

transmitted in Regino's work actually became part of Kurze's stemma codicum of the ArF and was classified as B2 by Kurze. This, moreover, is intriguing because Kurze's B recension does not reach beyond 813, roughly when the exemplar of Ado, too, seems to have come to an end. Although neither Ado nor Regino were writing their chronicles in Prüm, the link to the abbey deserves further investigation.

A special case is presented by the *Annales Bertiniani*. Hincmar, archbishop of Reims (r. c. 848–882), claimed that the annals had fallen into the hands of many<sup>105</sup>. He might have exaggerated here to underscore the point that he was trying to make, namely that a confusion caused by Prudentius of Troyes in the entry for 859 could start a dogmatic scandal<sup>106</sup>. Indeed, there is no manuscript evidence to substantiate Hincmar's claim that the annals had fallen into the hands of many<sup>107</sup>. Janet Nelson suggested that Hincmar's own manuscript must have been a direct continuation of Prudentius, quite possibly in the same codex<sup>108</sup>. No copies from before the tenth century are known to have derived from this archetype. The only text fragment of the *Annales Bertiniani* that does not derive from Hincmar's exemplar, containing the entries for 830 up to 837, breaking off in this entry with the phrase "promised to stay loyal in the future", was glued onto the *Annales Mettenses posteriores*, rather than the ArF, in a twelfth-century manuscript from Metz<sup>109</sup>. In other words, there is no incentive

105) Die Briefe des Erzbischofs Hinkmar von Reims, ed. Ernst PERELS (MGH Epp. 8,1, 1939) no. 187, p. 194–196, at p. 196 l. 12f.: *unde quoniam ipsa gesta, quibus haec conscripta sunt, iam in plurimorum manus devenerunt*.

106) Ibid. p. 196 l. 13f.: *neesse est, ut taliter de hoc domno apostolico suggeratis, ne scandalum inde in ecclesia veniat*. For this particular episode in Hincmar's letter, cf. also Robert A. H. EVANS, *God's agency and the recent past in Carolingian history writing, c. 750–900* (Diss. Cambridge 2018) p. 16f. n. 115. While writing this article, I learned that his dissertation is in the process of being published any time soon as monograph.

107) For the following, brief discussion of the problematic manuscript evidence of the *Annales Bertiniani*, cf. the edition by GRAT / VIELLIARD / CLÉMENCET (as in n. 55) p. XVI–XXII for lost witnesses and p. XXII–LI on extant witnesses. Cf. also *The Annals of St-Bertin. Ninth-century histories 1*, translated and annotated by Janet L. NELSON (Manchester Medieval Sources Series 1, 1991) p. 15f.

108) Perhaps preserved in a seventeenth-century manuscript of the Bollandists as a direct copy. The early modern copy is Paris, BnF, *Mélanges de Colbert* 46(2), fol. 283r–313v.

109) This is Berlin, Staatsbibliothek – Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Phill. 1853, olim Meermann 746. Cf. Valentin ROSE, *Die lateinischen Meerman-Handschriften des Sir Thomas Phillipps in der königlichen Bibliothek zu Berlin* (*Die Handschriften-Verzeichnisse der Königlichen Bibliothek zu Berlin* 12, 1892) p. 317–321.