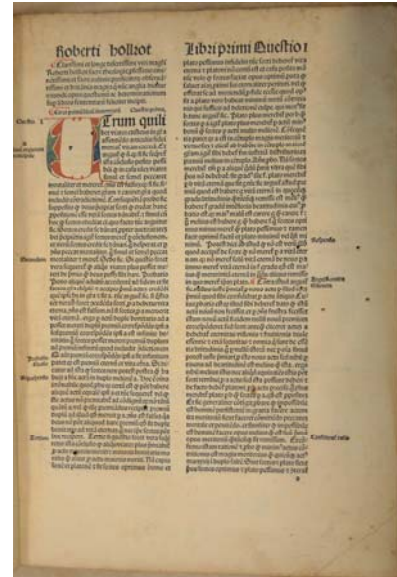
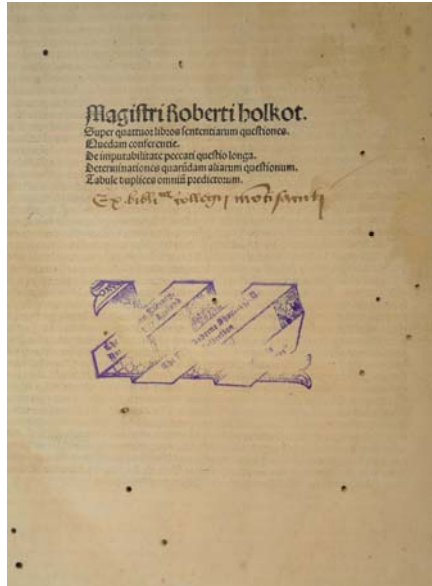
Quaestiones super IV libros Sententiarum.

Lyons: Johannes Trechsel, 5-20 April 1497.

Text and Decoration

Paper [194] leaves; 285 x 205 mm (fol.).

Gothic type. Double columns.



F.1a – Title-page: ‘Magistri Roberti holkot Super quatuor libros sententiarum questiones...’

F.1b: Dedicatory letter of Josse Badius (co-editor with Augustinus de Ratisbona) dated ‘Ex Lugduno. Xij kalendas Maias, 1497.’

Colophon: ‘Huius operis diligēter impressi Lugduni a magro Iohāne Trechsel alemāno. anno salutis nostre. Mccccxcvij. ad nonas Aprilis. charte cōsignate huiuscemodi characteribus.’
Rubricated (mostly red and some blue and yellow).

Binding

Half bound leather over buckram. Boards detached. Spine cracked. Spine title reads: Roberti/ Holkot/ Quaestione/ Lugduni/ 1497.

Printer

The earliest printings in Lyons are some Latin devotional tracts by Pope Innocent III on 17 September 1473. The printer’s name – Guillaume Le Roy – ‘an expert in this typographic art’ appears in the colophon. The German-born Johannes Trechsel was an important printer-cum-publisher in Lyons. He was a fellow countryman of Nicolaus Philippi and had presumably been his foreman, as after the latter’s death, Trechsel married the widow and soon came into possession of the printing office. His first known book was Caracciolus’s Lenten sermons ‘de peccatis’, printed 4th February 1488/89. Trechsel prided himself on accuracy, clearness of type, and handiness of format. It worked; there was always a steady demand for his productions. Unlike other Lyonnese presses, he stuck to Latin works, and avoiding the vernacular. The scholar-printer Jodocus Bodius Ascensius joined him in 1492. One result of this ‘partnership’ was an illustrated edition of Terence in August 1493, which is Trechsel’s best-known work. He died in 1498; his successor was Johannes Clein. Trechsel’s print device is present below the colophon.



Commentary

A commentary on Peter Lombard's *Sentences* by the renowned English Dominican, Robert Holcot or Holkot, d. 1349. Lombard's 'Book of Sentences' was written about 1150 and in four books covers most theological matters: from God, the Trinity and predestination to the creation, the Ten Commandments and the Sacraments. Holcot was active in middle of the 14th century, was a Thomist in matters theological, and a follower of William Ockham in the field of philosophy and logic. While staying in London, he helped Richard de Bury with his *Philobiblon*, the classic early work on book collecting. Holcot lived most of his life in and around Northampton.

Provenance

1. "Ex bibliotheca collegium montis sancti" – presumably Heiligenberg, Andechs, Germany.
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 8763*; BMC VIII 300; Goff H287; Kaplan 264; ISTC ih00287000; GW 12890

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Fc/1497/H

Illustrations: Early title-page with provenance note, first page of text proper, colophon with printer's device.

16.

Leonardus de Utino, 15th cent.

Sermones de sanctis

Speyer: Peter Drach, 9 February 1478.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [350] leaves; 280 x 200 mm (fol.)

Gothic type. Double columns, 42 lines to a column.

F.16a – ‘Sermones Aurei de Sanctis fr̄is Leonhardi de Utino, sacre theologie doctoris, ordinis Predicatorū feliciter Incipit Prologus.’

F.349a – Colophon: ‘Finiūt aurei Sermones de sanctis per anni circulū Elegantissimi sacre theologie professoris fratris Leonhardi de Utina ordinis Predicatorum iam de nuo correcti. et cum Tabula noua inuentoria postposita arte et industria Petri Drache Civi Spireñ impressi Sub anno Salutis nostre M.cccc.lxxviii. ydus Februarij.’

Rubricated throughout, with some capital spaces unpainted. Hand coloured intitial and flourishes on f.16a.



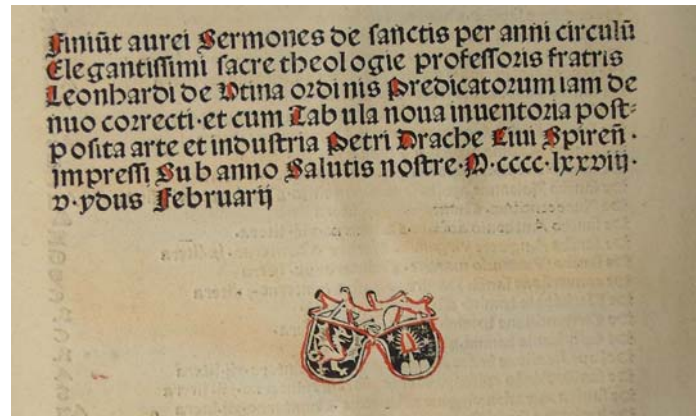
Binding



Oak boards covered with calf; wormed and ripped. Manuscript fragments in gutters. Three clasp joins remain. Raised bands exposed. Spine title reads: Leonhardi/ De Huno/ Sermones/ 1478.

Printer

The first fully dated book bearing Peter Drach's name is the *Vocabularius utriusque*, completed at Speyer, 18 May 1477. He printed the first edition of *Malleus maleficarum* [*The Witches' Hammer*], the foremost legal and theological handbook on witchcraft and demonology. He was known to use a heavy Gothic typeface. His device is an adaptation of the Fust and Schoeffer shield and is present under the colophon (f.349a).



Commentary

This was a popular work in the Middle Ages. The first 14 leaves (containing index) have been bound at back and f.15 (blank) is wanting. Leaves 16-349 are signed at top centre in early Arabic numerals.



Provenance

1. Franciscan monastery, Amberg.
2. Canon William Arden Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

H 16135*; BMC II 489; Goff L160; Kaplan 314; ISTC il00160000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Gc/1478/L

Illustrations: Incipit and Prologus page with painted intital (f.1a), binding, colophon ewith printer's device, and detail of painted initial (f.1a).

17.

Lucanus, Marcus Annaeus

Pharsalia

Venice: Nicolaus Battibovis, 13 May 1486.

Text and Decoration

Paper. 186 leaves; 290 x 205 mm (fol).

Roman type.

Commentary ascribed to Omnibonus Leonicensus.

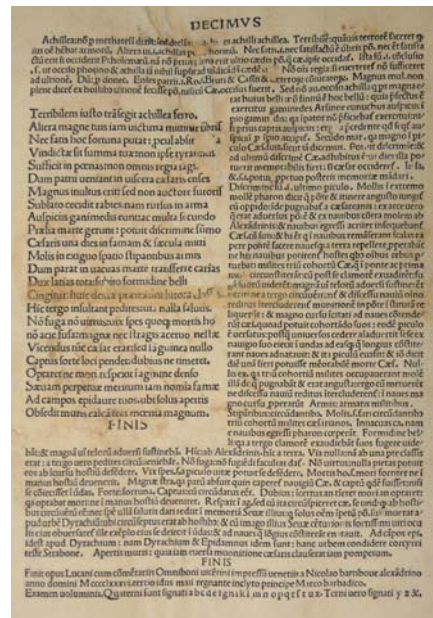
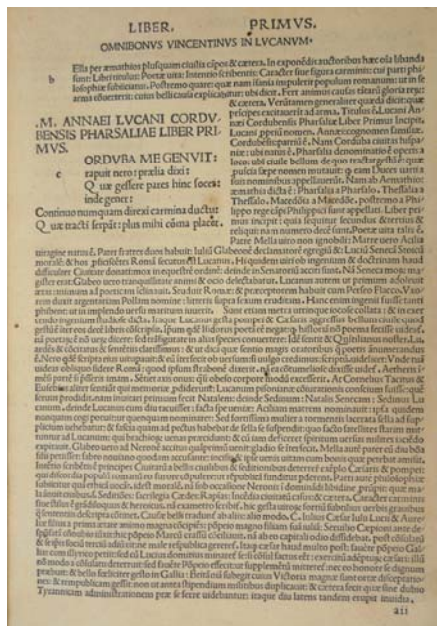
F.1b: 'M. Annaei Lucani Vita ex Commentario Antiquiss.'

F.2a: 'Omnibonus Vincentinus in Lucanum.'

Colophon: (f.186a): 'Finit opus Lucani cum cōmētariis Omniboni uicētini impressū uenetiis a Nicolao battiboue alexādrino anno domini M cccclxxxvi. tertio idus maii regnante inclyto principe Marco barbadico...'

Some foxing and repair in latter pages of text and commentary.

Light marginal annotations.

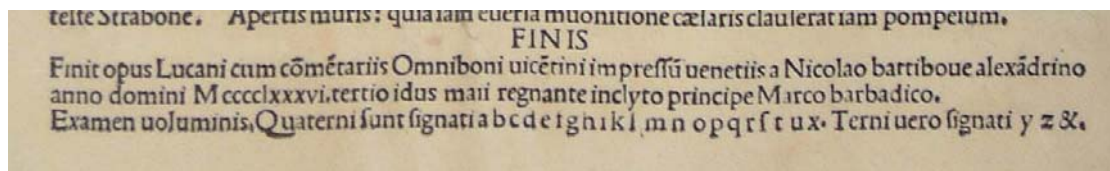


Binding

Vellum over boards. Spine title reads: Annaei Lucani/ Pharsaliae/ Ediz. Venezia/ 1486.

Printer

Nicolaus Battibovis lived in Venice and utilized his brother's (Antonius) workshop to print this edition of Lucan in May 1486. It was his only work.



Commentary

Pharsalia, or 'Civil War', was originally written in Latin, approximately A.D. 61-65, by the Roman poet Lucan. It is an epic poem in ten books about the civil war between Caesar and Pompey. Lucan was born into a prominent Roman family (Seneca the Elder was his grandfather, and Seneca the Younger his uncle), and it seemed that he befriended the young Emperor Nero at an

early age. It was during the period at the Emperor's court that he probably wrote *Pharsalia*. The relationship between Nero and Lucan eventually soured, and the Emperor offered Lucan death or suicide. He chose the latter.

Provenance

1. Petri Panonolli (?)
2. Gayliano Tappala (?)
3. Willi Fels, 1946
4. Otago University Library.

Reference:

HC 10238*; BMC V 405; Goff L302; Kaplan 316; ISTC il00302000

Call No.

DeBeer (Special Collections) Ic/1486/L

Illustrations: First page of text proper, last page with colophon, detail of colophon.

18.

Mayno, Jason de

Oratio apud Alexandrum VI habita pro Mediolanensium principe.

[Pavia: Printer of Butigella, after January 1493], also recorded as [Franciscus Girardengus, about 1494]

Text and Decoration

Paper. [8] leaves; 215 x 145 mm (quarto).

Gothic type.

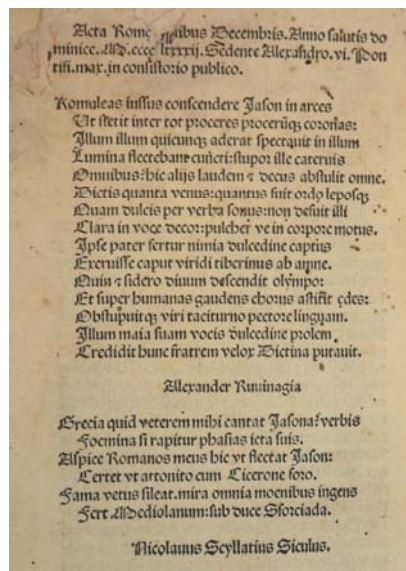
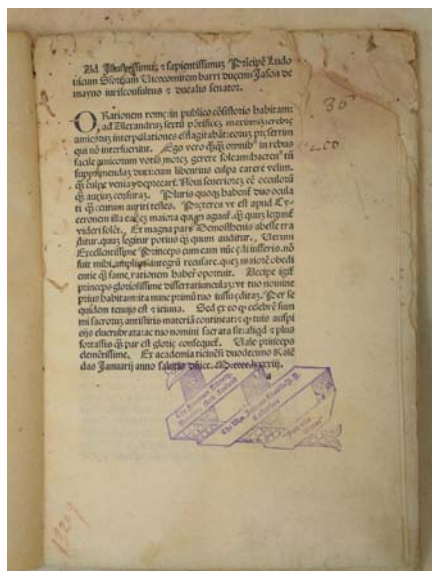
F.1a: Ad Illustrissimus et sapientissimus Pricipē Ludouicum Sfortiam Vicecomitem barri ducem: Iason de mayno iurisconsultus et ducalis senator...Vale principes clemētissime. Ex academia ticinēsi duodecimo kalēdas Januarii anno salutis onice. M.cccc.lxxxxiii.

