

RARE RES PA6642.A4 1150
Priscian, *Institutiones grammaticae*
Austria s. xii^{3/4}

CONTENTS

ff. 1r1-119r15. Books XVII-XVIII of Priscian's *Institutiones grammaticae*. Prologue
Incipit Theodorus vir(um/orum?) disertissim(us) memorialis sacri scrinii ep(isto)laru(m)
v(...?) Martii q(u)estoris palatii sac(ri) sc(ri)psi manu mea arte(m) p(ri)sciani uiri
disertissimi gramatici doctoris mei in urbe roma c(on)stantinopolitana die. v. kl.
*Martii.m.v. (con)sule (in red).*¹

De Constructione *Incipit Quo(niam) in ante expositis libris de partibus or(atio)nis in*
plerisq(ue). Apollonii auctoritate(m) sum(us) secuti.

Explicit infine no(m)i(n)um om(n)iu(m) semp(er) debeant sep(er)atim p(ro)nuntiari. Nisi
poetalis auctoritas coniungat ut Nicolays.

MODERN EDITIONS

Baratin, Marc et al., eds. and trans., *Priscien. Grammaire. Livre XVII – Syntaxe I* (Paris: Librairie Philosophique J. Vrin, 2010).

Baratin, Marc (ed.), *Priscien. Grammaire, Livres XIV-XV-XVI: Les invariabl.es. Texte latin, traduction introduite et annotée par le Groupe Ars Grammatica. Histoire des doctrines de l'Antiquité classique, 44.* Paris: Librairie Philosophique, 2013.

Schönberger, A. *Priscians Darstellung des silbisch gebundenen Tonhöhenmorenakzents des Lateinischen: lateinischer Text und kommentierte deutsche Übersetzung des Buches über den lateinischen Akzent*, Frankfurt am Main: Valentia, 2010.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment. Multiple scribes. 15 Quires I-XIV⁸; XV⁶. HF'FH. Bound, s. XV. Dimensions of folio 20.5 cm X 13.75 cm with wide margins. The text dimensions 14 cm X 9.8 cm (measured from the top ruled horizontal line to the bottom ruled horizontal line and from the outer left ruled margin to the outer right ruled margin). 21 Long lines, ruled by dry point with double vertical bounding lines. Prickings in outer margins. Late Caroline minuscule. Frequent highlighted initials in red and occasional pen flourished initials in red on ff. 1r, 68r, 77v, 101r. Beginning with f. 79v, less red is used to highlight text. When red highlights appear, it is associated with red decorated or pen flourished initials. The shift in decoration indicates a change in scribe hand at this point. F. 84r brown pen flourished initial "L." Red decorated initials ff. 86r, 99r. Text varies from brown to very black. Folia contain some marginal and interlinear gloss in black. Modern marginal notes

¹ Preface is recorded in H. Keil, *Grammatici latini*, vol. III (Leipzig: Teubner, 1855-80, Rpt. Hildesheim, G. Olms, 1965), 106. The word "Martii" is probably an abbreviation of the name Mauortius. Perhaps referring to Vettius Agorius Basilius Mavortius who was sole consul in Constantinople in 527.

in pencil appear including, pointing hands, question marks, and additional glosses. Pencil Arabic numerals of folia in upper right margin.

BINDING

The Columbia codex was rebound in the late fifteenth century. German pigskin around wooden boards. Missing metal bosses typical of Lambach binding in the fifteenth century.² Binding lacks metal clasps. Decoration consists of *cuir-ciselé* and blindstamping. Roll stamps could have been in use in Germany and after 1550, no longer had a continuous flow of ornament.³ The decoration is of Nurnberg Type, with a cover with lozenge compartments formed by diagonal lines.⁴ Stamps appear in Holter and are dated by him as the most popular stamps used in Lambach in the fifteenth century.⁵

Front cover: Worn. Damage in the top indicates where a title may have been added and lost. Holter describes the stamp types and provides numbers for them.⁶ Stamped border of foliage panels (# 22) terminating in a rosette (#4) in each corner of the cover. Central panel two diagonal lines filled with foliage decoration (#11) with a rosette (#4) where the lines meet in the middle. Four lozenge shaped compartments contain a variety of other stamps. Top: a seven leaf palmette in a pointed oval (#34) appears above and on either side of a rosette (#4); small round stamps with a six-pointed star (#7) appear directly above and below the rosette. Bottom: a seven leaf palmette in a wide pointed oval (#35) appears below and on either side of a lozenge filled with five points (#3); small round stamps with a six-pointed star (#7) appear directly above and below the diamond. Left: two small roundels containing Capricorn (#5) in the corners with a six-pointed star (#7) above and below each in the corners, a double eagle in the center (#9) and another six-pointed star (#7). Right: two small roundels containing Capricorn (#5) in the corners with a six-pointed star (#7) above and below each in the corners, a panther in the center (#10) and another six-pointed star (#7).

Back cover: Follows pattern of front cover, with no six-pointed stars (#7). Stamped border of foliage panels (# 22) terminating in a rosette (#4) in each corner of the cover. Central panel two diagonal lines filled with foliage decoration (#11) with a rosette (#4) where the lines meet in the middle. Four lozenge shape compartments contain a variety of other stamps. Top: a seven leaf palmette in a pointed oval appears above and on either side of a double eagle (#34 and #9-inverted). Bottom: a seven leaf palmette in a pointed oval appears above and on either side of a panther (#34 and #10 respectively). Left: two small roundels containing Capricorn (#5) in the corner with a lozenge filled with five points in the center (#3). Right: two small roundels containing Capricorn (#5) in the corners with a six-part rosette in the center (#4).

