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DE TVLIT

& suauissimas litteras que in
principio amicitiarū fidem
iam pbate fidei & ueteris
amicitie preferbant, vera
enim est illa necessitudo in xpi glū-
tino copulata quā non utilitas rei
familiaris non presentia tantum cor-
porum non subdola & palpans adula-
tio: sed di timor & diuinarū scripturarū
studia conciliant, Legimus in uete-
ribus hystoris quosdam lustrasse
puincias: nouos adisse pptos maria
transisse: ut eos quos ex libris noue-
rant coram quoq; uiderent, Sic py-
thagoras memphiticus uates sic plato
aegyptum & aretū tarentūm
eademq; ora italie que quondā mag-
na grecia dicebatur laboriosissime
peragravit: ut qm athēnis magister
erat & potens cuiusq; doctrinas acha-
denie gymnasia psonabant fieret
peregrinus atq; discipulus: mādens
aliēna uerecunde discere: quā sua

PROVENANCE

(1) Written for and doubtless at the great imperial Abbey of Saint Maximin in Trier, founded c.500, sacked by the Vikings in the ninth century and taken under the protection of the emperor Lothair in 845. It became one of the most important and wealthy medieval monasteries of the Rhineland. The book contains an extensive series of contemporary and supplementary texts relating specifically to the relics and privileges of the abbey (see below) and, as commonly with Bibles placed on the high altar, it was clearly intended to be the abbey's most sacred ark of authority, both spiritual and temporal. The instructions for prayer on folio 7v are explicitly for use before the high altar. The manuscript is doubtless one of the two Bibles "maiores perfecte" recorded in the inventory of the abbey's possessions c.1125 (see below). It remained in use at Saint Maximin's throughout the Middle Ages, and the inserted stress-marks show that it was used for reading aloud at high festivals (e.g., "In Passione Domini", folio 128r). It was rebound in the sixteenth century and had been removed to the library, probably by 1593 when the manuscripts were reclassified by the librarian Nicolaus Petreius. It was inscribed, perhaps by Petreius himself, "+ Ex libris Imperialis Monasterii Sancti Maximini" on fols.2r (now erased) and 202r. It was assigned the pressmark N.204 (fol.2r). It still remained one of the abbey's greatest relics of the High Middle Ages and it was exhibited to visitors. According to Van Ess, the great ducal collector Karl Eugene von Württemberg (1723-1798) offered the monks 300 gold ducats in vain for the book. If it had succeeded, it would now be in the Landesbibliothek in Stuttgart.

(2) Saint Maximin was closed in the Napoleonic suppressions of 1802. The tale of the dispersal of its library is complicated (cf., for example, G. Gross, 'Das Schicksal des Kloster-Bibliothek von St.Maximin zur Trier in den Jahren 1794 bis 1818', *Trierer Zeitschrift für Geschichte und Kunst*, XXI, 1952-54, pp.369-79; G. Franz and U. Lehnart, eds., *Karolingische Beda-Handschrift aus St.Maximin*, 1990). Many of its manuscripts were acquired more-or-less directly by the historian Joseph von Goerres (1776-1848). About 60 manuscripts from Saint Maximin, including those from the Goerres collection, are now in the state library in Berlin; 54 manuscripts (including fragments) are in the Stadtbibliothek in Trier; about 30 are in the university library in Ghent; and 18 in the Bibliothèque nationale de France. Others are widely scattered across the world, from Aberdeen and Copenhagen to Bloomington and Los Angeles. This is by far the most important remaining in private hands.

(3) Dr Leander van Ess (1772-1847), former monk of Marienmünster and Catholic biblical translator, later of Marburg and Darmstadt; no.15 in his *Sammlung und Verzeichniss Handschriftlicher Bücher*, Darmstadt, 1823; with this number also on a paper label on the spine; cf. M. McC. Gatch, 'Untraced Ess / Philipps Manuscripts', *The Book Collector*, XLII, 1993, pp.547-52; and M. McC. Gatch, ed., *'So Precious a Foundation': The Library of Leander Van Ess*, 1996.

(4) Sir Thomas Phillipps (1792-1872), who bought the residue of the Van Ess collection *en bloc* in 1825-6; his stencilled crest on folio 1r; Phillipps MS.400, probably the first book of first-rank importance acquired by that great library. After the acquisition of the Phillipps collection by the Robinson brothers in 1946, what were considered to be the 34 most valuable books "of the Highest Importance and Interest" were almost immediately

consigned to Sotheby's, 1 July 1946. This was lot 4a, to Maggs (their pencil code in lower corner of upper cover).

(5) Philip M. Chancellor, with his armorial bookplate; presented by him in November 1955 to a family in central America, by whom it was consigned to the Henry the Lion sale at Sotheby's, 6 December 1983, lot 46, underbid then by the Deutsche Bank on behalf of the West German government. It has remained in the same European private collection ever since.