Caption title: f.1b: Iasonis de Mayno Mediolanēsis: Iuriscōsulti: ducalis Senatoris: ac Legati piclytissimo Mediolanēsiu[m] principe. et sapiētissimo eius patruo Duce Barri Oratio habita apud Alexādrū sextū Pont. maximum.

Above verse (f.8b): Acte Rom [Idibus]...Decembris. Anno salutis dominice M.cccc.lxxxxij...

At bottom of page: 'Nicolaus Scyllatius Siculus.'

Text pages wormed and badly scuffed. Some edges torn.



Binding

Brown paper boards; scuffed.

Bound with: Jason de Mayno's *Epithalamion in nuptiis Maximiliani et Blancae Mariae* (No.19) and *Oratio in funere Hieronymi Torti habita* (No.20).

Printer

Joannis de Sidriano (or Sedriano) introduced printing to Pavia with *Lectura super Institutionum libb IV*, a work printed on the 30 October 1473 (See *BMC VII*: lvi-ii). Franciscus Girardengus makes his first appearance on the 15 October 1480 with an Aquinas, *Interpretatio in Metaphysicam*. Sometime after May 1484, Girardengus moved to Venice, and from then on plied his trade back and forth, as an example: a Pontanus edition dated the 5 March 1484 from Pavia. He was still alive in 1504, the year a medal was struck in his honor (See *BMC VII*: lviii, fn 4). IGI assigns to Girardengus and 1494. (See *ISTC* entry)

Commentary

Jason de Mayno was a celebrated professor of law at the universities of Pavia and Pisa, and was referred to (according to the *Catholic Encyclopedia*) as 'the Magnificent'. He also wrote on other

aspects of Roman law; and an oration on Pope Alexander VI (1431-1503). This work contains an imprecise reference to lands in the Atlantic (America) although it was delivered before the return of Columbus.

Provenance

1. Unknown sale and catalogue number on front endpaper.
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

BMC VII: 1020; ISTC im00412500

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ib/ 1494/ M

Illustrations: First page of text proper (f.1a), verse and last page of text (f.8b).

19.

Mayno, Jason de

Epithalamion in nuptiis Maximiliani et Blancae Mariae.

[Milan: Philippus de Mantegatiis, Cassanus, after 8 September 1494]

Text and Decoration

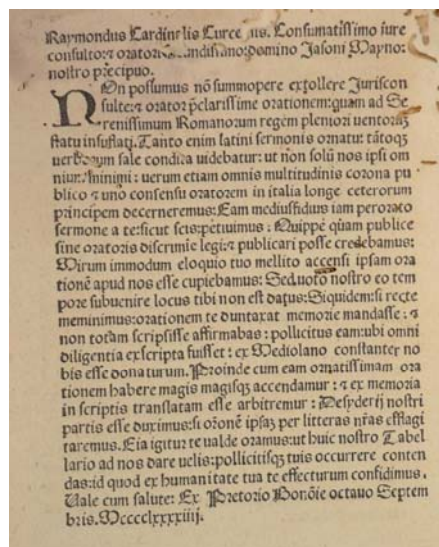
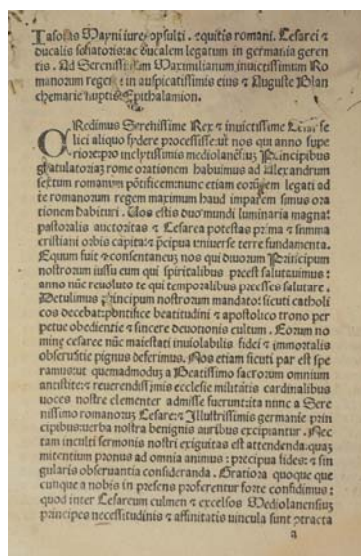
Paper. [8] leaves; 215 x 145 mm (quarto).

F.1a – Iasonis Mayni iureconsulti, equitis romani Cesarei et ducalis senatori ac ducalem legatum in Germania gerentis : ad serenissimum Maximilianum invictissimum Romanorum regem in auspiciatissimus eius et auguste Blanchmarie nuptis : Epithalamion.

Colophon: f.8a: Actum Ispruch die xvi Martij anno a natali Christiano. Mccccclxxxiiii.

On f.8b: Beginning: Raymondus Cardinalis... Vale cum salute: ex Pretorio Bonõie octavo Septembris Mccccclxxxiiii.

Not coloured



Binding

Brown paper boards.

Bound with: Jason de Mayno, *Oratio apud Alexandrum VI habita pro Mediolanensium principe* (No.18) and *Oratio in funere Hieronymi Torti habita*. (No.20).

Printer

The first known book printed by Philippus de Mantegatiis is the Galeottus, *De homine*, of 19 November 1490; the last an Italian Diogenes Laertius of 1497 (Hain 6213). Goff has doubtfully assigned this work to Bologna, not before 8 September 1494.

Commentary

Jason de Mayno was a celebrated professor of law at the universities of Pavia and Pisa, and was referred to (according to the *Catholic Encyclopedia*) as 'the Magnificent'. He also wrote on other aspects of Roman law, and an oration on Pope Alexander VI (1431-1503).

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

Goff M402; ISTC im00402000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ib/1494/M

Illustrations: First page of text proper (f.1a), colophon (f.8a)

20.

Mayno, Jason de

Oratio in funere Hieronymi Torti habita.

[Pavia: Johannes Andreas de Boscho, Michael and Bernardinus de Garaldis, about 1495].

Text and Decoration

Paper. [6] leaves; 215 x 145 mm (quarto)

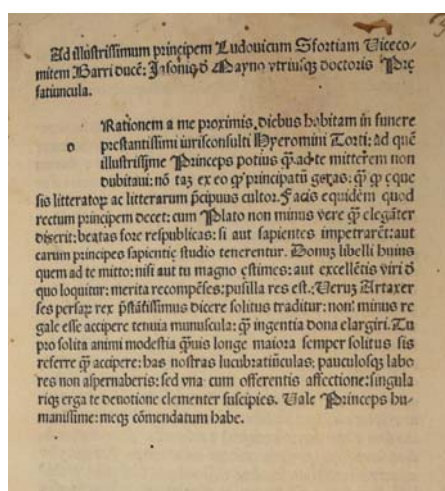
F.1a: Ad illustrissimum principem Ludouicum Sfortiam Vicecomitem Barri ducé: Jasonis de Mayno vtriusq doctoris Prefatiuncula.

Caption title from f.1b: Oratio habita in funere excellētissimi iuriscōsulti Hyeronimi Torti tenentis primā catedraz in felici gymnasio Ticinensi p: me Jasoné de Mayno Mediolanensem iurisutriusqz doctorem.

Colophon – f.6b: Habita Papie in ecclesia fratrum minoruz: per me Jasonem de Mayno Mediolanensem iurisutriusqz doctorez: Tertio idus Augusti Anno a natali christiano.

M.cccclxxxiiii.

Guide letters; not coloured.



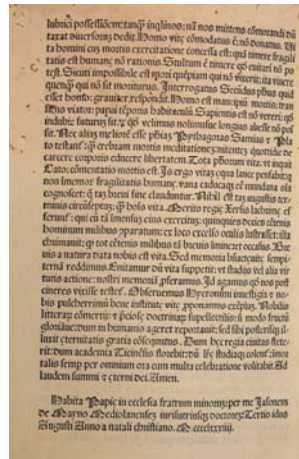
Binding

Brown paper boards.

Bound with: Jason de Mayno, *Oratio apud Alexandrum VI habita pro Mediolanensium principe* (no.18) and *Epithalamion in nuptiis Maximiliani et Blancae Mariae* (No.19).

Printer

The first book emanating from the partnership of Johannes Andreas de Boscho, and Michael and Bernardinus de Garaldis was Laurus de Palatiis, *Super statuto quod foeminae non succedant*, completed in January 1495. The partnership continued until the 6 May 1497. Not attributed in BMC VII.



Commentary

Jason de Mayno was a celebrated professor of law at the universities of Pavia and Pisa, and was referred to (according to the *Catholic Encyclopedia*) as ‘the Magnificent’. He also wrote on other aspects of Roman law, and an oration on Pope Alexander VI (1431-1503). The oration was given on 11 August 1484.

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference: Kaplan 329; ISTCim00412300

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collection) Ib/1494/M

Illustrations: First page of text proper (f.1a), last page with colophon (f.8b).

21.

Marchesinus, Johannes

Mammotrectus super Bibliam.

Venice: Franciscus Renner de Heilbronn and Nicolaus de Frankfordia, 1476.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [228] leaves (1st & last blank); 210 x 155 mm (quarto).

Roman type. Double columns.

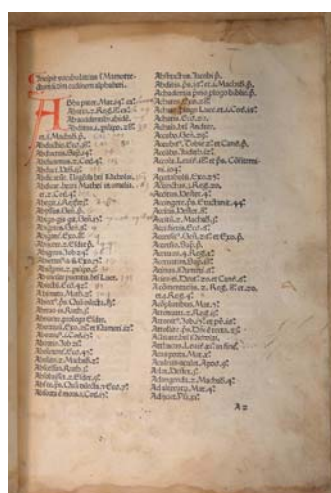
F.2a: Incipit vocabularies i Mamotrectum sed'm ordinem alphabeti

F.25a: Prologus

Colophon - f.226b: Impresse Venetij p Franciscū de Hailbrun et Nicholaum de Franckfordia socios. MCCCCLXXVI Laus deo.

Includes brief contents (at back) and vocabulary reference (at front).

Rubricated in blue and red throughout. Some coloured initials.



Binding

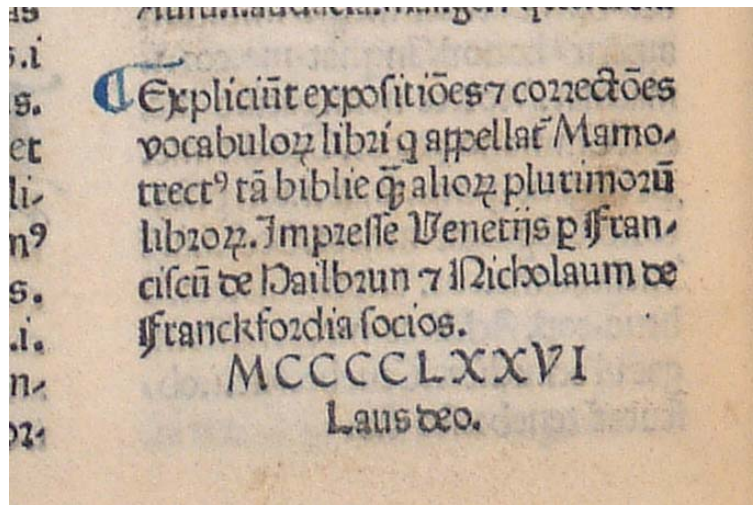
Modern rebacked quarter bound calf over wooden boards. Ornamental brass stars on both covers. Clasp joints remain. Spine title reads: Mammo/ trectus/ Venice/ 1476.



Printer

The first book dated from Franciscus Renner's press in Venice was 1471; the first to bear his name was in 1472. From 1473 to 1477 he worked in partnership with Nicolaus de Frankfordia,

and then in 1477 and 1478, with Petrus de Bartua. Sometime in 1478, he printed alone, continuing his practice until 1483.



Commentary

Manual for the clergy, containing etymological and grammatical explanations of difficult words in the Bible and the liturgical hours, arranged in the order of the Bible and the church year. Contains ink scrawls and scribbles and pictures of crosses on preliminary pages.

Provenance

1. Quando guy Robuery (?) November 1554
2. Diergrbus Xylnos (?), 1613.
3. Willi Fels, 1946
4. Otago University Library.

Reference:

HC – RII, 10557; BMC V, 194; Goff M236; Kaplan 323, ISTC im00236000.

Call No.

De Beer (Special Collection) Ib/1476/M

Illustrations: Incipit Vocabularius, Prologus, binding, colophon.

22.

Matthaeus de Cracovia

De modo confitendi et puritate conscientiae

[Speyer: Printer of the 'Gesta Christi', about 1472].

Text and Decoration

Paper. [36] leaves; 200 x 140 mm (quarto)

Rounded Roman type.

