Gringore, Pierre, c.1475-1538.

Manuscript on fine white vellum, written and illuminated at Rouen, France early in the XVIIth century (c.1510), for James IV, king of Scotland, whose arms are painted on f.1.

14 full-page miniatures, small illuminated initials throughout.

68 leaves (7 7/8 x 5 1/8 inches). 30 lines.

12°. Blue levant mor. doublé in white vellum tooled in gold to an Eve design by Trautz-Bauzonnet; in pigskin box case. Formerly in old brown mor; rebound for Bancroft. TRAUTZ


Decoration: The miniatures are in a neat, clear, hard technique, surrounded by architectural frames.

They represent:

f.1. The crowned arms of James IV, king of Scotland, supported by two unicorns.

1v. Pierre Gringore offering his work to Louis XII of France.

4. Personification: Church; Hypocrisy; Impiety.


12v. Gorgons

15. Siren

22v. Personification: Earth; Blasphemy, Trouble, Greed for Land.

26v. Punishment: Blasphemy.

33. Personification: Justice; Magnanimity; Judgment; Law.

38v. Personification: Church; Nobility; Militia; Labor.

44v. God: tendering king's heart to humanity.

47. Louis XII, king of France, battle against the Venetians.

49. Allegorical representation of the League of Cambrai (Cf. H. Franc: The Animal Kingdom, p.54)


55. Occupation: physician.

55. Occupation: Barber.

55. Sick man: doctor feels pulse.

History: Executed in France for James IV of Scotland (1473-1513), in the first quarter of the XVIth century. The arms as painted on f.1 are identical with those of Vienna 1897, a MS Book of Hours of James IV, (reproduced in Gazette des B.A., vol.63, 1921, p.197-212). Owned in the 17th century by a member of the Tartière family, whose name is inscribed on f.1. (For a Pierre de Cros, chevalier, seigneur de la Tartière & des Gresses, who fl.1460, see Anselme VII, p.708B). Probably Vicomte de Morel-Vindé sale (Paris, 1823,
n.1400; said to be in blue mor.) J. J. Techemer; Charles Nodier sale (Paris, 1844, no.344) to N. Yemeniz; his sale (Paris, 1867, n.1723) to E. M. Bancel (sale, Paris, 1882, n.248) to Morgand; Bull. Morgand 14 (1883) n.8262. Inv., no.20796.1; George B. De Forest coll. (Grolier Club, 1892, n.6) His collection purchased by Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan.

Additional cards:

I. MSS-Illum.-French-XVI cent.
II. Heraldry-Scottish.
III. MSS-Illum.-French-Rouen-XVI cent.
IV. French literature-XVI cent.
V. " poetry "
VI. Provenance-James IV, king of Scotland, 1473-1513.
VII. " Tartière, de la-XVIIth cent.
VIII. " Morel-Vindé, Vicomte de
IX. " Techemer, J. J.
X. " Nodier, Charles
XI. " Yemeniz, N.
XII. " Bancel, E. M.
XIII. " Morgand.
XIV. " De Forest, George.

xv. Binding: Bouzonnet, Trautz. Trautz-Bouzonnet, Georges

1. Fables.
2. Mystery and Morality plays.

Animal-Fables.
Arms: James IV, king of Scotland, 1473-1513 f.1
James IV, king of Scotland, arms f.1
Animal fantastic: unicorn f.1v
Gringore, Pierre, 1475-1538 f.1v
Louis XII, king of France, f.1v, 47
Personification: Church f.4, 33v
  " Hypocrisy f.4
  " Impiety f.4
  " Pedantry f.8v
  " Nepotism f.8v
  " Earth f.22v
Gorgon f.12v
Siren f.15
Personification: Blasphemy f.22v
  " Trouble f.22v
  " Greed for Land f.22v
Punishment: Blasphemy f.26v
Personification: Justice f.33
  " Magnanimity f.33
  " Judgment f.33
Personification: Law f.33
  " Nobility f.38⁵
  " Militia f.38⁵
  " Labor f.38⁵
God: offering royal heart to humanity f.44⁵
Louis XII, king of France: battle against Venetians. f.47
Cambrai, League of: allegory f.49
Allegory: League of Cambrai. f.49
Personification: Bigotry f.51
Occupation: Physician. f.55
  " Barber. f.55
Sick man: doctor feeling pulse. f.55

MH:AP
2/2/48
For printed text or notices of this MS. see:

Luba Eleen, THE ILLUSTRATION OF THE PAULINE EPISTLES, Oxford University press, (New York, 1982), fig. 188.