CONTEMPORARY EVIDENCE FROM THE ABBEY OF ST. MAXIMIN

The manuscript was undoubtedly written at the abbey of St. Maximin itself.

Contemporary texts include: (1) A prayer on folio 7v mentioning "sanctos patronos nostros Maximinum, Agricium atque Nicetium & omnes sanctos quorum reliquiae in ista continentur aeclesia"; (2) a papal bull on folio 7v in the name of Leo IX (pope 1048-54) to all Christians 'in francia' excommunicating any who interfere with the rights and privileges of the church of St. John the Evangelist (the original dedication of St. Maximin); (3) a life of Saint Maximin (fols. 437v-348r) by Servatus Lupus, "Maximus urbis aquitanice pictanorum ..." (Migne, *Patrologia Latina*, CXIX:665-80; *Bibl. Hagiographia Latina*, p.851, no.2, i.e., 5824); (4) a long marginal note on folio 438r about the translation by Hildulphus (archbishop of Trier 666-71) of the relics of Saint Maximin, the Theban Martyrs and Saint Boniface, and their retranslation of the relics by Ratbod (archbishop 883-915) and again in November 1002; a note on folio 295r is in the same hand.

The library catalogue of St. Maximin of c.1125 survives (F. Kraus, 'Die Bibliothek von St. Maximin bei Trier in XI-XII Jahrhundert', *Serapeum*, XXX, 1969, pp.113-7; R. Laufner, 'Vom Bereich der Trierer Klosterbibliothek St. Maximin im Hochmittelalter', *Armata Trevirensia, Beiträge zur Trierer Bibliotheksgeschichte*, Trier, 1960, pp.7-35, esp. p.23; and I. Knoblich, *Die Bibliothek des Klosters St. Maximin bei Trier bis zum 12. Jahrhundert*, Trier, 1996, p.120). It opens:

[1-2] Bibliotheca due maiores perfecte.

[3] Item alia minor in qua in qua vetus tantum testamentum, cum epistolas pauli.

[4] Textus evangelii unus auro scriptus.

[5-9] Item alii quinque.

This, then, represents nine Bibles or Gospel Books. Quite exceptionally, all can probably be accounted for today. The present volume must be one of the two large and complete Bibles, items 1-2. The other was an extremely important and vast Carolingian pandect written at Tours, double column, 52 lines, which survived until the fifteenth century when it was broken up for use in bookbindings at the abbey. About 100 fragments of it still survive (cf. R. Nolden, ed., *Die Touronische Bibel der Abtei St. Maximin vor Trier, Faksimile der Erhaltenen Blätter*, Trier, 2002). There also survive fewer fragments from a smaller Carolingian Bible, 3 columns, 40 lines, which is presumably the third item on the list. The fourth is the great Ada Codex, one of the supreme Carolingian royal manuscripts (Trier Staatbibliothek Cod.22). The other five Gospel Books are all ninth- or tenth-century: (i) Berlin, Staatbibl. Preussischer Kulturbesitz, Cod. Theol.Lat.Fol.283; (ii) Berlin, Deutsche Staatbibliothek, MS. Hamilton 249; (iii) London, BL., Egerton MS.809; (iv) New York, Morgan Library, M.23; and (v) fragments in Warsaw, Bibliotheka Narodowa, Cod.Akq.12.400.

It is remarkable that such a clutch of related books should survive from a single Ottonian monastery. The large number of Gospel Books, including the Ada Gospels which was certainly in the high altar, doubtless explains the absence of the Gospels from the present manuscript. The Psalter too was certainly available in splendid separate manuscripts at St. Maximin: one of c.900 is in the Rylands Library in Manchester, MS.Lat.116. In fact, the omission of the Psalms and Gospels is not unique in Bibles of the late eleventh century: other examples, including the St-Amand, Fécamp and Gundulf Bibles, are cited by C. de Hamel, *The Book, A History of the Bible*, 2001, p.75: "The observation is important. It suggests that the Bibles were complementary texts to liturgical manuscripts, perhaps kept together, and that their location might therefore have been the altar or sacristy rather than in the library or cloister". The present volume was presumably placed side-by-side with the Ada Gospels.

