

6760 MAGISTER HISTORIARUM

Vellum, $14 \times 9\frac{1}{4}$ in., ii+284 ff., double columns, 43 lines to the page. XIII cent., in a very good French hand, with red headings, running titles and well flourished capitals in alternate red and blue, and an initial of red and blue penwork to each book. Ff. 279-84 are a XIV cent. addition, written in double columns of 48 lines in an Italian hand, which has numbered the folios of text in small roman figures.

i-xxvii¹⁰ xxviii⁸ | xxix⁶. Catchwords.

XVI cent. Italian binding of faded red calf over beechen boards, to 4 bands, blind-tooled with ^alozange within a rectangular frame made with a row of conventional ornament, a small corner-tool ^{in gold} repeated 8 times on each cover and ^{4 times} on the spine. Two engraved brass clasps, repaired. The spine has been strengthened inside with pieces of XVIth cent. printed music.

2^o fo. quedam aeris.

1-278 [PETRUS COMESTOR, *Historia Scolastica*] Incipit prologus epistolaris.

Reverendo patri et domino Willielmo... benedictus Deus Amen. Incipit prefatio in scolastica hystoria. Imperatorie maiestatis est tres... crucifixus est in Ierusalem Troiano mandante. Expliciunt hystorie.

PL 198, 1053-1722 with an extra paragraph at the end giving the burial-places of the Apostles. F. 278^b, originally blank, has some memorial hexameters on the reading of books of the Bible throughout the year, added in an Italian hand.

279-84 Incipiunt Rubrice que sunt in hystoriis scolasticis que in libro hoc per foliorum numerum distinguuntur. A later list of chapters; at the end are added Hos versus composuit Petrus Comestor actor huius operis de beata Maria. Si FL posset quod arena pulvis sit unde... (10 lines), and as usual the author's epitaph. 284^b is blank, except for a scribble in French.

Ff. i and ii, formerly pastedowns, are reused leaves from a Commentary on the Apocalypse, covering vi. 12 - vii. 1 written in double columns of 48 lines in a large XIII cent. Italian hand.

There is an early owner's inscription ([iste liber] est fratris...) on 278^b. The mark of a chain-staple in the middle of the lower margin of ff. 284 indicates that the book later belonged to an institution, and there is a library title and N^o (altered to 14) on i, probably XVII cent. Possibly lot 37 in the Chardin sale, Paris 9 Feb. 1824; it was bought in Paris in that year by Sir Thos. Phillipps, and has his Middlehill stamp and no. 269. Lot 194 in the Phillipps sale, Sotheby's 21 March 1895; bought by William Morris, and lot 371 in his sale, Sotheby's 6 Dec. 1898. Lot 583 at Sotheby's, 30 June 1905; bought by (Sir) Sydney Cockfield, given by him to (Sir) Emory Walker, on whose death 22 July 1935 it returned to the donor under his will, and was sold by him in 1934 to John Harrington, who gave it to the Library 21 Aug. 1934.