

19a. Brussels, Bibliothèque Royale 8245–57 (3116)

Historical miscellany, including Bede's "Historia Ecclesiastica" (with "Caedmon's Hymn" in OE), and a collection of Carthusian texts
[Ker —, Gneuss —]

HISTORY: This late 15c manuscript is composed of sections containing a series of early medieval histories, annals, and procedural treatises relating to the Order of the Carthusians, Saints' Lives, and repertories. The non-Carthusian historical works, items 1–5, were chosen and arranged to form a chronological series and doubtless were compiled as a sort of history of the Christian world. Included is a copy of Bede's "Ecclesiastical History" with a recently-noticed OE copy of "Caedmon's Hymn" (Humphreys and Ross 1975; O'Donnell 1996). The manuscript originates from the abbey of Our Lady of Corsendonck, near Turnhout, in Brabant (now Belgium), a house of regular Augustinian canons. It is first mentioned in an inventory of the library compiled in 1633 by Canon and Prior Jean Hoyberg. The first part of the manuscript (ff. 1–88) dates from 1489; on f. 87v it reads that it was finished on 15 December of that year by Brother Anthony of Bergen op Zoom, cantor in Corsendonck Abbey, who has been identified as Brother Antoine Vlaminx (1439–1504), a prolific copyist who signed 12 manuscripts between 1466 and 1498 (Wittick and Glorieux-De Gand 1982: 37, 1987: 33–34, 36–37, 112). The rest of the manuscript gives no scribal information as to date, but on the basis of the watermarks has been dated between 1480 and 1500 (Witteck and Glorieux-De Gand 1987:112). Before the suppression of the monasteries by Emperor Joseph II in 1784 the manuscript had moved from Corsendonck to Tongerlo Abbey (f. 1v); afterwards it came into the library of the Dukes of Burgundy, nucleus of the present Royal Library (Hinnebusch 1972: 43).

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: The manuscript is compiled of seven sections comprising ii + 1 + 2–320 + [321] folios (folio after '145' not numbered), mostly paper, with several quires folded in between two parchment

sheets. The pages measure 279 × 202 mm.; written space 212 × 153 mm. in two columns of about 65–70 mm. throughout. Ff. 1–89 are ruled in lead for 43 lines, with 2 extra horizontal lines in the upper margin, about 5 mm. from the top, continuing into the inner and outer margins, and containing a header listing the book from Bede's *Historia Ecclesiastica*. Prickings are often visible in both the paper and the parchment folios. The remaining 43 rulings run across the columns; the first and the last two of these rulings also continue into the inner and outer margins. Writing is below the top-line so that there are 42 lines of text. Four vertical bounding lines continue into the top and bottom margins. Ff. 90–320 are ruled similarly, for 45 lines of which the first and last two continue into the inner and outer margins. There are 44 lines of text, written below the top-line.

[Note: The watermarks on ff. 1–87 are the same as those on ff. 248–263 and ff. 310–320 (Briquet 1923: no. 1749), which leads to the conclusion that these parts are probably from the same date. Other watermarks on ff. 89–123, 155–241, and 264–299 (Briquet 1923: nos. 1654, 1744) indicate that these parts are earlier, probably from around 1480. Ff. 300–308 contain watermarks that do not occur in Briquet, but strongly resemble Briquet 11419, which may suggest that these folios are perhaps more recent. However, they must antedate the death of Antoine Vlamincx in 1504 (Wittek and Glorieux-De Gand 1987: 112, no. A349).]

The texts are written in a late Gothic book hand by at least two scribes. Initials are mostly in red, but sometimes also in blue. On f. 264 there is a red and blue initial with pen work and on f. 89r there is a blue and black initial with pen work. Capitals are also colored red.

The manuscript is kept in a 17c binding of calf leather, gold-stamped; on spine: 'Bedae Historia Ecclesiastic. Manscrp', as well as the coat of arms of Tongerlo Abbey with the device 'Veritas vincit'. At the beginning there is one paper flyleaf contemporaneous with the binding pasted with a stub on to the first folio, with a second paper leaf pasted between the two. Ff. 203–238 are badly damaged as a result of piercing with a penknife.

