

to at least the first third of the 8c, since certain letter-forms in some uncial pen-trials on f. 1r ('adonai d(omi)ne d(eu)s') and f. 113v ('omnium Inimicorum suorum dominabitur' and 'd(omi)n(u)s tamquam') are similar to those found in the scripts of London, BL Cotton Augustus ii.3, the "Is-mere" charter of Æthelbald, king of Mercia (S 89 <<http://www.esawyer.org.uk/charter/89.html>>) dated 736 with a subsequent endorsement before 747 (Engelbert 1969: 410–11; *ChLA* 3.183; color facsimile at the *Kemble* website, Charters on Single Sheets, no. 9 <<http://www.kemble.asnc.cam.ac.uk/node/32>>). On the use of Ps. 9:26 as a pen-trial see Bischoff 1966–81: 1.78; Sims-Williams 1976: 4–5; 1990: 192; Cain 2009: 187–88).

By the last quarter of the 8c, however, the manuscript was probably at Würzburg, since the spellings and letter forms of other pen-trials on f. 1r (particularly the form of r and the voicing of the initial consonant of "dominabitur" in 'om[] nimicorum suorum suit tominabitur') seem to have been imitated in a pen-trial of that date in a continental manuscript (M.p.th.f. 27, f. 90v: <<http://vb.uni-wuerzburg.de/ub/mpthf27/pages/mpthf27/180.html>>) that was certainly at Würzburg by the second quarter of the 9c (*CLA* 9.1407; see Sims-Williams 1976: 3). Lowe's tentative identification of the book with an entry "commentarium ad Holzkirihhun" in a Würzburg cathedral library booklist of ca. 800 is rejected by Bischoff and Hofmann (1952: 89, cf. Lapidge 2006: 149), but it is likely to be the item "Eclesiasten: Hieronymi" in another Würzburg booklist of ca. 1000 (ed. Knaus 1979: 985/182; Hoffmann 2009: 221 no. 48). It is unknown precisely how the book came to Würzburg, though it was undoubtedly in the context of the A-S missions to the Continent. Sims-Williams (1990: 239–41) suggests two possible intermediaries: Milred, bishop of Worcester (d. 774 or 775), who visited Boniface in 753; or Burghard, the first bishop of Würzburg (742–753), who corresponded ca. 740 with a certain Cyneburg who may have been abbess of Bradley (near Inkberrow) and a relation of Cuthswith's. Its 15c shelfmark was 'C' (f. 8r), the 18c shelfmark '47' (on the shelfmarks and early catalogues of the cathedral library, see Bischoff and Hofmann 1952: 72, 74–75).

The manuscript was among the 170 rediscovered in 1717 by Dean (later Prince-bishop) Franz Christoph von Hutten-Stolzenberg in the cathedral attic, where they had been hidden sometime after 1611 (when the protocols of the cathedral chapter still contained records of a functioning library) and probably during the war with Sweden in 1631 to prevent their plundering (see Schannat 1723: 227–28; Bischoff and Hofmann 1952: 63–65; Knaus 1979: 970–71). The manuscripts of the cathedral library came to the Universitätsbibliothek in 1805 as a result of the secularization of 1803, though some were subsequently dispersed. M.p.th.q. 2 was described in the 18c

catalogue of the Dombibliothek, M.ch.f. 644 (see Thurn 1981: 73–74), f. 49r (facsimile at <<http://vb.uni-wuerzburg.de/ub/mchf644/pages/mchf644/97.html>>), by Hufeland 1805: 9–27, and by Oegg 1808: 313–20. For the surviving manuscripts of the cathedral library see Bischoff and Hofmann 1952; Krämer and Bernhard 1989–90: 2.851–56; Thurn 1992; on its A-S manuscripts see Hofmann 1952b. On the history of the manuscript collections of the Universitätsbibliothek see especially Handwerker 1909; Thurn et al. 2004: ix–xxvi.

There is a digital facsimile of M.p.th.q. 2 at the “Libri Sancti Kyliani digital” website <<http://vb.uni-wuerzburg.de/ub/mphq2/ueber.html>>.

