

3054 JOHANNES CLIMACUS

Vellum, $10 \times 7\frac{1}{4}$ in., 175 ff (out of 186), single column, 27-29 lines to a page. Written at Marbach Abbey, A.D. 1473 in a clear gothic hand, with headings in red, initials in red or blue, capitals in the text touched with red; on ff 2 and 5 an initial in colour, with conventional foliage filling and flourishing. Much of the MS. is a palimpsest on a large xcent. service book, apparently a Missal, 1 pasted down. a^8 (wants 1) b^8 c^{12} (1, 4, 11 cancelled) d^{12} (2, 12 cancelled) e^{10} (10 cancelled) f^8 g^{10} (3, 9 cancelled) h^8 (wants 1) i^8 k^{10} (3, 9 cancelled) l^{10} (wants 3, 6; 4, 8 cancelled) m^8 (wants 3-5) n^{10} (wants 7; 2, 10 cancelled) o^{10} (5, 8 cancelled) p^{10} (wants 8; 4, 9 cancelled) q^8 (wants 4) $r-t^8$ v^8 (wants 8) $x-y^8$ z^6 (6 a pasted down); catchwords and signatures.

Contemporary natural calf over wooden boards to 4 bands, blind tooled with an intersecting frame formed by a pair of fillets decorated alternately with lozenge stamps of a leopard and cinque fork; the panel so formed divided by diagonal fillets into lozenge and triangular compartments, the former containing a lozenge stamp of a spray of foliage; at the intersections a quatre fork stamp. Brass seatings for 2 clasps and catches, the clasps mostly gone; three paper labels (xvii/xviii) on the spine, two bearing title and the other, at foot, a printed 'P'.

2^o ff. (ve-) uerandam litteram

2-167 [JOHANNES Climacus, *Scala Paradisi*] Incipit epistola Johannis duci Raythi ad mirabilem Johannem Montis Synai abbatem cognomento scolasticum. novissime vero a conscriptione nominatum Clymacum. Super mirabili equali angelo patri etc. Cognoscentes nos imperfecti tuam in domino non discernentem — ad deum universis ostendes. Vale in domino venerandissime pater. 2^a. Responsiva epistola Johannis scolastici etc. Johannes Johanni gaudere. Suscepi

ita convenientem p[ro]dice t[em]p[or]e — deus mercedem retribuit. Exple-
cit epistola 4. Incipiunt capitula libri vel gradus scale simi-
les ab ymnis ad summa ferentes 4^b. Prologus sermonis cuius
nominacio tabule spiritualis. Hiis qui in libro vite — finis non
est deus caritatis. Explicit prologus. Incipit sermo exercita-
tivus abbatis JOHANNIS duces monachorum existencium in
Monte Synai quem misit abbati Johanni duci Raythu. Di-
viditur vero capitulis xxx gradibus scale similibus qui ab
humilioribus ad excelsiora sectantes sursum ducunt. propter
quod et liber scala vocatur. De abrenunciacione terrenorum
et vane vite abdicacione et abnegacione. gradus primus
A Bono et superbono et toto bono deo — major autem hiis est
caritas 166^b. Exhortacio ad ascensum scale Ascendite
fratres ascendite prompte — cui omnium bonorum causalitas
mest et erit per infinita secula. Amen 1, 61, 87, 89, 95-7,
106, 123, 128, 164 cut out

167-171 Vita sub compendio sancti Johannis Climaci etc. edita a
DANIELE humili monacho Raythu. Que nempe ut sic
loquar audite digna civitas fuerit — interius non con-
templativa continens documenta. Explicit vita etc.

BHL 4380 Cf. Oxford Bodleian Canonici Misc. 333 and
Land Misc. 323 Followed (171) by Eiusdem epigramma.

Temptari in brevibus predicare plurima — Dimidiavimus
alieni vel recidimus iterum. Finis tricesimi gradus celestis
huius intellectualis scale Johannis scolastici etc. cognom-
inati Climaci Climax grece latine dicitur scala hinc
liber appellatur Climachus id est scalaris

171^b - 184^b Sermo ejusdem Climaci JOHANNIS ad Pastorem IN infer-
iori quidem libro — et perfectionem sui ipsius beatam fer-
ens 181^b. Commendacio Johannis Climaci et sermonis hu-
ius edita a JOHANNE abbate Raythu etc. Qualem utique
descripsisti — Consummatori bonorum deo gratias. Explicit
laus et commendacio etc. secundum quod postulaverat

scripsit. Deo gratias. Et scriptus est iste liber in et pro domo
 sancti Augustini episcopi in Marpach sub venerabili patre
 ac priore primo eiusdem domus ab indigno sacerdote Johanne
 de Paderborne de Westphalia Anno Domini M^o.CCCC^o.Lxxiiij ipso
 die sancti Polycarpi episcopi et martiris Followed by an
 erasure 184^b. Precontemplacio sancte scale Juxta nu-
 merum etatis Christi Ihesu — ita qui sunt in ipsa sermones
 incipientes Scholia occur throughout 185 (a frag-
 ment) and 186 blank; 186^b a pastedown

The front cover is lined with a leaf of a xv cent. patristic Ms.
 with marginal comments Attached to 186 is a scrap of
 paper with part of a letter (xvi) Valentine amice perchare
 ut puto ne mentiar tantum mihi dixit Joannes Oldenzel
 etc. On 2 the inscription Pro Franciscanis de Observantia
 Tabernaculis 1637 (probably of Berg-Zaberne, Saverne in
 Alsace) and the mark O.3.4 Formerly in the poss-
 session of the Earl of Hopetoun whose bookplate with mark
 T.18 is attached to the inside front cover, and at whose sale
 (Sotheby), 25-28 February 1889 it was lot 741 Presented
 by Francis Jenkinson, Librarian, 31 December 1891