

MS. 344

Books of the Old and New Testaments

France; s. xii–xiii

Text

[Item 1 occupies quires 1–2]

1. (fols. 1r–19v) Isaiah, starting imperfect at Isaiah 40:2.: ‘|| & aduocate causam quoniam completa es malicia eius ... Explicit Ysaias propheta habens versus m.d.lxxx’; fol. 20r–v ruled, otherwise blank.

[Item 2 occupies quires 3–6]

2. (fols. 21r–56r) Jeremiah, ending imperfect in Jer. 51:35: ‘... super habitatores Caldee, dicit Jerusalem ||’, due to the loss of one or more quires; Baruch and Ezekiel are absent, perhaps missing. [\[Image\]](#)

[Items 3–5 occupy quires 7–12]

3. (fols. 57r–61v) Lamentations.
4. (fols. 62r–78v) Daniel: ‘... Explicit Daniel propheta, habens versus m.d.ccc.l.’
5. (fols. 79r–117v) The twelve Minor Prophets: Hosea (fols. 79r–85v) [\[Image\]](#); Joel (fols. 85v–88r); Amos (fols. 88r–93v); Abdias (fols. 93v–94v); Jonah (fols. 94v–96r); Micah (fols. 96v–100v); Nahum (fols. 100v–102r); Habakkuk (fols. 102r–104r), the writing of the Canticle of Habakkuk heavily abbreviated (fols. 103v–104r); Zephaniah (fols. 104r–106r); Haggai (fols. 106r–107v), Zachariah, with a new initial at ‘Dixit dominus extendens celum ...’ (Zach. 12:1) (fols. 107v–115v); Malachi (fols. 115v–117v).

[Items 6–7 occupy quires 13–17]

6. (fols. 118r–161v) Pauline epistles, with prologues: Romans (fols. 118r–126r); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 685, I Corinthians (fols. 126r–134r), Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 700, II Corinthians (fols. 134r–139r); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 707, Galatians (fols. 139r–141v); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 715 (fol. 141v), Ephesians (fols. 142r–144r); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 728, Phillippians (fols. 144v–146r); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 736, Colossians (fols. 146r–148r); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 747, I Thessalonians (fols. 148r–149v), Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 752, II Thessalonians (fols. 149v–150v); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 765, I Timothy (fols. 150v–152v), Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 772, II Timothy (fols. 152v–154r); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 780, Titus (fols. 154r–155r); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 783, Philemon (fol. 155r); Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 793 (fol. 155r–v); Hebrews (fols. 155v–161v).
7. (fols. 161v–170v) Canonical epistles: Stegmüller, *RB*, no. 809 (fol. 161v); James (fols. 161v–164r), I Peter (fols. 164r–166r), II Peter (fols. 166r–167v), I John (fols. 167v–169v), II John (fol. 169v), III John (fols. 169v–170r), Jude (fol. 170r–v); a running-title on fol. 170v shows that Acts once followed, but the start of the book has now been erased after the explicit of Jude.

Decoration

Books and prologues with initials typically 4 or 5 lines high, in red or green, with simple reserved patterns and penwork of the other colour. [\[Image\]](#) [\[Image\]](#) [\[Image\]](#)

Physical description

Parchment, *c.*180 x *c.*125 mm., thick, stiff, and of mediocre quality.

ff. iii (paper) + 170 + iii (paper), foliated in modern pencil: i–iii, 1–173; except for a few leaves already foliated in 19th-century pencil.

Quires mostly originally of ten or twelve leaves each: 1–2¹⁰ (fols. 1–20); 3–4¹⁰ (fols. 21–40), 5–6⁸ (fols. 41–56); 7¹⁴ (fols. 57–70), 8⁸ (fols. 71–78), 9¹² (fols. 79–90), 10¹⁰ (fols. 91–100), 11¹² (fols. 101–112), 12⁶⁻¹ (6th leaf torn out leaving jagged stub) (fols. 113–117); 13⁴ (fols. 118–121), 14–16¹² (fols. 122–157), 17¹²⁺¹ (13th leaf inserted) (fols. 158–170); two sets of catchwords survive sporadically, in ink and leadpoint.

Ruled in leadpoint with 29 horizontal lines, the top and bottom line, or the first and third from both top and bottom, extending the full width of the page, between single (occasionally double) vertical bounding lines, extending the full height of the page; the ruled space *c.* 130 x 80–90 mm.; prickings survive frequently in all four margins.

Written with 29 lines per page in a fairly heavily abbreviated and rather cursive gothic script, with rubrics and running headings in red.

Secundo folio: ‘& fecit’ (fol. 2r; original second leaf missing).

Binding

Tightly sewn on three cords, and bound in 18th-century brown leather over pasteboards, with a blind-tooled panel on each cover.

Provenance

1. Written probably in France in the late 12th or early 13th century.
2. Thomas Ingram, Yorkshire, 16th century: inscribed (while inebriated?) ‘per me thomam’ yngram’ De walter (sic) in comitatu eborasensi (sic) gentleman as I proud(?) say or els can not tell And(?) that I make an ende of this same forsothe and forsothe ... Drinke and drinke again, but Drinke not all I ffinis and ende at this tyme’ (fol. 78v). [\[Image\]](#)
3. Queen’s College; date of acquisition unknown; with the remains of a paper label on the fore-edge of the front board; the front pastedown with the former shelfmark ‘U. 20’, crossed through in pencil; the spine with a crumbling paper label printed ‘20’.

Bibliography

Coxe, *Catalogus*, p. 81.

Status: Draft