COLLATION: Paper unless indicated otherwise. Flyleaves (ff. i–ii, 1). **Part 1:** I–VI¹² (ff. 2–73); VII⁸ (ff. 74–81); VIII⁸ wants 1 paper half-sheet after 7 (ff. 82–88). **Part 2:** IX² 2 half-sheets (ff. 89–90); X¹² 1/12, 6/7 are parchment (ff. 91–102); XI⁸ 1/8, 4/5 are parchment (ff. 103–110); XII¹⁰ 1/10, 5/6 are parchment (ff. 111–120). **Part 3:** XIII–XIV¹² in both quires 1/12 and 6/7 are parchment (ff. 121–144); XV¹⁰ + 1 unnumbered paper half-sheet after 1 (f. 145) with stub after f. 153, 1/10 two parchment half-sheets pasted together to form a conjugate pair, 5/6 are parchment (ff. 145–154). **Part 4:** XVI–XXII¹² of each quire 1/12 and 5/6 are parchment conjugate pairs (ff.

155–238). XXIII⁸ + 1 paper half-sheet after 2, stub showing after f. 245, 1/8 is parchment (ff. 239–247). Part 5: XXIV–XXV⁸ (ff. 248–263). Part 6: XXV–XXVII¹² of each quire 1/12 and 5/6 are parchment conjugate pairs (ff. 264–299). Part 7: XXIX¹⁰ 5/6 are parchment (ff. 300–309); XXX¹² 6/7 are parchment (ff. 310–[321]).

[Note: Quire IX consists of two half-sheets of a quire of unknown size; the first paper sheet was pasted on the stub of f. 82 and the stub of the second parchment folio appears before f. 82.]

CONTENTS:

Part 1: Dated 15 December 1489 on basis of colophon on f. 87r.

f. 1r blank, except for a stamp of the Bibliothèque Royale.

f. 1v Contemporaneous table of contents: ‘Liber canonicor(um) regulariu(m) mo(n)asterij b(ea)tissi(m)ev(ir)ginis marie in korsse(n)do(n)ckp(ro)pe turnout | [i(n) ca(m)pina] braba(n)tiē; and on ll. 2–3, in black ink in hand of main scribe: ‘Hoc volume(n) sc(ri)ptu(m) est per | fr(atr)em anthoniu(m) de bergis; at bottom, in red: ‘Hic liber est fr(atru)m de korssendonck p(ro)pe turnhout. | Que tenet inferius esse notata patent | Anthonij liber iste manu est bergensis aratus | Pro mercede cui d(omi)n(u)s det gaudia celi | In quibus errauit scriptor venia(m) sibi poscit | Nam festina manus vicij obnoxia constat.’

1. ff. 2r/1a–87r/16b Bede, “*Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum*” (ed. Colgrave and Mynors 1969: 14–587; cf. pp. lxx–lxxvi), with running heads:

f. 2r/1a–2v/12b Prologue: **Incipit prologus venerabilis be[de] presbiteri in historiam ec[clesiasticam] gentis anglorum** | ‘GLoriosissimo regi eco[n]sulpho [*sic*] beda famul(us) | chr(ist)i et p(res)b(ite)r’;

ff. 2v/13b–3r/37b Capitula to Book 1: **Incipiunt capitula libri primi** | ‘De situ brit(t)anie vel hibernie et | priscis earu(m) incolis .i.’;

ff. 3r/38b–18r/14b Book 1: **Incipit liber primus ystorie | ecclesiastice gentis anglorum | Capitulum primum** || ‘BRitta(n)ia oceani | insula’;

f. 18r/14b–18v/25a **Cap(itu)la libri secundi** | ‘De obitu b(ea)ti pape gregoriij..i.’;

ff. 18v/26a–30v/25b Book 2: **Incipit liber secu(n)dus historie ec[clesiastice] gentis anglor(um) Cap(itulum) i.** | ‘Hljs t(em)p(or)ibus id est d(o)m(ini)ce | incarnationis’;

ff. 30v/25b–31r/25b **Cap(itu)la lib(er) 3ⁱⁱ** | ‘Ut p(ri)mi successores eduini’;

ff. 31r/26b–48r/33b Book 3: **Incipit liber tertius historie eccl[esi]astice gentis angloru(m). Cap(itulum) primum** | ‘AT interfecto in pugna | eduino’;

