

Di. 1. 36 SPECULUM VITE (English)

Vellum, $9\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ in., 229 ff (out of 231; 150 used twice; 226, 227 lost), single column, 36 lines to a page. A.D. 1423, clear, becoming tall and narrow towards the end, with running titles, capitals and paragraph marks in red. On f1 an indented initial with a partial serrated border in red and blue, and conventional foliage filling and flourishing in red and sepia. a-o¹⁰ p¹² (1 cancelled) q-3¹⁰; catchwords and signatures. XV cent. speckled calf, blind tooled, rebacked.

2° f° perfore

1-225. Almyzti God in Trinite — pat m pe crosse for us wold hyuge. Amen. Followed by the erased colophon Explicit compilacio . . . Ricardi Rothe heremite de Hampole . . . Ff 150 and 150* were intended by the scribe to be pasted together.

The Middle English Speculum Vite, sometimes attributed to William of Nassington; IMEV 245 no. 13. This attribution and the sources of the Speculum Vite are discussed by H. E. Allen, Publications of the Modern Language Association of America xxxii, 133. Preceded by the following

note (also found in Oxford Bodleian 446 and Cambridge Gonville and Caius 160. Anno domini M^o CCC^{mo} octogesimo quarto. Compilacio ista hoc modo Cantebri erat examinata dum a quodam sacerdote ad ligandum ibidem fuit posita. a quibusdam scholaribus erat intuita atque perlecta et cancellario universitatis eiusque consilio presentata propter defectus et hereses examinanda ne minus literati populum per eam negligenter ~~inducant~~ fallant et varios errores negligenter inducant. Tunc inson cancellarii coram eo et toto consilio universitatis per quatuor dies

P⁷⁰⁰. c. 9. 32

in the hand of the text

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cum omni studio et diligencia fuit examinata atque in omni
 collegio undique comprobata. Die quinto omnibus doctoribus
 utriusque iuris et magistris theologie cum Cancellario dicen-
 tibus et affirmantibus eam de sacris legibus et libris
 divinis bene ac subtiliter tractatam et ex auctoritate omni-
 um doctorum sacre pagine sapienter allegatam id est affir-
 matam necnon et fundatam. Ideo quicumque fueris o lector
 hanc noli contempnere quia sine dubio si aliqui defectus
 in ea inventi fuissent coram universitate Cantabr' combus-
 ta fuisset

On 225^b the note 3e pat rede pis boke or
 here it redde. I pray 3w praith for Sir Roberte soule
 and alle cristen sarhs. p^t gaf pis boke to pis place. for
 woso praith for anoper. laburse for hym selfe and schal
 have grete mede.

230^b. In smaller script In die sanctorum
 Crispini et Crispiniani scribere incepti. et 3^o die post festum
 Annunciacionis beate Marie finem habui Anno domini

1423

226, 227 cut out; 228-30 blank

Parris 458

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Other copies Ff. 4.9, Gg. 1.7, Gg. 1.14, Ll. 1.8, Add. 2823