

Prüm”, of which he was abbot between 892 and 899<sup>5</sup>, he was ousted from the royal abbey and resided in Trier from 899 onwards and it was there that he wrote his chronicle. It remains uncertain whether the writing took place in St Martin, where he became abbot, or St Maximin, where he was buried<sup>6</sup>. Both abbeys in Trier as well as the one in Prüm, however, suffered from raids by Northmen in the 880s and 890s. These raids not only inflicted loss of life, but also loss of cultural objects<sup>7</sup>. Regino therefore faced a problem: where could he acquire a source of information in order to write about the Carolingian history of days gone by? Luckily for scholars, Regino was meticulous in the way he kept track of his sources and explained to his audience that, for the part of his chronicle covering the years from 741 up to and including 813, he had “discovered the things which have been laid out above in a certain booklet composed in the language of plebeians and rustics” continuing that he “corrected them in places to regular Latin” and, wherever the source was lacking, he felt at liberty to add “certain things which I heard from the stories of the elders”<sup>8</sup>.

It is a paradox that the source used by Regino, an unpolished work to which he could add new things and maybe also just as easily could take inconvenient things out, has been known to scholars since the

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Dorine VAN ESPELO / Bram VAN DEN HOVEN VAN GENDEREN / Janneke RAAIJMAKERS / Irene VAN RENSWOUDE / Carine VAN RHIJN (2016) p. 296–313, at p. 296.

5) For a brief discussion of the events that led to the deposition of Regino in Prüm, cf. Bernd ISPHORDING, *Die zeitgenössischen erzählenden Quellen aus Prüm*, in: Lothar I. Kaiser und Mönch in Prüm. Zum 1150. Jahr seines Todes, hg. von Reiner NOLDEN (Veröffentlichungen des Geschichtsvereins Prümer Land 55, 2005) p. 99–112, at p. 106.

6) SCHLEIDGEN, *Die Überlieferungsgeschichte* (as in n. 3) p. 131.

7) On Prüm, cf. ISPHORDING, *Die zeitgenössischen erzählenden Quellen* (as in n. 5) p. 104–106; on St Maximin, cf. *Das Erzbistum Trier 13: Die Benediktinerabtei St. Maximin vor Trier*, bearb. von Bertram RESMINI, 2 vols. (Germania Sacra. Dritte Folge 11, 2016), here 1 p. 68, 119, 148. Isabel KNOBLICH, *Die Bibliothek des Klosters St. Maximin bei Trier bis zum 12. Jahrhundert* (1996) p. 7, 16, works from the supposition that much of the library of St Maximin was destroyed in 882; more sceptical about the supposed losses is Hartmut HOFFMANN, *Bernhard Bischoffs Katalog der karolingischen Handschriften*, in: DA 71 (2015) p. 1–56, at p. 52f.

8) Regino, *Chronicon ad a. 813* (as in n. 3) p. 73: *Haec, quae supra expressa sunt, in quodam libello repperi plebeio et rusticano sermone composita; quae ex parte ad latinam regulam correxi, quaedam etiam addidi, quae ex narratione seniorum audivi*. The used translation comes from Simon MACLEAN, *History and Politics in Late Carolingian and Ottonian Europe. The Chronicle of Regino of Prüm and Adalbert of Magdeburg* (Manchester Medieval Sources Series, 2009) p. 129.