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: 114 leaves, sheepskin. Continuous modern foliation in pencil in the upper right corner of each recto (often not visible on the film/fiche). The order of leaves in quire III has been disturbed (see below), and 6 leaves (three bifolia, ff. 10/13, 63/68, and 81/82) are 7c replacements. The parchment of the original leaves is very thin and brittle; there is considerable bleed-through and flaking of the reddish-brown ink, especially on the flesh sides. In some of the thinnest pages the ink has eaten through the parchment, leaving a “window” effect. The volume is very tightly bound, which adds to the wrinkling of the parchment. Many leaves have been repaired, especially in the gutter. The parchment of the 7c replacement leaves is much thicker. Ff. 1 and 114 were originally blank fly-leaves. Leaves measure 256 × 218 mm., with a written space of 192 × 167 mm. in the original leaves; in the replacement leaves the width of the written space varies significantly: 192 × 167 mm. (f. 10), 192 × 155 mm. (f. 13r), 192 × 170 mm. (ff. 63/68), 194 × 167 mm. (ff. 81/82). The original leaves were ruled for 25 lines on the flesh side before folding, more than one bifolium at a time; prickings are inside the written space, about 13 mm. inside the outermost bounding line, and often very difficult to see. According to *CLA*, the replacement leaves were ruled on the hair-side before folding; ff. 68 and 82 seem to have been re-ruled on the flesh-sides. In all three of these bifolia the prickings are along the outer bounding line. The arrangement of flesh and hair sides is FHFH in quaternions (the added bifolia in quires II, IX, and XI are inserted in the same sequence), FHF in ternios, and FH in the one binio. The exception is quire I, which is FFH, but there the first leaf was left blank and the second may have been cancelled so that the main text would begin on a flesh side.

Quire I: f. 1 is creased, and the outline of an older flyleaf is visible on both recto and verso; there are pen-trials on the recto and verso, and the verso also has a sketch of a face. There are repairs to ff. 1v and 2r in the

gutter, and the stub of f. 6 is pasted to f. 2r. The first three lines of f. 2r are in red.

Quire II: f. 8r, top, has the 15c shelfmark 'C'; f. 9r has a pen flourish in the left margin. F. 13r has writing on 26th line.

Quire III: The correct order of leaves should be ff. 18–19, 16–17, 22–23, 20–21. There are repair strips on f. 16v.

Quire VIII: ff. 55–92 show two prickings in the lower margin (11 and 9 mm. from the bottom edges, 42–52 mm. from the gutter).

Quire IX: f. 62 is pricked inside the bounding line and slits (which show through f. 64) have also been pricked on the outer bounding line. F. 68 has 6 small prickings in right margin.

Quire XI: ff. 78v, 80v have pen flourishes in the left margin; f. 87v has one after 'dignitate' (335/79), f. 95v/2 after 'creduntur' (343/348) and at the end of the text (according to *CLA*, the pen flourishes are by a corrector, added in blank spaces that marked main pauses). F. 80 has added slits inside the bounding line. F. 81 is pricked and ruled inside the bounding line.

Quire XII: f. 93v, upper left margin has pen squiggles.

Quire XIV: an untrimmed part of the bifolium is visible on the lower right corner of f. 101r.

Quire XV: conjugate (?) leaves 108/109 are now separated from the previous quire by the modern leather binding, and from each other by the stub of f. 114. Ff. 109 and 110 have prickings in the gutter.

Quire XVI: ff. 110–114 have prickings in the left margin. Between ff. 111–112 is a repair strip, and a loose piece of parchment (ca. 45 × 40 mm.) with some offset writing projects from the gutter and obscures letters at the end of lines 4–10. F. 114 is blank except for pen-trials.

Typical 15c Dombibliothek binding (cf. Mälzer 1992: 237), with beech boards of 9 mm. thickness. Rebacked about 1900. Cover measures 220 × 265 mm. There is an outline of an earlier crescent-shaped quarter-binding on the front and back covers, and some traces of white leather on the inside covers. The back cover has a hole for a chain (which has left a rust stain on f. 114v, top margin) and the board is split through the hole from the top to about 110 mm. down. The front clasp has an engraved animal figure and three studs; the back clasp is inset over parchment (or leather) with a remnant of strap and two studs. The spine has two bands. 15c title-piece on front cover reads 'Ecclesiastes'. Three 18c title-pieces on spine read: 'H[ie]-ronymi | com(m)entari(us) in Ecclesi|asten.' (top); '47' (middle); 'M. p. th. | q. 2.' (bottom). The inside front and back covers each have three fragments of another manuscript, M.p.th.f. 186 (8/9c, Germany, written in A-S minuscule and containing part of the "Collectio canonum Dionysio-Hadriana,"

for which see *CLA* 9.1401; Thurn 1984: 84; Thurn et al. 2004: 12; facsimile at <<http://vb.uni-wuerzburg.de/ub/mpthf186/ueber.html>>) originally used as binding strips, pasted over the modern leather binding. On the middle fragment on the front inside cover an 18c hand has written ‘= Liber | Cuthswithae | Abbatisaæ’. The inside front cover has a blue stamp (‘BIBLIOTHEK DER UNIVERSITAET ZU WÜRZBURG’), and the shelfmark is written in pencil.