GIANT BIBLES

Giant one-volume Bibles, or *pandects*, were always a rare phenomenon in the Middle Ages. There are three early Christian examples in Greek, the Codices Sinaiticus, Vaticanus and Alexandrinus. The next is the early eighth-century Codex Amiatinus, the oldest complete Latin Bible, written in Northumbria and now in Florence (Biblioteca Medicea-Laurenziana, Cod.Aminatino 1). Then there is a cluster of them, huge volumes or sets of volumes produced in Tours under a programme established by Alcuin in the first half of the ninth century. 46 examples or fragments of such books are extant, and they were clearly dispatched from Tours across Charlemagne's empire. One volume indeed came to St. Maximin and is the volume whose remaining fragments are recently studied by Nolden, *Die Tournonische Bibel der Abtei St. Maximin vor Trier*. Then, strangely, there is a lull in giant Bibles for over 200 years. The revival began in Rome with the papal reforms of Gregory VII (pope 1073-85). The initial inspiration may well have been a Carolingian copy from Tours, the so-called 'Bible of San Paolo fuori le Mura', on the outskirts of Rome. Huge Latin Bibles were dispatched from Italy in the time of Gregory VII to Geneva, for example, probably by 1083 (Geneva, MS.lat.1); to Hirsau, probably by 1084 (Munich, Clm. 13001); and to Admont in Austria at least by 1088 (Admont cod. C/D).

There is still no systematic census of surviving giant Bibles and their fragments from northern Europe. The Giant Bible of St. Maximin would be a central work in any such investigation. For the subject in general, see W. Cahn, *Romanesque Bible Illumination*, 1982; L.M. Ayres, 'The Italian Giant Bible', in R. Gameson, ed., *The Early Medieval Bible, Its Production, Decoration and Use*, 1994, pp.125-54; and chapter 3, 'Giant Bibles of the Early Middle Ages', pp.64-91, in C. de Hamel, *The Book, A History of the Bible*, 2001, all with extensive bibliographies. The earliest copies actually made north of the Alps probably date from the late 1070s. They are, or include, in very approximate order of production: (1) Einsiedeln, Stiftsbibliothek Cod.1 (mid- to late-eleventh century); (2) Pommersfelden, Schlossbibliothek Cod.333-4 (not later than 1078); (3) Luxembourg, Bib.Nat. Cod.264 (not later than 1081); (4) Cologne, Historisches Archiv der Stadt Köln, Cod. A.3-4 (from Gladbach, perhaps 1080s); (5) Koblenz, Landeshauptarchiv Cod.701 (c.1100). Stylistically, the Giant Bible of Trier probably falls somewhere in the ten years on either side of 1080. It may be the earliest of all made in the area which is now Germany.

The abbey of St. Maximin was rapidly caught up in the new movement of church reform in the third quarter of the eleventh century (cf., for example, R. Kottje, 'Klosterbibliotheken und monastische Kultur in der zweiten Hälfte des 11. Jahrhunderts', *Zeitschrift für Kirchengeschichte*, LXXX, 1969, pp. 145-62; and E. Wisplinghoff, *Untersuchung zur frühen Geschichte der Abtei St. Maximin bei Trier vom den Anfängen bis etwa 1150*, Mainz 1970). The monks of St. Maximin, of course, already owned a Carolingian pandect Bible. It was demonstrably one of the exemplars for the present book. The vast 1100 pages, for example, are copied from it (see below); so too are the chapter lists for the Pauline Epistles; and there are some unexpected textual variants shared by the ninth century Tours Bible from St. Maximin and the present book: Nolden pl. p. 3, line 8, "posse" between "aliorum" and "pauperitate" in Jerome's preface and so does the present book; Nolden pl. p. 7, second column, line 15, has "responditque ad abraham" (Genesis 23:14) with "ephron" above the line instead of being correctly in the text: the scribe of the present manuscript copied it without the name "ephron" (folio 14v). It is extremely rare to be able to compare an Ottonian manuscript with its exemplar.

However, not all the text is taken from the Tours Bible. Many sample checks between the Tours fragments and the present volume show an entirely independent recension. The chapter divisions and headings for Genesis, for example, are quite different. Eighteen of the books here conclude with stichometric verse counts, a relatively rare early device, deriving from Hebrew Bibles, for guarding against omissions of text. These are not used in the Tours Bible; they do occur in the Gladbach Bible, cited above. Mönchen-Gladbach is about 160 km. north of Trier, and one Benedictine house may have lent an exemplar to the other. The intellectual relationship between the scriptoria of eleventh-century abbeys is a fertile area for further study.