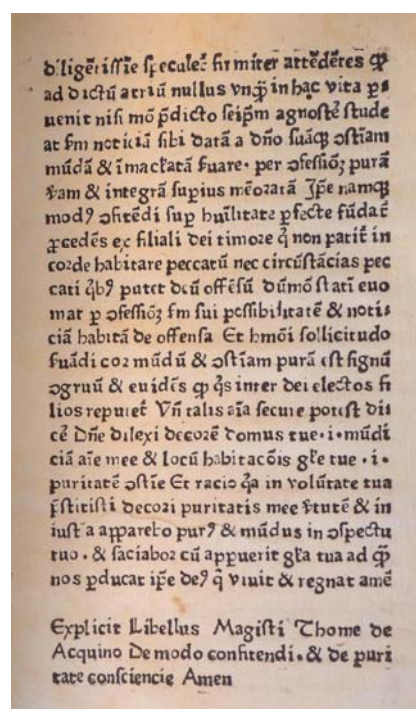
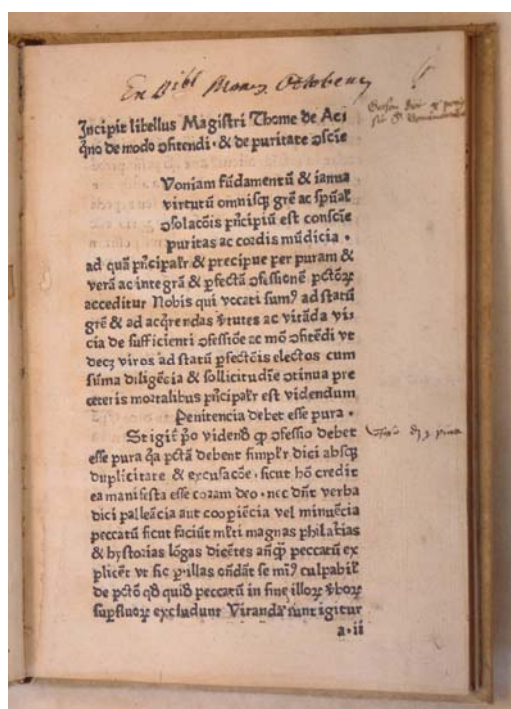
Brief contents page – f.1b

F.2a: Incipit libellus Magistri Thome de Acq'no de modo [con]fitendi. & de puritate [con]sciē

F.36a: Explicit Libellus Magistri Thome de Aquino De modo confitendi. & de puritate
consciencie Amen

Capital spaces unpainted.

Annotations throughout text.



Binding

Vellum boards; marbled endpapers; gilt edges.

Printer

Attributed to the Printer of the 'Gesta Christi', about 1472. See Commentary below.

Commentary

Often ascribed incorrectly to Thomas Aquinas or Bonaventura (cf. P. Michaud-Quantin, *Sommes des casuistique et manuels de confession au moyen-âge*, Louvain, 1962; see also *BMC* II: 483). A copy in Munich BSB has a rubricator's date 1476.

Letter tipped in Otago copy: '5 April 1924. Dear Sir [Bishop Nevill], I am glad you are getting some specimens of 15th century printing. I wish the Dominion Libraries would acquire more early English books instead of letting Dr Rosenbach convey all the best of them to the United States as he has been doing at the Christy Miller sale this week. I am sorry not to be able to

confirm your hope that the edition of Aquinas De modo confitendi et de puritate conscientiae of which you have sent me photocopies is a Caxton. It was probably printed about the time Caxton was learning his craft. The printer's name is unknown, but he is quoted as the Printer of the Gesta Christi (the title of one of his books), and worked at Speyer in 1472 and 1473. We have two copies of this edition in the Museum, press marked IA 8456 and IA 8457, and described on p.483 of the German section of our Catalogue of Books printed in the XVth century in the British Museum. Faithfully yours, A. W. Pollard. Keeper.'

Provenance

1. Ottobeuren, Benediktinerabtei St. Alexander und St. Theodor Schwaben.
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 1343*; BMC II 483; Goff T301; Kaplan 463; ISTC im00371850

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Gb/1472/T

Illustrations: Incipit page with provenance inscription (f.2a), Explicit (f.36b).

23.

Mesue, Johannes (Yuhanna Ibn Masawayh), d. c.855

Opera medicinalia. Add: Petrus de Abano: Additiones ad practicam. Franciscus Pedemontanus: Complementum. Nicolaus Salernitanus: Antidotarium, Quid pro quo, Synonyma. Abulcasis: Liber servitoris de praeparatione medicinarum simplicium (Translated: Abraham Tortuosiensis. Edited: Simon a Cordo)

Venice: [Peregrinus de Pasqualibus, Bononiensis] for Dionysius Bertochus, 21 December 1484.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [294] leaves ; 300 x 210 mm. (fol.)

Gothic type; double columns

F.2a: In nomie dei misericordis cuius nutu fmo recipit gratiam et doctrina pfectione principiu uboz Joannis filii Mesue...

Colophon: f.294a: Impressum adest venetijs: Anno salut MCCCC octuagesio quarto. duodecio vero Cale[n]das ianuarias sumptu et impensa Dionysu de bertochis de Bononia. [Variant as noted by Hain and recorded at BMC V: 390].

Rubricated throughout.

Leaves of index (at front) wanting; others some damage, including wormed and ripped.



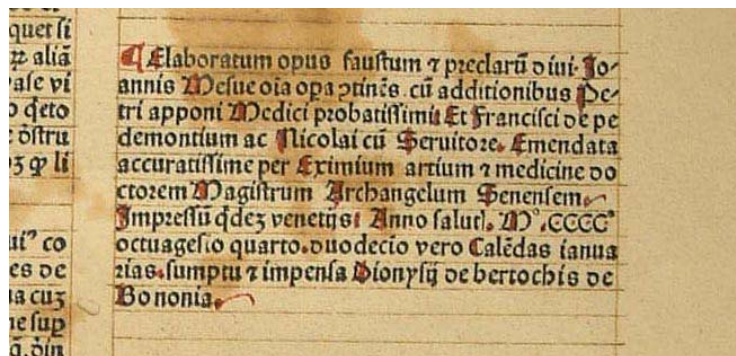
Binding

Stamped pigskin covers (wormed). Tabs present. Clasp joints not present. Spine title reads: Joannis Messue/ Opera/ Omnia &C/ 1484.



Printer

Both Peregrinus de Pasqualibus Bononiensis and Dionysius Bertochus were resident in Vicenza in late 1483, and both moved to Venice sometime in the new year of 1484. The first book produced by de Pasqualibus at Venice was the *Chrysoloras*, dated 5 February 1484. Dionysius was associated with him from the beginning, although after 1486, de Pasqualibus worked alone. He later reappears at Scandiano.



Commentary

Yuhanna Ibn Masawayh or Mesue (b.777/161) was one of the first prominent medieval Arabic physicians and head of the medical school at Baghdad. His works on pharmacy and materia medica, in particular, were some of the earliest texts translated into Latin and disseminated through Europe. He composed a considerable number of Arabic medical monographs, on topics including fevers, leprosy, melancholy, dietetics, eye diseases, and medical aphorisms. The name Mesuë, or filius Mesuë is associated with several influential Latin treatises, only some of which were actually written by Ibn Masawayh. This is his best known work.

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 11109*; BMC V, 390; Goff M514; Kaplan 333; ISTC im00514000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ic/1484/M

Illustrations: First page of text proper, Incipit Antidotarium Nicolai plus tab (f.263a), binding, last page with colophon, detail of colophon.

24.

(*Mirabilia Romae vel potius*) *Historia et descriptio urbis Romae*. Add: Pseudo- Aegidius Romanus: Oratio de S. Veronica. Indulgentiae ecclesiarum principalium urbis Romae
Rome: Eucharius Silber, 12 September 1499

Text and Decoration

Paper. [60] leaves : ill. ; 160 x 95 mm (octavo)

Roman type.

F.1b: In isto opusculo dicit quomodo Romulus [et] Remus nati sunt [et] educati. Et postea Romulus factus est primus Romanorū rex [et] conditor Romane vrbs

Woodcuts for the seven churches, and a frontispiece showing Rhea Silvia, the she-wolf, and the City of Rome.

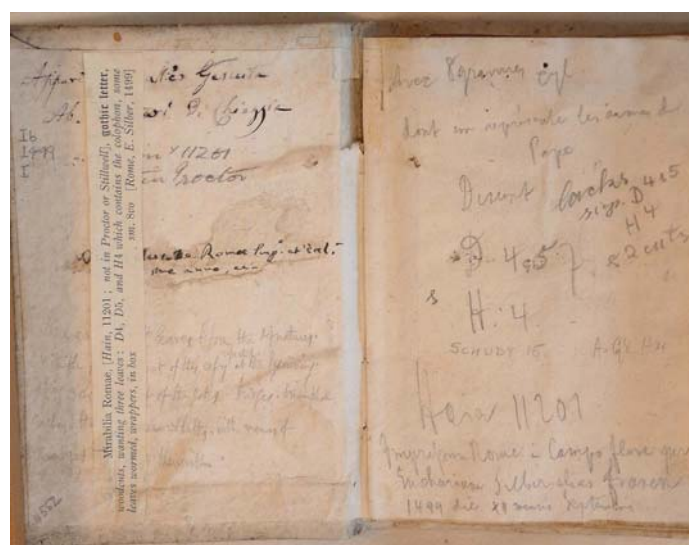
One sheet in manuscript (D5)

DU copy incomplete, wanting three leaves – D4 and D5, and H4 (colophon).



Binding

Grubby white paper over paper wrappers. Unknown dealer's catalogue entry pasted in front endpaper.



Printer

Eucharius Silber (fl. 1480-1510) was a German who established an early press in Rome where he became a leading printer. He published many original works, some in Italian, and issued a fine Roman Missal in 1488. The business was continued from 1510 to 1527 by Marcellus Silber.



Commentary

An early guide book for pilgrims to Rome. Unhampered by any very accurate knowledge of the historical continuity of the city, the unknown author has described the monuments of Rome, displaying a considerable amount of invention. From the pontificate of Boniface VIII to that of John XXII (1316-34), it was revised and attained unquestioned authority, despite the increase in the already large number of misconceptions and errors. SPQR: Senatus Populusque Romanus (The Roman Senate and People).

Provenance

1. Esmond de Beer
2. Otago University Library

Reference:

Hain 11201*; Schudt 15; ISTC im00603400

Call No.

De Beer (Special Collections) Ib/1499/I

Illustrations: Front endpapers, woodcut of Romulus and Remus, SPQR double-page spread.

25.

(Mirabilia Romae vel potius) Historia et descriptio urbis Romae.

Add: Pseudo- Aegidius Romanus: Oratio de S. Veronica. Indulgentiae ecclesiarum principalium urbis Romae

Rome: Stephan Planck, 15 November 1499.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [56] leaves; 140 x 95 mm (octavo).

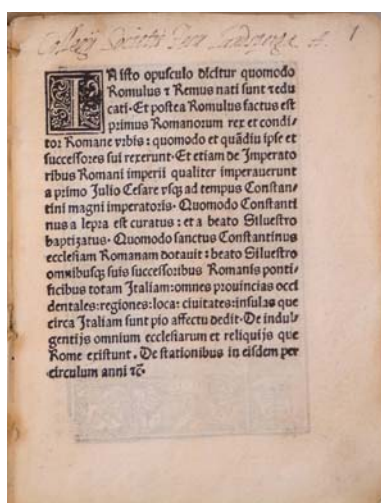
Roman type

F.1a: In isto opusculo dicitur quomodo Romulus [et] Remus nati sunt [et] educati. Et postea Romulus factus est primus Romanorum rex et conditor Romane urbis:

F.55a: Colophon: Impressum Rome per magistrū Stephannz Planck, Patauieñ. Anno dñi.

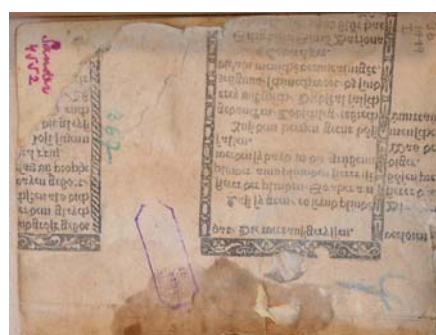
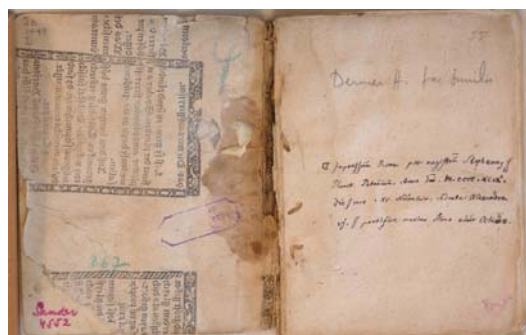
M.cccc.xciv. die vero. xv Nouembris. Sedente Alexandro. vj. pontifice maximo Anno eius Octauo.

11 woodcuts.



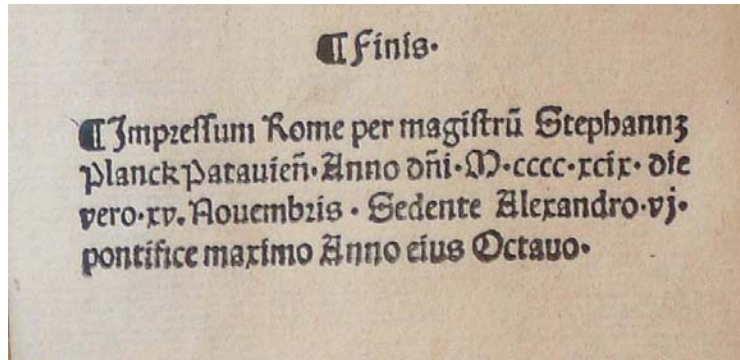
Binding

Vellum covers; manuscript notes at front with printed pasted down endpaper. Some leaves loose.