² Robert G. Babcock, *Reconstructing a Medieval Library: Fragments from Lambach* (New Haven: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, 1993), 72.

³ E. Ph Goldschmidt, *Gothic & Renaissance Bookbindings: Exemplified and Illustrated From the Author's Collection*, volume I (London: E. Benn, 1967), 65.

⁴ Goldschmidt, *Gothic & Renaissance Bookbindings*, 20.

⁵ Kurt Holter, "Zum Gotischen Bucheinband in Österreich. Die Buchbinderwerkstatt des Stiftes Lambach/OÖ," *Gutenberg-Jarbuch* (1954), 285-286; Kurt Holter, "Das mittelalterliche Buschwesen des Benediktinerstiftes Lambach," in *900 Jahre Klosterkirche Lambach* (Linz, 1989), 58-59.

⁶ See footnote 5.

PROVENANCE

Armorial bookplate of Sir Joseph Radcliffe Bart, Ridding Park, Harrogate, Yorkshire. Radcliffe was the second Baronet (1799-1872) and served as high Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1857. Both Endpapers/pastedowns are manuscript fragments. Acquired from H.P. Kraus, New York, in 1967.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contents include Books XVII-XVIII of Priscian's *Institutiones grammaticae* (Institutions of Grammar), Book XVII (ff. 1r1-68r13), Book XVIII (ff. 68r14-119r15). Book XVII and XVIII are known as *de Constructione* and are also called "Priscianus minor." They deal with questions of syntax, which was not typically a focus of Latin grammarians.⁷ Gibson's list of manuscripts of the *Institutiones* lists over 500 copies, the Columbia codex is not listed among them. The Columbia codex does appear in Passalacqua, *I codici di Prisciano*.⁸ According to Gibson, 64 copies date from the eighth-tenth centuries, 283 in the eleventh-twelfth centuries, 137 in the thirteenth-fourteenth centuries, and 44 in the fifteenth. Many manuscripts contain books I-IVI, known as Priscianus Major.⁹

The Columbia codex was produced at the Benedictine Abbey of Lambach in upper Austria. The earliest production at this monastery was in the late eleventh/early twelfth century and a scriptorium was flourishing by the mid-twelfth century. The decoration of manuscripts at Lambach were often simple red or purple penwork initials. One of the most prolific scribes at the monastery was the so-called "scribe B" who produced this manuscript. The monastery was sacked in 1233 by Duke Otto of Bavaria when the book production also ceased. In the fifteenth century, the scriptorium was restored. The monastery was well-known for its bookbinding, and many of the twelfth century manuscripts were rebound at this time.¹⁰

A booklist from the twelfth century identifies the contents of the library of Lambach. Priscian's *Institutiones grammaticae* does not appear on this list. Another twelfth century catalog was written on the last page of a manuscript in the library (Cml XIX), but appears to be incomplete.¹¹ The list includes 118 volumes with a significant proportion of theological works.¹² Priscian's *Institutiones grammaticae* also is absent from this list. Babcock suggests that the *Institutiones grammaticae* was used as a reference book and

⁷ Rita Copeland and I. Sluiter, *Medieval Grammar and Rhetoric Language Arts and Literary Theory, AD 300-1475* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), 167-189.

⁸ Margaret Gibson, "Priscian, 'Institutiones grammaticae': A Handlist of Manuscripts," *Scriptorium* 2, no. 1 (1972); Marina Passalacqua, *I Codici di Prisciano* (Rome, 1978), 46.

⁹ Gibson, "Priscian, 'Institutiones grammaticae.'"

¹⁰ Babcock, *Reconstructing a Medieval Library*, 67; Fagan L. Davis *The Gottschalk Antiphony: Music and Liturgy in Twelfth-Century Lambach* (Cambridge University Press, 2000), 13-36; fig. 13 for Scribe "B."

¹¹ Kurt Holter, "Zwei Lambacher Bibliotheksverzeichnisse des 13 Jahrhunderts," *Mitteilungen des Instituts für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung* 64 (1956): 268-76; Babcock, *Reconstructing a Medieval Library*, 56.

¹² Babcock, *Reconstructing a Medieval Library*, 56.

was stored in the main abbey library rather than in the school library, which could explain why it was not recorded on the lists.¹³ Fragments from Priscian's *Institutiones grammaticae* dated late eleventh/early twelfth century are in the Beinecke Library at Yale University.¹⁴

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¹³ Babcock, *Reconstructing a Medieval Library*, 53. For more on the lists see Christoph Egger, "Olim Lambach..." *Iter Austriacum*, May 2016, http://www.iter-austriacum.at/bibliotheksgeschichte/olim-lambach/#_ftn2.

¹⁴ Robert G. Babcock, Lisa Fagin Davis, Philip G. Rusche, *Catalogue of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library Yale University Volume IV: MSS 481-485* (Temple, Arizona: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2004), 75-76; see also "Institutio Grammatica," Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, last accessed August 24, 2020, <http://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3432945>.

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