Romanesque Giant Bibles acted as public symbols of Christianity at a time when the advance of Islam on the Holy Land first opened up the possibility of religion outside Christendom. The first Crusade was proclaimed in 1095. Giant Bibles also served as a kind of textual standard against which other liturgical or biblical texts in a monastery would be checked. The Giant Bible of Trier shows layers of corrections and alterations from all periods from the eleventh to the sixteenth century. As a progress record of successive waves of medieval biblical scholarship in the Rhineland it is probably without equal. The most obvious is in the ordering of the books. A fourteenth-century table of contents on folio 1r places Kings between Ruth and Isaiah. In the fifteenth century this was corrected and the four books of Kings were transferred from following folio 107 to their present place between the Minor Prophets and Job. This has meant cancelling the last three leaves after the end of Kings (following what is now folio 253) and replacing them with three new leaves (now folios 108-110), with the correct beginning of Isaiah and the cancelling of the very end of the Minor Prophets (first column of folio 254) and replacing it with folio 200. An enclosed note by Fitzroy Fenwick observes that these replacement leaves are in a script "similar to the type Gutenberg used". This may be truer than he had imagined. Latin lectern Bibles in Germany returned to fashion in the fifteenth century. Sometimes old romaneseque copies were dusted off and restored (de Hamel, *The Book*, p. 196). This was the opportunistic moment for publishing the Gutenberg Bible, and the monks of St. Maximin in Trier did indeed acquire a copy (the volume dispersed by Scribner's in the twentieth century as single leaves). The revision of the order of the books here brings the Giant Bible into line with the Gutenberg Bible.

TEXT AND DECORATION

Folio 1r, blank except for a fourteenth-century table of contents; folio 1v, full-page carpet-page ornament, for a title, never completed, 413mm. by 270mm., comprising eight rectangles in purple separated by broad bands of green within frames of blue, yellow and red. Folio 2r, Prologue to the whole Bible, "Frater Ambrosius tua mihi ..." (Stegmüller, *Repertorium Biblicum Medii Aevi*, I, 1981, no.284), with vast decorated initial 'F', 32 lines high, 273mm. by 95mm., ending at the top of folio 5r, with the last letters of each line stretched out to fill the lines. Folio 5v, full-page carpet-page ornament, with 2 columns each with five horizontal bands in yellow, red, blue, green or purple, inscribed in large decorative and sometimes interlaced capitals in red, black or white, "INCIPIT PROLOGVS SANCTE HIERONIMI PRESBITERI AD DESIDERIVM PRESBITERUM SUPER PENTATHEVCVM MOYSI", all within frames of blue, red, green and yellow; folio 6r, Prologue to Genesis, "Desiderii mei ..." (Stegmüller 285), with column-width decorated initial 'D', 13 lines high, 110mm. by 123mm., on a purple-panelled ground enclosing the subsequent opening letters of the text; folio 6v, a list of 82 chapter headings for Genesis, beginning "De die primo in quo lux facta est a deo ..."; folio 7v originally blank, completed in a contemporary but different hand with two texts (a) long instructions for prayer at Saint Maximin, "[I]n spiritu humilitatis et in animo ...", including "Ad te domine ... et ad sanctos patronos nostros Maximinum ... et ad omnes sanctos quorum reliquie in ista continentur ecclesia", and (b) a bull of Pope Leo to all Christian people "in francia", saying that he has heard that certain wicked people have tried to subvert the possessions of the Church and therefore excommunicating all those who take away or try to take away the possessions of the servants of Saint John the Evangelist and calling down extreme curses on them, running to over 25 lines of maledictions on them and on their descendants forever.

Folio 8r, **Genesis**, with vast decorated initials 'IN', 28 lines high, 250mm. by 130mm., on a purple-panelled ground; folio 27r, a list of 157 chapter headings for Exodus, beginning "De infantibus hebreorum ..."; folio 27v, **Exodus**, with very large decorated initial 'H', 13 lines high, 107mm. by 87mm.; folio 43v, a list of 67 chapter headings for Leviticus, beginning "Hostiam de pecoribus ..."; folio 44r, **Leviticus**, with very large decorated initial 'V', 11 lines, 90mm. by 110mm.; folio 54v, a list of 97 chapter headings for Numbers, beginning "De levitis non numerandis ..."; folio 55r, **Numbers**, with very large decorated initial 'L', 13 lines, 112mm. by 80mm.; folio 70r, a list of 161 chapter headings for Deuteronomy; folio 71r, **Deuteronomy**, with very large decorated initial 'H', 14 lines, 115mm. by 100mm., ending on folio 85v, "... universo israel, Explicit liber Deuteronomium".

Folio 85v, Prologue to Joshua, "Tandem finito ..." (Stegmüller 311); folio 86r, a list of 34 chapter headings for Joshua; folio 86r, **Joshua**, with very large decorated initial 'E', 11 lines high, 90mm. by 82mm.; folio 96r, **Judges** (no Prologue) with very large decorated initial 'P', 22 lines high, 190mm. by 90mm., Judges ending with a stichometric note of 1,701 verses; folio 106r, a list of 10 chapter headings for Ruth; folio 106r, **Ruth**, with large decorated initial 'T', 14 lines, 120mm. by 25mm., ending on folio 107v with a stichometric note of 250 verses, "... genuit DAVID regem, Explicit liber Ruth versuum CCL".