Printer

The first book containing Stephan Planck or Planck's name was the Roman Missal finished on 5 March 1482 (Hain *11377), although he was printing a few years prior to this (See *BMC* III, p.80). Planck became a leading printer in Rome, and had the distinction of printing in 1493 the first printed European description of the people and places in America by Columbus.



Commentary

An early guide book for pilgrims to Rome. Unhampered by any very accurate knowledge of the historical continuity of the city, the unknown author has described the monuments of Rome, displaying a considerable amount of invention. From the pontificate of Boniface VIII to that of John XXII (1316-34), it was revised and attained unquestioned authority, despite the increase in the already large number of misconceptions and errors. Pencilled price of £48 at back.



Provenance

1. Obliterated stamp (Deutsche...?) on inside front cover.
2. College Society of Jesu Landspergae.
3. Esmond de Beer
4. University of Otago Library

Reference

H 11202*; Schudt 16; ISTC im00603500

Call No.

DeBeer (Special Collections) Ib/1499/I

Illustrations: First page of text proper, with provenance inscription, front endpapers, including a detail, colophon, SPQR double-page spread.

26.

Nicolaus de Orbellis.

Expositio super textu Petri Hispani

Parma: Damianus de Moyllis and Johannes Antonius de Montalli, 30 April 1482.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [108] leaves; 200 x 145 mm (quarto).

Gothic type; double columns.

F. [1a]: Excellentissimi uiri artiū ac sacre theologie pffessoris eximij magistri Nicolai Dorbelli de Frācia ordinis mino[rum] [secundu]m doctrina doctoris subtilis Scoti: logice breuis: sz ad modū utilis expositio incipit.

F.108a – Colophon: impenis Damiani de moyllis: et Ioannis Antonij de Montalli: ad studentiū utilitatem eiusdem fratris Petri instātia fide liber impressum. 1482. die ultimo Mensis Aprilis.

Edited by Petrus de Parma

Capital spaces with guide letters, unpainted.

A few leaves smoke stained; manuscript marginalia on some leaves, in several hands.

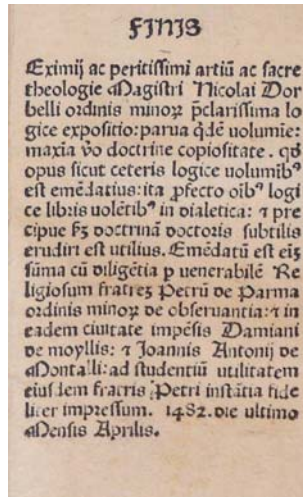


Binding

Modern faded red buckram. Large blemish on front cover. Spine title reads: Dorbelli/ Logice/ 1482.

Printer

Printing was introduced into Parma by Andreas Portilia, who completed an edition of Plutarch on educational matters on 23 September 1472. Although Damianus de Moyllis, also known as De Bochalariis, may have been printing as early as 1470 (see *BMC* VII: xlviii), the first authenticated work is the *Chorale* which he and his brother Bernardus completed on 10 April 1477. No mention is made of his 'partner', Johannes Antonius de Montalli.



Commentary

A commentary on the *Summulae logicae* of Petrus Hispanus (Pope John XXI), but of that text only the first few words beginning each section are printed.

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 12043*; BMC VII 940; Goff 075; ISTC io00077700

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ib/1482/O

Illustrations: First page of text proper (Excellentissimi...f.1a), colophon.

27.

Peregrinus

Sermones de tempore et de Sanctis

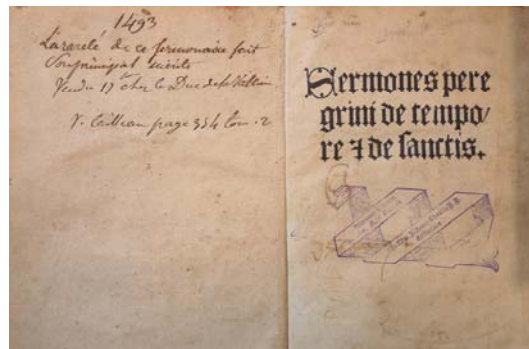
[Strassburg: Johann Prüss], 1493.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [214] leaves; 178 x 130 mm (quarto)

Gothic type. Double columns.

Title-page present – f.1a



F.2a: Tabula

F.10a: Alphabetum.i. – Fratrus Peregrini sacre theologie...

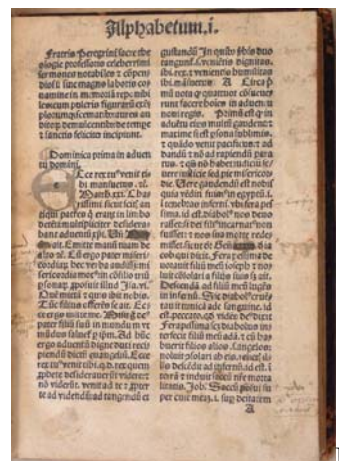
F.213b – Colophon: Fratris Peregrini in regionem diuine pagine peregre psiciscenris: doctoris clarissimi de tempore sancrisqs per circulum anni sermões populares [et] vigili cura denuo correcti. finem comprehendūt feliciter Anno. dñi M.cccc.xciii?.

Capital spaces with guide letters, some coloured grey/black wash.

Front leaves loose; final leaf blank.

Annotations throughout.

Library copy incomplete: wanting leaves 62, 74, 78-85, 201-206.



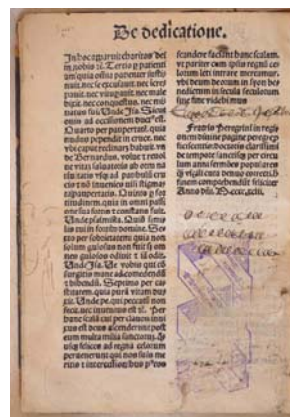
Binding

Mottled brown calf boards; front board detached. Spine title reads: Sermones/ Peregrini/ 1493.



Printer

Johann Prüss, who after Adolf Rusch, carried on the printing business of Johann Mentelin of Strassburg. His earliest known dated book was the *Formulare* of 1483 (Hain 7260).



Commentary

Peregrinus of Oppeln was Prior of the Polish Dominican province (1305-12, 1322-27). His sermon sequences for the temporal and sanctoral liturgical cycles circulated widely in Germany and eastern Europe.

Provenance

1. Father Nicolaus Maignaut?
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 12585*; BMC I 124; Goff P268; ISTC ip00268000.

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Gb/1493/P

Illustrations: Title-page, Alphabetum I (f.9a), binding, Dedicatione.

28.

Petrarca, Francesco

Opera Latina.

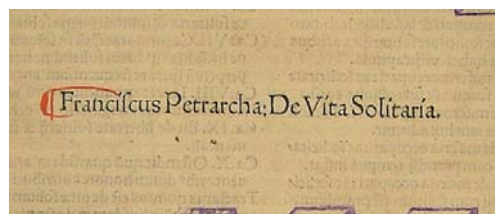
Basel: Johann Amerbach, 1496.

Text and decoration

Paper. 360 leaves; 275 x 190 mm. (fol.)

Roman type.

Title page bound at back; 'De Vita Solitaria' the first to appear in this particular edition.



F. 345a – Colophon: Explicit Liber Augustalis: Benevenuti de Rambaldis cum pluribus alijs opusculus Francisci Petrarcae: Impressus Basileae per Magistrum Ioannem de Amerbach: Anno salutiferi uirginalis partus: Nonagesimosexto supra millesimū quaterqz centesimum.

F. f359a (as bound): Librorum Francisci Petrarcae Basileae Impressorum Annotatio

F. 359b - De Commendatione Impressionis Francisci Petrarcae Elogiū Sebastian Brant.

Rubricated throughout in red and blue.



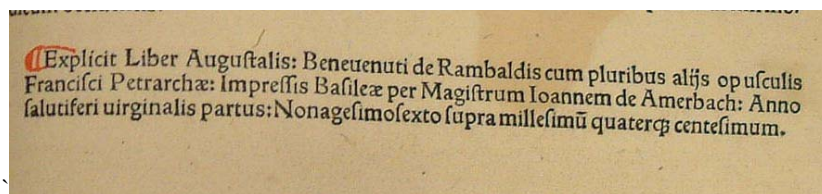
Binding

Half bound calf (scuffed) boards; detached. Spine badly cracked, disintegrating, and reading: Petra.../ 1496.



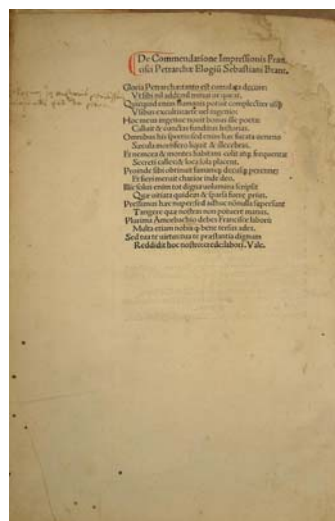
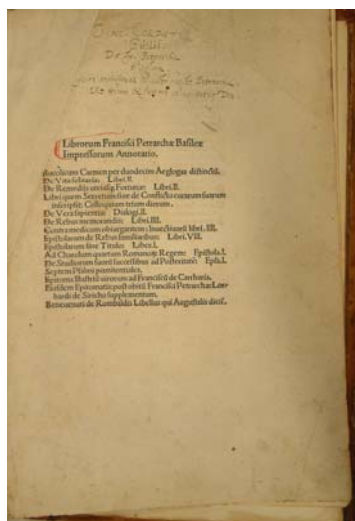
Printer

Johann Amerbach (c. 1430 –1513) was born at Reutlingen in Germany. He studied at the Sorbonne under Johann Heynlin before working in Nuremberg as a press corrector for Anton Koberger. He established a press at Basel about 1481 (1478 has also been suggested), and became its leading printer, issuing some seventy works. He was the first Basel printer to use roman type. At various times, Amerbach was in partnership with Jacob von Pforzheim, Johann Petri, and Johann Froben, and he had continued his association with Anton Koberger at Nuremberg, who acted as his publisher, and with Rusch at Strassburg, to whom he appears to have lent type.



Commentary

First Collected Edition of the Latin poetry and prose works of Petrarca, edited by Sebastian Brant. This is the earliest authenticated edition of Petrarch's works. See Cornell University Library, *Catalogue of the Petrarch Collection Bequeathed by Willard Fiske* (Oxford University Press, 1916), p. 1-2.



‘When we attempt to estimate Petrarch’s position in the history of modern culture, the first thing which strikes us is that he was even less eminent as an Italian poet than as the founder of Humanism, the inaugurator of the Renaissance in Italy. What he achieved for the modern world was not merely to bequeath to his Italian imitators masterpieces of lyrical art unrivalled for perfection of workmanship, but also and far more, to open out for Europe a new sphere of mental activity. Standing within the threshold of the middle ages, he surveyed the kingdom of the modern spirit, and, by his own inexhaustible industry in the field of scholarship and study, he determined what we call the revival of learning.’ (*Encyclopedia Britannica*, 11th edition.)

Provenance

1. Cinc Cordati (?)
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 12749; BMC III 757; Goff P365; Kaplan 371; ISTC ip00365000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Swc/1496/P

Illustrations: ‘De Vita Solitaria’ and detail, Prologus (f.2a), Tractatus I (f.3a), binding, colophon, (Title page) Impressorum Annotatio, with manuscript notes, Sebastian Brant and De Commendatione.

29.

Pope Pius II, 1405-1464 (formerly Aeneas Sylvius Piccolomini).

Epistolae familiares.

Lyons: Jean de Vingle, 8 November 1497.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [206] leaves, leaves 8 and 206 wanting. 255 x 170 mm (quarto)

Gothic type.

F.1a Title-page printed in red: EPistole et varij tractatus Pij secundi Pontificis Maximi: ad diuersos in quadruplici vite eius statu transmissae

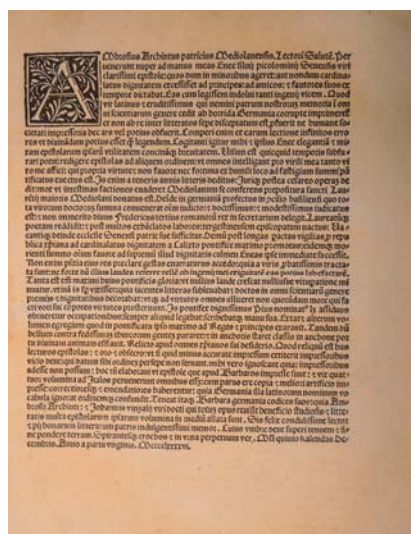


F.205a – Colophon: ‘...Impresse Lugduni per Iohannem de Vingle. Anno domiui. M.cccclxxxvij. Die octaua Nouembris.’

Edited by Ambrosius Archintus and Joannes Vinzalius.

Woodcut capitals.

Some preliminary annotations.