- f. 48r/34b–48v/28b **Cap(itu)la libri quarti**. | ‘Ut defuncto deusdedit’;
 ff. 48v/29b–67v/19a Book 3: **Incipit liber quartus hystorie | ecclesiastice gentis anglor(um) Ca(pitulum) i.** | ‘ANno me(m)orato p(re)fate | eclipsis’ [“Caedmon’s Hymn” in OE integral to the text on ff. 62r/37b–62v/1a ‘Nupuc scinlun horga hesim|ruicaes pueard’ (fac. Robinson and Stanley 1991: 2.10.1.2; ed. with an extensive description by O’Donnell 1996)];
 ff. 67v/20a–68r/3a **Capitula libri quinti** | ‘Ut odiluald successor cudberti’;
 ff. 68r/4a–87r/6b Book 5: **Incipit liber quintus ecclesiasti|ce hystorie de gente a(n)glor(um). Ca(pitulum) i.** | ‘SUccessit aut(em) uiro d(omi)ni cud|berti’; ends ‘et parere sem|per ante facie(m) tuam’.
 f. 87r/7b–15b Colophon of the scribe Anthonius de Bergis, dated 15 December 1489: ‘Ex est liber q(ui)ntus ecclesiastice | historie de gente angloru(m) a ve|nerabili beda p(res)b(ite)ro edit(us) Necno(n) | excopiat(us) a(n)no d(omi)ni m° cccc° lxxxix° | die xv decembris per fr(atr)em antho|niu(m) de bergis supra zoma(m) cantore(m) | huius monasterij de korssendonck | et q(uod) scripti [corrected to ‘scripta’] no(n) su(n)t meliora | hoc effecit sua festinancia’ [rest of f. 87r blank].
 ff. 87v–88v blank.

Part 2: Dated ca. 1480 on the basis of watermarks.

2. ff. 89r–120v Leonardus Florentinus (i.e. Leonardo Bruni [1369–1444]), “*Historia Ostrogothorum*” (ed. Neumeister and de Orsinis [Foligno, 1470]):
 ff. 89r/1a–89r/43b **Incipit prologus leonardi florentini | in historiam ostrogothorum.** | ‘ET si longius cu(m) iocu(n)dus | fuisset ytalie felicitatem’;
 ff. 89r/44b–98r/43b Book 1: **Historia ostrogo|thor(um) Liber p(ri)mus** ‘ZEnone ro||mano imp(er)atore impera(n)te gothi theoderico du|ce’;
 ff. 98r/44b–105v/10b Book 2: **Incipit lib(er) se(cun)du(s)** ‘Cum in || hoc statts res e(ss)ent bellu(m)q(ue) cessaret’;
 ff. 105v/11b–114r/33a Book 3: **Incipit liber tertius** | ‘CUmq(ue) bisantiu(m) per|uenisset belisari(us)’;
 ff. 114r/34a–120v/44b Book 4: **Incipit liber quartus hui(us) historie** | ‘EGressus roma totilas | parte(m) eternitus.’

[**Note:** There is no modern edition; the one cited here is the *editio princeps* available on commercial microfilm, the University of Uppsala copy, missing its title page. Other editions are: Jenson (Venice, 1471), Maserius (Paris, 1507), Colonaeus (Paris, 1534).]

Part 3: Dated ca. 1480 on the basis of the watermarks.

3. f. 121r/1–13a Sigebertus Gemblacensis (ca. 1035–1112), “De scriptoribus ecclesiasticis,” ch. 80: **Sigibertus in libro suo de illustribus | viris dicit de paulo historiographo lon|gobardorum sic. | ‘PAulus monachus cassinensis ce|nobij. natione ytalus’** (ed. PL 160.565).
4. ff. 121r–153r Paul the Deacon (720–799), “Historia Langobardorum” (ed. Capo 1998; Waitz and Bethmann 1878: 12–187; PL 95.433–672):
- ff. 121r/14a–126r/42b Book 1: **Incipit historia longobardoru(m). edita | a paulo monacho cassinensis cenobij | Cap<itulum> p<ri>m<um>** ‘SEptentriona|lis plaga qua(n)to mag(us) | ab estu solis remota | est’;
- f. 126r/42b–130v/12a Book 2: **Incipit liber se|cund<us> Istorie longobardoru(m) Ca<pitulu>m p<rimu>m | ‘IGit(ur) cu(m) circu(m)quaq(ue) freq(uen)ter || longobardoru(m) victorie’;**
- f. 130v/12a–135v/17b Book 3: **Incipit liber terti<us> Ca<pitulu>m p<rimu>m | ‘IGitur aliqua(n)ti ex ducibus | longobardoru(m)’;**
- f. 135v/17b–142r/11a Book 4: **Incipit liber quartus Ca<pitulu>m p<rimu>m | ‘COncfirmato igit(ur) igit(ur) [sic] agilul|fo’;**
- f. 142r/12a–146v/42a [foliation skips one after f. 145] Book 5: **Incipit liber qui(n)tus Ca<pitulu>m primum | ‘COncfirmato deniq(ue) grimo|aldo in regno’;**
- f. 146v/42a–153r/37a Book 6: **Incipit liber[?] sextus \ Ca<pitulu>m .i. | ‘DVm ista apud longobar|dos tr(a)ns padu(m) geru(n)tur’;** ends: ‘maxima semp(er) cura francoru(m) auaru(m)q(ue) pa|cem custodiens’ [rest of 153r blank].
- ff. 153v–154rv blank.

