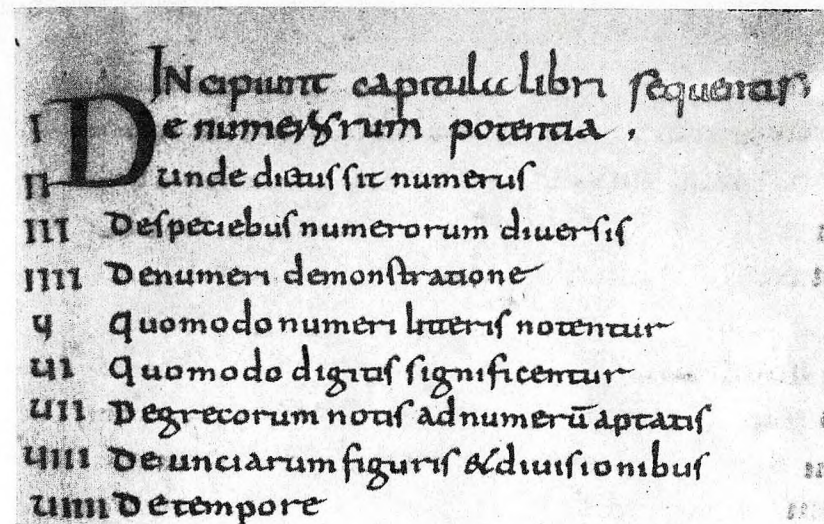


BODLEY'S AMERICAN FRIENDS

Generous help from Bodley's American Friends has again enabled us to buy special items which would otherwise be beyond our means, such as the Roxburghe Club volume *The Rutland Psalter*, a fine reproduction of a beautiful manuscript in the library of Belvoir Castle which was issued to club members in 1937. We have also been able to buy a number of works issued by private presses in the inter-war years which have become very scarce, and, as a consequence, expensive. The rarest of these is undoubtedly *Verses by Hilaire Belloc*, 1934, a charming set of verses to Lady Juliet Duff, printed in ten copies by Miss Nancy Nicholson at the Poulk Press, Warminster. These *Verses* were not included in the 1954 edition of Belloc's poems because it was thought that 'printed all together they might give rise to misunderstanding'. Sir Francis Meynell, editor of Belloc's poems, clearly thought these verses had not been published, and this particular edition remained so little known that it even escaped P. C. Cahill's bibliography, *The English first editions of Hilaire Belloc*, 1953.

The benefactions of the Friends have also made it possible to get some of the small-press Paris editions of works by English and American writers. These include Lawrence Durrell, *The Black Book. An Agon*, the Obelisk Press, 1938, this being the first volume in a new series started by the press with Henry Miller as editor. And from Harry and Mary Crosby's Black Sun Press in the Rue Cardinale, we have the volume of memorial poems by Mary (Caresse) Crosby, *Poems for Harry Crosby by C.C.*, 1931, and *Letters of Henry James to Walter Barry*, 1928. Another Paris publication of an earlier date purchased from the Friends' contributions is a copy of Jane Austen, *Raison et sensibilité*, the first French translation of any of her novels, which appeared in 1815, a year before the only other two novels translated into French during her lifetime, *Emma* and *Mansfield Park*.

As in previous years the Library has, through subscriptions to book societies and by individual purchases, continued to acquire finely printed books now being issued in America, and notable and beautiful additions have been made to our collections.



(a) Fol. 3^r, showing Hands VI and I

~~Exortum~~ M Dies sine dubio ab initio mundi
usq. ad resurrectionem xpi. a resurrectione
h' xpi usq. ad diem iudicii p' xpc' dicit. q' di
uina ductor rectos q; homini casuro a p'ora
di lumine. In hanc conuallē lacrimarum
in genesi dies amane cum sequenti uespere
usq. ad mane ^{alterum} computandos esse decre
uit. eadem in euangelio a peccatorum
tenebris ^{ad uerum lumen} recedentibus totius diei tēp'ur
a uespere in diem. T' sicū sequenti die
consummari s'at' t' in uespere a uespere