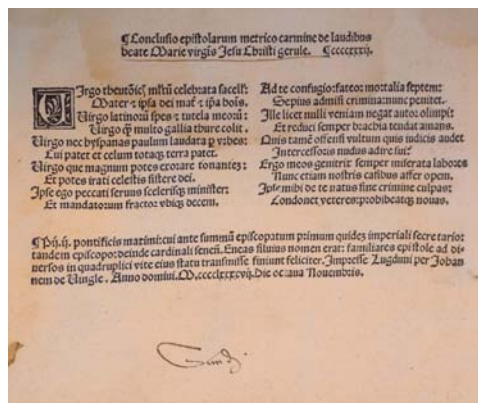
Binding

Quarter bound calf over spoiled suede covers. Printed and manuscript fragments are pasted on back endpaper. Bands exposed; covers brutalized.



Printer

Jean de Vingle, a Picard by birth, was believed to be working in Lyons as early as 26 November 1492. His first known signature occurs in a French Belial of 19 July 1494; over time he produced some 50 editions. His books are marked by a liberal use of black ground capitals (see *BMC VIII*: lxi). He was also a bookseller.



Commentary

A good copy of the great humanist Aeneas Sylvius' correspondence, reprinted from the edition of Scinzenzeler, Milan, 1496 (IB 26762, pt. vi, p. 770), with the wording of the latter part of the title altered.

Provenance

1. Booklabel of W. Jones (Studio Fallente Laborem), engr. Duchesen Ft. Havre.
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 158*; BMC VIII 312; Goff P722; Kaplan 383; ISTC ip00722000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Fc/1497/P

Illustrations: Title-page, with book label, initials A and I, binding and front endpaper, colophon, detail of book label.

30.

Plinius Secundus, Gaius Caecilius (Pliny, the Younger)

Epistolae

Rome: Eucharius Silber, [between 19 March and 3 April] 1490.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [150] leaves ; 210 x 140 mm (quarto)

Roman type.

F.1b: Vasino Gamberiae Innocentii Pont. Max. ministro a cubiculo Pomponius Laetus...

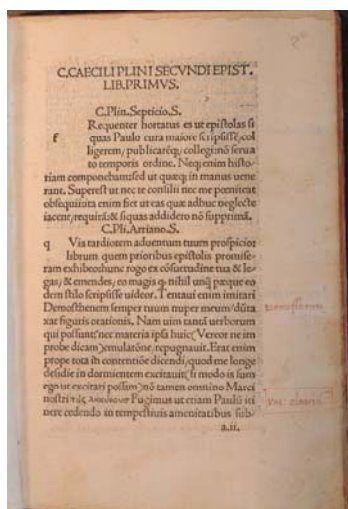
F.2a: C.Caecili Plini Secundi Epist. Lib Primus...

F.148b – Colophon: Impressum Romae per Eucharium Silber alias Franck natione Alemanū.

Anno domini. M.cccc.lxxxx. post diem. xiiii. Calendarum Aprilis.?

Guide letters and capital spaces; decoration wanting.

Extensively annotated.



Binding

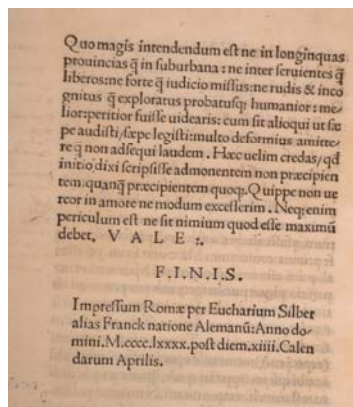
Green morocco with gilt lozenge in middle of both covers. Green striped endpapers. Gilt tooling around the edge of covers. One portion of front cover damaged. Spine title reads: C.Plini/ II/ Epistoi

Bound with: Sextus Aurelius Victor, *De viris illustribus*. Rome: Stephan Planck, 1492. DeBeer Ib/1492/P (see no.4)



Printer

Eucharius Silber, fl. 1480-1510, a German who established an early press in Rome where he became a leading printer. He published many fine works, some in Italian, and issued a fine Roman Missal in 1488. His printing business was continued from 1510 to 1527 by Marcellus Silber.



Commentary

Pliny the Younger (63- c.113) was a lawyer, an author and scientist of Ancient Rome. He was nephew to Pliny the Elder. The letters, on which today his fame mainly rests, were largely written with a view to publication, and were arranged by Pliny himself. Much is covered in them: the description of a Roman villa; the charms of country life; a dinner party; legacy-hunting in ancient Rome; the acquisition of a piece of statuary; his love for his young wife; ghost stories; floating islands, a tame dolphin, and other marvels, and by far the best-known are those describing the great eruption of Vesuvius in which his uncle perished, a martyr to scientific curiosity.

Provenance

1. Willi Fels, 1946.
2. Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 13114*; BMC IV 111; Goff P809; Kaplan 392; ISTC ip00809000

Call No.

De Beer (Special Collections) Ib 1492 P

Illustrations: First page of text proper (Lib. Primus), colophon.

31.

Schedel, Hartmann

Liber chronicarum.

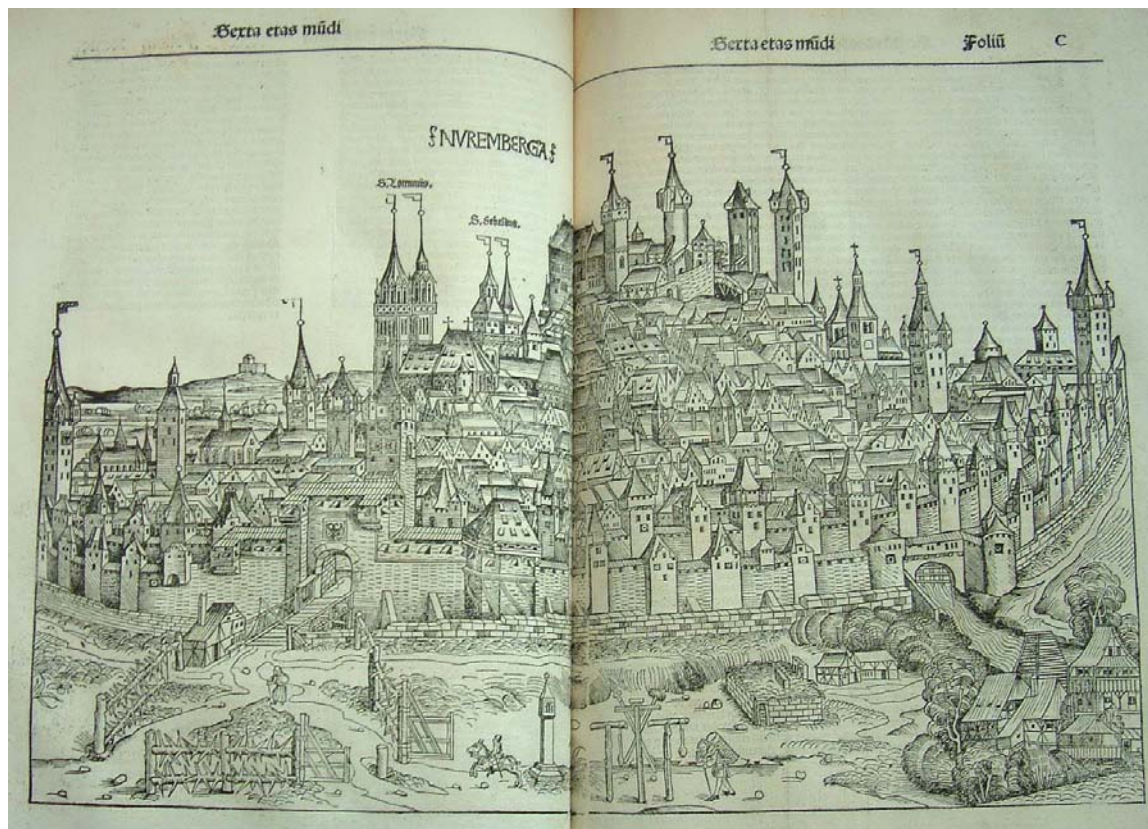
Nuremberg: Anton Koberger, for Sebald Schreyer and Sebastian Kammermeister, 12 July 1493.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [20], 299, [1] leaves; illus., 1 double map. 460 x 315 mm (large folio).

Leaves 29-319 numbered I-CCXCIX

F.1a: Woodcut title



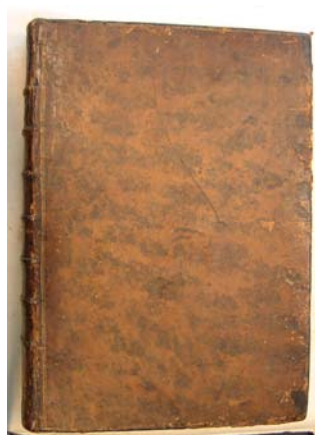
F. 320b – Colophon: ‘... Anthonius koberger Nuremberge impressit. Adhibitis tamē viris mathematicis pingendiqz arte peritissimus. Michaelē wolgemut et wilhelmo Pleydenwurff. quarū solerti acuratissimaqz animaadversione tum civitatum tum illustrium virorum figure inserte sunt. Consummatū autem duodecima mensis Iulij. Anno salutis nre. 1493.’

Woodcuts by Wohlgemuth, Pleydenwurff and [Albrecht Dürer].
Some repair to map at back.



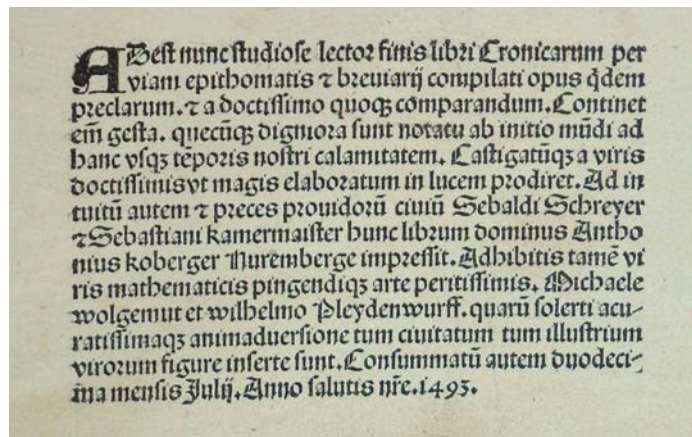
Binding

Rebacked mottled calf binding. Marbled endpapers. Spine title reads: Liber Chroni/ Perviam
Epit/ Digestarum



Printer

Anton Koberger of Nuremberg (b. about 1445; d.1513) was a goldsmith before he became a printer, and bookseller. In 1470, he established a printery in Nuremberg and his first dated volume was Alcinous, 24 November 1472. In 1483 he produced a German Bible and in 1484 the first book printed in the Hungarian language. Koberger was primarily a publisher, an entrepreneur *par excellence*, who, by 1500 had produced as many as 200 works and sold them through the various agencies he had in various European cities. He employed traveling salesmen, and issued one of the first advertising circulars. According to statements, Koberger had some twenty-four presses operating a day for his printing and employed over a hundred workmen. Dürer was his godson.



Commentary

The Latin edition of the *Nuremberg Chronicle*, a history of the world from the beginning. The most sumptuously illustrated book of the 15th century, with 1809 woodcuts by Wohleguth and Pleydenwurff, of which 1,164 are repeats. Contains many authentic views of great cities of Europe. Variants listed by W.B. Todd, *The Book Collector* (1964), pp.497-498. See Adrian Wilson, *The Making of the Nuremberg Chronicle* (1976).



Provenance

1. William Benson (Si deus quis contra – bookplate and motto)
2. Esmond de Beer
3. Otago University Library

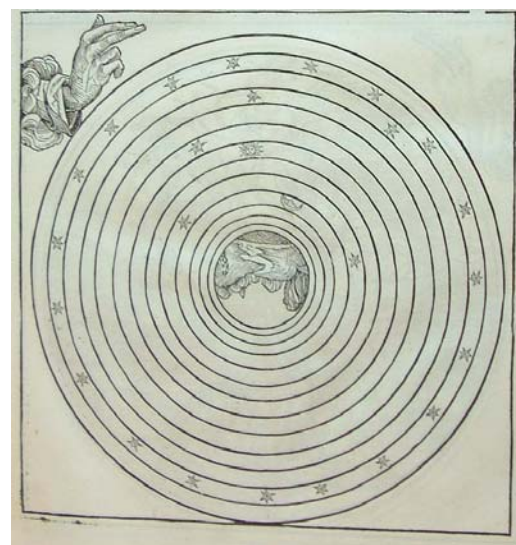
Reference:

HC 14508*; BMC II 437; Goff S307; Kaplan 424; ISTC is00307000.

Call No.

DeBeer (Special Collections) Gd/1493/S

Illustrations: Adam and Eve (f.66a), King and book image (f.151b), Nuremberg (f.99b and 100a), title-page sample, Epitoma operum (f.1a), binding and front endpapers, colophon, comet (f.186a), Constantinople (f.249a), Cyclops (detail from f.12a), Anthropagamai characters (f.12a), solar system (f.4a).



[*Scriptores rei rusticae*] [Cato. Varro. Columella. Palladius]

Reggio Emilia: Dionysius Bertochus, 18 September 1496.