Part 4: Dated ca. 1480 on the basis of the watermarks.

5. ff. 155r–241r Jacobus de Vitriacus (Jacques de Vitry), bishop of Acco (d. 1240), “Historia Occidentalis et Orientalis” (ed. Moschus 1597):
- f. 155r/1a–155v/18b Prologue: **Incipit prologus m(a)g(ist)ri iacobi de | vitriaco accone(n)sis ep(iscop)i in hystoria(m) | occidentalem et orientalem;** | ‘POstq(uam) diuine p(ro)|piciationis.’
- Book 1, “Historia Orientalis”:
- ff. 155v/19b–156v/42a Capitula: **Incipiu(n)t capitula libri primi | ‘Cur d(omi)n(u)s terra(m) sta(t)i(m) varijs flagellis | et subalternis casibus exposuit .i.’;**
- ff. 156v/1b–204v/14b Book 1: **Incipit liber p(r)im<us> m(a)g(ist)ri iacobi de | de [sic] uitriaco. in quo ponit(ur) historia | iherosolimitana abbreviata . . . ‘TErra s(an)c(t)a pro|missio(n)is deo ama|bilis’;** ends: ‘et subsidu(m) de die in diem exspec|tantes.’

Book 2, “Historia Occidentalis”:

- ff. 204v/15b–205r/26a Capitula: **Incipiu(n)t cap(itu)la libri secundi** | ‘De corruptione occidentalis regionis | et peccatis occidentalium .i.’
- ff. 205r/27a–241r/25a Book 2: **Incipit liber secu(n)dus mag(ist)ri iacobi de | uitriaco. In cui(us) p(r)ima parte occiden|taliu(m) historia breuiter enarratur** ... ‘CVm igit(ur) [‘occidentalis’ cancelled] | orientalis eccl(es)ia q(ue) | quonda(m) a finib(us) t(er)re | uenit audire sapie(n)|tiam salomonis’; ends ‘singulis septimanis re|nouanda su(n)t sacramenta’ (Book 2 ed. Hinnebusch 1972: 72–246) [rest of f. 241r blank].
- ff. 241v–247v blank.

Part 5: Dated ca. 1489 on the basis of the watermarks.

6. ff. 248r–263v/45b Carthusian chronicle [cf. f. 1v/7, the original table of contents: ‘Chronica p(ri)oru(m) maioris carthusie’]:
- ff. 248r/1a–25b **Incipit prologus cronicoru(m) de | priorib(us) domus maioris carthusie** | ‘QUonia(m) attestante | scr(i)ptura. e(ni)m xxxix^o | narrationem anti|quoru(m)’.
- ff. 248r/26b–250v/24a “Vita antiquior S. Brunonis”: **Incipit cronica p(ri)or(um) dom(us) maioris | carthusie** ‘ANno d(o)m(ini)ce i(n)carna|tio(n)is m^o. lxxxii^o. du(m) sole(m)pne stu|diu(m) floreret parisius’; ends: ‘multis | languorib(us) fideliu(m) optate co(n)fert remedia sa|nitatis’ (ed. PL 152.481–492);
- ff. 250v/24a–251r/13b Prologue to the Chronicle: ‘AD eru(m) q(ua)m de [‘co(n)structio(n)e’ crossed out] exordio et | constructio(n)e ac promotorib(us) dicte dom(us) car|thusie superius ... Sed ad a(p)positu(m) prioru(m) | domus carthusie redeam(us) pro quibus an|notandis hoc opus est assumptu(m)’;
- ff. 251r/14b–263v/45b Carthusian Chronicle from 1090 to 1403: ‘ANno d(omi)ni m^o.xc^o dicto brunoni fuit essit | in domo carthusie’; annals end at f. 263v/36b: ‘et (con)u(er)si et donati et fa|miliares (com)putatis octodecim’; conclusion, f. 263v/37–45b: ‘PRedicto do(m)no carthusie scil(icet) do(m)no | ioha(n)ni de griffeirmo(n)t ... (cog)natione gallic(us) dyocesis va|lentinensis’.

Part 6: Dated ca. 1480 on the basis of the watermarks.

7. ff. 264r–284v/37b “Speculum Carthusiani”:
- f. 264r/1–23a Prologue: **Incipit prefatio speculi carthusiani** | ‘AD edificatione(m) fr(atru)m | carthusienciu(m) ac vni|uersoru(m) pie in chr(ist)o | viuere volentiu(m)’.