Folio 108r (folios 108-110 fifteenth-century replacements), Prologue to Isaiah, "Nemo cum prophetas ..." (Stegmüller 482), red initial; folio 108r, **Isaiah**, with 8-line initial outlined in red; folio 128r, prologue to Jeremiah, "Hieremias propheta cui hic ..." (Stegmüller 487), followed by a fifteenth-century note about a second prologue

[Stegmüller 485] which, the note says, is found in Nicolas de Lyra, the *Glossa Ordinaria* and the *Postilla* of Hugh of St. Cher; folio 128r, **Jeremiah**, with very large decorated initial 'V', 11 lines, 90mm. by 90mm., with **Lamentations** beginning on folio 151r; no Baruch; folio 153r, Prologue to Ezekiel, "Hiezechiel propheta cum ioachim ..." (Stegmüller 492); folio 153r, **Ezekiel**, with large decorated initial 'E', 11 lines, 91mm. by 75mm.; folio 172v, Prologue to Daniel, "Danihelem prophetam iuxta septuaginta ..." (Stegmüller 494); folio 173v, **Daniel**, with very large decorated initial 'A', 12 lines, 104mm. by 92mm., ending on folio 182r, "... coram rege, Explicit liber Danielis prophete".

Folio 182r, Prologue to the 12 Minor Prophets, "Non idem est ordo ..." (Stegmüller 500); folio 182r, **Hosea**, with large decorated initial 'V', 10 lines, 80mm. by 80mm.; folio 185, **Joel**, with small decorated initial 'V', 3 lines, 32mm. by 31mm.; folio 186r, **Amos**, with small decorated initial 'V', 4 lines, 33mm. by 37mm.; folio 188v, **Obadiah**, with small decorated initial 'V', 4 lines, 38mm. by 38mm.; folio 189r, **Jonah**, with medium-sized decorated initial 'E', 6 lines, 48mm. by 28mm.; folio 189v, **Micah**, with medium-sized decorated initial 'V', 6 lines, 50mm. by 50mm.; folio 191v, **Nahum**, with medium-sized decorated initial 'D', 6 lines, 48mm. by 38mm.; folio 192r, **Habakkuk**, with small decorated initial 'O', 4 lines, 47mm. by 47mm.; folio 193r, **Zephaniah**, with medium-sized decorated initial 'V' (edge partly concealed by an old repair), 6 lines, 48mm. by 39mm.; folio 194r, **Haggai**, with large decorated initial 'T', 11 lines, 105mm. by 25mm.; folio 194v, **Zechariah**, with large decorated initial 'T', 14 lines, 120mm. by 30mm.; and folio 198r, **Malachi**, with initial cut away when leaves were excised, folio 199 fifteenth-century (partially duplicating folio 254r), ending on folio 199r, "... terram anathemate, Explicit liber duodecim prophetarum"; folio 199v blank.

Folio 200r, Prologue to the 4 Books of Kings (originally and wrongly called "*in libros veteris testamenti*"), "Viginti duas esse litteras ..." (Stegmüller 323), with large decorated initial 'V', 7 lines high, 57mm. by 48mm.; folio 201r, a list of 26 chapter headings for I Kings, beginning "De helchana & uxoribus ..."; folio 201v blank; folio 202r, **I Kings**, with very large decorated initial 'F', 21 lines, 178mm. by 80mm.; folio 216r, **II Kings**, with large decorated initial 'F', 17 lines, 160mm. by 70mm.; folio 228r, **III Kings**, with large decorated initial 'E', 11 lines, 90mm. by 80mm.; folio 242r, **IV Kings**, with large decorated initial 'F', 15 lines, 135mm. by 60mm. (in fact, this is what is now Chapter 2 of IV Kings: as the fifteenth-century corrector rightly notes, the true IV Kings 1 opens on folio 241v), lacking 2 leaves after folio 244 with the text of IV Kings 6:28-10:11, ending on folio 253v, "... vite sue, Explicit liber regum quartus".

Folio 253r, the original end of the Minor Prophets (replaced by folio 199 in the fifteenth century) and the Prologue to Job, "Cogor per singulos ..." (Stegmüller 344); folio 253v, **Job**, with large decorated initial 'V', 11 lines, 95mm. by 92mm., ending on folio 264r with a stichometric note of 700 verses and a further Prologue, "Tob quoque exemplar patientie ..." (cf. Stegmüller 350); folio 264r, Prologue to Proverbs, "Tungat epistola ..." (Stegmüller 457); folio 264v, a list of 60 chapter headings for Proverbs; folio 265r, **Proverbs**, with very large decorated initial 'P', 23 lines, 195mm. by 75mm.; folio 273v, a list of 31 chapter headings for Ecclesiastes, beginning "Quod vanitas vanitatum sit ..."; folio 273v, **Ecclesiastes**, with large decorated initial 'V', 10 lines, 83mm. by 80mm., ending with a stichometric note of 800 verses; folio 276v, **The Song of Songs**, with large decorated initial 'O' including the heads of the bridegroom and the bride facing each other, 10 lines, 74mm. by 70mm., ending with a stichometric note of 280 verses; folio 278r, a list of 48 chapter headings for Wisdom, beginning "De diligenda iusticia ..."; folio 278v, **Wisdom**, with large decorated initial 'D', 10 lines, 85mm. by 82mm.,