Edited by Philippus Beroaldus, after Merula and Colucia

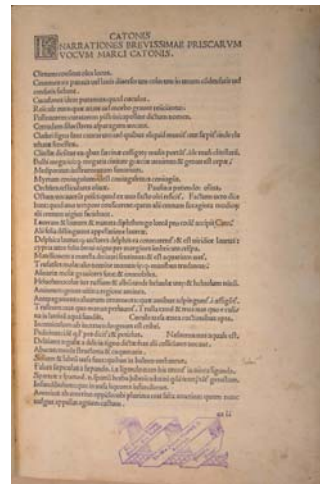
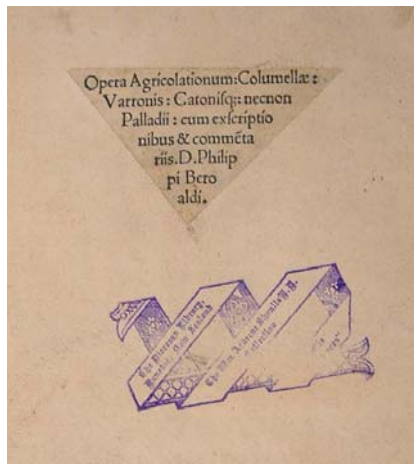
Text and Decoration

Paper. [272] l., the last blank; 305 x 205 mm (fol.).

Roman and Greek type.

F.1a – Title-page: Opera Agricolationum: Columellae: Varronis: Catonisq; necnon Palladii: cum excriptionibus & commēta riis D. Philippi Beroaldi – within triangular cut on prelim. page.

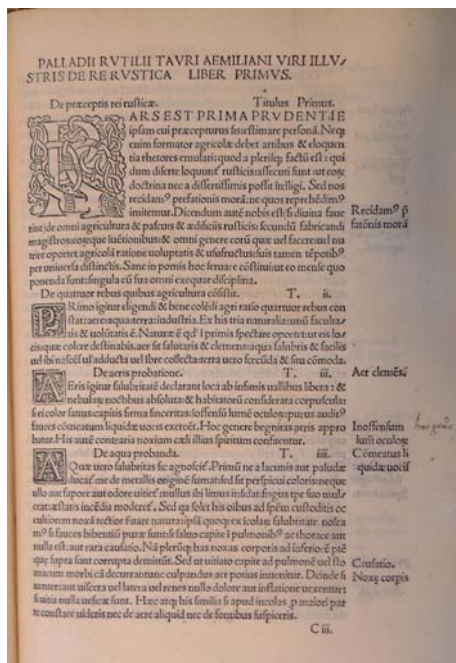
Some repairs to first few leaves.



General colophon: Opera agricolationum: Columellae: Varronis: Catonisq; necnon Palladii: cum excriptionibus D. Philippi Beroaldi: & comētariisque. Impressa Regii impēnsis Diōysii Bertochi Regien. Impante diuo Hercule Estē. MCCCCLXXXVI. Xiii. Kalen. Octobris.

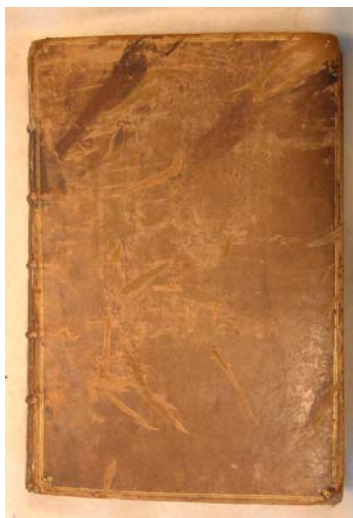
Woodcut initials

Annotated throughout.



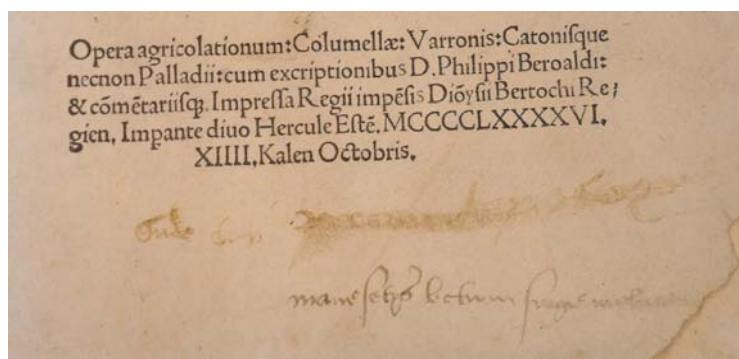
Binding

Plain calf binding (scuffed). Spine title reads: Rei Rustic/ Scriptor/ Regii/ 1496.



Printer

The first actual printing in Reggio Emilia (Italy) was by Bartholomaeus and Laurentius de Bruschi (Bottonus) with an issue of Perottus, *Rudimenta grammaticae*, 29 July 1480. Dionysius Bertochus, who also operated in Venice about 1494, appears at Reggio, printing the second of three editions of the Latin writers on husbandry, i.e. this particular book, on 18 September 1496. During these latter years, Bertochus was at Scandiano, assisting his associate Peregrinus de Pasqualibus. He later moved to Modena, and then travelled back to Reggio Emilia. See item no. 23.



Commentary

This collection of four agricultural writers - Cato, Columella, Varro and Palladius - was frequently published during the Renaissance and is often referred to as the *Scriptores rei rusticae*. The authors span the period from the second century B.C. to the fourth century A.D. All were upper class Romans who had had experience in running farms on their estates, though undoubtedly few of them ever experienced much of the actual labor. *Scriptores rei rusticae* contains: Cato's 'De Agricultura', 'a collection of general precepts on how the land owner should behave...'; Varro's 'De Re Rustica' which deals with agriculture, livestock and raising barnyard animals, bees and fish; Columella's 'De Re Rustica', which deals successively with 'the cultivation of fields, trees, and vines, the raising of large animals and barnyard animals, the raising of bees, vegetables, and flower gardens, and the duty of the bailiff and his wife'; and Palladius' 'Opus Agriculturae', which 'presents the point of view of the landed proprietor in the West, facing rapid technological innovation and social change that would lead to a different organization of work.' (Conte, *Latin Literature*)

Provenance

1. Christopher Tower, Esq., Weald Hall
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library



Reference:

HC 14569*; BMC VII 1090; Goff S349; Kaplan 427; ISTC is00349000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ic/1496/S

Illustrations: Triangular title-page, Catonis Enarrationes Brevissimae (f.2a; aaii), first page of Palladius's work with initial, binding, colophon, bookplate.

33.

Strabo.

Geographia, libri XVI

[Venice]: Johannes Rubeus Vercellensis, 28 January 1494/95.

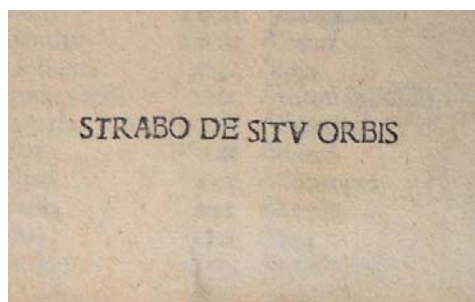
Translated by Guarinus Veronensis and Gregorius Tiphernas; edited by Antonius Mancinellus

Text and Decoration

Paper. [16], 150 leaves; 320 x 205 mm (fol.).

Roman type.

F.1a: title-page: Strabo De Situ Orbis.



F.2a: Tabula

F.17a: Christopher Nigri Carmen ad Io. Franciscum...

F.166a – Colophon: Strabonis Amasini Scriptoris illustris geographiae opus finit: Qd. Ioānes Vercellēsis ppria ipēsa uiuētibus posterisque exactissimā diligētia imprimi curauit. Anno. Sal. M.cccclxxxiii. die xxviii. Ianuarii.

Imprint from Goff, who gives title: *Geographia*.

Leaves cv-cvi duplicated.

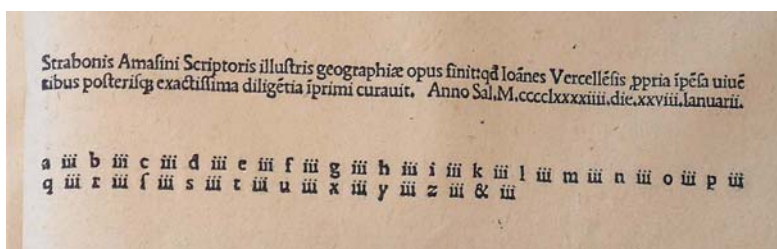


Binding

Quarter bound modern calf over mottled paper boards. Spine title reads: Strabo/ De/ Situ/ Orbis.

Printer

Prior to his residency in Venice, Joannes (Rubeus) Vercellensis was active in Treviso, 1480 to 1485. The Josephus of 23 October 1486 was the first of his many books printed in Venice.

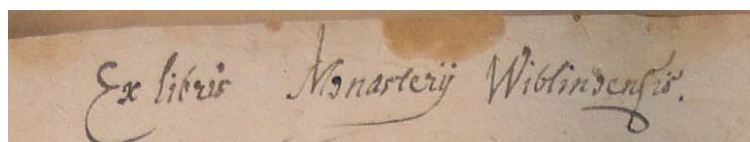


Commentary

'A geographical encyclopaedia written for the information of government officials and travellers and containing much regarding the customs and usages of various countries that is of technological interest. For instance, it describes the marble quarries of Carrara, the mining of vermilion in Spain, and the use of rock salt deposits there. It mentions the raising of the water by means of Archimedean screws. It describes the use of asphalt for building-blocks and in liquid form as a water-proofing agent - a product made from a bitumen seepage in Babylonia. It speaks of trade in bitumen, a product of the petroleum family, and discusses dyes, use of pitch in sealing the cracks in Celtic beer barrels, and the fact that Spanish wine will keep.' (Stillwell, *The Awakening Interest in Science during the First Century of Printing 1450-1550*). This is Strabo's classic work on geography; the first ten books translated by Guarino Veronese, the remainder by Gregorio Tiferante. Edited by Antonio Mancinelli. This second Vercellensis edition (with the Latin verses replacing the second title) was possibly purchased by de Beer for £25 from Maggs catalogue 517, no.403 (unsighted). The first Venice edition (Goff S797) was printed in April 1494.

Provenance

1. Benedictine monastery at Wiblingen, near Ulm (Baden-Württemberg).



2. Esmond de Beer
3. Otago University Library

Reference

C 5661; BMC V, 418; Goff S798; Kaplan 446; ISTC is00798000

Call No.

DeBeer (Special Collections) Ic/1494/S

Illustrations: Title-page, tabula (f.2a) and provenance inscription, first page of text proper, colophon, detail of provenance inscription.

34.

Theophylactus

Enarrationes in Epistolas S. Pauli.

Rome: Ulrich Han (Udalricus Gallus), 25 January 1477

Translated by Christophorus de Persona

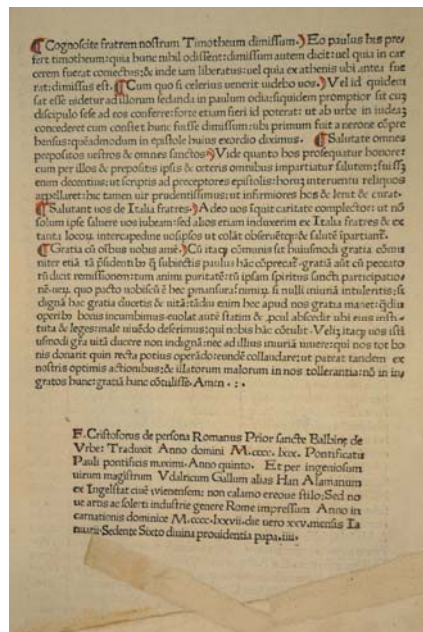
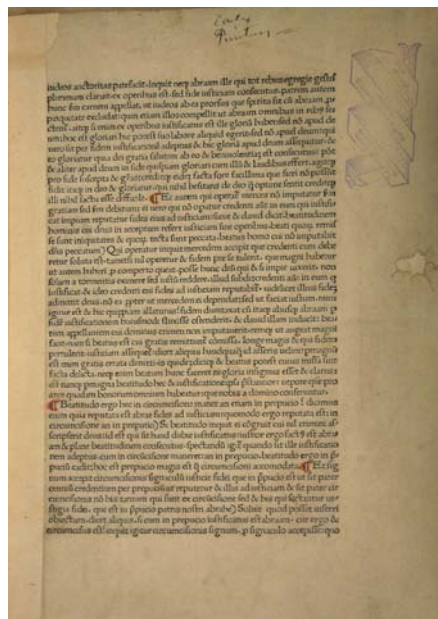
Text and Decoration

Paper. [278] leaves; 320 x 225 mm. (fol.)

Roman type. Large rips through first 50 pages.

Library copy incomplete: wants first 10 leaves.

Begins: 'iudeos auctoritas patefacit...'



F.277a – Colophon: F. Cristoforus de persona Romanus prior sancte Balbine de Vrbe: traduxit Anno domini M.cccc.lxix ... per ...Udalricum Gallum alias Han Alamanum ex Ingelstat ...Rome impressum Anno in carnationis dominice Mcccclxxvii die uero xxv mensis Januarii Sedente sexto divina providentia papa.iiii.

F.277b: D Romanos ex Corintho...

F. 278a [end of text]: tanta posset moles imponi.

F. 278b: Primum uacat...

Rubricated throughout.