- ff. 264r/24a–276v/23b Part 1: **Incipit speculu(m) carthusianu(m) P(ri)ma** | **pars de ortu et approbatione ordinis | carthusiensis** ‘PRincipiu(m) lo|quendi in p(ri)ma(m) p(ar)te(m) de tri|bus p(ar)tibus p(er)notatis exstat’ [second part omitted, cf. note at f. 275v/24–31b].
- ff. 276r/1a–284v/32b Part 3: **Incipit tertia p(ar)s speculi carthusie | in De** no(n)nullis miraculosis et | alijs gestis:- | ‘INclinate aurem vestra(m) in ver|ba oris mei & attendentes dili|gentes ad sequentia’; ends: ‘apud quos est vera religio | detrahet conant(ur) hoc’ (followed by a bibliographical note, lines 33–37).
8. f. 285r/a–b Papal privileges: **De lite int(er) celestinos et carth(usienses) de eor(um) | p(er)so(n)is recipie(n)dis. Priuilegiu(m) carthu(si)en(se) | ‘CLEme(n)s ep(iscop)us seruus seruoru(m) dei di|lectis filiis priori et fr(atr)ibus car|thusie salute(m)’.**
9. ff. 285v/1a–288v/8b Liturgy: **Modus et ordo co(n)secra(n)di v(ir)gi(n)es mo(n)iales ordi(n)is | carthu(si)en(sis) ‘IN principio misse aperiat(ur) | chorus mo(n)ialium et v(ir)gines b(e)n(e)dice(n)de’** [rest of f. 288v blank].
10. ff. 289r/1a–290v/36a List of Carthusian houses in 1452: **Domus ordi(n)is carthusiensis scr(i)pte an(n)o m^o.cccc.^olvij^o. de carthusia misse | ‘DOm(us) carthusie sita i(n) sabaudia.i.’**
11. f. 290v/1–36b Forms of absolution: **De absolutione | ‘Sequit(ur) forma absolutio(n)is missa a re|verendo pr(esbiter)e n(ost)ro d(omi)no ioha(n)ne priori | carthusie’.**
- f. 291rv blank.
12. ff. 292r/1a–297r/18a “Vita sancti Theobaldi, ep. Eugubina,” post 1160 (16 May; BHL 8357): **Incipit vita s(an)c(t)i theobaldi ep(iscop)i et (con)f(essoris) | ‘BEatus itaq(ue) theobal|dus eugubina ciui|tate progenitus’** (cf. Papenbroeck 1680: 3.630–37).
13. ff. 297r/19a–298r/19a “Vita sancti Wiberti, fundator monast. Gemblacensis,” d. 962 (23 May; cf. BHL 8882): **De s(an)c(t)o wiberto confesore | ‘INsignis wibertus comes p(at)re | bertholdo m(at)re osburga nat(us)’** (cf. the shortened version, ed. Pertz, MGH, Script. 8.507–23, repr. PL 160.661–690).
14. ff. 298r/20a–299v/34b “Passio sancti Hieronis,” martyred in Holland 885 (17 Aug., BHL 3862): **De sancto yerone p(res)b(ite)ro et martire: | ‘Ieron d(icitur) a ierar quode(m) s(an)c(tu)m et on | quod est totu(m) q(uas)i totus sacri’** (ed. from this manuscript, Oppermann 1935: 40–58; cf. Carasso-Kok 1981: no. 36).

Part 7: Dated ca. 1439–1500 on the basis of the watermarks.

15. ff. 300r–308vb/31 Alphabetical table giving the year when characters or events appeared, within each of the five ages B.C.: **Incipit repertoriu(m) singulariu(m) materiariu(m) qui(n)q(ue) etatu(m)** [three words crossed out] **s(e)c(un)d(u)m ordinem | alphabeti ordinatum** | ‘Aaron f(rate)r moysi generatur 442 c’ [i.e., Aaron was born in the 422nd year of the third age].
f. 309rv blank.
16. ff. 310r–319vb/31 Alphabetical table of persons and events according to dates A.D. [with a running alphabetical index in “AB” order]: **Repertoriu(m) singulariu(m) materiariu(m) sexte etatis s(e)c(un)d(u)m ordine(m) alphabeti ordinatum** | ‘Aaron rex persaru(m) et munera eius 802 Aa’
f. 320r blank.
17. f. 320v List of abbreviations frequently used in historical works: **Intellectus quaru(n)da(m) l(itte)raru(m) siue sillabaru(m) in historijs aliq(ua)n(do) occurrentiu(m)** | ‘A Aulus | Ag Aulus gellius’
f. [321rv] is blank and functions as flyleaf.

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