ending with a stichometric note of 700 verses; folio 284v, Prologue to Ecclesiasticus, "Multorum nobis et magnorum ..." (not apparently in Stegmüller); folio 285r, a list of 126 chapter headings for Ecclesiasticus, beginning "Omnis sapientia ..."; folio 285v, **Ecclesiasticus**, with large decorated initial 'O', 10 lines, 87mm. by 90mm., ending on folio 302r with a stichometric note of 2,800 verses, "... vir in te, Explicit liber Ecclesiasticus versuum numero ii^M.dccc".

Folio 302r, Prologue to I Chronicles, "Si septuaginta interpretum pura ..." (Stegmüller 328), with 7-line red and green initial; folio 302v, **I Chronicles**, with very large decorated initial 'A', 13 lines, 105mm. by 80mm., ending with a stichometric note of 5,240 verses; folio 313r, **II Chronicles**, with large decorated initial 'C', 10 lines, 80mm. by 65mm., ending with a stichometric note of 2,100 verses; folio 327r, Prologue to Ezra, "Utrum difficilius sit ..." (Stegmüller 330); folio 327v, **Ezra**, with very large decorated initial 'T', 17 lines, 165mm. by 30mm.; folio 337r, Prologue to Esther, "Librum Hester variis translatoribus ..." (Stegmüller 341); folio 337r, **Esther**, with very large decorated initial 'T', 20 lines, 166mm. by 40mm.; folio 342r, Prologue to Tobit, "Chromatio et Heliodoro ..." (Stegmüller 332); folio 342v, **Tobit**, with large decorated initial 'T', 10 lines, 80mm. by 70mm., ending with a stichometric note of 900 verses; folio 346v, Prologue to Judith, "Apud Hebreos ..." (Stegmüller 335); folio 346v, **Judith**, with very large decorated initial 'A', 14 lines, 118mm. by 83mm., ending with a stichometric note of 1,100 verses; folio 351v, a list of 61 chapter headings for I Maccabees, beginning "Ubi eversa hierusalem ..."; folio 352r, **I Maccabees**, with large decorated initial 'E', 12 lines, 90mm. by 85mm., ending with a stichometric note of 2,300 verses; folio 365r, a list of 66 chapter headings for II Maccabees, beginning "Ubi occisus est antiochus ..."; folio 365v, **II Maccabees**, with very large decorated initial 'F', 24 lines, 185mm. by 68mm., ending on folio 374v with a stichometric note of 1,800 verses, "... erit consumatus, Explicit liber Machabeorum secundus habens versus i^M.dccc".

Folio 375r, Prologue to Acts, "Lucas natione Syrus ..." (Stegmüller 640); folio 375r, a list of 74 chapter headings for Acts, beginning "Ubi precepit ihesus discipulis ..."; folio 375v, **Acts**, with very large decorated initial 'P', 23 lines, 185mm. by 85mm., ending on folio 388v with a stichometric note of 3,600 verses, "... totus mundus iudicari, Explicit liber actuum apostolorum versuum iii^M.dc".

Folio 388v, Prologue to the Canonical Epistles, "Non itam ordo ..." (Stegmüller 809); folio 388v, a list of 20 chapter headings for the Epistle of James, beginning "De inimicorum insecutionibus ..."; folio 389r, **James**, with very large decorated initial 'T', 23 lines, 185mm. by 37mm.; folio 390v, a list of 20 chapter headings for I Peter, beginning "De regenerationis ..."; folio 390v, **I Peter**, with large decorated initial 'P', 17 lines, 143mm. by 70mm.; folio 392r, a list of 11 chapter headings for II Peter, beginning "De sanctis in hoc mundo ..."; folio 392r, **II Peter**, with large decorated initial 'S', 11 lines, 93mm. by 50mm.; folio 393r, a list of 20 chapter headings for I John, beginning "De verbo vite ..."; folio 393r, **I John**, with large decorated initial 'Q' with its tail formed from a dragon, 11 lines, 90mm. by 125mm.; folio 394v, a list of 5 chapter headings for II John, beginning "De diligendis ..."; folio 394v, **II John**, with large decorated initial 'S', 9 lines, 70mm. by 45mm.; folio 394v, a list of 5 chapter headings for III John, beginning "De filiis apostoli ..."; folio 394v, **III John**, with large decorated initial 'S', 9 lines, 68mm. by 37mm.; folio 395r, a list of 7 chapter headings for Jude, beginning "De falsis doctoribus ..."; folio 395r, **Jude**, with large decorated initial 'T', 15 lines, 127mm. by 30mm., ending on the same page, "... seculorum secula Amen, Explicit textus septem canocarum epistolarum".

