Hours of the Virgin. Rouen. XV cent.

M 167

Hours of the Virgin for Rouen use, with certain prayers in French.

Manuscript on yellowed vellum, written and illuminated at Rouen, France, late in the 15th century.

Decoration: There are 16 large miniatures, each surrounded by a wide full-page border, as are numerous pages of the text. The miniature on fol. 13 is divided into 4 square panels, each one containing a representation of an Evangelist with his symbolic attendant. This depiction is typical of the Rouen school of the period. The painting is somewhat hard and stilted; the borders generally elaborate; much blue and green are used. On fol. 153 the original owner (a woman) kneels before the enthroned Virgin and Child. On fol. 71, is shown the episode of the husbandman addressed by a messenger of Herod. ( Cf. with Pictures in Morgan MS. 137, Hours for Rouen.)

Text: The text is written in a large Gothic hand in dark brown ink. (f. 21.) prayer in margin.

162 leaves (7 1/8 x 5 1/8 inches) 15 lines.

Binding: Red velvet.

History: Purchased in 1896 by Richard Bennett.

(Foul description of Pictures and Text see Morgan Cat. of Illum. MSS. 1908, no.64.)

Add. Cards.

MSS.-Illum.,- French - XV cent.

" " Rouen "

Use -

Portraits - Unidentified - French - XV cent.

Jesus Christ. Flight into Egypt. fol. 71 - The episode of the husbandman, reaping his corn, addressed by the soldier of Herod.

BG:1933

Iconography cards:


Mary. The Virgin. Annunciation. f. 29.

Midrash. f. 29.
Mary the Virgin, Visititation-angel attendant. Jesus Christ, Nativity-adoration type. 56.
Shepherds Annunciation. 61.
Magi: Adoration. 65.
Jesus Christ, Presentation. 68.
Mary the Virgin, Coronation. 78.
David: Communing with God. 84.
Jesus Christ, Crucifixion - rudder. 102
Pentecost. 106.
Eucharistic rec. funeral mass. 110.
Resurrection, Death. 110.
Mary the Virgin: Type, humility. 133
Coronation - Type, humility. 133
Trinity - Grad内幕al type. 159.
64. HORAE (Rouen). Vellum, 7½ × 5½; ff. 162; 15 lines to a page; cent. xv (well written). Red velvet binding. Bookplate of Mr. Bennett.

Collation: 15⁸, 28⁶, 6⁴ (4 canc.), 8³-10⁸, 11⁴, 12⁸, 13⁸, 14², 15⁸-20⁸, 21⁴ (4 canc.).

CONTENTS

Kalendar in French in red, blue, and gold. 1
Sequences of the Gospels. 13
Obsevero te. 19
O intemereda. 23
Hours of the Virgin (Use of Rouen). 29
Memoria of S. Romain in Lauds. 84
Seven Psalms and Litany. 102
Hours of the Cross. 106
Hours of the Holy Ghost. 110
Office of the Dead. 153
The Fifteen Joys in French. 159
The Seven Requests in French. 159


The miniatures are:

In border, a man sits piping to a dancing dog.

2. Matins. The Annunciation. The Virgin kneels on L. under a red canopy; the Dove approaches her head. In front a lily-pot. Gabriel in cope kneels on one knee on R. with scroll (Ave ... teneo).

In border, a fountain, a man blowing a trumpet, a mermaid with mirror and comb.

3. Lauds. The Visitation. An angel in blue on L. attends the Virgin.

In border, a dog with a hood on, and a savage with spear.

4. Prime. The Virgin and Joseph, kneeling, adore the Child; an angel between them. Behind, Joseph, the ox and ass. Two shepherds seen approaching through a window.

5. Teneo. Three shepherds, one with bagpipe; angel in air with gold scroll.


7. None. The Presentation. Symeon, nimbed, in cope behind the altar on R; the Virgin and Child on R.; two maids attend the Virgin; Joseph stands at the further end of the altar. Behind Symeon is a surpliced clerk; on R. is a pretty rose-window.

In the border, a bear.

8. Vespers. The Flight. Joseph leads the ass to L. Behind on R. the husbandman reaping his corn is questioned by a soldier in plate armour.

In the border two monkeys, one long-eared, sits eating.

9. Compline. The Virgin kneels before the Son, who sits crowned with orb under gold canopy hung with blue on R. An angel leaning over a pink and gold arras crowns the Virgin; another on L. plays the harp; blue starry sky.

In the border, a monkey sits reading on a sail's back.

10. Seven Psalms. David kneels facing L. before a gold-canopied throne on R.; his harp lies on the floor; his crown and turban on a table. Over a red and gold arras is seen a landscape, with the boy David slinging to Goliath; above, in a blue, starred sphere, is a half-length figure of God.

11. Hours of the Cross. Christ crucified between the thieves. Magdalene embraces the Cross, at the foot of which is a skull; on L. the Virgin swoons, supported by John; two other Maries are behind; on R. a crowd of soldiers and Jews. Sun and moon in starry sky.

12. Hours of the Holy Ghost. The Virgin kneeling in the midst of the Apostles; the Dove, shedding flames, above.

In the border, a hunter, returning with his dog, blows his horn. He has two hares on a spear, at which the dog is looking.

13. Office of the Dead. A church. On L. priest at altar with two servers in blue vestments; on R. four copeclerk sing at a lectern; between them, in front, the bier and candles; behind, two mourners in black seated.

In the border, Death, with shroud and spear, meets a young man, whose tall black hat has fallen off with the shock.

14. The Fifteen Joys. The Virgin and Child throned, full face, on a throne with blue and gold hangings, red and gold hangings behind. Two small angels in white, in air, hold a crown over her head. On L. kneels an angel in blue with harp; on R. a lady in red with black belt and headdress, the owner of the book.

15. The Seven Requests. The Father in a cope on a gold-canopied throne; on His knees the nude wounded body of the Son; between their heads the Dove. In air on either side a small angel; a third kneels on L.

In the border, a dragon-fly.

Each page has a partial border of line and leaf work, with frequent insertions in colour; a favourite ornament is a vase with flowers. The principal pictures have gold grounds to their borders.

This book should be compared with No. 63. The pictures are extremely similar (this has one more), and both are shop productions from the same town. This is very much better and more interesting than the other, and is a very good typical Rouen book.
For printed text or notices of this MS. see:


no. 590, [fol. 13].
no. 591, [fol. 29].
no. 592, [fol. 61v].
no. 593, [fol. 78].
no. 594, [fol. 84].
no. 595, [fol. 106].
no. 596, [fol. 110].
no. 597, [fol. 153].