Lectionary. Cambrai. XVI cent.

Lectionary for Cambrai use.

Manuscript on heavy vellum, written and illuminated in the diocese of Cambrai after 1530 the year in which Arnold Stryters (1496-1560) became thirty-fifth abbot of the Premonstratensian abbey of Tongerloo. His arms appear in the lower margin of f.1.

12 + 197 leaves (11 x 9 inches). 18 lines. 16-1 24
34-1, s8-r8, s6, t8-y8, z8-1; first 4 leaves of all quires lettered in lower right margin.

4°. Red mor. gilt over heavy boards. Flemish, XVIII cent., engraved brass cross on upper cover; corner pieces, 2 clasps.

Contents:— Index in 18th century hand, signed F.B. and dated Sept. 6, 1727 on f.VII.

f.1
Title
Large historiated initial C pasted down. (From another XVI cent. MS.)

j-2v
De officio diacono. In a XVIth century hand.

166
Rubricat Dominica in adventus. Secundum Matheum. XXI.

184
Rubricat Sequuntur communia sanctorum evangelia. Secundum Ioannem.

194v
Rubricat Evangelia votiva...

195v
Rubricat Dominicus diebus in statione.

Prayers in a 16th century Flemish cursive hand.

Last leaf, quotation from Matthew I, 20.

Text: The saints invoked on f.143 et seq. are honored in the diocese of Cambrai. The chief Premonstratensian saint, Norbert, is entered in the margin of f.150v, after the completion of the original text. This shows that the MS. is not a product of the abbey of Tongerloo.

Script: Large, even, bold blackletter. Musical accents and neumes throughout. Running titles and foliation in rubrics.

Decoration: The miniatures are within small square frames (approximately 2-1/8 x 2 inches) and appear only beside the initials of the larger or important textual divisions. Each is flanked by a short illuminated marginal band or two. The illumination is the work of several typically Flemish, mediocre artists:

List of illuminations:—

f.1
Historiated initial C (7 x 5 1/2 inches) cut from another, perhaps slightly earlier Flemish MS. The kneeling Virgin adoring the Child in a stable. Ox and ass in background.
f.1

The Entry into Jerusalem.
In center of lower margin a small shield, attached to a pastoral staff, bearing the arms of Arnold Streuters, abbot of Tongerloo, (or, a chevron azure charged with three fleurs de lis of the field, within a border gules, suspended from a crozier.)

f.5

The Annunciation.
10
The Nativity - Adoration type.
14v
Adoration of the Magi.
73v
The Resurrection
87v
The Ascension.
90
Pentecost.
94
The Trinity.
95v
A ciborium before which two kneeling acolytes are swinging censers.
150
St. Andrew.

History: Executed in the diocese of Cambrai for Arnold Streuters 1496-1560, abbot of the Premonstratensian abbey of Tongerloo from 1530 to his death, thus giving a date after 1530 for the execution of the MS. Owned in 1727 by F. B. who compiled the index, signed by him on f.g. According to an inscription on the first leaf "Renevatus hic textus anno 1722 in Junio", at which time the preliminary leaves were added. No.9374 (as Rituale Romanum) in an English catalogue, ca.1860. John Allan sale (New York, 1864, No.2521) Sold Nov.1864 by Ebbs to Theodore Irwin of Oswego, cat. 1887, p.150, No.939 = p.387 No.2408.

Binding: Red morocco, gold tooled, over the original heavy boards, Flemish, 18th century. Nailed to upper cover is a brass cross botonné (6 x 5 inches) having the symbols of the Evangelists incised at the ends and a central medallion framing the Agnus Dei. Heavy corner pieces, hinges and two clasps of the same metal.


Add Cards:

1. MSS.-Illum.-Flemish: Cambrai-XVI cent.
2. Provenance-Streeters, Arnold, abbot of Tongerloo, 1530-1560.
3. Provenance-Tongerloo, Belgium (Premonstratensian abbey)
4. Provenance-Irwin, Theodore
5. Bindings, Flemish-XVIII cent.

Use - Cambrai

Jesus Christ: Nativity-without Joseph. f.1v
Mary the Virgin: Annunciation. f.5
Jesus Christ: Nativity - Adoration type. f.10
Magi: Adoration. f.14v.
Jesus Christ: Resurrection. f.73v
" Ascension f.87v
Pentecost. f.90
Trinity. f.94
Liturgical scenes: censing Host. f.95v.
St. Andrew. f.143