Folio 395v, a 6-column list of themes in the Pauline Epistles, with chapter references, the columns beginning respectively '*De Unitate ecclesie*' (beginning "Ad corinthios capitulum iii, Ad ephesios xiiii et xv ..."), '*De domino patre*', '*De comendantibus semet ipsos*', '*De psalmis & hymnis*', '*De presbiteris*' and '*De imperio docentium*'; folio 396v, Prologue to the Pauline Epistles, "Epistola Pauli ad Romanos ..." (Stegmüller 651), with large decorated initial 'E', 10 lines, 83mm. by 77mm.; folio 396v, a second Prologue to the Pauline Epistles, "Primum queritur quare ..." (Stegmüller 670); folio 397r, Prologue to Romans, "Romani sunt qui ex iudeis ..." (Stegmüller 674); folio 397v, a list of 51 chapter headings in Romans, beginning "De nativitate domini ..."; folio 398r, a second Prologue to Romans, "Romani sunt partis italie ..." (Stegmüller 677); folio 398v, **Romans**, with very large decorated initial 'P', 20 lines, 167mm. by 80mm., ending with a stichometric note of 911 verses; folio 403v, Prologue to I Corinthians, "Corinthii sunt achaici ..." (Stegmüller 684); folio 403v, a list of 72 chapter headings in I Corinthians, beginning "De plenitudine ..."; folio 404r, **I Corinthians**, with very large decorated initial 'P', 22 lines, 173mm. by 75mm.; folio 409r, Prologue to II Corinthians, "Post actam ..." (Stegmüller 700); folio 409r, a list of 28 chapter headings in II Corinthians, beginning "De passionibus ..."; folio 409r, **II Corinthians**, with large decorated initial 'P', 17 lines, 140mm. by 75mm., ending with a stichometric count of 292 verses; folio 412v, Prologue to Galatians, "Galathe sunt greci ..." (Stegmüller 707); folio 412v, a list of 37 chapter headings in Galatians, beginning "De resurrectione domini ..."; folio 412v, **Galatians**, with large decorated initial 'P', 16 lines, 120mm. by 65mm., ending with a stichometric count of 213 verses; folio 414v, Prologue to Ephesians, "Ephesi sunt asiani ..." (Stegmüller 715); folio 414v, a table of 31 chapter headings in Ephesians, beginning "De sanctis qui ante constitutione mundi ..."; folio 414v, **Ephesians**, with large decorated initial 'P', 14 lines, 120mm. by 60mm., ending with a stichometric count of 317 verses; folio 416v, Prologue to Philippians, "Philippenses sunt machedones ..." (Stegmüller 728); folio 416v, a table of 18 chapter headings in Philippians, beginning "De presbiteris quod ipsi ..."; folio 416v, **Philippians**, with large decorated initial 'P', 15 lines, 116mm. by 60mm.; folio 418r, Prologue to Colossians, "Colosenses & hi ..." (Stegmüller 736); folio 418r, a list of 31 chapter headings in Colossians, beginning "De spirite reposita ..."; folio 418r, **Colossians**, with large decorated initial 'P', 17 lines, 145mm. by 70mm.; folio 419v, **Laodiceans**, with large decorated initial 'P', 12 lines, 83mm. by 55mm.; folio 419v, Prologue to I Thessalonians, "Tesalonicenes sunt macedones ..." (Stegmüller 748); folio 419v, a list of 24 chapter headings to I Thessalonians, beginning "De apostolo et silvano ..."; folio 420r, **I Thessalonians**, with large decorated initial 'P', 15 lines, 123mm. by 65mm.; folio 421r, Prologue to II Thessalonians, "Ad thessalonicenses secundam ..." (Stegmüller 752); folio 421r, a list of 9 chapter headings in II Thessalonians, beginning "De persecutione ..."; folio 421r, **II Thessalonians**, with large initial 'P', 15 lines, 120mm. by 55mm.; folio 421v, Prologue to I Timothy, "Timotheum instruit ..." (Stegmüller 765); folio 421v, a list of 30 chapter headings in I Timothy, beginning "De fabulis & genealogiis ..."; folio 422r, **I Timothy**, with large decorated initial 'P', 14 lines, 108mm. by 54mm.; folio 423v, Prologue to II Timothy, "Item timotheo scribit ..." (Stegmüller 772); folio 423v, a list of 26 chapter headings in II Timothy, beginning "De euche matre ..."; folio 423v, **II Timothy**, with large decorated initial 'P', 14 lines, 107mm. by 53mm.; folio 424v, Prologue to Titus, "Tithum commonefacit ..." (Stegmüller 780); folio 424v, a list of 10 chapter headings in Titus, beginning "De domino patre ..."; folio 424v, **Titus**, with large decorated initial 'P', 13 lines, 105mm. by 50mm.; folio 425v, Prologue to Philemon, "Philemoni familiares litteras ..." (Stegmüller 784); folio 425v, a list of 4 chapter headings in Philemon, beginning "De philemone ..."; folio 425v, **Philemon**, with large decorated initial 'P', 12 lines, 100mm. by 50mm.; folio