COLLATION: I⁶⁺¹ one leaf after 5 (ff. 1–7), II⁸ bifolium 3/6 a supply-leaf (ff. 8–15), III⁸ (ff. 16–23, correct order of leaves should be ff. 18–19, 16–17, 22–23, 20–21), IV–VI⁸ (ff. 24–47), VII⁶ (ff. 48–53), VIII⁸ (ff. 54–61), IX⁸ bifolium 2/7 a supply-leaf (ff. 62–69), X⁸ (ff. 70–77), XI⁸ bifolium 4/5 a supply-leaf (ff. 78–85), XII⁸ (ff. 86–93), XIII⁶ (ff. 94–99), XIV⁸ (ff. 100–107), XV² (ff. 108–109), XVI⁴⁺¹ one leaf after 4 (ff. 110–114). No quire signatures. [Note: Six leaves (three bifolia, ff. 10/13, 63/68, and 81/82) are 7c A-S supply-leaves in imitative uncial script (these leaves = *CLA* 1430b). The collation above differs from that of Thurn 1984: 86 for quires XIII–XV, where Thurn finds instead two quaternios. The binding is too tight to be certain, but differences in the quality of the parchment of ff. 94 and 101, 96 and 99, and 103 and 108 suggest that they are not conjugate, and the stitchings fall between ff. 96–97 and 103–104. Ff. 108–109 appear to have been originally a conjugate pair, but have been separated and the stub of f. 114, an originally blank half-sheet, now lies between them. Quires XV–XVI thus might also be analyzed as a single irregular quire of 7 leaves.]

CONTENTS:

- f. 1r Pen-trials and ex-libris, including: ‘omniu | omnium Inimicorum suorum dominabitur | om[] nimicorum suorum suit tominabitur’ | ‘Cuthsuuithae. boec. | thaerae abbatissan. | abbatissan’ [second “abbatissan” with different letter forms, cf. Brown 2001: 48] | ‘adonai d(omi)ne d(eu)s meus’.
- f. 1v blank except for one pen-trial.
- ff. 2r/1–113v Jerome, “Commentarius in Ecclesiasten” (*CPL* no. 583), without Jerome’s preface: ‘Uerba Ecclesiastis fili David in Hier(u)|saalem tribus nominibus uocatum’; ends: ‘sue in hanc partem sive in illam uae quip|pe his qui dicunt malum bonum | et bonum malum’ || [red Rustic capitals] **EXPLICIT ECCLESIASTES** | [colophon:] **LEGE IN CHR(IST)OIE(S)U** (ed. Adriaen 1972: 250–361, using this manuscript as base).
- f. 113v Pen trials: | ‘omnium inimicorum suorum dominabitur’ | | ‘BCDEFG | D(omi)n(u)s tamquam | BM ab | omnium t.’

- f. 114r Pen-trials, including 'd(eu)s an' over crease in parchment; small design near bottom of page.
- f. 114v Pen-trials, including 'r suam'; 'bater noster noster qui es in celis' (8/9c).

PHOTO NOTES: The text is sometimes illegible in the fiche where the ink has faded or flaked or where there is bleed-through; occasionally bleed-through where part of a line is blank makes it appear that there has been an erasure. In two folios (16/13–15 and 29/16–17) holes within the written space reveal letters from the adjacent folio. The bending and creasing of the parchment near the gutter sometimes distorts the image of the writing, and in some cases has resulted in glare that appears black and obscures letters. The corners of several folios (e.g., 14, 32, 36, 40, 54, 58, 88, 111) are folded back so that the numbering of the recto is hidden; in some cases the number on the following recto shows instead, making it appear on the fiche that a leaf has been skipped. The following openings have been filmed twice (the second exposure is usually better): ff. 5v–6r, 10v–11r, 15v–16r, 38v–39r, 42v–43r, 44v–45r, 92v–93r. In Fiche 3, frames 50–51 (ff. 97v–98r) belong in Fiche 4, after frame 47 (f. 97r); and in frame 69 (ff. 77v–78r) the image has been reversed.

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[Note: For additional bibliography see the digital facsimile at <<http://vb.uniwuertzburg.de/ub/mpthq2/ueber.html>>.]

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