Binding

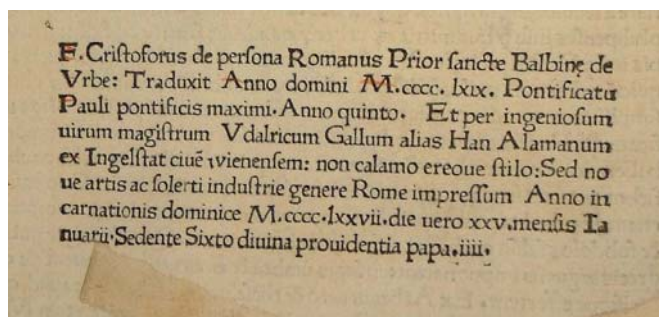
Quarter bound calf with marbled boards; both detached. Spine reads: Theophyl./ In/ D. Paulii Epp. Title on fore-edge.





Printer

Ulrich Han (fl.1467-78) left his native Ingolstadt for Vienna, where, in 1462, he became the first printer. He was a citizen of Vienna and was known as 'Barbatus.' He then went to Rome. From his press came what is claimed to be the first book in Italy illustrated by woodcuts, the *Meditationes vitae Christi* by Cardinal Turrecremata (1467), and c.1468, Bonaventura's *Legenda maior S. Francisci*, the first book printed in the Italian language. He had Simon Nicolai Chardella as a partner between 1471 and 1474.



Commentary

A commentary on the epistles of St Paul, erroneously attributed here to St. Athanasius. Includes text of the Epistles. 'Very early printing – very rare in 1477' on preliminary page.

Provenance

1. T. Kershaw, 1811.
2. Canon William Ardene Shoults
3. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

H 1902*; BMC IV 25; Goff T156 ; Kaplan 455; ISTC it00156000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ic/1477/T

Illustrations: Fore-edge, binding, first page of text in OU copy, last page and colophon, detail of colophon.

35.

Turrecremata, Johannes de

Quaestiones Evangeliorum de tempore et de sanctis.

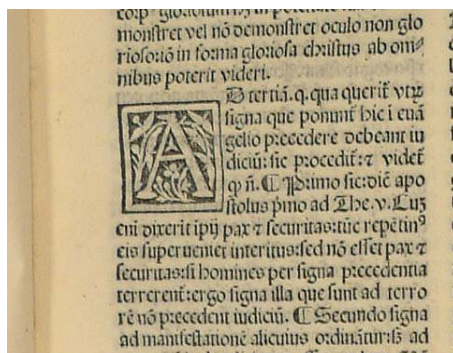
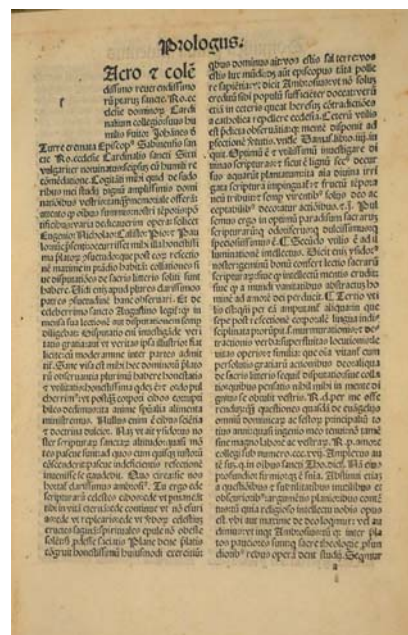
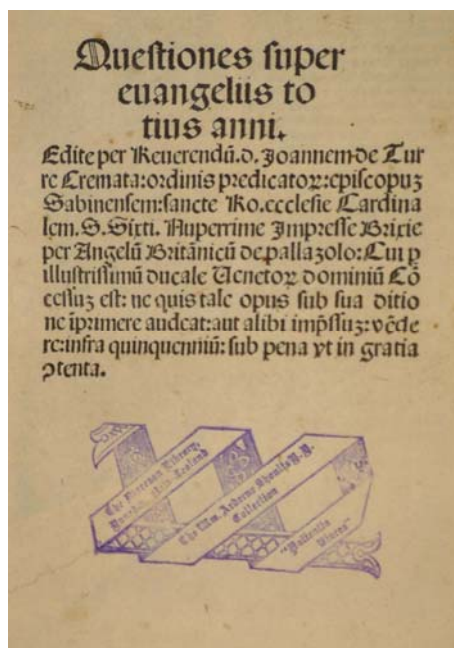
Brescia: Angelus Britannicus, 2 June 1498.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [166] leaves; 190 x 135 mm (quarto and octavo).

Gothic type. Two columns.

F.1a – Title-page and privilege: *Questiones super euangeliis totius anni...* Impresse Brixie per Angelū Britānicū de pallazolo...



F.166b: colophon: 'Questiones evangeliorum tam de tempore quam de sanctis collectae per R.D.

Ioanem de Turre Cremata ...Impresse Brixie Anno M.cccc.xcviij. die. ij Iunij per Angelum

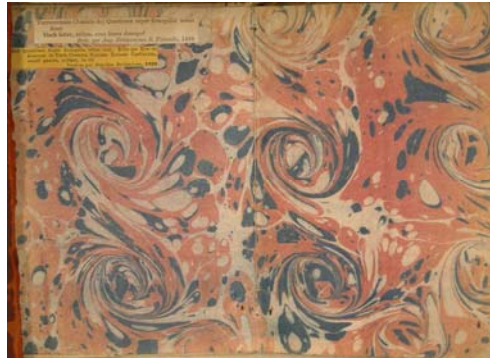
Britānicum de palazzolo: Ad laudem dei et eius genitricis marie...

Guide letters with capital spaces.

Woodcut initials

Binding

Vellum covers; marbled endpapers.



Printer

Printing began in Brescia in 1473. Jacobus Britannicus was a member of various printing associations in Venice in 1483 and 1484, and moved to Brescia in late 1484. In Brescia, the Britannicus brothers, Jacobus and Angelus, were distinctive in publishing a disproportionately large number of books in small formats. Although partners in and after 1497, they signed themselves separately. This is one example from the printery of Angelus Britannicus. His device is present under the colophon.



Commentary

Spanish ecclesiastic Johannes de Turrecremata, or Juan de Torquemada (1388-1468), was born at Valladolid. He later studied in Paris, returned to Valladolid and then went to Toledo. He became a cardinal in 1439. His principal works include *In Gratiani Decretum commentarii*, *Expositio brevis et utilis super toto psalterio*, *Quaestiones spirituales super evangelia totius anni*, and *Summa ecclesiastica*. Two unknown dealer catalogue entries are on the front pastedown.

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 15718; BMC VII 980; Goff T548; Kaplan 475; ITC it00548000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ib/1498/T

Illustrations: Title-page, first page proper of text (Prologus), detail of an 'A', last page with colophon and printer's device, detail of printer's device.

36.

Turrecremata, Johannes de

Quaestiones Evangeliorum de tempore et de sanctis.

[Basel: Johann Amerbach, not after 28 September 1481].

Text and Decoration

Paper. [194] leaves; 290 x 200 mm (fol.).

Gothic type. Double columns.

Contains Nicolaus de Byard's *Flos theologiae sive Summa de abstinentia* [Dictionarius pauperum] bound at front, with preliminaries of that work up to and including C5 wanting.

C6a (f.18a?) starts: 'tenebūt quasi parturiētes dolebunt (?)...'

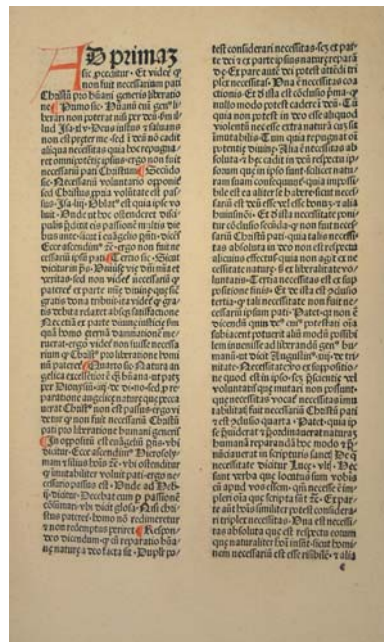
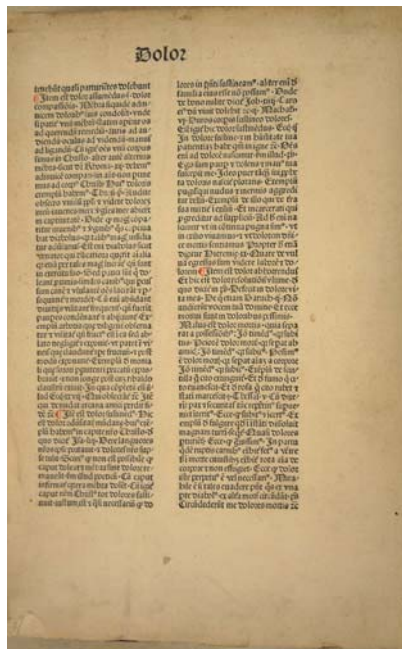
Ends: 'Explicit Tabula materie applicabilis siue floris theologie.'

Turrecremata's work begins: f.2a: 'Incipit tabula qstionū'

147 leaves present; F.8 and leaves including p10 onwards (including colophon) wanting.

F.9a: Questiones euāgelioruz tam de tempore qb de sancti collectę per .R. D Iohannē de turre cremate epm Sabineñ. Sanctę Rhomanę ecclesię Cardinalem sancti Sixti. Incipiūt feliciter.

Rubricated throughout.



Binding

Oak boards covered in calf. Blind stamped lozenge design on covers. Boards detached; spine badly ripped with exposed gatherings. Clasp joints remain. Contains a loose medieval manuscript fragment of the Digest of Justinian (book XL, 4:48), Italy (probably Bologna), mid-thirteenth century (75 x 50 mm).



Printer

Johann Amerbach (c. 1430 –1513) was born at Reutlingen in Germany. He studied at the Sorbonne under Johann Heynlin before working in Nuremberg as a press corrector for Anton Koberger. He established a press at Basel about 1481 (1478 has also been suggested), and became its leading printer, issuing some seventy works. He was the first Basel printer to use roman type. At various times, Amerbach was in partnership with Jacob von Pforzheim, Johann Petri, and Johann Froben, and he had continued his association with Anton Koberger at Nuremberg, who acted as his publisher, and with Rusch at Strassburg, to whom he appears to have lent type.



Commentary

Goff dates this production not after 1484; a copy at Frankfurt am Main has a rubricator's date 28 September 1481.

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference

HC 15714*; BMC III 747; Goff T553; ISTC it00553000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Fc/1485/T

Illustrations: First page of text in OU copy, rubricated 'A', front cover binding, front inside cover, detail of gatherings on spine.

37.

Ubertinus de Casali

Arbor vitae crucifixae Jesu Christi.

Venice: Andreas de Bonetis, 12 March 1485.

Text and Decoration

Paper. 250 leaves; 285 x 200 mm (fol.)

Roman type. Double columns.

F.1a: [in caps] 'Incipit prologus in librum qui intitulatur arbor vite crucifixae Iesu. Et dicitur opus Ubertini de Casali.

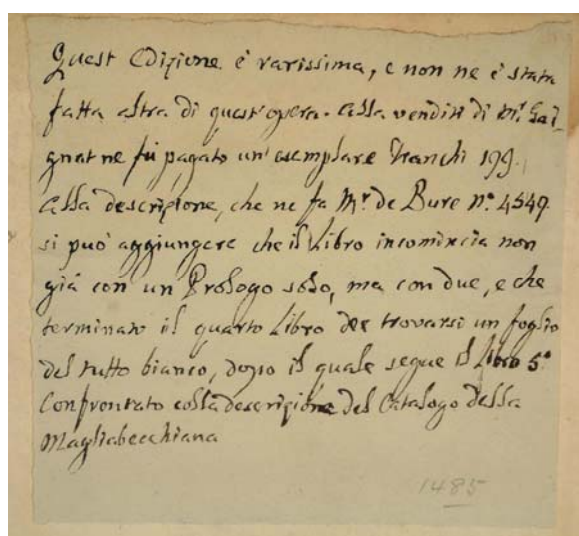
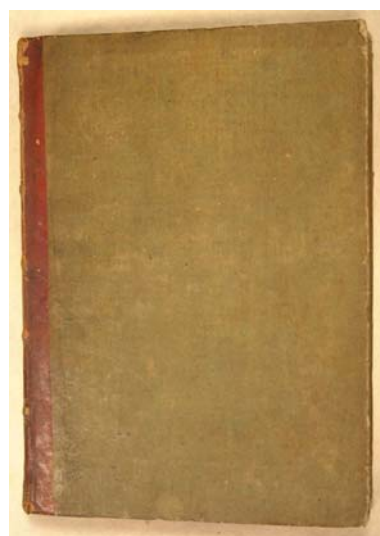


F.248b – Colophon: 'Liber qui intitulatur Arbor uite crucifixae Iesu deuotissimi fratris Vbertini de Casali ordinis minorū felicit' explicit. Impressus Venetiis p. Andrea de Bonettis de Papia. Anno. M.CCCC.LXXXV. Die. Xii. Martii. Ioane Mocenico indyto principe regnante.'

Capital spaces and guide letters uncoloured. Not rubricated.