425v, Prologue to Hebrews, "In primis dicendum ..." (Stegmüller 793); folio 425v, a list of 38 chapter headings in Hebrews, beginning "De xpisto quod deus sit ..."; folio 426r, **Hebrews**, with large decorated initial 'M', 11 lines, 85mm. by 90mm.; folio 430r, Prologue to the Apocalypse, "Ioannes apostolus & evangelista ..." (Stegmüller 834); folio 430r, a list of 25 chapter headings in the Apocalypse, beginning "Tohannes vii ecclesiis ..."; folio 430v, **The Apocalypse**, or Revelations, with large decorated initial 'A', 13 lines, 105mm. by 88mm. on a purple-panelled ground; all ending on folio 437r, "... cum omnibus vobis, Explicit liber apocalipsis Iohannis apostoli"; folio 437v, the Office of Saint Maximin, beginning with 8 lections from his biography, "Incipit vita sancti Maximini Trevirorum archiepiscopi, Maximus urbis aquitanice pictanorum indigeda ...", ending on folio 438r, "... quemquam ledendi erepit", with a reading from the Gospel of Luke and the twelfth Gospel homily of Saint Gregory the Great ("Sancti evangelii ...", Migne, *Pat. Lat.* LXXVI:1223-3, line 42), ending on folio 438v, "... retributionis hylaescit"; folio 438v, and a sermon of Saint Augustine, "*De fide et confessione sancte Trinitatis*", beginning "Credimus sanctam trinitatem idem patrem ...", ending on the same page "... separabilia sunt";

DECORATED INITIALS

The manuscript has 68 vast initials. The average height of the initials is just over 13 lines high. They are of the rich interlaced design formed from an almost exact mix of the insular or Celtic patterns, which reached the Rhineland through the first Northumbrian missionaries, and the graceful Mediterranean 'white-vine' style of romanesque Italy. Thus the initials as well as the text show the final mingling of two ancient cultures, Barbarian and Roman. Comparable examples of Franco-German decoration in the late eleventh century are illustrated in F. Ronig, 'Die Buchmalerie des 11. und 12. Jahrhunderts zu Verdun und ihre Beziehungen zur Trierischen Kunst', *Kur-Trierisches Jahrbuch*, XII, 1972, pp.5-12; W. Cahn, *Romanesque Bible Illumination*, 1982, esp. pp.107-19, 'Between Normandy and the Rhine'; and the close parallel in C. Winkelmann-Giesen *et al.*, eds., *Die Handschriften von St. Vitus (Die Bücherbesitz des Klosters St. Vitus in Gladbach, I, i-ii)*, 1998, no.31, pp.90-93 and (esp.) pls.XVII and 194-7, describing the two-volume Gladbach Bible, now in the Historisches Archiv in Cologne, decorated in Gladbach or Cologne in the second half of the eleventh century;

The supreme decoration of the Giant Bible of Trier lies in the two vast frontispieces (fols.1v and 5v). One is unfinished; the other is emblazoned across its panels with the headings for the text which opens on the facing page. These have evolved from the carpet pages of Irish manuscripts. The pages here are made to resemble mosaics of inlaid panels of marble and coloured stones. Such frontispieces are unique to Bibles, and they may have a symbolic value in consciously echoing the holy breastplate of Aaron, set with four rows of coloured stones, topaz, emerald, agate, jasper (Exodus 28:17-20), a protective and talismanic covering for a sacred text. The exemplar is, in fact, the ninth-century Tours Bible of St. Maximin, for a fragment still in Trier preserves part of a similar full-page title for the Jerome's Prologue to the whole Bible (*Die Touronische Bibel der Abtei St. Maximin vor Trier*, col.pl. p.175). These are the oldest title-pages of the Middle Ages.

LITERATURE

S. Krämer, *Handschriftenerbe des Deutschen Mittelalters*, II, 1989, p.778, as untraced.

C. de Hamel, *The Book, A History of the Bible*, 2001, pp.71 and 196.