(b) Fol. 13^v, showing Hand IIc

gationi decideris responderi. De natura cele-
 A Vana facies. M. Caeli subalio igneque natu-
 ra rotandumq; & aceto tenebre aquis spa-
 tis undiq; collectis. Unde & conuectus medi-
 usque quacumq; cernitur. Inenarrabili cele-
 ritate cotidie circumagi sapientes mundi di-
 xerunt. Ita utruerq; & si non plures & curu occur-
 su moderatior. Argumento sideru niten-
 ter quae fixo semp curru circum uolunt. Sep-
 tentrionalib; breuiores gyros circa cardine
 pagentib; cuius uestiges exenot quos circa
 spera uoluntur polos nuncupante glaciali ri-
 gore tiberentes. horu unus ad septentrionem
 nalem plagu consurgens boreus. Alter
 duexur in austrum temp; oppositus austrac-
 lis uocatur que interioris austris scripturae
 sua nominat. In qua spera quinq; circuli. e-
 philosophi dixerunt. De v. circulis mundi
 Quorum primus est septentrionalis frigore
 inhabitabilis. cuius sidera nobis numquam oc-
 cidunt. Secundus solstitialis apertus signiferi
 excelsissima nobis ad septentrionalem plagu
 uersus temperatus habitabilis. Tertius equino-
 ctialis medio ambitu signiferi orbis incedens
 torridus inhabitabilis. Quartus brumalis aper-
 te humillima signiferi ad austrinum polum
 uersus temperatus habitabilis. Quintus austr-
 lis circa uerticem austrinum qui terrae gignit
 frigore inhabitabilis. Tres autem medi circu-
 li inaequalitates temporum distinguunt. cu sol

A NINTH-CENTURY MANUSCRIPT FROM FULDA

MS. CANONICI MISCELLANEOUS 353

By WESLEY M. STEVENS

INTEREST in the early medieval computus led me to notice that in Volume IV of the *Summary Catalogue* Falconer Madan listed a manuscript as:

19829. = Qu. Catal. III (Canon.), Misc., no. 353 (Rabanus Maurus).¹

The Canonici manuscripts in the Bodleian Library had been catalogued between 1840 and 1843 by Henry Octavius Coxe in the Quarto Series, Part III, where this description of Canon. Misc. 353 appears:

Codex membr., in 4to minori, 55 ff., sec. forsan IX exeuntis.² It is one of the manuscripts purchased in 1817 for the Bodleian from the heirs of Matteo Luigi Canonici (d. 1803) who had received it from the Venetian collector, Jacopo Soranzo (d. 1761). It had been the fourth item under no. 744 in Soranzo's library

¹ *A Summary Catalogue of Western Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library at Oxford*, iv (1897), 406.

² Coxe added a brief list of contents and the three primary incipits; see *Catalogi codicum manuscriptorum Bibliotheca Bodleiana*, Pars tertia codices Graecos et Latinos Canonicianos complectens (1854): Canonici Misc. no. 353; and Edmund Craster, *A History of the Bodleian Library, 1845-1945* (1952), 20, 91-2.

In addition to the Bodleian's acquisition of 2047 Canonici manuscripts, another 915 were purchased from the heirs in 1835 by the Revd. Walter Sneyd who sold a part of these in the following year to the British Museum (Additional MSS. nos. 10629-10919); the remainder of Sneyd's purchase was dispersed in a series of sales; see Craster, 20 and Mitchell (cited note 3), 133-5. One of the Sneyd-Canonici manuscripts is now B.M. Addit. 10801, a seven-teenth-century transcript which is identical in contents with MS. Canon. Misc. 353. Canonici manuscripts in the libraries of Florence have been discussed by the directrix of the Laurentian library, Irma Merolle, *L'abate Matteo Luigi Canonici e la sua biblioteca; i manoscritti Canonici e Canonici-Soranzo delle biblioteche fiorentine* (Florence, 1958).

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