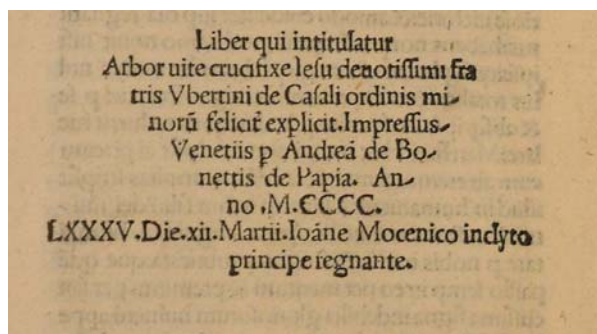
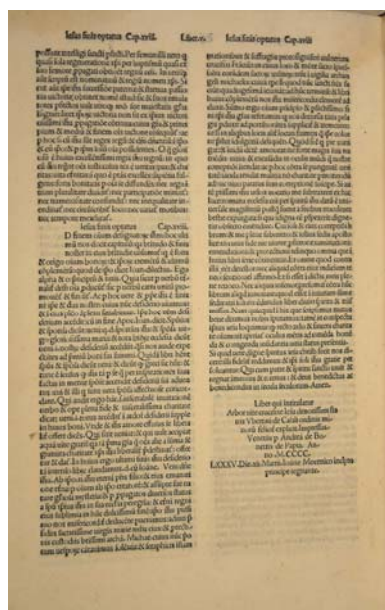
Binding

Quarter bound red calf over green paper boards. Spine title reads: De Casali/ Arbor/ Vitae.



Printer

The first book connected with Andreas de Bonetis is the Romuleius of 14 November 1482; the last authenticated being *Constitutiones Clementinae*, 13 June 1486.



Commentary

First and only edition of this infamous book. Ubertino of Casale (1259-c. 1330) was leader of the Spirituals and a man who engaged in many controversies. 'Being a man of genius, but of an eccentric and restless character, he soon became the leader of the famous Spirituals in Tuscany, professed strange ideas regarding evangelical and Franciscan poverty, and attacked the government of the order. His chief work is *Arbor vitae crucifixae Jesu Christi*. This work is a collection of allegorical, theological, and political theories regarding civil society and the Church of those days, and expounds also his ideal of the near future. In this work he criticises everything and everyone, the popes and the Church, especially for pretended abuses of riches in the ecclesiastical and civil states, and finally the Franciscan Order for not practising the extremest poverty. In the same work (book I, chap. iv) is the first mention of the legend of the resurrection of St. Francis' (*Catholic Encyclopedia*, XV, p. 116). Ubertino was accused of heresy in 1325 and was excommunicated by John XXII. Note attached to front endpaper pointing out rarity of this edition, and mentioning the catalogue of Magliabechiana.

Provenance

1. Canon William Ardene Shoults
2. Selwyn College; Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 4551*; BMC V 361; Goff U55; Kaplan 478; ISTC iu00055000

Call No.

Shoults (Special Collections) Ic/1485/U

Illustrations: Incipit Prologus (f.1a), binding, bibliographical note on front endpaper, last page with colophon, detail of colophon.

38.

Urbanus (Bolzanus) Bellunensis

Institutiones Graecae grammaticae.

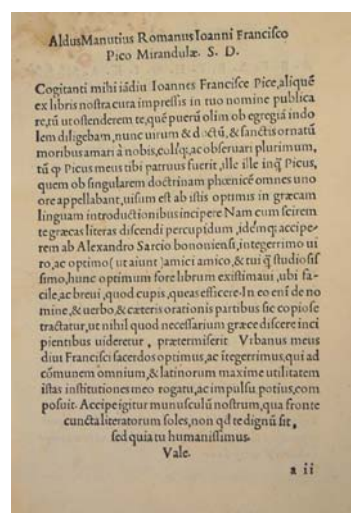
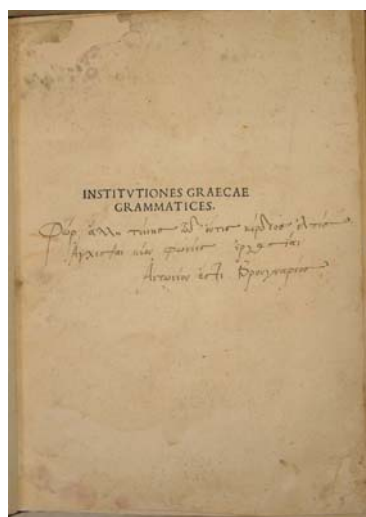
Venice: Aldus Manutius, Romanus, January 1497 [i.e. 1497 or 1498] 'mense Ianuario'.

Text and Decoration

Paper. [428] p. ; 210 x 155 mm (quarto).

Greek and Roman type; woodcut capitals.

F.1a: Title-page: INSTITVTIONES GRAECAE GRAMMATICES



Errata on last four pages (unlike Hain).

Last leaves defective and repaired, effecting a few lines of text.

F.212a – Colophon: Venetiis in aedibus Aldi Manutii Romani. M.IIID. mense Ianuario....?



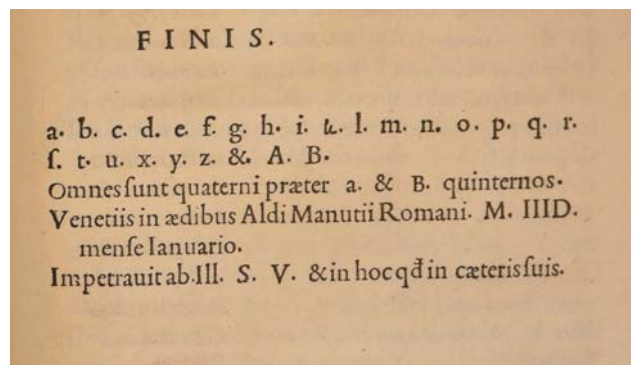
Binding

Rebacked calf with animals and Christ-like figure blind stamped on covers.



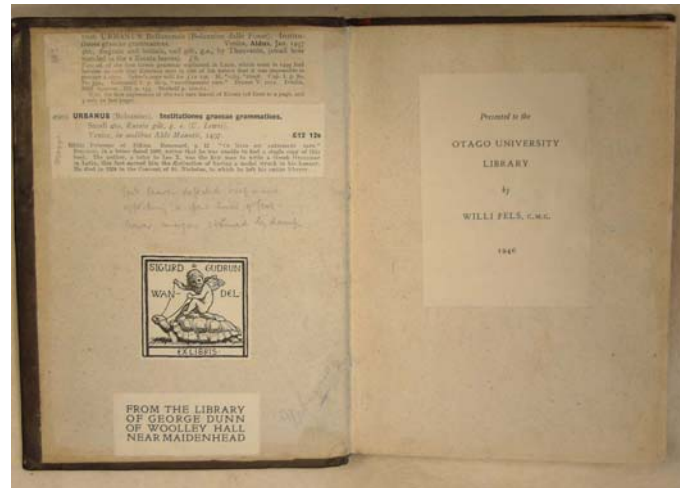
Printer

Aldus Manutius (1450–1515) was a Venetian printer. He was educated as a humanistic scholar and became tutor to several of the great ducal families, namely the Pio family. It was they who provided him with money to establish a printery in Venice in 1494/5. He devoted himself to publishing the Greek and Roman classics, in editions noted for their scrupulous accuracy; a five-volume set of the works of Aristotle, completed in 1498, is the most famous of his editions. He was especially interested in producing books of small format for scholars at low cost. He designed and cut the first complete font of the Greek alphabet and to save space in Latin texts he designed the *italic* type. He was ably assisted by the designer Francesco Griffi, also called Francesco da Bologna. Aldus's books are called Aldine and most bear his mark: a dolphin and an anchor. A son, Paulus Manutius (1512–74), and a grandson, Aldus Manutius (1547–97), carried on the business.



Commentary

A first edition of the first Greek grammar explained in Latin, which, even in 1499, had become so rare that Erasmus wrote in a letter that it was impossible to procure a copy. Its publishing details were announced in Aldus's edition of Perottus's *Cornucopie* from August 1496; Jan. 1497 is therefore a more likely date than Jan. 1498. See BMC V 558 for note on the year of printing. For creating the first Greek Grammar in Latin, the author, a tutor to Leo X, earned the distinction of having a medal struck in his honour. He died in 1524.



Provenance

1. Book label of George Dunn of Woolley Hall near Maidenhead.
2. Bookplate of Sigurd and Gudrun Wandel
3. Willi Fels, 1946
4. Otago University Library

Reference:

HC 16098* = 2763*; BMC V 558; Goff U66; Kaplan 479; ISTC iu00066000

Call No.

DeBeer (Special Collections) Ib/1497/B

Illustrations: Title-page, 'Aldus Manutius Romanus... (f.2a)', beginning of text proper, with decorative initial (f.3a), front and back binding covers, colophon, provenance details on front endpapers.

Place of Publication (by entry)

Basel	1, 11, 14, 28, 36
Brescia	35
London	7
Lyons	3, 5, 15, 29
Mantua	13
Milan	10, 19,
Nuremberg	6, 31
Parma	26
Pavia	18, 20
Reggio Emilia	32
Rome	4, 24, 25, 30, 34
Speyer	16, 22
Strassburg	2, 9, 27,
Stuttgart	12
Venice	7, 8, 17, 21, 23, 33, 37, 38
Westminster	7

Printers (by entry)

Johann Amerbach	11, 28, 36	
Nicolaus Battibovis	17	
Dionysius Bertochus	23, 32	
Manfredus de Bonellis, de Monteferrato	8	
Andreas de Bonetis	37	
Johannes Andreas de Boscho	20	
Angelus Britannicus	35	
William Caxton	7	
Johannes de Colonia	7	
Peter Drach	16	
Nicolaus de Frankfordia	21	
Michael Furter	14	
Michael and Bernardinus de Garaldis	20	
Franciscus Girardengus	18	
Ulrich Han (Udalricus Gallus)	34	
Johannes Herbort	7	
Georg Husner, Printer of the 1483 Jordanus de Quedlinburg, 1495		9
Nicolaus Jenson (et Socii)	7	
Anton Koberger	6, 31	
John Lettou	7	
Philippus de Mantegatiis, Cassanus	19	
Aldus Manutius	38	
Johann Mentelin	2	
Johannes Antonius de Montalli	26	
Damianus de Moyllis	26	
Leonardus Pachel	10	
Peregrinus de Pasqualibus Bononiensis	23	
Stephan Planck	4, 25	
Printer of Butigella, after January 1493	18	
Printer of the 'Erwahlung Maximilians', ca. 1485 or 1486.	12	
Printer of the Gesta Christi, 1472 or 1473	22	
Johann Prüss	27	
Franciscus Renner de Heilbronn	21	
Bernhard Richel	1	

Johannes Schallus	13
Eucharius Silber	24, 30
Johannes Trechsel	3, 15
Petrus Ungarus (Pierre Hongre)	5
Johannes Rubeus Vercellensis	33
Jean de Vingle	29

Provenance – Dunedin (by entry)

Esmond de Beer	6, 24, 25, 31, 33
Willi Fels	4, 17, 21, 32, 38
Canon Shoults	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37

Selected Bibliographies

- BMC *British Museum Catalogue of books printed in the fifteenth century*. London: The Museum, 1963-71. v.I –VIII, reprint of 1908-1958.
- Goff Frederick Richmond Goff, *Incunabula in American libraries: a third census of fifteenth-century books recorded in North American collections*. New York: Bibliographical Society of America, 1964.
- Hain L. Hain, *Repertorium Bibliographicum ad annum 1500*. Milan: Görlich, 1948. Reprint of 1826-38.
- HC W. A. Copinger, *Supplement to Hain's Repertorium Bibliographicum*. Milan: Görlich, 1950. Reprint of 1895-1902.
- IGI *Generale degli Incunaboli delle Biblioteche d'Italia*. Rome, 1943-
- ISTC *Incunabula Short-title Catalogue*. British Library, 1990.
- ISTC-e <http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/istc/>
- Kaplan H. G. Kaplan, *A First Census of Incunabula in Australia and New Zealand*. Sydney: Public Library of New South Wales, 1966.
- Schudt L. Schudt, *Le Guide di Roma*. Vienna: B. Filser, 1930.

Other References:

Catholic Encyclopedia online

Gian Biagio Conte, *Latin Literature*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994.

T. H. Darlow and H.F Moule, *Historical catalogue of the printed editions of holy scripture in the library of the British and Foreign Bible Society*. London: The Bible House, 1903-1911.

Encyclopedia Britannica Online

Geoffrey Glaister, *Encyclopedia of the Book*, 2nd ed. (Delaware; London: Oak Knoll Press and the British Library, 2001.)

Incunabula. A Catalogue of 15th Century Books from the 'Cradle of Printing', University of Otago Central Library, February – March 1996. Compiled by Elizabeth Tinker.

H.G. Kaplan, *A First Census of Incunabula in Australia and New Zealand*. Sydney: Published by the Trustees of the Public Library of New South Wales, 1966.

John Kaplan, 'A Short-title List of 15th Century Printed Books held in New South Wales, Queensland and the Aust. Capital Territory.' Sydney, 1965. Typescript.

Pingree, Isabelle, 'A Catalogue of the Bindings of the Fifteenth Century Bookbinder called the Rood and Hunt Binder', in *The Library*, Vol. 4 no. 4 (2003), pp. 371-401.

S. H. Steinberg, *Five Hundred Years of Printing*. Delaware: Oak Knoll, 1996.

Adrian Wilson, *The Making of the Nuremberg Chronicle*. Amsterdam: Nico Israel, 1977.